

Orange Town News



Orange's Exclusive Newspaper

Mailed Free To Every Home & Business in Orange

VOL. 15 – ISSUE 11

CIRCULATION 6009

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2020



Amity High School Abruptly Switches To Remote Learning

By BETTINA THIEL

ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Amity Regional High School on Friday, November 13, informed its families that high school students would be learning from home starting Monday, November 16. The two middle schools, however, where cases were fewer, would remain open in the hybrid instructional model, with only half of the student population attending school at any given time.

The decision came on a day when 18 people at the high school were isolating because they had tested positive, and approximately 170 were in quarantine. In addition, the Amity Transition Academy had one positive case and 22 quarantining. Those numbers are fluid, cautioned School Supt. Dr. Jennifer Byars in an email to this reporter, as individuals move in and out of isolation and quarantine, and officials were still contact tracing for the latest batch of positives.

In her letter to parents, Byars said the decision to cancel in-person classes was made in consultation with the Orange Health Department and the Quinnipiac Valley Health District. The

closure affected all school programming, including athletic and extracurricular practices and competitions.

Meals for students continue to be available for pick-up at the high school daily between 11 am and noon.

This period of remote learning was limited to three weeks, including the week after the Thanksgiving recess, with all students returning to partial in-person learning on December 7.

Dr. Byars said as of November 13, the number of cases at the middle schools remains low. There were three positive cases at the middle school in Bethany, with 16 in quarantine; and two positive cases in Orange, with 19 in quarantine. The middle schools will remain open in the hybrid instructional model until the Thanksgiving recess.

The week after Thanksgiving, however, all district schools will operate in a remote learning model through December 4, as had been planned previously. By working from home — which is being done in many districts across the state — schools are allowing those who traveled to get tested before they return to school, and families to quarantine as needed.



We Love Our Heroes, the Veterans

SUBMITTED BY VALERIE ANTON
RBS PUBLIC RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE

Race Brook School was committed to preserving its tradition of honoring veterans this year. The school's lawn was patriotically decorated with American flags and bright red paper poppies made by students. A large multi-colored banner was visible as cars and buses drove up the school's driveway reading: We Thank Our US Veterans." The school collected over \$600 in donations for House of Heroes, an organization that assists veterans with much needed home repairs. Students decorated paper soldiers representing all branches of the military that were hung up on classroom windows. There was a schoolwide moment of silence at 11:00 am followed by a video presentation of Taps in each classroom. First grade teacher Kathy Battles delivered thank you letters and acrostic poems

from students throughout the school to the Veterans Hospital. Sixth grade students wrote enthusiastic acrostic poems on posters dedicated to veterans. Some of the posters went to the American Legion Post in Orange. Additionally, each grade level learned a song during Music class as a tribute to veterans.

The special activities for the day were planned and organized by the Veterans Day Committee: Kellie Martino, Tina Denton, Kathy Battles, Jill Volmar, and Janet Greenspan. The Committee knew the activities would need to be modified to address protocols guarding against the spread of the Corona Virus, so they put their brains together to come up with creative, fun, safe, and engaging activities for the students and staff.

See "Veterans" On Page 3



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President

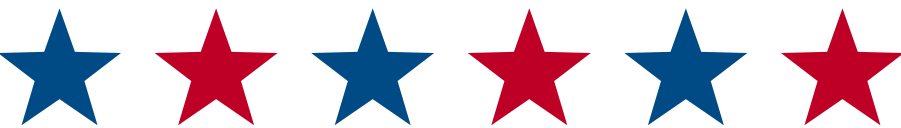
Biden and Harris (D): 4,816 (52.05%)
Trump and Pence (R): 4,317 (46.66%)
Jorgensen and Cohen (L): 78 (0.84%)
Hawkins and Walker (G): 38 (0.41%)

Representative in Congress District 3

Rosa L. DeLauro (D): 4,396 (47.95%)
Margaret Streicker (R): 4,394 (47.93%)
Justin Paglino (G): 85 (0.93%)
Rosa L. DeLauro (WF): 137 (1.49%)
Margaret Streicker (I): 156 (1.70%)

State Senator District 14

James Maroney (D): 4,442 (52.09%)
Michael Southworth (R): 3,743 (43.90%)
James Maroney (WF): 218 (2.56%)
James Maroney (I): 124 (1.45%)



State Representative District 114

Mary Welander (D): 2,327 (45.23%)
Dan DeBarba (R): 2,633 (51.18%)
Mary Welander (WF): 95 (1.85%)
Dan DeBarba (I): 90 (1.75%)

State Representative District 117

Tony Sutton (D): 758 (39.83%)
Charles Ferraro (R): 11,104 (58.01%)
Tony Sutton (I): 18 (0.95%)
Tony Sutton (WF): 23 (1.21%)

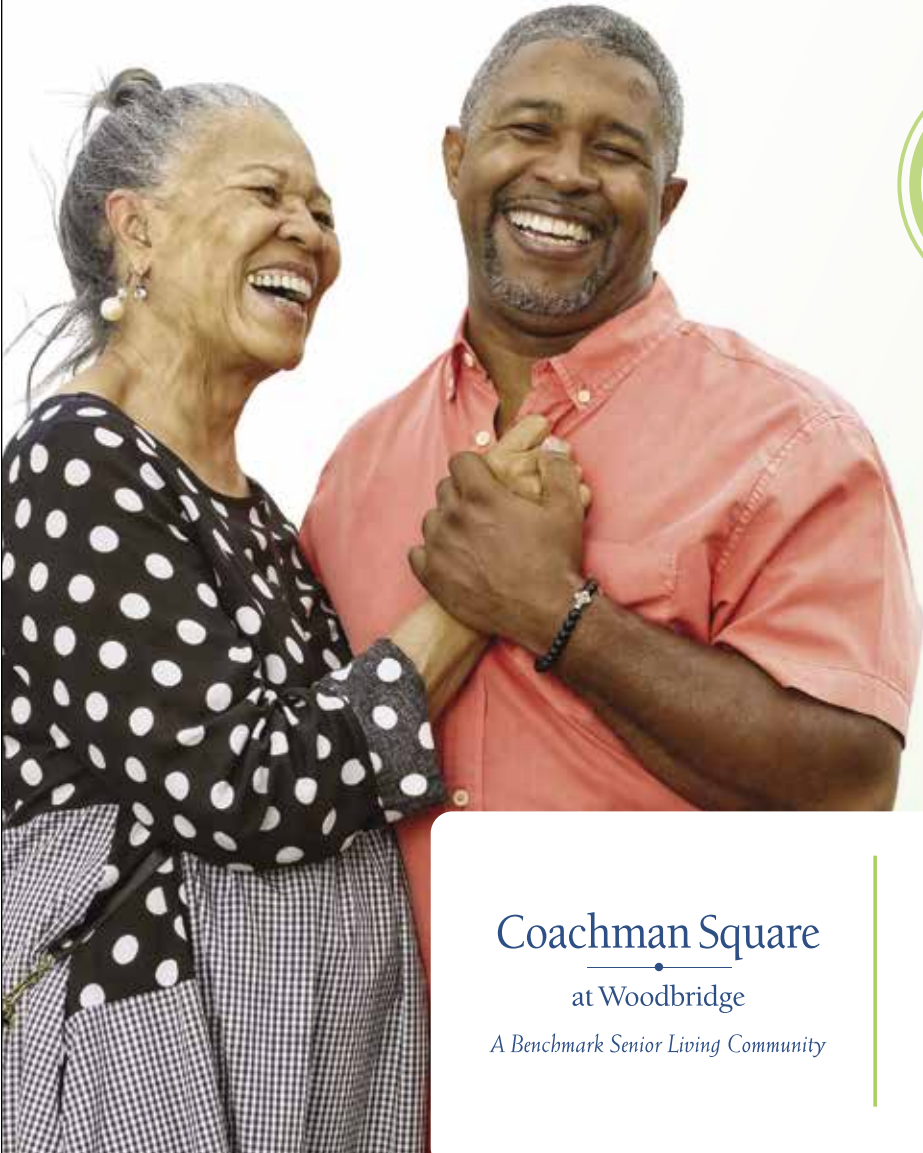
State Representative District 119

Bryan Anderson (D): 918 (45.11%)
Kathy Kennedy (R): 1,070 (52.58%)
Bryan Anderson (I): 30 (1.47%)
Bryan Anderson (WF): 17 (0.84%)

Registrar of Voters

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“Veterans” From Page 1

Once again, sixth grade teacher Kelie Martino, put together a touching and heartfelt slideshow presentation picturing veterans from the Race Brook Community with identifying captions. The slideshow was part of another elaborate, colorful Veterans Day Bitmoji

slideshow created by the committee. Students and staff were able to interactively click on links to read articles, listen to songs and read alouds of books with a Veterans Day theme, view greetings and interviews from Veterans, and even participate in interactive simulations from the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.





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ROCKY HILL Tuesday, December 8 7:00pm – 9:00pm (Coffee & Dessert) Sheraton Hartford South Hotel 100 Capital Boulevard	ENFIELD Thursday, December 10 10:00am – 12:00noon (Continental Breakfast) Figaro Restaurant 90 Elm Street	OLD SAYBROOK Saturday, December 12 2:00pm – 4:00pm (Refreshments) Saybrook Point Inn & Spa 2 Bridge Street

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Circulation of 6,009.

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

Phone: 203-298-4399

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Editor Marlene Silverstein
Production & Design J. Michael Kriz
Correspondents Melissa Nicefaro | Bettina Theil
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Below are the next three issue dates & deadlines of the Orange Town News.
Thank you for your submissions to Your Home Town Newspaper.

Upcoming Issue Date	Issue Deadline
December 11 Holiday Issue	December 4
January 15 New Year’s Issue	January 8
February 12 Valentine’s Day Issue	February 5

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

Welander Announces Victory In 114th State Representative Race

On November 4th, Mary Welander announced her victory in the race for the 114th State Representative District which includes Derby, Orange and Woodbridge. “I would like to thank everyone who took the time to be part of a campaign that I am incredibly proud of. This was always a difficult race made even more so by the conditions surrounding it, so I would also like to thank my opponent, Dan DeBarba, for stepping up to run for office. It is a challenging but important part of civic action, and I wish him and his family the best.”

Welander continued, “I am truly humbled by the support and trust shown by voters yesterday and I am even more determined to work for all of the residents and families of Derby, Orange, and Woodbridge as we face the challenges ahead. While we are proud and excited by these results, I recognize that we are still in the middle of a global pandemic. I take my new role and responsibilities very seriously and will continue to make the needs of all



Mary Welander

of the residents of the 114th district a priority. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any issues or concerns you may have (203-881-6207).”
The 114th House seat was previously held by Minority Leader, Themis Klarides. Mary Welander successfully flipped this seat from red to blue for the first time in 22 years.




FROM OUR READERS



OTN LETTERS POLICY

Submit your letters for our "From Our Readers" section to:
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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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Maroney Welcomes Funding For Capital Improvement Projects

On November 9th, State Senator James Maroney (D-Milford) is welcoming new state funding for capital improvement projects in Milford, Orange, and Woodbridge. Governor Lamont recently approved more than \$11 million in state funding through the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) that will be awarded to 94 towns across the state.

In Milford, \$128,205 in state funding has been approved for auditorium seating and sound system upgrades at Veterans Memorial Auditorium. This will be matched by \$125,000 from the town. In Orange, \$20,000 in state funding has been approved for the replacement of the roofing, ceilings, and siding at Stone-Otis House. This will be matched by \$20,000 from the town. And in Woodbridge, \$128,205 in state funding has been approved for renovations and improvements to the senior center. This will be matched by \$10,000 from the town.

“This new funding will do nothing but increase business that will hopefully help our economy,” said Sen. Maroney. “The pandemic really was a huge factor in the loss of profits across the state and with this new funding to make these renovations, the future is already starting to look brighter. I am thankful Governor Lamont took the time to make sure money was allocated to several local towns in our community.”

The Governor explained that he reinstated the program in an effort to support Connecticut’s municipalities while implementing projects that will give a boost to the economy and help in their response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. For this round of funding, he implemented a special COVID-19 provision to support towns with expenditures related to their ongoing response to the pandemic, including for new construction, expansion, renovation, or replacement of existing facilities.

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EDUCATION

Amity Adopts 2021-2022 School Year Calendar

BY BETTINA THIEL
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Amity Board of Education at its Nov. 9 meeting adopted a calendar for the 2021-22 school year. After the summer break, schools will open to students on Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. The last day of school is June 9, 2022.

There are no snow make-up days on that calendar, as the state has allowed towns to switch to remote learning on days when inclement weather makes travel hazardous. However, there may be other emergency closings, which could add make-up days beyond the June 9 date. A post-script alerts parents that, if emergency closings extend past June 30, make-up days will be taken from spring recess.

Winter recess is two days, Feb. 21 and 22, 2022; and spring recess is the second week in April, April 11 to 15.

As it stands, the calendar provides for 181 school days for students, 185 for teachers.

Provided there are no other make-up days, graduation will take place on the last day of school.

Several early release days are sprinkled throughout the year, to allow for periodic teacher professional development opportunities in addition to two full-day professional development days. Professional development has proved crucial this year as schools across the nation had to develop new computer-based teaching strategies due to the pandemic.

The calendar was developed in collaboration with the elementary schools of the BOWA member towns, School Supt. Jennifer Byars said. That is done in part to accommodate family schedules, and to coordinate the school bus system.

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.

STUDENT NEWS

Achievements Lasell University

Newton, MA - Daniel Chodos of Orange, a Sport Management major at Lasell University, is a member of the Advanced Leadership Seminar at Lasell University. The Advanced Leadership Seminar gives junior and senior students the opportunity to learn from peers, staff, faculty, guest speakers, and

administrators, with the goal of understanding different leadership perspectives and reflecting on their own development in various topic areas. Students are encouraged to take leadership skills learned in each seminar and apply them outside the classroom at programs and events on campus. Students are invited to attend based on a nomination and application process.

Attention Teachers!

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

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LOCAL BUSINESS



Kim Vigliotti



Judy Stebbins

Vigliotti and Stebbins Join Wareck D'Ostilio Real Estate

Greg Robbins and Rhonda Young, Managers and Partners of the Branford office, take great pride in welcoming Kim Vigliotti and Judy Stebbins as a Licensed Real Estate Salespeople to the company. They will work from the company's Branford office.

Kim Vigliotti is a real estate professional focusing on the residential real estate market in the New Haven County and Shoreline area. She grew up in Guilford and spent most of her life there. Kim was formerly on the Guilford Little League Board of Directors, an active Calvin Leete Elementary School PTO member, and is the Community Relations Coordinator for the Sarah Foundation. Well-known and respected throughout the area, Kim and her husband are the owners of a small brewery business on the Shoreline as well.

Kim received a Bachelor's degree in History and also in Public & Community Service Studies from Providence College, a Master's degree in Education from UNH and a Master's in Educational Leadership from SCSU. Kim has vast experience in every aspect of working with and serving the public through her administrative positions and local business.

An up and coming real estate agent, Kim has great business instincts and management skills. Her drive is to help buyers and sellers obtain a positive and rewarding real estate experience. With a level of attentiveness to meet her clients' needs, Kim is already creating a very positive track record in sales and service. Contact her at 203-214-8453 or kim.vigliotti@wdsells.com.

Born in Statesville, NC, Judy Stebbins is a graduate of Catawba College in Salisbury, NC with a AB in Business Administration and a SCSU graduate with an MS in Economics. Judy has

over 30 years of experience working in housing for faculty, students and institutional visitors at Yale University and OMSC, an international study center for world mission leaders, academics, research and publication initiatives and international artists program.

Growing up, her father was a builder and along with his businesses, he sold and purchased real estate. When she reached legal age, she was an officer of two of the family businesses and silent partner. Judy enjoyed gaining experience in meeting prospective buyers and learning about their life situations and highlighting the pros of their future residences. Today, Judy's desire to be successful in real estate was born in her experience of matching personalities with the needs and desires of clients and witnessing the joy and satisfaction with a successful end result.

She and her husband live in Branford. Contact Judy at 203-507-8107 or email her at judy.stebbins@wdsells.com.

"We are delighted to have Kim and Judy affiliated with Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio Real Estate," said John Wareck, Partner/broker. "Our strong and growing position in the Shoreline community and continued growth helps us attract new additions like Kim and Judy to the company. The combined efforts of our veteran agents and our new Realtors have enabled us to achieve a level of sales growth unsurpassed in the New Haven and Shoreline real estate market," added Frank D'Ostilio, Jr., Partner.

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



Boy Scout Troop 12 Camping Safely During Pandemic

This year has become a major challenge for scouting. The pandemic has made meeting and scheduling events difficult, but Troop 12 has succeeded to stay connected successfully so far. Scouts from Troop 12 recently camped at Camp Pomperaug in Union, CT during the first weekend of November. The scouts followed all the current COVID rules set by the state and local council and were able to enjoy a beautiful tent camping weekend. The Troop’s SPL (Senior Patrol Leader), Ben Cap, along with the leaders, helped plan and organize the weekend’s activities. The plan was to work with the newer Boy Scouts on outdoor, nature, and fire building skills.

During the camping trip, scouts Tim

Cap and Frankie Cavallaro were the two assigned cooks, cooking for the 15 scouts and leaders in attendance. Both scouts were working towards their cooking merit badge requirements.

Scouts explored the camp and ventured on hiking trails to view the entire camp and the surrounding lake and small islands.

Boy Scout Troop 12, chartered by the VFW Post 7788, meets at the St. Agnes Church hall every Thursday. Scouts currently belonging to the troop are from Milford and Orange.

Boys in grades 6 through high school can join scouts. Visit the Troop 12 website at www.troop12milfordct.com for additional information or email contact@troop12milfordct.com.



This Old House Gets a “New” Look

The Orange Historical Society (OHS) has been fortunate to receive several grants from The Fred A. DeLuca Foundation for the restoration of the 1740 Nathan Bryan-William Andrew house. The Foundation has been very generous in the past 4 years to see that the society would be able to complete its restoration projects of the oldest house in Orange.

Each project was unique, enhancing the continuation of work undertaken by the society in 2000, when the Town

of Orange purchased the house. The OHS agreed to take on the restoration and has done just that with the gratefulness to The Fred A. DeLuca Foundation for the recent donation which has allowed them to re-clapboard the western and northern sides due to the failure of the existing exterior.

The home is open to the public upon request and all Covid-19 protocols will be in place. Visit www.orangehistory.org to see additional photographs. For information call 203 795-3106.

Jewish Genealogical Society of CT To Host Virtual Lecture

Please join the Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut (JGSCT) for the First Annual Marcia Indianer Meyers Memorial lecture on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 1:30 pm. Arthur S. Meyers, the widower of Marcia Indianer Meyers, will present “Marcia’s Genealogical Journey”. Arthur Meyers is a retired librarian, genealogist, and long-time JGSCT board member.

Marcia Indianer Meyers began exploring family history in her father’s jewelry and watch repair store in Detroit in the mid-1940s. She would ask her Dad about their family name, “Indianer,” and took notes. This early asking about her family history led to

a lifetime of researching, documenting, visiting family (alive and in cemeteries), and sharing the history. As much as I helped in her work, she ignited my interest, and shaped me in the same way with my family.

Her father loved to talk more about their shtetl, Chodorow, which he had left after World War I, than their name. Marcia concluded this part of her journey in November 2019, shortly after she turned 80, in our assisted living facility in Middletown, Connecticut. She was still just as eager then to help new friends explore their own history.

This program is free and open to the public.

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



Officer Bailey talking to the scouts about the importance of being a police officer and introducing them to her job – photo taken by Jessica Zamachaj

Pack 922 News

At our November Pack meeting on November 2nd, Officer Bailey was present to discuss what police officers do and invited the scouts to see the inside of her police car. Each scout received an orange police officer badge sticker. After officer Bailey spoke with the scouts the den leaders handed out achievements and congratulated all on jobs well done. Our next pack meeting is on December 7th where we will be having our first Space Derby under the pavilion at High

Plains in Orange. The scouts will custom build their own space rocket and we will see who'll come in the fastest! There will be other prizes as well. Our annual wreath sale will be held on November 21st at High Plains Community Center front parking lot. We will be there from 10am until 2pm. This fundraiser will allow the pack to fund partial costs for events like our camp outs, rocket derby, and the pinewood derby. Can't wait to see you!



Students in the 3s class at OCNS enjoyed a fall leaves dance using streamers.



OCNS 5s Kindergarten Readiness class enjoyed an outdoor story time on a beautiful fall day.

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LOCAL SPORTS



The Amity Fall Ball baseball team held its annual pink fundraiser in October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Thanks to the generosity of parents, family members and the Amity Community we were able to donate over \$700 to the Get In Touch Foundation in Milford. Pictured above is co-captains Jacob Crow, Jack Ranani and Get In Touch volunteer Eddy Nilan (missing from photo co-captain Julian Stevens). Thank you to everyone who participated.



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Holiday Shopping At The Library

The Friends of the Case Memorial Library is offering a convenient, easy and safe alternative for holiday gift shopping, while observing precautionary protocols of the pandemic. COVID is the scourge of our lives and it compels us to create new, caring and simple traditions.

Now open Monday – Saturday 10:00am-12:00pm, the library is a serene environment with enough space to accommodate social distancing. Patrons are required to wear masks.

The Friends' bookcase, easily accessible, is located adjacent to the front door. It features a variety of holiday fiction, cookbooks, and children's fiction. Also available are a selection of individual holiday-themed DVDs, as well

as DVD collections of TV series. There are also holiday music CDs available.

All items are gently used, many in new condition. You'll find bargain prices for each item. Quick check-outs are handled at the Circulation Desk.

Plan a trip to the Library to do your holiday shopping in a quiet, safe environment and don't forget to purchase an item or two for yourself. You might try new recipes and give homemade treats to your neighbors and friends. Or, play a holiday DVD to lift family spirits. Or, curl up in a comfortable chair to read a story which transports you to another time and place. Or, read a cherished children's book aloud, sharing joy and laughter with your kids and renewed hope for the future.

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Bob Gambardella – Orange (Sales Mgr) call direct at 203-530-6439

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LIBRARY

New Nonfiction, November 2020

- A better man : a (mostly serious) letter to my son / Michael Ian Black.
- A dominant character : the radical science and restless politics of J. B. S. Haldane / Samantha Subramanian.
- A traitor to his species : Henry Bergh and the birth of the animal rights movement / Ernest Freeberg.
- Abe : Abraham Lincoln in his times / David S. Reynolds.
- Bones : inside and out / Roy A. Meals, MD.
- Chi Spacca : a new approach to American cooking / Nancy Silverton ; with Ryan DeNicola and Carolyn Carreño, photographs by Ed Anderson.
- Come home, Indio : a memoir / Jim Terry.
- Compromised : counterintelligence and the threat of Donald J. Trump / Peter Strzok.
- Delish ultimate cocktails : why limit happy to an hour?
- Dessert person : recipes and guidance for baking with confidence / Claire Saffitz.
- Didn't see that coming : putting life back together when your world falls apart / Rachel Hollis.
- Donald Trump v. the United States : inside the struggle to stop a President / Michael S. Schmidt.
- Down along with that devil's bones : a reckoning with monuments, memory, and the legacy of white supremacy / Connor Towne O'Neill.
- Eat a peach: a memoir / David Chang with Gabe Ulla.
- Eat well, be well : 100+ healthy recreations of the food you crave : plant based, gluten-free, refined sugar-free / Jana Cristofano.
- Eleanor / David Michaelis.
- Evil geniuses: the unmaking of America: a recent history / Kurt Andersen.
- Gambling with Armageddon : nuclear roulette from Hiroshima to the Cuban Missile Crisis, 1945-1962 / Martin J. Sherwin.
- Greenlights / Matthew McConaughey.
- Group : how one therapist and a circle of strangers saved my life / Christie Tate.
- His very best : Jimmy Carter, a life / Jonathan Alter.
- Hoax : Donald Trump, Fox News, and the dangerous distortion of truth / Brian Stelter.
- How to lead : wisdom from the world's greatest CEOs, founders, and game changers / David M. Rubenstein.
- I marched with Patton : a firsthand account of World War II alongside one of the U.S. Army's greatest generals / Frank Sisson.
- Ice walker: a polar bear's journey through the fragile Arctic.
- Instant Family Meals : Delicious Dishes from Your Slow Cooker, Pressure Cooker, Multicooker, and Instant Pot
- Is this anything? / Jerry Seinfeld.
- Just feed me : simply delicious recipes from my heart to your plate / Jessie James Decker.
- Just us: an American conversation / Claudia Rankine.
- Let love rule / Lenny Kravitz ; with David Ritz.
- Let's brunch : 100 recipes for the best meal of the week / Belinda Smith-Sullivan ; photographs by Susan Barn-
- son Hayward.
- Made for living: eclectic interiors for all sorts of styles / Amber Lewis; photographs by Tessa Neustadt.
- Maids / Katie Skelly.
- Modern comfort food : a Barefoot Contessa cookbook / Ina Garten ; photographs by Quentin Bacon ; party photographs by Jean-Pierre Uys.
- Philip and Alexander : kings and conquerors / Adrian Goldsworthy.
- She come by it natural : Dolly Parton and the women who lived her songs / Sarah Smarsh.
- Solutions and other problems / Allie Brosh.
- Superlife : the 5 simple fixes that will make you healthy, fit, and eternally awesome / Darin Olien.
- Tequila & tacos : a guide to spirited pairings.
- The cancer journals / Audre Lorde ; foreword by Tracy K. Smith.
- The daughters of Yalta : the Churchills, Roosevelts, and Harrimans: a story of love and war / Catherine Grace Katz.
- The dead are arising : the life of Malcolm X / Les Payne and Tamara Payne.
- The full plate : flavor-filled, easy recipes for families with no time and a lot to do / Ayesha Curry, photographs by Eva Kolenko.
- The gift : 12 lessons to save your life / Edith Eger; with Esme Schwall Weigand.
- The Magnolia Bakery handbook : a complete guide for the home baker / Bobbie Lloyd.
- The meaning of Mariah Carey / Mariah Carey with Michaela Angela Davis.
- The national road : dispatches from a changing America / Tom Zoellner.
- The new southern style : the interiors of a lifestyle and design movement / Alyssa Rosenheck.
- The presidents vs. the press : the endless battle between the White House and the media — from the founding fathers to fake news / Harold Holzer.
- The quiet Americans : four CIA spies at the dawn of the Cold War — a tragedy in three acts / Scott Anderson.
- The sacrifice of darkness / written by Roxane Gay and Tracy Lynne Oliver ; illustrated by Rebecca Kirby ; colored by James Fenner ; lettered by And-World Design.
- The vapors : a southern family, the New York mob, and the rise and fall of Hot Springs, America's forgotten capital of vice / David Hill.
- The zealot and the emancipator : John Brown, Abraham Lincoln and the struggle for American freedom / H. W. Brands.
- True comfort : more than 100 cozy recipes free of gluten and refined sugar / Kristin Cavallari.
- Trust : America's best chance / Pete Buttigieg.
- Violet bent backwards over the grass / Lana Del Rey.
- Welcome home : a cozy minimalist guide to decorating and hosting all year round / Myquillyn Smith.
- Welcome to the United States of anxiety : observations from a reforming neurotic / Jen Lancaster.
- Where I come from : stories from the deep South.
- You're the only one I've told : the stories behind abortion / Dr. Meera Shah.



Students at Orange Community Nursery School (OCNS) enjoyed Halloween at school.

TOWN OF ORANGE



TO BENEFIT THE ORANGE TOWN PANTRY

Sunday, December 6th, 2020, 1-3pm
At the High Plains Community Center
525 Orange Center Road, Orange

Many of our Orange residents are facing a difficult winter. Please help by donating non-perishable food items to our Town's Food Pantry. We are especially in need of: canned vegetables, canned fruit, tuna, cereal, pasta, rice, peanut butter, paper towels, toilet paper, toiletries. Simply drive up to the front of the Community Center, remain in your vehicle and pop the trunk. Volunteers will safely remove your donated non-perishable food items!

Coordinated by Congregation Or Shalom Social Action Committee 203.799.2341

ARTS & LEISURE

‘Pearls From Carol’ By Carol Ann Ruggiero Released

Husband Pays Tribute To His Late Wife By Sharing A Collection Of Her Writings Filled With Wit, Humor, Pathos And Common Sense

Albert Ruggiero wishes to pay homage to his late wife, Carol Ann Ruggiero, who passed away on March 20, 2020, by sharing with others her wit, humor, pathos and common sense. He now releases a collection of her writings in “Pearls from Carol” (published by Balboa Press).

For 20 years, Carol lovingly attended and wrote for a writing group known as Writers Unlimited. These are her words, her thoughts, her humorous outlooks on life. This book is meant to be enjoyed by anyone of any age or social background. It is real and utterly without pretense. Carol possessed no hidden agenda nor did she ever aspire to be anything but who she was — just a genuine lady.

Carol’s life experiences endowed her with a healthy respect for humanity along with a large dose of common sense and humor. This book can be read cover to cover but, it also can be read and savored in small doses over a long period of time. Each story centers on one brief moment. Each story is a tiny world of its own.

“When Carol passed away, I gathered her writings into this collection. They are short, very funny, always thought-provoking and just what the world needs in these often sad and scary times,” Albert says. “It is my firm hope that readers will both enjoy and

pass on these pages for the enjoyment of many. This is a timeless gem. In our troubled, complex and anxiety ridden society, this book will provide many a smile and no small amount of comfort.”

The late Carol Ann Ruggiero came to the world of writing almost by accident. One day, her best friend, Dorothy asked if she would like to join a writing group in the local senior center. At that time, her interest was in ceramics. In this pursuit, she won several

awards. After several refusals, she joined the writing group and there, she stayed for the next 20 years. Her writing style immediately drew praise in the group. She enjoyed telling a story or turning a serious topic on its head with a surprise ending. She usually refused to write about her personal life except in heartwarming cases. Truth be told, she suffered many

tragic events such as the loss of her children and yet, she was always ready and pleased to smile at a greeting and listen to any call for help. She was a petite 4 feet, 10 inches, pithy in her speech and possessed a huge amount of common sense. She was constantly working on crosswords and logic problems.

‘Pearls From Carol’ is Available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.



Surprised-looking Pumpkin Wins First Orange Pumpkin Blaze

A surprised, one-eyed pumpkin won the People’s Choice Award at the Orange Volunteer Fire Department’s first pumpkin-carving contest.

Adria Boyle won the top prize. She carved the face into the surface of the pumpkin. And to make it just a little more Halloween-scary, the missing eye – a chunk of stringy pumpkin – sits on the bench in front of the winning gourd.

- Other winners included:
- › Brynn Panapada, Happiest pumpkin
 - › Kate Panapada, Cutest pumpkin
 - › Chloe Clemens, Prettiest pumpkin
 - › Helene Flynn, Best traditional pumpkin
 - › Silas Hill, Most hungry pumpkin
 - › Kaury and Ian Kucera, Most intricate pumpkin

- › Zoe Kucera, Most adorable pumpkin
- › Melissa Parniawski, Spookiest pumpkin
- › Orange Children’s Dentistry, Most unusual pumpkin
- › Mia Quoka, Most athletic pumpkin
- › Greyson Fatone, Most team spirited pumpkin

Winners received a certificate... and had fun.

“We created this contest to give people a little extra fun during a Halloween season during which the nouveau coronavirus prevented a lot of traditional activities,” said Rob Panapada, the Orange firefighter who created and coordinated the program. “All the participants said they had a good time. We hope the Orange Pumpkin Blaze will become a new Orange tradition.”

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See website for hours.



TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

Youth Services

BY JESSICA SIMONE, MSW, ORANGE
YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR



Cards for Veterans

Happy Veterans Day! Thank you to all of our Veterans who have served our country. Students colored in cards

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

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Thank you to all who participated in the Pumpkin Carving Contest. All of

the submissions were excellent! Shown above are a few of the pumpkins.



THE ORANGE TOWN NEWS ONLINE
Online Version of the Orange Town News
www.OrangeTownNews.com

OVFD Auxiliary Cancels 2020 'Santa's Helper'

With an uptick in COVID-19 cases in town and too few reindeer masks for an extra trip to Orange, Santa has asked members of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary to cancel the annual Santa's Helper fundraising event. "This is usually the time of year when we start planning the event that brings Santa and firefighters to homes all over town to deliver gifts," said Jillian Gagel, president of the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary supports the Orange Volunteer Fire Department through fundraising and other means. "Unfortunately, with the rise in coronavirus cases, it's dangerous for our members to do the work they have to do to make the event happen and it's equally dangerous to residents to have people they don't know enter their homes."

Orange Fire Chief Vaughan Dumas called the cancelation an added disappointment to the community and for the Fire Department. "This is the second annual tradition that we have had to cancel due to the coronavirus pandemic," said Dumas. "We are very thankful that the Orange community has been wonderfully supportive with the \$50K Fire Truck Challenge and other contributions, but the health

and safety of our members, the Auxiliary, the First Responders, and the community must come first."

Chief Dumas and Ms. Gagel expressed optimism that they would be escorting Santa to homes for the 2021 holidays.

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.

NHTSA Consumer Alert

IMPORTANT CHEVROLET BOLT RECALL FOR FIRE RISK

*Owners should park their vehicles
outside until they are repaired*

Owners of select Model Year 2017-2019 Chevrolet Bolt vehicles should park their cars outside and away from homes until their vehicles have been repaired, due to a new recall for the risk of fire.

GM has issued a recall of 50,932 Chevrolet Bolt vehicles for the potential of an unattended fire in the high-voltage battery pack underneath the back seat's bottom cushion. The affected vehicles' cell packs have the potential to smoke and ignite internally, which could spread to the rest of the vehicle and cause a structure fire if parked inside a garage or near a house.

These vehicles can catch fire even if they are turned off, parked, and disconnected from a charging unit. NHTSA has confirmed five known fires with two injuries; at least one of the fires spread from the vehicle and

ignited a home. Until these recalled vehicles have been repaired, the safest place to park them is outside and away from homes.

For more information, visit www.chevy.com/boltevre recall.

NHTSA has an open defect investigation into this issue. The opening resume for this investigation is available here.

Vehicle owners can visit NHTSA.gov/recalls and enter their 17-digit vehicle identification number to see if their vehicle is under recall. If it is, vehicle owners should call their nearest dealership immediately to schedule a free interim repair.

Owners can also download NHTSA's new SaferCar app for Apple or Android. Enter the vehicle, tires, car seat, or other vehicle equipment, and the app will push a notification if a recall is issued.

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HOUSES OF WORSHIP 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

Happening This Weekend Friday

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

Saturday

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

Sunday

- › Sunday School classes on Zoom

Upcoming Classes & Events Havdalah Harmonics

November 21

Pajama Havdalah

Come in your pj's, break out some milk and cookies, and we'll make havdalah, tell some stories, and sing some songs!

Daniel Headrick, Ph.D.

Sunday, December 6, 10am

"Climate Change: A New Perspective" on Zoom

This talk draws on Professor Headrick's book, "Humans Versus Nature: A Global Environmental History." Please call the office to register (203) 389-2111.

Tuesday Tea with Rabbi

Join the rabbi for tea on Zoom every Tuesday at 4pm.

Pour yourself some tea and grab a cookie too! Come to connect with each other and share comfort, counsel and cheer! From time to time the rabbi will host special guests in conversation.

Rabbi Shapiro's Fall Class on Zoom

Mondays, 7:30-9:00pm On

Zoom: November 30, December 7, 14, 21, January 4, 11

A Bride for One Night

In her engaging book, A Bride for the Night, Ruth Calderon rewrite Talmudic tales as richly imagined short stories, affording the reader an entrance into the fascinating world of this core ancient text. We will read the



Congregation B'nai Jacob

stories in their original in the Talmud as well as reading Calderon's retellings of them. We will embark on an imaginative journey into the world of the Talmud and get to know it in new and surprising ways. No background or Hebrew necessary. All are welcome. Zoom only — zoom link will be sent to participants upon registration. To register, email office@bnaijacob.org or call 203-389-2111.

Woodbridge Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Monday, November 23, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Please join us outdoors in the parking lot of Our Lady of the Assumption Church on Center Road for this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. In order to gather together safely, we are planning a brief outdoor candlelight service. Please join us for this unique program of thanks and community. Co-sponsored by Congregation B'nai Jacob, First Church of Christ, Trinity Evangelical Church, and Our Lady of the Assumption Church.

ZOOM SCHEDULE of weekly services and classes:

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

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



Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel Events

Children's Services

Children's Havura (up to age 5) and K-2 Kehila hold outdoor Saturday morning services in the BEKI courtyard. For more information, consult Youth & Family Programming Director Annie Norman-Schiff, anorman-schiff@beki.org.

Indoor Services

Fridays 6:00 pm inside the main sanctuary

Outdoor Services (weather permitting)

Saturdays 9:30 am

Sundays 9:00 am**

Mondays 5:45 pm**

** also available via Zoom, like other daily services

Thanksgiving Events

BEKI's teenagers will pack Thanksgiving baskets for food insecure families on Sunday, November 22. For more information, contact Annie Norman-Schiff.

The BEKI community will gather via Zoom for a "Thanksgiving Together" lunch on Friday, November 27.

"Commandment 613" and discussing it with the film maker and its subject, Rabbi Kevin Hale, who restores Torah scrolls saved during the Holocaust.

On December 30, Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell will return to BEKI, adding his voice to BEKI's ongoing exploration of issues of racial justice. He will demonstrate—through song and discussion—convergences of Ashkenazi and African American music. A classically trained operatic bass, he now specializes in Yiddish and liturgical music.

From 8 to 9 pm on Zoom, BEKI Schmoozes include a presentation and time for questions. To request the link, email office@beki.org.



Daphne Geismar

A Family's Account of Separation and Survival

Daphne Geismar, author of the new book Invisible Years about her Jewish family's years of hiding in the Netherlands during WWII, will speak at an 11 am Zoom Schmooze on Sunday, December 6.

BEKI Hanuka Events

BEKI will celebrate the Third Night of Hanuka, which is Saturday, December 12, on Zoom with havdala, candle lighting, and a sing-a-long.

An Eighth Night Hanuka party on Thursday, December 17 will feature a performance by singer/songwriter Neshama Carlebach. To request the link for these events, email office@beki.org.

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



Corey Stone

Wednesday Schmoozes

On December 2, Corey Stone, who was part of the executive team at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, will discuss issues of debt, debt forgiveness, bankruptcy and finance through the lens of Jewish texts.

On December 23, it's a film schmooze: watching the short film

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

14th Annual Kristallnacht Commemoration Set to Inspire

A special commemoration of Kristallnacht, the Night of the Broken Glass, will be held on Sunday, November 15 at 9 a.m. on Zoom. This event is free and open to the public.

All are invited to a community-wide Kristallnacht Commemoration to be held at 9 a.m. on Sunday, November 15th, via Zoom. This year's Commemoration, presented by Congregation Or Shalom in Orange in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, will honor the conscience and courage of Mr. Odd Nansen of Norway.

What was Kristallnacht?

The horrific event known as Kristallnacht, which took place on November 9th and 10th, 1938, is regarded by historians as the prelude to the Holocaust. In the course of 48 hours, mobs rampaged throughout Nazi Germany, Austria and German-occupied Czechoslovakia, murdering, maiming and sending tens of thousands to concentration camps. During those two days, hundreds of synagogues were fire bombed and thousands of Jewish-owned businesses were plundered. The violence of those days would be infamously called "The Nights of Broken Glass" - "Kristallnacht" - referring to the shattered windowpanes that littered the streets in the aftermath of the nightmare. Tragically, in the face of all this, the world was largely silent; almost no countries reached

out to the Jews living under Nazism. "That widespread inaction in the face of evil," according to Rabbi Wainhaus of Congregation Or Shalom, "is all the more reason to highlight the moral courage shown by a few. At our community's Kristallnacht Commemoration, we focus on the unsung heroes whose life-saving acts defied the moral darkness of the Holocaust. This year we'll focus on the heroism of Odd Nansen of Norway."

The Norwegian anti-Nazi resistance

As Adolf Hitler's noose was tightening around the neck of German Jewry, Odd Nansen, a Norwegian architect, threw himself into the work of providing a haven for Jewish refugees and all who were fleeing Nazi persecution. To that end, he and his wife Kari formed a humanitarian organization in Oslo called "Nansen-hjelpen" ("Nansen-Relief") along with a Children's Shelter. On April 9, 1940, Norway was overrun by Nazi Germany. Tragically, therefore, most of the Nansen's refugees, along with many of Norway's Jews were murdered by the Nazi regime. Nansen's staff at the Children's Shelter, however, managed to rescue 14 of their children by secretly transporting them to neighboring Sweden. These children survived the Holocaust and subsequently found new homes all over the world.

Meanwhile, Odd Nansen went underground and joined the Norwegian anti-Nazi resistance. As a result, he was arrested by the Gestapo in 1942 and deported to the Nazi concentration camp at Sachsenhausen, Germany. In Sachsenhausen, Nansen courageously maintained a secret diary on tissue-paper pages which included his drawings of the horrors of concentration camp life in real time. (Nansen was a sketch-artist.) This diary and its drawings, published after the war, provided an important first-hand account of the atrocities perpetrated at Sachsenhausen. After the war, Nansen's diary was published in Norway, where it was and still is widely known. (The diary was re-published in 2016 under the title, "From Day to Day" by guest speaker Timothy Boyce.)

At Sachsenhausen, Odd Nansen risked his life to save a ten-year-old Jewish boy named Tommy who had miraculously survived the infamous death march from Auschwitz. Today, Tommy is Professor Thomas Buergenthal, a former judge on the International Court of Justice at the Hague, and Professor Emeritus at George Washington University Law School in Washington, DC. Years later, Professor Buergenthal would write, "Odd Nansen not only saved my life; he also enriched it with his philosophy of life."

About the special commemoration Sunday, November 15 at 9 a.m. on Zoom

The event will begin with the lighting of a yellow Holocaust candle and brief remarks about the significance of Kristallnacht. Mr. Timothy Boyce Esq. will eloquently recount Nansen's life-saving work, and Senator Richard Blumenthal will present Odd Nansen with a posthumous U.S. Senate Commendation. The Nansen family in Oslo will "virtually" receive the Commendation in the presence of Odd Nansen's rescues. This Commemoration will be emceed by Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus, spiritual leader of Congregation Or-Shalom, and Judy Alperin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.

Please sign up for this event at jewishnewhaven.org/Kristallnacht. Pre-registration is required.

This event is presented by Congregation Or Shalom in Orange, in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. Thank you to our co-sponsors: the Jewish Community Relations Council of the United Jewish Federation, the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County, the Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut, the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, the Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut, and UJA-JCC Greenwich.

Orange Town News

ATTENTION CHURCHES, SYNAGOGUES, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP!

Send us your organizations events listings and items of interest.

We will publish them for free.

Orange Town News – P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477

edit@oranjtownnews.com

Pop-The-Trunk Food Drive

On Sunday, December 6th at High Plains Community Center from 1-3 pm, the Orange Town Clergy is sponsoring a POP-THE-TRUNK Food Drive for its Thanksgiving Appeal.

Their congregants have been encouraged to donate non-perishable food items for the Orange Food Pantry.

Residents of Orange will be helping their neighbors facing food insecurity in these difficult times.



FROM THE SENIOR CENTER

BY DENNIS MARSH

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

New Software

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

Virtual Classes

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

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

Classes

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

Some classes are coming back, and others are planned to be back:

Afghan Ladies 4th Monday at 1:00pm in the Senior Lounge. Next meeting is November 23;

Bocce meets Wednesday at 10:00am at the Bocce Court;

Chair Exercise Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 11:00am with Anne in the Gym;

Fitness Tuesday at 8:30am with Danielle in Café;

Laughter Yoga meets Wednesday at 11:00am;

Yoga Monday with Andrea at 9:00am in room 3 & 5;

Yoga Wednesday with Andrea at 9:30am in room 3 & 5.

Book Club via Zoom

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

Arts & Crafts with Suzanne

Join us for a fun filled Holiday Arts & Crafts class with Suzanne Ander-

son on Monday, December 14 at 12:00 noon. Class size is limited to 10 people. Pre-registration is required. Call 203-891-4784 to sign up.

Holiday Cabaret

December 7 from 1:30 to 3:00pm, join us for a Holiday Show. Johnny P will perform. Holiday treats will be served. Due to Covid, space is limited. Social distancing and facial covering guidelines must be observed. Call 203-891-4784 to register.

Frozen Meals

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

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

AARP Safe Driving Courses

AARP announced that all in-person AARP activities have been canceled through the end of 2020. AARP Smart Driver online course is an alternative, especially for those who need to renew

their car insurance discount. AARP has extended its special 25% off discount through the end of the year.

Website: www.aarpdriversafety.org;

Promo code for 25% discount: DRIVINGSKILLS; Good through December 31, 2020.

Legal Clinic

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

Medicare Seminars

Join us when Marc Figlar presents Anthem on November 16, Carepartners November 23, and Wellcare November 30; all at 1:00pm.

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

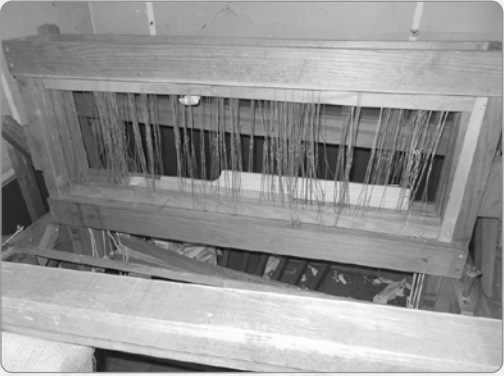
Trips

All Senior Center trips through 2020 are canceled.

The Orange Historical Society


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

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



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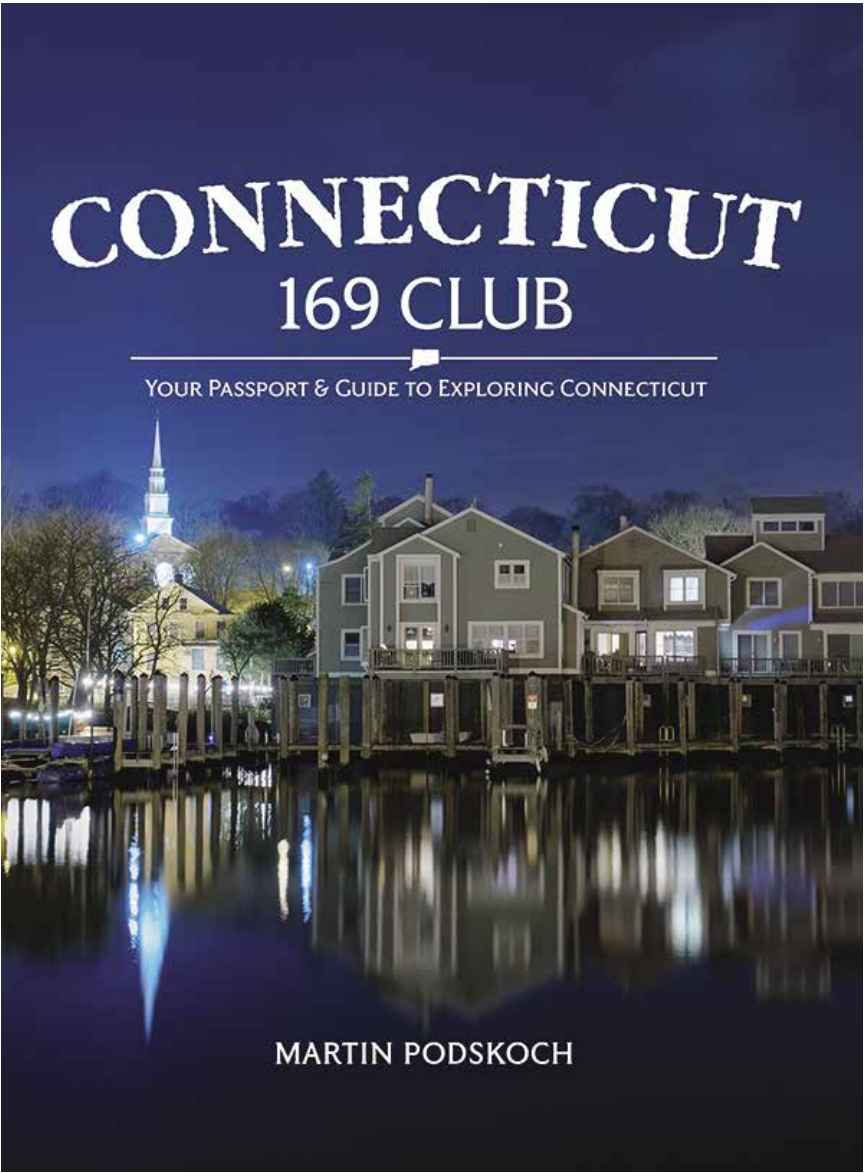
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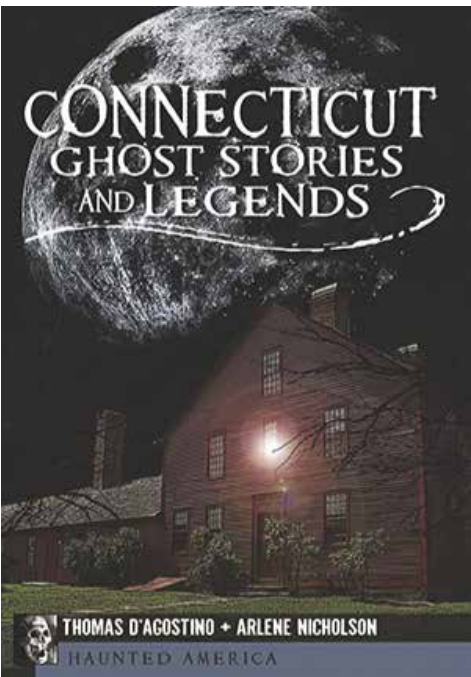
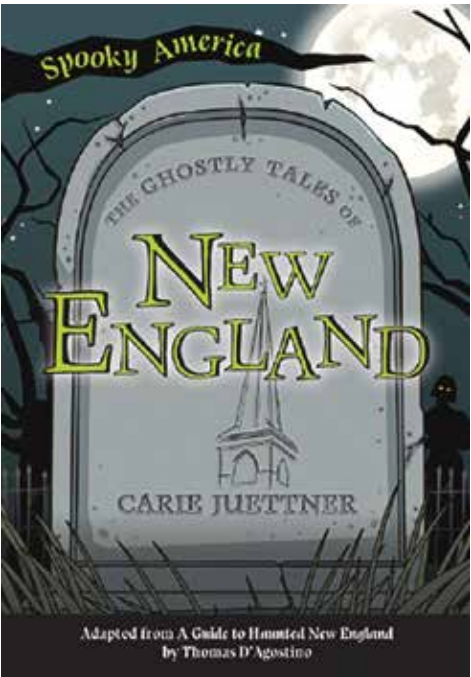
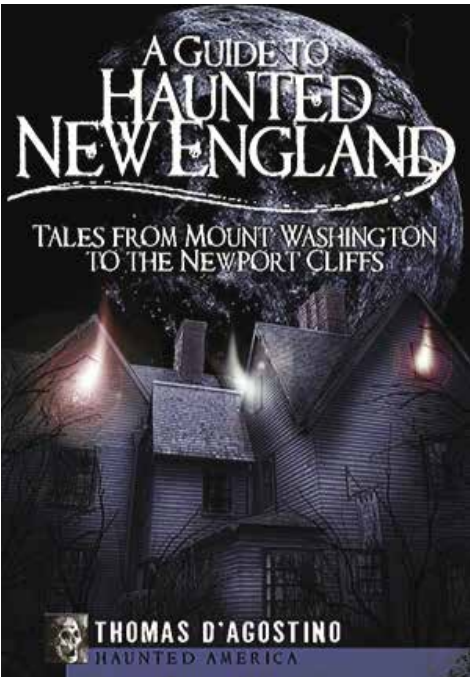
Online Version of the Orange Town News

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The 169 Club book is available at the
Academy Museum at 605 Orange
Center Road on Saturdays from 9-3.

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



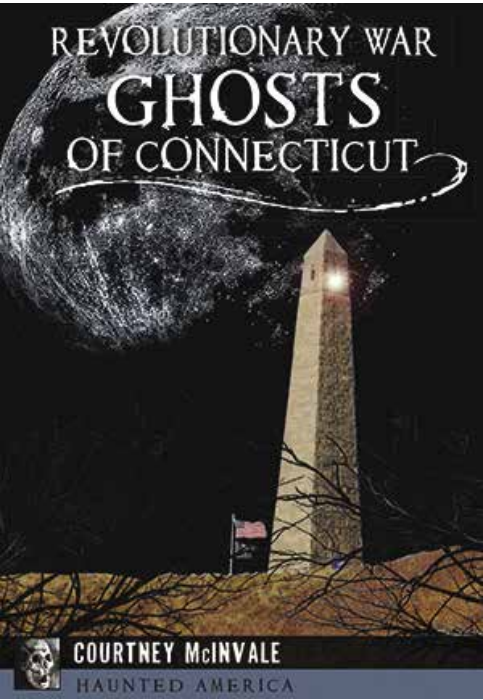
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sure to leave a light on...


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

And Coming Soon...



Washu... Judd... Bridge... Min... town... Rockdale... Oakville... Hotchiss... North... Judd... Bridge... Min... town... Rockdale... Oakville... Hotchiss... North... Judd... Bridge... Min... town... Rockdale... Oakville... Hotchiss... North...

HISTORY CORNER



BY GINNY REINHARD

It's On To Litchfield County...

Before I take you to the land of snow, I need to reflect back to Eastford for a gentleman who was a notable citizen, General Nathaniel Lyon (1818-1861). You can guess by the date of his death why he was a general but what we didn't know is that he was the first general killed in the Civil War. According to the write-up in the Connecticut 169 book, 15 thousand mourners attended his funeral and his grave and monument, including a canon are in the General Lyon Cemetery, in Phoenixville which was one of three distinct villages in Eastford.

Ok, so onto Litchfield County. Barkhamsted is a rural town in the northwest with a somewhat short history because it was one of the last areas to be settled in 1779. Good farmland was not abundant and not being near a body of water, transportation was difficult due to steep, rocky hills, thick woods and streams. But those streams proved to be the answer as grist mills and sawmills were up and running providing valuable resources.

Some of you might know that the famous Hitchcock Chair Company was located here and small factories did flourish for a time. In 1930, Hartford was in need of water, which led to the construction of the Saviile Dam and Barkhamsted Reservoir with a huge impact to this rural town.

Colebrook, located in the foothills, was the last colonial town settled. Within the 21,000 acres are farms, scenic hills, stonewalls (my favorite) and plenty of wildlife with elevations from 560' to 1,552'. No wonder they get so much snow. Many industries were located here in the 18th and 19th centuries including sawmills, gristmills, and iron forges that aided the patriots in the Revolutionary War. Not only did this little town have a chair factory, a creamery, and a cheese factory but they had a potashery. Yes, a potashery. That name isn't even in spell-check but I will tell you what it is. Potash is made up of two words, pot and ash and it used as part of a formula for fertilizer derived from plant and wood ashes soaked in water, in a pot! A potashery existed before the Industrial Revolution.

The Colebrook store from 1792 sounds like a wonderful place for a bite to eat and to visit with folks from this quaint village. It offers hiking, trout fishing and boating and you might even see a bear or two. During school months, the Rock School House is open to the public and is used to teach the children about the early days at school.

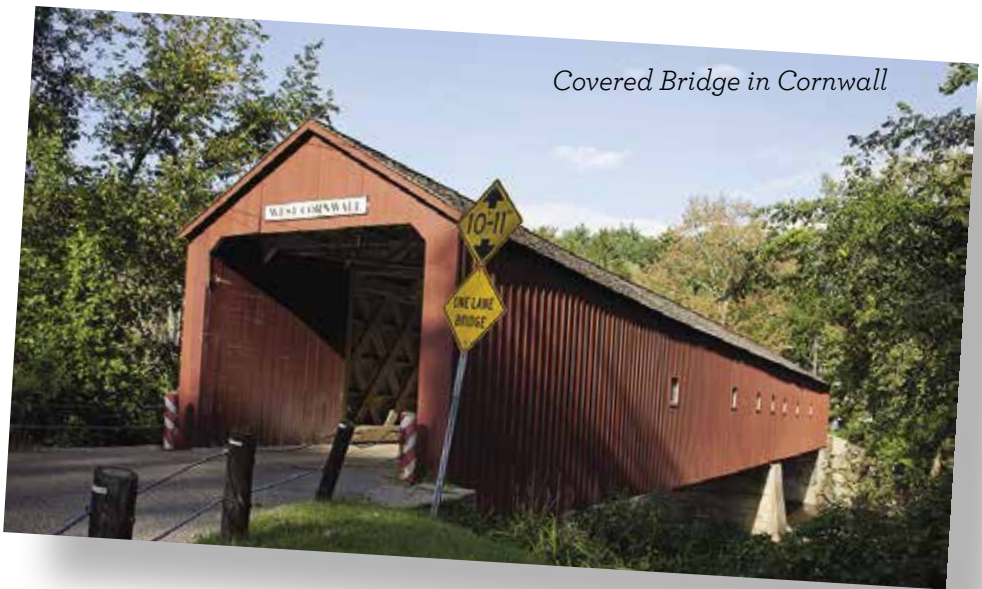
Cornwall may be known for its wonderful covered bridge, but did you know that it was actually a group of villages? Auctioned off by the colony of Connecticut, in 1738, Cornwall was not established around the church as others in our state were but they established isolated farms scattered around the township which gradually developed into villages referred to as the six Cornwalls, or maybe seven or eight.

By 1855, there were 17 schools spread around town. Most of the citizens were farmers with some taking on a role of minister, lawyer or a miller. As agriculture began to wane in 1810, small mills and factories sprang up along the rivers, processing raw materials to make charcoal, scissors, shears, stoves, lumber, cheese and tanned hides. One might find it confusing upon visiting with its three current town centers but they provide maps for you "newcomers".

The Town of Litchfield is next on the "hit parade" of snow country towns. Founded in 1719 it too was one of the last towns to be settled. During the Revolutionary War it became a critical supply depot and "home" to Loyalist prisoners. By 1800, Litchfield had become the 4th largest town in the state. Along with commercial growth, it was known for its educational prowess including the country's first law school begun by Tapping Reeve in 1774. In 1792, Sarah Pierce founded the Litchfield Female

Academy. The students at Litchfield Law School played an important role in the foundation of American democracy. It provided two vice-presidents, three Supreme Court justices, 28 Senators and 10% of Congress in the 1800s.

With the opening of the Shepaug Railroad in 1872,



Covered Bridge in Cornwall

the way was paved for Litchfield to become a resort community. Today, it is the embodiment of a Connecticut historic town with its architecture, landscapes, museums, and its bird and wildlife sanctuaries, another town for your bucket list, folks.

By any chance do you know where the largest lake in our state is located? I'll give you a hint: approx. 947 acres within a town of 18.9 square miles. Give up? It's Morris, just south of Litchfield. Although the land was purchased from the Pootatuck Native Americans in 1715, it was part of the southern portion of Litchfield organized as South Farms in 1767. But, it wasn't until 1859 that Morris came into its own, named for the Revolutionary soldier James Morris. It was well-known that soldiers were welcomed to spend the night in homes during their marches from New England to New York.

After the war, James established Morris Academy, a co-educational facility unheard of in those days. It lasted almost 100 years before closing in 1888. Initially, Morris was a farm town like so many, with numerous dairy operations. Mills were also present but for the most part, they and the dairy farms are gone now, replaced by homes and horse farms. To date there are least 90 homes still standing built before 1859. If you plan a trip to Morris, save some time for a visit to White Flower Farm.

I can't leave this story without something to say about New Milford. What I know about New Milford is that Nathan Bryan, the son of the builder of the Bryan-Andrew House moved to New Milford after inheriting his father's home. He was given 2/3 of it and his mother 1/3 as was set out as dower rights. It appears that he, his wife and 6 children left Bryans Farms (south Orange today) but upon research, I was not able to find any information about them except to be listed in the 1790 census. Many Milford residents did move to New Milford seeking larger lands for their farms.

In 1703, Colonel Robert Treat and others secured land of 84 square miles, parts of which became New Milford. Many names from the colonial town of Milford appear in New Milford town affairs, but only two planters, Samuel Prindle and Isaiah Bartlett were the first Milford settlers within the plantation. The Connecticut 169 Club book, which I talk about, mentions that in 1702, a group of Anglo proprietors purchased the land but WE know who those proprietors were, don't we?

My research tells me that the proprietors built a house of worship in 1716 but was eventually razed and replaced by the Congregational Church that is there today. Keep in mind that the church in Milford was also Congregational. New Milford grew with various mills early on with the 19th century hosting such companies as the New Milford Hat Factory, Kimberly Clarke, Nestle and a bleachery. Now this one is easy, right? Right. In order to print fabric, it must be pure white, otherwise the colors are muddy...now that was easy, wasn't it?

Tobacco was king in the river valley of New Milford with several buildings dedicated to processing, sorting and shipping. During most of the 1800s small shops and factories dotted the landscape with farms, cattle and dairies on the outskirts. One cannot leave without knowing that plans for flooding, would become Lake Candlewood that was inspired by Henry Roraback providing power opportunities in 1926. Due to its size, New Milford consists of a number of villages, Merryall, Northville, Lanesville, Park Lane and Gaylordsville. If you read my last article, I mentioned that Samuel Huntington's name on the Declaration of Independence is under Roger Sherman's. Well, Mr. Sherman called New Milford his home and had a business there but moved to New Haven after 1761.

Don't forget to buy the **Connecticut 169 Club** book for Christmas gifts, available at the Academy Saturdays, 10-3.



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