

Tony and Joan Monaco greet neighbors at the Orange Veterans Day ceremony

Town Celebrates Those Who Served, Past and Present

By Bettina Thiel

Orange Town News Correspondent

A good number of town residents many of them with the tell-tale caps of the American Legion - turned out again this year to celebrate Veterans Day on Thursday, November 11. With the podium set up under the towering trees flanking the flag pole outside the High Plains Community Center, veterans and town officials celebrated the service of those who served in wars past and of those who are in the service now.

American Legion Post 127 Commander Lewis Merritt pointed to the walkway leading up to the flagpole, where the names of local veterans are engraved in commemorative bricks. All these people worked for the common good of the United States, he pointed out in a brief address. "They served to defend us and our way of life."

As is customary, the local Legion's Color Guard lined up behind the flagpole, flanked by the Police Honor Guard. Rachel MacLellan sang the National Anthem, and First Selectman Jim Zeoli led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Anna May Pieger, president of the Post's Auxiliary, read the poem "We Honor You Today," by Susan R. Smith. Post 127 Chaplain Anthony Monaco led in the Lord's Prayer.

Zeoli reminded the audience that more bricks can be purchased to honor veterans, living or deceased. The bricks are \$100. Call the first selectman's

See "Veterans" On Page 14

Republicans Win Orange in Decisive Sweep

By Bettina Thiel

ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Townspeople on November 2 overwhelmingly re-elected Republican Jim Zeoli and his team to continue to lead the town going forward.

Compared to the last election, in 2019, the turnout this year was slightly lower, even though election workers reported brisk traffic almost all day at the High Plains Community Center polls. This year, 5,116 voters came out to vote for their municipal leaders; compared to 5,221 two years ago. Out of 10,804 eligible voters, that translates to a participation rate of 47.2% for the 2021 election; and 50.4 % in 2019 (out of 10,357 eligible voters).

Compared to the pre-pandemic election, many residents this year took advantage of absentee voting, with 668 ballots cast ahead of Election Day. However, ten of those were rejected, according to the report to the Secretary of the State. In 2019, only half as many voted by absentee, namely 337.

Some 17 people showed up for Election Day registration, the form shows.

With 3,039 votes Zeoli decisively won the seat at the head of the table, and his challenger, Democrat Connor Deane, will also be seated, with 2,003 votes.

Zeoli thanked voters for their support. "Thank you everyone for putting your trust in me and the entire Z team to continue to guide the Town of Orange," he posted on Facebook. "I am honored and humbled to receive your trust!"

For Deane, this was the first for-

ay into the world of local politics. "I am really proud of our campaign," he said after being sworn in as a selectman. "I think our message resonated with voters."

Dean will join with Democrat Mitch Goldblatt, who received 2,416 votes; and returning to the Board of Selectmen will be Republicans Ralph Okenquist (2,830), John Carangelo (2,887) and Judy Wright Williams (\$2,866).

Democrat Margaret Novicki lost her bid for the Town Clerk's position to Mary Shaw, 2,038 to 2,937. The Republican candidate for tax collector, Thomas Hurley, won with 2,858 votes to beat Mark Moyher (2,043 votes).

Democrats lost a seat on the Board of Finance, where neither PJ Shanley nor Pat Romano will be returning to the table. Instead, Democrat Kevin McNabola had a strong showing with 2,481 votes. Republican incumbent Joseph Nuzzo (2,914) will be joined by Ajeet Jain (2,595).

The Plan and Zoning Board is unchanged, with Republicans filling four of the five seats. Chairman Ozzie Parente (3,004), Kevin Cornell (2,963) and Thomas Torrenti (3,328) were all re-elected, with Democrat Paul Kaplan not up for re-election until two years' time. He and vice chair Judy Smith are up for re-election in 2023.

Jeffery Cap, the Republican vice chair of the Orange Board of Education, was re-elected with 2,878 votes. He will be joined by Republicans Tatiana Messina-Mullen and Ronnette James (2,804 and 2,745, respectively).

See "Election Results" On Page 6



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Town Clerk Patrick O'Sullivan (at right) administers the oath of office for the last time before his retirement for the Board of Selectmen. From left, Connor Deane, Mitch Goldblatt, Judy Williams, John Carangelo and Ralph Okenquist



Town Clerk Patrick O'Sullivan administers the oath of office for his friend and successor, Mary Shaw. He asked for the moment to be captured on camera, because his family would otherwise not believe that he will actually retire, he joked. O'Sullivan has been town clerk for some 25 years.

Swearing-In Provides a Moment of Unity

By Bettina Thiel

Orange Town News Correspondent

First Selectman James Zeoli, along with 28 other town leaders, was sworn in for his ninth term in a well-attended ceremony at High Plains Community Center on Friday, November 12. The event created a moment of unity in an otherwise fractured and divisive world.

"Politics often is a blood sport," Zeoli said, "but not here. Ninety-nine percent of the time we get along," he added. Now those 99% were proba-

bly not meant to be a precise number, but the sentiment did fit the moment perfectly.

Zeoli thanked the people of Orange for putting their trust in him; he thanked his challenger, Connor Deane, for running an overall clean campaign that did not devolve into the personal attacks that are so often prevalent in the current political landscape.

He drew attention to the fact that during this election cycle new people stepped up to the plate to participate in the town's business; "new faces and young faces," he added.

The inauguration also was doubly special as it was the last time – after 25 years – that Town Clerk Patrick O'Sullivan got to administer the oath of office to all the newly elected officials. He did it with the grace and sense of humor that he had been known for; and he told a little story about his father joining the Board of Selectmen in 1965, just as a blackout involving millions of people plunged the East Coast into

darkness. The first meeting took place in Bill Knight's car, he said.

With a voice thick with emotion, O'Sullivan also swore in his successor, Mary Shaw, followed by a warm hug to seal the transition. He asked people to take a picture of the occasion, so his family would finally believe that he was actually retiring.

Zeoli pointed out that O'Sullivan would be chairing the Bicentennial

See "Swearing-In" On Page 22

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Town of Orange Meetings for the Month of December 2021



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

(Subject to Change, Check with 10wh Clerk's Office, 200 001 1700)				
1st	Conservation Comm	7:00PM	HPCC	
6th	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00PM	Town Hall	
7th	Economic Development Comm	Holiday Dinner @ Gustov's		
	Town Plan & Zoning	7:00PM	Town Hall	
8th	Board of Selectmen	7:00PM	Town Hall	
9th	Elderly Housing Liaison Cmte		Silverbrook Estates	
	Community Services	7:00PM	HPCC	
	OGAT	7:30PM	Town Hall	
13th	Traffic Authority	4:30PM	Police Dept.	
	Board of Police Commissioners	4:30PM	Police Dept.	
	Amity Board of Education	6:30PM	Orange	
	Board of Health		HPCC	
14th	Inland Wetlands Comm	7:30PM	НРСС	
15th	Safety & Health Cmte	10:00AM	TBD	
	Recycling Cmte	7:00PM	HPCC	
	CERT	7:00PM	HPCC	
	Park & Rec. Comm	7:30PM	Town Hall	
20th	Orange Family Counseling	9:00AM	HPCC	
0.1	Orange Board of Education		Mary L. Tracy	
Schoo	ol Board of Finance	7:00PM	Town Hall	
27th	Orange Youth Services	7:30PM	HPCC	



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Orange Town News

Below are the next three issue dates & deadlines of the Orange Town News.

Thank you for your submissions to Your Home Town Newspaper.

<u>Upcoming Issue Date</u>	I <u>ssue Deadline</u>
December 17 Holiday Issue	December 10
January 14 New Year's Issue	January 7
February 11 Valentine's Day Issue	February 4
Note: Copy due by 4:00p.m. Thank you.	

FROM OUR READERS

"Friends of Library" Express Appreciation

As President of the Friends of the Case Memorial Library, I would like to thank the Orange community for its support, patience and generosity during the past 18 months. It has been difficult for the Friends to sponsor programs and to hold book sales during the ongoing pandemic. But the events that were held were successful. The outdoor musical performances of Rhonda Danet and the Yale Citations were well received and enjoyed by many. These programs were sponsored by the Friends.

Many avid readers purchased books, CDs and DVDs at the Basement Book Sales held this fall. It was exciting to be able to again hold these sales inside the library. The patience of the book lovers was appreciated since capacity numbers were enforced and face masks were needed. The sales were very successful.

The Friends look forward to possibly sponsoring Zoom programs during the winter season. The next book sale will take place in the Spring. Check the library website for more information. Proceeds from the book sale will allow the Friends to sponsor future programs for all age groups of the community.

The Friends wish all readers a Happy Thanksgiving! And again, we are grateful for your support.

Mary Janeczek

President, Friends of the Case Memorial Library



OTN LETTERS POLICY

Submit your letters for our **"From Our Readers"** section to: Orange Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 or email: letters@orangetownnews.com.

Please limit letters to 500 words and include a daytime phone number in case we have any questions. Letters must be exclusive to the Orange Town News for publication. We reserve the right to reject any letter.

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Zeoli Is Looking Ahead

By Bettina Thiel

Orange Town News Correspondent

First Selectman Jim Zeoli is cautious when it comes to formulating a "vision" for Orange. He went to work on Monday and when he came back on Wednesday, the same files were still waiting for him. But between those two days, on Tuesday, November 2, he and about half of all eligible Orange voters went to the polls and re-elected the Republican ticket.

"You gotta know where you came from to know where you're going," he said during the swearing-in event. "I've been living the vision – it just keeps rolling on," he said.

By the time we sat down to talk about the issues ahead, he did come up with a number of improvements he would like to see for the town.

The contract with the Race Brook Country Club was the first thing that came to his mind. After months in a holding pattern, the Race Brook board was ready to sign the agreement last week, Zeoli said. The Board of Selectmen had endorsed it as well in executive session in a special meeting on November 3. Zeoli said he was hoping to have the closing by the end of November.

The contract is for the purchase of the 287-acre property, with its myriad facilities — the clubhouse, two homes, maintenance facility; state-of-the-art irrigation system; and more. The town agreed in a referendum earlier this year to purchase the club for \$8.6 million, with the club operating largely independently and making lease payments in installments. The sales price breaks down to under \$30K an acre, Zeoli said, adding "it's good planning for future use."

After a Covid hiatus, development of Fred Wolfe Park also is moving ahead. The playground committee is working on plans for an inclusive playground at the entrance to the park; and the first selectman is looking to create a second access point to the park in order to improve traffic flow.

Responding to requests from residents, Zeoli also is trying to find a private trash hauler to pick up for those Orange residents who would like to contract for that. The town picks up recyclables, but not the refuse. Years ago, there were a handful of companies operating in the Town of Orange, who all competed with each other.

He would welcome Southern CT Gas to expand its grid into more Orange neighborhoods. He said he met with gas company representatives to find out whether there is any interest in expanding the grid.

Looking to the future, he said he is hoping the state will look into installing electric charging stations throughout town. The open question is who will be responsible for those stations going forward.

Zeoli said the town will be working with the school administration to take a wide-ranging look at school building needs. That could include questions such as whether the schools are better served in new buildings rather than trying to renovate the old ones; or deciding if consolidation is feasible.

Meanwhile economic development is always at the forefront of his attention, he said; and it will continue to be front and center. He is working with the Brixmor Property Group to find a new occupant for the vacant AC Moore building. "As Covid lets up, we see increased interest in the town," he said.

As for 2022, the town will be celebrating its bicentennial. A committee has been named to plan a series of events in June to commemorate its first Town Meeting in 1822. "I hope to be sitting here (in the first selectman's seat) for it," he said. However, that does not mean the bicentennial will be the end of the Zeoli administration, he was quick to add.

"Election Results" From Page 1

On the Democratic side, Carmen Rodrigues was re-elected (1,994) along with Liz Tremper (1, 993). The other half of that board, namely Susan Riccio, Betty Hadlock, Kenneth Vitelli, Ken Ziman and Bill Kraut, will be up for re-election in 2023.

The Orange delegation to the Amity school board will include one Democrat incumbent, Carla Eichler, and two Republican newcomers, Sean Hartshorn and Christina Levere-D'Addio. The other members of the delegation, John Belfonti, Christopher Browe, Paul Davis and Shannon Carlson, are not up for re-election until 2023.

The seven constables on the ballot were all voted into office. They are Republicans Glenn Papelo, (2,538), Jody Daymon (2,781), Dan Zapatka (2,549); and Michael Donadeo (2,674); as well as Democrats Santo Galatioto, Jr. (2,242), Randy Thomas (2,281) and Jay Carrier (1,775),

The Probate Judge position is a shared position between the Town of Orange and the City of Milford. Both parties' candidates — Win Smith and Ben Gettinger — are from Milford, and this contest was close enough to require a recount. The recount confirmed Ben Gettinger as the winner in that race, according to Town Clerk Pat O'Sullivan.



Kicking off our annual food drive is student Gunner Giannotti who was proud to donate the first items of our food drive.

Holly Hill Childcare Teaches the Meaning of Giving

It's that time of year! With Thanksgiving quickly approaching, Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center is once again holding its annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Created in 2010 our staff and students donate all the traditional food items and gift cards for a bountiful Thanksgiving Day feast. Beautiful food baskets are then created and given to families and the elderly who otherwise would not be able to partake in a Thanksgiving dinner. Debbie

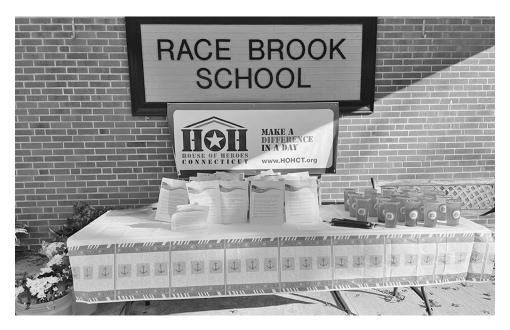
Fedorko, director of Holly Hill said, "Our Thanksgiving food drive is the perfect opportunity for our staff to teach our children some very valuable lessons. When a food item is brought in, the youngsters place the items on a table and are taught the meaning of sharing, caring and the true joy of giving to others. Anyone interested in donating to our drive can drop food items/gift cards off in our lobby, 308 Peck Lane, Orange.





ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP





Forever Grateful for Our Veterans

Race Brook School was once again committed to preserving its cherished tradition of honoring veterans on November 11. The special activities for

the day were planned and organized by the staff Veterans Day Committee members. The Committee followed COVID safe protocols while offering creative, fun, safe, and engaging activities for the students and staff. This year it organized and added a Veterans



Within the school building, stu-

dents had thoughtfully decorated paper soldiers representing all branches of the military that were displayed on classroom windows. There was a

schoolwide moment of silence at 11:00 am followed by a video presentation of Taps in each classroom to honor fallen veterans. The school also collects money annually to donate to House of Heroes, a non-profit organization that helps veterans with

much needed home repairs.

Slides were added to the school's poignant and heartfelt slideshow presentation picturing more veterans from the Race Brook School Community with identifying captions and patriotic music. The presentation was included in an elaborate, interactive Veterans Day Bitmoji slideshow also created by the committee. Students and staff were able to click on links and listen to songs and read alouds of books with a Veterans Day theme, view special and meaningful greetings and interviews from veterans, as well as participate in interactive simulations from the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. Perhaps the most special part of the day was listening to students interviewing their beloved family members who have selflessly served in the military.

Title IX - Federal Law

Director of Special Services, Mrs. Mary Edo, is the Title IX Coordinator for the Orange Public School district. If you or someone you know is believed to have experienced sexual harassment, please file a complaint using the appropriate form that can be located at https://www.oess.org/

under Faculty or Student Resources. You should contact Mrs. Edo either by email at medo@orange-ed.org or by phone at 203-891-8023 ext. 1204 to report any complaint related to the school district. Mrs. Edo's office is located at Central Office of the Orange Board of Education.

Three Members Retire Seats on Board of Ed

Paves the Way for Newly Elected Members

By Melissa NicefaroOrange Town News Correspondent

The Orange Board of Education paid a heartfelt good-bye at its October meeting to three members who did not run for re-election in November's race. Both Kimberley Browe and Christian Young served two four-year

terms that began in 2013 and Charles Flynn served one term.

While recognizing the three for their years of service, Superintendent Vince Scarpetti thanked them for their dedication and the cohesiveness they brought. "There are stereotypes about boards and why people want to become board members. The word 'hidden agenda' is used too often. I've seen it as a teacher and as an administrator of a school and I think without people knowing the finer details of this board and how the members work together, there are no hidden agendas here but one: the students of Orange," he said.

During Browe's parting comments, she explained how she reflected on her eight years on the board. "When I was asked to read the mission statement before tonight's meeting, I was very enthusiastic because I had spent this weekend really thinking about the last line, 'together we will make a difference."

When she ran eight years ago, she wanted to make a difference and said that the reason she decided to run again four years later was the 'together we' part of the statement. "I thank all of you for being the 'together we.' You are among the smartest, most committed, flexible thinking, open-minded group of leaders that I've ever had the pleasure of working with. Even when we disagreed, we were not adversaries," she said. "All the time I knew that we had the same interests and that was what's best for kids and it's okay that we didn't always agree on the best way to get there. My message to those who are coming on after us is yes, to focus on making a difference, but try to remember the 'together we' part, because this is an amazing team."

Three newly elected members

– Liz Tremper, Ronnette Pompano
James and Tatiana Messina Mullen

– will join the board at its November meeting.

"It's been said many times that the Board of Education is the board that takes the most of your time. Not only are you dedicated to your profession, family and kids, you are dedicated to the students of Orange. From the bottom of my heart, and the staff here, thank you for the commitment that you have provided us," Scarpetti said.

After noting the numerous committees that Browe served on, he said that he had the benefit of working very closely with Browe and Young. "Her dedication over many years, not only serving as a board member, but as a PTA leader, having children go through the school system - we are incredibly grateful for your dedication and you will be sorely missed."

He shared similar thoughts on Young, thanking him for his 'incredible service. "He is committed not only to his own career, but to his family and still making the time to serve at many meetings and always making himself available for discussions."

Flynn joined the board in 2017 and participated in a variety of ways with the Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee and has recently been working with Buildings and Grounds. Scarpetti thanked him for his dedication while Board Chairman Bill Kraut called Flynn a very dedicated board member and said he appreciated the fact that he's not afraid to take on issues that not everyone would agree with. "He is tireless as Chairman of Buildings and Grounds and I thank you for your dedication to our children," Kraut said.

Kraut also mentioned that he first met Browe on the board and said they've certainly disagreed over the years, but always talked it out with the end result being what's best for the kids.

"One of my favorite things about Kim is her great smile. We would talk a lot outside of meetings and no matter what we talked about, when I got off the phone with Kim, I had a smile on my face and I appreciate that you always made me smile," he said.

Friends on and off the board, Kraut also shared some insight to his relationship with Young.

"Some people may think that we have a cantankerous relationship, which we do at times, here and away," he joked. "I have relied on Christian many times behind the scenes for advice, whether about legalities or procedures, he has always been there for me. Much like brothers, we don't always agree, but at the end of the day we are friends," Kraut said.

Looking forward to leading Orange Schools with a new regime, Scarpetti said, "We wish you three all of the best with all of the free time you'll now have."



TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

Youth Services

BY JESSICA SIMONE, MSW, ORANGE YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR



Cards for Veterans

Thankful to all who have served and for their sacrifice, Turkey Hill 21st Century created cards that were given to

the Vet Center of New Haven (located in Orange) to be distributed to the vets as a thank you.

Thank You for Supporting Funtober!

The Funtober at the Fairground was held October 23 and all those in attendance had a wonderful time. It was a beautiful day in which families were able to enjoy a Trunk or Treat, Park & Rec games, DJ Lucas, hayrides with Kriz Farm and Ice Cream, hot dogs, hot chocolate, and cider. The Orange Community Services Department, Youth Services and Orange Park & Recreation hosted the event and would also like to thank our sponsors. Thank you to our Candy sponsors: Goddard School and the Lions Club of Orange; DJ Level: Baybrook Remodelers and Yale University; Magician Sponsor: Rubino Family Chiropractic; and our Friend Sponsor: Courtyard by Marriott.

Thank you again to all who took time out of their busy schedules to volunteer, sponsor an activity, and who participated in Funtober. We are truly a blessed and privileged community to have so many businesses, organ-



izations, schools, places of worship, employees and individuals who care about our community.

Orange Community Services

Orange Park & Recreation

From the Fire Marshal



Firefighters Prep for Real Thing Through "Live Burn" Exercise

No practice scenario can prepare a firefighter to face the intense heat and stress of a real fire. With that in mind, Orange firefighters recently participated in a day of "live-burn" exercises at the Fairfield Regional Fire School.

The firefighters, all volunteers, participated in several scenarios involving real flames, but in a controlled environment with instructors observing and providing guidance. Practice situations involved containing fire, putting fires out under different circumstances, and rescuing people from fire.

"This training focuses on enhancing the skills of the volunteer men and women who provide life safety and property conservation for residents and visitors of Orange," said Lt. Dan Abrams, who oversees training for the department. "By practicing and reviewing these skills under harsh, live-fire conditions, we sharpen our competencies and stand ready for the real thing."

Orange firefighters train weekly, but rarely have the opportunity to practice their skills while facing the stress, heat and other challenges created by confronting real fire. Working in heavy coats, pants, boots, helmets and gloves, collectively referred to as turnout gear, firefighters worked with different tools, practiced stretching and using hoses and ladders - all in conditions as close to the real thing as possible. Firefighters also drilled on the use of their aerial ladder trucks.

Recently, the Orange Volunteer Fire Department established a junior fire-fighter program for 16- to 18-year-olds. For some of them, this was the first opportunity to see what firefighting was really like.

"Our junior firefighters' safety is our primary concern," said Abrams. "While the tasks they do are essential and free up others who can engage in direct firefighting, they're not on hose lines or doing other tasks firefighters who are directly involved with the fire do. Under these controlled circumstances, we were able to give some of our juniors a chance to taste that work. It also showed them the importance of

the work they are asked to do at a fire."

More information about the junior firefighter program is available at www. orangevfd.org/juniors/.

Abrams said firefighters spent extra time practicing procedures used at large buildings such as hotels and warehouses. The Orange Volunteer Fire Department has seen an increased number of calls to these types of buildings.

"As Orange grows, we have to be ready to protect our newest residents and visitors, whether in new homes or in new businesses," said Abrams. "This was the perfect opportunity to practice hooking up to standpipes, stretching lines through large open spaces and evacuating guests or employees."

"Being a firefighter is a dangerous and stressful job," said Fire Chief Vaughan Dumas. "Training like our annual live-fire exercise helps us all be better prepared to face a fire, whether it's a small room-and-contents job or a major blaze in a warehouse. We train and study constantly to be ready physically, mentally and intellectually. This annual exercise is a major contributor to our preparedness."

The Orange Volunteer Fire Association provides fire protection to residents and businesses in Orange and, through mutual aid, surrounding towns. Members receive training in fire suppression, rescue, hazardous materials response, homeland security issues and other emergency services.

Operating strictly with revenues from fundraisers and donations, the Orange Volunteer Fire Department is one of the remaining few all-volunteer incorporated fire departments in Connecticut. Active members are on-call to serve the community on a 24-hour/seven-day basis, responding from stations on Orange Center Road and Boston Post Road.

In addition, the fire company offers public education services including lectures, demonstrations and training. For information about membership, donations or public education, call (203) 891-4703, click on https://www.orangevfd.org/ or find us on Facebook.



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CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Hours

- The Library's hours are as follows:
 Monday, Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
- > Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Holiday Closings

The Library will be closed on Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 in observance of Thanksgiving and Friday, December 24 and Saturday, December 25 in observance of Christmas and Friday, December 31 and Saturday, January 1 in observance of the New Year.

Program Fees

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

Registration

Registration is required for all library programs, unless otherwise noted. Register for events at casememoriallibrary. org/events.

Zoom Programs

For online security reasons you must register with the Library to attend virtual programs. Registered attendees will receive a Zoom link via email before the event. The registrant's name as displayed on Zoom must match the name used for registration in order to guarantee admission.

Take & Make Programs

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

Story Times

Zoom 3-5 Year Old Story Time

Mondays at 10:30am

For children ages 3-5

Preschoolers are invited to join Ms. Michelle for stories, music, and movement! Registration is required.



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

Zoom 2-3 Year Old Story Time

Wednesdays at 10:30am

For children ages 2-3

Preschoolers are invited to join Ms. Michelle for stories, music, and movement! Registration is required.

Events for Children Preschool Take and Make:

Magic Puffy Paint
Pickup Dates: November

22 - December 1

For children of ages 3-5

Paint a picture with ingredients from your kitchen. Then, watch your creation transform before your very eyes! Registration is required.

Tween Take & Make: Slingshot Cars

Pickup Dates: November

29 - December 4

For tweens in grades 4-6

Build a car powered by a rubber band and a pencil! Registration is required.

Tween Take and Make: Peppermint Chocolate Mug Cake

Pickup Dates: December 13-18 For tweens in grades 4-6

Make a mint-chocolatey treat in your

favorite mug, no oven or stove needed! Registration is required.

Preschool Take & Make: Gingerbread Cloud Dough

Pickup Dates: December 13-18 For children ages 2-5 and their families

Engage your senses with a batch of homemade cookie-scented dough! Registration is required.

Family Take & Make: Simple Soft Pretzels

Pickup Dates: December 27-January 3 For families of all ages

Bake away school vacation week boredom! Uncover the surprising history of these salty, doughy treats and master the art of pretzel twisting with our Simple Soft Pretzel kit. Registration is required.

Family Take & Make: Marbled Paper

Pickup Dates: December 27-January 3 For families of children up to age 12

Use shaving cream and food coloring to create a beautiful marbled paper! Registration is required.

Events for Teens & Adults Take & Make Craft Kit:

Himmeli Ornaments

Pickup dates: November 29-December 4

For adults and teens in grades 7-12

Learn to make himmeli, a traditional Finnish straw ornament, with this take-home kit. Registration is required.

Take & Make Craft Kit: Book Christmas Trees

Pickup dates: December 6-11 For adults and teens in grades 7-12

Give an old book new life by using it to create a cute Christmas tree. Registration is required.

Mystery Book Discussion Group

Thursday, December 9, 1 p.m.

Join librarian Samantha Jasulavic for a Zoom discussion of The Guest List by Lucy Foley. Register via EventKeeper by December 9 at 12 p.m. to receive the Zoom link.

Take & Make Craft Kit: Keychain Charms

Pickup dates: December 13-18
For adults and teens in grades 7-12

Create your own personalized keychain or backpack charm with this simple beading kit. Registration is required.

Teen Take & Make: Claymation

Pickup dates: December 20-30 For teens in grades 7-12

Learn to create Claymation movies – like Coraline or The Nightmare Before Christmas – with this fun stop-motion animation kit. Most supplies will be provided. Participants must supply a device that can download free apps from the iTunes or Google Play store. Submit your finished Claymation video to rharlow@casememoriallibrary.org for a chance to win a gift card to the app store of your choice! Registration is required.

The Giving Tree

In the spirit of the approaching holiday season, the Friends of the Case Memorial Library is sponsoring a Mitten Tree. The Friends invite residents to trim the tree with donated mittens for enfants and children, including teenagers, who are town residents and may not have mittens for the cold weather. Winter hats and gloves are also welcome as adornments. The tree will be displayed in the Library, ready for mitten and hat decorations, from December 1

through December 21.

On December 22, the Friends will gather the mittens and hats from the tree in time for holiday giving. The "gifts" will be distributed by the Food2Kids Program and the Orange Community Services to children in Orange. Sharing in the warmth and generosity of the Season, the Friends is grateful for the kindness of tree trimmers of the Giving Tree and extend its good wishes for Health and Safety to everyone.

"Thanksgiving is a time of togetherness and gratitude." — NIGEL HAMILITON







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CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

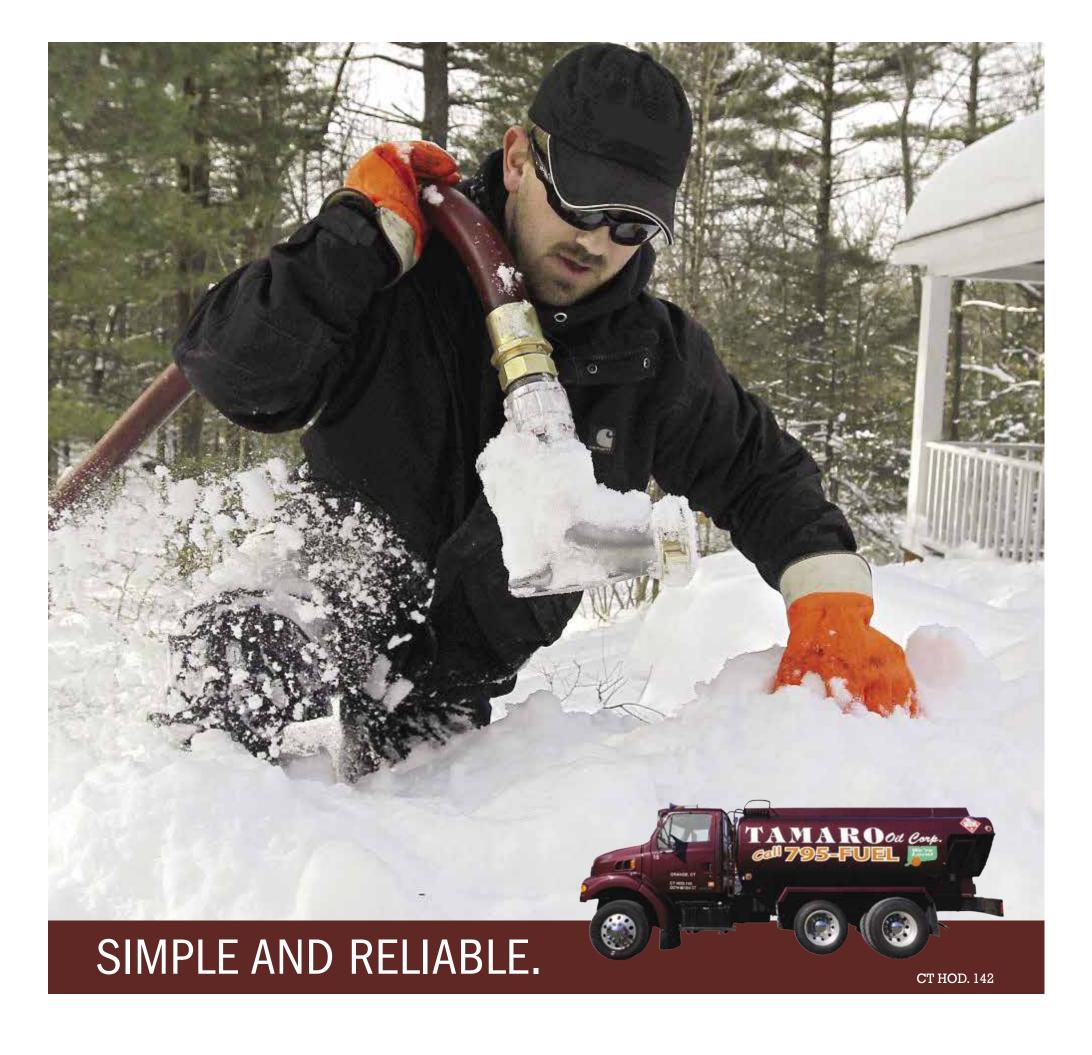
Hosted by the Orange Volunteer Fire Department **Auxiliary**

Saturday, December 4th and Sunday, December 5th

10 AM - 4 PM

Treat Farm, 361 Old Tavern Road, Orange All kinds of Christmas goodies are available, as well as hot chocolate and hot spiced cider. All proceeds support the Orange Volunteer Fire Department





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The 3 and 4 year old classes at Orange Congregational Church Nursery School had a great time celebrating Halloween!

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



Sweitzer Speaks at Joint Garden Club Meeting

The Garden Club of Orange was hosted by the Garden Club of Woodbridge at its in-person, October 5 meeting.

Commercial flower designer, Tucker Sweitzer, was the guest speaker. At the age of 5, Tucker was introduced to the world of plants and flowers by his parents. His passion developed into his business as a commercial flower designer, who today creates, designs and cultivates gardens.

Tucker's presentation, "Revealing the Design Process: Inspiration and Improvisation," gave the audience a course in floral arranging using materials foraged from the woods, beach, trails, roads and gardens. Seed pods from the canna lily plant, wood, forest mushrooms and other natural items were brought in by members. Tucker combined these natural elements with deep red dahlias, vibrant roses, velvety cockscomb, and multi-colored flowers to make five arrangements. He anchored his biggest arrangement with magnolia leaves, kale bouquets, and American chestnut branches.

The dazzling arrangements were raffled off to a very appreciative audience.





Halloween in the Neighborhood

I don't think there is another Orange neighborhood like ours. In late September our "neighbors" email list of over 40 began the planning for this year's Halloween. Today at the bottom of many driveways a table had been set up with wrapped Halloween goodies for little kids. The plan was for young ones to go "Trick or Treating" around 3-3:30, dressed adorably in adorable costumes.....safely distanced; all goodies wrapped, a chance for kids to experience the fun their parents

used to have and for parents to get to know one another if needed.

Pictured above are Annamaria and Sean Baranowski from Chestnut Ridge Road, two pumpkins manning their table of pumpkin wrapped treats and waiting for the little Dalmatians, princesses, Captain Americas and pirates who came their way.

This is a neighborhood working together, looking out for one another and providing fun and safety for their children.





The 3s class at OCNS made applesauce as part of their apple unit.



Post 127 Chaplain Anthony Monaco, flanked by Post Commander Lewis Merritt, says the Lord's Prayer



Police Honor Guard paid its respects during Veterans Day proceedings at the High Plains Community Center flagpole



Anna May Pieger, president of the American Legion Auxiliary, and Lewis Merritt, Post 127 commander, get ready for the Orange Veterans Day ceremony on Thursday, November 11



Orange residents assembled on Thursday, November 11, to honor veterans for their service



Orange residents unite to recite the Pledge of Allegiance



Orange residents assembled on Thursday, November 11, to honor veterans for their service

"Veterans" From Page 1

office at (203) 891-4737 for more information.

Orange Veterans who attended the Veterans Day ceremony:

> Thomas P. Hurley, Air Force Captain

- > Don Lewis, USMC Sergeant
- › Lewis Merritt USW Lt JG
- > Val Loureiro, Army, 1st Lt
- Alan Hoffman, Army E-6
- › Alan Scott, MC Corporal
- > Rev. Tod King, USN LT
- Brad Gesler USN Lt, g
- › James White, Army Lt Colonel
- Arthur Williams, Army, Spec5, Vietnam
- > Tony Monaco, AF, Corporal
- > Bill Ruddell, USA E-5
- > Craig Stahl, USAF E5
- > Ned Martin, Army, E5
- Ken Lenz, Air Force, Cadet
- > Stanley Janelski, Army, E-4
- > Robert Archambault, USAF 2C
- Ronnie Hine, Reserves
- > Kevin Gilbert, Army E-2
- > Stephen Hechtman, USAJ E-2
- > Peter MacDonald, Army E-6
- > Eugene Haeckel, Army, e8
- > Kevin Hadlock, Navy, 0-2
- Peter Shery, Army Cpl.

PEACE OF MIND





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

— / Jana, Resident

With a renowned reputation and unrivaled services and amenities, Maplewood Senior Living communities offer residents an exceptional lifestyle. No matter what our residents need, we provide the right level of support and the added peace of mind families are looking for.

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ARTS & LEISURE

Local Author Releases First Pop Culture Book

New Haven's Charles F. Rosenay!!! may be best known in the state as the producer of the Connecticut Beatles conventions and festivals for over four decades, or as a pro DJ/MC/Entertainer for as many years. Along with musical events, he published a magazine on The Beatles called Good Day Sunshine for 25 years and, since 1983, he has organized and hosted the Beatles Tours to Liverpool for fans. For as long as he can remember, he has been asked to write a book on The Beatles, or on his adventures through the years as a DJ or Beatles aficionado, expert, and promoter. He has just published his first book, but it's not exactly a Beatles book, nor is it a memoir of his experiences.

Instead, it is a pop culture book titled The Book of Top 10 Horror Lists, which collects lists of favorite monster movies, actors, and other themes from 100 celebrities. Charles will be doing an area book signing on Monday, December 6 at 6pm in New Haven's Mitchell Library on 37 Harrison Street between Whalley Avenue and Fountain Street in Westville.

Along with the Beatles-themed tours, Rosenay!!! is the creator and organizer of the annual Dracula Tour to Transylvania, a "vampire vacation" that brings fans to the land of Vlad the Impaler and Dracula. That spun off the GHOSTours to Europe, weeklong travel experiences for lovers of the supernatural. Rosenay!!! has acted in several horror films and shorts and was also the founder of Connecticut's largest and scariest indoor haunted attraction, "Fright Haven," which still operates in Stratford. More recently, he

co-produced CT's first-ever paranormal convention, and has been co-hosting paranormal investigations with Norwalk's Nick Grossmann of "Ghost Storm." So, it isn't such a stretch that horror turned out to be the theme of his book.

How exactly did this unique book

come to be? For Rosenay!!! wrote an online newsletter called "National Horror Happenings," which was read by thousands worldwide. A special feature of that column was an occasional Top 10 List from a celebrity. Rosenay!!! would invite well-known and not-sowell-known notables, many of whom were his friends, to

contribute a list. In most cases it was their favorite monster movies. Others, however, contributed their lists of favorite genre actors, scariest scenes in horror films, funniest scary movies, sexiest scenes in horror, and so many other interesting themes. Within a short time, there were memorable lists from actors, rock stars, authors, athletes, horror icons, directors, producers, scream queens, radio and TV personalities, and other pop culture luminaries.

When the pandemic hit, all of what Rosenay!!! did, he could no longer do. With a little extra time on his hands during quarantine, Charles started to assemble, edit, and write introductions for all those Top 10 Lists. He called on a friend, Janet Davis, from Stamford, to proofread what he had written and accumulated. Davis became his As-

sistant Editor, and the book came together. He realized that there were about 80 or 90 lists in the can, and his goal was to reach 100, which he did in just a few more months' time.

More than just lists, every submission was a list plus additional comments as to why the choices were made. Often hilarious, sometimes thought-provoking, but always fascinating, the

lists run the gamut from fan-based opinions straight through to thesis-worthy chapters on the horror aspects of Shakespeare's work.

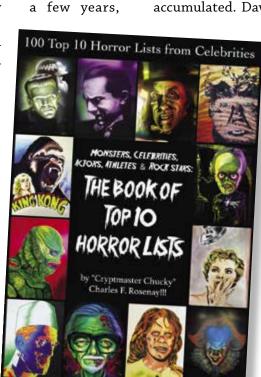
There are lists from a Beatle, from a McCartney, from a Lennon (sister), from a Karloff, from one of The Monkees, from a Munster, from a Woodstock legend, from a Baseball Hall of Famer, from four Rock and Roll Hall of Famers, and from many famous names one would never know were "monster mavens."

Just a few of the pop culture icons featured in the book include William (Star Trek) Shatner, singer Gary Puckett, Butch (Eddie Munster) Patrick, Ruth (Laugh-In) Buzzi, baseball great Dave Winfield, the late actor Ed Asner, Bill (Lost in Space) Mumy, Jane Wiedlin of The Go-Gos, actor Corbin Bernsen, Micky Dolenz of The Monkees, and so many others.

Rosenay!!! has always been a fan of horror, pop culture, and Top 10 Lists, commenting, "Who doesn't love a Top 10 List? They're short, they're fun, and we always want to see if our choices match. In this book, 100 celebrities reveal their Top 10 favorite monster movies and themes." He adds, "You won't believe the actors, singers, musicians, horror figures, writers, film-makers, artists, composers, disco divas, sports figures, and others who are horror buffs and "monster mavens!" Rosenay!!! asks, "Will your favorite horror films show up on any of their lists?"

At over 300 pages including photos and illustrations, The Book of Top 10 Horror Lists is published in hardcover and trade softcover by BearManor Media. It is available on Amazon, and signed copies can be obtained from the website www.BookOfTop10HorrorLists.com.

Charles Rosenay!!! has been making guest appearances at conventions, libraries and other locations to meet friends and sign copies of his book and will continue to do so through the new year. To get an autographed copy by mail, call (203) 795-4737 or email BookOfTop10HorrorLists@gmail.com.



"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings." — WILLIAM ARTHUR WARD



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Charitable Giving and Estate Planning Documents

Most people may initially think of a beneficiary as a person (or people), such as a family member or a friend, who will receive assets from a Will or Trust. While it is very common to utilize your estate planning documents to pass assets and make gifts to your family members and friends, it may also be important to you to include a charitable gift to a non-profit organization or charity.

What types of property can you leave to a charity?

- Financial assets, including cash, stocks, investments, and bonds
- Real estate
- Personal property, such as your vehicle(s), jewelry, household furnishings, collections, or artwork

What information about the charity should be included?

To be certain your gift is received by the intended charity/organization, it is helpful for your executor or trustee to have quick access to the following information pertaining to your desired charity/organization:

- The correct legal name and entity information of the charity.
- The contact information, including the address of the main head-quarters, for the charity.
- An Employer Identification Number (EIN) for the charity/entity. This is a unique number assigned to the charity by the IRS.
- If the charity operates numerous departments/divisions, specify the exact department/division to receive your gift. Note that each department/division may have its own EIN that would help specify where the gift should be directed.
- Sometimes, a charity/organization has specific language that they'd like to have included in the Will or Trust. If possible, when drafting the Will or Trust check with the charity/organization to obtain this information in advance.

Things change over time so it is recommended to review the charity/ organization information on an annual basis to be certain that the charity/organization is still in existence.

If you are interested in learning more about how to make a charitable bequest in your estate planning documents please contact the office. We would be glad to meet with you for a no-hassle, no-charge initial consultation, no matter how long it lasts.





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DOLLARS AND SENSE

CAREGIVING in the U.S. 2020

The number of Americans providing unpaid care has increased over the last five years.*

43.5 million 2015 million 2020



18% 21%

NEARLY ONE IN FIVE (19%) ARE PROVIDING UNPAID CARE TO AN ADULT WITH HEALTH OR FUNCTIONAL NEEDS.**

More Americans are caring for more than one person.

More family caregivers have difficulty coordinating care.

18

18%

24%

19%

26%



More Americans caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. More family caregivers report the



17%



21%

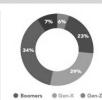


23% OF AMERICANS SAY CAREGIVING HAS MADE THEIR HEALTH WORSE.

Who are today's family caregivers?







45% HAVE HAD AT LEAST ONE FINANCIAL IMPACT





Provided care to an adult or child with special needs.

The remainder of this data is based on the 19% or 48 million caregivers caring for an adult.



Thank You to All of the Nation's Caregivers

By Roberta L Nestor

It is appropriate that November is the month we recognize and give thanks to our nation's caregivers. Caregiving has evolved and touches the lives of millions of Americans each year. Sadly, providing care for family members has not gotten any easier and each year the amount of family members providing care for loved ones is increasing. By the millions. Providing care for a loved one is an act of love, commitment, and compassion. It enables family members to receive the support they need to live a life with dignity. The chart above speaks for itself.

There are so many thoughtful ways to give thanks to a caregiver. The most important one would be to offer to help! Give them the respite they so deserve and need. Make sure your family caregiver is given time off. Every caregiver puts their own health at risk and often feels very much alone. Not only do they need love and support, but they also need your help in the

caregiving process. When you gather around the table this Thanksgiving, please acknowledge anyone you know who is providing care for a loved one. These individuals are making substantial sacrifices every day.

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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DeLauro is 2021 Children's HealthWatch Champion

Children's HealthWatch, headquartered at Boston Medical Center, has named U.S. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro its 2021 Children's Health-Watch Champion. The annual award is given to "a champion who advocates for evidence-based policies that help children thrive." Congresswoman De-Lauro, who represents Connecticut's 3rd congressional district, was presented the award at the organization's 4th annual Fall Celebration which took place virtually on October 25.

Children's HealthWatch Executive Director Stephanie Ettinger de Cuba states that Congresswoman DeLauro embodies the spirit of the award, "...in her conviction that all children deserve to be healthy and thrive, regardless of who they are or where they come from. This basic but ever true premise underscores everything Congresswoman DeLauro does on behalf of countless children and families. We are so thankful for her resolve to champion policies that lift and support the potential of families who have so much to give to their communities and the nation at large."

The Congresswoman has long championed legislation that benefit children and families economically and promote racial equity, including through policies like the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Following an 18-year mission to reduce child poverty by expanding the CTC led by Congresswoman DeLauro, Congress made a forward step this past spring with passage of The American Rescue Plan Act which temporarily extended the credit. This year's event, "Equity Can't Wait: Transforming Child Health Today For A Prosperous Tomorrow", will showcase how sound economic policies like the CTC improve child and family health, help lift families out of poverty and hunger, and support equity.

"We share Congresswoman DeLauro's dedication to fight for America's families," says Ettinger de Cuba. In addition to leading work on the CTC, she believes that we must also raise the nation's minimum wage, give all employees access to paid sick days, allow employees to take paid family and

medical leave, and ensure equal pay for equal work. Every day, she fights for legislation that would give all working families an opportunity to succeed."

Past recipients of this award include U.S. Congressman James McGovern (D-MA 2nd District), Diane Yentel, Executive Director of the National Low-Income Housing Coalition, and U.S. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (D-MA 7th District).

For more information about the event, visit https://childrenshealth-watch.org/fall-celebration/.

For 23 years, Children's Health-Watch, headquartered at Boston Medical Center, has been on the forefront of timely, actionable research connecting economic hardships and public policies to the health and development of young children and families. Its staff is consulted by Congressional offices on issues of family and child public policy, and their research has been cited on the floors of Congress and state legislatures, in national media and countless research publications and has spurred policy improvements that promote health and economic equity.

Boston Medical Center (BMC) is a private, not-for-profit, 514-bed, academic medical center that is the primary teaching affiliate of Boston University School of Medicine. It is the largest and busiest provider of trauma and emergency services in New England. BMC offers specialized care for complex health problems and is a leading research institution, receiving more than \$166 million in sponsored research funding in fiscal year 2019. It is the 13th largest funding recipient in the U.S. from the National Institutes of Health among independent hospitals. In 1997, BMC founded Boston Medical Center Health Plan, Inc., now one of the top ranked Medicaid MCOs in the country, as a nonprofit managed care organization. Boston Medical Center and Boston University School of Medicine are partners in Boston HealthNet - 12 community health centers focused on providing exceptional health care to residents of Boston. For more information, please visit http:// www.bmc.org.

Orange Town News

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Physical Therapy: Your First Stop When Pain Starts

Many people are still not aware of this, but you can come to physical therapy FIRST!! No, you don't need to see your doctor first. No, you don't need to go to the orthopedist first. No,



Kyle Branday

you don't need to wait to have your pain treated.

Research has shown us time and again that if you address acute injuries within the first 24-72 hours, the

amount of time to fully recover is cut to a fraction if you wait on treatment. My time as a civilian intern at the United States Air Force Academy taught me a lot about this methodology. How, you ask? Because this is the exact system they implement in the treatment of our injured soldiers.

The reason is simple: Address the injuries quickly, efficiently, and effectively and you cut healthcare costs tremendously and get people back to work ASAP. At USAFA we had 1 main orthopedist on staff and a team of PTs. Not every cadet treated needed to see the ortho. Probably 10% required a consultation. Not every patient needed imaging (which in their system could be ordered by PTs) nor required medications (which could also be ordered by PTs in their system) to begin feeling better. Looking at movement allows a group of high skilled practitioners the ability to evaluate a patient first and determine if they need a battery of imaging, medications, and/or additional consultation.

We as PTs are uniquely qualified to assess movement. A diagnostic image is a snap shot in time, but doesn't tell you how your body is moving. People have arthritis, spinal disc degeneration, and mild fraying of tendons and ligaments which are part of normal wear and tear and also a typical part of the aging process. So, is it really necessary to take an image of every painful, stiff, or dysfunctional part of our body? Not unless specific limitations of your movement, strength, or symptomatic behavior point us directly to that. Then why do we run right to an X-ray before looking at ANYTHING else? Before assessing movement. Before assessing strength. Before putting a finger on the dysfunctional area to determine if that could even be where the pain is coming from in the first place.

I pride myself in being the first stop for patients in our community for their orthopedical and neurological based pain. The ability to assess movement and effect change on day one is imperative. To immobilize and do nothing with a simple sprain or strain is to risk increasing your functional limitations and impairments and often times put you behind the 8-ball in your rehab process.

The top 2 examples I constantly give are following a jammed finger and after an ankle sprain. When you jam your finger it swells, becomes painful to move, and is limited with grip strength. That is normal. It is our body's way of saying "I'm hurt...take it easy". What your body isn't telling you is to stop moving all together! Rather, as we move the jammed and swollen finger, within a reasonable range of motion and pain level, the better your motion becomes and the less swollen and painful it is.

When your son or daughter comes home from practice with an acute ankle sprain and it is swollen up like a basketball, what is the best solution? Should you go to the time tested R.I.C.E. (Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation)? Of course, that's a good place to start. But you had better throw an "M" on the end of that for MOVEMENT. That doesn't mean go running or get back to power lifting day 1, but work some ankle pumps, trace the A, B, Cs with your ankle. Just like your jammed finger, get it moving a little and you will be amazed at how much better you start feeling and how much quicker you get back moving if you don't immobilize your body.

So, what's the take away here? Choose PT FIRST! There is no reason to wait 3 weeks to get seen, go through a battery of tests that may be completely unnecessary, spend 2 more weeks in an immobilizer, all to land in PT (where you should've started first), but with significantly greater mobility loss and weakened muscles. All this from NOT moving. Want to get out of pain quicker without losing motion or strength in the process?! Come see your local Physical Therapist first.

Kyle Branday has been in practice for 15 years and a graduate of Quinnipiac University treating patients of all ages and ability levels. Taking special interest in movement dysfunction, Kyle prides himself on diagnosis of both acute and chronic issues. With training in dry needling, Selective Functional Movement Assessment, as well as Mulligan and McKenzie Techniques, Kyle is able to address your specific needs. He can be reached in the Woodbridge office at (203) 389-4593.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel Events



 $\it Eric\ Woodward$

Interfaith Discussion

Eric Woodward, BEKI's rabbi, will lead "A Rabbi's Reflections on Christmas and Hanukkah," a conversation for interfaith families on Sunday, December 12 at 11 am. Raised in an interfaith and mixed-race family in Los Angeles, Rabbi Woodward explains, "I know what it's like to feel on the margins." While his mother is an Ashkenazic Jew, his father was raised Catholic by his mother, who immigrated from Oaxaca, Mexico. Bring questions or ideas about how to navigate the winter holidays. This will be a safe space for discussing the joys and difficulties of interfaith family life.

Book and Gift Fair

BEKI's lobby will become a pre-Hanukkah shopping fair on Sunday, November 21 from 10 am to 12:30 pm. A wide array of books for adults and children will be available as well as jewelry, toys, games, ritual items, and novelty items from the gift shop.

Mark Oppenheimer

On Sunday, November 21 at 11 am, Mark Oppenheimer will speak about his latest book, Squirrel Hill: The Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting and the Soul of a Neighborhood. Rather than focusing on the shooting itself, his book instead explores the struggles and triumphs of the Squirrel Hill neighborhood. Oppenheimer is the author of five books, the director of the Yale Journalism Initiative, and a host of the podcast Unorthodox. Autographed copies of books by BEKI authors like Oppenheimer will be available for purchase that day.



Mark Oppenheimer

Menorah Lighting

The community is invited to the menorah lighting in the BEKI lobby every evening (except Shabbat) at 5:30 pm, starting Sunday, November 28.

Children's Party

BEKI will celebrate Hanukkah with PJ Library on Wednesday, December 1, the 4th Night of Hanukkah. The program starts with a Hanukkah story read-aloud at 4 pm at Mitchell Library, then comes across the street to BEKI at 5:15 pm for crafts, menorah lighting, and a singalong, ending at 6:15 pm. Every child will receive a Hanukkah goody bag. RSVP to office@beki.org.

Hanukkah Singalong

On the 7th Night, BEKI is holding a Hanukkah singalong. Festivities start at 7 pm on Saturday, December 4 with havdalah and menorah lighting, followed by Hanukkah songs around the courtyard campfire. Song sheets will include both old favorites and new tunes. In case of rain, the event will move inside.

Party for Youth

Jewish teens and tweens are invited to BEKI on Sunday, December 5 at 4 pm for a joint party of the Kadima and USY youth groups. They will be frying latkes, holding a dreidel tournament, making cards for people who need their days brightened, and more. RSVP to BEKI's Youth and Family Programming Director Annie Norman-Schiff at anorman-schiff@beki.org.



THE ORANGE TOWN NEWS ONLINE

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Clothing Drive

During the week of Hanukkah, donate clean, gently worn men's winter coats, sweatshirts, sweaters, scarves, winter hats, mittens, and gloves to support DESK, Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen, in New Haven. Collection boxes will be in the BEKI lobby.

Violin Concert

Violinist Ilana Zaks will perform at 7:30 pm Saturday, December 11 in the BEKI library. Now in her second year in the master's program at the Yale School of Music, she has been described as a "fearless, refreshing and commanding" performer. Her program will include Paganini Caprice #4, Bloch Nigun from Three Pictures of Hasidic Life, Tartini Devil's Trill Sonata, and the Paul Ben Haim Sonata.

Bluegrass Music

The Bluegrass Characters Revue will present "A Tribute to Phil Zimmerman and Stacy Phillips" at BEKI on Thursday, December 23 at 7:30 pm. Also performing is Kol Kahol,



Ilana Zaks

a group of young musicians drawing inspiration from bluegrass musicians like Stacy Phillips, as well as contemporary Jewish bands such as the Klezmatics, the Moshav Band, and Nefesh Mountain.

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

Congregations of Orange Collaborative

A group of faith communities in the Town of Orange have come together to form a collaborative dedicated to improving the lives of people in Orange and the Greater New Haven Area. Calling itself the Congregations of Orange Collaborative (COC), the organization consists of congregations that represent a diversity of faith traditions. The current membership includes:

- Church of the Good Shepard Episcopal Church;
- Congregation Or Shalom;
- Orange Congregational Church;
- St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church;
- Temple Emanuel;
- > Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church;
- St. Joseph of Arimathea American
 National Catholic Church.

The collaborative has reached out to other faith communities and welcomes all that wish to participate.

Nancy Kline of Congregation Or Shalom, one of the organizers of the group, said, "All faith communities have the desire to put their faith in action and do so through many wonderful initiatives. We thought it would be so much more effective to unite our communities and use that common desire to create a more powerful group with more people, skills, and resources that could do so much more for those in need than individual congregations

could do on their own."

The COC mission statement is "Together Helping Others." Its vision statement sums up the purpose of the collaborative, 'We are an interfaith committee grounded in the spirit of repairing the world by encouraging our participating congregations in social action projects. We are committed to:

- improving the quality of life of people in need;
- strengthening relationships with our fellow congregations;
- creating opportunities for our congregations to work together on mutual community service projects.".

The first activity of the COC is a food drive to benefit Orange FOOD-2KIDS on December 5. FOOD2Kids is a program operated by the Orange Parks and Recreation Department. It collects single-serve packaged foods that require no preparation or water-only preparation, and distributes nutritious snacks and simple meal choices to children living with food insecurity. The December 5 event will be a contact-free "pop-the-trunk" collection at the High Plains Community Center from 1 to 3 pm.

For further information about the Congregations of Orange Collaborative and the food drive, contact: Nancy Kline at nancykline@gmail.com or 203-915-7799.



HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

Orange Congregational Church Upcoming Events

Orange Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, invites you to join us at 205 Meeting House Lane in Orange for worship, or on YouTube at Orange Congregational Church, UCC for our livestreamed services. Our regular in-person Sunday worship is at 10:00 a.m. in our Sanctuary. Due to COVID precautions, indoor seating is limited to 100 people, so please contact the church office (occhurch@snet. net or 203-795-9749) to register prior to worship and confirm your attendance. Masks are also required.

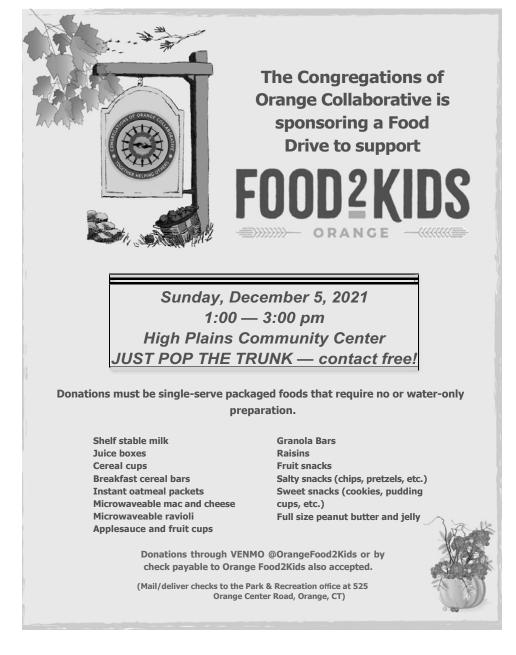
We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, which means we welcome all people into the full life and leadership of the church regardless of race, class, ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or family type. We have fun activities for kids and teens and welcome them with love into our community, too. We are currently offering virtual church school, in-person youth group, in-person before worship Bible study, a Zoom evening Praying the Bible group, a virtual book club, an "Art of Scripture" Zoom group, an in-person anti-racism ministry group, an in-person grief support group, and a monthly meditation group by Zoom.



Orange Congretational Church

An Advent Workshop will take place in-person at stations around the church on November 21st from 2-4 p.m. All kids, youth, families, adults, and friends are invited to an afternoon to connect with others while creating Advent wreaths to Prepare & Renew for the Advent Season. Our choirs are preparing for special music during Advent worship and we are currently planning in-person Christmas Eve worship on December 24th - details and times will be posted on our church website. Anyone interested in joining our choirs or other groups can email occhurch@snet.net or visit orangecongregationalchurch.org for more information. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

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Upheaval: The Journey of Menachem Begin

Sunday, December 12 | 7 PM • Vine Family Auditorium

JCC of Greater New Haven

Beckerman Lender Community Building

360 Amity Road, Woodbridge

As part of the Beckerman Jewish Cultural Arts Series and in co-sponsorship with First Calvary Baptist Church, New Haven, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven presents Upheaval: The Journey of Menachem Begin.

Menachem Begin was imprisoned by the Soviets, orphaned by the Holocaust, elected Prime Minister of Israel, crowned peacemaker by the Nobel Prize Committee and ultimately disgraced by the Lebanon War. Explore Begin's life and legacy in this captivating new documentary from writer and director Jonathan Gruber. Don't miss the opportunity to view rarely seen archival materials and revealing interviews.

Join us for an in-person screening of UPHEAVAL on Sunday, December 12. Talkback panelists include film producers Rob Schwartz and Rachel Greenberg, Rev. Dr. Boise Kimber, local clergy, public dignitaries and moderator professor Doron Ben-Atar. Music will be provided by the First Calvary Baptist Ensemble.

MUST SHOW VACCINATION CARD TO ATTEND IN PERSON

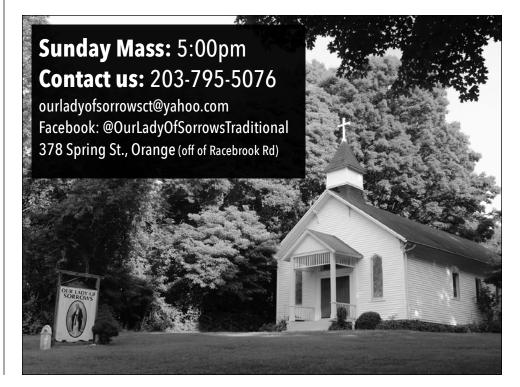


ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

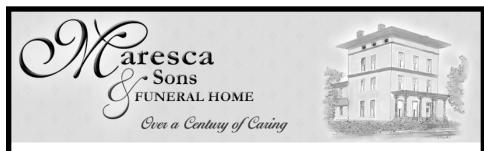
Send us your organizations events listings and items of interest.

We will publish them for free.

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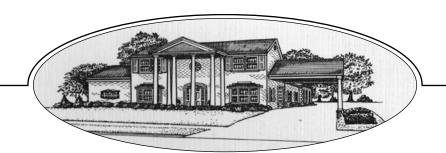
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Orange Town News

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DEATH NOTICES



Denise C. Mirto

Denise Comeau Mirto, 71, passed away peacefully on November 2, 2021 at her home in Orange, surrounded by her family and friends after a battle with cancer. Born on December 31, 1949, in New Haven, CT, she was the daughter of Frank and Irene (Matteo) Comeau. She married the love of her life, Robert Mirto on January 30, 1981. Denise is survived by her son, Jesse D. Irwin (wife Emily Agustin), of Chicago, IL, son Nicholas Mirto (wife Jen Mirto), of West Haven, CT, and her step-daughter, Lisa Mirto of Stratford, CT. She is also survived by her eight siblings, Francis Fox (exwife, Jeanne Dubin who will always be family) of Wilmington, NC, Cathy Higgins (husband David Higgins) of Altamonte Springs, FL, Patty Kelley (husband Kobe Kelley) of Leland, NC, Mark Comeau of New Haven, CT, Mary Petrou (husband Milton Petrou) of Chester, SC, Greg Comeau of Orange, CT, Carrie Piazza (husband Jeff Piazza) of Denver, NC, and PJ Fox (wife Yayoi Fox) of Herndon, VA. She is survived by 19 nieces and nephews, a Cousin,

Paula Idarola, Great Aunt Clara Mei, and three very special friends, Sharon Ewen, Rochelle Cyr, and Rose Addario Zajac. Denise grew up in Orange and was a lifelong resident. She was always adventurous and travelled the world. She loved music, especially The Grateful Dead. She has been a Realtor in Orange since 1995. She was well respected by both her clients and her peers. Volunteerism was her passion. She enjoyed community service and has been the voice as well as a major organizer of the annual Orange Country Fair. She acted as the general coordinator of the volunteer effort to build the Orange Kids' Playground. She served as a Past President of Orange Little League, past member of the Amity Board of Education, volunteer at the Orange Volunteer Firemen's Carnival for 22 years, past President of Turkey Hill School PTA, and has served on other various Boards and Commissions in Orange. Denise will be missed!

Arrangements were in the capable hands of the West Haven Funeral Home at the Green, 662 Savin Ave, West Haven, CT. A private burial was at the Orange Center Cemetery. The family would like to thank all of the Hospice Nurses and aides for their loving care of Denise. They are truly heroes and the best America has to offer. Memorial contributions can be made to Connecticut Hospice, 100 Double Beach Rd, Branford, CT 06405 or the Orange Playground in care of Lynn Plaskowitz, in memory of Denise Mirto. Checks can be made out to the Town of Orange, and sent to 525 Orange Center Road, Orange, CT 06477. To leave an online condolence, please visit www.westhavenfuneral.com.



DEATH NOTICES

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





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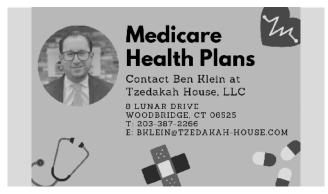


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TOWN OF ORANGE | LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the Board of Selectmen located in Orange, Connecticut will meet on December 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Orange Town Hall 617 Orange Center Road, Orange, Connecticut 06477 in the lower-level Meeting Room, for the purpose of holding a public hearing on proposed fee increases for the Town of Orange Building Department amending §183-1 Permit Fee Schedule.

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

Notice of public hearing dated at Orange, CT and published this 19th day of November 2021.

TOWN OF ORANGE **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

BY: James M. Zeoli, First Selectman

ATTEST: Patrick B. O'Sullivan, Town Clerk

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

Notice of public hearing dated at Orange, CT and published this 19th day of November 2021.

TOWN OF ORANGE **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

BY: James M. Zeoli, First Selectman

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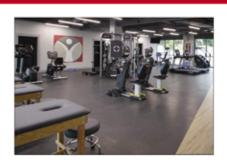


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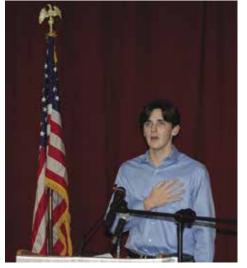
135 Cherry St Milford



Outgoing Town Clerk Patrick O'Sullivan gets a standing ovation, from both sides of the aisle



Former State Rep. Themis Klarides delivered the keynote address





Left: Nolan Young sang the National Anthem. His calm, clear voice soon had the audience join in. Right: First Selectman Jim Zeoli was sworn in for his ninth term

"Swearing-In" From Page 3

Committee, planning a series of events for the town in June of 2022.

Former State Rep. Themis Klarides delivered the keynote address, and prompted a round of applause for all the candidates who ran, successful or not. "It's not easy to put yourself out there," she said. But it's the connection with the people in the town that make it all worthwhile. "People putting trust in you is what keeps you going," she said.

Klarides spoke of the characteristics of a good leader that will be recognizable to the people of Orange. He will be responsive and listen to constituents' needs. "They know they will be cared for and listened to," even if they don't always agree with everything he does. His constituents will know that he has the towns' best interest at heart.

"It's that care that got him re-elected

last week," she said.

The other officials being sworn in included the following:

Board of Selectmen — John Carangelo, Connor Deane, Mitchell Goldblatt, Ralph Okenquist and Judy Williams; **Town Clerk** – Mary Shaw;

Tax Collector — Thomas Hurley; **Board of Finance** — Ajeet Jain, Kevin

McNabola and Joseph Nuzzo; **Town Plan and Zoning** — Kevin

Cornell Oggic Parents and Thom

Cornell, Ozzie Parente and Thomas Torrenti;

Orange Board of Education — Jef-

fery Cap, Ronnette James, Tatiana Messina-Mullen, Carmen Rodrigues and Liz Tremper;

Amity Board of Education — Christina Levere-D'Addio, Carla Eichler and Sean Hartshorn;

Constables — Jay Carrier, Jody Daymon, Michael Donadeo, Santo Galatioto Jr., Glen Papelo, Randoph Thomas and Dan Zapatka.

Let's Take Another Look at 1822 & Beyond...

No one can deny that our forefathers had a rough time of it when they arrived here, not only in the early centuries but in 1822, 202 years after the first settlers started their lives in the new land. It wasn't a country but raw land, settled by Native Americans who had adapted to their surroundings hundreds of years earlier. Now we find a group, living in what was not raw land anymore but farms with crops and livestock and cold winters.

By 1822, Orange had come a long way from the Milford Colony of 1639, but was life the proverbial bowl of cherries? Not by a long shot. There was the cold, but also the hot summers, no air conditioning, no sprinklers, no running water, period. BUT they survived and our Henry Lewis Woodruff has given us a bird's eye view of life at that

time. Let's take another look at Henry's life in **The Old Red House**.

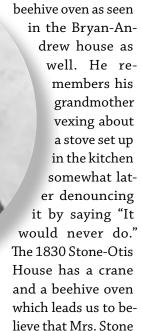
We know from the inventory of one Nathan Bryan, builder of the 1740 Bryan-Andrew House, that he made beer, noting the twelve brown bottles listed there. The corner cupboard of **The Old Red House**, that quaint old cupboard in the south room, held spirits as it was the "bar" of the house with its shelves arranged for that purpose. Oh, how we must change our minds about that part of history, oh my. It seems that when a friend or neighbor called, the first thing to do was to invite them to take a drink, it was a common custom. To refuse a drink was surely an offense and to fail to offer it was a breach of hospitality.

One of Henry's neighbors was a seafaring man, traveling to the West Indies, bringing back square bottles, filled with pure Jamaican Rum, yet these folks of 1822 were pious and not prone to excess even though it would appear so. This south room Henry refers to was the winter living room being kept more comfortable in its warmth. He notes that the spacious kitchen which we call the keeping room at the Bryan-Andrew house, with its large fireplace, needed a great amount of fuel, as he calls it, to keep the room warm even though the cooking was done there. The maintenance to keep the family warm was left to the south room. The winter signaled buckwheat cakes, significantly on the

menu, as the seed of the buckwheat plant is harvested in the fall. With fresh cream, churned butter and maple syrup, buckwheat cakes were the families' favorite while the north winds blew outside, signaling the winter was upon them.

From Henry's book, he notes that in this time, the coal stove had not yet appeared in Orange. We can attest to that as the fireplace at the Stone-Otis house, built in 1830, does not include

> a coal stove but a crane for hanging iron pots and a



had the same idea.

Henry Lewis Woodruff

Matches were invented in 1827 but previous to that, the fire in The Old Red House used tinder which consisted of a tin box abut 4" in diameter with a close-fitting cover with flint and steel inside. To prepare the tinder, a piece of old cotton cloth was burnt and when a live coal, placed in the box

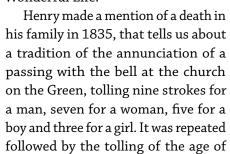
and extinguished by pressing down the cover, tightly. It was now ready to use at another time by igniting it with a horse-shoe magnet, struck against a flint. The fire of the day was settled into a low bed of coals upon retiring but in the morning could be revived with additional kindle but if that failed, the tinder box was put to work. While on the subject

of fires in the fireplace, there was a custom in my early days of the event of housewarming, a pleasant get-together of friends and neighbors to welcome you to your new home. Housewarming. Hmm. A strange way to welcome

someone but it has its beginnings way far away in our history, medieval times to be exact.

When a family moved into a new home, it was thought to warm it for the newcomers and firewood would be brought to light the various fireplaces, thus warming the house. Without all of that, a small amount of live coals would be brought to the family to start their fires burning and a pan, with a long handle was used to bring the 'warming" to them and we

have such a pan at the Stone-Otis house. Another tradition for new home owners is the bread, salt and more recently matches. The bread so the family will not know hunger, salt for the spice of life and matches to keep warm. There are newer items on the list including wine which is mentioned in the movie "It's a Wonderful Life."



the deceased. On the day of the funeral, the bell tolled slowly as the mourners left the church in procession to the cemetery consistently ringing until all had arrived at the gravesite.

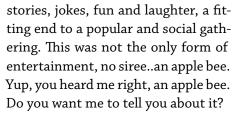
Betsey Woodruff

Life was not all doom and gloom, or toil and trouble, but fun and events to look forward to. One such event was the husking bee of song and story. Well, Henry's

book tells of such an event when the corn in the fields was fully ripe, picked in the husk and carried to the barn, heaped up a huge pyramid in the center of the floor as he wrote. The neighbors

were invited to the "husking" and the boys, he says were in fine spirits for they could see lots of fun ahead. The girls appeared to remain in the house while the force in the barn was divided into two sides and the race began. Husks flying in every direction, I'll be bound, stripping the corn, throwing the husks behind them with the corn being placed in bushel baskets in front. Soon the baskets were lugged into the garret and the corn spread on the floor and the pyramid dwindled.

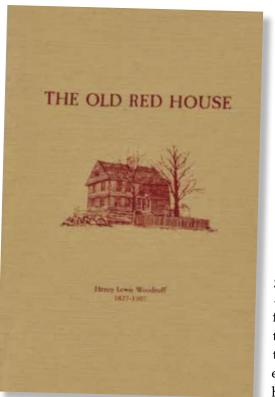
> Now the REAL fun began in the sea of husks with the rolling and tumbling, scuffling and wrestling until mother called and a royal lunch was served. The table "groaned"* with bread and butter, crackers and cheese, crullers and doughnuts, mince and pumpkin pies, apples, nuts and sweet cider with the addition of

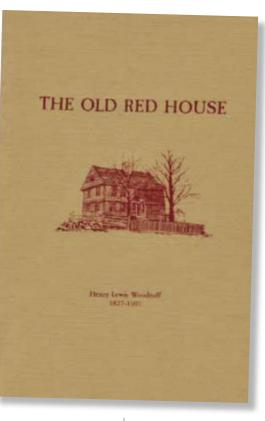


This event took place in the kitchen with a roaring fire. The table stands in the middle of the large keeping room as it is called covered with pans, pots, pails and bowls and a row of chairs around it. The boys and girls squeezed in together and baskets of apples distributed and the work began. Some peeling, some coring, some paring while others slicing, a lively scene to behold, filling the containers with the fall harvest. Many hands made the work not only go faster but with the ability to get the apples prepared for winter storage, none spoiled for the lack of it. The whole year's supply was thus saved, made ready for drying. If the weather was sunny, the apples were dried outside, if inclement, then in the garret. After all was set aside, the children spend time playing until another day when it was another neighbor's table set with the pans, pots, pails and bowls. Now aren't you glad vou asked?

The Old Red House book is available for purchase at the Academy open Saturdays from 10-3.

 * There is a whimsical, old term for a food-filled table, the groaning board, obviously meaning full of delicious and welcoming food.





Holiday Festival & Tree Lighting Sunday, December 5th, 3-6pm - Orange Town Green



CALLING ALL CREATIONS!



Gingerbread House Making Contest

Drop-off on Dec. 5 from 2-3pm at The Clark Building

All entries must be decorated with edible embellishments!
Group entries welcome! Prizes awarded!

• Pick-up between 5:30-6:00pm. Entries left will be discarded! •