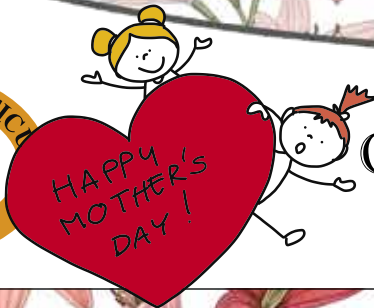


Orange Town News



Orange's Exclusive Newspaper

Mailed Free To Every Home & Business in Orange

VOL. 16 - ISSUE 5

CIRCULATION 6073

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021



Runner Gets to Know Town Up Close & Personal

BY BETTINA THIEL
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

While the pandemic was keeping many people house-bound, especially during the winter, Orange resident Thomas Fatone was pounding the pavement. Between November 2020 and March, the 52-year-old ran all 336 of the town's roads.

He came to experience the town up-close and personal, from the bucolic town center to far-flung streets beyond Route 34 on one side and Route 1 on the other. He was surprised to experience the expanse of it, stretching from West Haven to the Sikorski bridge. Orange comprises some 110 miles of town roads, but that number does not include the bigger state routes such as Route 34 and the Boston Post Road.

Fatone ran along every one of them, including the Boston Post Road. He chose a Sunday morning for that very

busy artery. Maybe it was the day of the week, maybe it was the pandemic, or a combination of factors, but traffic was quiet and "everybody was going real slow," when they passed him, he said. The only roadway in Orange he could not run on was the Wilbur Cross Parkway.

Fatone started running as a young man, although sports has always been a part of his life. The first competitive race he participated in was the 2005 New York City Marathon, and he has been hooked ever since. A few years later he joined the Milford Road Runners, a running club, and is running with fellow club members four or five times a week.

He even met his wife through the club, and running is very much a part of their life together.

See "Fatone" On Page 22



Proposed Budget Requires 1.5 Percent Mill Rate Increase

BY BETTINA THIEL
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Orange Board of Finance officially presented its 2021-22 budget proposal at the annual budget hearing Wednesday, April 21, in the High Plains Community Center gym. The audience of some 25 or so, masked and sitting on chairs that were spaced out according to COVID prevention rules, included many who participate in town government. The meeting was broadcast on YouTube where, by the following day, it had received another 47 views.

As presented, the mill rate would increase from the current 32.74 to 33.25. The increase would cover a \$76.1 million budget, up from this year's \$73.7 million, a 3.2% increase. As is typical, two thirds of it would support education, both the elementary schools (\$22 million) and the Amity

system (\$25.2 million).

Tax impact: For an average property valued at \$355,500, which would be assessed at \$248,850, taxes would increase from \$8,147 this year to \$8,274, an increase of \$127.

The town budget of \$25.3 million represents a 4% increase over this year's budget, due in large part to increases in insurance and other employee benefits. Employee benefits are expected to increase by \$690,000, which represents about 70% of the total increase of town expenditures.

The majority of it is in pension costs, explained Board of Finance Chairman Kevin Houlihan, as well as an increase in health insurance and property insurance. "The most difficult challenges are the insurance costs for both people and property," wrote First Select-

See "Budget" On Page 7



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Memorial Day Festivities Planned

With the summer season right around the corner, Orange leaders are ready to revive beloved traditions, especially those mostly enjoyed outdoors. Kicking off the 2021 season are the Memorial Day festivities, with a ceremony at the High Plains Pavilion, followed by a parade down Orange Center Road. As announced at the April 12 Board of Selectmen meeting, The Memorial Day Committee is making plans for the ceremony and parade to take place on Sunday, May 30. The ceremony will be socially distanced, and will start at 10:30 a.m. The honorees for the 2021 Memorial Day

Parade are Dr. Norman Marieb, Grand Marshal; Kevin Hadlock, Chief of Staff; and Louis Eagle, Honored Veteran. The Annual Independence Day Concert & Fireworks will be pushed back until Labor Day weekend. Orange Town News Publisher Rocky Salpento will once again be coordinating the event along with town officials. The Orange Firemen's Carnival, held in early August, as well as the Orange Country Fair are currently in the planning stage. The fair is scheduled to take place from Friday, Sept. 17 to Sunday, Sept. 19. Details are yet to be determined.



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Senate Extends Outdoor Food, Beverage Service

Preserves Popular Restaurant Pandemic Operations Into 2022

On March 30th, the State Senate voted 34-0 to approve legislation that will extend outdoor dining activity at restaurants through March 31, 2022. The legislation, which has no fiscal impact, establishes a process by which local zoning officials can allow or expand outdoor dining at restaurants. It also specifies that any outdoor dining activity previously authorized by executive order will be approved through March 31, 2022. State Senator James Maroney (D-Milford) voted in favor of the outdoor dining extension. The bill now heads to the Governor's office to be signed into law.

"Outdoor dining has proven to be very popular with both diners and restaurant owners," said Sen. Maroney. "Further expansion of outdoor food service will allow for the continuation of customers to go to a restaurant and feel safe during their dining experience. It helps restaurants regain business and helps make up for profits lost during the pandemic."

The legislation, amended last week during its passage in the House, substitutes House Bill 6610, "An Act Concerning The Provision of Outdoor Food and Beverage Service By Restaurants". Under its language, if adopted, zoning or planning officials would have the power to expand or permit outdoor activities for restaurants to respond to or provide economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Any permit for outdoor eating would

not require significant paperwork such as site surveys or traffic studies to expedite the approval process outside of information that could impact public health, safety or the environment. Any applications filed would be responded to within ten days of receipt, and any appeals process after a potential rejection would need to be filed within a week.

Notably, municipalities wishing to permanently expand the availability of outdoor dining and retail activity would be allowed to expedite permanent changes to their zoning rules. In the future, the legislation could be expanded to enable permanent expanded outdoor dining in its current state. Otherwise, the legislation holds preexisting standards for outdoor activities, such as specific spacing and zoning for outdoor dining that does not interfere with local pathways and are subject to reasonable standards, such as compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

As the COVID-19 pandemic struck in spring 2020, restaurants struggled under limitations imposed on their businesses by public safety standards. Expansion of outdoor dining led to increased safety and comfort for diners, leading to benefits for the businesses adopting them. Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control found patients who reported dining inside a restaurant were 2.4 times more likely to test positive for COVID-19 during the early months of the pandemic.

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477

Phone: 203-298-4399

Publisher Rocky Salperto
Editor Marlene Silverstein
Production & Design J. Michael Kriz
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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
May 28 Memorial Day Issue	May 21
June 25 Independence Day Issue	June 18
September 3 Labor Day & Back To School Issue.....	August 27

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

FROM OUR READERS



What Would Raymond Do...

On Friday, March 5th Raymond Heenie passed away unexpectedly. He was 13 years old. Raymond’s death was extremely heartbreaking for his Mom, Marisol his sister, Lauren, and all who knew him. When a young person passes so tragically, our first thoughts are they were so very young, and he had so much to live for.

Well, yes, Raymond was young. If you attended his services, you would have learned a lot about him. He was a hockey player, lacrosse player, a good friend, a jokester, a great brother, and a wonderful son. These are things we often know about a person in day to day living or learn about them after they pass. Raymond was all those things, but above all that he was tremendously kind and giving with a heartfelt smile.

Raymond would always take notice of the less fortunate and would immediately offer some way to make their day better. Often giving of his own possessions or a kind word. He lived his life in the moment and for the moment. Not enough of us stop our busy lives to help someone else or to just laugh, dance or play. Raymond did.

There is a poem named “The Dash” that refers to our birth date and date of death. It talks about the dash between the years. How we should appreciate the simple joys in life, take the time to realize the good things in your life, enjoy every moment and give back. Do we make the most of our time between the Dash? Raymond was only here for

13 short years and undoubtedly made the most of his Dash.

So, when you see someone less fortunate, or life is going too fast, or your kids want you to stop and play, just think What Would Raymond Do.

A Friend

Why Expose Children to the Danger of Artificial Turf Fields

I have been surprised at the lack of concern about the risks of artificial turf among some local officials and wrote to the Board of Education today to share my knowledge of the science with them. This is a very short summary of what I said.

I’m president of the National Center for Health Research and in that capacity, I have testified about this issue before federal, state, and local legislators and the National Academy of Medicine. We have no financial ties to this issue, but we are very concerned about the impact of artificial turf on children across the country – as well as some adults.

It is scientific fact that artificial turf (as well as rubber playground surfaces) expose children to lead as well as risky chemicals that affect their hormones. Pediatricians agree that there is no level of lead exposure that is considered safe for all children. Most communities that have had public meetings on the topic have decided to avoid “tire waste” infill on artificial turf fields because it is known to have dangerous levels of lead and hormone-disrupting chemicals. As noted on the CDC website, research has found that, regardless of whether the infill also contains lead, “artificial turf fibers contain levels of lead that pose a potential public health concern” and during normal wear and tear, lead dust has been found on the surface. This information is at <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/prevention/artificialturf.htm>

See “Letters” On Page 9



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.

ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



Left: Teachers Jim Olden, Jennifer Stavridis, Elizabeth Fortin, Jeff Fortin, Tricia Lasto (MLT Principal), Katelyn Cimmino, and Susan Smith (retired Orange teacher and CERT member). Right: Vince Scarpetti (Superintendent of the Orange School System) with Tino Russo (Deputy Director of Emergency Management for the Town of Orange)

Teacher Vaccination Day

Teacher Vaccination Day for Orange Teachers and Professional Care Workers at local nursery schools was held at the High Plains Community Center Covid-19 Clinic. Each week, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers assist at the center checking people in, taking temperatures, making sure paperwork has been properly filled out, and directing individuals to schedule their next appointment. Pictured are two of the volunteers.

Elmer F. Manley Memorial Scholarships Available

Ansantawae Masonic Lodge is offering two “Medical Scholarships” for \$1,000. each to a college student studying counseling, social services, Psychology, psychiatry, nursing, medicine, social work, gerontology, or pharmacology and having completed a minimum of two college semesters in their chosen field, while maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.75, are encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Candidates must be a resident of the town of Orange or a daughter, son, granddaughter, or grandson of a member of Ansantawae Lodge #89.

Also being offered are two \$1,000 “Lodge Family Scholarships”. Applicants must have completed a minimum of two College semesters in their chosen field and maintained a GPA of 2.75. Rainbow and DeMolay “members” may also apply.

Interested students should send a synopsis of their credentials and current social interests in their chosen field, along with a current official college transcript. (Transcripts must be sent directly from your school.)

A synopsis of your future aspirations and how you are working to attain these. Your full name, address, email and a phone # where you can be reached.

Send to: Lodge Scholarship Committee, Mrs. Elmer F. Manley, 1014 Fernbrook Road, Orange, CT 06477-1011. All applications must be received by May 31, 2021. For further info call (203) 799-2651 or email: hcbypolly@yahoo.com.



Kennedy Supports Education Proposals for CT Students

State Rep. Kathy Kennedy (R-119) last week supported two pieces of legislation in the legislature’s Education Committee aimed at establishing clear minimum guidelines and standards for remote learning to ensure quality education and establishing a social-emotional learning to adequately mental health support for all Connecticut students.

The distance learning proposal, “An Act Concerning Virtual Learning,” would require the state Department of Education to create uniform standards for online learning by July, as well as conduct an audit of the remote learning programs being used by school districts across the state and report their findings, committee leaders said. The department would also determine what should and should not be considered an excused absence from online classes and approve the virtual learning platforms being used by districts.

“We are hearing from many parents that their children have fallen behind. This bill looks to set clear minimum standards for virtual learning to ensure Connecticut students, families and teachers will be more prepared to hit the ground running, rather than scramble in uncertainty,” said Rep. Kennedy.

The social-emotional learning proposal, HB-6557, “An Act Concerning Social and Emotional Learning,” would work to implement the recommendations of the Social Emotional Learning and School Climate Advisory Collaborative and to integrate the principles of social-emotional learning and restorative practices into the provision of public education in Connecticut while adequately addressing the need for mental health counselors in our schools.

Rep. Kennedy said, “The current pandemic has highlighted the pervasiveness of mental health concerns like never before. Kids have had to overcome feelings of loneliness and isolation due to remote learning and not being able to socialize with their peers in in-person school. Prevention is the best strategy to tackle an epidemic.”

According to testimony from the Connecticut School Counselor Association, today fewer than 25% of Connecticut’s elementary school children have access to school counselors and comprehensive school counseling programming; that means that 75% of students are not receiving the attention, care, and proactive interventions of a school counselor and a comprehensive school counseling program.

Additionally, Connecticut ranks 37th in the nation for average school counselor to student ratios. Due to these high caseloads (an average of 1:457), students at the middle school and high school levels also do not always have access to their school counselor.

Both pieces of legislation were overwhelmingly approved in the Education committee and now move forward for further General Assembly debate.



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Orange Town News

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EDUCATION



Amity Budget Referendum On Tap

By Bettina Thiel
Orange Town News Correspondent

The Amity Regional School District has its own budget referendum, which is scheduled to take place Wednesday, May 5. Polls will be open in each of the member towns from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the usual polling places. According to the Amity website, absentee ballots will be available upon request in each town from the respective Town Clerk's office.

As proposed, the Amity budget will

increase by 1.8%, but due to shifts in student population, the percentages of each town's contribution may vary. Woodbridge, for instance, will see its share increase by 3.3%, from the current \$15.7 million to the proposed \$16.3 million.

Correction: A careful reader alerted us to the fact that the time of the referendum in the April 2 paper was misstated. Thank you for the notification. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

"Budget" From Page 1

man Jim Zeoli when asked about the budget increase.

The other budget driver on the town side are the bonding costs for the Racebrook Country Club, as they will kick in in the next fiscal year, bringing the debt payment to an increase of \$536,175. "There is one and only one reason why the debt went up and went up big time," said Board of Finance Vice Chairman Jim Leahy, "and that's because the town decided to purchase the Racebrook property." The employee benefits and the debt payment together make up well over three-quarters of the total 4.09% expenditure increase, Leahy pointed out.

Capital spending: The budget proposal also includes \$1.4 million in capital expenditures, the biggest part of which is earmarked for road paving. In total, the highway department will be receiving \$1.3 million to fix the roads. The funds will be taken from three sources, \$600,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund; \$600,000 from Town Road Aid, a state grant; and \$100,000 is a line item in the department's operating budget.

In addition to the \$600,000 for paving, the Capital Reserve Fund will provide funding to replace heating pipes under the floors at High Plains Community Center. They are in very poor condition and must be replaced, Zeoli said.

The town is also putting \$220,000 aside for revaluation of all properties, which is periodically required by state law. It is also paying for a new recording system for the Police Department; and for software improvements.

In addition, the Orange Board of Education is receiving \$243,000 from the Capital reserve.

Audience input: Selectman Mitch Goldblatt stepped up to the podium, cautioning the town against the practice to put money from fund balance into the operating budget, especially a large amount such as the \$700,000 in the proposed budget. It will put the town into a hole for the next budgeting cycle. Instead, Goldblatt suggested to use more of the fund-balance for one-time capital expenses, namely road repair. "The roads in this town in the neighborhoods are an embarrassment and deplorable," he said, adding it is imperative keep up with the road paving for the sake of the community and the infrastructure. "We need to take action now," he urged. If the town were to put \$500,000 more toward road paving, it would still be left with a fund balance as high as 16% — "still a very, very healthy fund balance," he said.

Even so he thanked all who worked on the budget, saying that he will support the budget and the Amity budget and urged everyone to do the same.

The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for May 12; should the finance board vote to make any changes to its budget in the meantime, those changes will be presented at that time. The budget will then be adjourned to the budget referendum on May 20, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's office.

The Amity budget will be voted on separately with a referendum on Wednesday, May 5. Voting is taking place in the three member towns at the usual polling places. Absentee ballots are available at the town clerks' offices.

The District Meeting on the proposed Amity budget will take place the day before the referendum, on Tuesday, May 4, at 5:30 p.m. at Amity Middle School – Orange campus.

STUDENT NEWS

Achievements Emerson College Student and Orange, CT Native Jaden Esse Inducted into Gold Key Honor Society

Boston, MA - Jaden Esse is among the 2021 Gold Key Honor Society Inductees for the academic year 2020-2021. The Gold Key Honor Society is an interdisciplinary organization founded at Emerson College in 1962 in order to recognize and encourage outstanding academic achievement. Membership in the Society is extended to juniors in the top 5 percent and seniors in the top 10 percent of their class who have earned

at least 48 credits at Emerson. Esse, of Orange, CT, is pursuing a major in Media Arts Production and is a member of the Emerson College Class of 2022.

Dean's List Furman University

Greenville, SC - Roberta Buccilli of Orange, Connecticut, earned a place on Furman University's dean's list for the 2020 fall semester. Furman's dean's list is composed of full-time undergraduate students who earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher on a four-point system. Buccilli's parents are Yueh-Ying Lee and Dennis Buccilli.



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DID YOU KNOW?

As Mother’s Day approaches, you may wonder, what does a legal column have in common with a children’s book? More than you may think!

Do you remember the book “Are You My Mother?” by P.D. Eastman? A mother bird, thinking there was plenty of time for the egg to hatch, flies off in search of food. Surprisingly, the chick is born while mom is away. The baby, not finding mom in the nest, sets off in search of her. At every stop, he asks “are you my mother”? He tries a dog, a kitten, a cow, a hen, a boat, and even a steam shovel. He eventually is plopped back into his nest where he is reunited with his mother.

Assisted reproductive technology. In 2021, there are many ways to become a mother. Examples include intrauterine insemination, egg and sperm donation, in-vitro fertilization, intracytoplasmic sperm injection, and gamete intrafallopian tube transfers.

Keeping track of the players. The genetic mother is the mother whose gamete has been fertilized. The carrying mother is the mother who carries the fertilized gamete (embryo) until delivery. The mother who ends up as the “parent” of the baby, however, might be a third mother who entered into a gestational agreement with the other “mothers.” So, who is the mother?

How does this relate to estate planning? Your Will and Living Trust (if applicable) should be clear about what you mean when you use terms such as “child,” “grandchild,” “heir,” “descendant,” or “lineal descendant.” You don’t want your family arguing about whether the dog, the kitten the boat or the steam shovel is the mother. Clearly defined terms in your estate planning documents almost always will diffuse a disagreement about what was intended.

If you are interested in learning more about the intersection between assisted reproductive technology and estate planning, please visit our website and read our blog for recent posts. For advice specific to you or your family, please contact the office. We would be glad to meet with you for a no hassle, no charge initial consultation, no matter how long it lasts.



Attorney Steven Floman and Attorney Allison DePaola Drozd are responsible for this advertisement. This advertisement 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.



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FUNDrive® Coordinator
Nina Ruckes
(203) 804-0746
nruckes@optimum.net

Our Goal: \$500
139 Tall Kitchen Bags + Large Yard Bags
38 Medium boxes (household goods)
Fundraiser Dates:
04/05/2021 - 05/19/2021

Community Collection Days
May 16 12:00 PM - 05:00 PM
High Plains Community Center at the Front Entrance
525 Orange Center Rd
Orange, CT 06477

Clean out your closets and cupboards for Orange Historical Society!

Help support the mission of the Orange Historical Society to preserve and present the history of Orange. Put clean gently used clothing and cloth items in large kitchen or trash bags and small appliances and household goods in manageable boxes. No books, CDs/DVDs, baby furniture, computer electronics or large furniture, thank you. Drop off May 16, 12-5PM, High Plains Community Center, 525 Orange Center Rd. Contact 203-804-0746 if you need more information.

We Are Collecting

Clothes

men’s, women’s and children’s clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics

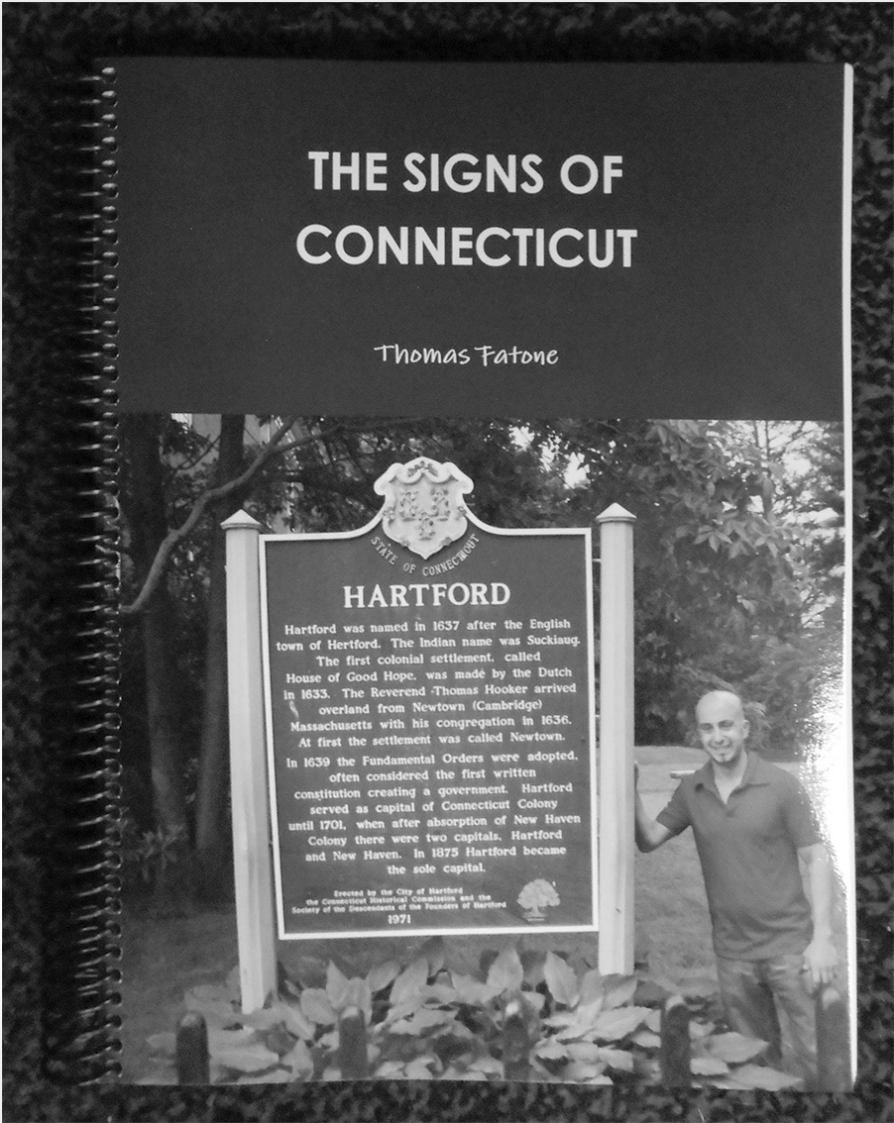
Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly packed boxes for small household goods.
All items must be clean and in sellable condition.



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Available at the Academy Museum
Call 203-795-3106

“Letters” From Page 5

In addition to lead, endocrine-disrupting chemicals are also dangerous. Regardless of whether the turf contains PFAs, the turf definitely contains similar endocrine-disrupting chemicals with similar health risks. These chemicals affect hormones and can cause or exacerbate the following health problems:

- Attention Deficits;
- Early Puberty;
- Obesity;
- Asthma.

They are also known to reduce male fertility and eventually they can also increase the risk of developing cancer.

Not all children will be harmed. Some are more vulnerable to these exposures, some spend more time on artificial turf fields or playgrounds and are exposed to more hormone disrupting chemicals from other sources (the effect is cumulative), and some will get it on their skin or hair or in their mouths when they are playing and since it is invisible, they won’t carefully clean it all off.

Perhaps local officials were told that these products meet all safety standards. That’s misleading, because there are no tests on human health that are required prior to getting artificial turf on the U.S. market. Although the U.S.

Government restricted lead and many endocrine disrupting chemicals from children’s toys years ago, that was before artificial turf became popular on school fields.

As noted above, regardless of whether the turf contains PFAS, and regardless of whether tire waste is used, artificial turf and rubber playgrounds contain chemicals that make them get very hot – reaching 160-180 degrees on days when grass is in the 80s or 90s.

Artificial turf fields also get dangerously hard over time. The fields are supposed to be tested every year (read the fine print on the contract) and if any spots are found to be dangerously hard, the field is supposed to be replaced because of the risk of brain injuries. Of course, grass fields can also get hard, but grass fields will become less hard when it rains or they are watered.

I provided footnoted scientific articles to make sure that the Board of Education understands that the science is clear about the potential harm for any child. Why expose our children to these dangers day after day and year after year, when well-designed grass fields are a safer, cost-effective alternative that is better for our communities and our planet?

Diana Zuckerman, Ph.D.

President - National Center for Health Research

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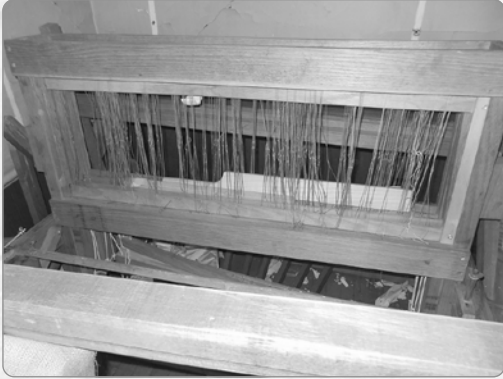
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MILFORD, CT 06460
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F: 203-878-5610

♥♥♥ HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY ♥♥♥

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

COVID-19 Payment Plan Enrollment Extended

Contact UI, SCG or CNG for Assistance with Bills

United Illuminating (UI), Southern Connecticut Gas (SCG) and Connecticut Natural Gas (CNG), subsidiaries of AVANGRID, Inc., urged customers facing financial challenges to contact them to inquire about programs that could help them manage bills, pay down overdue balances and avoid service interruption when disconnections resume.

Any residential customers experiencing difficulty paying their utility bill should contact our call center to inquire about being coded hardship. Any customers ineligible for hardship status, including both residential and nonresidential customers, should ask about the COVID-19 Payment Program.

UI, SCG and CNG offer a variety of programs to help customers manage bills, control energy costs and avoid loss of service. These include:

COVID-19 Payment Program:

- › Available to any UI, SCG or CNG residential or business customer. Enrollment has been extended through May 20, 2021.
- › Allows up to 24 months to pay overdue balances, with no interest, penalties or down-payments.
- › Customers who make the agreed-upon payments are protected from service disconnection

(when disconnections resume) for the duration of the program.

Arrearage Forgiveness Program (Matching Payment Program):

- › Available to residential UI electric heating customers, as well as residential SCG and CNG gas heating customers. Contact us to find out if you meet state income guidelines for energy assistance.
- › When combined with public assistance benefits, monthly payments can be reduced to as little as \$50.
- › The company will match customer payments, plus energy assistance received, to reduce the balance owed down to zero.
- › Customers who make payments for the duration of the program phase are protected from service interruption after disconnections resume.
- › Enroll by calling the company, or visit 211ct.org to find a local Community Action Agency and apply for state energy assistance funds.

UI Matching Payment Plan:

- › The UI customer agrees to a fixed monthly budget amount, and the company matches payments down to a zero balance.

- › Available to UI residential customers who can show financial hardship and have a balance of at least \$500 that is 90 days or more in arrears.

Medical Protection:

- › Available to residential gas heating or electric customers if they or a household family member have a serious or life-threatening medical condition.
- › Protects against service disconnection (when disconnections resume) for up to one year. Customers are still responsible for any balance owed.
- › To enroll, call the company and provide the Customer Care Representative with the name and date of birth of the patient, as well as the name, phone and fax number of the physician. The company will contact the physician to provide certification of the medical hardship.

Energy-Saving Solutions:

- Available to any qualifying UI, SCG or CNG customer who wants to reduce their energy usage for more affordable bills.
- › **Energy Analyzer:** Displays a breakdown of your usage and offers tips to help you save. Visit the company’s website to learn more.
 - › **Home Energy Solutions:** Offers an energy assessment and weatherization service for your home.

Currently available to residential customers at no cost. Call 877.947.3873 (877.WISE.USE) or visit for information.

- › **Business Solutions:** Work with our energy experts to find ways to save on energy and lighting. Visit the UI, SCG or CNG website and click “Smart Energy.”

Manage Electricity Supply Costs:

Visit energizect.com or call 877.947.3873 (877.WISE.USE) to compare generation rates. Be sure to check terms and conditions. Your supplier and rate can be found on your electricity bill. Not available to customers enrolled in income-based hardship programs.

Contact Information:

- United Illuminating**
uinet.com
800.722.5584 (800.7.CALLUI)
- Southern Connecticut Gas**
soconngas.com
800.659.8299
- Connecticut Natural Gas**
cngcorp.com
860.524.8361 (Hartford area)
203.869.6900 (Greenwich)

Note: This news release was issued pursuant to Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority Docket No. 20-03-15, November 18, 2020 Procedural Order No. 36.



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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Orange Lions Hosts Wine-Tasting

BY LION MARIANNE MILLER

Are you ready to get “uncorked”? Well, now is the time to get your tickets and have some fun. The Orange Lions Club is hosting “Get Uncorked”, a wine tasting fundraiser on Friday, June 18th from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Barbara’s Greek Orthodox Church social hall, 480 Racebrook Rd. in Orange.

Ye Olde Liquor Shoppe of West Haven is the facilitator of the tasting. Samplings of wines, beers and spirits will be available for tasting throughout the evening, along with light hors d’oeuvres, raffle prizes and a silent auction. One silent auction item is very exciting for fans of the TV show “NCIS”. Star Mark Harmon’s personal script signed by the case, along with other NCIS memorabilia will be a real treat to take home for the high bidder.



During this past year many charitable organizations have been unable to raise funds for the programs they support. This fundraiser is an opportunity to help the Lions with blindness aid and prevention and eye disease research, along with many community endeavors.

We are accepting business sponsorships at \$100, individual sponsors at \$50, and friends at \$25 per sponsor. To be a sponsor send your check payable to Orange Lions Charities to P.O. Box 1162, Orange, CT 06477.

Tickets are \$35 each available from any Orange Lions Club member, at the Ye Olde Liquor Shoppe, 174 Main Street, West Haven, or by calling Marianne at (203) 795-3906 or Betty (203) 645-8209.

All CDC and State protocols in force at the time will be observed.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



Troop 60274 News

On April 20, Girl Scout troop 60274 met at High Plains to work on the requirements for the Eco Camper badge. This badge details skills for minimal impact camping and know how to protect the environment when you go outdoors. We discussed having minimal impact campfires, preparing for a hike or camping, and how to respect nature.

The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace provide an easily understood framework of minimum impact practices for anyone visiting the outdoors. The Principles have been adapted so that they can be applied anywhere — from remote wilderness areas, to local parks and even in your own backyard. They also apply to almost every recreational activity.

Troop 60274 has been working on and review the seven principles of Leave No Trace every year since they were 1st grade daisies and make it apart of their everyday practices when outdoors.

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces.
3. Dispose of Waste Properly.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts.
6. Respect Wildlife.
7. Be considerate of others.

The girls noticed trash had blown from the trash cans around the Pavilion and took a conservative walk to pick up all the garbage on the walking track with big smiles.

The Garden Club of Orange May Market is Back

The annual May Market of The Garden Club of Orange will resume at the High Plains Community Center Pavilion on Saturday, May 8th, from 9am to 12:30pm. We offer perennials grown by our members, popular annuals, and an exciting new offering the Garden Treasures table.

Our 90th anniversary year continues a long tradition of service to Orange. Funds are used to plant native shrubs and trees on town property,

support conservation projects, flower plantings on the green, the Colonial herb garden at the Stone Otis House, handmade wreaths on town buildings, and other continuing efforts.

Please support us on May 8th as we share our enthusiasm for planting and designing. The Garden Club of Orange is a member of the FGCT, NEG, NEC. For membership information contact Eileen Eisenman at 203-878-9597.

Garden Club of Orange Updates



Elly Torello, Margherita Lisi and Sally Denny lead a workshop at the last Garden Club of Orange meeting for members to plant an assortment of Salad Greens in a planter. Everyone went home with an assortment of lettuces to enjoy! [Picture by T. Torello]



Lisa Stackpole and Diane Geary plant their lettuce seedlings. [Picture provided by L. Bradford]



Left to right: Elly Torello, Pat Nizen, Joanne Fredrichs and Jeannette Hafner socialize while waiting for the planting to begin. [Picture provided by L. Bradford.]

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

TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

FY 21-22 Budget News: 1.56% Tax Increase

10-Year Average Mill Rate Increase Is 1.18%/Year

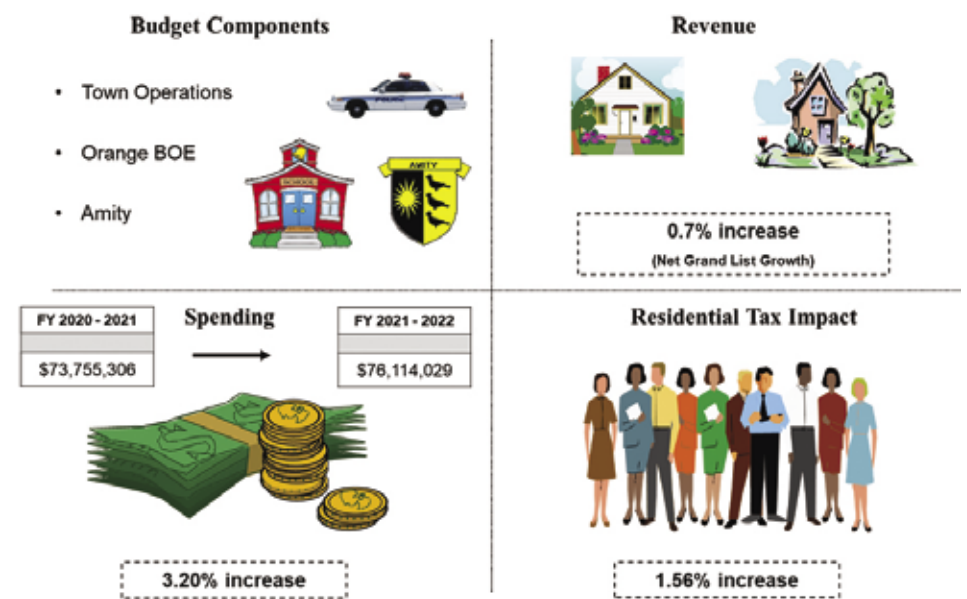
Our Budget Strongly Supports Education, Town Services and Open Space Acquisition

BY JIM LEAHY
VICE-CHAIRMAN, ORANGE BOARD OF FINANCE

Orange is a great place to live, with its low-key approach to getting work done, its “pitch in” mentality among its citizens, and the amazing degree of volunteerism on numerous Town Committees and Boards. If you are new in Town, please come to the Annual Town meeting and introduce yourself to others. I encourage all members of the Orange community to do two things: (1) Come out and vote; and (2) come to the Annual Town meeting on May 12.

Purpose of This Article: The Orange Board of Finance wishes to ensure that all taxpayers in Town have a solid understanding of financial matters that can impact the Town financial position and the taxes residents pay. To that end, this article presents summary information about the FY 21-22 Town budget. Note: the proposed FY 21-22 Town budget was **unanimously approved** by the Orange Board of Finance (OBOF).

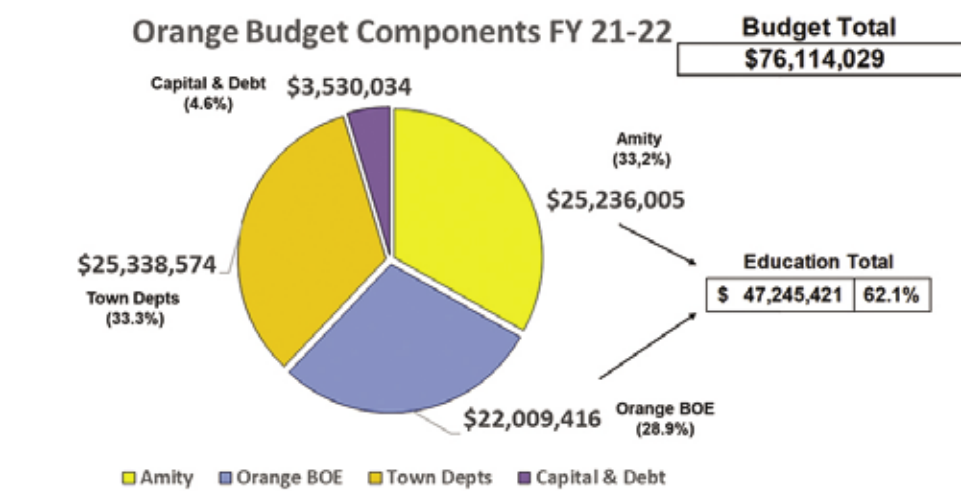
Bottom Line Upfront: The Town has three major expense components: Town Operations, Orange BOE (K-6), and Amity (7-12). The Town’s Grand List increased by 0.7% from a year ago. Overall spending increased by 3.20%. To support this, the mill rate would rise from 32.74 to 33.25, a tax increase of 1.56%.



As long-time member Kevin Moffett stated, “After thorough examination & review, the OBOF prepared a fair and reasonable budget to the citizens of Orange. This budget addresses the diverse needs of our community during these unprecedented times.”

Spending: Town Operations increased spending by 4.09% (\$995K) primarily due to a \$690K increase in Employee Benefits. The major drivers of this benefits increase were the Police pension & Insurance costs, Orange Board of Education (OBOE) budget increased by 2.78% (\$594K). The Amity budget increased by 1.80% which – adjusted for student proportionality across the 3 Towns – increased the cost to Orange by \$232K (0.93%). Debt increased by 17.91% (\$536K) due to the purchase of the Racebrook CC property & the 287 acres of open space. Education costs are 62+% of the Total FY 21-22 budget.

SUMMARY FY 21-22: Spending Taxpayer Dollars



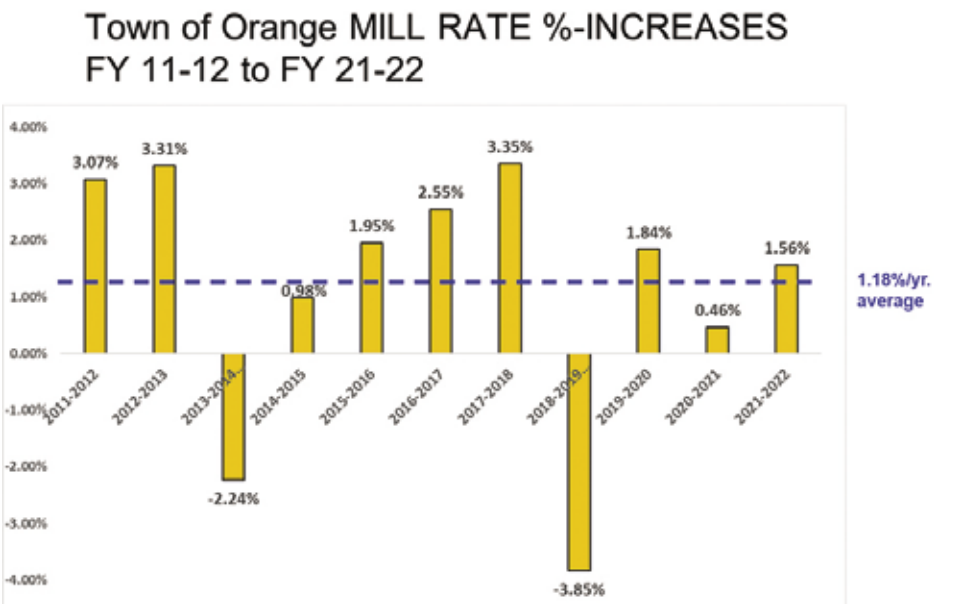
Capital: The OBOF plans to approve spending of \$1,432K from the capital reserve fund as follows: OBOE \$243K (10 projects); TOWN \$389K, which includes \$220K reserved for a property Revaluation next year; and OTHER PROJECTS

\$800K which includes work needed at High Plains CC (\$200K) and paving of Town Roads (\$600K). Paving will also receive \$100K from the Highway Dept budget and also \$600K from “Town Road Aid” (a State Fund). In total then, paving will receive \$1,300,000.

Town of Orange		2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022
Average Home Value at Retail	\$355,500		
Average Assessment at 70%	\$248,850	\$248,850	\$248,850
Mill Rate		0.03274	0.03325
Property Tax at this rate		\$8,147	\$8,274
Median Tax Increase (annual)			\$127
Percentage Increase			1.56%

Budget Impact: To support the FY 21-22 spending will require a mill rate increase of 1.56%. Example: for an “average” home valued at \$355,500 assessed at 70% of its value, the property tax would increase from \$8,147 to \$8,274, an increase of \$127. Naturally, the actual increase to everyone’s property tax will be dependent on the property’s value.

Mill Rate 10-Year View: Finally, I analyzed the Town mill rates over the past 10 years and calculated the %-increase for year-to-year. Then, I averaged these increases over that period. Result: over a 10-year period from FY 10-11 through the FY 21-22, the mill rate increase has averaged 1.18% per year.



As OBOF Chairman Kevin Houlihan noted, “I am proud to be a part of our Board of Finance. We have worked diligently to meet the needs of our community by effectively budgeting for town services and schools at minimal cost to the taxpayers. During this difficult time, we have maintained our AAA credit rating which lowers our bonding costs reducing the burden on our taxpayers. Our budgeting process and the results we achieve are the envy of many other Towns.”

The Path Forward: Mark your calendars. There are two separate referendums for Town citizens to vote on budgets. **May 5th is the Amity Budget vote** which is being held across the 3 Member Towns on that date. For the Town budget (which includes Orange’s share of the Amity budget), the next steps are the Annual Town meeting on May 12, followed by the **Town budget vote on May 20**.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.orange-ct.gov/164/Orange-Government-Access-Television-OGAT>.

Orange Town News

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TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

Youth Services

BY JESSICA SIMONE, MSW, ORANGE
YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

Scholarship Opportunity
SENIORS: Youth Services will choose (3) seniors, who live in Orange, to be rewarded with \$1,000 each toward their college education. Each applicant must fill out an application, provide a resume, a transcript of their grades & a brief essay. Students will be chosen based on academic achievement, extracurricular activities, volunteer involvement & future endeavors. The deadline is 5/14/21. Contact Jessica Simone at jsimone@orange-ct.gov or (203)891-4785 for an application.

Town of Orange Meetings for the Month of May 2021



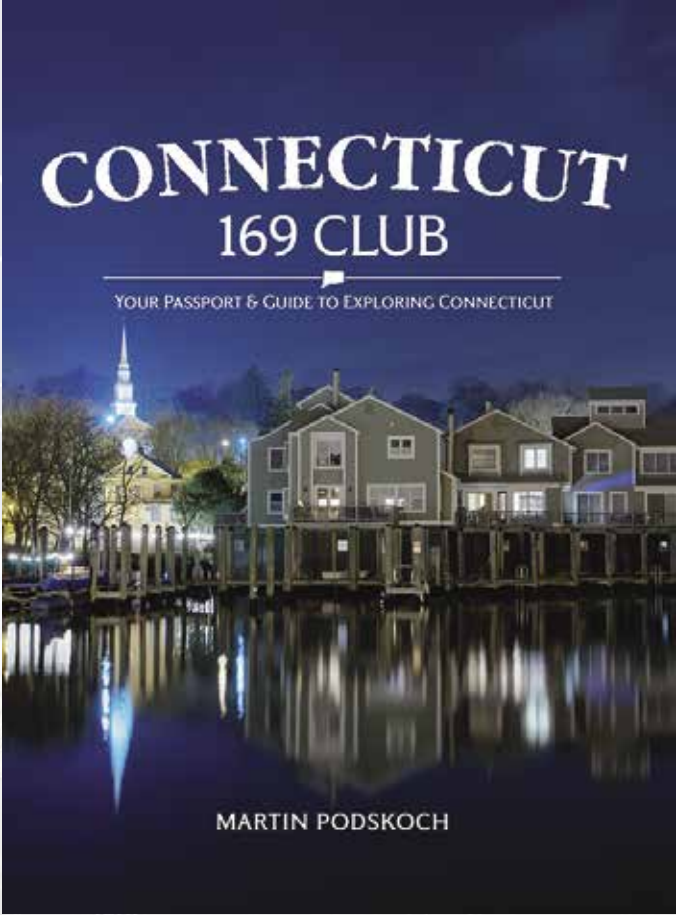
(Subject to Change, Check with Town Clerk's Office, 203-891-4730)

3rd	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00pm	Town Hall
4th	Economic Development Comm	5:30pm	Town Hall
	Town Plan & Zoning Comm	7:00pm	Town Hall
	Country Fair Cmte	7:30pm	HPCC
5th	Conservation Comm	7:00pm	HPCC
6th	OGAT	7:30pm	Town Hall
10th	Traffic Authority	4:30pm	Police Station
	Board of Police Comm	4:30pm	Police Station
	Amity Board of Education	6:30pm	Woodbridge
11th	Inland Wetlands Comm	7:30pm	Town Hall
12th	Board of Selectmen	7:30pm	Town Hall
13th	Memorial Day Cmte	6:30pm	Zoom
	Community Services Comm	7:00pm	HPCC
17th	Family Counseling	9:00am	HPCC
	Orange Board of Education	7:00pm	Mary L. Tracy
	Board of Health	7:00pm	HPCC
	Board of Finance	7:00pm	Town Hall
18th	Town Plan & Zoning Comm	7:00pm	Town Hall
19th	CERT	7:00pm	HPCC
	Recycling Cmte	7:00pm	Case Mem Lib
20th	Pension Board	7:00pm	Town Hall
	Case Memorial Library Comm	7:00pm	Case Mem Lib
24th	Youth Services	7:30pm	HPCC
26th	Park & Recreation Comm	7:30pm	Town Hall
27th	Memorial Day Cmte	6:30pm	Zoom
28th	Emergency Management	8:00am	Police Station



The Orange CERT Team participated in the Safe Medication Disposal Day on Saturday, April 24. This year it was held at the CVS at the Target store. National Prescription Drug Take-Back Days are days when temporary collections sites are set up in communities for safe disposal of prescription drugs in an effort to prevent misuse.

Pictured are CERT members Ed Klein, Tino Russo, Deputy Director Emergency Management, Marisa Russo, OPD Detective Carolyn Bailey, and Jessica Simone, BOW Drug / Alcohol Action Committee .



CONNECTICUT
169 CLUB
YOUR PASSPORT & GUIDE TO EXPLORING CONNECTICUT
MARTIN PODSKOCH

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.

LOCAL SPORTS



Players Front Row: RJ Jackson, Trey McCauley, Bobby Shea, Jace Fredette, Ty Kingston; Players Back Row: Chase Agvent, Gabe Steiner, Dylan LeGault, Caden Stanley; Not Pictured: Talan Bocek, Danny Asermely; Coach: Jason Shea; Assistant Coach: Pete Kingston.

Orange Wolverines Sixth Grade Boys Champs

The Orange Wolverines Sixth Grade Travel Basketball Team recently won the CT Hoopsfest Series Champion-

ship. With a record of 22-0, the boys defeated Westport Pal in the championship game 50-45 on March 28th.



Congratulations to Mia Quoka & Talia Coppola, State Champions of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition for their age group.



Agnes Hanson Celebrates 100th Birthday

On March 28, 2021, long time Orange resident, Agnes M. Hanson, celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by family. L-R: Son Wayne Hanson; Agnes Hanson; son Greg Hanson

with great-grandson, Lucas. Upper L-R: Daughter-in-law Susan; grandson Tim with great-grandson Logan; grandson Kevin, (wife Melissa absent), and daughter-in-law Mary Claire.



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store5292@theupsstore.com

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS



Arti Barnes and Elliot Dubin of Orange, CT welcome the birth of their daughter, Dhara Lael Dubin. She was born on April 13, 2021 at Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital at 1:04am.

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Don't Miss Another Summer Vacation!

Restrictions are lifting, Summer is on!

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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-ll-X6K7jc>. Chair Exercise has resumed Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays at 11:00am. Details are subject to change as warranted.

Hiking Group Returns

Join us for the return of the Hiking Group! Marianne Bauer and Judy Fitol will lead you on a 2 mile-ish, 1 hour walk every Thursday at 10:00 am. Facial coverings required.

May 6: Beaver Brook 553 West Avenue, Milford;

May 13: Fitzgerald Track 112-126 Beecher Road, Woodbridge;

May 20: Orange Triangle Trail (aka Wepawaug Trails) 854-842 Mapledale Road, Orange;

May 27: Maltby Lakes Route 34, West Haven - Parking access road: east of Plainfield Avenue on the north side of Derby Avenue/Route 34, West Haven.

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 Wednesdays at 10:00am;

Chair Exercise Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 11:00am with Anne in the Gym;

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 Rock Painting project with Suzanne as she leads Arts & Crafts class on Monday, May 10 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

May 14, 1:00pm, *"For Love of the Game"* starring Kevin Costner and Kelly Preston. After 19 years of playing

the game he's loved his whole life, Detroit Tigers pitcher Billy Chapel has to decide if he's going to risk everything and put everything out there. Due to Covid, space is limited. Social distancing and facial covering guidelines must be observed. Drinks and snacks will be served. Limit of 11 people. 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 September 2021. 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.

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.

June 15—**UNDER THE TENT AT ST CLEMENTS CASTLE** with Friendship Tours, (some walking).

July 25 – **BASEBALL HALL OF FAME**, It is every fan's "Field of Dreams" with its stories, legends and magic to be passed on from generation to generation. \$139 per person due at registration (considerable walking).

August 19—**SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA, BAVARIA** with Collette Tours (considerable walking).

September 1 or 2 **AMARANTE'S ENDLESS SUMMER**, with Friendship Tours (minimal walking).

September 20—**PAINTED CANYONS OF THE WEST**, with Collette Tours (considerable walking).

September 24 -27 **NIAGARA FALLS**, One the most desired tourist destinations in the world. \$829pp for double due at registration (considerable walking).

October—**OKTOBERFEST @ KRUCKERS**, with Friendship Tours (considerable walking).

October 6 – **NEWPORT PLAYHOUSE SURF & TURF**, show TBD. Enjoy a great buffet, a wonderful play at a fun-filled Cabaret! \$95 per person due at registration (minimal walking).

November 10—**USO TRIBUTE SHOW @ GRAND OAK VILLA**, with Friendship Tours (minimal walking).

December 4 – **STURBRIDGE VILLAGE "CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT"**, a celebration of favorite holiday traditions, music, and food. \$173 per person due at registration (considerable walking).

December 8—**EDWARDS TWINS HOLIDAY SHOW @ AQUA TURF**, with Friendship Tours (minimal walking).



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CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Hours

The Library is open for public service as follows: Monday and Thursday: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.; 2-4 p.m.; 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.; 2-4 p.m. The Library has curbside service available as follows: Monday and Thursday: 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Holiday Closings

The Library will be closed on Saturday, May 29 and Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day.

Programs

Programs at the Case Memorial Library are free – except as noted for materials charges – and open to the public.

Registration

Registration is required for all library programs. Register for events at casememoriallibrary.org/events.

Zoom Programs

For online security reasons you must register with the Library to attend virtual programs. 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.

Take & Make Programs

Please check the full event listing for age restrictions, deadlines to sign up, and instructions on pickup of supplies.

Story Times

Zoom 3-5-Year-Old Story Time

Mondays at 10:30am (No storytime May 31, June 14, or June 28)

For children ages 3-5.
Preschoolers are invited to join Ms. Michelle for stories, music, and movement! Registration is required.

Zoom 2-3-Year-Old Story Time

Wednesdays at 10:30am (No storytime June 2, 16, or 30)

For children ages 2-3.
Preschoolers are invited to join Ms. Michelle for stories, music, and movement! Registration is required.

Events for Children
Flowerpot Decorating

Registration: April 8-April 29
Pickup dates: May 3-May 8

For children ages 5-12.
Decorate a flowerpot for someone who loves you! Participants must supply their own painter's tape (approximately 1" is recommended if possible), plant and soil.



Case Memorial Library

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

Beaded Butterfly Magnets

Registration: April 8-29
Pickup dates: May 3-8

For tweens in grades 4-6.
Whether you're looking for a gift for a special caregiver this Sunday or just want something pretty for your fridge, you'll love this beaded butterfly magnet! We'll supply beads, pipe cleaners, glitter, a clothespin, and a magnet so you can create your very own.

Paper Planes

Registration: May 6-20
Pickup dates: May 24-29

For children ages 5-12 and their families.
Learn how to fold paper planes, and then take them outside to enjoy! Our kit includes different types of paper and a curated list of video tutorials. Start with a simple glider or paper helicopter, and work your way up to the paper jet and the loop-de-loop plane.

Polar Animals Experiment

Registration: May 27-June 17
Pickup dates: June 21-26

For rising 1st-3rd graders.
How do polar bears, seals, and other creatures live in subzero temperatures? Experience the science of survival with our Polar Animals Experiment! Registrants must have access to a large bowl, ice, and water.

Tween Reads:
Surviving Nature

Registration: May 27-June 17
Pickup dates: June 21-26

For rising 4th-6th graders.
Want a heart-pounding book about surviving the dangers nature has to offer, but not really sure which one? We've got you covered! Sign up, and we'll check you out a book based on your preferences, and you'll get a mini survival kit to keep. Note that due to their popularity, the I Survived series and classics like Julie of the Wolves and Hatchet will not be given out.

Blobfish Slime

Registration: June 10-July 1
Pickup dates: July 6-12

For children ages 6 and up.

Make a puffy, slimy blobfish with our slime recipe! Parental supervision is required throughout the entire process. For a full list of ingredients, please review the event listing online.

Summer Reading Kickoff:
Circus Minimus

Online Viewing Dates: June 12-26
For children of all ages and their families.

From a single suitcase an entire circus emerges: tent, band, lights, and an unforgettable cast of characters. Enjoy an enthralling, whimsical celebration of the imagination from the comfort of home!

Book Hedgehogs

Registration: June 24 - July 15
Pickup dates: July 19-24

For rising 4th-6th graders.
Give new life to an old book by turning it into an adorable hedgehog!

Events for Teens & Adults
Virtual Author Talk:
The Great Kosher
Meat War of 1902

Monday, April 26, 7 p.m.

Join us for a Zoom talk with author Scott Seligman. The Great Kosher Meat War of 1902 tells the twin stories of female immigrants who discovered their collective consumer power, and a cartel that conspired to keep meat prices high. Register via EventKeeper by April 26 at 5 p.m. to receive the Zoom link.

Take & Make Craft Kit:
Gemstone Soaps

Registration: April 8-29.
Pickup dates: May 3-8

For adults and teens in grades 7-12.
Create your own colorful, scented gemstone soaps with this introductory soapmaking kit.

The Bookcase: Online
Book Discussion

Thursday, May 13, 7 p.m.

Join Bookcase leader Toby Zabinski for a discussion of The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich via Zoom. Register via EventKeeper by May 13 at 5

p.m. to receive the Zoom link.

Fashion in Fiction: Jane
Austen Regency

Sunday, May 16, 2 p.m.

Join us on the library lawn for a delightful show-and-tell with Kandi Carle on the clothing of Regency England as reflected in Jane Austen's fiction. Includes dressing 'Elizabeth Bennet' and 'Mr. Darcy' and readings from Jane Austen's letters and novels. Held outside, weather permitting. Rain date is Sunday, May 23. Please bring a chair, wear a mask, and maintain physical distance. Presented by the Friends of the Library. Registration is recommended.

Take & Make Food Kit:
Homemade Rock Candy

Registration: April 22-May 13
Pickup dates: May 17-22

For teens in grades 7-12.
Create your own colorful, flavored rock candy with our homemade candy kit.

Historical Women: Sally Ride

Sunday, June 6, 2 p.m.

Join us on the library lawn as historical performer Sheryl Faye portrays Sally Ride as she studies the wonders of the universe and eventually becomes America's first female astronaut and a passionate advocate for STEM. Held outside, weather permitting. Rain date is Sunday, June 27. Please bring a chair, wear a mask, and maintain physical distance. Presented by the Friends of the Library. Registration is recommended.

Take & Make Craft
Kit: Ice Dyeing

Registration: May 20-June 10.
Pickup dates: June 14-19

For adults and rising 7th to 12th graders.
Learn the magic of ice dyeing with this fun tie-dye kit.

Take & Make Food Kit:
Doughnut Cookies

Registration: May 28-June 21.
Pickup dates: June 23-24

For rising 7th to 12th graders.
Decorate your own doughnut sugar cookies with this premade cookie decorating kit.

Virtual Author Talk: Ghosts
of Gold Mountain

Monday, June 28, 7 p.m.

Join us for a Zoom talk with author Gordon H. Chang! Ghosts of Gold Mountain is a groundbreaking history of the Chinese workers who built the Transcontinental Railroad, helping forge modern America only to disappear into the shadows of history. Register via EventKeeper by June 28 at 5 p.m. to receive the Zoom link.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

Congregation Or Shalom Events

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors
To register for a Zoom event, please see the event information below.

Join Us for 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
On the first Friday of the month, we'll offer an in-person service with limited attendance*. It will also be available via Zoom every Friday night.
› Saturday 9:30 AM – Zoomed
Starting May 1, we will offer in-person services every Saturday with limited attendance. It will also be available via Zoom every Saturday*.

Shavuot Services
Shavuot May 16 – May 18
Shavuot, the "Birthday" of the Torah, commemorates the night, 50 days after Passover, when the Ten Commandments were first revealed. We'll usher in the Holiday on Sunday night, May 16th at 7:30pm with a brief Shavuot service, followed by a traditional study session. (see below)
Shavuot services continue on:
› Monday morning, May 17th at 9:30 a.m. -Zoomed
› Monday night, May 17th, at 7:30 p.m. -Zoomed
› Tuesday morning, May 18th at 9:30 a.m., Yizkor approx. 10:30 a.m. -Zoomed & in-person, (please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 for more information).



Annual "Shomrei-Or, Guardians of Light" Award
Each year our board of directors selects a congregant to receive our Shomrei-Or award. The award is given to an individual whose dedication to our synagogue has been exemplary. This year, the board has decided to present our own staff with this honor, explaining "Shomrei-Or means Guardians of Light", and our staff superbly guarded the light of our congregation during this past year of trial and challenge... Mazel Tov to all of you!" Pictured from left to right: Lauren Sachs (teacher), Wendy Severs, (teacher) Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus, Ileana Kaczynski (Administrative Assistant), James Petit (Custodian), Rachel Steigleder (Administrator). Not pictured: Marie Razzaia (Food Service Specialist).

Virtual Learning This Month
SHAVUOT STUDY/ LANDWIRTH MEMORIAL LECTURE:
"HAS THE TIME COME FOR A NEW AGE KASHRUT?"
SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 16th, 8PM-9PM
Led by Diane Litwin
Request Zoom link to register at: coshalom@sbcglobal.net.
Diane Litwin teaches people of all ages about the connections between agriculture and Judaism. She is a mem-

ber of the staff of Common Ground Farm, an environmental education center and high school in New Haven, CT. Diane is in the forefront of a movement to create a contemporary Jewish food ethic.

Zoom & Learn in May
"SUPERNATURAL JUDAISM!"
3 Wednesdays: May 5, 12 & 19, 11-12 noon
Led by: Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus
Request a Zoom Link at: coshalom@sbcglobal.net.

Where were our souls before we were born? When will the Messiah finally come? (Has the Messiah already come?) What happened to the "Lost Tribes of Israel?" How does one perform an exorcism? How does one create a Golem? Are there Jewish faith healers? What do lawyers do in heaven?

Over the centuries, legends have arisen to address these and many other questions!

Come, Learn, Discuss!
JOIN OUR NEW BOOK GROUP IN 2021!

"The Woman in the Window" by A.J. Finn
Thursday, May 20th @ 7:00 pm.
Led by Ileana Kaczynski
"The Woman in the Window" is a seductive and unpredictable novel, like the Hitchcock movies to which author A.J. Finn pays homage. Finn's protagonist Anna Fox is a child psychologist who lives alone in a New York suburb with a case of ago-



Congregation Or Shalom

raphobia so debilitating she hasn't left the house in months. To occupy her time Anna watches film noir classics from her vast collection, interacts with people online, and sometimes spies on her neighbors. Author A.J. Finn throws curve balls where you least expect them. Email the office for the registration Zoom link, coshalom@sbcglobal.net.

Social Action
"MITZVAH OF THE MONTH"
Our monthly mitzvah for May is collecting diapers and baby wipes for families in need.
Please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 for further information.

Activities
Annual Golf Tournament
The Or Shalom Golf Tournament is returning to Orange Hills Country Club, Monday August 2nd. Eighteen holes of golf, lessons, raffle prizes and food are planned. If you would like to play or be a sponsor, please call the office at 203.799.2341.

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

Orange Town News

ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

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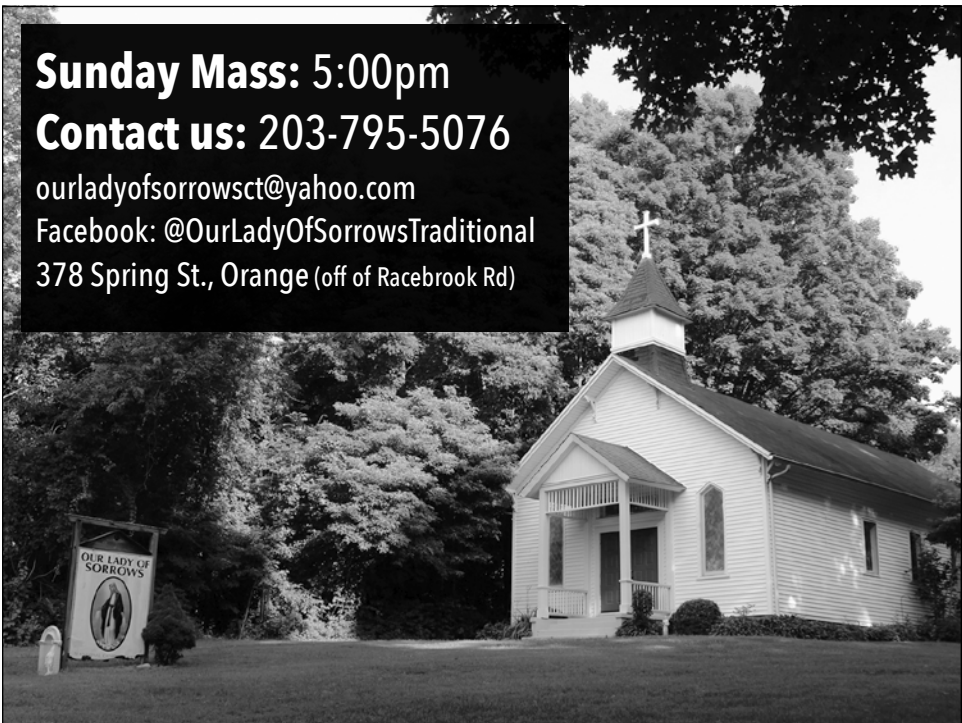
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HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

Live Zoom Event with Eric Dittelman: Mind Reader

Presented By Temple Beth Sholom

Ever wonder what it would be like to know what someone else was thinking? What if you knew exactly what someone else was going to do before they did it? Eric Dittelman knows what that's like. In fact, he has been reading minds at theaters, colleges, comedy clubs, and corporate events across the country.

On Saturday, May 8, 2021, Dittelman will be Live on Zoom with Temple Beth Sholom in Hamden, CT. This event is open to the public. Join us for an out-of-this-world fundraising event to support the 75th anniversary of our local synagogue, which is being celebrated all year long! Tickets are \$36 per household. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Zoom "doors" will open at 8:45pm and the show will begin at 9:00pm. Tickets can be purchased at www.tbshamden.com or at www.tinyurl.com/TBSMindReader.

Eric Dittelman has been entertaining audiences at colleges, comedy clubs and private events with his unique blend of mind reading and stand-up and improvisational comedy. Eric first made a splash when he appeared on season 7 of NBC's "America's Got Talent" advanced to the semi-finals



Eric Dittelman

amazing judges Howard Stern, Howie Mandel and Sharon Osbourne. Eric has also made headlines as a guest on "Ellen," and recently "Live with Kelly and Ryan" and "Penn and Teller's: Fool Us."

If you have any questions, please contact fundraising@tbshamden.com or communicationsvp@tbshamden.com.

Temple Beth Sholom is an egalitarian conservative synagogue with over 350 member families and singles from the Greater New Haven community.

Upcoming Events at Temple Emanuel

Stay connected with our community online and in person when the weather cooperates. Read on for details!

Regular Weekly Services

- › 6:30 pm on the first Friday of the month, Family Shabbat service;
- › 7:00 pm on all other Fridays, Kabbalat Shabbat Service (please note earlier start time) – in person and outdoors starting May 7, only if the weather permits; masks are required and appropriate distancing will be observed; online services will continue as well;
- › 10:00-11:30 am on the first Saturday morning of the month, Shabbat Morning Minyan;
- › 10:00-11:30 am on all other Saturday mornings, Weekly Torah Study.

Please contact the TE office for links to Zoom and YouTube. All services and events listed here are free and open to both members and non-members.



Temple Emanuel

Special Event in May

Sunday, May 16 at 7:30 pm

Erev Shavuot and Confirmation Service – 6 confirmands will lead the service, chant the Ten Commandments and share their thoughts on Judaism. The congregation is invited to participate via Zoom.

For more information about services and celebrations at Temple Emanuel, and to register for special events, please go to the TE website, www.tegnh.org or call the office at 203-397-3000. Temple Emanuel is located at 150 Derby Avenue in Orange.

Congregation B'nai Jacob Events

Happening This Shabbat

Friday

- › 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat - on Zoom, live stream

Saturday

- › 9:00 AM Bread and Torah - Zoom only
- › 10:00 AM Shabbat service - on Zoom, live stream



Congregation B'nai Jacob

Upcoming Events

For all Zoom events, please call the office or email to get the Zoom information, 203-389-2111, info@bnaijacob.org, BnaiJacob.org.

Dr. Siegfried Kra

An Interview on his Books,

Inspired by his Exceptional Life

Wednesday, May 19 at 7 PM on Zoom

Dr. Siegfried Kra, long-time member of B'nai Jacob, is the author of many books, including "Twilight in Danzig", "Dancer in the Garden", and his new release, "Nine Lives". This event will address how this young Jewish refugee from Hitler's Europe overcame challenges to have a rich and meaningful life as a physician, as reflected in his gripping autobiographical stories.

"The Merchant of Venice"

Sunday, May 23 at 7:30 PM on Zoom

CBJ presents the award-winning play "The Merchant of Venice" by William Shakespeare (or at least our best approximation) by Drew Mindell.

Drew Mindell is a current Emory University playwriting major and former B'nai Jacob Player. The presentation of the play will be followed by a talkback with Drew.

The play tells the story of the artists imprisoned in the Theresienstadt camp-ghetto in an homage to the style of Yiddish theater with which they would have been familiar. As the winner of the David L. Shelton Award, this play was given a staged reading through the 2021 Kennedy Center's American College Theater Festival.

Cantor's Corner

Dear CBJ,

The synagogue has a new sound

203-389-2111

info@bnaijacob.org BnaiJacob.org

system and it is such a joy! Here is an Israeli song, called "Amein," for all we are thankful for!

xoxo,

Best regards,
Cantor Barbara

Beckerman Jewish Film Series

We are pleased to be partnering with the JCC to promote its annual Beckerman Jewish Film Series, which is going virtual this year.

Five diverse categories of films will be streamed for you to watch from home, followed by zoom discussions for each category. The series will run through May and there is something for everyone. Tickets may be purchased per movie, category, or the whole series.

The current category is Activism, streaming the film "The Crossing" this week. The next category is Sports, streaming "The Keeper."

ZOOM SCHEDULE of weekly services and classes:

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

Orange Town News

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DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

Helping Mom This Mother's Day

BY ROBERTA L. NESTOR

We count on our Mom's for so many things in life. Think of all the sacrifices, time and love she has given over the years. Moms truly are amazing people. One of the greatest gifts a Mom gives is her advice. Whether about etiquette, relationships, school, work or planning your wedding – all Moms love to give their children and families advice. Moms are also very impressive as they have adapted so well to surfing the web, downloading apps on their phones, paying their bills on-line, posting and sharing photos on Facebook and have even mastered on-line shopping. *But... are they doing it safely?*

Moms know a lot and have probably already dealt with the more common ways to protect themselves from identity theft and cybercrime. Things like:

- › Freezing all credit reports - prevents the fraudster from opening an account in your name;
- › COVID Scams – not answering unsolicited calls and blocking their number;
- › Not opening pop-ups on the computer – not even the little x in the top box;
- › Not using the same password for every website – most important;
- › For those Moms who have embraced social media, chances are that most of their screen time is spent on a tablet or laptop - communicating with friends and social media and, of course, their cell phones. With their world expanding, many of their children may want to impart some wisdom they have learned from growing up in a technologic world.
- › Don't take the bait! Recognize that links in emails or text messages may be malicious. If you hover your mouse or finger over the link and it looks like gibberish (or not what the link says it is) then don't click. Double check who the sender is. It may say "Cindy Smith," but if you hover over her name, the email address says phs-its@it.co – it is probably not Cindy;
- › Keep your software up to date – not only to allow programs to run faster; but also, to update security and privacy protections;
- › Don't fall prey to phone call scams. The electric company will not call you and threaten to cut off your service. The IRS does not make outbound calls and only communicates directly by mail. If you get an unusual call from a company you do business with, hang up! Call that company directly, chances are they did not initiate a call to you;
- › Set-up alerts from your bank. On-line shopping often leaves your credit card information on those websites from grocery stores to other retail

stores. Consider getting text message alerts from your bank. Each time you use your debit card or credit card, you will get a text message;

- › Stranger danger also applies to Wi-Fi. Use a password-protected Wi-Fi like your home. This may not always be the case, but by clicking the "I consent to..." in exchange for free Wi-Fi, you may have given up your privacy.

Social media is a fraudster's best friend. While children have grown up with this for years, their parents haven't had this advantage. As great as it is to be able to see photos of your grandkids across the country and see what old high school friends are up to (or how much hair they have left), be choosy with what you share. Once it's out there, it's out there forever.

Beware of posting photos: The picture you post of your child or grandchild, who's celebrating his fifth birthday; your pet that passed away; your alma mater high's school recent football championship or reminiscing about where you got married how many years ago — those are all usual security questions to access your accounts or sometimes, they are your passwords.

The many Facebook surveys and quizzes to find out what "Golden Girl You are" can be fun and dangerous. It may sound harmless to pick your favorite color, where you went to college, what's your best friend's name, and your birthdate, but again, that information helps cybercriminals build a robust impersonation of you.

Take some time with Mom's phone or tablet this Mother's Day to help her stay safe and avoid identity and cyber theft. Teach her about location settings, privacy settings, apps where she might have consented to make her information accessible and make sure all her social media privacy settings are maximized. It is a great gift.

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.

DEATH NOTICES



Carol M. Scranton

Carol M. Scranton died peacefully on April 1, 2021, at Crosby Commons in Shelton, CT. She was born on July 6, 1922 in Mount Vernon, NY. She was the daughter of the late Norton B. and Etta Geib James.

Carol attended Ohio University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism. While at college, she met her husband, Donald N. Scranton, of West Haven. They married in 1946 and were together for 57 years before his death in 2003. Carol and Donald lived in Mount Vernon and were summer residents of Milford for many years. They moved to Orange in 1978. Carol was very independent and never hesitated to speak her mind; she also had a great sense of humor. Her interests included gardening, cooking, reading, playing bridge with friends, and watching UConn women basketball games. In addition, she was an active volunteer at Milford Hospital for many years. She also loved animals, especially dogs.

Carol is survived by her son Peter Scranton (Sher) of Madison; granddaughter Sara Monro Restrepo (José); and great-grandchildren Liliana and Gabriela Restrepo of Orange. She is also survived by grandchildren Peter Scranton (Heather) of Clinton, and Annie Scranton (Michael) of New York City, along with 3 great-grandchildren. Carol was predeceased by her daughter, Donna Monro, of Orange, with whom she resided prior to moving to Crosby Commons, as well as her brothers Norton and Rowland James. Carol's family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Crosby Commons. The family is also grateful to Acuity Homecare, especially Rebecca and Denise, and Seasons Hospice. No memorial service

is planned at this time due to the pandemic, and her interment will be private. Arrangements in care of Cody-White Funeral Home in Milford.



Judith Mary Leninger

Judith "Judy" Mary Leninger, 78, Orange, CT returned to her heavenly home on April, 3, 2021 after a courageous battle with cancer. She died peacefully at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Judy was born to the late Andrew and Ludmilla Kmetz on December 11, 1942 in Scranton, PA. She graduated from Andrew Warde High School in Fairfield, CT and the Bridgeport Hospital School of Radiology in 1962. She worked at Bridgeport Hospital for many years in the x-ray department, the cardiac cath lab and the cardiac rehabilitation program. She later worked for Oxford Health Plans until her retirement. Judy was a life-long member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church where she spent much of her time volunteering.

Judy is survived by her beloved husband of 56 years, Paul Sr.; her daughter Kendra Luth and son-in-law Adam of Orange; her son Paul Leninger Jr and daughter-in-law Susan of Trumbull; cherished grandchildren Melinda Luth Coutu (Andre), Cameron Luth, Paul Leninger III and Lyle Luth; great grandson Landon Coutu; sisters Rosalie Krajcik and Dorothy Steinbrick as well as a large extended family of cousins, nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and friends, all of whom she loved immensely.

Due to Covid-19 the funeral service and interment of ashes will take place when restrictions are lifted. To share a memory and read full obituary please visit www.luddyandpetersonfh.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@orangenewstowns.com

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TOWN OF ORANGE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and those persons qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Orange, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will be held on Wednesday,

May 12, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium of the High Plains Community Center, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange, CT for the purpose of taking action at that time upon the following matters:

- To authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and convey land acquired by the Town through foreclosure of tax liens or by deed in lieu of foreclosure of tax liens.
- To determine in accordance with Sections 12-142 and 12-144(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes the installment due dates for all property tax including the property tax on motor vehicles.
- To receive and discuss the report of the budget prepared by the Board of Finance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021.

By virtue of Town Charter, Section 2.6(c) and a vote of the Board of Selectmen, Item 3 shall be voted on by machine ballot at an adjourned Town Meeting-Referendum to be held on Thursday, May 20, 2021 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (E.D.T.) at the High Plains Community Center, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange, CT 06477.

Dated at Orange, Connecticut this 22nd day of April 2021.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ORANGE

Attest: Patrick B. O'Sullivan, II – Town Clerk

TOWN OF ORANGE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE PROPOSED FINANCING BY THE
ORANGE VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Notice is hereby given the Board of Selectmen located in Orange, Connecticut will meet on May 12, 2021 at 7:00pm at High Plains Community Center 525 Orange Center Road Orange, Connecticut Gymnasium for the purpose of holding a public hearing pursuant to requirements of Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, on a proposal the Orange Volunteer Fire Association, Inc. (the "Issuer") enter into an agreement to finance certain equipment. The equipment to be financed consists of a 2022 Custom Spartan Class A Pumper and will be maintained at the fire station(s) in Orange, Connecticut.

To finance the cost of such equipment and to pay costs and expenses incidental to the financing, the Issuer proposes to enter into a loan agreement with a maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$478,799.00 (NO DP ADD 10%). The Issuer will be required to pay all taxes on the equipment. The rental payments due pursuant to the loan agreement will be secured by a security interest in the equipment.

All persons interested may be heard at said time and place or may file written comments with the Board of Selectmen prior to the date of hearing set forth heretofore.

Notice of Public Hearing dated at Orange, CT and published this 23rd day of April 2021.

TOWN OF ORANGE

BOARD OF SELECTMEN BY: James M. Zeoli, First Selectman

ATTEST: Patrick B. O'Sullivan, Town Clerk

ARTS & LEISURE



A Fashionable Visit To Olde England

The Friends of the Case Memorial Library will present “Fashion in Fiction” by performance artist Kandie Carle. The program will be held on Sunday, May 16 (rain date May 23) in the side parking lot of the Library at 2:00 pm.

In an entertaining show-and-tell on clothing in Jane Austen’s England (early 1800s), Ms. Carle demonstrates how clothing influenced the author’s novels. Alternately dressed in the authentic attire of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy, characters in “Pride and Prejudice”, Ms. Carle brings the society of Regency England to life. Her narrative, readings from the author’s novels and personal letters, shows the influence of fashion on the author’s characters, social class,

story line, and plot.

Since 1992, Ms. Carle has embraced fashion as a unique way of revealing social life in England during the Regency and Edwardian Periods, 1800-1912. To create her performances, she draws on her extensive background in theater, dance, history and most recently, in literature.

For an afternoon escape to another country in another era, please join your neighbors for a fashionable visit to Olde England to learn how Jane Austen used clothing and fashion to define character and class. Don’t forget to bring your folding chair. Masks and social distancing are required. To register, go to www.casememoriallibrary.org/events.

“Fatone” From Page 1

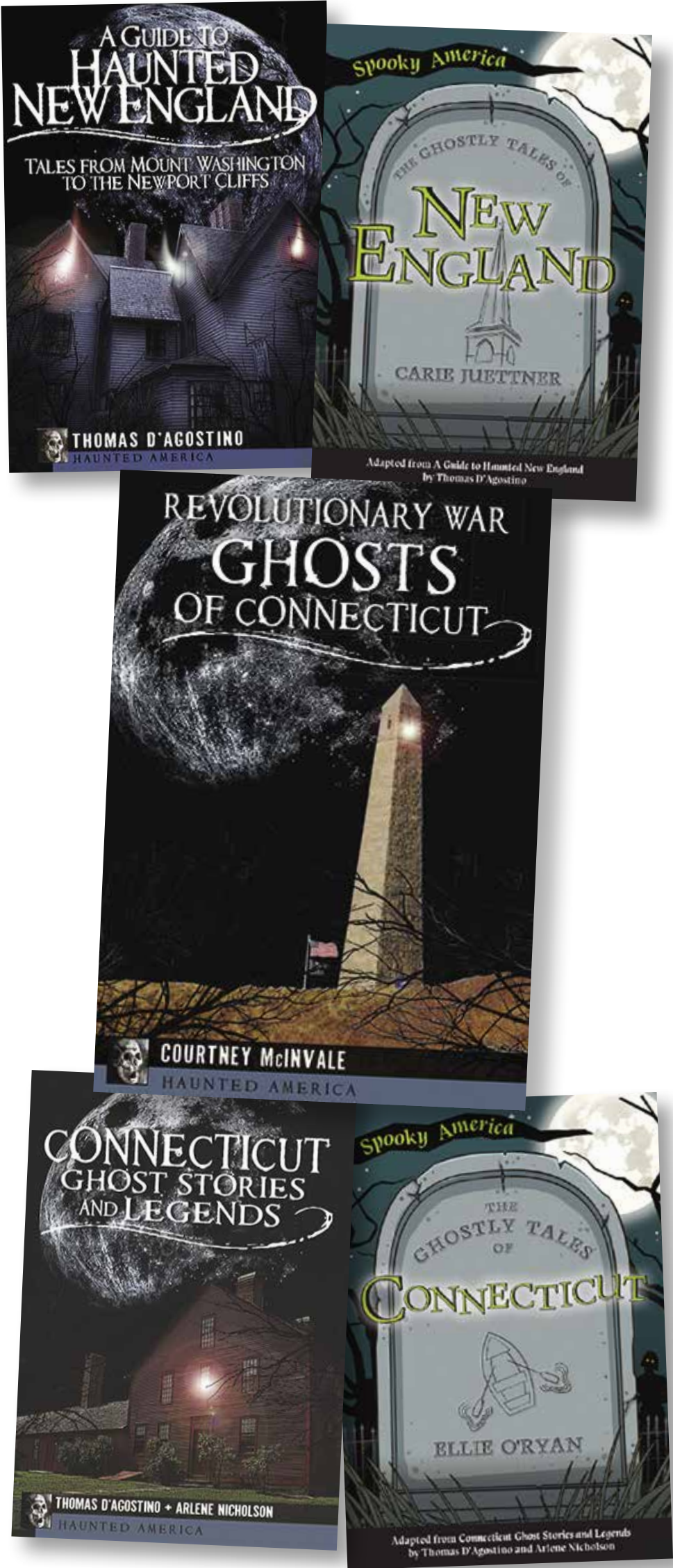
It was an app on his phone, CityStrides, that alerted him to the fact that he had run on about half of Orange’s roads. That was back in November, when the pandemic had put a stop to all road races in the area. He decided at that point to make it his goal and finish the other half of the roads. The app helped him plan his routes and filled in as he went along. “I am always looking for a challenge,” he said. In March he finished the last leg, having saved Sunset Drive for last.

Fatone is a traffic manager in the state Department of Transportation. He researched and catalogued each of the plaques installed in the 1970s in every Connecticut town for the nation’s bicentennial, including the blue

plaque in Orange at the intersection of Tyler City and Orange Center roads, talking about the town’s history. He published a book on the signs, titled “The Signs of Connecticut,” and couldn’t believe that this reporter had never stopped to read the plaque. That, it seems, is the result of discovering a town on foot versus traveling by car.

He continues to run on a regular basis, waiting for road races to start up again. In the meantime, he has gained a level of notoriety in town, especially since Channel 12 ran a feature on him. Drivers will honk and wave when they drive by.

His goal is to run a 5K race in under 20 minutes, he said; and long term, his goal is to maintain good health and continue running. “I really love running.”



They’re Here... GHOSTLY TALES OF CT & NEW ENGLAND

Tales of mysteries and legends of colonial times will greet you as you read about Connecticut’s haunted history. Once called the Nutmeg state, Connecticut’s mysterious legends come to life even though the main players are dead. If the Connecticut book isn’t enough to scare you, be sure to read the ghostly Tales of New England. So, dive into these chapter books but be

sure to leave a light on...

The Orange Historical Society has these books for sale at \$12.99 at its antique shop in the Academy Building at 605 Orange Center Road. The shop’s hours are: Saturdays, 10am-3pm. For information, call 203-795-3106, visit our website: www.orangehistory.org or email us at orangehistorical@yahoo.com.

Washu Judd Bridge Minor town Rockdale Oakville Hotchissae North

HISTORY CORNER

Montva tincas East



BY GINNY REINHARD

Where is it Now...?

The Fanning house, once a beautiful example of early Connecticut architecture, has gone missing. How can a house get lost? In 1992 it was facing the wrecking ball having sat on prime Post Road property that was sold to Sam's Club adjacent to Meloy Road. A house facing that kind of destruction is lost forever but in 1993, it faced a reprieve in being dismantled and sent away. Away? Yes, every board was carefully taken down and put into a trailer and sold.

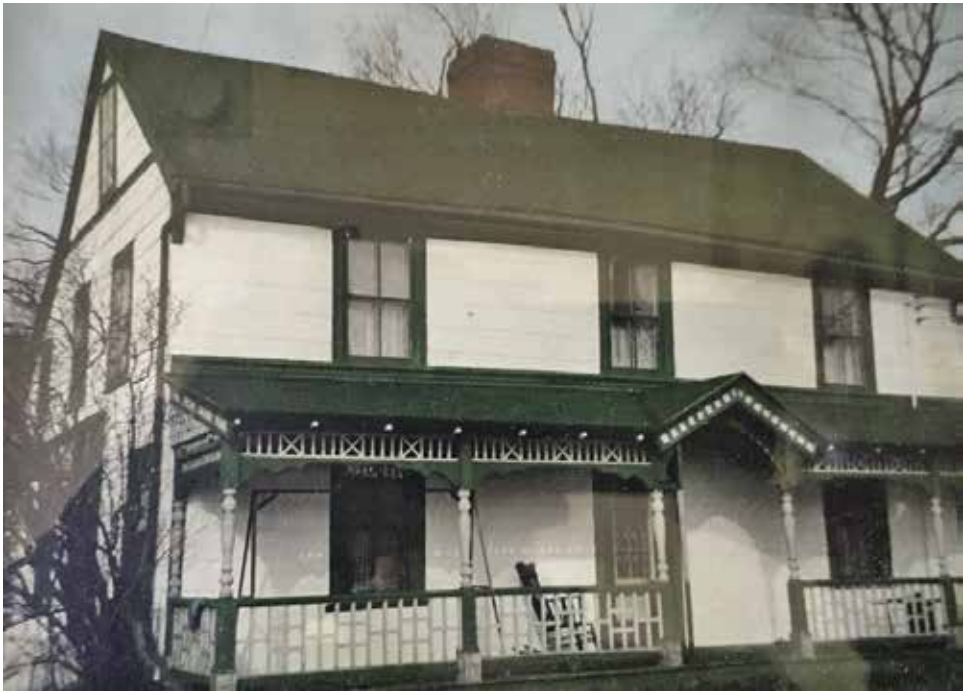
The wrecking ball destroys the history, but taking it down does the same thing; it not only changes the history but its future. A young lady by the name of Rose reached out to me to see if we knew where the house had gone. With a few slides of its removal and letters in defense of removing it is all we have. BUT she has much more and has shared it with us. It's her story that I write this week, a story of a home with a past in Orange and a future somewhere else.

The family of William Fanning came from Tipperary, Ireland, with his father Jeffery Fanning and his mother Mary Butler Fanning. The couple settled in Northford where William was born in 1855, one of 13 children.

William was an affable man as witnessed in his obituary where he was described as "a man of gentle nature with a good word for all and to know Will Fanning was to love him, a faithful husband and good kind father, a truly Christian gentleman."

Given the time William moved from West Haven to Orange after his marriage to Julia Hayes in 1881, he was by all intent and purposes a farmer, one of the many farmers in the Town of Orange in the early 18th century. He bought the house and farm on Meloy Road upon his marriage and began working it which included a dairy; a dairy that his two sons William and Robert would manage. The Fanning house, a saltbox style structure is thought to have been the second oldest house in our town sitting on the edge of 13.75 acres built in the early 18th century.

Research has a way of twisting information around a bit and without the record keeping of today and files being lost or destroyed, the date of the house could have been built even earlier which to some historians was very possible, but, in any case, a monument to the strength and abilities of



Fanning House

our ancestors to build a beautiful home and work a successful farm.

The term "saltbox" is used in describing a house that has a slanted roof line in the rear much as the actual wooden box that held the precious salt of earlier days. Salt was so precious in the colonial days and earlier that it was often used as payment for work, as salary. It had such powers that

when thrown over our left shoulder upon spilling, it would keep the devil away. The Bryan-Andrew House was once a saltbox but past generations removed that portion that by one person's account had its roofline

almost to the ground!

By the look of the center chimney, the house no doubt had a minimum of 5 fireplaces with one very similar to the 9' at the Bryan-Andrew keeping room, the room where all of the meals were prepared. This room was adjacent to the rear of the house containing pantry items and foodstuffs not stored in the cellar. Many of the records for the Fanning house give details of ordinary interest while others are more fascinating. One of the reasons, I believe that the Tyler City plan failed was the inability to successfully dig wells at each home location. In reading the record of wells in Orange, one notes a great many areas identified as bedrock, a solid formation of stone that is very hard and just under the surface of tilled soil. Mr. Fanning had such a condition with bedrock of 11 feet but his hand pump never failed.

Of course, William and Julia were not the only people to make this house a home. They had 5 children; two I have

already mentioned, but what about John? John was born in 1882 leaving the farm to join the circus as an acrobat. Having been injured and unable to return to the circus, he became an aeronaut known as the Bomb Balloonist. One of his publicity pictures says J.J. Fanning Highest Flyer on Earth. He even had his own postcard! An article in the Hartford Courant, in 1907, lists John J. Fanning at Luna Park within a celebration including vaudeville "an innovation and one that will probably prove the greatest of many achievements in the introduction of summer vaudeville."

But now here's the best part. "Arrangements have been made for illuminated balloon ascensions every night at 9:00 o'clock under the direction of John J. Fanning, the aeronaut. He will discharge fireworks into the air during the ascension and on the descent will use an illuminated parachute." Another article tells of the crowds he drew as he ascended into the clouds after dark, discharging fireworks making for a spectacular show. I can only imagine how his parents are feeling as he goes through these acts, night after night.

But surely, William and Julia are keeping the home fires burning for their ambitious son, whose farming roots were elsewhere. He showed a good deal of imagination with a triple parachute jump cutting the cord of one, to lower to another and then another using red, white and blue. "John J. Fanning, the aeronaut, held the world's record in the matter of navigating the air by means of a hot air balloon." How's that for a country boy?

Well, all of this hoopla had to end as Jack went from carney show to vaudeville show, ever increasing his

act to six chutes. "The body of John J. Fanning, the Orange young man who lost his life in a drop from a balloon in Binghamton, NY on Thursday will be brought to his home in Orange from where the funeral will take place." John was 25 years old.

Meanwhile, back at the farm, William's 2nd son, William took a wife in 1916, Ella McMinn and using a registration card, it seems the dairy was in West Haven known as Fanning Brothers. We take our lives for granted thinking that we can do most anything yet on a State of CT requirement for the resources of the state, during World War I, William was not worldly, but in fact held onto his farm roots in 1917 stating that he cannot understand wireless, cannot ride a motorcycle nor a horse. Can handle a team, drive an automobile, but had no experience with a steam engine, electrical machinery or high-speed marine engines. He was a farmer who could not swim.

One son did enlist in the army during WWI, Stephen, as an infantry man. He wasn't trained as a gunner, couldn't ride a horse, but he was a good farmer, a farmer at the Fanning House on Meloy Road. He departed in 1918 on the Derbyshire and we have copies of his diary, pretty routine, but very interesting to see what was important in 1918...a quarantine for measles, "armistice day signed, attached to supply company, walked 12 miles, lived in tents, moved to barracks, got on the President Grant" (a ship) and so it went,

his daily events. He was honorably discharged and we know that he had ruddy complexion, blue eyes and red hair. These types of documents are invaluable for historical research. Upon

arriving home, he joined his brothers in the dairy.

The stories were aplenty with documents to back them up, but what about the story of the Fanning House? Why did its story end? Time was running out to save it. After all, Walmart bought the property, planned a Sam's Club and the house was in the way. A house that held a family of farmers, the salt of the earth, the movers of the Town of Orange. To the credit of the Orange Historical Society, they tried to find a way to move it, find a piece of property to put it and keep its legacy. So away it went, taken down in pieces, put in a trailer and sold. So, where oh where has our saltbox gone? Let's hope it's living out the rest of its life with as much joy and success when it "lived" on Meloy Road.



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"When my wife passed away in November 2018 I remained in our house but within about six months I realized that taking care of the property was becoming too much. I had always been active and mowed the lawn and did general upkeep but started to fall frequently. My three children felt it was time for a better solution and helped me find Maplewood. What I enjoy about living here is that I have much more time to devote to my hobbies. I'm not one to sit around. I've taught myself to play the pan flute and the ocarina. I love singing to myself in my apartment and now I'm learning how to knit. I still love to golf and go out on the putting green here or play with my son and his wife who live nearby. My advice to other men in a similar situation, as we go through life we have to adjust especially if you can no longer take care of your house. I know I made the right decision moving here and so do my children."

— Dana Clark, Resident