

# Orange Town News



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## Superintendent: Graduation Will Be “The Best We Can”

BY BETTINA THIEL

ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Amity School Supt. Dr. Jennifer Byars said she is anticipating “some form of graduation ceremony” to take place on June 10 to send off the school’s Class of 2020, but as of last week it was unclear what form that may take. “We have ideas, but any plan will have to be cleared by the Department of Health,” she cautioned. The Quinnipiac Valley Health District did not react to any inquiries in this matter.

Byars and High School Principal Anna Mahon had a Zoom meeting with some 170 parents hosted by the Parent-Teacher-Student Organization, during which they shared their ideas and expressed guarded optimism. At the time of the conversation, the state was still under the Governor’s executive order 7X allowing only five people or less to congregate.

Mahon’s message to parents was that there are lots of moving pieces to consider. For the administration, an

important aspect is to hand students their diplomas so they can get on with their plans for the future.

In a memo to superintendents on May 15, the state Department of Education described three scenarios that would be in keeping with Executive Order 7X.

*Scenario 1:* A stage is set up for a school official to call the names of graduates. Graduates and their families are lined up in their cars in front of the stage. Staff and student speeches are done virtually before the diplomas are distributed. To distribute diplomas, a graduate may leave the car to receive their diploma while practicing safe social distancing, have a picture taken, and return to their vehicle. Other than receiving the diploma, no individual should leave a car.

*Scenario 2:* Similar to the first scenario, but students stay in their vehicles when they receive their diplomas.

See “Graduation” On Page 3



## Sadness and Frustration Surround School Closures

BY MELISSA NICEFARO

ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

When the inevitable announcement came on May 5 that Connecticut schools would be closed through the school year, there wasn’t jubilation, there was sadness and frustration around the milestones that would not be happening. Kindergartners and sixth graders wouldn’t be able to celebrate their promotion with their friends. There would be no spring plays, no last field day for the sixth graders and certainly no goodbye hugs to teachers as summer vacation began.

Instead, students, teachers and parents prepared for five more weeks of doing classwork online. “I don’t think anyone could have imagined we’d be in the environment we’re in right now. I know I didn’t. I think we truly believe that the challenges that we face, we’re

dealing with each day and we need to do our best to continue to meet the needs of our students and parents,” says Orange Superintendent Vince Scarpetti.

He says there is no question that this pandemic has been a surreal moment in all of our lives. “I had no idea that I was going to be closing schools when I got up on March 12. If we had kept the district open just one day longer, not to mention two days, the impact would have been severe,” he says.

Now 10 weeks into distance learning, things are still changing – sometimes daily – as students, teachers and parents continue to adjust. “It can be an overwhelmingly challenging time, though we continue to learn and grow

See “Schools” On Page 6



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“Graduation” From Page 1

Students’ names are announced as they drive by the person distributing diplomas, and they receive the diploma while practicing safe social distancing (i.e. diploma is placed on table), and have a picture taken. Students and families remain in their vehicle during the opening ceremony which may include speeches from students.

**Scenario 3:** Virtual graduations, where speeches are broadcast via Zoom or similar platforms; graduate names and photos are displayed in alphabetical order – similar to what was recently done by the University of Connecticut.

If districts decide to adopt “creative variations” of outdoor gatherings for graduations that involve any in-person congregating, they must receive approval from their local health department, the memo says. And that is apparently what Dr. Byars is doing. “We are currently working with QVHD to explore those options,” she wrote when asked about the memo. “Anything that we elect to do will be in partnership with them and approved by them.”

Byars said an earlier suggestion to postpone graduation to a date later in the summer is no longer on the table. “There is going to come a point in the summer where we have to turn our attention to the new school year,” she told the parents who were in the meeting.

As for 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduates, those entering the Amity system, the district is thinking about producing a virtual introduction to middle school, Dr. Byars said. The traditional visits for eighth graders at the high school however did not take place, due to the school closure. Come the new school year, the school is hoping to use the Link Crew — a group of student volunteers — to help welcome the incoming freshmen and help them navigate their way around the high school.

**Last day:** In Bethany, Orange and Woodbridge the much-anticipated last day of school for students is June 12, about three weeks from now. Students have not been to school since the Governor ordered schools closed on March 13, in an effort to stem the spread of corona virus. But students were expected to continue their work at home, facilitated by virtual platforms. It seems that this year families in the Amity District — as in most other districts across the nation — are counting down more fervently than usual to reach the finish line.

In the meantime, students need to clear out lockers and retrieve their personal items. To ensure that this does not become a social occasion the school is encouraging families to choose a time slot to come in, one at a time, similar to booking a parent-teacher conference slot. Come June the district also will start collecting items that need to be returned to the school, such as text books and library books and such.

**Summer plans unclear:** What happens after June 12 was still unclear as of last week. The Governor’s order

allowed summer camps to open after June 29, but locally many decisions had not been taken. “We are not clear yet on what we are doing for the summer,” wrote music teacher Phil Dolan.

Dr. Byars said the school was planning to run the Extended School Year program for students with special needs. The Amity Adult Education program has several programs running as part of its spring program and is looking to move some programs online, Byars said in one of her reports to the community.

Woodbridge Recreation meanwhile has canceled its popular summer camp, since the parameters made it too complicated and expensive to run. Private organizations such as the Woodruff YMCA, the JCC and Holiday Hill are advertising their camps starting June 29.

**Looking to a new year:** School is scheduled to re-open August 26 for students; teachers start two days prior.

**Amity Budget passes:** After conducting a virtual hearing, the Amity Board of Education on May 4 approved its \$50.7 million budget for the Fiscal Year 2020-21, which represents a 2.49% increase. For the hearing, residents were encouraged to submit their comments by e-mail ahead of the meeting. As is typically the case, some expressed their support of education in general, and this budget in particular, while others asked the board to take the looming economic downturn into consideration. The letters, split evenly five for, five against and one just asking a number of questions, are available to read on the district website, [https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1589396807/amityregion5org/cth-q8zhclx9hcftmsotz/BOE\\_Draft\\_AnnualMtg\\_Minutes\\_050420.pdf](https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1589396807/amityregion5org/cth-q8zhclx9hcftmsotz/BOE_Draft_AnnualMtg_Minutes_050420.pdf).

Most of the budget increase is due to a further roll out of the one-on-one technology plan, Dr. Byars said. The program will provide, over the course of several years, a laptop for every student to support instruction. The program has been implemented for grades 7 and 8, and in the upcoming year will be extended to grades 9 and 10. The unexpected switch this spring to distance learning has shown just how crucial it is for students to have computer access, she said.

The budget also pays for an additional social worker and administrative support to the special education program. The district will be hiring two School Security Officers, one each at the two middle schools. These are typically retired officers, and are being used by many schools for security around the country. Originally, the Amity board had sought to hire School Resource Officers who are part of the local police force.

Of the three member towns, Woodbridge will be particularly hard hit by the budget increase as its student population has increased as well. Woodbridge’s share of the Amity budget will increase by 5.28% to \$15.7 million; Orange will be contributing \$25 million, up by 1.08%; and Bethany will be contributing \$9 million, up by .84%.



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We are committed to working with you to find ways to process your legal matters as quickly and conveniently as possible with safe, outdoor signings.



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

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ARTS & LEISURE



“Gifting Guitar” Entertains  
Seniors During Quarantine

Evan Gorelick is a junior at Amity Regional High School. In addition to excelling academically and being involved in many extracurricular activities, Evan has long had a passion for playing electric guitar. He began playing at age 8 and has consistently devoted many hours every week between lessons and practicing over the years. Last summer these efforts were rewarded with a scholarship to attend The Berklee College of Music in Boston which was an incredible experience that deepened his love of playing as well as his appreciation for music even that much more. He came home energized to come up with unique ways to share his love of music with others.

This past year, Evan began to spread the joy of music by giving concerts one Sunday every month to the residents of The Willows Nursing Home in Woodbridge, where his grandfather is a permanent resident. His singular hope was to lift the spirits of the many residents who would regularly attend his concerts. Evan became a big hit! He spent countless hours preparing music for his one-hour monthly concerts - which often meant he was learning unfamiliar songs and music from decades well before he was born but that he knew the residents would recognize and enjoy. He encouraged the residents to make musical requests which he would then master and include in the next month's concert.

Then came Covid 19 and The Willows was required to close its doors to all visitors in an effort to minimize the risk of infection among its residents

and staff. Determined to continue to provide the residents with his music, particularly during a time when he felt the residents would be particularly isolated and vulnerable, Evan began making weekly music videos dedicated to The Willows residents, their families, and the nursing home staff, which he has been posting every week to his website [www.giftingguitar.org](http://www.giftingguitar.org). He calls them 'Willows Quarantine Jams' and to date there are six weeks of videos available to view.

With the help of the activities department at The Willows, Evan's songs are shared with the residents using a special Willow's iPad that enables the residents to continue to benefit from Evan's gift of music. Evan starts and ends each video with a personal message of encouragement to the residents, as he understands very acutely the difficulty and challenges each resident is facing especially without their family or friends being there to support them.

Gifting Guitar is a charitable organization originally started by Evan with the aim of providing education in guitar proficiency, music theory, and musicianship to underprivileged children who may not otherwise have this opportunity. Given the practical constraints resulting from the current coronavirus pandemic, Evan has expanded the original goals of his organization to include other forms of giving the gift of music to others. He intends to continue to post his weekly 'Quarantine Jams' until he is able to return in person to The Willows once again!

Orange Town News

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“Schools” From Page 1

on this unpaved road we are traveling together. Districts and families are forced to face many challenges that are ever-changing,” he says. “These challenges are unique to each family due to the variety of ways the virus has and may impact our families. This causes our schools to be creative and flexible in how we can meet our families’ and students’ individual needs, not only instructionally but emotionally.”

To help ease some of the emotional burden and create an environment where parents can come for advice, tips and most of all, support, Woodbridge mom Melissa Federico organized a Facebook group called BOWA Distance Learning Group that now has over 400 members. She says that when schools closed and the announcement came that parents would be launching children into distance learning, she saw a lot of parents asking questions in various BOWA Facebook Groups.

“I started reading the comments and I saw some less-than-nice answers from members. I had questions myself, and I was afraid to ask them,” she says. “I realized there was a need for a safe space for parents to go, ask questions of other parents, vent their frustrations, share the crazy moments that happen, because no matter how much our district tries to make things easy for everyone, we are in new uncharted territories. Many parents are working from home full-time while also trying to help multiple children distance learn.”

She hopes that parents or anyone in the BOWA district who is going through this new uncharted territory of distance learning gets support, camaraderie, and some laughter at the funnier moments of this Distance Learning from the Facebook group.

Meanwhile, Scarpetti remains hopeful and positive and says we will get through this together, no matter

how many bumps are in the road. He encourages feedback, positive or negative, and says it’s how administrators learn what is working and what is not.

“As a community we value the feedback we receive. It is imperative to have stakeholders share their experiences as we continue to provide instruction and social and emotional support related to the well-being of students, families, and staff during this crisis,” he says.

He says the district will continue to provide support related to the academic needs such as technical support, professional learning regarding distance learning, and curriculum and instruction, all aligned to Connecticut Core Standard as well as meeting emotional needs. In addition to educational and emotional support, the district is also making sure students receive lunch daily. Three hundred lunches are distributed to Orange families six days each week.

“Despite the challenges, this time has provided us an opportunity to learn and grow in ways we did not know were possible. Everyone has learned and adapted to new instructional strategies and technologies that will assist staff, students and families even when schools reopen,” he says.

As Orange Schools move into summer and consider Extended School Year (ESY) for students with special needs and/or other learning opportunities, administrators will continue to be challenged by the unknown. Decisions will continue to be made based on guidance from the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), the local health department and what the district believes is in the best interest of all involved.

“Information will be shared with our families when we have a better understanding of our position,” Scarpetti says. “There is no question, we miss our kids and families and look forward to the day we return to the school buildings.”

**MICHAEL J. PAOLINI, CPA**

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ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP

# Notice To Former Amity Students

Amity Regional School District #5, as per state guidelines, is properly disposing of student special education records. The records of any student who has received special services are maintained for six years after his or her class graduates.

Former Amity students who were born between 1994 and 1996 and/or having graduated in 2013 or 2014 who have received special services at the Amity Middle School, Orange; Amity Middle School, Bethany; or Amity Regional High School may obtain their special education records.

You must call 203-397-4820 prior to claiming records in order to allow sufficient time to retrieve your records from our archives.

Due to the current health crisis the District Office is closed to visitors. If you wish to obtain records, please call 203-397-4820 and leave a detailed message with student name and a phone number or email beth.moffat@amityregion5.org. Records will be held until the office reopens and arrangements can be made to pick up records.

If no contact has been made by June 30, 2020 records will be destroyed.

# Superintendent Recognition Award

Orange Elementary Schools

Oliva Barrett, Sophie Cohen and Troy Vendencia from Race Brook School; Avery Ketchian, Molly Bosma and Aditi Sidhartha from Turkey Hill School; and Eve Benjamin, Roxana Ismail-Beigi and Kacee Tam from The Peck Place School are sixth grade students who have been awarded the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents' (CAPSS) Superintendent/Student Recognition Award presented to them during the Board of Education Meeting held on May 18, 2020.

Criteria for the award are leadership, service to the school, academic prowess relative to ability, and service to others in the community.

# Scholar-Athletes Feted Virtually

**BY BETTINA THIEL**  
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Ella Marin of Woodbridge and Raymond Lu of Orange were named the 2019-20 CAS-CIAS scholar athletes from Amity Regional High School. They are both members of the Class of 2020.

The CIAS award ceremony, which typically takes place in conjunction with a banquet at the Aqua Turf Club, this year was held virtually with pre-taped segments. Amity High School Principal Anna Mahon was the keynote speaker. The May 3 event was broadcast on Fox 61 and can now be viewed on the CAS-CIAC YouTube page.

The scholar-athlete program recognizes two high school seniors from each of the 183 member schools for academic excellence, athletic talent, sportsmanship and leadership on the field and in the classroom, said host Bob Picozzi, retired ESPN radio personality. UConn women's basketball star Rebecca Lobo sent a congratulatory message.

Anna Mahon, an Olympic athlete in her own right, had an inspirational message on resilience for the students. She said she was not involved in organized sports until her high school years, at which point "being a college athlete became my goal," she said. At the University of Vermont, she started where everyone else starts — the hammer throw, she said. "I was not good at it," she admitted, but she kept on practicing until in her junior year she developed a knack for it.

Her biggest disappointment was when she did not qualify for the Olympics, but during the next round of qualifiers in 2004 she did. She realized that succeeding in sports was not about talent by any means, rather than going on when being knocked down." Grounding yourself and resilience is where success comes from," she said. "Things are not necessarily going according to plan," Mahon said, but yet

See "Scholar-Athletes" On Page 12

# "A Different Way: Living Simply in a Complex World"

COURSE BEING LAUNCHED

Everyone is invited to participate in a community led course over Zoom called "A Different Way: Living Simply in a Complex World". Designed by the Northwest Earth Institute (NWEI.org) this course connects our individual values and actions to the larger picture and helps us to find power to make real change in our lives, communities, and in the world at large.

The course is co-hosted by Massaro Community Farm and the Town of Woodbridge's Sustainability Task Force. Discussions will take place from 7 – 8 pm every other Wednesday beginning on July 8 and continue through September.

The course book, "A Different Way," is a collection of articles on the following six topics:

- ✓ Finding your "Why": Living a Life of Happiness and Meaning;
- ✓ Times Change: Busyness, Distraction, and Mindfulness;
- ✓ Lighten Up! Consume Less, Create More;
- ✓ Technology: Connection and Disconnection;
- ✓ Media Literacy: Resisting Materialistic Values;
- ✓ Moving Forward.

To view the titles and authors of the articles for each of these six topics, see A Different Way and scroll down.

The course is designed to be led by the participants, who share in its facilitation, rather than relying on a teacher. Participants read the course's curriculum materials between meetings, then gather to discuss them and relate them to their own experience. There are no tests, grades, or credit, but simply an opportunity to learn, get to know fellow residents, have fun, and motivate positive action. Gatherings will be via Zoom and occasionally outside with social distance if our weather and health safety concerns permit.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the course and/or signing up should email Massaro Community Farm at [info@massarofarm.org](mailto:info@massarofarm.org) with the subject line "A Different Way course" by June 10<sup>th</sup>. Please indicate a phone number in your email that you can be reached at to discuss logistics. Those living in the greater Woodbridge, CT area may place an order for the book through the farm at the discounted \$25 bulk order price with no shipping costs and pick up their copy at the farm when it arrives. Those who cannot get to the farm may purchase the book directly from the Northwest Earth Institute at <https://store.ecochallenge.org/products/a-different-way> for \$30 plus shipping.

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Frozen Food, Made Locally and Delivered To Your Door

A Wilton resident is creating a new category in frozen foods by delivering these foods directly to your home. We are all a bit nervous to shop at grocery stores these days. All Day Snacks is a line of frozen arepas (these arepas are gluten free, nut-free, high protein, simple to prepare, and delicious corn flour & cheese pancakes, sometimes sweetened, known throughout South America as FREAKN AWESOME that get delivered to your door. All Day Snacks is extending its line to include frozen, ready-to-bake gluten free cheesy breads in 3 flavors. All Day Snacks is looking to hire self-starters around the country to distribute its products - all you need is a chest freezer, the positive/go-getter attitude to market to folks in your county, and an ability to deliver. Currently, All Day Snacks is live in Fairfield County and is expanding to New Haven county and can deliver to Orange and surrounding towns. If interested, website: [www.alldaysnacks.com](http://www.alldaysnacks.com), email [michael@alldaysnacks.com](mailto:michael@alldaysnacks.com).

"I have long believed that sacrifice is the pinnacle of patriotism." — BOB RILEY



ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



# 4<sup>th</sup> Graders at RBS Convince Business Owner to Go Green

BY MAX B., SADIE M., NATE R. & JAKE R.

Did you know that by 2050 there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish? In Mrs. Bronson’s class we have been learning about the dangers of plastic in the environment. In our research we learned about a turtle that was discovered with a straw stuck in its nose. The straw ended up in the ocean because they are so lightweight that they can blow away from landfills and often end up floating in water. That is just one example of the dangers of plastic. We also heard about some whales and birds that have been found dead with stomachs full of plastic. Plastic acts like an impostor for food, and some animals accidentally eat it. Because they eat plastic, one quarter of all fish now contain plastic. Scary, isn’t it? We have to do something to prevent this from continuing.

There will be a new store opening soon in Orange called Small Town Nutrition. They will sell smoothies and teas. Some of the shake flavors include Double Chocolate, Cheesecake, and Cinnamon Roll. Some of the tea flavors are Sting Ray, Big Beluga, and Rainbow Candy. Sounds great, right? But one thing we noticed is that every time you order a shake or tea, it is served

to you in a one-time-use plastic cup with a plastic lid and a plastic straw. All this plastic can be harmful to marine animals and birds.

We invited Marie Small, the owner of Small Town Nutrition, into our classroom to discuss this problem of plastics and discuss some of the solutions she’s created to make her business more eco-friendly. First of all, we discovered that she offers cardboard or paper straws as well as plastic. Next, we think she should encourage her customers to buy the reusable plastic cups with her company logo on it. She sells them for \$20. Each time they use this cup she rewards them by taking \$1.00 off of their drink. They could also bring in their own reusable cup and save 50 cents. We think this would save Mrs. Small money since she won’t have to buy as many one-time-use plastic cups, while also saving the environment.

We think this is a win-win solution for the business, customer and environment. We would like to thank Maria Small for coming to our classroom to hear our presentation. So, remember when you visit Small Town Nutrition, bring your own reusable cups. The birds and fish will thank you.

STUDENT NEWS

## Achievements Eastern Connecticut State University

Willimantic, CT - The Eastern Connecticut State University Warriors softball team was off to a 2-0 start in its spring 2020 season before the NCAA cancelled all college sports through the end of the school year due to concerns over the coronavirus pandemic. Nonetheless, 21 student athletes made the team, which was vying for another competitive season in the Little East Conference. Among the student athletes is sophomore Brooke Matyasovsky of Orange, number 42, who plays Utility and majors in Communication. The Warriors compete in the LEC, which was established in 1986 as a single-sport league by six public institutions throughout New England.

## Eastern Connecticut State University

Willimantic, CT - Eastern Connecticut State University recently inducted 30 psychology students into Psi Chi, the international honors society for psychology. Students are invited into the society if they are a declared major or minor in psychology, have at least 12 credits of psychology coursework and a GPA of 3.5 or higher in psychology and an overall GPA of 3.0. Among the recent inductees is Nuala Tzovolos of Orange, a junior who majors in Psychology.

## Fordham University

Baton Rouge, LA - Jamie Hashem of Orange, Connecticut, was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Hashem was initiated at Fordham University. Hashem is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

## Saint Mary’s College

Notre Dame, Ind. - Kendra Osinski, an Orange native and Amity Regional graduate, was honored with a special award by the Saint Mary’s College Department of Athletics in an online ceremony on Sunday, May 3. Osinski, who was a four-year member of the

Saint Mary’s lacrosse team, was named as the recipient of the Impact Player Award. A two-time All-MIAA selection, she is listed in the top four in program history in career goals, assists, and points. Beyond those personal accolades, however, is the student-athlete who stepped in to be the team’s goalie when an injury to a teammate created a void. Osinski played eight games in goal during her sophomore season. The Belles put together the longest winning streak in program history with Kendra as the starting goalie in five of those six games, and she scored the overtime game-winning goal in the sixth game of that stretch.

## Dean’s List Adelphi University

Garden City, NY - Daejin Kim, of Orange, CT, was among a select group of outstanding students named to the fall 2019 Dean’s List at Adelphi University. The Dean’s List includes full-time students registered for 12 or more credits who have completed at least 9 graded credits and achieved a GPA of 3.5 or above for the semester.

## George Washington University

Julia Marie Potter, a Freshman at George Washington University made the Dean’s List and achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA for the Spring Semester where she is pursuing a dual major in Political Science and Psychology.

## Graduations Sacred Heart University

Shannon Early received her master’s in education, Med, from Sacred Heart University graduating with a 4.0. average. She is the daughter of Lisa and Tom Early.

## Honors Notre Dame High School

West Haven, CT - Notre Dame High School of West Haven President Mr. Robert F. Curis and Vice President for Student Success, Mr. Joseph A. Ramirez, recently announced the Honor Roll for the Third Quarter of the 2019-20 academic year. Those from Orange to receive First Honors are: Class of 2020 - Joseph Bierowski and Brett Hutchinson; Class of 2021 - Dohyeon Steven) Yeo; Class of 2022 - Dylan Ekstrand and Anthony Young; Class of 2023 - Chevintha Edirisinghe and Matthew Vitagliano. Those from Orange to receive Second Honors are: Class of 2021 - Nicholas Richietelli and Yifan (Ivan) Xia; Class of 2022 - Adrian Fielosh.

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New! You can now access ancestry.com remotely using a library card barcode number. This is a special arrangement in view of the library's emergency closure. To log in, click the "ancestry" button under Library Resources on our home page.

Check Out This Content On Our Facebook Page!

## Pandemic Fiction

A list from our Circulation Department and a link to a New York Times roundup.

## Making Wildflower Seed Bombs

Video version of the craft activity we had planned for Earth Day.

## Ring Around the Rosy

Our new YouTube channel with a playlist of rhymes and songs for children 0-5!

The Library is closed until further notice. All programs are cancelled until further notice. We will waive all late fees while we are closed. Visit our Facebook page.



# Easter Bunny Practices Social Distancing at Holly Hill Childcare

Holly Hill Director Debbie Fedorko and the Easter Bunny put their heads together and came up with a safe and fun way the center's children could visit the Easter Bunny and receive some treats - all at a safe distance of course! Parents drove up to our candy station where the Easter Bunny eagerly waved

to the children as Miss Debbie passed out treats (with the help of her pool skimmer!) Teachers also joined in the fun - as this was a perfect opportunity to see their little ones!

Everyone at Holly Hill is looking forward to a re-opening of the center soon.

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# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## B’Nai Jacob Livestream & Zoom Events

**Our Building is Closed, but Our Community is Open!**  
Please join us on livestream or zoom! To register for a Zoom event, please call the office at (203) 389-2111

**Shavuot**

*livestream or Zoom*

**Thursday, May 28**

- › 8:00 pm – Ma’ariv (Evening service)
- › 8:15 pm - Study session with Rabbi Shapiro
- › 9:00 pm - Singing and learning with Cantor Kanfer

**Friday, May 29**

- › 9:30 am - Morning Service
- › 6:00 pm - Evening Service

**Saturday, May 30**

- › 9:45 am - Morning Service with Yizkor (at 11am)

**B’nai Jacob Book Group**

*Thursday, June 25 at 7:00 pm on Zoom*  
**Join in a discussion of “The Last Kabbalist of Lisbon,”**  
by Richard Zimler  
“The Last Kabbalist of Lisbon,” an international bestseller, is an extraordinary novel that transports listeners into the universe of Jewish Kabbalah during the Lisbon massacre of April



Congregation B’nai Jacob

1506. Winner of the Herodotus Award in the USA for best Historical Novel. Discussion led by Linda Cedarbaum.

**Morning Minyan** at 7:45am (Monday-Friday), 9:00am (Sunday)

**Evening Minyan** at 6:00pm (Sunday-Thursday)

**Shabbat Shmooze** at 6:00pm Friday

**Kaballat Shabbat** at 6:30pm Friday

**Shabbat Morning** at 9:45am Saturday

**Havdalah** at 8:46pm Saturday

**Bread & Torah** at 10:00am Sunday

**Pirkei Avot Class** at 7:30pm Monday

**Tea with the Rabbi & Cantor** at 9:00pm (Tuesday & Thursday)

203-389-2111  
info@bnaijacob.org • BnaiJacob.org



## Congregation Beth El – Keser Israel Events

**Daily Services via Zoom**

- › Sunday 9:00 am & 5:45 pm
- › Monday 7:00 am & 5:45 pm
- › Tuesday 7:00 am & 5:45pm
- › Wednesday 7:00 am & 5:45 pm
- › Thursday 8:15 am & 5:45 pm
- › Friday 7:00 am & 6:00 pm



Congregation Beth-El Keser Israel

**Talmud and Rashi Study Groups**

The Rashi Study Group, which meets online Mondays 8:00-8:30 am with Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen, is reading Second Kings with commentary. A weekly study of the Talmud B. Masekhet Berakhot with Rabbi Tilsen meets online Thursdays 10:00-10:50 am. For details and texts, email jjtilsen@beki.org.

**Erev Shavuot Study**

BEKI’s annual Erev Shavuot night of study will be a day early and via Zoom. Classes will be on Wednesday, May 27 at 7 pm, 8 pm, 9 pm, and 10 pm. For details, email office@beki.org.

**BEKI on Facebook**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the BEKI Facebook page keeps congregants informed about community resources, volunteer opportunities, online learning and entertainment, and much more. If you would like to join this Facebook group, please ask the moderator online or call the BEKI office, 203-389-2108.

**Daily Services via Zoom Meeting**

Anyone wishing to participate in BEKI daily minyan via Zoom should email Ritual Committee Chair Rachel Wiseman Gerber at bekitefilla@gmail.com to request a Zoom invitation. The minyanim, led by BEKI volunteers, also include time to check in with one another and offer support. For updates on when the building will re-open, check www.beki.org.

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



**Family Program Director Hired**

Anne Norman-Schiff, who is completing a Ph.D. in religious studies at Yale, has been hired as BEKI’s first Youth and Family Programming Director. She will coordinate and support the children’s Shabbat and High Holiday programs, which are led by parent volunteers, and will be the advisor to BEKI’s Kadima and USY youth groups. “BEKI is a thriving and growing community with many young families,” President Yaron Lew explained. “Our youngsters represent our synagogue’s future. Even in these tough times, BEKI is committed to serving our congregants and enriching our children and young adults. We committed the funds to make it happen.”

**Tehillim in Times of Trouble**

Throughout the generations, Psalms have been recited in times of trouble. Prof. Corinne Blackmer leads a BEKI Psalms study group each Sunday 3:30-4:30pm. They read the Hebrew original, then the JPS English translation, and then discuss. If you would like to join this Zoom meeting, email bekitefilla@gmail.com.

## Virtual Events at Temple Emanuel

Stay connected with our community. Keep your physical distance while maintaining your social connections. Check out the on-line options at Temple Emanuel:

Friday nights at 7:30 – virtual Kabbalat Shabbat (or at 6:30 pm on the first Friday of the month for families with young children);

Saturday mornings at 10:00 – virtual Torah Study.

Details about these events and all other events and services at TE are on the Temple Emanuel website, www.



Temple Emanuel

tegnh.org. You can also call the temple office at 203-397-3000. Hope to “see” you soon!



**ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!**  
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# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## Congregation B’nai Jacob Happenings



Our Building is Closed, but our Community is Open! Our clergy, staff, and lay leaders are working to keep our B’nai Jacob community connected and cared for. Here are some of the things we have set in place and continue to develop.

### Ways To Stay Connected Live Stream Services

All services in the Chapel, including Shabbat and daily Minyan, are live streamed and easily accessible on our website. Look for the LIVE STREAM link on the right panel of the B’nai Jacob homepage.

#### Live Stream Schedule:

- › Morning Minyan at 7:45am daily (Mon-Fri);
- › Evening Minyan at 6:00pm daily (Sun-Thur);
- › Kaballat Shabbat at 6:30pm Fridays;
- › Shabbat Morning Service at 9:45am Saturdays.

### Guest Speaker Series

#### Hearing Loss: Listening and Communication Tools and Tips

Date: TBD

Debra Sachs, M.A.

Do you have a hearing loss or do you know someone who does? Are you ever frustrated in your efforts to relay or receive a spoken message in an acoustically challenging environment? 10.6% of Americans have hearing loss.

CBJ member Debra Sachs, an award-winning teacher of students with hearing loss, will lead an interactive program about hearing loss where you will be given the opportunity to listen as if you had one. It will consider the impact of hearing loss on individuals, particularly aging adults, and identify listening strategies and spoken language techniques to maximize communication.

### Climate Change: A New Perspective

Date: TBD

Daniel Headrick, Ph.D.

CBJ member, scholar, and author of the new book, “Humans Versus Nature: A Global Environmental History,” Headrick will speak with us about the state of our planet. Almost all scientists, most political leaders (outside the US), and much of the people, especially young people, agree that climate change is real, that it is caused by anthropogenic greenhouse-gas emissions, and that we must start doing something soon to reverse it; yet the amount of emissions continues to grow. Headrick argues that two powerful forces - developmentalism and consumerism - stand in the way of meaningful action.

### Special Events

#### 5th Annual Elm City Kallah

Date: TBD

Rabbi Ethan Tucker

President and Rosh Yeshiva at Har-dar and chair in Jewish Law

Navigating the World as a Jew and as a Human Being - A weekend of Learning and Exploration

### BJ Players presents 25th Annual Putman County Spelling Bee

Date: TBD

Winner of the Tony and The Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” has charmed audiences with its effortless wit and humor. A group of quirky kids with a passion for

spelling and wildly entertaining back-stories have flocked to Putnam Valley Middle School to compete (and sing!) in the 25th Annual Putnam county Spelling Bee. As the words tested become more difficult and the spellers get eliminated one by one, friendships are formed and the characters’ inner troubles and hilarious backstories are slowly revealed!

### Congregation B’nai Jacob Book Group

Date: TBD

Join in a discussion of “A Pigeon and a Boy” by Israeli author Meir Shalev

Winner of the Brenner Prize, Israel’s highest literary recognition

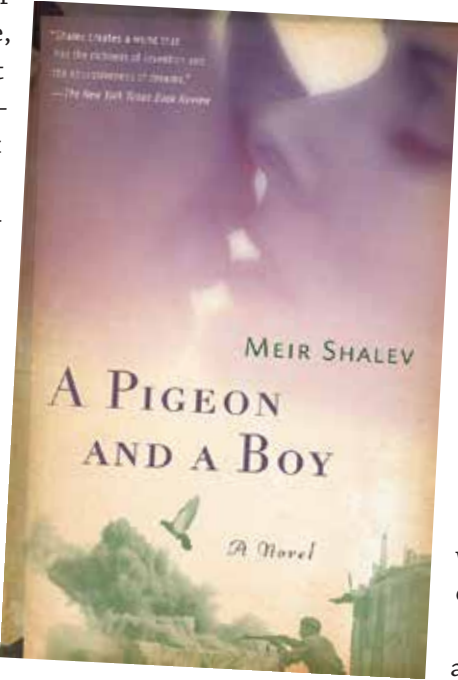
During the 1948 War of Independence—a time when pigeons are still used to deliver battlefield messages—a gifted young pigeon handler is mortally wounded. In the moments before his death, he dispatches one last pigeon. The bird is carrying his extraordinary gift to the girl he has loved since adolescence. Intertwined with this story is the contemporary tale of Yair Mendelsohn, who has his own legacy from the 1948 war. Yair is a tour guide specializing in bird-watching trips who, in middle age, falls in love again with a childhood girlfriend. His growing

passion for her, along with a gift from his mother on her death-bed, becomes the key to a life he thought no longer possible.

Unforgettable in both its particulars and its sweep, “A Pigeon and A Boy” is a tale of lovers then and now—of how deeply we love, of what home is, and why we, like pigeons trained to fly in one direction only, must eventually return to it. In a voice that is at once playful, wise, and altogether beguiling, Meir Shalev tells a story as universal as war and as intimate as a winged declaration of love.

“Stunning...This gem of a story about the power of love...brims with luminous originality.”—Publishers Weekly

Discussion will be led by Kinneret Chiel, MA, MALS — Kinneret Chiel has been an educator for over 40 years. She served as school principal at B’nai Jacob and at Mishkan Israel in Hamden and was director of Gan Hayaed Nursery School. At Southern Connecticut State University, she was Assistant Professor in the Education Department and ran its Child Development Center.



### “Letters” From Page 5

men and women in uniform who gave their lives for this country. On May 25th, whether you’re social distancing at home or cautiously beginning to return to normal life, join us in celebrating those who bravely defended our freedom, safety and well-being.

While so many things have changed

over the past few months, Memorial Day is an opportunity to take a step back and reflect on the sacrifices made by our fallen heroes. If you’re raising a glass in their honor, remember to prioritize the very thing our servicemen and women fought so selflessly to preserve: our safety. Regardless of how you’re saluting our fallen heroes, if your plans involve alcohol, make sure

you take steps to protect yourself and your neighbors by hydrating between beers and drinking responsibly.

For more than 35 years, Anheuser-Busch and their wholesaler partners have invested more than \$1 billion in responsible drinking initiatives and community-based programs to prevent underage-drinking, impaired driving and other harmful use of alco-

hol. Dichello Distributors, Inc. is proud to work alongside Anheuser-Busch to promote safe and responsible drinking habits this Memorial Day.

From all of us at Dichello Distributors, Inc. we wish you a happy and safe Memorial Day.

Tony Lota

Alcohol Awareness Coordinator  
Dichello Distributors, Inc.

“Patriotism is supporting your country all the time, and your government when it deserves it.” — MARK TWAIN



# ELECTION 2020

## DeBarba Announces Candidacy for State Rep in the 114<sup>th</sup> District

Dan DeBarba, a longtime Orange resident, announced today that he will be seeking the Republican nomination for the 114<sup>th</sup> State Representative district. State Representative Themis Klarides recently announced that she will not be seeking re-election.



*Dan DeBarba* "I first want to thank State Rep. Themis Klarides for her leadership and tireless commitment to the communities of Woodbridge, Orange, and Derby," said DeBarba. "Our state is faced with extraordinary challenges and we need a representative in Hartford who can get right to work and continue to fight for our state and communities as Rep. Klarides has."

Professionally, Dan is a health care executive, small business owner, and CPA. He currently serves as the Chief Financial Officer of a large hospital and health care system in New York. Prior to his current role, Dan was the president of both Norwalk Hospital and Danbury Hospital.

"Each and every day, I am amazed by the tremendous work and sacrifice made by our nurses, doctors, and first responders. Hospitals and health care professionals in Connecticut and across the nation are doing everything they can to restore patient lives and to keep us all healthy. I have spent my career advocating for the needs

of hospitals and their staff members and will continue to be a strong advocate for all of Connecticut's hospitals, nurses, doctors, and first responders."

Dan continued, "As a small business owner, I understand the significant challenges that small businesses face in Connecticut and will work diligently to improve the environment in which they operate. Small businesses form the economic foundation upon which we all depend, and they must be supported."

A lifelong resident of Connecticut, Dan grew up in Wolcott and attended the University of Connecticut. While earning his undergraduate and graduate degrees, he served in the Connecticut Army National Guard for six years as a medic.

While at UConn, he met his wife Lynn, a nursing school student from Orange at the time. Dan and Lynn have two sons and a daughter, who all graduated from Amity High School. Dan and his wife have recently been blessed with their first grandchild.

"I look forward to speaking with residents throughout the district and listening to their thoughts and ideas about how we restart, rebuild, and reshape Connecticut's economy," explained DeBarba. "It is imperative that during this crisis we put political differences aside and work together as good neighbors to meet the extraordinary challenges we all face".

For more information or to contact Dan, he can be reached at [debarbaforstaterep@gmail.com](mailto:debarbaforstaterep@gmail.com) or call (203) 699-6569.

## Welander Helps "Fill The Bucket" For Hunger

When the call went out that the Orange Food Bank was in need, Mary Welander, State Representative candidate for Orange, Woodbridge, and Derby, jumped into action. Welander organized a town-wide food pick up to support the "Fill the Bucket" food drive at F&W Equipment in Orange. The idea was to fill the bucket of a front-end loader.

Recognizing the increasing needs of Orange families and the challenges facing the Food Bank in keeping its shelves filled, Welander put out the call for "no-contact" food donation pick-ups from residents across town. On Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, May 8-11, Welander crisscrossed Orange picking up donations left for her on doorsteps as well as gathering those dropped off at her home.

In an incredible show of generosity, enough food, household supplies, and personal hygiene products were collect-

ed to need two separate drop-off trips. "As a one income household living in Orange, I understand the challenges our families face under normal circumstances. Take those challenges and pile on the fact that so many families have lost income during this pandemic; it's easy to understand that more people may need a little help right now," said Welander, who herself was furloughed from a part time job when Covid19 hit. She added "I'm grateful that I can help the Orange Food Bank in this way so that more families in town are supported through these tough times."

Realizing that many are facing challenges in reaching out during this time, Welander encourages anyone needing assistance to contact the Community Services Dept. at High Plains Community Center at 203-891-4788, or to feel free to contact Mary directly, at 203-881-6207, or [welanderforct@gmail.com](mailto:welanderforct@gmail.com).

### "Scholar-Athletes" From Page 7

it's good to have a plan. "Learning from setbacks is the most important thing."

As for the two local honorees, they have exciting plans going forward.

Ella Marin, who played soccer since she was in elementary school, said she also ran long-distance and was part of the Amity ski team. Sports helped

her create strong ties of friendships. She has been accepted to Dartmouth College, where she is interested in environmental science or a related field.

Raymond Lu, a swimmer, also started diving during his senior year. He plans to go into Environmental Science and Health at the University of Southern California. Both athletes hope to participate in club sports at college.

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# TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

## Town Defends Religious Gatherings Protocol

Our nation faces the massive challenge of responding to the global COVID-19 pandemic. To date, our country has 1,450,136 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 86,607 deaths from the virus.

The Town of Orange understands that in these difficult and scary times, many people look to their faith for comfort and guidance. On March 16, 2020, our local health director made the decision, as authorized under the Governor’s first declaration to apply relevant principles of risk management to decisions about whether to cancel, modify or postpone large gatherings, to cancel congregational prayers and religious events due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

At that time, Dr. Mohammad’s opinion was that, under the current health emergency caused by COVID-19 and how that virus is spread, there was no reasonable way for parishioners to congregate safely. Dr. Mohammad’s purpose was to slow the spread of this deadly pandemic and preserve human life.

Canceling in-person worship services is not the same as canceling worship. Many faiths teach that in circumstances like the ones that we all now face, protecting people’s lives comes first, and that it is an act of charity, justice, and love to stay home and to worship through alternative means. To protect people who attend religious worship services as well as those who don’t, we should be encouraging these efforts.

All civic and community organizations in the Town have cancelled in-person meetings and large gatherings. Annual events like the Memorial Day Parade, July Fourth fireworks and the Fireman’s Carnival have all been

cancelled.

The Town of Orange respects, honors and works to protect everyone’s constitutional rights. We all have compromised certain liberties in this time of pandemic. The Town of Orange acknowledges that citizens have a constitutional interest to assemble and worship, but the public has a greater interest in saving human lives. It is no exaggeration to recognize that the stakes for the residents of the Town are life-or-death.

Along with the Governor’s reopening protocols, on May 13<sup>th</sup> Dr. Mohammad issued an order stating that as of May 20<sup>th</sup>, just 5 days from now, religious services can resume in Town providing social distancing protocols are followed.

The Town regrets that the parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrow felt the need to file a legal proceeding, almost 8-weeks after Dr. Mohammad entered his order and just 5-days prior to when religious services are scheduled to resume, but the Town respects the right of this church to file legal proceedings in the federal district court that has already been rejected by about 10 federal courts across our country.

The Town of Orange will defend Dr. Mohammad’s order and will continue to work to protect the health, safety and welfare of its constituents. We all look forward to when this pandemic ends and when we can resume “normal life,” but until then, we all need to work together to protect each other. Orange has a long history of “community” and in these difficult times, our Town remains a community that stays together in spirit, even when we must be physically apart.

## Simple Recycling Program Cancelled!

Over the last seven weeks, Small businesses, including Simple Recycling have experienced extreme financial difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Their leadership has evaluated their programs and had to make cut-backs. They have decided to permanently discontinue running curbside

textile recycling service in Orange. Blue bins are NOT affected. Please continue to use your blue bin for your household recycling. Thank you to all who supported the textile program. If you have textile items, remember our option of the Goodwill container located at our Transfer Station.



Orange Community Services would like to thank the Friends of the Orange Library for its generous donation to our food bank in our time of need.

## Memorial Day Parade Cancellation

It is with deep regret that the Memorial Day Parade Committee is announcing the cancellation of this year’s Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade. This special day has been celebrated by the families and friends of the Town of Orange for over three decades, and it was a difficult decision, because the committee knows how much the town loves this event. The committee hopes that you will remember our veterans who served throughout the centuries, in war and in peacetime to keep our nation safe on our ceremony day, Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, on Monday Memorial Day, and every day.

We would like thank the health care workers, who find themselves on the

front lines combating the Corona Virus, and who keep our citizens healthy. We are grateful to our First Responders, Orange Police, AMR, and Orange Fire Department, who continue to work, and risk their health to keep our town and neighboring towns safe. We continue to also think of those families that have been directly affected by the pandemic. Our thoughts are with our community members who are sick or have lost loved ones to the virus.

The Memorial Day Parade Committee looks forward to a time where the quarantine does not impact the days when we celebrate our honored veterans. If we work together to follow best practices, we will keep each other safe so we can soon be together again.

## Thank You to Rotary

Orange Community Services would like to thank the Orange Rotary Club for its generous donation of food purchased with grant funds obtained to remediate needs due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We also thank the Orange Rotary for the most generous monetary

donation to the Orange Food Bank. These donations will help replenish and sustain the Orange Food Bank with many needed items to assist Orange residents and families in need during this most challenging time. Your support is so very much appreciated.

## Town Independence Day Concert & Fireworks Event Postponed

The Town of Orange 2020 Independence Day Concert and Fireworks event originally scheduled for July 6<sup>th</sup> has been postponed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Event Coordinator, Orange Town News Publisher Rocky Salperto hopes

to hold the event on Labor Day weekend. “We are in contact with Town Officials and the Orange Health Department and hope to be able to move the event to September 6<sup>th</sup> just prior to Labor Day,” Salperto stated. Watch for continuing updates.

Orange Town News

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# TOWN DEPARTMENTS

## Town of Orange Meetings for the Month of June 2020



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

1st	Zoning Board of Appeals .....7:00 pm	Town Hall
	Country Fair Cmte .....7:30 pm	Exhibit Hall
2nd	Economic Development Comm .....5:30 pm	Town Hall
	Town Plan & Zoning Comm .....7:00 pm	Town Hall
3rd	Conservation Comm .....7:00 pm	HPCC
4th	OGAT .....7:30 pm	Town Hall
8th	Traffic Authority .....4:30 pm	Police Dept.
	Board of Police Comm .....4:30 pm	Police Dept.
	Amity Board of Education .....6:30 pm	Woodbridge
9th	Inland Wetlands Comm .....7:30 pm	Town Hall
10th	Board of Selectmen .....7:00 pm	Town Hall
11th	Elderly Housing Liaison Cmte .....12 noon	Silverbrook Estates
	Community Services .....7:00 pm	HPCC
15th	Family Counseling .....9:00 am	HPCC
	Board of Finance .....7:00 pm	Town Hall
	Board of Health .....7:00 pm	HPCC
	Orange Board of Education .....7:00 pm	Mary L. Tracy
16th	Town Plan & Zoning Comm .....7:00 pm	Town Hall
17th	CERT .....7:00 pm	HPCC
	Recycling Cmte .....7:00 pm	HPCC
18th	Case Memorial Library Comm .....7:00 pm	Case Mem Library
22nd	Youth Services .....7:30 pm	HPCC
24th	Park & Recreation Comm .....7:30 pm	Town Hall
25th	Bond Construction Oversight Cmte .....7:00 pm	Town Hall
26th	Emergency Management .....8:00 am	Police Station

# DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

## “The New Financial Norm”

BY ROBERTA L NESTOR

Everything looks a little different these days. And, while we are adjusting to the new normal in our everyday life, we might find ourselves adjusting to a new way to consider investing in the future—investing that will allow you to align your personal values and beliefs with highly ethical corporations. Today more than ever, investors are taking notice of how large corporations operate, how they treat their employees, and how they treat the environment. Investors are not likely to invest in companies that took advantage of the PPP (Payroll Protection Program) or large companies who have not supported their employees in providing safe and healthy work environments. Environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors are starting to play an important role for investors.

Socially conscious investing has been around for decades. In the mid-70s, there was a trend to avoid “sin” stocks. We have had investments that were geared toward “green” companies, those that were changing their business models to protect the environment and our natural resources. In 1971, there was an investment which aimed to redirect funds away from contributing to the Vietnam War. Today, the concept of socially conscious investing has become much more defined. The idea has expanded into investing in companies that have less risk involving environmental, social, and governance issues. There is a growing awareness and adoption of principles of corporate responsibility. As a result, companies are increasingly aware of how corporate responsibility is an influencer of brand value and consumer perception, which in turn affects a company’s financials.

Although no company had criteria for how they would respond to a pandemic, it is more notable than the ones that have not stood up to ESG standards. Recently, reports on large conglomerates and their treatment of their employees has brought attention to how companies treat the health and safety of their employees throughout the entire supply chain. That means everyone from the workers at the meat packing farms, to the truckers that deliver, to the employees at your local grocery store.

While there is an increased interest in ESG investing, there is also the fear of missing out on returns. In theory, any limiting of an investor’s

opportunity set could have negative consequences. But in practice, investments screened on environmental, social, and governance criteria have performed well. An updated study (2018) of Morningstar’s 56 unique ESG-screened indexes showed their performance to be strong. ESG indexes also favor companies with healthier balance sheets, stronger competitive advantages, and lower volatility than their mainstream counterparts. These findings are consistent with other Morningstar studies observing that sustainable funds score well on factors linked to a positive long-term experience.

As we view our world from behind a face mask, ESG represents a positive view on how to invest your money in sustainable companies. Environmental stewardship is not only good for the planet, but it also allows for cost control, avoidance of damaging incidents, and stronger positioning for tomorrow’s economy. Proper treatment of workers benefits society and helps companies attract and retain talent. Good governance leads to better corporate decision-making. Companies that consider ESG ratings are strategic; they are focused less on beating next quarter’s earnings and more on creating an enduring franchise.

*Investing in the stock market involves gains and losses and may not be suitable for all investors. The investment’s socially responsible focus may limit the investment options available to the investment and may result in returns lower than those from investments not subject to such investment considerations.*

*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.*

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**food drive**

Join the Orange Police Dept. and  
Orange Community Services in a  
Drive-Thru Food Drive

- SAFETY PRECAUTIONS WILL BE IN PLACE -  
You can leave your donations at a safe distance,  
or they can be removed from your vehicle with safety precautions in place

**FOOD DRIVE**  
**MAY 30**  
**9AM-1PM**

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COMMUNITY CENTER**  
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front entrance

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will benefit the Orange Food Bank.

**FOOD2KIDS**  
ORANGE

Questions: contact Det. Bailey - [cbailey@orange-ct.gov](mailto:cbailey@orange-ct.gov)



**How To Clean When Faced  
With A Shortage Of Supplies**

In light of concerns about COVID-19, various health organizations have issued specific instructions on how to maintain personal safety and cleanliness. These recommendations involve using common household products to sanitize homes, offices and public spaces. As people take such precautions, many are stocking up on extra essentials — resulting in shortages.

Everything from hand sanitizers to paper towels may be hard to find on grocery store shelves, leaving some to wonder what they can do to remain safe without sanitizers?

The Environmental Protection Agency states that coronaviruses are some of the easiest types of viruses to kill because they have an envelope around them that enables them to merge with other cells and infect them. If that protective coating can be disrupted, the virus can't do its job. For those having trouble finding well-known cleaning agents, these alternatives may suffice.

**Hot water and soap**  
The reason hand-washing is at the

top of the list of sanitizing methods is because it is so effective at washing away viruses and bacteria. Friction from scrubbing with soap and water can help break the protective envelope, states the EPA. Soap and water can clean all surfaces in a home, especially when applying a little extra elbow grease.

**Hydrogen peroxide**  
As people clear isopropyl (rubbing alcohol) off the shelves, do not discount hydrogen peroxide. The CDC says household hydrogen peroxide at 3 percent concentration can deactivate rhinovirus, the virus that causes the common cold, within six to eight minutes of contact. Coronavirus is easier to destroy than rhinovirus, so hydrogen peroxide may be effective at combating that virus as well.

Natural items can be used for general cleaning, but have not been endorsed for use on COVID-19 disinfection. In lieu of shortages, white vinegar, baking soda pastes and citrus oils and juices could fill the void of chemically-based cleansers for other home tasks.



DEATH NOTICES

Louis John Esposito

Louis John Esposito, 94, of Orange, beloved husband for forty-nine years of Connie Esposito, passed away peacefully on Monday, April 27, 2020. Born on June 24, 1925 in Bridgeport, he was the son of the late John Louis and Teresa (Piacente) Esposito.

Louis served in the Navy in World War II while stationed in Africa. Upon returning he began his own business, Town and Country TV, which he owned for 40 years. He was a devoted member of the CT Air and Space Center in Stratford, as well as a member of the Stratford VFW and American Legion in Orange. Louis loved boating, water skiing and downhill skiing with friends and family. He also loved traveling with his wife and being with family.

Louis is survived by his children Renee Esposito King (Lucian), Ralph Esposito, Bonni Sprague (Mark), and Richard (Stephanie Anderson) Esposito; his grandchildren David McClarin, Brian (Kendra) McClarin, Paige Woods (Nate), Leah and Emma Esposito, John (Nicole Swanson) Davis, Richard Esposito, Louis Esposito, and Ashley (Myles) Pickering; and his great-grandchildren Morgan, Jack, Abigail, Sean and Amelia. He also leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews who he was very close to.

Louis is predeceased by seven siblings.

All services will be private at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to CT Air Space Center, 550 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615. To leave online condolences, please visit [www.codywhitefuneralservice.com](http://www.codywhitefuneralservice.com).

Gabriel Ferrer

Gabriel Ferrer, 58, of Orange, beloved husband of Sharon Ferrer, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on April 4, 2020. Born on March 26, 1962 in Uruguay, he was the son of Nieves Ferrer and the late Vicente Ferrer.

Gabriel began working from a very young age. From auto body shops to car washes to starting his own company. He was a man whose hands could make just about anything. Gabriel's greatest love was his family. Gabriel and his wife shared many memories with both of their children over the years. Whether it was weekend camping trips or nights spent around the

firepit; laughing and sharing stories. Gabriel could walk into any room and make people smile and laugh.

He began coaching hockey for his son when he was four years old. As time lapsed, Gabriel and his son began playing hockey together on countless men's leagues. Gabriel and his daughter spent many nights watching stand-up comedy finding humor where most people couldn't. He was an amazing grandfather (Poppy). He shared hours doing projects and having slumber parties to make his four-year old granddaughter feel special. He spent many weekends where he found the most peace; fishing on his boat. Gabriel was a man that people loved and adored. He is a man that left an imprint on so many people's hearts and he will be forever missed.

Gabriel leaves behind his loving wife, Sharon; cherished children, Gabriela Ferrer (Michael Coppola) and Brenden Ferrer (Ashley Prosenak); beloved granddaughter, Braelynn Baransky; adoring siblings, Javier (Margaret) Ferrer and Alberto Ferrer; his siblings-in-law, Jeff Koert, Caroline (Frank) Corniello, Lisa (Butch) Gentner, and Roy Williams, Jr.; his many nieces and nephews, Collin and Kaitlyn Ferrer, Beth Niestemski, Raychel Decker, Julianna Corniello, and Preston and Emma Williams; and his parents-in-law, Roy and Ruth Williams, Sr.

A service will be held at a later date. The family is being compassionately cared for by the staff at the Cody-White Funeral Home, 107 Broad Street, Milford, CT 06460. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org). To leave online condolences, please visit [www.codywhitefuneralservice.com](http://www.codywhitefuneralservice.com).

Frances Jacqueline "Jackie" Glover

Frances Jacqueline "Jackie" Glover (née Coe) passed away on April Fools' Day, which to those who knew her best, was as fitting as it was unsurprising. At 96, she had lived a long, productive life with no regrets but more than a few bridges that were, if not burned, significantly singed. Jackie prided herself on her independence and wore her signature obstinacy like a badge of honor to the very end.

Born in 1924, in Taunton, Massachusetts, the oldest daughter of William and Helen Coe (née Flerra), her happiest childhood memories were forged during summers spent at her grandparents' farm 60 miles to the west in West Acton, Massachusetts, a seeming world away from the starched

and restrictive homestead. A self-proclaimed 'rotten' child, at the farm she could indulge her love of animals and find acceptance with her beloved grandparents. Surrounded by a gaggle of gorgeous aunts and uncles, some just a few years her senior, her individuality was celebrated, not squelched. She graduated from Taunton High in 1943 and never looked back. With her cherished childhood dog Ricky at her side, the 17-year-old Jackie drove to Florida in a borrowed convertible, the wind in her long, dark hair. And, so began her love affair for the open road.

Her innate desire to travel brought her to Vincennes, Indiana, to attend Medical Laboratory School, where she met Lawrence 'Larry' Glover. She fell for the once well-off, if a little 'square' (her words), handsome, young man from a prominent family, and they were married the day after Christmas, 1950. Jackie's distinctive, signature sense of style was perfectly reflected in her fitted white faille suit, with rhinestone buttons the size of cherrystone clams. The newly minted Mrs. Glover wasted no time draining their tender, young bank account for an unauthorized purchase – a purebred Doberman named, without a whiff of irony, Satan – that initiated the Glovers' long, rocky relationship with financial security. Though that goal hung vexingly just out of reach, Jackie fulfilled her other lifelong dream and went on to have seven children, six of whom lived to adulthood.

Throughout the 1950s, the Larry Glovers moved every year from one small midwest town to the next. At last, in 1963 they settled down for good in the house on Quintard Lane in Orange, where she would live for the next 55 years. Jackie loved her house and she loved Orange. On that scant green acre, she and Larry raised their family and a host of animals including Homer and Jethro the ducks, Hansel and Gretel the zealously protective geese, a goat named Sundance and a peacock named Liberace, along with show pigeons, pedigreed dwarf bunnies, borrowed guinea pigs, wounded birds in boxes, dozens of cats – and dogs, always dogs. In her last years, the dainty and gentle Pitt Bull Jessica was her devoted and constant companion.

A church-going, self-proclaimed witch, Jackie was as contradictory as she was unconventional. She adored the beach, but hated the water. She took pride in a well-set table, but took no pleasure in cooking. She drank supermarket jug wine from crystal stemware. She dressed well and looked great in cheap clothes. Her favorite Christmas movie was Die Hard. She was both artistic and unfailingly practical. Generous and yet frugal to a fault, pragmatic and quixotic. She couldn't hear, so she did all the talking. She

kept a bible by the front door to read to any Jehovah's Witness who dared knock on her door. She would drive 10 miles to save 4 cents on gas.

Jackie passed away in Florida, which has the ring of cosmic correctness to it. The setting of many adventures in her single days, she had an abiding affection for her time spent there. As she wished, she was cremated and will be buried next to her husband, Larry, in the Orange Center Cemetery. Her surviving children, Steven, Marc, Patricia, David and Victoria, together with her daughter-in-law Pha, wish to thank the staff at Pruitt Healthcare in Milton and in particular Jason, who showed her compassion and patience. In these uncertain times of Covid-19, plans for a memorial service have been put on hold, but it is our hope a small reception and celebration of her life can take place in Orange when possible, perhaps in the Autumn, her favorite season. Do not mourn Jackie, she was more than ready for whatever adventures lay ahead. To quote her favorite poem, "And a rainbow held out its shining hand – so what could I do but laugh and go?"

Jade Lee Wu

Jade Lee Wu, 95, of Orange, passed peacefully from her earthly journey on April 6, 2020.



Wife of the late William Wu, she is survived by six children: James (Elizabeth), Thomas (Celia), John (Sharon), Michael (Tricia), Elaine (Daniel), and Raymond (Sharon), eighteen grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her two brothers and her sister. A gourmet cook, she was the proprietor of the Good Fortune Restaurant and also taught Chinese cooking in various venues.

Her family extends thanks to all the wonderful people who shared life with her and the many who graciously cared for her in recent years. She would without hesitation tell (not ask) everyone to stay safe and to stay healthy. Therefore, a graveside service at the Orange Center Cemetery will take place at the convenience of the family and a service of celebration of her life will be scheduled at a future date when friends and family can safely attend. Memorial contributions may be made to the William Wu Memorial Scholarship Fund (to be renamed the William and Jade Wu Memorial Scholarship), Amity Regional High School, 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525. Arrangements are entrusted to the Sisk Brothers Funeral Home, 3105 Whitney Avenue, Hamden. To leave an online condolence, please visit [www.siskbrothers.com](http://www.siskbrothers.com).



# DEATH NOTICES

## Richard Treat Wright

Richard Treat Wright passed away peacefully on April 19, 2020, just shy of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was a lifelong resident of Orange, CT. He will be greatly missed by his loving family. Around town he will be remembered for his life guarding at Camp Cedarcrest and the town pool, for the many hikes that he led, his involvement with the history of Orange, and his concern for open space.



Richard, or as he was known to many, Unkie, could always be described as a "gentle" man; a person who could draw anyone, young or old, into a conversation where he would share his knowledge of many different areas. His skills were developed in whatever he focused on from horseback riding, skating, ballroom dancing to gardening. He easily shared his love of activities with others, providing instruction and encouragement. Whether you were family or friend, his time with you was well spent, leaving lasting memories.

Richard leaves behind a brother, Stanley B Wright, Jr. of Newtown, PA; five nieces and a nephew; Judy Williams, Becky Daymon, Melissa Slater, Martha Wright, Vic Wright, and Tom Wright; seven grand nieces and nephews, and eight great, great nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his oldest brother, Thomas Mead Wright, and his niece, Barbara Adams.

There will be a private graveside service in the future. In his memory, we would like to suggest donating to the CT Food Bank where Unkie was a devoted volunteer or taking a walk and enjoying being surrounded by nature.

## Halina Slawsky

Halina Slawsky, 80, of Orange, CT, wife of the late Richard Slawsky, passed away after a brief hospital stay on April 27, 2020. Born on March 26, 1940 in Lvov, Poland, she was the daughter of the late Wladyslaw and Salomea Wilczek. She and her family were displaced from Poland to Austria during World War II, and were refugees in Italy and France before settling outside London, England in 1949.



After graduating from Wall Hall Teachers College in England, Halina became an elementary school teacher in London. She then became a flight attendant for British Airways, traveling the world and eventually meeting her husband, Richard, in New York. Together they moved to Orange, CT in 1976, where she raised two sons. In 1995 she returned to work as a special education aide in the Orange school system, retiring after 20 years.

She was a lifelong lover of theater and music, and was active in the greater Orange community for over 40 years as a member of the Orange Players Theater Group and the New Haven Chorale. She was a devoted parishioner at Holy Infant Church, where she sang in the choir.

She is survived by her children Christopher Slawsky of New York, NY; Gregory Slawsky and his wife Annsley of Pelham, NY; her grandchildren Jared and Susannah Slawsky; and her brother, Boguslaw Wilczek of Reading, England.

All services will be private at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Orange Players, Inc., 605 Saddle Ridge Road, Orange, CT 06477 (orangeplayers.net). Arrangements are being handled by the Cody-White Funeral Home, 107 Broad Street, Milford, CT 06460. To leave online condolences, please visit [www.codywhitefuneralservice.com](http://www.codywhitefuneralservice.com).

## Margaret Florence Eichman

Margaret Florence Eichman, 93, passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at Carriage Green at Milford.

Margaret was born in 1926 on a farm in Morrill, Kansas. She was raised outside Rulo, Nebraska, and a graduate of Falls City High School. She completed her internship with the Worsham School of Mortuary Science and then attended Fullerton College in Fullerton, California. She married Robert Eichman in 1951 in Red Bank, New Jersey. In 1957 they moved to Brookfield, Wisconsin, then in 1962 to Bay Village, Ohio, and then in 1965 to Orange, Connecticut. She was the Therapeutic Recreational Director of Orange Health Care for 32 years. She served as the President of the Orange Historical Society, and was a very active member of The Orange Congregational Church. She and her husband traveled to over 30 countries, and she loved gardening and entertaining.

She is survived by her daughter Robin Eichman-Swan of Milford, Connecticut, her cousins Roberta Chaffee of Tampa, Florida, and Carol Sue Frickel of Littleton, Colorado, and 10 nieces and nephews. She was the beloved wife of the late Robert Eichman, and daughter of the late William and Martha Fischer. Her sister Irene Johansen, and brothers Harold and Laurel Fischer predeceased her.

She will be buried at the Orange Center Road Cemetery, Orange, Connecticut, and a memorial service will take place at a later date at the Orange

Congregational Church. Donations in her memory may be sent to The Orange Congregational Church, 205 Meeting House Lane, Orange, CT 06477.

## Gunars Dreifuss

Gunars Dreifuss died on Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the age of 65. Gunars was born in Philadelphia, PA on New Year's Day January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1955. He was the son of Milda and Norman Dreifuss.

Gunars attended Upper Darby School Systems where he developed his aptitude for sports. He attended Princeton University on a sports scholarship and played both college baseball and football, Princeton is where he acquired the nickname "The General" because he was the one always in the lead. Gunars, upon receiving his B.A., attended New York University and graduated with a M.B.A. Gunars and his college friends lived in NYC where he met the love of his life Bonnie Sue Eagle, a native of Charlotte, NC who was attending the Fashion Institute of Technology. They were married in 1980 at Providence Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC. Gunars and Bonnie started their life together in Texas then moving to Chicago and Tennessee before finding their forever home in Connecticut where they raised their daughter, Kristin. Through their years together they enjoyed traveling and having fun adventures. Gunars was a lover of the surf and sand, and every year enjoyed visiting his extended family in the south. Gunars truly loved the arts as much as he did ESPN with Phantom of the Opera being his favorite musical. Gunars was admired and will always be remembered for his character, perseverance, integrity and loyalty.

Gunars is survived by his loving wife Bonnie, and daughter Kristin Elizabeth Dreifuss, his sister Cynthia Hartman and her husband Bill and their son Tyler. He is also survived by his southern family Mr. and Mrs. AK Hardee III, Charles Steven Eagle, his wife Carter, AK Hardee IV and his wife Shelly, and Martha E. Hardee and his nieces and nephews Averil, Tucker, Lydia and Ridge.

Bonnie, Kristin and his lifelong college friends were beside him while he fought valiantly before his passing.

His cremains will be interred privately during the Covid 19 crisis. The family will hold an intimate memorial and celebration of life in the city he loved, Philadelphia in the summertime, his favorite time of year.

## E. Albert DeCarli

E. Albert DeCarli, age 91 of Orange, formerly of Trumbull and Palm Beach



Gardens, FL, passed away after his battle of cancer with his children by his side on April 16, 2020 at Maplewood of Orange. Al was born in

Bridgeport, November 24, 1928, son of the late Mario and Florence Jaconette DeCarli. Al was a graduate of UConn, graduated Phi Beta Kappa, and was a self-employed registered pharmacist for Rotary Drug of Stratford for many years until his retirement. He served in the US Army. He achieved 4 hole-in-ones as a member of PGA National Golf Club. He was also a past member of Mill River C.C. Al played tennis, bowled, gardened, worked out in the gym, and was an avid reader. Up until a few weeks before his death he was reading the Wall Street Journal. He also enjoyed watching sports on television especially golf and doing puzzles. His cooking specialty was fried dough and sausage and peppers.

He is survived by his children, Deborah Schwab (Gary) of Norfolk, MA, Roberta Sekas (Mark) of Orange, and Carl DeCarli (Karen) of Derby, his grandchildren Matthew Schwab (Katy), Steven Schwab, Paul Sekas (fiancée Danielle), and Michael Sekas (fiancée Bryanna), his cherished great-granddaughter Scarlett Schwab, and his sister Olga Covino. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by the love of his life, wife Gloria Schippani DeCarli, his daughter Joanne DeCarli, his brother Ernest DeCarli, and his sister Marie Tuero. We would like to thank the amazing staff of Maplewood for their care, visits and concern. Al will be missed by all who knew him. Due to the current pandemic, services and a celebration of his life will be announced at a later date.

# DEATH NOTICES

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



# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

## Operation Prom Helps High School Seniors With Virtual Prom

STREAMING PROM 2020 NATIONWIDE!

The Operation Prom National Network, Inc. is the not-for-profit organization that provides free prom dresses and tuxedos to underprivileged teens. For the past 16 years, the mission has remained the same, to help thousands of students across the U.S. attend their prom at little or no cost. But, now the Class of 2020 faces the reality of prom being canceled due to Covid-19.

Headquartered in New York, the state with the highest virus rates, plus locations in 9 other states, Operation Prom chapters canceled dress and tuxedo giveaways back in March, but remained hopeful that schools would reopen and host proms. As that possibility faded away, the organization started to plan a virtual prom that would allow students from across the country to "Prom at Home".

"This is a very different kind of event we're hosting," says Operation Prom

National Network, Inc. Founder and President, Noel D'Allacco. "We have to acknowledge that thousands of students were not able to receive our services, or given the opportunity to purchase a dress or tuxedo, so we are trying to message to students that they can stream our prom at home without all the glitz and glam, that so many teens cannot afford".

Operation Prom 2020 will be streamed nationwide on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 12pm EST through 11:59pm EST, on a variety of different social media platforms, including Facebook and Instagram Live. There will be a schedule with links of entertainment and performances ranging from fitness to music, on its website [www.OperationProm2020.org](http://www.OperationProm2020.org). Students can also sign up for a chance to win giveaways during the event on June 6<sup>th</sup> using the hashtag #Prom2020.



Dr Amir Mohammad, Pat Sanders Romano, Cheryl Violano and Lisa Pimenta

## Orange Lions Club Donates PPE To Town

Thanks to a COVID-19 grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) awarded to the local Lions District, 23A, the Orange Lions Club was able to acquire and donate urgently needed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to front-line health care organizations based in the Town of Orange.

The emergency LCIF grant gave priority considerations to support regions like ours with extreme rates of confirmed Covid-19 cases. The grant focused on funding for Lions to work with local medical and emergency management services in addressing the outbreak. Lions District Governor, Bill Manthey, was successful in receiving the full amount of \$10,000 for the region, which he used to purchase medical supplies to distribute District-wide. Making these purchases was not easy, as the supply chain is strained and the supplies have risen in price dramatically. Based upon Lion President Pat Sanders Romano's request, Orange Lions were privileged to receive a significant share of the granted supplies.

In Orange, based upon identified

and critical needs, the supplies of donated gloves, N-95 medical grade & 3-ply masks, and disinfectant, will be distributed through the offices of the Health Department and the OVNA, to local nursing homes, congregate living facilities, local health care providers, as well as to the Orange Community Services.

On May 15, 2020, Orange Lions President Romano presented the PPE to the Town's Health Director, Dr. Amir Mohammad and Lisa Pimenta, Administrator/Director of OVNA. Dr. Mohammad and Ms. Pimenta have been proactively working within the Orange community to respond to this public health crisis, by initiating mitigation measures, by providing health education, skilled nursing and home care, surveillance, contact tracing, and follow up for the residents of the Town. Their efforts have kept the Town infection rate to under 1% of the population.

Dr. Mohammad and the OVNA expressed their appreciation to the Orange Lions Club for their huge effort in obtaining the PPE, for their generosity, and for the Lions' ongoing service to the Town.

## Cancellation of the 2020 Session of the Boys State Program

HARRY R HANSEN JR  
DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

With the continued requirement to stay home extended into May and Eastern Connecticut State University making the decision to close for the summer, coupled with the desire to keep our students and volunteers safe, we made the decision to cancel for this year. We wish to thank all the Posts for their continued support of our Legion Programs and hopefully we can put this behind us and start



again next year. Please let your local high schools know and thank them for their support and assure them that our programs will continue next year.

This year's attendees will receive information in the coming weeks regarding the impact of this decision, including refunds to those posts who have completed the registration process.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at any time at 860-436-9986.

## Orange Strawberry Festival Cancelled

Due to the ongoing pandemic and with guidance from government officials, the Orange Strawberry Festival scheduled for June 13, 2020 is CANCELLED. We will miss the delicious food, rides, flashy Red Car show, entertainment, and especially all of our

festival-goers!

Please message the Orange Strawberry Festival page on Facebook or email [occhurch@snet.net](mailto:occhurch@snet.net) with questions.

Please stay safe, stay healthy, and we will persevere. See you next year!

## Orange Lions Club Reschedules Annual Wine Tasting

The Orange Lions Club would like to announce the rescheduled date for its annual Wine Tasting. The event will take place on Friday, August 7 at St. Barbara's Church Hall on Racebrook Road from 6:30 – 9:30. The



Lions hope to see everyone who purchased tickets there. Tickets are available from any Orange Lion or by calling 203 645 8209 or 203 795 3906. In the meantime, until we are together, stay well and stay safe!



Wash  
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Miner  
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Rockdale  
Oakville  
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# HISTORY CORNER



BY GINNY REINHARD

# They Made Their Mark...

**BY GINNY REINHARD**

If you have had a visit to the Nathan Bryan-William Andrew house, now the oldest house in Orange, you have been taken back to 1740 to the family of Nathan Bryan, father of eight, farmer and landowner. At the death of his great grand father Alexander, one of the founders of the Wepawaug colony (Milford), 300 acres were passed to his son Richard with 208 acres being passed down to Nathan's father. With these extensive holdings, it is obvious why this area was known as Bryan's Farms.

Nathan's inventory is extensive, giving his son Nathan 2/3 of the house, farm, well, barns, and the sawmill\* while giving his wife Elizabeth her 1/3 which was then known as her dower right. The beauty of having his inventory is to see the life of Nathan and his family but better yet is to have the inventory translated by a young Girl Scout, Clare Staib-Kaufman for her Gold Award. The original is very difficult to decipher. For instance: Chec Hollen Ditto is fine, bleached Holland fabric, 1 pr corse shoes were work shoes, truckle bed is a trundle which is a small bed that slides under the regular size bed, pillow bears, meant pillow cases, diaper napkins were dinner napkins, decorated with a small, repeating pattern, brass kittle is obvious while porringers are not generally known but IF you plan a dinner with us at the house, you will be served the soup of the day in a porringer.

Dower right, at this time, appears to be somewhat weighted against the wife but in Nathan's case, he made sure that in addition to her 1/3 she had "liberty to pass through the other part of the house into the cellar, use of the ovens with liberty to pass to and from as needed." Her third, in the house, consisted of the west room known as the parlor, with the cellar underneath, also the bedroom in the linto,\*\* half of the milk room and the chamber over it. It gets more complicated as it goes into detail.

His inventory continues with 10 trenchers which actually is the word used today for the wooden dishes that were used as dinner plates. Can you guess what a box iron is? How about heaters? Well, it's a fabric iron and the heaters are the pieces of heated metal placed inside. Try this one: fier tongues & Peil. Give up? Tong refers to the tool used to move logs in a fire and the peil or peel is a flat shovel used to take food in and out of a beehive oven. How about gridiron? No, it has nothing to do with football but food.

It's made of iron with thin bars or grids to cook a slab of meat over the coals.

Now we come to something local and prized by antique collectors and museums alike, black, crown back chairs. Keep in mind that when our Nathan passed away, his inventory was dated 1767 with King George III reigning over the colonies. Chairs called King's Crown were made up and down the coast of our state, from Greenwich to Mystic and beyond. These chairs indeed had a carved crown-like top with a heart in the middle commanding a hearty price. In the colony of Milford, they were made by the Durand family, painted black or dark brown making this furniture a Connecticut style all its own. Andrew Durand's sons John and Samuel also made chairs but later than their father, eliminating the crown and heart. Their simple, white homestead is still standing on the south end of North Street, next to the Baptist church.

Since he had a malt chest, and 2 dozen black, glass bottles, we know he made his own beer, thinking that water was not healthy to drink so beer and cider were more acceptable. His inventory bounces around with some groups of items together while others out of order. The reason being that the neighbors would help to list the items and since his inventory is more than 6 pages, some things were bound to be missed. What is very intriguing is all of the furniture he had. When you come to visit the Bryan-Andrew House, you will see many of the items on his inventory. When Clair put her report together, she gave a group of us assembled at the house, a list of items to look for in our inventory. Through the years, we have accumulated almost his entire list!

Just read on for the furniture listed: table with 3 drawers, a round table, small square table, chest with two drawers, great elbow chair, small table, 2 pair old chairs, (How old could they be?), square table, chest of drawers,

round table, tea table, great chair, little table, plain table, the six black heart & crown chairs, case of drawers, 7 beds, trundle bed, 5 plain black chairs, chest with two drawers, great elbow chair, 2 six-board chests, 1 trunk and 8 plain chairs. Oh my gosh, where did he put it all?

Now, in as much as all of this speaks well of Nathan, one cannot neglect the family history that came before him, mainly his great grandfather Alexander Bryan.

As one of Alexander Bryan's duties, he and others were agents on behalf of the early Milford planters to secure property in 1638 from the Native American Paugussetts. He and his son Richard were heavily into shipping, outfitting several ships by 1645 sailing to Virginia, the Azores, Nova Scotia and England. In fact, in a historical book about Stratford, it was noted that Alexander Bryan was due 19 pounds, 14 shillings and 8 pence for window glaze (glass) he brought back from England that had been ordered for their 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting house.

In 1654, Thomas Wheeler of Stratford, bought 40 acres in Derby, along the water, from the Paugussetts, establishing a shipyard in 1657. After 3 years, he sold it to the Bryans whose credit was so good in these faraway places that only his signature was needed to show payment. He held various offices in Milford over the years and was the assistant governor for the Connecticut colony. In 1668, he and his son Richard purchased a tract of land in Huntington, Long Island for 200 pounds, known as Eaton's Neck. The deed read with "all the dwelling houses, barns, outhouses, land, woods, meadows, pastures and marshes."

The history of this area goes back to Theophilus Eaton, one of the founders of New Haven. As a wealthy merchant he was able to acquire vast tracts of lands from the native inhabitants. The Eaton purchase, from the Matinnecock

tribe, was the first concerning Long Island's north shore in 1646. When he died, he left his holdings to his son who in turn deeded his holdings to his sister. After a period of 3 years, it was sold to Captain Robert Seeley, the chief military officer of Hartford. Again, it was sold to George Baldwin in 1663. After some arguing and lawsuits, Baldwin had clear title to the land and set about establishing his home but by 1668, sold it to Alexander and Richard Bryan....such a fuss about who owned what and when!

Unlike the previous owners, the Bryan family held onto this land until 1711. The Alexander who started it all died in 1679 leaving his wealth of 712 pounds and 5 shillings with 8 pounds given to the town of Milford for a bell to be hung within 3 years. If not, the money was to be given to the poor.

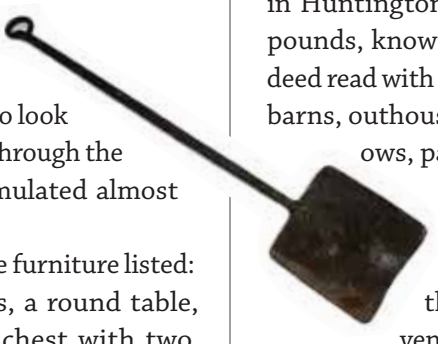
In colonial times, royal manors were established throughout New England for cultured, wealthy landowners. On Long Island, a total of 6 royal manors were created with Eaton's Neck being one of them. Typically the "lord" of the manor became a loyal agent of the crown. In 1686, the next generation Alexander and his son Richard petitioned James II for a manorial patent and in August of 1686, it was granted and to be known as the Manor of Eaton. The manor house was a marvel for its time. It was modified from the Baldwin house adding with high ceilings, large windows, Dutch ovens, rooms for servants and a full basement, oh my.

By 1710, the Bryan family decided to sell the manor to a wealthy man from Fairfield, CT by the name of John Sloss for 1,650 pounds but kept 21 acres on Duck Island. Since there were several Alexanders and Richards, you need a scorecard to keep it all straight and I hope I have. Phew. Since the owning of land in Long Island covered several generations it is speculated that the first Alexander merely went to Long Island as an investment but did not stay there, returning to the Milford Colony where he died leaving his son Richard to settle the claim.

*\*The sawmill was as the corner of Porter and Lambert road as seen on an 1868 map.*

*\*\*Linto is the sloped portion of a house. The Bryan-Andrew house had such a linto but had been taken down at some point in its history.*

Come visit the home and see how many items from Mr. Bryan's inventory you can find.





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