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RACE BROOK SCHOOL HONORS VETERANS

The students and staff of Race Brook School in Orange gathered to honor veterans during a very special assembly on Tuesday morning, November 10th. The veterans were whole-heartedly impressed with the warm welcome and excellent attentive behavior of over 400 elementary students during the hour-long assembly. The majority of the attending veterans were relatives and friends of the school's families. A vivid onscreen MS PowerPoint presentation displaying photos of the veterans with identifying captions and apropos lyrics playing in the background brought tears to the eyes of many in the audience. The children sang well-rehearsed songs to pay tribute to the veterans. They also wrote heartfelt poems and letters of gratitude and handed them out to their guests during the assembly.

The veteran guests were further

honored in the classrooms after the assembly where they had the opportunity to share their backgrounds in serving our country and answer questions for students. Many of the veterans shared treasured memorabilia of their service, including medals and scrapbook photos. The veteran guests had the opportunity to continue their conversations in a continental breakfast reception provided by the Student Council and held in the school's library. The guests were very touched by the school's efforts to acknowledge all of the veterans as patriots and heroes who showed courage and strength and made many sacrifices for the freedom of our country. The assembly and the activities afterwards were carefully planned and organized by the directors of the school's Student Council: JoAnne Escandon and Pam Galatioto.

*Happy Holidays From All of Us
at the Orange Town News*

MOCK TORNADO HITS TURKEY HILL SCHOOL

By Melissa Nicefaro – Orange Town News Correspondent

As parents were getting ready for work and kids getting ready for school on Wednesday, October 21, emergency teams were assembling and preparing for a tornado that was headed directly for Turkey Hill School. It was part of a state-wide drill that had all 160 school districts in the state of Connecticut convening to go into an emergency situation simultaneously. "We did not know what the emergency was going to be. On that day, we were given a scenario that severe thunderstorms with increasing severity were approaching us, ultimately developing into an F-1 tornado, impacting numerous residences, businesses and schools," explained Orange Schools' Facilities Director Mike Luzzi. "We were given a bunch of objectives, starting at 8 a.m., during storm impact, cleanup throughout the day and finalization of filling out paperwork for FEMA," Luzzi said.

"The drill was a test of our system to look at our infrastructure and make adjustments and take on any necessary responsibilities," he explained. "EOC (Emergency Operations Center) came in and we got on the phone with Governor Malloy and he gave us the scenario. We were required at the end of this

drill to sit down and look at what had taken place, look at our deficiencies, look at our strengths and report back to the state."

The goal was to build the EOC and look at response throughout the town. For storm related issues, a strike team is in place that includes police, fire and public works. The Orange Health Department, Orange Visiting Nurse, CERT members, the school bus companies, the highway department, town clergy and pediatricians also participated during the drill.

"We're well-staffed for any event," Luzzi said. This drill, however, showed that utility companies—gas and electric—should be part of the plan. "Relationship building is important up front before an incident occurs," explained Tino Russo, Assistant Director of Emergency Management.

Typical protocol for any emergency situation is to set up a unified command which includes all of the potential responders and stakeholders. Orange is a bit ahead of other municipalities in that it sets up its unified command once a month as the Emergency Management

See "Tornado" continued on Page 9

**Honor
Roll**

Amity Regional Middle
School - Orange Campus
First Marking Period
Honor Roll - Page 29

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MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPERIENCE INNER SPACE CENTER!

On Thursday, November 19th, Amity Middle School Orange students had the opportunity to interact with oceanographers via a broadcast from the Inner Space Center through the Marine Technology for Teachers and Students (MaTTs) program. The MaTTs Project is a \$1.2 million National Science Foundation grant facilitated by UCONN and the University of Rhode Island. Amity High School students, trained as MaTTs experts, shared their experiences in the program prior to the broadcast from the Inner Space Center. Following the broadcast selected students participated in small group, hands-on activities facilitated by the high school students.



Happy Holidays From Our Family To Yours!

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The photo shows enthusiastic student members who dedicated their time and energy to collect the donated food items. From left to right the members are: Jillian Barnes, Sarah Ginsberg, Maya Quaranta, Kaitlyn Coughlin, Caitlyn Smith, and Charlotte Pellegrino. The children from the town of Orange have proven time and time again that they put their hearts into giving to those in need.

RACE BROOK SCHOOL'S FOOD DRIVE A BIG SUCCESS

The Race Brook School Student Council under the leadership of teachers, JoAnne Escandon and Pam Galatioto, organized a food drive this fall to benefit Fish of Greater New Haven, Inc. and the Orange Community Center, a non-profit food pantry that serves New Haven and Orange residents in food crisis. Founded in 1968, FISH continues to help those who are homebound, elderly, disabled, unemployed or under

employed (www.fishgnh.org). The entire student body, with the help of their parents, participated in donating 1,077 pounds of non-perishable food items, including macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables, rice, soup, peanut butter, coffee, hot chocolate, and supermarket gift cards. The council members proudly presented the donations to FISH on behalf of the school.

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HOLIDAY GIVING



ORANGE REHABILITATION AND HEALTH CARE CENTER DONATION

The staff at Orange Rehabilitation and Health Care Center is so generous! Over the past two weeks, they have held a food drive to collect non-perishables for the Orange Community food pantry, and dropped it off November 24th. Check out how much they collected! Orange Rehabilitation and Health Care Center is the only

Skilled Nursing Center in Orange and is committed to serve the residents of the community with inpatient Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapies, as well as Skilled Nursing services. It provides both short-term rehabilitation and long term care, and is conveniently located on the Boston Post Road.



HOLLY HILL CHILDCARE MAKE THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Thanks to the generosity of the children and parents of Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center, several senior residents enjoyed bountiful Thanksgiving baskets filled with everything needed for a wonderful holiday dinner. This year our children collected enough food to fill 16 baskets, from soup to dessert! Assistant Director Debbie

Manson Fedorko, standing at left said, "The Thanksgiving food drive is the perfect opportunity for our staff to teach our young people very valuable lessons...the meaning of caring and giving." Also pictured with the children are Lead Infant Teacher Paula Curry, standing at right and Director Laura Flaherty, kneeling.



Pictured are: (top row left to right) Maddie Smith, Anna-Maria Marinescu, Diane Bell Surprenant, Anthony Guerra, Donte Scotti, and Eric Tudino; (bottom row left to right) Julia Lagoutis, Haley Cable, Mason Shepard, and America Cerrillos.

AMITY MIDDLE SCHOOL ORANGE HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

Team T 8th grade students from Amity Middle School in Orange held their annual breakfast to benefit the purchase of holiday gifts for students at the Children's Center of Hamden.

The students presented their check to Diane Bell Surprenant, who is the Director of Personnel and Development at the Children's Center of Hamden, located on Whitney Avenue.



HOLIDAY GIVING



BGV “ELVES” OVERJOYED

The Annual Holiday Toy Drive is taking place through December 18th, to benefit the at-risk children served by Boys & Girls Village (BGV). Donors can support these children and families with a gift of a new unwrapped toy, dropped off at any of the following five locations: Boys & Girls Village in Milford (528 Wheelers Farms Road); Boys & Girls Village in Bridgeport (170 Bennett Street); the Trumbull Marriott Merritt Parkway (180 Hawley Lane, Trumbull); Colonial Toyota (470 Boston Post Road, Milford); and Raymour & Flanigan Furniture Clearance Center (1799 Boston Post Road, Milford, also offering an extra 10% off purchase with any toy donation at this location).

In addition, BGV has been selected as a participant of WPLR’s Toy Drive at Webster Bank Arena on Friday, Dec.

11. Radio personalities Chaz, AJ, Pam and Phil will broadcast live 5:30 a.m. to -10:00 a.m. There will also be live performances from Gary Hoey and Whitford / St. Holmes, featuring Aerosmith’s Brad Whitford and Ted Nugent singer Derek St. Holmes! Other special guests will include politicians, newscasters and celebrities. Stop by to meet BGV staff members and enjoy a fun on-air event. Admission to the WPLR Toy Drive event is a new, unwrapped toy or a monetary donation of at least \$20.

For 73 years, Boys & Girls Village, Inc. has been one of Connecticut’s leading providers of behavioral health, special education, and permanency planning services for at-risk youth and their families. For more information visit www.bgvillage.org or call Alecia at (203) 877-0300 ext. 151.

HOLLY HILL CHILDCARE COLLECTING BEARS FOR GIVING

In the spirit of giving, Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center of Orange will be collecting teddy bears and other brand new stuffed animals to be given to children in Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and other local hospitals during this upcoming holiday season.

Anyone interested in donating can drop the stuffed animals off at Holly

Hill Childcare, 308 Peck Lane, Orange. The deadline for drop-off is Monday, December 7th, 2015.

This project, known as “TEDDY BEARS WITH LOVE” is the brain-child of the Fairfield University Student Alumni and over 15,000 bears were collected last year. For more information contact Debbie Manson Fedorko at Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center, 203-799-6300.



HOSPITALIZED VETS NEED HOLIDAY CHEER

By Freddie Groves

I can’t think of a sadder place to be during the holidays than a hospital. But the healthy among us can step up and brighten the day of a hospitalized veteran with very little effort.

Call your local Department of Veterans Affairs hospital and ask for the nursing-home care unit or Volunteer Services. Nursing-home patients often will never leave the hospital and move back home. A holiday visit and a small present can go a long way toward brightening their day and letting them know they’re remembered.

Here are some gift ideas, subject to approval from staff:

- Stationery with pre-stamped envelopes and pens
- Tube socks
- Watches
- Bedside travel-type clocks
- Wallets
- Photo frames (no glass)
- Combs

- Small hand-held games
- Pocket calendars
- Colorful bedside containers for small miscellaneous items
- Canteen Service Coupon Books: These allow the patients to make purchases at the canteen for small items they want. In many locations these are books of \$5 worth of coupons, perfect for putting in a card or small package.

Nursing staff might be able to tell you if there is a specific small item a patient might like to have, and whether or not a patient can have sweets. Or you could make a group gift to the whole medical unit for the day room. A large-screen television, a stereo with CDs or an ice-cream maker would benefit the whole unit, as well as the staff.

I know what you’re thinking: Nobody likes hospitals, and you don’t want to do this. But hospitalized vets need us, especially during the holidays.





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AMITY MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITS
WEST HAVEN VETERANS MUSEUM

In recognition of Veterans Day, 8th graders from Amity Middle School in Orange visited the West Haven Veterans Museum and Learning Center. Students were led on engaging tours of the museum’s collection by volunteer veterans that explained how the museum is organized as a timeline of U.S. military history. Highlights of the tour included replica uniforms from the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, the role of women in World War II, and

tribute displays dedicated to local recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Students participated in a “scavenger hunt” for historical information which was created by their teachers. By attending the museum students gained a deeper appreciation of the service of our veterans. Their sacrifices are directly linked to the freedoms that we enjoy today. Follow-up activities continued in the social studies classrooms.

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PRE-SCHOOL AT MARY L. TRACY

Orange Pre-School Program for Community Peers

Mary L. Tracy School is known as a place where “the love of learning and the love of children are celebrated each and every day”! For some of our children that love of learning begins with our Pre-School Program. The Orange Elementary School System is pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications to participate in the blind lottery for the Mary L. Tracy School Pre-School Program for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year.

Our integrated Pre-School Program includes special education students and general education community peers. By law, students with special needs identified with an IEP are placed in the Pre-School Program by the Department of Special Services through the PPT process. The Pre-School Program follows the district’s school year calendar.

We have developed a Pre-School Program that enriches each child’s social, emotional, physical, cognitive, intellectual, and creative abilities through early academic and social experiences. It is designed to prepare each child for early success and school readiness.

Children will be selected in a blind lottery to participate as community peers in our integrated pre-school, which is a fee-based, 5-day Pre-School Program. The total cost of tuition for general education community peers will be \$3,000. If a family qualifies for the State’s Free and Reduced Lunch Program, they may be eligible for tuition assistance. Parents of general

education community peers will need to provide their own transportation.

Our daily Pre-School Program hours are: AM class is held from 8:30 a.m. to 11 :30 a.m. and our PM class is held from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Each classroom will be a blending of both 3 yr. old and 4 yr. old students. Class sizes will be held to a maximum of 12 students per class, which includes the special education students and their general education community peers. In order to participate in this lottery your child must be 3 yrs. old by September 18, 2016 but not older than 4 yrs. old by December 31, 2016.

All children must be toilet trained and an Orange resident. If you would like to enter your child in the blind lottery for our integrated Pre-School Program, please call the Special Services Dept. (203-891-8023) between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. We will be accepting names to enter the blind lottery up until 4:00 p.m., Friday, January 29, 2016.

Parents will be notified of the lottery results by Friday, February 5, 2016. Registration forms and tuition deposit of \$300 are due by March 31, 2016. The deposit covers the tuition for September. Tuition payments are due on the first of the preceding month, e.g. tuition for October will be due September 1st. The last tuition payment for the year (June) will be due on May 1st. Any further questions, call the Special Services Dept. (203-891-8023) at the Orange Board of Education.

ORANGE RESIDENTS NAMED TO SACRED HEART HONOR ROLL

Sacred Heart Academy Principal Sr. Maureen Flynn, ASCJ has announced the Honor Roll for the FIRST marking period of the 2015 – 16 academic year. The following students from Orange have been named to the Honor Roll:

HIGH HONORS: Emily Drezek

HONORS: Jessica Gallagher and Avery Malone

Academic honors are awarded at the end of each quarter to students attaining an average of 3.5 or better. Those students achieving a grade point

average of 3.8 or greater are awarded high honors.

Sacred Heart Academy, an independent Catholic college preparatory school founded in 1946 by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, successfully prepares young women in grades 9 through 12 for learning, service, and achievement in a global society. The Academy has an enrollment of over 500 students hailing from New Haven, Fairfield, Middlesex, Hartford and New London counties.



STUDENT NEWS

Achievements Eastern Connecticut State University’s Mollee Lasto Named Little East Conference Rookie Swimmer-Of-The-Week

Willimantic, CT -- Mollee Lasto '19, of Orange majoring in Health Sciences, was named Little East Conference Rookie Swimmer-of-the-Week for the second time in five weekly reports. Lasto won three events - swimming personal-best times in two of them -- as Eastern defeated Plymouth State and host Western New England in a tri-match Saturday afternoon, November 21. Lasto won the 50 (30.18) and 200 (2:19.84) backstroke in personal-best times and also captured the 200 individual medley (2:24.81) as three freshman combined to win six individual events. Saturday, she won the 50 backstroke by nearly two seconds, 200 backstroke by nearly eight seconds, and 200 IM by over seven seconds.

Lasto was previously tabbed Rookie-of-the-Week in the second report of the year through November 1 after winning the University of Saint Joseph (CT) Blue Jay Pentathlon. Through six meets, Lasto has won the 50 backstroke twice and the 100 and 200 backstroke, 100 and 200 individual medley, and 200 freestyle once each, and has been second in the 100 freestyle (among 45 competitors) and 100 butterfly once (among 35 competitors). She won the

100 backstroke in a field of 44 participants and the 100 individual medley in a field of 35 at the USJ Pentathlon. Lasto has posted the fastest times on the team in the 50, 100 and 200 backstroke, 100 and 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly. The Eastern swim team competes in the Connecticut Cup Dec. 5 at Wesleyan University at 10 a.m.

Inductions Sean Gallagher Inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Baton Rouge, LA -- Sean Gallagher of Orange, Conn., was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Gallagher was initiated at MCPHS University. Gallagher is among approximately 32,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors, having at least 72 semester hours, are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff, and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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Email us at: bulletinboard@orangetownnews.com

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Orange Town News

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

Upcoming Issue Deadline

Upcoming Issue Dates

January 8th

January 15th

February 5th.....

February 12th

Winter Issue

Valentine's Day Issue

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

FROM OUR READERS

Assign a Designated Driver

From office parties to neighborhood gatherings, it's the most wonderful time of the year to spend time with co-workers, family and friends. With the season of celebrations well under way, it's also a time to remember that the best celebrations start and end responsibly. Dichello Distributors, Inc. and Budweiser once again encourages adults to enjoy the great times this holiday season by being or using a designated driver.

Thanks to the help of designated drivers and increased law enforcement, the nation has made significant progress in preventing drunk driving. While that's great news, there's always more work to be done.

All of us at Dichello Distributors wish our friends and neighbors a safe and happy holiday. Together, we can help keep our roads safe.

Sincerely,

Tony Lota
Alcohol Awareness Coordinator
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BOE Candidate Expresses Gratitude

Thank you for electing me to the Orange Board of Education. I look forward to doing my very best for the children, the staff and the citizens of our town.

Sincerely,

Ken Ziman



Please Clarify Playground Policy

On Sunday, November 22nd, I stopped at Peck Place School to let my dog run around in the enclosed area. Much to my surprise, there was a lock on the gate; as well as the other larger gate 30 feet away. There is a sign posted that lists permitted use times. The last line states Playground open to public only during non-school hours.

I was bothered to see the lock on the gate. A few questions:

- why?
- was there a policy change?
- if so, how was the policy change done?
- if not, was this a decision made by an employee?

I have seen at least a dozen local residents use the area to let their dogs run.

Thank you.

Greg Geiger

Orange Town News

OTN Letters Policy

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

Have a Holly★
Jolly Christmas

“Tornado” continued from Page 1
Advisory Council meets.

“This particular exercise was directed at schools and it happened to be an emergency event that was caused by Mother Nature, a storm, and one of the more difficult types of storms for us as we’ve had no recent experience with tornadoes. A tornado was selected because it is difficult to forecast – often you have a number of minutes when you go from thunderstorm to tornado and not a lot of time to prepare a response,” Russo said. He and Luzzi presented the event and results at the November meeting of the Orange Board of Education.

“Our process of keeping our kids and staff safe at school goes beyond a lockdown drill, but also about emergency management,” Superintendent

of Schools Scarpetti said.

This year’s tabletop EPPI (Emergency Preparedness and Planning Initiative)—Governor Malloy’s initiative implanted after Superstorm Sandy—called for four objectives: open up the emergency operations center, which is in the police department and setting up a unified command; practice your protocol and plans and work on communication; make all safe—keeping in mind the safety of our responders; and sheltering, which may not be in place, it may require moving the students to another location.

“Having been through a number of these drills, I think this one worked very well. There are a couple of areas that we need to work on, but that’s the whole idea of this. It’s a continuous process,” Russo said.



HOLIDAY DECORATING TIPS

The color red belongs to Christmas. Fill a clear glass with cranberries and top it off with a few white roses or lilies. Float cranberries and a few floating candles in a silver bowl, or fill some small, stylish bowls with cranberries and place them throughout the house.

Arrange pears, pomegranates, artichokes and apples in a bowl with a few pine cones and evergreen cuttings. Add a few ornaments to boot.

Family photos are a great way to personalize your tree. Put your favorite photo in a simple, lightweight frame and attach it to the tree with a ribbon.

A grapevine wreath makes a perfect year-round welcome. For Christmas, dress it with ornaments and red ribbon. For New Year’s Eve, add a touch of silver and gold.

and stunning centerpiece or holiday accent for a tabletop or mantel. It’s also a great way to put broken ornaments to use. Choose two or three colors of balls and arrange them in a decorative glass bowl or a weathered wooden bowl.

To personalize a plain and inexpensive evergreen wreath, tuck in small snips of dried flowers or wire on some favorite trinket or keepsakes such as pieces of costume jewelry or small antique toys.

To hang a wreath without exposing unattractive wire or putting a hole in the middle of a door, tie a length of pretty ribbon around the wreath and then tack the ribbon to the top of the door.

Use old socks to protect fragile ornaments and figurines when packing up holiday decorations. Slip an item inside an old sock and roll it up.



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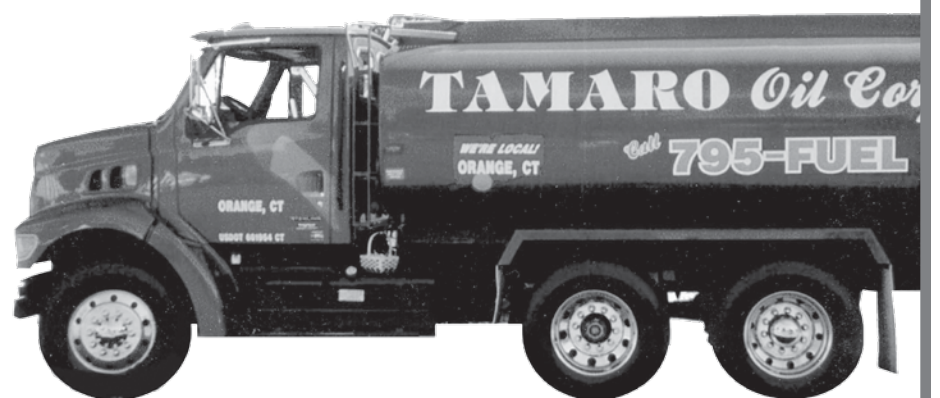
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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



The Garden Club of Orange receiving an award for its beautiful decorations of the “study” at the Osborne Homestead Museum. The theme is “Holiday at the Farm”. The Museum is at 500 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT; 203-734-2513 for more information. The event is open to the public Thursday to Sunday now until December 19th, 10 AM - 4 PM. Free - donations are welcome.

Participating members Elly Torello, Betty Hadlock, Marion Rizzo, Violet Nastri, Diane Geary, Nancy Bartle, Sandy Horling, missing from photo Patti Logioco and Diana DeFillippo. The Garden Club of Orange is a member of The National Garden Clubs, Inc., also the Federated Garden Clubs of CT.

FIRST NIGHT WOODBRIDGE AT THE JCC

Join us for a New Year’s Eve party on Thursday, December 31, from 6-10pm complete with a DJ Dance Party, face painting and more!

Come dance, play games, eat, toast to sparkling cider, and watch the “ball drop” before making it home ahead of the masses. All children must be ac-

companied by an adult.

Adults and Children 13+ are \$10 in advance/\$15 at the door; Children 12 and under are \$5; Children 2 and under are free. Family Max is \$40.

For more information contact Program Director, Mara Balk at (203) 387-2522 x300 or marab@jccnh.org.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY SPONSORING CLOTHES DRIVE

The American Legion Aux. Unit 127 of Orange is sponsoring a hat, scarf, and glove collection for our needy veterans. Collec- tion boxes have been placed in



the Town Hall and at the Senior Center. The boxes will be in place thru January. Please remember our veterans by donating to this worthy cause. Thank you.



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TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL



WINTER SAFETY TIPS

The winter months are generally the deadliest times of the year for home fires, due to the increased use of alternative heating sources. Home heating is second only to cooking as a cause of home fires. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Orange Fire Marshal's Office suggest the following safety tips to avoid potential dangers from fires, carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, and power outages that are associated with heating sources.

Always follow the manufacturer's use and maintenance directions for alternative heating sources. Do it yourself installation of fireplaces and wood stoves can lead to fires and injuries. Have gas/oil room heaters, fireplaces, wood stoves, inserts and pellet stoves installed by a qualified and insured professional. Only burn dry, seasoned hardwood. Storms have resulted in many downed trees and branches. DO NOT burn this debris in your fireplace or woodstove. Use paper or kindling wood, NOT a flammable liquid, to start the fire. Artificial logs should not be used in a wood stove. Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected every year. Chimneys should be checked for cracks, blockages and leaks. Have it cleaned and repaired as needed to prevent creosote buildup which is the number one cause of chimney fires. Be sure the damper is open before using a fireplace. Use a screen or glass door on working fireplaces to prevent sparks and embers from flying into the room. Once the fire is out, allow the ashes to cool, then place them in a metal container with a lid and store outside at a safe distance from the home. Make sure fuel burning equipment is vented to the outside, that the venting is unobstructed and that the exit is properly sealed around the vent.

Be sure combustible items are at least three feet from portable space heaters. Purchase only electric space heaters that bear the mark of an independent test laboratory, such as UL, and are equipped with a thermostat, an automatic shutoff switch and have a guard around the heating element. Only plug electric heaters into outlets with sufficient capacity and do not use extension cords. Turn off and unplug space heaters before leaving a room or going to sleep. Never leave one unattended. Use the proper grade of the required fuel in liquid fueled space heaters. Keep them properly adjusted and serviced. Never use gasoline in a heater that is not approved for its use and only refuel in a ventilated area when the heater is cool. Clean up spills immediately. A space heater should

be placed on a level, non-combustible surface. Never use space heaters to dry items or as a storage area. The Orange Fire Marshal's Office does not recommend kerosene heaters. They must be used with extreme caution as kerosene is a flammable fuel.

Do not use an oven or range to heat a home. Always use a gas or charcoal grill outdoors and at least 10 feet from combustibles and never inside the house or in a closed garage. This is a fire hazard as well as a carbon monoxide risk.

Power Outage Precautions include stocking up on batteries, flashlights, portable radios, canned foods, manual can openers, bottled water and blankets. Use flashlights instead of candles to avoid a possible fire hazard. Have candles lit only when someone is awake and is in the room. If the home has no heat, run water at a trickle to help prevent pipes from freezing and bursting if outside temperatures are below freezing for an extended period of time. Keep thermostats at a minimum of 55 degrees F (60 degrees F during a hard freeze of 15 degrees F or below) to prevent frozen pipes and water damage. Lower temperatures can lead to bursting pipes. Kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors below sinks should be left open to allow air to warm the pipes. Store perishable food in the snow or in an unheated outside building when the power is out. A portable generator should never be used indoors or in an attached garage. Use outdoors in a well-ventilated, dry location away from windows, doors, and vent openings. The generator should be protected from direct exposure to rain or snow. Do not connect a portable electric generator directly to the home's wiring, plug it into an electrical outlet in the home or garage. Use a heavy duty outdoor-rated power cord with sufficient wire gauge to handle the electrical load. Appliances can be connected to the cord as long as they are in the wattage range that the generator can supply. Do not store gasoline for alternative heating sources indoors.

For fire and burn prevention, be aware that the outer surfaces of wood stoves and fireplaces get hot enough to cause burns. Portable liquid fuel and electric space heaters can also get hot on the outside and although newer models have grills covering the heating element, one could reach through the grill and be seriously burned. For increased protection against burn injuries, one can install a temporary safety gate around wood stoves, fireplaces, and space heaters. Maintain a three (3) foot clearance between combustibles

See "Fire Safety" continued on Page 13



TOWN OF ORANGE HOLIDAY HOURS 2015

Thursday, December 24, 2015 – Town offices and the Transfer Station will close at 12:30 p.m. Exception: Town Pool will close at 8:30 a.m. and the Highway Dept. will close at 11:00 a.m.

Friday, December 25, 2015 – All Town offices, Pool and Transfer Station are closed. Saturday, December 26th, pool and Transfer Station will be open regular hours.

Thursday, December 31, 2015 –

Town offices and Transfer Station will close at 12:30 p.m. Exception: Town Pool will close at 8:30 a.m. and the Highway Dept. will close at 11:00 a.m.

Friday, January 1, 2016 – All Town offices, Pool and Transfer Station are closed.

Saturday, January 2nd, pool and Transfer Station will be open regular hours.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!

TOWN OF ORANGE MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2015

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



Town Hall

14th	Traffic Authority	4:30 pm	Police Dept
	Board of Police Comm	4:30 pm	Police Dept
	Amity Board of Education	6:30 pm	Woodbridge
	Conservation Comm.....	7:00 pm	HPCC
	Orange Board of Education.....	7:30 pm	Mary L. Tracy School
16th	Recycling Cmte.....	7:00 pm	HPCC
	Park & Recreation Comm	7:30 pm	Town Hall
21st	Family Counseling Advisory Council	9:00 am	HPCC
	Board of Finance	7:30 pm	Town Hall
	Board of Health	7:30 pm	HPCC
23rd	Safety Comm	9:00 am	Town Hall
28th	Youth Services Advisory Board	7:30 pm	HPCC

TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

KARATE CLASSES OFFERED BY PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Orange Park and Recreation is offering karate classes for ages 4 to adult. Classes start January 5th at the High Plains Community Center. Superior Karate offers a family dis-

count and also teaches in Stratford, and Monroe. For more information, contact Chris Sansonetti at 203-556-8154 or visit www.superiorkarate.net.

“Fire Safety” continued from Page 12 and heating equipment. Clear all debris from dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace vents. When warming a vehicle, move it out of the garage. Do not run a fueled engine indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not blocked. Constantly supervise children around all heating sources. Never leave a child unattended in a room with an operating heating source. Install at least one smoke alarm on every level of the home and in all sleeping areas, including those with futons, daybeds etc. A CO alarm should be placed on each floor. The installation of any fuel burning equipment requires a permit from both

the Orange Fire Marshal’s Office and the Building Department. Once a permit is submitted, a review of the equipment, piping and planned installation is conducted for compliance and appropriateness of use. After the work is completed, a field inspection is held to ensure that all regulations have been met and the installation was done in accordance with the submitted plans. If you have any questions about fire safety and prevention, wish to obtain a permit, or to receive free Carbon Monoxide alarms, please contact the Orange Fire Marshal’s Office at (203) 891-4711, Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:30 or visit the website at www.orangefiremarshal.com.

NEW YEAR’S AROUND THE WORLD

Fireworks and the drop of a glittering ball. Toasts and midnight kisses. Music and laughter, dancing and anticipation. For much of America, those are the hallmarks of New Year’s Eve. But how do other parts of the world welcome this important day? Well, if you live in Spain, you’re just as likely to be munching on grapes, one for each of the 12 strokes of midnight, while making a wish. This custom goes back to 1895, when certain farmers with a surplus of fruit on their hands started a new tradition to get more customers. In Belgium, celebrants mark *Sint Sylvester Vooravond*, or Saint Sylvester Eve, not just with champagne toasts, but New Year’s missives from children to their parents or godparents on fancy decorated paper, which are then read out loud. Planning on taking down that red and green holiday wreath after the fireworks have stopped? How about hanging an onion in its place? The *kremmidais* is a Greek symbol of rebirth in the coming year, used to wake children on Jan. 1 with a tap on the head. Breaking a pomegranate on the doorstep before entering the house on New Year’s Day is another Greek ritual for prosperity and good luck. The Danes also break things on their doorstep -- but dishes, rather than fruit, to ensure many friends in the new year. And a hearty evening meal



is topped off with a cone-shaped cake called a *Kransegage*, decorated with fire and flags. Part of the fun of celebrating on Dec. 31 is looking forward to what the coming months may bring, hence the Finnish tradition of molybdomancy -- telling New Year’s fortunes by melting “tin” (lead, actually) on the stove and then quickly throwing it into a bucket of cold water. The metal is then scrutinized by candlelight to see what fate has in store for the seeker. A similar aim is achieved with sprigs of mistletoe in Ireland: Placed under pillowcases by single ladies, the hope is that the plant will draw both luck and a husband. But be wary of the first person to enter your home after the 31st! If it’s a tall, dark, handsome fellow, you can relax, but a redheaded female will only bring trouble. Perhaps the past 12 months are something you’d prefer to forget. In such case, a visit to Ecuador may be just the ticket, where you can join in the annual burning of thousands of life-size scarecrows crafted from wood and newspaper. Torched in the streets at midnight on New Year’s Eve, they stand in for all the trials and hardships that will hopefully now yield to happier times. Wherever and however you choose to ring out the old and ring in the new this season, here’s wishing you a 2016 full of possibility. *Salut!*

FROM THE YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

By John Ulatowski



New Youth Services 7th Grade Representation Chosen

Wil Gambardella, a seventh grade student at Amity Middle School, was selected as the new student Youth Services Advisory Board member. Listed below are his achievements. Participation and achievements: Spartan Players Theater Group: helped advocate group by making a live presentation via an in-classroom TV presentation during the morning news. Student enrollment significantly increased due to this. Wil was a part of the theater group. Peck Place Elementary School- Grades 1 - 6: Student Council: Held a senior prom for senior citizens to help them socialize and have a fun afternoon. Helped children at Ronald McDonald House in New Haven, Ct. Drama Club: Wil played Daddy Warbucks in 6th grade play Annie, and also worked the lighting system for this play; Fifth grade participated in the “Wizard of Odds”, a musical by Pantachino Productions. Played guitar at 6th grade graduation with teacher Mr. Palluzzi. Played guitar in talent show with other band members, and with teachers, Mr. Palluzzi, and Mr. Olden. First Lego League: 2011- Fourth Grade Participated in Robotics Team where he helped to design and create a robot to perform functions, and tasks. As part of the team Wil wrote a skit that involved developing something that would help the elderly. He and team members came up with an eye spray instead of eye drops to make it easier for seniors to use alone. Team won and were able to go on to Championship held at Central CT State University, where they competed and came in 10th out of 50 groups, including high school students. 2012- Fifth Grade: participated in Robotics Team.

Summer Camp: August 2015, trained to be a camp counselor and helped other counselors and children to have a great camp experience. Wil earned a counselor-in-training certificate for this. Summer Adventure Camp: Fairfield, Ct.: Learned team work and getting along with others while acting in and creating movies on site at Sleeping Giant State Park. Additional skills, clubs, hobbies: Amity Regional Aquatic Club 2011-2012. Play guitar 3 years to present, piano 5 years, Saxophone 1 year. Helped in 6th grade with COW (computers on wheels). Member of Shoreline Trolley Museum: Participated in Guest Operator of Trolley at Shoreline Trolley Museum (5 years). Chosen to help run Peck Place School Store in 6th grade, 2014-2015. Served as Acolyte at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Orange, Ct. -- 4 years. Current member of New Haven & Derby Model Railroad Club Code Academy Participant. U Tube Designer, game creator, movie-maker. Self taught identification of car parts, and how to create videos through tutorials. Technology and computer interest. Member of 2010-2011 Soccer Team, 2011-2012 Caring Award: recognized for kindness, thoughtfulness, and service to Peck Place School. 2013-2014 Excellence in Accelerated Reader Program Award. 2011 Summer Reading Superstar Award; 2011 Outstanding Musicianship Award. 2011 Excellence in Spanish Award; 2013 Recognition of outstanding performance in following camp rules; 2012 Art Achievement Award. Art work was displayed at Case Memorial Library, 2013. Marched in Orange Marching Band for Memorial Day.

CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Programs at the Case Memorial Library are free (except as noted for materials charges) and open to the public. Library hours are as follows: Monday and Thursday 10-8; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10-5; Saturday 10-4. The Library will close at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 24 and will be closed on Friday, December 25 and Saturday, December 26 in observance of Christmas. The Library will close at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 31 and will be closed on Friday, January 1 and Saturday, January 2 in observance of the New Year holidays.

Registration is highly recommended for all Library events.

Weekly Storytimes

Come to our weekly storytimes to have fun, meet new friends, and set your child on the path to lifelong learning!

Lapsit Storytime

Our lapsit storytimes are for babies and toddlers up to 24 months and feature nursery rhymes, music, and movement, Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Visit casememoriamlibrary.org/events for upcoming dates.

Two-Year-Old Storytime

Our 2-year-old storytimes feature storytelling, music, and movement, Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Visit casememoriamlibrary.org/events for upcoming dates.

Three to Five-Year-Old Storytime

Our 3 to 5-year-old storytimes feature storytelling, rhymes, finger plays, and a craft activity, Mondays at 4 p.m. Visit casememoriamlibrary.org/events for upcoming dates.

Events for Children

Hampstead Stage presents
"The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe"

Monday, December 14, 4:30 p.m.
Join us for alive production based on C.S. Lewis's timeless classic. Step into the wardrobe and enter Narnia, the snowy world laced with fantasy.



Case Memorial Library

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

For children ages 5 and up.

Holiday Teddy Bear Storytime

Monday, December 21, 6:30 p.m.
Bring your bear or favorite stuffed animal to this special holiday storytime. For children ages 2-5.

Nutmeg Book Discussion

Monday, February 1, 6:30 p.m.
Join us for a discussion of The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate, a 2016 Intermediate Nutmeg Award Nominee. Led by Children's Librarian Helena Estes. Check for copies at the Children's Circulation Desk. For tweens in grades 4-6.

Take Your Child to the Library Day Program: Jeepers Creepers! Riverside Reptiles

Saturday, February 6, 11 a.m.
Is that a tarantula in the library? Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day with Riverside Reptiles. Touch and learn about live snakes, scorpions, tarantulas, lizards and more! For children ages 4 and up.

Pixel Art Craft

Tuesday, February 16, 2 p.m.
Looking for something to do on the last day of February break? Why not create some cool pixel art at the

library? With pixel art you can take all of your ideas and create them by ironing beads together. We have many colors. All you need to bring is your imagination! For tweens in grades 4-6. Space is limited to 24 students.

Nutmeg Book Discussion

Thursday, February 18, 6:30 p.m.
Join us for a discussion of Liesl and Po by Lauren Oliver, a 2016 Intermediate Nutmeg Award Nominee. Led by Children's Librarian Gina Monti. Check for copies at the Children's Circulation Desk. For tweens in grades 4-6.

Events for Teens

Book Chat Café

Tuesday, December 15, 2:15 p.m.
Held in the Amity Middle School Media Center for teens who love to read and share their opinions over refreshments. Please see Ms. Leibrock.

Events for Adults

2015 Oscar Films Oscar-Nominated Short Films - Animated

Monday, January 11, 7 p.m. (Snow date February 1)
Wednesday, January 13, 1 p.m. (Snow date February 3)
The reality of life's joys, laughter, and adventure told through the lens of 2015's best Oscar animated short

films: Feast (US), A Single Life (The Netherlands), Me and My Moulton (Canada & Norway), The Bigger Picture (UK), The Dam Keeper (USA), plus a selection of highly commended bonus animation.

Oscar-Nominated Short Films - Live Action

Monday, January 25, 7 p.m. (Snow date February 8)
Wednesday, January 27, 1 p.m. (Snow date February 10)

Art and humanity collide with compelling stories from 2015's best Oscar short live action films: Aya (Israel & France), Boogaloo and Graham (UK), Butter Lamp (France & China), Parvaneh (Switzerland), The Phone Call (UK).

Books & Breakfast: Morning Discussion Group

Tuesday, January 19, 10 a.m.
Join Books & Breakfast leader Carol Davidson for a discussion of A Spool of Blue Thread by Anne Tyler. Check the Circulation Desk for copies.

Film Buffs: Foreign and Independent Film Series

Red Army
Thursday, January 29, 7 p.m. (Snow date February 25)
The story of the Soviet Union's famed Red Army hockey team through the eyes of its players. PG. 84 minutes.

The Bookcase: Evening Discussion Group

Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee
Thursday, February 11, 7 p.m.
Join Bookcase leader Toby Zabinski for a discussion of Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee. Check the Circulation Desk for copies.

Art in the Library

December: Watercolors by Graziella deSolodow and knitted dolls and other items by Bronislava Slagle.
January: Oils by Barbara Skopp and watercolors by Mukul Mukherje. Reception: Thursday, January 7, 5-7 p.m.
February: Acrylics by Rita Breiger and Robert Jacoby. Reception: Thursday, February 4, 5-7 p.m.

Are you ready for the holiday gift giving season? Make a difference this year with a unique antique or collectible from the Orange Historical Society's Academy Museum Antique Shop. Carefully selected items from the past will make your friends and family feel the true meaning of an old fashioned Christmas with something from this unusual antique shop. The Academy is open every Saturday from 10:00-3:00. Located at 605 Orange Center Road in Orange with no hassle parking behind the Clark Building. Ask us about our Tuesday and Thursday holiday openings. For information call 203-795-3106.

NEWEST ADDITIONS TO CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Case Memorial Library, located at 176 Tyler City Road, has added more movies on DVD, Audiobooks and music CDs to its extensive collection. Check them out!

Movies on DVD

Frank Sinatra Film Collection (10 movies)
The Good Wife, Season 2
Inside Out
Jurassic World
Live and Let Die
My Own Private Idaho
The Quiet Man
Spy
Welcome to New York
Zero Motivation

Audiobooks

Atwood, Margaret – The Heart Goes Last
Child, Lee – Make Me
Coates, Ta-Nehisi – Between the World and Me (305.8)
Hoffman, Alice – The Marriage of Opposites
Lawson, Jenny – Furiously Happy
McCann, Colum – Thirteen Ways of Looking
Moyes, JoJo – After You
Patterson, James – Murder House
Steinem, Gloria – My Life on the Road (Biography)
Trigiani, Adriana – All the Stars in the Heavens

Music

Corea, Chick, and Bela Fleck – Two (Jazz)
Hamilton: An American Musical
Jewel – Picking Up the Pieces (Rock)
Knopfler, Mark – Tracker (Rock)
Plaine, Austin – Austin Plaine (Rock)
Potter, Grace – Midnight (Rock)
Richards, Keith – Crosseyed Heart (Rock)
Schubert, Franz – Four Impromptus and other works for piano (Classical)
Tao, Conrad (pianist) – Works by Mussorgsky, Tao, and others (Classical)
Yo La Tengo – Stuff Like That There (Rock)

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Did You Know?

Protecting Your Digital Assests



Every so often our Facebook newsfeed is inundated with posts from Facebook users declaring that Facebook is prohibited from sharing their personal information, pictures, or content. Do these posts really work?

The short answer is “No.” As the owner and operator of the site, Facebook has the right to set the terms and conditions of users accessing their site. By accessing and using Facebook you automatically agree to Facebook’s terms and conditions.

While you cannot control Facebook’s privacy terms simply by a post on your page, you can do the following to control, protect, and preserve your digital assets:

1. **Draft an inventory list** of your digital assets, such as email accounts, Instagram photos, Twitter accounts, LinkedIn profiles, credit card points, hotel points, airline mileage, Etsy shops, domain names, PayPal account, Bitcoins, or Amazon or other store credits.
2. **Appoint a Facebook “legacy contact”** who can manage your account after your death. This person has the ability to share a final message, update pictures, or respond to friend requests. This person cannot remove or change past posts or photos, read private messages, or remove friends. Alternatively, you may choose to have your account permanently deleted after your death.
3. For other digital assets, it is important to **draft a legal document** that names the person or people who will have access to these accounts so that your digital assets can be protected and preserved if something happens to you while you’re alive, or after your death.
4. **Provide instructions** in a memorandum so that the person or people you selected to manage your digital assets know what to do with your digital assets.

If you are interested in learning more about protecting your digital assets please call the office to schedule an appointment. We would be glad to meet with you for a no hassle initial consultation, free of charge, no matter how long it lasts.

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

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SENIOR CENTER

By Dennis Marsh

Holiday Dinner Dance – New Location!

Come join us at our new venue — the Birchwoods at Oaklane in Woodbridge for our annual Senior Center Holiday Dinner Dance on Sunday, Dec. 6 from 12:30 to 3:30. The Good 2 Go Band will be the musical entertainment from 1 to 3:30. The menu choices are Beef or Fish. There will be a cash bar. The cost this year will be \$20 per person thanks to the generosity of the Olga Fund of the Orange Foundation who gave us a grant to pay for the music and to reduce the price of the ticket. Payment and meal choice must be made at the time of reservation. Tables will seat 8 to 10 persons. If you wish to be seated with particular people, payment for the group must be made at the same time. Checks are payable to Treasurer, Town of Orange. Tickets are currently on sale.

Maplewood Mondays Holiday Cabaret

Join us for a very special Monday with Maplewood as they host our Holiday Cabaret. What will make it even better is if you wear your ugliest Holiday sweater. Maplewood will start at 2:00 The Yuletide Carolers will sing from 3-4, call to let us know you are coming!

Living Treasure Nominations now being accepted

Nominations are currently being accepted through March 11, 2016 for the 2016 Living Treasure Awards. Nomination forms are available in the Orange Community Services office, Town Hall, and can be printed from the town’s website. The three individuals chosen to be honored at the Senior Center’s Pasta Festa! on May 20, 2015.

Scrabble & Tea

Join us on Fridays from 12-1pm for Scrabble & tea! Aubry Monahan will be hosting. Tea and dessert will be served. Call to register (203) 891-4784!

Poetry Class

Aubry Monahan will also be introducing another free class – Poetry. This free class will run throughout November and December, 11-12pm. Call to register (203) 891-4784

Flower Arranging

Come join us for a Halloween Theme Flower Arranging class on Friday December 18, 10-12 in room 2. \$10 fee will be applied to cover the cost of materials. Call or stop by to register (203) 891-4784.

Lunch & Fun

Thursday, December 17, 11:30am, Five Wishes with Joyce Buselli of Vitas. Five Wishes is the first living will that talks about your personal, emotional and spiritual needs as well as your medical wishes. You choose the person you want to make health care decisions for you if you are unable. Sandwiches, coffee and desserts will be at 11:30 and the program begins at noon. Call the office to register.

Movie of the Month

Friday, Dec 18, Boyhood, 1:00pm. It took 12 years to make. Follow the life of Mason, from early childhood to his arrival at college. Popcorn & soda will be served. Call for a seat.

Book Club

Nov/Dec monthly book club will meet December 4, from 2:00-3:30pm in room 3. This month’s title is My Fa-

See “Seniors” continued on Page 17

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SENIOR CENTER

“Seniors” continued from Page 16
ther’s Country by W. Bruhns.

Hot and Cold Lunches

The Orange Senior Center offers a hot lunch Monday through Friday. On Tuesdays and Thursdays a cold lunch option is also available. Lunch is served Monday through Friday, 11:30am – 12:00pm. No meals on Saturday or Sunday. A \$3.00 donation is accepted for persons 60 years and over. To register (203) 891-4765.

Wellness Corner - Call 203-891-4784 to register

- Adult Coloring:** Friday 11:00am
- Chair Exercise:** Monday, Wednesday, & Friday at 11:00am
- Fitness:** Tuesday & Thursday at 8:45 & 10:00am
- Line Dancing:** Friday at 1:00pm
- MELT:** Monday & Thursday at 11:15am
- Pilates for Seniors:** Monday and Friday at 10:00am
- Yoga:** Monday with Dee at 9:15am; Wednesday with Sue at 9:00 & 10:15am; Friday with Tara at 8:30am
- Zendoodle:** Wednesday at 12:30pm
- Zumba Gold:** Monday at 11:00am; Wednesday at 11:00am; Friday at 10:00am
- Hiking** - Each week a different hike—4 week rotation. 1st Monday of the Month—Housatonic Pverlook; 2nd Monday of the Month—Racebrook Track; 3rd Monday of the Month—Turkey Hill Preserve; 4th Monday—Orange Triangle Trail

Free Yoga Dance Trial

Try out Yoga dance for free on Thursday, Dec 17 from 10-11am. If you were ever curious about this fun class now is the time to try it out! Call the office to reserve your spot.

Tai-Chi

Bring a Friend to Tai Chi to try it out for Free on Dec 18 11:45 -12:45pm

Spiritual & Emotional Wellness

Wednesday with Tara at 11:30am. This month’s book— The Four Agreements: A practical Guided to Personal Freedom by Don Miguel Ruiz.

The Secret: Discussion & Documentary

We read The Secret in Tara’s Spiritual Wellness class. Now its time to see the Documentary and discuss it and your successes. Dec 22 at 10:30am.

Fun with Aubry

- Holiday Craft,** Dec 21, 1-3pm —Gingerbread House, limited to 15 people, fee: \$10, pre registration required
- Social Media,** Dec. 8-29, 9-11am — 4 weeks of the most popular sites
- Poetry,** Jan 5, 11-12pm
- Tea & Scrabble,** Fridays 12-2pm

Literature to Film Appreciation, Jan 4, 1-3pm— Read the passage then watch how the film interpreted it.

2016 Trips

ESCAPE THE COLD @ MOHEGAN SUN—Wednesday, January 27-28, 2015. At Mohegan Sun every turn leads to a new adventure with an indoor 7-story waterfall, the world’s largest and most spectacular planetarium dome and the awe-inspiring Wombi Rock. Cost \$163pp double. This no-minimum trip includes round trip transportation, Hotel Accommodations, 2 Buffet Vouchers, \$20 free slot play. Full payment due at registration

CT FLOWER SHOW & LUNCH—No minimum trip February 18, 2015 (snow date 2/19). “In the Spotlight” at the CT Flower & Garden Show at the Connecticut Convention Center. Lunch stop at the Chowder Pot. Choice of lunch: Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Scrod or Chicken Marsala served with all the trimmings. Cost \$77. Includes transportation, Lunch, Admission and driver’s gratuity. Full payment due at registration

HEART of the SOUTH—April 10-17, 2016. Welcome to America’s most inviting cultural region. Take some time to experience the city that has given us great music and incredible food: the “Jazz Capital of the World.” A journey through New Orleans, Natchez and Lafayette. Cost: \$2,349pp double occupancy, single \$2,899; triple \$2,419. Includes group transportation to Bradley Airport, round trip air, air taxes and fees/surcharges, hotel transfers and driver’s gratuity. Full payment due at registration

COLORADO ROCKIES—June 3-11, 2016. 9 days, 12 meals. The highlights include: Denver, Rocky Mountains National Park, Grand Junction, Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Colorado National Monument, Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, Mesa Verde National Park, Pike’s Peak Cog Railway, and Garden of the Gods. Cost: \$2,879pp double occupancy, single \$3,629; triple \$2,849. Includes group transportation to Bradley Airport, round trip air, air taxes and fees/surcharges, hotel transfers and driver’s gratuity. Full payment due at registration

NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM & PARIS featuring historic Bruges—September 12-22, 2016. 11 days, 14 meals. The highlights include: Amsterdam, Hortus Botanicus, Volendam, Diner’s Choice in Amsterdam, Brussels, Dinner Stroll, Bruges Choice of Bruges Walking Tour or Canal Cruise, Paris Seine River Cruise, Giverny. Cost: \$3,999pp double occupancy, single \$5,049. Includes group transportation to/from Airport, round trip air, air taxes and fees/surcharges, and hotel transfers. Deposit & cancellation insurance due at registration.

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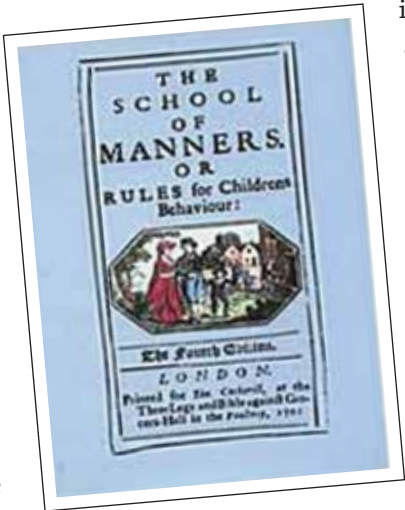
HISTORY CORNER

By Ginny Reinhard



In a Manner of Speaking...

As I write this on the deadline date of the 4th, I am impelled to change my topic to one of the sign of the times...ill-mannered people. The holiday has only begun yet cars are vanishing before our eyes with speeds and carelessness that defies the imagination so early in the season. Standing in line is a given but why does the woman behind me have to yell over my head that she is not standing in line and wants to speak to the manager? It's not all bad out there but the numbers seem to be climbing. Could that be the reason people are buying "online"?



hair nor wash his hands in public...the exception being before dinner in front of everyone so that "whoever dips into the same bowl as you, will be certain of your cleanliness".

Of course, one can imagine the dinner table and the foods consumed, the hands were the utensils. At one point in England using any type of fork for men was a sign of effeminacy. The two-tined fork came into being in Italy and was a success slowly making its way to northern Europe. Spoons were common as were knives but oh that fork...what a difference it made when not

only the rich could afford them but the common society.

One writer noted it was unsuitable to put one's nose over someone else's glass of wine or food to smell it or to offer someone what you have half eaten yourself. Oh and it was boorish to redip half-eaten bread into your soup. Gee, I float a whole dinner roll in my soup, well not all soups. It might seem that we have returned to the sloppiness of medieval feast-

ing with barbecued wings and legs eaten with our hands, burgers, pizza and "finger food" at the casual buffet. It was said, in an earlier book of manners, "all creatures eat but man only dines". Another Hmm.

Not to be out done by European etiquette books, our very own George Washington transcribed Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation. There are 110 rules but I will choose the ones I think you will enjoy reading.

Here goes.

- Every action done in company ought to be with some sign of respect to those that are present.
- In the presence of others sing not to yourself with a humming noise, nor drum with your fingers or feet.
- If you cough, sneeze, sigh or yawn, do it not loud but privately and speak not in your yawning but put your handkerchief or hand before

your face and turn aside.

- Sleep not when others speak, sit not when others stand, speak not when you should hold your peace and walk not on when others stop.
- Spit not in the fire, nor stoop before it to warm your hands, nor set your feet upon the fire especially if there be meat before it.
- When you sit down, keep your feet firm and even without putting one on the other or crossing them.
- Turn not your back to others especially in speaking, jog not the table or desk on which another reads or

write nor lean on either one.

- Read no letters, books or papers in company but when there is a necessity for the doing of it, you must ask leave. (Does cell phone fit here?)

Let your countenance be pleasant but in serious matters somewhat grave.

- Do not laugh too loud or too much at any public

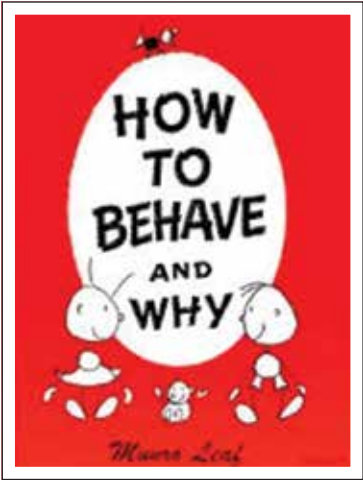
spectacle.

- If anyone comes to speak to you while sitting, stand up.
- Be not hasty to believe flying reports to the disparagement of any.
- Wear not your clothes foul, unript or dusty but see they be brushed once everyday at least and heed that you approach not to any uncleanness.
- Speak not of doleful things in a time of mirth or at the table, speak not of melancholy things and if others mention them, change if you can the discourse.
- Be not curious to know the affairs of others neither approach those that speak in private.
- Undertake not what you cannot perform but be careful to keep your promise.
- Make no show of taking great delight in your food, feed not with greediness, lean not on the table nor find fault with what you eat.
- Put not your meat to your mouth

with your knife, neither spit forth the stones of any fruit upon a dish nor cast anything under the table.

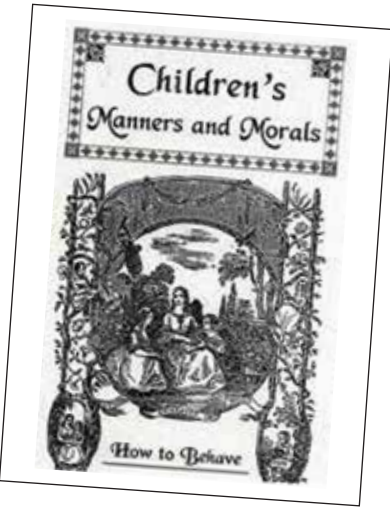
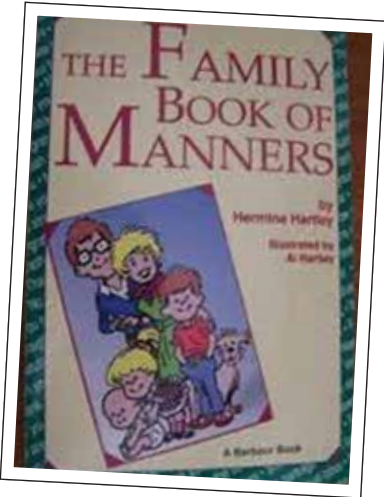
- Put not another bit into your mouth til the former be swallowed let not your morsels be too big for the jowls.
- Cleanse not your teeth with the tablecloth, napkin, fork or knife but others do it, let it be done with a pick tooth.
- Rinse not your mouth in the presence of others.

- Do not breathe with too great a noise for it is uncivil.
- Blow not your broth at table but stay till cools of itself.



I was driving out of a parking lot when a deliveryman was juggling a large number of boxes and I motioned for him to walk across when he bellowed, I'm waiting for you in a tone I took to be disagreeable. I did as he bid and watched in my rear-view mirror as he trundled off, boxes askew but he WAS waiting for me. No one seems to want to smile anymore or say thank you to a clerk as she stands on her or his feet for 6 hours at a time. When did we forget please, excuse me and thank you?

As is the saying today, "back in the day", manners were a response to the violence and crude behaviors run rampant in the cities of Europe during the time between the 14th & 17th centuries. It was a means of reinforcing social order and an effort to distinguish between the privileged class and everyone else. Hmm. The dinner table appears to be the first of these efforts and it appears that Italy led this cultural revolution. In an early book on manners, "one should not comb his



Although some of these appear to be part of our manners today, there are others that deal with the hierarchy of the times and man's place in that order. I noted that women were not part of these 110 rules that applied to men. But alas, there are many books on etiquette for women. The word etiquette comes from the French when proper, social behavior before Louis

XIV was written on small cards and distributed to members of his court.

As the United States moved from an agrarian economy to one of an industrial-based economy, the rapid expansion of the middle class was evident. The newfound prosperity propelled them into unfamiliar social situations. By the middle of the 19th

century, a number of books were published that provided a guide to these newly affluent citizens on proper social behavior. Is that what was meant by "everyone else"?

Happy Holidays!



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Q: With all the news of “**Fuller House**” being in production, it got me to wondering what else **Lori Loughlin** has going on. What happened to her Western series? -- Tina Y., via email

A: The lovely and talented 51-year-old actress does indeed co-star -- with **Jack Wagner, Erin Krakow** and **Daniel Lissing** -- in a third season of “**When Calls the Heart**,” a family Western drama that was developed by **Michael Landon Jr.** and airs on the Hallmark Channel. The third season kicks off Saturday, Dec. 26, with a two-hour movie, with the season itself beginning in February. In the meantime, you can catch up with seasons one and two via Amazon and Netflix, and on DVD at local retail stores.

Q: I was intrigued by the new FX series “**The Bastard Executioner**,” especially **Stephen Moyer** and **Katey Segal**. Can you tell me if it’ll be back for another season? -- Deena G., via email

A: Creator and showrunner **Kurt Sutter** made the announcement in November that the numbers to continue the series, which also starred **Lee Jones**, didn’t add up. He revealed: “The numbers just didn’t sustain the cost of the show, quite frankly. It’s all math at the end of the day. We couldn’t establish that core audience that allows you to figure out your advertising paradigm and whether or not the show is affordable.”

Q: I have heard no word about whether there will be a sequel to the **Daniel Craig/Rooney Mara** version of “**The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo**.” Will there be a second and third movie to follow the books? -- Patrick J., Fresno, California

A: “The Hollywood Reporter” broke the news that the **David Fincher**-directed version of the hit Swedish film series (as well as the original



Lori Loughlin

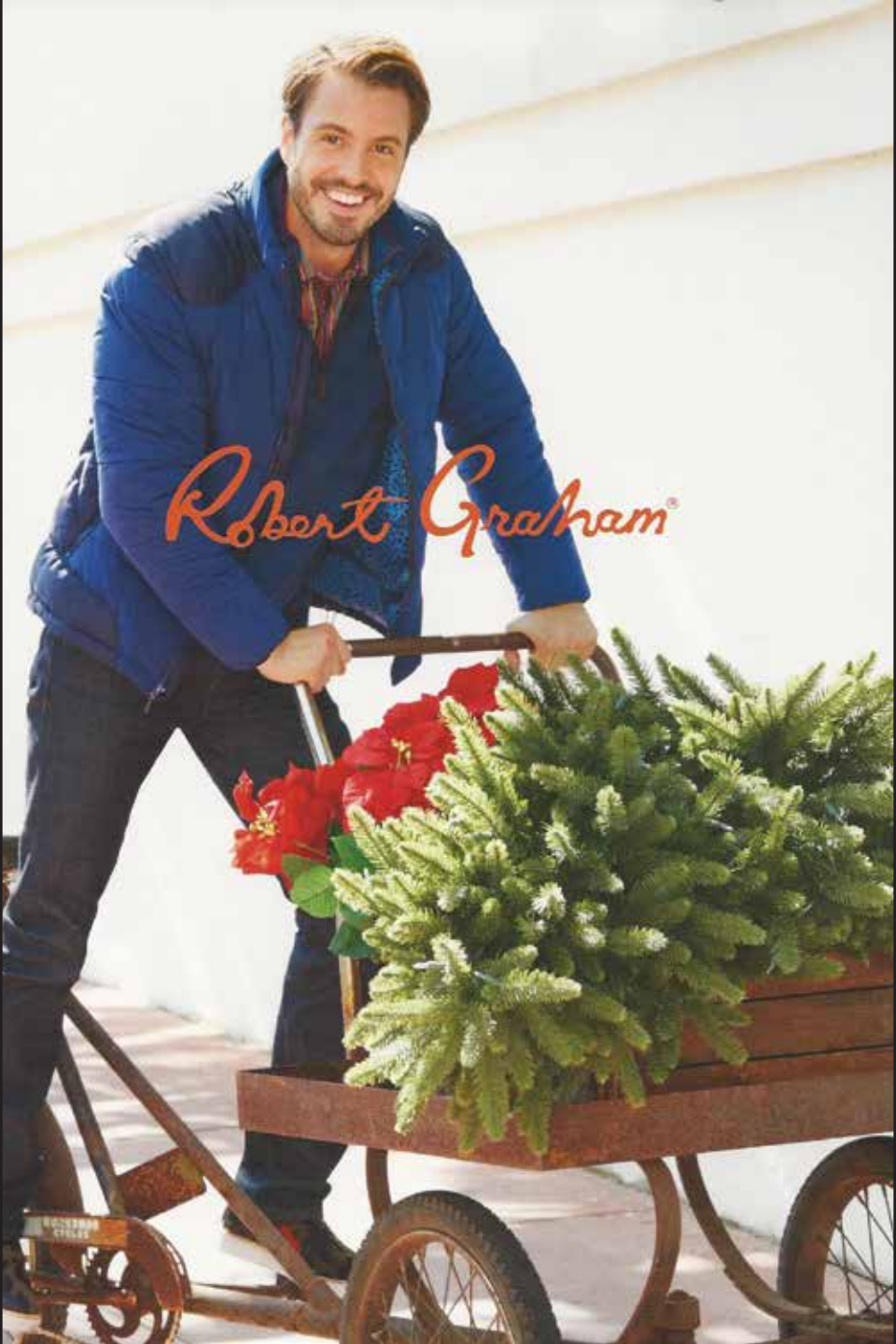
book series) is kaput. However, Sony is looking to restart the series, but will base it on the recently released fourth book, “**The Girl in the Spider’s Web**,” which was written by **David Lagercrantz**. He continues the series created by the late **Stieg Larsson**, who wrote the original “Tattoo” trilogy and died of a heart attack in 2004. Neither Daniel, Rooney nor David is attached to this film reboot. **Alicia Vikander** is being eyed for the lead role, and **Steven Knight** (“**World War Z**”) will pen the script.

According to the book-jacket summary, the story goes: “Late one night, (Mikael) Blomkvist receives a phone call from a source claiming to have information vital to the United States. The source has been in contact with a young female superhacker -- a hacker resembling someone Blomkvist knows all too well. The implications are staggering. Blomkvist, in desperate need of a scoop for ‘Millennium,’ turns to (Lisbeth) Salander for help. She, as usual, has her own agenda. The secret they are both chasing is at the center of a tangled web of spies, cyber-criminals and governments around the world, and someone is prepared to kill to protect it.”

Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; or e-mail her at letters@cindy-elavsky.com.

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The 5s class at Orange Community Nursery School had a delicious Thanksgiving feast. We enjoyed the yummy turkey prepared by one of our grandpas and side dishes that we made in class. We hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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DINING WITH SUSAN

By Susan Noonan



SCRIBNER'S RESTAURANT

Scribner's Restaurant has always been one of my favorite restaurants in the area. So I thought it was time to revisit this well respected and popular restaurant for the holiday season. Scribner and Susan Bliss have owned this iconic establishment for 42 years. Quite an accomplishment in the ever changing restaurant world. They are a lovely couple who are very dedicated to their successful restaurant. Scribner's Restaurant is located in the Woodmont section of Milford just steps away from the sweeping views of Long Island Sound.

Scribner's well prepared food along with impeccable service always impresses my out of town guests and business associates. This award winning establishment has been consistently recognized as one of the best seafood restaurants in Connecticut. Scribner's serves only the highest quality fresh fish and shellfish. The restaurant has an extremely warm & cozy atmosphere showcasing many antiques along with a nautical theme. Its crisp linen tablecloths and napkins add that special touch that makes it the perfect place for a true dining experience. Scribner's has 2 dining rooms and a friendly bar that is always busy with local folk. Scribner's offers specials every day that appear on the back of the regular menu. The chef is very creative and always has very colorful names for his daily specials such as "The Maine Event" (Maine steamer clams served with drawn broth & butter), "Oysters gone wild", "Join the Grouper", Slammin Salmon", "Mahi's a jolly good fellow", just to name a few.

Scribner's homemade bread is always served warm with whipped butter. My favorite salad at Scribner's is the Bleu and Green with romaine lettuce, tomato, blue cheese, Gorgonzola, Pecorino cheese, bacon, and red onions with house made Dijon vinaigrette. I especially enjoy the baked stuffed Sea Scallops with sherry, buttered bread-crumbs along with the steamed Lobster Tails, New York Strip and Chicken Sicilian. Scribner's definitely offers the best Lobster in the area. Please note that there are many choices for non-fish lovers along with a bar menu. Scribner's desserts are house made with daily specials. Espresso, cappuccino & special coffees complete the outstand-

ing dinner.

Scribner's offers a great " Early Dining Menu" served 7 days a week ranging from \$14.95-\$16.95 including the entrée, house salad, bread, potato or rice and a fresh vegetable with coffee, tea or soft drink. The choices include Baked Stuffed Scallops, Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Chicken Florentine, Scribner Scampi, Shoulder Tenderloin, Grilled Pork Mignon, Fish & Chips, Grilled Salmon, Southern Fried Catfish, Baked Cod, & Swordfish Gorgonzola. Such a wide variety and reasonable price for an early dining menu. The other special is "Half Price Wine Nights" on Tuesdays and Fridays. All bottles on their extensive wine list are offered at ½ price on these evenings when you purchase entrees. Scribner's is a true example of an elegant but casual "New England Style" restaurant.

Open 7 days – Serving Dinner Monday – Thursday & Sunday 5pm-9pm – Friday & Saturday 5pm-9:30pm – Early Dining Menu available Monday – Thursday & Sunday 5-6:30pm – Friday & Saturday 5-6pm.

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Banquet menu available for private parties-call for details.

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(Woodmont), CT 06460
203-878-7019
Website: www.scribnersrestaurant.com

Final notes: I suggest that you make a visit soon to this very special restaurant. Trust me, you will be impressed with the high quality well-prepared fresh food and outstanding service. Please remember to support our local family owned businesses like my favorite Scribner's. If you have a favorite restaurant please e-mail susan@orangetownnews.com or susan@woodbridgetownnews.com.

A very Happy, Healthy & Safe Holiday season to all!

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LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDUP

LEHRER RECOGNIZED FOR SUPERIOR REAL ESTATE SALES

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut and Westchester County, N.Y., is pleased to announce that Orange resident Barbara Lehrer, a sales associate affiliated with the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Orange, was recognized as a leading real estate salesperson nationally. Lehrer was named a top 1,000 sales associate affiliated with NRT in the third quarter of 2015. NRT is the parent company of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

To put this achievement in perspective, the top 1,000 sales associates named by NRT represent the top 2 percent of performers among the approximately 47,000 sales associates affiliated with NRT across the country. "Barbara's sales achievements have helped to distinguish her among the very best real estate professionals in the country. Barbara is

deeply respected by her clients and colleagues for her marketing and sales expertise," said Cathleen Smith, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut and Westchester County, N.Y. "We are very confident that Barbara will continue to achieve great success in her career."

Lehrer has extensive experience in residential real estate sales. She has been a real estate professional for over 25 years. She is a CT Five Star Award recipient, Buyer Broker Certified and a Certified Negotiation Specialist. Lehrer is a member of the Coldwell Banker International President's Club for her sales performance in 2014.

For more information about buying or selling a home, contact Barbara Lehrer directly on her cell phone at (203) 640-6407. The office is located at 564 Racebrook Road in Orange.



Barbara Lehrer

JOSEPH HAN JOINS COLDWELL BANKER IN ORANGE

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut and Westchester County, N.Y. is pleased to welcome Joseph Han to the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Orange. As a sales associate, Han will provide residential and commercial real estate services in Orange as well as the Greater New Haven and Fairfield counties.

Commitment to clients is Joseph Han's number one priority. With his real estate expertise, knowledge of New Haven and Fairfield counties, and a keen eye for detail, Han works closely with buyers to show them the right homes at the right price. He has his eyes on the details and is the client's advocate from the first look to the closing signatures.

Joseph Han is a Real Estate board member of the Valley Association of Realtors®, Connecticut Association of Realtors, and the National Association of Realtors. He is a Certified Residential Specialist, Graduate of the Realtor Institute, Accredited Buyer's Representative Designation, Residential Construction Certified, Certified New Home Specialist, Short Sale & Foreclosure Resource Specialist and

an International Real Estate Specialist. Han has his Certificate of Completion Appraisal-1 (Pre-licensing). Han is a distinguished Five Star Professional Real Estate Agent since 2010 from Connecticut Magazine. He is also a Community Emergency Respondent Team in Orange.

For the past 7 years, Joseph Han has also been successful selling commercial real estate up and down the Boston Post Road in Orange along with other towns in both the Greater New Haven and Fairfield counties. He is a member of the CID Connecticut Association of Realtors and the CCIM Connecticut Chapter.

"We are very pleased to welcome Joseph to our team. His skills and knowledge of real estate sales and marketing make him a valuable asset to this office and to his clients and customers," said Aileen DeFeo, sales manager of the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Orange. "I look forward to helping him grow his career in the coming years."

Joseph Han can be reached at the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Orange at (203) 906-3977.



Joseph Han

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MAKE A WISH CONNECTICUT & GOODIES TEAM UP

Residents of Orange and surrounding communities, get ready to be delighted with the new location opening this month! Goodies has been a landmark in Milford for many years and is now expanding to its newest location in Orange at 111 Boston Post Road. Many of the sought after menu items, including authentic Greek gyros, Hummel Hot Dogs, and classic Burgers that guests enjoy at Cherry Street and Gulf Beach are coming to Orange.

Goodies was established in 2006 and has been family owned and operated ever since. The owners are committed to being a part of the Orange/Milford and surrounding communities and will kick off the business with a pre-opening event.

On December 4th and 5th Goodies Orange hosted a live training event. One complimentary menu item was offered to each guest from a limited menu and donations to Make-A-Wish® Connecticut were appreciated.

Come on in for a taste of Goodies – where there's something for everyone! About Make-A-Wish® Connecticut: The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Connecticut grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Wish-come-true experiences can do wonders by providing a much-needed break from lengthy hospital stays and medical treatments. They give back to a child what a serious medical condition can take away—the chance to simply enjoy being a kid. Wish kids choose something that will inspire happiness and allow them to spend precious time with their families. The Connecticut chapter has made over 2,700 wishes come true since its inception in 1986. Learn more about Connecticut wishes at ct.wish.org, or join Make-A-Wish on Facebook (search Make-A-Wish Connecticut) and follow them on Twitter and Instagram (@MakeAWishCT).

BULLETIN BOARD

Al-Anon Parents Meeting, Monday nights, 7:30pm year-round, United Church of Christ, Plymouth Building, 18 West Main Street, Milford – supporting parents of alcoholics and/or substance abusers. For more information, go to www.ct-al-anon.org or call Margaret at (203) 877-4313.

Al-Anon Meeting, Monday mornings, 10:00 - 11:30am, Holy Infant Church Hall, 450 Racebrook Road, Orange; a support group for relatives and friends of alcoholics. For more information, contact www.ct-al-anon.org.

Nicotine Anonymous Meetings, Mondays, 6:30 – 7:30pm, Trinity Lutheran Church, 21 Robert Treat Parkway, Milford, open to all, no dues or fees, only requirement is the desire to be free of nicotine. For more information, call Bridges, 203-878-6365.

Zumba Gold Classes At Congregation Or Shalom, Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m., Congregation Or Shalom, 205 Old Grassy Hill Road, simple and easy routines to follow, designed for people of all ages and no experience is needed. If interested, call Robin at 203.314.8176 or temple office at 203.799.2341.

Clean Energy Task Force of Orange, meets on the third Tuesday of every month at HPCC, 525 Orange Center Road, conference room, 8 o'clock. The public is invited.

Orange Arts & Culture Council meets on the fourth Tuesday of every

month, 7:30pm, HPCC, 525 Orange Center Road, check chalk board for meeting room. The public is invited.

Orange Recycling Committee meets every 3rd Wednesday 7:30pm, HPCC conference room, 525 Orange Center Road, public is invited to attend. For more information, email Orangerecycles@gmail.com. Beginning August, meetings will be held every 3rd Tuesday at 7:00pm except for October which will be held on October 14, 2014.

Elm City Kennel Club General Meetings, third Wednesday of each month, except during July and August, 7:30pm, Paws'N Effect, 36 Corporate Ridge Drive (off Sherman Avenue), Hamden. For more information, contact New Member Coordinators Gary Wilson, at 203-996-2245 (gwilson86@comcast.net) or Maureen Anderson, at 203-430-5229 (maureenanderson@snet.net). Next meeting Wednesday, April 16, 2014. Refreshments will be served. Our April meeting will include a program on AKC Dog Shows 101.

Blood Pressure Clinic presented by Gentiva & Maplewood of Orange, 1st Thursday of every month, Maplewood of Orange, 245 Indian River Road, 1:30-2:30pm in the Community Room. No appointment necessary.

The Rotary Club Of Orange meets every Friday, 12:15pm at the Racebrook Country Club, 246 Derby Avenue; prospective new members may contact Diane Eger at 203-530-4526 or visit www.orangectrotary.org for informa-

tion about the club.

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

4th Annual Milford Trick or Trot 5K Run/Walk to Benefit Beth-El Center, Saturday, October 31, 2015; Sign in begins 7:30am, Kids Fun Run at 8:45am, and race starts at 9:00am from Lisman Landing, Downtown Milford. Breakfast is included. Halloween costumes welcomed. Fee/\$25pp advanced registration/\$30 same day. Register at www.milfordtrickortrot.com. Event sponsored by Harlow, Adams, and Friedman, P.C. and Sikorsky Credit Union.

Hooked on the Sound (HOTS) Crochet Guild, a non-profit group of enthusiastic crocheters meet monthly, NO FEES, Case Memorial Library, 176 Tyler City Road, Orange CT, 203-891-2170 (library only), Saturdays, 10:00am-1:00pm, December 5, 2015. Website: www.hotscrochetguild.yolasite.com/. Email us at HOTSCrochetGuild@Live.com.

St. Lawrence School "Christmas In The Schoolhouse", Saturday December 5, 2015, 10:00am- 4:00pm, and Sunday, December 6, 2015, 8:00am-1:00pm, 231 Main Street, West Haven, have your picture taken with Santa and Mrs Claus, enjoy entertainment on the stage while shopping with the numerous craft vendors, stop by the kitchen and enjoy breakfast and/or lunch, check

out Candy Cane Lane and pick up some delicious baked goods, enter the raffles to win gift baskets filled with Christmas Goodies, stop in the After-School building for face-painting, kids crafts, and the jewelry table. All funds raised will be used within the school. For questions/more information, contact the office directly 203.933.2518. For a schedule of events and entertainment, Facebook Event <https://www.facebook.com/events/1702359789994458/>.

NAMI Support Group Meeting, every first Monday of the month, meetings begin promptly at 6:00pm and end promptly at 7:30pm, BRIDGES, a community support system, 949 Bridgeport Avenue, Milford (entrance in the rear of the building), conference room on the second floor, meeting dates are December 7, 2015, January 4, 2016, February 1, 2016, March 7, 2016, April 4, 2016, May 2, 2016, June 6, 2016, July 11, 2016, August 1, 2016, September 12, 2016, October 3, 2016, November 7, 2016 and December 5, 2016. They are free of charge and facilitator led. Family & Friends welcome.

Traditional Irish Music Session With Special Guest Jerry O'Sullivan, uilleann piper extraordinaire, joins the P.V. O'Donnell Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann session, Thursday, December 17, 2015, St. Gabriel Parish Hall, 26 Broadway, Milford, 7:45 pm. Admission is free. BYOB. For more information on the session, call Tim Quinn at 203-257-8737.

GET REAL! BEATING HOLIDAY WEIGHT GAIN

Studies show that the average person gains 1-2 pounds between Thanksgiving and New Year's, while people who are already overweight pack on 5 pounds or more. But gaining weight over the holidays is not inevitable. Here are 10 practical tips to come out of the holiday season in as good a shape as you went in.

1. Take a good look at the calendar. Holidays are interspersed with regular days. After every holiday, head straight back to your normal eating routine.
2. Try the 80/80 approach. If you shoot for the perfect diet, you are likely to fail. Instead, eat 80 percent of the things that are healthy for you 80 percent of the time.
3. Pick your indulgences. Don't waste calories on so-so sweets or treats you aren't wild about or can get any

- time of year. Enjoy those once-a-year holiday pleasures.
4. Schedule time to stave off stress. In between all of those holiday activities, be sure to pencil in some downtime, exercise time or whatever time you need for yourself. Get stressed out, and you'll be too exhausted to make good food choices.
5. Instead of coming in at night and heading straight for the fridge, try a relaxation ritual. Dim the lights, sit down in your cushiest chair and just relax for a few minutes.
6. Learn to say no. You don't have to attend all of the parties and events on the calendar. You'll save calories, time and stress. And if someone tries to force food on you despite your protestations, try humor. Say something like, "Sorry, I'm allergic to that -- every time I eat it I break

- out in fat."
7. Stay right where you are. Instead of trying to lose weight for the holidays, give yourself a big present by just trying to maintain your weight.
8. Sit down -- and enjoy. Give everything you eat your complete attention. If you eat something distractedly, it doesn't register.
9. Avoid temptation traps. Toss leftovers and quickly re-gift food presents or pass them along to co-workers, a local shelter or a food bank.
10. Remember that exercise is not a license to eat. Feeling virtuous because you worked out before the party? Good for you. But if you think that exercise gives you permission to eat everything in sight, you're fooling yourself.



Have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS



WOMAN IN GOLD - COMING TO CONGREGATION OR SHALOM

Woman in Gold is a 2015 British drama starring Helen Mirren, Ryan Reynolds and Katie Holmes. The film is based on the true story of a Holocaust survivor living in Los Angeles who, together with her young lawyer, fought the government of Austria to reclaim Klimt's renowned painting of her aunt, which was stolen by the Nazis. She took her legal battle all the way to the Supreme Court of the U.S., which ruled on the case in 2004.

ALL INVITED TO CHANUKAH CELEBRATION AT MISHKAN ISRAEL

Celebrate Chanukah in joyful surroundings. The community is invited to Congregation Mishkan Israel's Chanukah Dinner & Service on Friday, December 11. Dinner begins at 5:45p.m. with a Shabbat dinner that features traditional Friday night foods as well as latkes and other favorite Chanukah treats. The evening will conclude with a Shabbat Family Service at 7:00p.m.

followed by a special oneg. There is a fee for dinner. To RSVP and for more information, contact the synagogue office at (203) 288-3877. Congregation Mishkan Israel is a reform synagogue located at 785 Ridge Road in Hamden. It is the 14th oldest in the United States and the oldest continuously operating one in New England.

DECEMBER AT FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here... during the Christmas season, and at any other time. You, your family, and your friends are all welcome to join us at First Church of Christ, Woodbridge for the following:

Sunday worship in the meeting-house at 10am. Nursery care is provided, and children in K-8 are welcome to join us for Sunday school. Coffee hour follows each service.

The Community Carol Sing – an energetic and spirited musical event! Join us on Sunday, December 13th at 3pm as we sing traditional carols and novelty songs, hear the joyful hand bells, and triumphant trumpet! Join is for a reception of hors d'oeuvres and dessert afterwards.

Our Christmas Pageant featuring the children of FCC Woodbridge on Sunday, December 20th at 10am. For those interested in participating, rehearsal will be on Sunday, December 13th at 12pm. Contact Morgan, Director of Christian Education: Morgan@uccw.org.

Intergenerational Christmas Eve service at 7pm on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th.

Intergenerational Lessons and Carols service 10am on Sunday, December 27th.

For more news and upcoming events, follow our Facebook page, First Church of Christ Woodbridge, An Open, Welcoming, and Affirming Church.

CONGREGATION OR SHALOM SERVICES & EVENTS

Weekly Services

Minyan Services: Sunday 9:00 am; Monday 7:30 am; Thursday 7:30 am
Healing Circle: Wednesday 7:30 am
Shabbat Services: Friday 7:00 pm; Saturday 9:30 am



Congregation Or Shalom

ZUMBA GOLD AT OR SHALOM

Congregation Or Shalom announces the continuation of ZUMBA GOLD on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 7 p.m. ZUMBA Gold is an easy to follow dance movement program that incorporates music from every decade to create an upbeat and fun class. Burn hundreds of calories, meet new friends and have a blast. No experience needed and classes are on a drop in basis. Contact Robin at zumbarobin@gmail.com or

call 203.314.8176 or temple office at 203.799.2341.

Youth Group

The Youth group is open to kids grade 5-8, contact the office 203.799.2341. If you would like to find out more about our exciting and engaging program for young people. Congregation Or Shalom is located at 205 Old Grassy Hill Road, Orange, CT 06477, 203.799.2341, www.orshalomct.org.



The Laemmle family receives a U.S Senate Commendation from senator Blumenthal on behalf of their "Uncle Carl", as Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus looks on.

On Sunday morning, November 8th, over 300 people, Jews & non-Jews from all parts of the country, gathered at Congregation Or Shalom in Orange to witness a program entitled "HOLLYWOOD, HITLER & CARL LAEMMLE: The Story of an Unsung Hero". The synagogue's program was dedicated to the life-saving deeds of Carl Laemmle, one of Hollywood's most famous Jewish pioneers. In the late 1930s, on the eve of WWII, Laemmle retired from his position as founder of Universal Pictures and threw himself into the work of rescuing Jews from the clutches of the Nazi regime. He accomplished this by providing desperate German Jews with affidavits, guaranteeing the U.S. State Department that he would personally feed, clothe and shelter them on American shores. Laemmle was thereby able to circumvent this coun-

try's notoriously heartless immigration laws. Pressed by Secretary of State Cordell Hull to explain his generosity on behalf of "complete strangers", Laemmle wrote, "...It is simply a matter that touches me deeply and I, for one, am willing to go to the limit in helping these poor unfortunates...". Congregation Or Shalom planned this event to coincide with its annual Kristallnacht Commemoration. Rabbi Wainhaus, spiritual leader of the synagogue explained, "On the anniversary of Kristallnacht, which was in many ways the opening scene of the Holocaust, we at Congregation Or Shalom focus on individuals - ordinary people - who suddenly became extraordinary; individuals whose deeds were beacons of conscience in a world that had gone dark. Their life saving deeds will never be forgotten."

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD ADVENT SCHEDULE

The Church of the Good Shepherd invites the public to attend Sunday services during this special time of year. We are in the season of Advent, which extends over four Sundays. Advent began on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, November 29th and will end on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th. The word advent itself means “arrival” or “an appearing or coming into place”. The celebration of Advent is both a commemoration of Christ’s first coming and an anticipation of His second coming. On Christmas Eve until Epiphany, we will celebrate the twelve days of Christmastide. Epiphany, the 12th day after Christmas is January 6, 2016 this season and celebrates the visit of the three kings and wise men to the stable.

The Church of the Good Shepherd is located on 680 Racebrook Road, Orange, Connecticut. Advent Sunday service times include Rite II Holy Eucharist without music at 8 a.m. At 9 a.m., we offer a formation program focused on families with parents and children learning and participating together. At 9:30 a.m. every Sunday throughout the year we gather to celebrate the Holy Eucharist with beautiful



ful music with our Choir. On Sunday, December 20th @ 9:30 a.m., referred to as Advent #4, the public is invited to enjoy our Annual Christmas Pageant and Wassail Party immediately following in the Parish Hall. There will be no 8 a.m. service on Sunday December 20th. Our Christmas Eve service on December 24th will begin with Christmas Carols @ 4:30pm followed by a special service with the Choir and Band @ 5p.m. The Christmas Day service with a spoken Eucharist will begin at 10 a.m.

Additionally, the public is invited to stop by the Church any Wednesday to enjoy our free lunch program called the Shepherd’s Table beginning at 10:30a.m. with Bingo. “All are welcome at the Church of the Good Shepherd”, invites Reverend Diana Rogers. For more information about the Church of the Good Shepherd’s many other community-based programs, such as our monthly Book Club, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Healing Eucharist, please call the Parish Office @ (203) 795-6577, email us @ thegoodshepherd@optonline.net, visit our website @ www.thegoodshepherdorange.org, and/or visit our Facebook page for frequent pictures and postings.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH HOLDS “THE LONGEST NIGHT”

This season is a challenging one for so many. The Orange Congregational Church and the Constellation Hospice of Orange warmly invite you to join with others for a time filled with compassion, to reflect, to hear beautiful music and a message of hope. Please be with us for this gathering of “The Longest Night”, Wednesday, December 16th, 7 p.m. at the Orange Congregational Church, 205 Meeting House Lane. There will be light refreshments to follow. For additional information, call 203-795-9749.

The Orange Congregational Church at 205 Meeting House Lane in Orange also invites you to come to worship with us during the holiday season at 8 a.m. in the Chapel or 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. For the Four Sundays in Advent, each week we will light our Advent Wreath, listen to familiar Advent hymns and carols from our Senior Choir, and have



Orange Congregational Church

a special blessing to mark the joy of the season. On Sunday December 13 we will have the blessing of Ornaments and Chrismons. A special interfaith worship service will take place on December 16th at 7:00 p.m. for the Longest Night. On Sunday December 20 we will have the blessing of Blankets. Also on December 20th at 4:00 p.m. there will be a fun retelling of the Christmas Story in this year’s Instant Christmas Pageant. On December 24th at 5:00 p.m. we will offer a family service focusing on the Jesse Tree and at 10:00 p.m. is our Candlelight Service.

HANUKKAH AT TEMPLE EMANUEL OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

Come join the fun and celebrate Shabbat Hanukkah at Temple Emanuel. On Friday, December 11, we will welcome Shabbat and light our chanukiot together during a music-filled service led by Rabbi Michael Farbman, the Temple Emanuel band and inter-generational choir. After the service we will enjoy a delicious latke dinner with family and friends, including our annual latke cook-off. All are welcome to participate in this joyous event. The service begins at 6pm; please go to the TE website, www.templemanuel-gnh.org, or call the temple office at 203-397-3000 to reserve your spot for dinner.

Our Hanukkah celebration is just one of many exciting events for families, individuals and children of all ages at Temple Emanuel. Recent programs include our multi-generational sukkah build and family sukkot program, highlighted by an adult study session, the creation of decorations for the TE sukkah and a family-style potluck



Temple Emanuel

dinner. Simchat Torah was marked by another family program including the consecration of new religious school students and the opportunity for everyone in our community to dance with the Torah. Last month, we hosted the annual Orange Interfaith Thanksgiving Service with members from six local houses of worship participating in a wonderful evening of song and spirit. All of our events end with our famously tasty onegs.

For more information about this program and all events, celebrations and services at Temple Emanuel, please go to the TE website www.templemanuel-gnh.org, or call the temple office at 203-397-3000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR CONGREGATION B'NAI JACOB

All programs are open to the public. RSVP required when indicated. 75 Rimmon Road, Woodbridge, (203) 389-2111.

Upcoming Events Sunday, December 20th 10:00 a.m.

The Rapid Rise of the Fascist Jobbik Party in Hungary 2010-15

Led by Katalin Baltimore, a Hungarian who escaped to the US after the Hungarian Revolution with her family. She has observed and studied with alarm a repetition in history. Come join Ms. Baltimore who will educate us on these critical developments.

Sunday, January 10th at 10:00 a.m.

Medical Missions Abroad: A Jewish Perspective Guest Speaker Dr. Mark Weinstein

Special Services Saturday December 12th 10:15 a.m. - Family Shabbat

Students will lead the ‘junior congregation’ service and learn to read Torah. This will be a fun, dynamic service and a great way to gain familiarity with the Shabbat service.

Saturday, January 9th, 9:00 a.m. Shir Hadash

A songful, prayerful, soulful service. We will be using the power of our music

and the kavanah of our words and hearts to manifest God’s presence.

Every Week Bread & Torah

Every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. (Except when Shir Hadash occurs). Come learn parshat hashavua (the weekly torah portion) over bagels and coffee in the library with Rabbi Shapiro before 9:45 a.m. services.

Mah Jong & Canasta

Every Tuesday & Wednesday. Anyone can come in and play. We will be offering coffee “and” but feel free to bring a dairy lunch. Please call to reserve a table.

Daily Minyan

As a reminder, daily minyan is at 7:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. and Sunday morning minyan is at 9:00 a.m. Friday night services are at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday at 9:45 a.m.

Gan Hayered Sundays at 9:30 a.m. [During Religious School]

This is for three- and four-year olds and is a “drop off” experience. The curriculum is a play-based Judaic program, taking advantage of our long history of providing a warm, caring environment in which children can develop social skills while also learning about Jewish holidays, traditions and values.

Wine Talk

With Ray Spaziani



TASTE SOME GREAT HOLIDAY WINES!

With the holidays and New Year upon us many friends and relatives will be serving wines at wonderful holiday occasions. Many will be waiting for the holidays to serve the best in the house. Perhaps it is time to review some wine basics. Wine is a food and the biggest and best wines, both red and white, are served and enjoyed best with food. If the good stuff is not being served at the banquet table grab some pick-ons. Cheese, crackers and snacks will aid you in enjoyment of good wine. The wine should be served in a glass at least twice as large as the pour. This is to help you to facilitate the tasting of the wine. Wine needs air and has been stuck in a bottle for years, so let it enjoy being out and swirl the wine about and let it get as much contact with air as possible. All wines will benefit from this activity but old big red wines will do so at a greater degree than most (sparkling wines are an exception). The wine is said to need to "open Up". Wine will taste much better, be fuller and richer after you get as much air as possible exposed to that wine.

The next activity is to understand that in good wines there are many flavor nuances associated with the wine. Flavor comes from about 85% olfactory stimulation so after you expose the wine to as much air as possible then stick your nose down into the glass and smell the wine. You should get several layers of different smells and you can go to the American Wine Society website at www.aws.org and download an Aroma Wheel that will help you identify the many types of aromas that can exist in good wines. It is just kind of fun to do. Once you have identified some of the aromas associated with these wines then it is time to taste the wine. Understand that your tongue has many areas that are designed to identify different flavors. So there is a spot on your tongue for sweet and sour and acid and lemon and on and on. The most effective technique is take some air in with you and slurp up the wine with the air like the dentist's office and swirl it in your mouth so your entire tongue comes in contact with the wine. Now you have a shot at finding the small delicate differences that make up good wines as compared with the limited or lack of aroma and the one dimensional flavors associated with the jug or mass produced wine. It doesn't mean those wines are bad. Some are imminently drinkable, but they just are limited in character, taste and smell and not very interesting. When someone pulls out \$30 - \$50 or greater for a bottle of wine, I feel you owe your host a chance to appreciate the gift you have just been given and comment to them something associated with the appreciation of such a gift. Don't get me wrong; you will know it is good even if you knock it down like a jello shot. However, something that good deserves to be savored and enjoyed properly.

Some holiday wine ideas include sparkling wines. This is a great way to begin to enjoy a holiday celebration! Some outstanding choices include Prosecco. This wonderful Italian sparkler is a great way to start any meal, but it is wonderful around the holiday season. They can range between \$10 and \$30 a bottle and they are wonderful. It is light in alcohol and is subtle and pleasant A Spanish Cava

is another inexpensive sparkling wine that can be wonderful! Look for the Cavas that are made "Champagne Method". You can find high quality Cavas made in the champagne method (double fermentation in the bottle) that are quite inexpensive and delicious. The Spanish winemakers are exceptional and they make their wine the same way they do in the Champagne region of France!

Ray's favorite Chardonnays include **Kendall-Jackson 2013 Vintner's Reserve Chardonnay (California); \$17, 91 points.** This is a tasty and accessibly priced Chardonnay. It packs in lots of fruit flavor, vibrant acidity, rich texture and layers of oaky spice while showing a rare sense of seamlessness. Very Californian and compelling.

Dry Creek Vineyard 2012 DCV Estate Block 10 Chardonnay (Russian River Valley); \$30, 90 points. The winery once made 30,000 cases of Chardonnay. With this release, it micro-sized that number down to 1,250, focusing on 30 vine rows to make a better wine. Mission accomplished—this medium-bodied wine offers a creamy texture, with concentrated fig and pear flavors around a mineral-laden finish.

Duckhorn 2012 Chardonnay (Napa Valley); \$35, 90 points. For the debut of the winery's Chardonnay, fruit is sourced largely from Oak Knoll, Carneros and Rutherford to craft an aromatically lemony wine that gives way to fuller tidings of caramel and vanilla on the palate. The finish offers balanced and refreshing acidity.

Ray's favorite Cabernets: **2009 Hess Collection Allomi Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon (\$28, 14.4%).** Hess' mainline Cabernet, grown near the base of Howell Mountain, has the bones of a great old-fashioned Napa Cabernet. Aged in mostly older American oak, from the clay loam and alluvial soils of eastern Napa, it's nuanced and floral, with a dusky violet side to its black fruit and a cinnamon-candy bite. Keep an eye for the 2010.

2009 Covey Run Quail Series Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon (\$9, 13.5%). It's great to see this well-known Washington name in fine form under the hand of winemaker Kate Michaud. Value-minded Cabernet? Here's how it's done - a proper autumnal dried-leaf aspect to black currant and olive flavors. It fully delivers on its varietal soul without dubbing down its flavors.

Bless you and your family during this wonderful holiday season and enjoy some of these great wines! Please enjoy them properly! You will be glad you did!

I will be teaching some great wine classes this spring through the Milford Adult Education at Cetris in Milford. Sign up early; they sell out quickly!

Ray Spaziani is the Chapter Director of the New Haven Chapter of the American Wine Society. He teaches wine appreciation classes at Gateway Community College and the Milford Board of Education as well as Moltose wine and beer making suppliers, and is a member of the International Tasting Panel of Amenti Del Vino and Wine Maker Magazine. He is an award winning home wine maker. Email Ray with your wine questions and wine events at ray.spaziani@gmail.com.

DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

By Roberta L. Nestor

Shopping for the top toys for the 2015 holidays can be time consuming and expensive! Hoverboards and Phantom 3 Drones can be pricier than a tablet, ranging from \$500 - \$1000. While it may not be flashy, giving the gift of education to your child or grandchild is something that they will have forever, not just one year. The process is painless and more than likely less time consuming than trying to find that hot item. College savings plans, or 529 plans, have been available since 1996. A 529 Plan is an education savings plan operated by a state or educational institution designed to help families set aside funds for future college costs. It doesn't matter which state the child attends school in, for example you can purchase a CT 529 plan and the funds can be used at any institution of higher education such as a college, university or vocational school, even on-line programs and international schools.

Anyone can set up a 529 plan – a relative, friend, even yourself. The 529 plan has a few components. There is the owner (or contributor), a successor owner (in case something happens to the primary owner) and the named beneficiary. You can change the beneficiary of a 529 anytime to any other individual without tax consequences. For example, a grandparent can establish the 529 as owner and have one of their grandchildren as the beneficiary. If that grandchild doesn't attend college, the grandparent can change the beneficiary to another grandchild.

The real attraction is that accumulation in a 529 plan is withdrawn state (CT) and federally tax free when used for qualified educational expenses. Traditional expenses such as tuition, room and board are considered qualified and now the cost to purchase any computer technology or related equipment or services are also considered qualified expenses. What happens if the 529 account is not used for college expenses? The owner will have to pay ordinary income tax on the earnings as well as a 10% penalty on those earnings; however, there is never a penalty or tax for your own contributions. There are exceptions to the 10% penalty

such as scholarships or entering the US Military.

We all know how expensive college is, even for a state university. According to the College Board, the average cost of tuition and fees for the 2015 – 2016 school year was \$32,405 for a private college, a whopping \$129,620 for 4 years. The reality is that most families will never be able to fully save enough for a 4 year education, but every penny counts when it comes to paying for college. And once a 529 plan is established for a child, anyone can contribute to that plan. Think of holidays, birthdays and special occasions for making contributions like recognizing the good grades your child achieves in school.

Most of these plans offer low minimums (\$50) and automatic investment plans that make monthly contributions simple and painless. They also offer age-based investment options where the plan automatically shifts investments based on the child's age, in theory becoming more and more conservative as the child approaches college age. The State of CT features the CHET plan and allows a state income tax deduction for contributions of \$10,000 and under. If you are not sure if a 529 plan is the best choice for college savings, talk to your financial advisor about other options. Education is a gift that is forever and our young people will need as much financial assistance as possible in the future.

Roberta L. Nestor is a financial advisor practicing at 491 New Haven Avenue in Milford, CT offering retirement, long term care, investment and tax planning services. She also offers securities and advisory services as an 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.





AMITY MIDDLE SCHOOL – ORANGE CAMPUS



First Marking Period Honor Roll

First Honors
7th Grade

Isabella Antonucci
Alynn Balocca
Abigail Bonat
Kiera Bova
Elizabeth Buckley
Skylar Burzynski
Juliana Cavallaro
Eugene Chang
Caroline Chen
Christian Chen
Jacob Crow
Ava DiVincenzo
Zoe DiZenzo
Mari Dragan
Abigail Eschweiler
Brigitte Gagnon
Mackenzie Gallagher
Amy Gao
Ariana Garay
Aarush Garg
Brett Gloria
Olivia Greco
Luke Hauser
Michael Haverstock
Brady Hutchison
Srilekha Kadimi
John Keegan
Adarsh Kongani
Keerthi Kongani
Preston Kral
Claudia Lihar
Philip London
Maeve Malone
Ribecka Marchitto
Alexandra Marinescu
Emma Marsh
Nicholas Martins
Nicholas Matalote
Lauren Mellors
Annika Minotti
Arity Morrison
Shannon Mulherin
Jaclyn Nordyk
Riley Palazzo
Giustina Parente
Armaan Patel
Nishaan Patel
Kelly Pritchard
Nicole Pulie
Macaelan Rahn
Xavier Ramos
Lauren Ronai
Mark Russo
Olivia Russo
Macy Saxa
Thomas Schittina
Rebekka Schwartz
Meghan Smith
Emma Tirollo
Miles Turner
William Wei
Charles Windsor
Aaron Yang
Jessica Yocher
Grace Yu

First Honors
8th Grade

Alishah Ahmed
Evan Arovas
Jeremy Bachman
Alexandria Barnes
Katie Barretta
Madison Barretta
Vera Belfonti
Cooper Blanchette
Ali Bobi
Grace Bretthauer
Mitchell Bronson
Sara Cable
Lauren Campos
Caitlin Carlson
America Cerrillos
Ariba Chaudhry
Gianna Cooper
Ruth Cortright
Ciara Cox
Vince Cypress
Dana Della-Giustina
Avery Dillon
Anthony DiStefano
Joshua Ford
Martin Gnidula
Adrian Gonzalez
Lena Hildrich
Evan Hollander
Jayson Hutchinson
Brett Hutchison
Sam Kaoud
Aidan Ketchian
Breana Lavallee
Michael Lebreck
Danielle Lee
Jacob Lee
Sumin Lee
Daniel Li
Jody Liu
Samantha Louros
Raymond Lu
Ningxin Luo
Anna-Maria Marinescu
Caroline McNabola
Ameya Menta
Kayla Meunier
Keyana Miller
Nicole Mongillo
Alex Palermo
Isabella Pucillo
Nick Ricciardi
William Rotko
Nico Semmonella
Andrew Serrano
Mason Shepard
Sydney Sherrick
Abigail Smeriglio
Halle Syrop
Tess Vocalina
Henry Westgard
Baasim Zafar

Second Honors
7th Grade

Sibelle Basyouny
Alessandra Bevvino
George Brito
Corynne Chadwick
Carter Correia
John Coughlin
Charlotte DelVecchio
Annemarie Driscoll
Jessica Ejlli
Jack Fearnley
Leia Foyer
Abigail Ganun
Dylan Gherlone
Anthony Giampa
Luci Giuliano
Emily Goodwin
Giana Guerra
Mia Hall
Kayla Johnson
Anaum Khan
Hyunjin Kim
Mia Kiska
Owen Leszczak
Dominick Lombardi
Sarah Maroney
Kaitlyn Moody
Sydney Pitter
Gabriella Proto
Bethany Qian
Payton Rahn
Nicholas Richetelli
Remy Sasso
Radhika Sharma
Xinqi Shen
Sophia Swift
Sebastian Todeasa
Emily Zielinski

Second Honors
8th Grade

Emily Brown
Haley Cable
Dylan Chizmadia
Tess Csejka
Angela Duro
Haile Ebert
Maria Farace
Brian Ficaro
Carsten Fielosh
Jack Figuly
Jamie Genovese
Kylee Gustafson
Ulen Honeychurch
Shahood Khan
Julia Lagoutis
Jillian Martin
Edward Martino
Sam Papelo
Skyelar Poulimas
Mattea Salati
Ethan Selmon
Michael Skerritt
Madisson Smith
Allison Steigleder
Megan Sullivan
Nandan Sureshkumar
Kelly Thomas
Jenna Walsh
Nickolas Wawrzyniak
Valeria Yanqui
Irene Zheng



Citizenship Recognition – 7th Grade

Isabella Antonucci	Wil Gambardella	Jaclyn Nordyk
Alynn Balocca	Abigail Ganun	Riley Palazzo
Gabriella Benjamin	Ariana Garay	Sydney Pitter
Abigail Bonat	Brett Gloria	Macaelan Rahn
Kiera Bova	Olivia Greco	Morgan Rahn
Elizabeth Buckley	Michael Haverstock	Payton Rahn
Juliana Cavallaro	Claudia Lihar	Xavier Ramos
Caroline Chen	Philip London	Lauren Ronai
Christian Chen	Ribecka Marchitto	Chance Schagen
John Coughlin	Alexandra Marinescu	Aaron Yang
Kennedy Csejka	Nicholas Matalote	Emily Zielinski
Zoe DiZenzo	Justin Miller	
Abigail Eschweiler	Arity Morrison	

Citizenship Recognition – 8th Grade

Alexandria Barnes	Ciara Cox	Danielle Lee
Katie Barretta	Evan D’Onofrio	Sumin Lee
Vera Belfonti	Dana Della-Giustina	Samantha Louros
Meadow Blakeslee	Avery Dillon	Ningxin Luo
Grace Bretthauer	Anthony DiStefano	Jillian Martin
Haley Cable	Carsten Fielosh	Ameya Menta
Sara Cable	Joshua Ford	Keyana Miller
Caitlin Carlson	Martin Gnidula	Nicole Mongillo
Ariba Chaudhry	Kylee Gustafson	Allison Steigleder
Gianna Cooper	Aedan Heffernan	Megan Sullivan
Ruth Cortright	Jayson Hutchinson	Nandan Sureshkumar



DEATH NOTICES

George (Bud) McDermott

George (Bud) McDermott, 87, of Orange, CT and Naples, FL passed away on October 11, 2015 after a courageous six year battle with cancer. He was the beloved husband of June McDermott. He was born in Milford, CT; the son of the late George and Florence McDermott.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corp. and then went on to work for SNET Co. for 37 years until he retired in 1989. He was a 56 year past active member of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department, served as Deputy Fire Chief and Chief for the remaining term of the late

Frank Knight. He served as Captain of the past Milford Volunteer Fire Department and also worked for the Stratford EMS. He was also a member of the New Haven County Fire Chiefs Association, a judge at the Milford 260 muster, and a Connecticut Forest Fire Warden.

He is survived by two daughters, Terri and Wendy, brother James McDermott, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and his best friend and companion, his dog Buddy.

He was predeceased by his son, David McDermott, and sister, Florence McDermott.

He was a very kind and caring man and will be missed by all who knew him.



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



PUT A BOW ON IT! OUR OBSESSION WITH GIFT WRAP

Some of us hate it enough to pay someone else to do it. Others take delight in folding corners just so, or the challenge of covering uneven angles, not to mention the seemingly endless varieties of design and texture.

But why do we wrap gifts in paper in the first place?

As with so many modern practices, it dates back to ancient cultures. First came the Chinese and their priceless gift of the invention of paper in 105 A.D. That was followed in the eighth century by the Japanese “furoshiki” and Korean “bojagi,” reusable wrapping cloths originally designed for transporting goods or preventing clothing mix-ups in traditional baths, as well as covering gifts.

By 1509, a new English invention appropriately dubbed wallpaper filled a similarly dual purpose, but not for long, since it easily cracked and tore upon folding. The Victorians, whose notions of decor are considered “fussy” by many nowadays, applied a like aesthetic to their gift wrapping, using elaborately decorated paper adorned with ribbons and lace. But that paper also was heavy and rather unwieldy. It gave way in the early 20th century to colored tissue ... which is still in use today, but more as an interior covering.

So what happened in between? Chalk it up to yet another example of necessity being the mother of inven-

tion. In 1917, holiday business boomed so well for a couple of stationery store-owning brothers in Kansas City, Missouri, that they ran out of colored tissue paper. Fortunately, a search of their inventory yielded a supply of “fancy French paper” designed for lining envelopes. In the true spirit of American ingenuity, they put it on sale at 10 cents a sheet.

Guess what was snapped up in a Kansas City minute?

The enterprising brothers tried their experiment again the following year, and the year after that. Finally convinced they were on to something, they began designing and producing their own decorative paper, solely for the purpose of wrapping gifts.

Still, let’s face it -- gift wrap isn’t practical. In fact, it’s downright wasteful. So why do we spend more than \$2 billion on it every year?

Maybe it’s the element of surprise. Maybe it’s because, as research has suggested, we feel more positive about a gift that is wrapped. Or maybe it’s just because that paper is so darned pretty.

Whatever the case, those two brothers from Kansas City knew a good thing when they stumbled upon it. Because, in case you hadn’t guessed it, their last name was Hall. As in Joyce and Rollie Hall.

As in Hallmark. You heard it here.



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ENTERTAINMENT

TOP 10 MOVIES

- 1. **The Hunger Games: Mockingjay -- Part 2 (PG-13)**
Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson
- 2. **Spectre (PG-13)**
Daniel Craig, Christoph Waltz
- 3. **The Peanuts Movie (G)**
animated
- 4. **The Night Before (R)**
Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Seth Rogen
- 5. **Secret in Their Eyes (PG-13)**
Chiwetel Ejiofor, Nicole Kidman
- 6. **Love the Coopers (PG-13)**
Diane Keaton, John Goodman
- 7. **The Martian (PG-13)**
Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain
- 8. **Spotlight (R)**
Mark Ruffalo, Michael Keaton
- 9. **The 33 (PG-13)**
Antonio Banderas, Rodrigo Santoro
- 10. **Bridge of Spies (PG-13)**
Tom Hanks, Mark Rylance

TOP 10 VOD

- 1. **Trainwreck (R)**
Amy Schumer
- 2. **Inside Out (PG)**
animated
- 3. **Terminator Genisys (PG-13)**
Arnold Schwarzenegger
- 4. **Vacation (R)**
Ed Helms
- 5. **Jurassic World (PG-13)**
Chris Pratt
- 6. **The Gift (R)**
Jason Bateman
- 7. **Self/less (aka Selfless) (PG-13)**
Ryan Reynolds
- 8. **Pixels (PG-13)**
Adam Sandler
- 9. **Southpaw (R)**
Jake Gyllenhaal
- 10. **Max (PG)**
Thomas Haden Church

- 1. Deceased musicians Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison and Otis Redding are all memorialized in what song?
- 2. What band released “If Looks Could Kill”?
- 3. B. Bumble & The Stingers specialized in what kind of music?
- 4. Name the group that released “California Man.”
- 5. What song includes this lyric: “I want to live, not merely survive, And I won’t give up this dream of life that keeps me alive.”



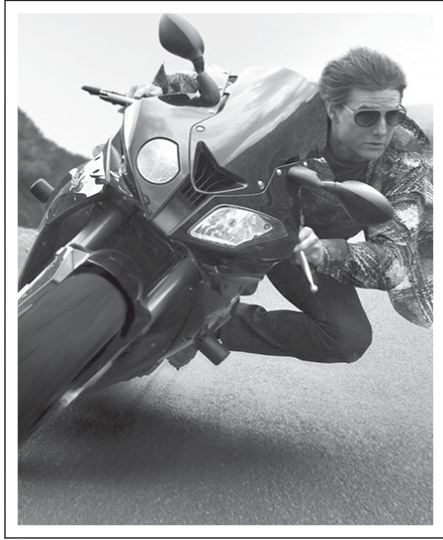
1. “Rock and Roll Heaven,” by the Righteous Brothers in 1974. In a one-time reunion in 1981, they added new lyrics to note the passing of Roy Orbison, Elvis Presley, Jackie Wilson and others. 2. Player, in 1981, on their “Spies of Life” album. 3. The group took classical music and gave it a rock and roll arrangement. Their first attempt, “In the Mood,” reached No. 4 on the charts in 1960. 4. The Move, in 1972. 5. “I’ve Gotta Be Me,” by Sammy Davis, Jr., in 1968. Although taken from the less than successful Broadway musical “Golden Rainbow,” the song itself saw huge success. It’s still being covered and used in ads, most recently in a 2012 Dr. Pepper commercial.

SPORTS QUIZ

By Chris Richcreek

- 1. Who were the first two Marlins pitchers to start consecutive Opening Days?
- 2. Ernie Banks and Rod Carew both played at least 1,000 major-league games at each of two positions. Who played more games at first base?
- 3. In 2014, Cody Kessler set a record for most TD passes in a game by a Southern Cal quarterback (seven). Who had held the mark?
- 4. Andrew Wiggins, in 2014, became the second NBA No. 1 overall draft pick since 1976 to be traded without playing a game for the team that drafted him. Who was the first?
- 5. Who was the last goalie before Montreal’s Carey Price to lead the NHL in victories, goals-against average and save percentage in the same season?
- 6. Name the last driver to win back-to-back Indy 500s?
- 7. Who was the last women’s tennis player before Serena Williams in 2015 to win the first two grand slam events of a season?

1. Charlie Hough (1993-94) and Kevin Brown (1996-97). 2. Banks played 1,259 games at first; Carew played 1,184. 3. Matt Barkley, who did it four times (2011-2012). 4. Chris Webber was dealt by Orlando to Golden State in 1993. 5. Ed Belton of the Chicago Blackhawks, in the 1990-91 season. 6. Helio Castroneves (2001-02). 7. Jennifer Capriati, in 2001.



Tom Cruise in “Mission: Impossible -- Rogue Nation”

EDITOR’S NOTE: DVDs reviewed in this column are available in stores the week of December 15, 2015.

PICKS OF THE WEEK

“Mission: Impossible -- Rogue Nation” (PG-13) -- This is the fifth installment with Tom Cruise as super-spy Ethan Hunt, and he’s still riveting audiences with his purposeful running. There’s a new shadowy organization of errant spies on the scene, and they’re bent on launching a series of terrorist attacks to destabilize world governments. Hunt has to team up with Ilsa Faust (Rebecca Ferguson), a double-agent who may or may not be part of the evil syndicate herself. Now in his early 50s, Cruise is still killing it as a man of action. He’s in-

sisted on doing the coolest stunts himself in this franchise, and that continues with this iterations hyper-thriller action sequences -- including face-peeling motorcycle stunts and a bonkers assassination plot during an opera. Alec Baldwin and Simon Pegg bring a necessary dose of comedy.

“He Named Me Malala” (PG-13) -- When she was 15 years old, Malala Yousafzi was shot in the head by Taliban gunmen who found her on a bus. The teenager had been a vocal advocate for girls’ education in Swat Valley, Pakistan, and that made her a target. As you’ve probably heard, she recovered, continued to advocate and became the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. The film finds her when she’s 17 and living with her parents in Birmingham, U.K. While she cuts an intriguing profile, the movie also explores the varied international reactions to Malala’s story. The title of the film (and her book) points to the inspiration she’s gained from her father, who named her after a cultural hero.

“Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials” (PG-13) -- Now that “The Hunger Games” have had their final award ceremony, “The Maze Runner” deserves a shot to be the post-apocalyptic young-adult adventure series of the times. This is the second movie in the series, and the first one was pretty good. The style here is that our young, memory-wiped heroes have made it out of a high-tech maze, only to continue piecing together the plot as they flee from monsters and mysterious manipulators. It appears that some organization with the foresight to name itself WCKD (pronounced “wicked”) has some dastardly plans for these youths.

Sudoku answers on page 34

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	9		3			7		
		2		8				3
6					5		1	
	8			3	6	4		
4			9					2
		9		1			8	
		5			3	9		
	4		8					7
2				7			6	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

COMICS/CROSSWORD/HOLLYWOOD

Henry

BY DON TRACHTE

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

HOLLYWOOD

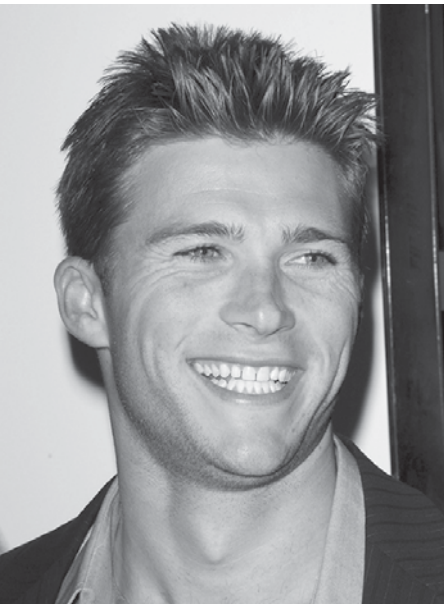
By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Ryan Gosling will join Harrison Ford in "Blade Runner 2." Based on the book "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?" by Philip K. Dick (published in 1968), it was the first of three books. "Blade Runner 2" is based on "Blade Runner: The Edge of Human" by K.W. Jeter (1995), leaving the third book, "Replicant Night," for another sequel. Gosling, a busy first-time father (with Eva Mendez), has the comedy-drama "The Big Short," with Christian Bale, Steve Carell and Brad Pitt (also producing), due Dec. 23, and "The Nice Guys," with Russell Crowe, Kim Basinger and Matt Bomer, coming out May 20.

While waiting for the script of "World War Z 2," Brad Pitt is staying in the war-movie mode, filming "War Machine," with Anthony Michael Hall and Topher Grace. But don't look for it in theaters, because Netflix paid \$60 million to own it. "World War Z 2" is set for a June 2017 release.

Scott Eastwood, son of Clint, has three films in post-production. The \$50 million biographical-political thriller "Snowden" stars Joseph Gordon-Levitt as Edward Snowden, who leaked classified information, along with Shailene Woodley, Melissa Leo, Zachary Quinto and Nicolas Cage. It opens May 13. Up next is the superhero film "Suicide Squad," with Will Smith, Jared Leto and Viola Davis, due Aug. 5, followed by the thriller "Overdrive," with hot English actor Freddie Thorp and Ana De Armas, who will first be seen with Robert De Niro in "Hands of Stone."

Jennifer Aniston is joining Robert De Niro, who plays a Don Rickles-style insult comic, in "The Comedian," written by Comedy Central roast master Jeffrey Ross. De Niro also will be Zac Efron's "Dirty Grandpa," with



Scott Eastwood

Dermot Mulroney and Julianne Hough, out in January.

Last year's Best Actor Oscar winner, Eddie Redmayne ("The Theory of Everything"), is getting Oscar buzz for his current film, "The Danish Girl," in which he transitions into womanhood ala Caitlyn Jenner. Eddie already is shooting the fantasy film "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," with Colin Farrell, Jon Voight and Ron Perlman. He plays an eccentric, introverted wizard.

David Hasselhoff is no more! His last movie was the musical-horror film "Alleluia!" with Paul Sorvino, which got good reviews and is being released at Christmas on DVD and Blu-Ray. As for Hasselhoff, he admitted, "I've wanted to drop the "Hassel" from my life for years." So when the Australian telecommunications company Amaysim approached him with a campaign for its phone -- "It takes the hassel out of your life" -- he said, "Why not? My friends call me The Hoff anyway!" Hasselhoff had a ring to it, though. People usually change their first name to a nickname; they don't change their surname except through marriage. What's next ... commercials for Hoff-y hot dogs?

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Andy's pal of old
- 5 Comic Margaret
- 8 Rue the run
- 12 Cougar
- 13 Explanation
- 14 "Animal House" group
- 15 Voters' choice
- 17 -- accom- pli
- 18 Lair
- 19 Squid squirt
- 20 Striped animal
- 21 "CSI" evidence
- 22 Pen name?
- 23 Trip around the world?
- 26 With 6-Down, Peter Pan's foe
- 30 Bellow
- 31 Pooch
- 32 Really enjoying
- 33 Three-part European union
- 35 Friars Club event
- 36 Dove's comment
- 37 Junior
- 38 Ashen
- 41 Suitable
- 42 Hot tub
- 45 Wrinkly fruit

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
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38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

DOWN

- 1 Mimicked
- 2 Stubborn one
- 3 Portent
- 4 Pouch
- 5 Wedgwood product
- 6 See 26-Across
- 7 Possess
- 8 Fondness
- 9 Grouch
- 10 Tresses
- 11 "At Last" singer James
- 16 Coloration
- 20 Type of code
- 21 Way
- 22 Satchel
- 23 Scepter topper
- 24 Fish eggs
- 25 Prohibit
- 26 Courteney of "Friends"
- 27 Literary collection
- 28 Part of TGIF
- 29 "To be or -- ..."
- 31 Pair
- 34 Actress Myrna
- 35 Campus mil. program
- 37 Glasses, slangily
- 38 Shove
- 39 Old Turkish title
- 40 Unhurried
- 41 Open slightly
- 42 Unspoken "Alas!"
- 43 Silents star Negri
- 44 From the beginning
- 46 Shade provider
- 47 Youngster

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Popeye

HY CFSMAN

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David Blackwell Lowe TR to Linda Greco.....	\$190,000
520 KANUGA TRAIL	
Duncan A. Creaser Exec. to David A. Creaser	\$272,714
233 HEMLOCK HILL ROAD	
Renee Lud Huang to Fan Xue.....	\$368,000
667 BRENTWOOD ROAD	
Victor A. Krasenics to James C. Mascia	\$377,500
399 DOGWOOD ROAD	
Joseph A. Burke to Geoffrey M. Schempp	\$340,000
89 PINE CREST ROAD	
Catherine Rafalowski to Jesse D. Jablon.....	\$309,900
239 DEERFIELD LANE	
Sunrise Hill Estates LLC to Margaret J. McDermott Tr.	\$469,900
609 ARROWHEAD DRIVE	
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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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P	U	M	A		H	O	W		F	R	A	T
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D	E	N		I	N	K		Z	E	B	R	A
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O	R	B	I	T		C	A	P	T	A	I	N
R	O	A	R		D	O	G		I	N	T	O
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S	H	O	O		L	A	C		O	G	L	E
H	A	W	N		M	R	S		T	H	A	W

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

1	9	8	3	6	2	7	4	5
7	5	2	1	8	4	6	9	3
6	3	4	7	9	5	2	1	8
5	8	1	2	3	6	4	7	9
4	6	7	9	5	8	1	3	2
3	2	9	4	1	7	5	8	6
8	7	5	6	4	3	9	2	1
9	4	6	8	2	1	3	5	7
2	1	3	5	7	9	8	6	4

Orange Town News

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LOCAL SPORTS



Ben Day of North Haven, Men's Club Champion and Jeanmarie Vocalina of Orange, Women's Club Champion

VOCALINA OF ORANGE WINS WOMAN'S CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The New Haven Country Club in Hamden, CT recently held its Champions Dinner to honor members who won a Club Golf Championship Event during the 2015 season. In all, 56 Champions representing the Club's Juniors' Program, Women's Golf Association, and Men's Tournaments were honored. The event brought a full house to the club's classic turn-of-the-century clubhouse located on Lake Whitney.

Founded in 1898, NHCC is one of the oldest private golf clubs in the country. It has been the golfing home to such luminaries as U.S. President William Howard Taft, Walter Camp, Yale's first football coach, who is recognized nationally as the "Father of American Football", Leslie Shannon, former U.S. Curtis Cup captain and three-time team member, and F. Morgan Taylor, former United States Golf Association President.

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ORANGE STUDENTS TO APPEAR IN “THE NUTCRACKER”

New England Ballet Company is celebrating its 26th season with its performance of the annual family holiday classic, “The Nutcracker,” under the artistic direction of Victor Trevino. Clara’s dream is brought to life in a large cast production with exquisite costumes and dazzling choreography by Victor Trevino. The cast consists of company dancers, students of New England Dance Arts School and members of the community.

Orange resident Taylor Gourdier (age 14) will perform the role of Clara

on 12/19 at 7pm. Fellow Orange students Hadley Boguniecki (12), Roberta Buccilli (15) and Amanda Coscia (14) are all company members and will be performing. The girls have been juggling school work and rehearsals for months.

This year they have three public performances at The Klein Theater, 910 Fairfield Avenue in Bridgeport on Saturday December 19th at 1pm and 7pm and Sunday 12/20 at 1pm. Tickets start at \$20 and are available through the website www.newenglandballet.org

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BARK BYTES...

By Vicki & Richard Horowitz



Stress Free And Fun Holidays With Your Dog

The holidays are a busy time for many households. Friends and family come and go, deliveries are made to the door, delicious smells emanate from the kitchen, and a general happy hubbub means that something special is happening. Among those affected by these changes is the family dog.

While one dog may revel in the change of pace, another may find it a confusing, stressful time. Your normally placid dog may suddenly begin to exhibit unusual behaviors, such as stealing food, jumping up on people, or growling or snapping at visitors. As pack leader, you need to communicate and demonstrate to your dog that while his world may be different, you will continue to keep him safe and secure.

Please don't give a puppy or dog as a surprise gift! A cute puppy or dog might seem like the perfect gift choice, but many of these holiday presents end up at animal shelters or just abandoned. Owning a dog takes a genuine commitment of time and responsibility and the “new” owners must be prepared to take on that responsibility and role. So you really want to make sure the “surprise” gift of a puppy or dog is going to be a welcome addition and at the right time.

By anticipating how your dog may react to new activities and visitors, you can help ensure that everyone—both two-and four-legged—has a fun and safe holiday season so...

- Most dogs get very excited when guests arrive. To help your dog be calmer, exercise him prior to the festivities. After 30 minutes of walking or playtime, your dog will more likely be relaxed or want to nap.
 - As a general rule, don't allow the family dog to greet guests since unusual activities and commotion can cause him extra stress.
 - Give your dog a break from the commotion of people arriving by putting him in his crate or in a quiet room with his doggie bed and favorite toy. Allow him to rejoin the festivities after guests have arrived and are settled.
 - Consider putting your dog on a leash when you bring him out to maintain better control of him.
 - For safety reasons, no one should ever approach the dog. The dog needs to come to the person.
 - If your dog is the type that gets anxious when guests are over, consider leaving him in another part of the house or board him for the holiday. This will keep him safe and allow you to enjoy the holiday without worrying about your dog.
 - Dogs that live in a household with no children may not be comfortable when kids come to visit. The chaos created by youngsters like grandchildren will inherently raise the energy level in the house, causing the dog to worry or stress.
 - Always supervise kids (especially very young children) and dogs when they are alone together. This is when most dog bites to children occur.
 - Parents must be vigilant and monitor their children's interactions with the dog.
 - Never allow a child to feed the dog.
- Many holiday foods can be harmful**

to canines, causing symptoms as mild as an upset stomach or as severe as vomiting and diarrhea. Avoid giving your dog fatty or spicy foods, bread dough, fresh herbs, alcohol beverages, caffeine and sweets of all kinds—especially those with chocolate or xylitol, an artificial sweetener.

- Particularly dangerous are cooked poultry bones. Cooked bones easily splinter, and the bone shards can cause choking, get stuck in your dog's gums or possibly damage his intestines. Instead, treat your dog to “dog bones” specifically designed for him to chew.
- Be sensitive to where you place food or where it is served, so your dog can't reach it.
- Keep all trash out of the reach of your dog. Put it outside or in a secured area.

Those holiday decorations can be dangerous

- Keep your dog away from holiday plants, many of which are poisonous, such as holly, mistletoe, poinsettias and amaryllis (a type of lily). Also be sure all potpourri is out of your dog's reach.
- Snow globes can contain antifreeze, which is toxic to a dog. Whether in the garage or in a snow globe, keep antifreeze products away from your happy, tail-wagging dog. If there is an antifreeze spill, keep your dog out of the room while you clean up the liquid. Dilute the spot with water and floor cleaner to ensure your dog does not lick the area later.
- Keep electrical wires and batteries out of your dog's reach. Chewing or biting anything electrical can cause him shock or burns.
- Don't leave lighted candles unattended. A lit candle knocked over by a swinging tail can burn your dog or cause a fire.

That Christmas Tree

- Anchor the tree to the ceiling or wall to prevent it from tipping over.
- Hang non-breakable ornaments near the bottom of the tree.
- Avoid putting tinsel on your tree. If ingested, tinsel can twist in your dog's intestines and be deadly.
- Don't let your dog drink the Christmas tree water. The water may contain preservative chemicals, which can trigger severe indigestion in dogs. Stagnant plain water can breed bacteria and cause nausea or diarrhea.
- Regularly sweep up fallen pine needles, as they can puncture holes in a dog's intestines if ingested.
- For a rambunctious dog, consider putting some type of boundary around the tree.

Should you give the dog a present?

- Absolutely, he is a member of the family.
- Help your dog stay busy and out of the holiday trimmings by giving him fun, safe dog-appropriate gifts.
 - There are a variety of indestructible toys as well as puzzle toys that reward your dog with treats and keep him well entertained.

Vicki and Richard Horowitz, of Woodbridge, are dog behavioral therapists and trainers with Bark Busters, the world's largest dog training company. For more information, call 1-877-500-BARK (2275) or visit www.dog-training-new-haven-ct.com.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) At this time you might want to resist that otherwise admirable Aries penchant for getting to the heart of a matter quickly. Keep in mind that a delicate situation calls for patience.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your aspects favor more diplomacy and fewer direct confrontations when dealing with a relationship problem. Avoiding hurt feelings can help in your search for the truth.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Positive aspects are strong this week. Although you might still have to deal with some problems caused by a recent period of turmoil, you are making progress, and that's what counts.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A family matter could benefit from your counsel. But don't come into it unless invited, and don't stay if you feel uneasy. Just remember to reassure one and all that you'll be there for them.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) As the truth about an ongoing situation emerges, you could find that you were right to defer judgment before you had all the facts. Now would be a good time to move on to other matters.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your plans to take control of a personal situation because you feel you are best qualified could create resentment. Best to hear what everyone else involved in the matter has to say about it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Uncovering some surprising background facts about that ongoing personal matter could make you reconsider the extent of your involvement. A neutral family member offers advice.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Religious or spiritual themes start to dominate your aspect this week. This can serve as a counterweight to the mounting effects of the season's growing commercialization.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Taking on that recent challenge impressed a lot of important decision-makers. Meanwhile, proceed with your holiday plans, and don't forget to include you-know-who in them.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Disagreeing with an opinion you can't accept could be dicey, and your motives might be questioned. Best to wait to mount a challenge until you have support for your position.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Getting involved in helping others in this increasingly hectic period not only makes the generous Aquarian feel good, but you could also gain a more substantive benefit from your actions.

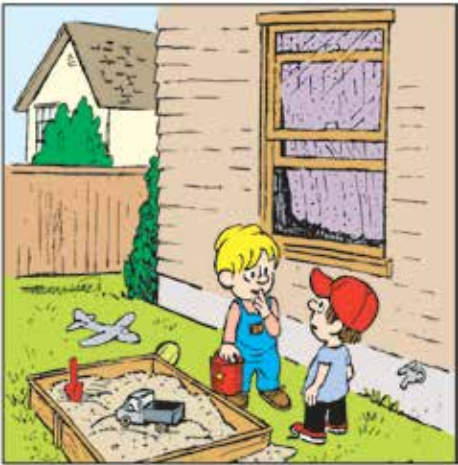
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The Piscean way of thinking clearly and objectively helps you resolve a complex situation without creating any ill will. Don't be surprised if your counsel is requested on another matter.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a way of persuading people to look at the positive possibilities that make up any choices they might face.

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



"We have to be real quiet."

THE CASHIER

BY RICARDO GALVÃO



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



top ten

Favorite NFL Teams

1. Cowboys	7. Bears
2. Packers	8. Giants
(tie) Patriots	9. 49ers
4. Broncos	10. Saints
5. Steelers	
6. Seahawks	

Source: The Harris Poll

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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The Garden Bug

Poinsettias

The Aztecs called these plants *cuetlaxochitl*. The sap within the stems was used to control fevers, and the bracts— its petal-like, red leaves – were used to make a reddish dye. Montezuma, the last of the Aztec kings, would have the plants brought into what is now Mexico City by caravans, as poinsettias could not be grown there due to the city's high altitude.

Source: extension.illinois.edu — Brenda Weaver

PET INSURANCE CHECKLIST

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My veterinarian recommended that I buy pet insurance for my puppy, "Max." Should I purchase the insurance that the vet recommends, or can I choose my own policy? -- New Owner in Nashville

DEAR NEW OWNER: Pet owners should always compare pet insurance policies to see what will work best for their budget and breed of dog (or cat, or other pet). There are a number of questions you should ask. Each insurance provider will have a slightly different answer, price and type of coverage.

Here are a few things to look for when considering a policy, courtesy of DVM360:

- * Does your pet's veterinarian accept the type of insurance coverage you're considering?
- * Is the insurance company licensed in your state?
- * Does the policy cover "wellness" or "preventive care" such as annual checkups and shots?
- * What are the minimum and maximum pet ages for enrollment?
- * What is the policy's deductible? Can you change that deductible from year to year?
- * What kind of health conditions or care are not included?
- * What are the annual and lifetime care limits, if any?
- * What if your pet has a pre-existing condition?
- * Are there any extra fees that could be charged? Are any discounts available?
- * How much will you pay per month for the policy? Will those rates increase?

These are just some of the important questions you should ask of a pet policy provider. You'll want to find a balance between the cost of the policy and the amount of coverage it provides for different health situations. Ideally, Max won't suffer a serious illness or accident, but a policy can help defray the costs should something happen.

Send your questions or comments to ask@pawscorner.com.

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