

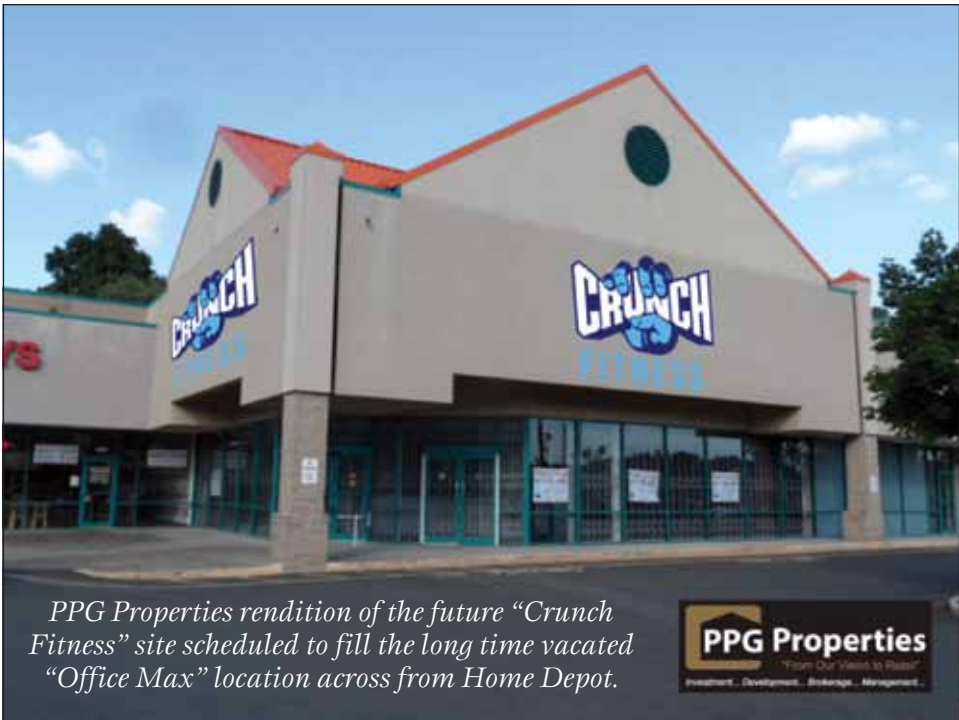
# Orange Town News



Orange's Exclusive Newspaper

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VOL. 7 - ISSUE 16      CIRCULATION 8366      FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2012



PPG Properties rendition of the future "Crunch Fitness" site scheduled to fill the long time vacated "Office Max" location across from Home Depot.



## PPG Properties Fills Long Time Vacancy

By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent

When another "Available for Lease" sign comes down on the Boston Post Road, and a new business moves in, chances are Property Potential Group; (PPG) had something to do with it. The company's latest newcomers are Crunch Fitness, a California-based company with locations across the United States and the State Farm Disaster Claim Center. Crunch will open in the 30,000 square foot former Office Max store, which has been vacant since the Goldblatt Administration, in the Home Depot Plaza. In addition, just down the street, the State Farm Disaster Claims Center, -- which signed the lease the day after Super-storm Sandy - will fill a 4,500 square foot property at 477 Boston Post Road.

PPG is a family owned Real Estate and Development Company owned

(*"PPG" continued on page 14*)



**Honor Roll**  
**Amity Regional Middle School - Orange Campus**  
**First Marking Period**  
**Honor Roll - Page 31**



## Tarbox Receives Gubernatorial Appointment

By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent

Former Connecticut Army National Guardsman Sergeant Paul Tarbox has long provided a voice for his fellow veterans and his efforts have been noticed in the state's Capitol. Currently clerk of the Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs in Hartford, Governor Dannel P. Malloy recently appointed Tarbox to the Board of Trustees of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

The Fernbrook Road resident said he is eager to assume his new volunteer position. "Any opportunity to help vets in the state is certainly welcomed," he said. "It is a great opportunity to do a lot of good work."

In his past six years working for the Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Tarbox provides information about military and veterans issues to assist state lawmakers in policy making decisions. As a Board of Trustee member, Tarbox will be involved in helping to develop new programs and services for vets as well as expanding or modifying existing programs.



Paul Tarbox

Tarbox served as a communications sergeant in Operation Iraqi Freedom II at Camp Anaconda in Iraq from 2004 to 2005, an experience he describes as "scary but eye opening". "Most of the time we went about doing our day to day jobs and once in a while people attacked us. Our camp was nicknamed 'Mortaritaville' because we were attacked about 500 times while we were there," he said. "Luckily they weren't very accurate!" During his tour of duty, Tarbox wrote a series of columns for the Amity Observer called, "Letters from Iraq". He served in the Connecticut National Guard from 1999 to 2009, and received the Meritorious Service Award from the National Guard Association of Connecticut. In addition, Tarbox received notoriety when President Barak Obama quoted a passage from a letter written by Tarbox in his Presidential Veterans' Day address in 2010.

The Orange native is active in the community as well, having served on the Orange Government Access Television Committee, Special Events Committee, as a town constable, and currently on the town's Care of Veterans'

(*"Tarbox" continued on page 12*)





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## Come Vote for the Orange Senior Center Holiday Door Decorating Contest!

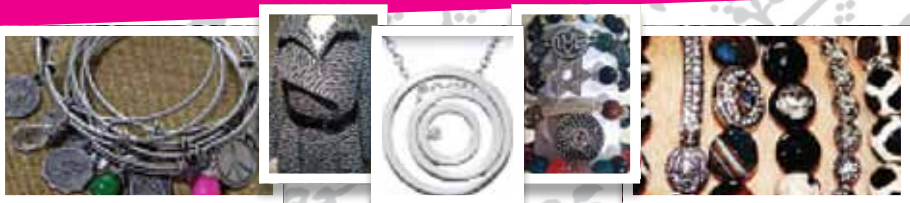
The Orange Senior Center has its 6th annual Holiday Door Decorating contest at the High Plains Community Center. There is still time to cast your vote for your favorite door and help us determine who the winner will be! Doors are beautifully decorated by American Legion Post 127, Mom's Club of Orange, Orange Lions Club, Peck Place School PTO, Peck Place School Creative Cats, Cub Scouts Pack 922 Wolf & Bear Dens, Daisy Troop 60226, Orange Rotary Club, Orange Arts & Crafts Guild, and Garden Club of Orange.



Students at Orange Community Nursery School are full of joy as they get to have Breakfast with Santa! They kicked-off the holiday season with Santa arriving on a fire truck while enjoying pancakes and crafts along with taking photos with Santa. Pictured here is the group of students with their siblings and a donation check that was presented to the fire department.

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Town of Orange Holiday Tree. [Photo by Katie Carbone]



*From the Publisher*

As we conclude our **7th year as your hometown newspaper**, I would like to take this opportunity to wish a **Happy New Year** to all of our loyal readers. 2012 was a great challenge to area businesses as economic recovery has been slow nationwide, however we have done our best to continue providing our advertisers with **affordable rates** and a means for them to promote their products and services in a **cost effective manner**. We strive to enhance our content as well as our readership within and outside of the Orange community. We continue to learn and grow with each publication and work tirelessly to put out the best product we can. **Orange residents certainly deserve no less.**

While 2012 had its ups and downs, the Orange Town News was proud to produce this year's **July 4th Concert and Fireworks** commemorating the town's **"190-year Anniversary Celebration."** In addition, we were happy to help sponsor the **"British Invasion Tribute Band"** on Labor Day weekend which was enjoyed by a great crowd at the fairgrounds. On the down side, and while understanding that competition is to be expected in any business, I was personally disappointed to see the tone of a recent startup publication in Orange. Particularly the demeaning comments and innuendo made of our writers at the OTN that somehow they are subpar. I am proud of the team of **professional writers and contributors** at the Orange Town News, who live and work in this community. I believe their journalistic skills are on par or exceed those of any area publication. Our correspondents and contributors, led by our feature writer **Laura Fantarella** and including **Melissa Nicefaro, Rich Weizel, Bettina Thiel, Ginny Reinhard, Susan Noonan, Roberta Nestor, Ray Spaziani, Stephen Bailey** and **Leslie Marsh** have combined to provide a **diverse, educational and enjoyable reading experience** for our community and take great pride in their work.

The success of the OTN is based strictly on the **support we have received from the community** along with the **professionalism, dedication and talent of our entire staff**. I would like to personally commend each of them on their efforts this year as we **continue to grow** with additional publications in other area towns. In addition, the **loyalty of our advertisers** has not gone unnoticed through their continued support through their patronage of the OTN.

In conclusion, my thanks go out to the **hundreds of townspeople** who submit their letters, articles, photos, bulletin board events and more. While our paper has grown to 52 pages, do not worry; we will continue to make room to publish your local news and events, no matter how big or small.

I would like to personally **wish you all a Safe, Happy and Healthy 2013.**

Sincerely,

*Rocky Salpento - Publisher*

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All articles, photographs and letters must include your name, address and daytime telephone number for confirmation. The Orange Town News reserves the right to reject any advertisement, article, photograph or letter. Letters to the editor must be unique to the Orange Town News.

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### Orange Town News

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

Upcoming Issue Deadline	Upcoming Issue Dates
January 11th.....	January 18th
February 1st .....	February 8th
February 22nd.....	March 1st

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

## FROM OUR READERS

### Designated Drivers Save Lives

During the holiday season, it can be difficult to find the perfect gift for everyone on your list. However, there is one gift that any adult would love to receive this year: a designated driver. Help your friends and family members enjoy the great times this holiday season by getting them home safe and sound. You also can encourage them to join you – and the Nation of Responsible Drinkers – in pledging to drink responsibly and use a designated driver at NationOfResponsibleDrinkers.com.

Fortunately, thanks to the help of designated drivers and increased law enforcement, the nation has made significant progress in preventing drunk driving. According to the latest government data, drunk-driving fatalities fell to their lowest level since alcohol record-keeping began in 1982 (a 52 percent decline from 1982 to 2010).\*

While that's great news, there's always more work to be done. That's why Dichello Distributors and Budweiser have partnered to promote "designated drivers". All of us at Dichello Distributors wish our friends and neighbors a safe and happy holiday. Together, we can help keep our roads safe.

*Tony Lota  
Alcohol Awareness Coordinator - Dichello Distributors, Inc.*

\*Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

### Remembering the True Miracle of Christmas

One of my earliest memories centers around a ride in the freight elevator of Howard and Barber's department store on Main Street in Derby and stepping out into a room totally transformed for the Christmas season. A fully decorated tree, laden with bulbs and tinsel, sparkled in one corner surrounded by wrapped presents and in a large chair sat "Santa", ready to hear my requests. I was overtaken with wonder and excitement that someone had done all this "just for me" and had done it all in the few minutes that it had taken for the old creaky elevator to ascend from the dingy bowels of "our best and biggest store", to the "top" floor where Santa was installed and could only be reached by walking through all the other departments. My mother, who firmly believed that rules were made for "other" people, refused to waste time looking for a parking place where the main entrance was located, had her own parking spot in the rear of the store's basement level where deliveries were made.

Maybe it was my 5 year-old mind that believed in miracles, or that stepping into a drafty old "room" could be the doorway into a magical landscape, or just the hope of a child lost in the confusion of seven other siblings, was indeed, loved and deemed special enough for this miracle and act of love. I don't remember when I learned about the function of elevators, the real purpose behind department store decorating and the truth about Santa, but I do remember the exact moment, after years of cynicism and unbelief, when his amazing love broke through and the true miracle of Christmas lodged deep in my heart and I understood that Yeshua (savior) had come to earth just for me and each one of us can say, he did it just for me. Have a blessed Christmas as you come to believe this truth and what Christmas really means.

*Bonnie Pettengill Pelaccia*

### 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 or email: [letters@orangetownnews.com](mailto:letters@orangetownnews.com).

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

We reserve the right to reject any letter.





## ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP

### Orange Schools Move to New Technology for Student Information

By Melissa Nicefaro – Orange Town News Correspondent

Orange schools are moving to a new web-based student information system called PowerSchool that will be used for everything from attendance, grading, scheduling and lunch tickets to school nurses tracking immunizations and allergies. Currently the school district uses an information system that was created by an independent contractor. The new system will enable the town's four elementary schools to track assignments, grades, student performance and disciplinary issues. At the end of each school year, administrators will much more easily be able to handle sending state-based reports than with the current system. "We'll be able to map out residency locations by school for the district, and administrators can use it for block scheduling by grade level and report cards," Matthew Bruder, Technology Administrator for Orange Schools explains.

A parent portal will enable parents to receive a text message or email alert for homework, grades, report cards or even notes from a teacher. Bruder says the new system will make a teacher's job easier since it's a much more user-friendly interface than the current system. The system will be hosted by Pearson, the creator of PowerSchool offsite at its facility in California. "That will save us a tremendous amount of hardware purchases. It requires two high-end servers that we will not have to purchase every four years," Bruder says.

Implementation in the first year will cost \$39,000 and in subsequent years, an annual fee is based on student enrollment, with the school district paying \$8 per student. The first year runs through June 30, 2014, at which time the annual subscription begins. "From a classroom management perspective, teachers can put a seating map together with the student's actual picture, which will help substitutes in the event a teacher is out," he says. In January, administrators will begin using PowerSchool. Teachers will be trained to use the program over this upcoming summer and they will start using it in September. The parent portal will be the last part to be rolled out in the months that follow, according to Bruder. "Once we get the full functionality for teachers and administrators—the technical end of it—then we'll enable the parent portal," he says.

"The initial cost is a little bit more than we're paying now, but in the end, we'll wind up saving a little bit by having them host it," he says. "We'll save money and resources on myself and the technology specialist by not having to maintain and back up the database here and opting to have it in a cloud." Bruder says parents needn't worry about information security and privacy: "It's all in a secure site, whether it's on a server in Orange or hosted in California, it's going to have the same level of security—a 256 bit encryption or higher," Bruder says. "We're excited about this. Administration is looking forward to it," he says.

The Orange Board of Education unanimously approved the purchase of the new system at its monthly meeting on December 3. PowerSchool is the most widely used system in schools in 50 states and over 65 countries. Amity is also considering transitioning to PowerSchool, a move that would create a seamless transition of records for students going from elementary school to middle school.



## STUDENT NEWS

### Lauralton Hall Announces Its First Quarter Honor Rolls

Principal Ann Pratson of The Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Lauralton Hall has announced the Honor Roll for the First Quarter of the 2012 – 2013 school year. High Honors students have achieved an average of at least 92 in all academic courses; Honors students have an average of at least 86 in all academic courses.

Orange Residents receiving High Honors:

- Grade 12: Taylor Black, Lauren Lichac and Rebecca Morgan
- Grade 10: Taylor Choe and Claire Seeney

Orange Residents receiving Honors:

- Grade 11: Bridget Stackpole
- Grade 10: Caitlyn Black
- Grade 9: Georgia Kral



### Cretella Accepted at Coastal Carolina University

Richard Cretella, a resident of Orange, has been accepted at Coastal Carolina University for the fall 2013 semester. Richard is a student at Amity Regional High School.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C. The University offers 56 areas of study toward the baccalaureate degree and seven master's degree programs in education, writing, coastal marine and wetland studies, and the MBA. Ten new undergraduate degree programs were recently added, including biochemistry, economics, graphic design, information systems, intelligence and national security studies, musical theatre, theatre arts, as well as criminology, health and aging, and social justice tracks in sociology. More than 9,000 students from across the country and the world interact with a world-class faculty, and enjoy a nationally competitive NCAA I athletic program, an inspiring cultural calendar, and a tradition of community interaction that is fueled by more than 160 student clubs and organizations. Visit [www.coastal.edu](http://www.coastal.edu) for more information.

### Sacred Heart Academy Honor Roll

Sacred Heart Academy Principal Sr. Maureen Flynn, ASCJ has announced the Honor Roll for the First marking period of the 2012 – 13 academic year. The following students from Orange have been named to the Honor Roll:

Students receiving High Honors: Emma Dragan, Demery Ormrod and Willa Rusowicz-Orazem

Students receiving Honors: Andrianna Ayala

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.



Founded 1946

Sacred Heart Academy

## Orange Kindergarten Registration

If your child is turning five on or before January 1, 2014, it is time to register for kindergarten!!

Please contact Mary L. Tracy School by January 18th to receive a kindergarten registration packet:

**Telephone – 203-891-8028**

**Email – [kregistration@orange-ed.org](mailto:kregistration@orange-ed.org)**

If you are leaving a telephone message, or sending an email, please give your child's name, date of birth, address, and telephone number.

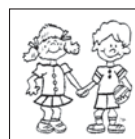
Registration packets will be mailed in February with a date and time of your appointment in March.

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## CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

### Amity Teen Center

The Amity Teen Center is getting ready for our "2013 People's United Bank 2013 Chilly Chili Run", a 5K Road Race followed by a hot chili brunch, on Tuesday, January 1st in Orange. This year we are honored to have five 90+ year old runners registered to participate in the 3.1 mile race. They include Betty Hutchinson, 91, from Concord New Hampshire, Don Osbourne, 91, from Branford Connecticut, Bill Tribou, 92, from Granby Connecticut, Bill Benson, 93, from Valley Stream Long Island and George "Doc" Whitney, 94, from Brattleboro Vermont. Two years ago the Chilly Chili Run set a United States record by having three 90+ year old runners participating in a 5K race. This year we will have five!

The race begins at 10:30 a.m. at the High Plains Community Center. Registration for runners is \$20.00 before December 17 and \$25.00 after that date and on the day of the race. Registration for the Fitness Walk is \$10.00 before December 17 and \$12.00 after that and on the day of the race. Applications are available in the Orange Park and Recreation office or you may register online until midnight on December 26 at [www.hitekracing.com](http://www.hitekracing.com). We will also have early packet pickup and late registration on Monday, December 31 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the front lobby of the High Plains Community Center. Come out to support the Amity Teen Center and see more of history being made right here in Orange!

For more information, please call Race Director Joe Riccio at 203 481-7453 or Race Coordinator Jane Opper at 203 795-9351 or email us at [chillychilirun@hotmail.com](mailto:chillychilirun@hotmail.com).

### Orange Lions Club to Make Community Grants

The Orange Lions Club recently announced that it will provide a limited number of mini-grants to eligible community organizations and/or individuals in Spring 2013. The program is intended to provide funds to worthy causes and activities in the town of Orange that might not otherwise be funded, announced Orange Lions Club President Ronald Ruotolo. He explained, "While our Lions Club continues to provide funds to Lions blindness prevention programs, aid for the blind, and eye research, which are long-time Lions Club priorities, we feel strongly that it is important to support local projects as well." Ruotolo emphasized that this funding is in addition to several college scholarships which the Orange Lions Club awards to Amity High School graduates from Orange each year.



Ruotolo has appointed Kenneth Lenz of Orange to chair the community mini-grants program this year. Lenz stated that blank applications for the community mini-grants program are now available at the High Plains Community Center in the Community Services Department, at the Peoples United Bank branch on Orange Center Road, at the Case Memorial Library, and from any Orange Lion. He stated, "In addition to our ongoing commitment to fund anti-blindness programs and provide aid to those with sight problems, the Orange Lions feel that it is crucial to continue to use some of our fund-raising resources for local community-based projects and activities. We have an outstanding review committee which will enable us to make fair and appropriate decisions regarding all allocations." Completed applications are due to be submitted to the Orange Lions no later than February 1, 2013. All Orange non-profit clubs and related non-profit organizations, individual Orange residents, and Orange government entities are eligible to apply. The recipients of Orange Lions mini-grants will be announced in early March after the selection committee completes its review of all timely applications.

In addition, the Orange Lions continue to conduct such community activities as the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner, free Eye Screenings, Easter Egg Hunt, and Seniors Pizza Party. The Orange Lions also collect used eyeglasses for restoration and distribution to needy people all over the world. Drop boxes for used eyeglasses are located in the Case Memorial Library, the High Plains Community Center lobby, Bear & Grill Restaurant and Dr. Regina Johnston's office at 501 Boston Post Rd. The Orange Lions also co-sponsor, in conjunction with the Milford Lions Club, a Leos youth group at the Foundation High School, located in Milford, for special needs youths.

### Love to Crochet?

Join the Hooked on the Sound (HOTS) Crochet Guild! We are a chapter of the Crochet Guild of America (CGOA), a non-profit group of enthusiastic crocheters in the southwest area (New Haven County) of Connecticut. We meet monthly to share stitch successes, assist with pattern problems, and generally have a great time crocheting! Please feel free to join us, there are NO FEES! Just bring along any project you are working on or one you may need help with. We meet at the Case Memorial Library, 176 Tyler City Road, Orange CT, 203-891-2170 (library only), Saturdays, 10AM - 1PM on the following dates for 2013: January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7.

Our meeting room is on the 2nd level, small meeting room. There is an elevator available (wheelchair accessible). Visit our website at <http://hotscrochetguild.yolasite.com/>. Have a question? Email us at [HOTSCrochetGuild@Live.com](mailto:HOTSCrochetGuild@Live.com). Like us on Facebook (Hooked on the Sound) and follow us on Twitter (@HOTS\_Crochet). Happy Yarning!

### Masonic Lodge Meeting

Ansantawae Masonic Lodge #89 A.F. & A.M. will hold a meeting on Friday, December 21st at 7:45 P.M. in the Masonic Lodge Hall, 59 Broad Street in Milford under the direction of Worshipful Master Robert L. Thomas. This is our Annual Meeting with reading of reports and Election of Officers.

All members of the Lodge are urged to attend this important meeting. Visiting Masons are always welcome. There will be a dinner served in the Banquet Hall at 6:30 P.M. for those who make reservations with the Junior Warden. For more information call Robert L. Thomas at 203-641-1714 or E-mail at [WMAAnsantawae89.org](mailto:WMAAnsantawae89.org).

[www.OrangeTownNews.com](http://www.OrangeTownNews.com)

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Orange Police Sergeant Ray LaPlante displays new accident reconstruction laser.

## Orange Police Making Use of Equipment Donation

By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent

Police Chief Robert Gagne hopes his department never has to use the state-of-the art accident reconstruction equipment that was recently donated by a towns person who wishes to remain anonymous. "If we need to use this equipment, someone had a really bad day," said Gagne. "But at least now we'll be even more prepared." The new equipment, which consists of a laser and accident reconstruction computer software, is used to collect evidence from accident scenes with extensive damage or personal injuries, typically fatal car crashes.

According to Police Sergeant Ray LaPlante, the laser will be able to automatically measure and plot roadways, trees, and every piece of physical evidence at the scene of an accident and upload it to the computer that will immediately map the information. "We used to do this by nail and yardstick and rolls of measuring tape, good old-fashioned long division and a ton of man hours" LaPlante said. "This equipment is incredibly precise, and much, much faster and easier." It will also help to minimize the length of time a road is closed after a major accident and will speed up the progress of compiling accident reports. The equipment has been on the department's wish list for years but there were other priorities and the \$12,000 price tag just wasn't in the budget. The equipment can be used for evidence collection at crime scenes as well.

The reconstruction tool is the latest equipment addition to the department since it acquired a Humvee at no cost earlier this year through a program that enables National Guard equipment to be donated to law enforcement agencies. The vehicle came in handy during Hurricane Sandy when debris and high waters made it difficult to travel through some areas in town, and it was needed to transport an elderly resident to the hospital. "There's a reason we have it, it's not just a toy," Gagne said. "It's a good piece of equipment to have."

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## TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

### Emergency Responders Need to See House Numbers

We all hope we will never have to call 911 for an emergency, but if and when we do, we're assured help will arrive quickly. With this in mind ask yourself, "Is my house number visible from the street?"

Most of you will answer yes, and while you may have a number on your mailbox, there are several guidelines that need to be considered to ensure your home can be located by police, fire, and emergency medical service personnel quickly and without delay. Precious minutes can be wasted if responding agencies cannot locate your home because of inadequate numbering, or in some cases, none at all. Remember, if they can't find you, they can't help you!



Orange CERT offers the following tips to assist you in marking your residence:

- Do you know how large the numbers should be? It's recommended to use at least 4-inch high or larger plain block numbers on a contrasting background.
- If you are numbering a curbside mailbox, reflective numbers work best, but make sure to put them on a contrasting background. For example, don't put black numbers on a black mailbox. Number both sides of the mailbox so numbers can be seen from either side. If your mailbox is nested next to other mailboxes, it would be a good idea to also place numbers on the door.
- When the mailbox is on the opposite side of the road from the home, the number should be displayed directly on the house or a sign or post at the entrance to the driveway as well as the mailbox.
- Place the recommended 4-inch high numbers on the house where it will be visible from the road, preferably in a lighted area and where the view is not blocked by bushes or shrubbery.
- Do not place numbers on utility poles or trees or within the road right-of-way. Not only is this inconsistent with local laws, but emergency personnel don't usually look to those areas for the house number.

This general information was taken from the Orange Town Charter, Part II, Chapter C, Paragraph 186-2. If you live in a different town or city, you should check to see what your town requires. Each town may vary slightly, but these are good general requirements.

#### OTHER SUGGESTIONS:

If you have an emergency and need to call 911, emergency personnel will take all the relevant information from you and may give you some specific instructions. Follow their instructions. Here are a few general suggestions that might help:

Turn on your porch light or front door light, even in daylight. This will increase visibility and aid rescuers in finding your home.

If it is safe and an extra person is available, have someone wait outside to flag down rescuers when they arrive. Just make sure you stand in a safe area and not in the street.

Secure your pets. This will avoid delays in confronting protective or scared dogs, or prevent indoor pets from inadvertently going outside when rescuers enter your home.

Orange CERT is constantly preparing and training to assist local police, fire, and EMS personnel in the community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. As dedicated volunteers, we also feel it's a good idea to educate the public on safety and preparedness issues.

Visible house numbering is just one of the most important areas and hope the preceding information is helpful to all. For more information on Orange CERT, visit the website at [www.cert-orange.org](http://www.cert-orange.org).

*("Tarbox" continued from page 1)*

Graves Committee. In 2006 Tarbox ran State Representative Paul Davis' reelection campaign but was unsuccessful in his own attempt to unseat First Selectman Jim Zeoli in 2007.

Connecticut State Senator Carlo Leone, Co-Chairman of the Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs, said Tarbox will be a "valuable asset to the Board of Trustees". "This is a good appointment," Leone said. "As clerk on the Veteran's Affairs Committee, Paul is always available anytime we need more details about veterans' issues. He is a good resource for information and makes it easier for us to do our jobs when drafting legislation."

[www.OrangeTownNews.com](http://www.OrangeTownNews.com)

### From the Fire Marshal's Office



#### Tips for a Safe Holiday Season!

The winter holidays are a time for celebration and that means cooking, decorating the home and entertaining. The Orange Fire Marshal's Office would like to offer some home safety guidelines to ensure that the holidays will be happy for you and your family.

Home fire safety should be a major concern. All decorations should be fire resistant or non-combustible and located a safe distance from heat sources, such as cooking and wood stoves, fireplaces, space heaters or televisions. If smoking is permitted in your home, provide a place for smokers to discard their cigarettes. Place all used ashtrays in the sink and wet down the contents to prevent an accidental fire. As always, keep all matches and lighters out of the reach of children. And, most importantly, check all smoke detectors to be sure they are working properly.

One of the most common causes of accidental home fires during the holiday season is unattended candles. December is the peak time of year for candle fires. Candles are often knocked over by children or pets, causing injuries and fires. Before lighting any candle, secure it in a properly fitting holder with a wide base to catch the hot dripping wax and to prevent the candle from tipping over. Trim the wick to one-quarter inch. Extinguish taper and pillar candles when the wick is within two inches of the holder. Votives should be put out before the last half-inch of wax begins to melt. Keep candles at least one foot from combustibles on tables, beside window treatments or decorations. More than one-half of candle fires began when something flammable was too close to the candle. After a candle is lit, it must be supervised until properly extinguished. NEVER leave candles burning when leaving a room or going to sleep. During a power outage, avoid carrying a lit candle. Use flashlights.

Before displaying any electrical decoration, be sure it is tested and approved by a testing facility such as Underwriter's Laboratory (U.L.) or Factory Mutual (F.M.). Use only lights designed and approved for the outdoors when creating an exterior display. Check all light cords and plugs for worn-out or exposed wiring. Replace any damaged light strings or decorations with new items. Do not overload electrical circuits. Use multi-outlet surge protector power strips when running multiple applications of decorative lights.

Due to the cost of home heating fuel, the use of fireplaces and wood-burning stoves for alternative heating sources is at an all time high. Have the fireplace or wood stove flue inspected and cleaned at least once a year. Creosote build up is the number one cause of chimney fires. Check for cracks in the mortar or deterioration of the piping before lighting a fire. Don't forget to open the flue. Make sure that the safety screen or doors are in place to prevent sparks from igniting flammable furnishings or interior finishes. Never use lighter fluid or any other flammable liquid to start a fire. Use kindling and paper which is weighed down to prevent it from flying out of the chimney or fireplace. Once the fire is out, put the cool ashes into a metal container with a lid, outside and well away from the home. The container should be placed on a non-combustible surface. To prevent the build-up of carbon monoxide, keep a window slightly open to allow fresh air to enter the home. Electric heaters should be at least three feet from any combustible materials. The use of kerosene heaters is not recommended.

Christmas tree safety begins with the selection of a fresh tree that holds its needles. Trim the trunk at least 1-inch above the original cut before placing the tree in a sturdy stand. For the first watering, fill the stand with hot water to open up the sap channels so the tree can consume water efficiently. Use cool water thereafter. The tree may be kept inside as long as it remains fresh and moist. When it begins to lose needles and starts to dry, discard the tree. Make sure artificial trees are labeled as fire retardant. Keep a fire extinguisher handy, near an exit. DO NOT attempt to extinguish a fully involved tree fire. Leave the house and call 9-1-1.

Please follow these simple tips for a safe, happy holiday season. The Orange Fire Marshal's Office Community Smoke Detector Program will provide and/or install 10 year lithium battery alarms free of charge to Orange residents. If you have any questions regarding fire safety or wish to have smoke alarms provided and/or installed in your home, please contact The Orange Fire Marshal's Office at (203) 891-4711, Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM or visit the website at [www.orangefiremarshal.com](http://www.orangefiremarshal.com).

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# TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

## From the Youth Services Coordinator *By John Ulatowsski*



### Youth Services Job Bank Can Help With Yard Work, Other Needs

The Orange Youth Services Job Bank provides a service of pre-screened students, ages 13-16, who can be employed by area residents to do a large variety of jobs such as yard work, garden help, cleaning attics/basements, snow shoveling, painting, party assistance, tutoring, mother's helper, and more.

### Intergenerational Tutoring Program Seeking Senior Volunteers

Orange Youth Services is seeking Senior Citizens to volunteer to assist students, grades 3-12, with tutorial help. Seniors are asked to commit to one or two session(s) per week helping students with homework. Subjects being tutored are: English, Math, History, and Study Skills. The group meets every Thursday from 3:30 to 5 pm at Case Memorial Library. Tutoring times are in two sessions. For more information, please contact John Ulatowski, Youth Services Coordinator, or call 891-4785.

## OVNA Healthline



### Tips for Enjoying the Holidays and Being Kind to Your Heart

The holidays tend to be the least "heart healthy time of the year" but if you have congestive heart failure you can still take control and enjoy the holiday season and some of those wonderful foods. Limit your serving sizes as well as alcohol. Choose foods that are special and select items that will not make your heart failure worse – at parties or those special dinners select fruits and vegetables, skip the dip. Skip foods high in sodium such as processed cheeses, deli meats, ham, sausages, nuts, sauces, salad dressings and soda.

If you are traveling, be sure to bring a current list of all your medications, including doses and the names and phone numbers of your physicians. Bring at least three extra days of prescription medications in case your return is postponed or delayed. If you are taking a blood thinner, such as Coumadin, make sure you have a record of your latest INR (international normalized ratio) in case of an emergency. Keep up with your daily weights and symptom management so that you can have an enjoyable holiday season.

Upcoming Blood Pressure Clinic Dates at Orange Visiting Nurse Association, 605A Orange Center Road: December 20th Thursday, 1-2 pm.



## Ciola Completes Road Master Program

Kenneth Ciola of the Orange Highway Department successfully completed UConn's Road Master Program. At the October 25, 2012 UConn Storrs campus reception, Ken was awarded a Certificate in recognition of his training. He is the 3rd member of this department to receive the Road Master Program degree.

The Road Master Program is a series of seminars covering the fundamentals of modern road maintenance management procedures and techniques – covering topics such as asphalt, paving, and drainage and plowing.

As a Road Master, Ken is prepared to handle a multitude of Public Works road situations. Congratulations Ken on this well-deserved honor.

## Town of Orange Meetings for the Month of December 2012

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



Town Hall

18th	GATA .....	7:00 pm	Town Hall
19th	Safety & Health Committee .....	9:00 am	Police Station
	Recycling Committee .....	7:00 pm	HPCC
	Park & Recreation Commission ....	7:30 pm	Town Hall
26th	Safety Commission .....	9:00 am	Town Hall

Please Note: Meetings may be cancelled. Contact the Town Clerk's Office at 203-891-4729 for updated information.

## Town of Orange Holiday Hours

- Monday, December 24, 2012 – All Town offices are closed. *Exception: Transfer Station will remain open to 2:00 p.m.*
- Tuesday, December 25, 2012 – All Town offices are closed.
- Monday, December 31, 2012 - Town offices and the Transfer Station will close at 1:00 p.m. Highway Dept. will close at 11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 1, 2013 – All Town offices are closed.

**Happy Holidays to All!**

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*Jake Halpern signing copies of Dormia and World's End.*

**Outstanding Author Visits Orange Middle School**

Jake Halpern, author of *Dormia* and *World's End*, presented two assemblies on Thursday, November 15th to students at the Amity Middle School Orange campus. Students were enthralled with his storytelling! Jake explained how he takes his ideas for various scenarios in his books from real life—then puts a twist on them. Students were spellbound by these tales that eventually end up as part of the plot in one of his books.

Ten students from each academic team were honored at the assemblies. Students were selected by their team teachers as exhibiting the nine character traits from our character development program—Jackie's Nine, based on Jackie Robinson. Each student honored was given a front row seat at the assembly, received a copy of *World's End*, and a Jackie's Nine bookmark. Jake graciously signed each copy!

It was truly a special day to be able to host Jake Halpern at our school. He is a gifted author! Parents may have heard him on National Public Radio's *All These Considered* or *This American Life*.



*Orange native Brian Bowser (r) poses with his dad Frank (l) as PPG Properties continues to bring new businesses into Orange.*

*("PPG" continued from page 1)*

by the Bowser family – son Bryan, who is CEO and president, dad Frank and mom Rosemary. The family has been in the real estate and development business for decades but in 2007 they decided to combine their individual talents and take the company to the next level. Now with offices in Fairfield and Orange, PPG has four divisions, investment acquisitions and commercial real estate; building and development; leasing and brokerage and property management. "We're a one stop shop," Bowser said. "We look at the potential of a property and then build on it from concept to completion." Becoming a resident of Orange himself ten years ago inspired Bowser to make it his job to recruit companies to locate in the community he has fallen in love with. The Orange school system drew him to town and now he and his wife, Jenny, live on Wild Rose Drive and have a child in each of the town's schools, Mary L. Tracy, Peck Place and Amity Middle School.

"I always want to develop where I live. Orange has a country feel but it's centrally located along the shoreline and you can get to the Boston Post Road or a highway in five minutes," Bowser said. "It's a great spot and a great town." Best of all is the welcoming attitude of the town's selectmen, Economic Development Commission and building department. "It's not like other towns that put you through the wringer," he said. "Everything goes smoothly and they welcome us in."

In 2011 the Orange Chamber of Commerce recognized PPG's contributions in helping to revitalize the Boston Post Road with its "Business of the Year" award. In the past several years PPG has filled many of the "big box spaces" along Route 1 with tenants, including Hibachi Grill and Jake's Way-back; Puerto Vallarta and several smaller nail salons. According to Bowser, all his tenants, big and small, are thriving.

Economic Development Corporation Director Paul Grimmer said Crunch Fitness and State Farm are the latest to join a growing list of "marquee names" that Bowser has brought to town. "Bryan has been really aggressive about recruiting businesses here and his hard work is paying off for the people of Orange," he said.



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## Race Brook School Powwow

Students and teachers alike were donned in native dresses for the 13th annual fourth grade Powwow at Race Brook School. Fourth grade teachers Colae Jukkala, Jo-Anne Escandon, Jennifer Bronson, and Valerie Anton organized the full day's activities with invaluable participation by many parent volunteers. The cohesiveness and flow of the day's events was due to many hours of planning and coordinating committees of volunteers at home and at school. The unit of studies was prefaced by the children having an opportunity to visit the Mashantucket Pequot Museum, where they took notes that would later assist them in their first research project. Pictured with the teachers is Mary John Cornell, resident of Orange, who has generously and graciously supplied home-made venison stew by husband, John, for thirteen years. All four of John and Mary's children attended Race Brook School, and the youngest of the four is now a senior in college. Mary is pictured in the middle with the fourth grade classroom teachers. The Powwow is a full day of enriching hands-on learning activities for the school's fourth graders. This year's Powwow took place on Friday, November 16th. Modeling the practice of Native Americans in the 1600s. The students, thanks to Mary Cornell and her husband John, had the opportunity to trade wampum shells for a bowl of the venison stew.



Dean Manley, WB David Manley, WB Elmer Manley, WB Greg Manley and WB David Eisenman

## Orange Masonic Lodge Closes After 52 Years

For 51 years (Since September 16, 1961) Orange Masonic Lodge #143 has served the Town of Orange. It has supported many charities, including the Orange Library, and given scholarships to many of the young people of Orange. It has now closed. Its members have merged with other Lodges in the Milford, West Haven, and New Haven areas.

WB David Eisenman, who has been serving as the Master of the Lodge this year, cites lack of new members and active young members, to take over the leadership, as the reason for the demise of the Lodge. For many years, in the beginning, the Lodge held its meetings in the Orange Congregational Church until it moved to Milford to meet in the Masonic Lodge Hall. Presiding over the closing of the Lodge at its last meeting on November 20th were the Manley family from Orange who have been staunch supporters of the Lodge for many years.

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# HAPPENINGS AT THE SENIOR CENTER

By Dennis Marsh

For information or reservations on the following events call the center at (203) 891-4784.

## Holiday Market

Inaugural Holiday Market will be held Friday, December 14th from 10:00am to 3:00pm in the Senior Center Café. The Market will assist the senior center members with their holiday shopping. Local vendors have been invited to have a table to sell their crafts and other items. Some vendors and crafters expected to attend are Audrey Galer, Scarves by Vin, The Orange Arts & Crafts Guild, Matti's Place, Orange Afghan Ladies, and others! For more information, call the senior center at (203) 891-4784.

## Holiday Cabaret

Hurricane Sandy spooked our Haunted Cabaret away. Therefore I have invited Dean & Marilyn to celebrate the holidays with us. The next Cabaret will be on Monday, December 17 from 5:30 to 7pm. The entertainment will be David Alan & Tracy Lynn, two impersonators who will perform their Dean Martin and Marilyn Monroe show "Dean & Marilyn". This will be a Holiday Theme event with a raffle! As an extra special treat, the Turkey Hill Brownies will open the event by singing Christmas carols from 5:30 - 6:00 pm. So be there early! Coffee and dessert, provided by Maria Biondi of the Orange Visiting Nurses Association, served at 5:30pm. Tickets for October's Haunted Cabaret will be honored for this special event! Tickets are now on sale for \$5 pp and are only available in advance at the Senior Center!

## Birthdays of the Month

### Birthdays of the Month with Orange Elementary School Students!

We will be celebrating Senior Center members' birthdays for the month of December on December 18. Some special students from some of the Orange Elementary Schools will bring an extra dessert and help us sing Happy Birthday! Please join us in the senior café for lunch and stay for cake from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm. The birthday member will receive a gift bag with candy and a ticket for a free future lunch. Lunch suggested donation is \$2.00. Call Ellen in the kitchen by noon the day before at (203) 891-4765 to reserve a meal. Join us to celebrate the birthdays of the month!

## Lunch & Learn

December 20, 11:30am to 1:00pm, Grace Durgin will present memorabilia from "World War II: The Home Front & War Front". Participants bring their own brown bag lunch at 11:30 and the program begins at noon. Coffee and dessert will be served. Call the center to register.

## Bingo of the Month

The Bingo Sponsor for December is Euro Home Care. Bingo will be held on Thursday, December 20 from 1 to 3 pm. For the holiday season students from Racebrook School will sing carols from 12 - 12:30pm. So come early, before bingo starts to enjoy the music! Refreshments and a door prize are donated by the sponsor.

## Friday at the Movies goes with a Christmas Classic!

December 21, at 1:00pm, "Holiday Inn". At an inn which is only open on holidays, a crooner and a hooper vie for the affections of a beautiful up-and-coming performer. Starring Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire, and Marjorie Reynolds. Call the center to let us know you are coming.

## Severe Weather Policy

Orange Transportation vans will not be in service when the Orange Highway Department deems the roads to be dangerous. Our Transportation Coordinator, Kim Callahan, will notify WTNH8, Fox 61, and Cable Channel 12 of cancellations. If you have van transportation scheduled during inclement weather, be sure to watch any one of these stations.

## Senior Center Classes

Instructors are responsible for notifying their students of class cancellations. If the Emergency Shelter is open, then all Senior Center activities, events, and classes are cancelled.

## 2013 TRIPS

**UCONN Women @ Georgetown In Washington DC** - January 8-10, 2013 (3 days, 4 meals). Stay at the Hyatt Place in Chantilly, VA. Enjoy an 85-item buffet dinner at Phillips Flagship Restaurant overlooking the Potomac River. Visit the Smithsonian Institution's newly renovated National Museum of American History. Dinner at Carmine's before going over to Georgetown to enjoy the game and cheer on the UCONN ladies! Finally enjoy a continental breakfast before visiting the Newseum—the free press in a free society telling the world's important stories. Cost is \$421pp double includes transportation, hotel, 4 meals, admissions, driver & tour gratuities. Full payment due with reservation. Now Accepting registrations.

**Million Dollar Quartet** - January 12, 2013 at the Bushnell Theater, Hartford. If you liked Jersey Boys... You're going to Love this! The new smash-hit musical inspired by the famed recording session that brought together rock 'n' roll icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for one unforgettable night! Lunch at the Chowder Pot: choice of stuffed Breast of Chicken or Baked Stuff Scrod, potato, vegetable, salad, rolls, coffee, tea, and dessert. Cost \$130 pp. includes transportation, lunch, admissions, & driver gratuities. Full payment due with reservation. Now accepting registrations.

**Broadway—Newsies Or Nice Work If You Can Get It** (You Choose the Show) - February 27, 2013. Lunch in New York and then a show. You choose between two fabulous shows, either Disney's Newsies or Nice Work if You Can Get It. Newsies is a musical set in New York City at the turn of the century. A rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a ragged band of teenaged "newsies," who dreams only of a better life far from the hardship of the streets. Nice Work If You Can Get It, a high-stepping new musical comedy extravaganza starring Matthew Broderick and Kelli O'Hara in a tale of playboys, politicians, bootleggers and leggy chorus girls, all running loose in a glorious Long Island mansion in the rip-roaring 1920s. Cost for Newsies: \$173 pp and cost for Nice Work is \$188 pp. Includes transportation, lunch, admissions, & driver gratuities. Full payment due with reservation. Now accepting registrations.

**Beijing City Stay** - April 8 - 17, 2013 (9 days, 15 meals). Experience the beauty and intrigue of one of the most fascinating cities in the world. You will visit the Beijing Zoo famous for its pandas, Tiananmen Square - the world's largest public square, the Forbidden City, enjoy a Peking Duck Dinner and Opera, visit the Great Wall of China, the Olympic Green, Temple of Heaven, and enjoy a Rickshaw Tour. Cost is \$2,499pp double. A \$250pp deposit due at registration. Cancellation insurance is available for \$220. A passport is required.

**Shades Of Ireland** - September 15 - 24, 2013 (10 days, 13 meals). Travel the Ring of Kerry, one of the world's most beautiful coastal routes, while experiencing old Ireland at its finest. You will visit Dublin, experience an Irish evening, visit Kilkenny - the home of Waterford Crystal, see Blarney Castle and kiss the Blarney Stone, enjoy a Jaunting Car Ride, travel along the Ring of Kerry, visit a farm in Killarney and experience the customs of a traditional Irish family, see the Cliffs of Moher, and stay overnight on the Cabra Castle grounds. A deposit is required to confirm your space. Cost with early booking discount is \$2,999pp, double occupancy. Deposit due at registration. Cancellation insurance is available. A passport is required.

**Reflections Of Italy** - September 23—October 2, 2013 (10 days, 14 meals). Revel in the magic of this famed destination as you set out on a comprehensive tour that features Rome, Venice and Florence. Explore Rome's rich history, including a guided tour of the Coliseum. Visit one of Chianti's treasured wineries complete with a stop at a Medieval Castle. Relish the charm of Venice amid its canals and architecture. Deposit due at registration. A passport is required.

*Happy Holidays from all of us at the Orange Town News!*



## UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

### Orange Nativity Display

Please join us to view and rejoice at the site of the Orange Nativity Display on the community center grounds from December 15th until January 2nd, 2013. The display, created and funded by individuals, churches, and organizations in our town and area towns, was very warmly welcomed when it was created last year. We invite you to bring your family, your friends, your children, your classes, and your scout and 4 H troops. Sing carols and rejoice at this wonderful time. Thank you co-chairmen: Marianne Bauer (203)795-6489 and George Guilotis (203)795-0331.

### St. Lawrence Christmas Concert 2012

St. Lawrence Church is pleased to announce that its annual Christmas concert will once again take place on Sunday, December 23rd at 2:00pm. The program will begin with a special performance by renowned organist and recording artist John Rose, demonstrating St. Lawrence's brand-new, state-of-the-art Rodgers organ. This year's concert of holiday favorites also features several wonderful guest artists who have performed nationally and worldwide: organist and pianist Jean-Pierre Dumont, violinist Kate O'Brien, soprano Barbie Harger, Kathy Bizub on trumpet, and The St. Lawrence Choir. The performance is led by Orange resident, Cantor/Music Director/tenor soloist Gary Harger, who has appeared on Broadway, National Tours, and in concert and opera.



Gary Harger

St. Lawrence Church is located at 505 Shelton Avenue in Huntington, CT. The concert is free and open to the general public --- all are welcome!

### Klarides to Collect Holiday Season Donations

State Rep. Themis Klarides will again team up with The Salvation Army and Walmart to collect money for local families in need. Klarides, on December 17, will man a Salvation Army kettle at the Derby Walmart store at 656 New Haven Ave. Walmart has agreed to match dollar-for-dollar what Klarides collects between 5-6 p.m.

Salvation Army provides year-round service to people in need--offering food, shelter and clothing or funding to local organizations with similar goals. Klarides has worked with The Salvation Army and Walmart on holiday season fundraising drives for three straight years, and over that period Republican legislators in the state's House of Representatives have raised thousands of dollars--all generously matched by Walmart.

Klarides serves as Deputy Republican Leader and represents the 114th General Assembly District covering Woodbridge, Orange and Derby.

### Boutique in the Barn

The Orange Arts And Crafts Guild will be hosting its BOUTIQUE IN THE BARN on Sunday, December 16, 10-3:00 pm at the Mapleview Farm, 603 Orange Center Road, on the green in Orange. The Holiday Fair will offer many wonderful holiday table arrangements, gifts and boutique items. The proceeds from the sale of the arrangements, as in years past, benefit an Amity High School senior pursuing his/her education in the field of art.

### Did You Miss the Orange Tree Lighting and the Holiday Antique Shop?

Open every Saturday, 10-3, the Academy Museum Antique Shop has gifts of all kinds for that "hard to buy for" member of the family and friends. Unique antiques and collectibles are for sale at this unusual shop located at 605 Orange Center Road. Come browse, shop and stroll through the museum's many exhibits of Orange history, Native American and the 19th century New Haven & Derby Railroad display. For information call 203 795-3106.



### Chamber of Commerce Holiday Party to Feature "The Bernadettes"

The Orange Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual holiday celebration and raffle, "A Taste of the Holidays" on Saturday, December 15th, 2012 at the Grassy Hill Country Club in Orange, CT. The evening, sponsored by Orange Life magazine, Orange Town News, TriCity Heating & Cooling, and Cohen & Wolf, includes passed hors d'oeuvres, a mashed potato bar, an anti-pasto table, a carving station and a complimentary beverage.

Live music will be provided by the fabulous "Bernadettes" an area favorite. The event will start at 6:30 p.m. and admission is \$50 per person. For reservations, tickets and information call the Chamber office, 203-795-3328 or email [mary@orangetchamber.com](mailto:mary@orangetchamber.com).

This year the Chamber is raffling off an LG 55", 3D, Smart TV from PC Richard's, Diamond Earrings, 1/2 carat total weight from Diamond Designs, and an iPad 2, 16GB. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased now from the Chamber. The drawing will take place at Grassy Hill Country Club at 8:00 p.m. during the celebration.

T U E S D A Y



# CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Case Memorial Library - 176 Tyler City Road - Orange, CT 06477 - 203-891-2170 - [www.casememoriallibrary.org](http://www.casememoriallibrary.org)

## Children

Please pre-register for all children's activities

### Mother Goose is on the Loose!

Sessions for babies and toddlers up to 24 months will be held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Includes nursery rhymes, music, and movement.

### Fall Story Hour

Sessions for age 2 will be held on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Sessions for age 3-5 will be held on Mondays at 4 p.m. This storytime session includes a craft.

### Holiday Teddy Bear Storytime

Monday, December 17, 6:30 p.m.: For children ages 2-5. Bring your bear and blankie!

### Holiday Film: Elf

Friday, December 28, 1 p.m.: After inadvertently wreaking havoc on the elf community due to his ungainly size, a man raised as an elf at the North Pole is sent to the U.S. in search of his true identity. Rated PG. 97 minutes.

### Music Together with Eniko Jonas

Saturday, January 5, 11 a.m.: A music and movement program for babies and toddlers.

## Teens

### Book Chat Cafe

Tuesday, January 15, February 5, 2:15 p.m.: For teens who love to read and share their opinions over refreshments. Held in the Amity Middle School Media Center. See Mrs. Goss for more information!

## Adults

### Monday Night Movies

Monday, December 17, 7 p.m.: Hysteria. Hysteria, a mischievously inspired romantic comedy set in the late 19th century, is based on the surprising truth of how Mortimer Granville came up with the world's first electro-mechanical vibrator in the name of medical science. R. 99 minutes. Please pre-register. Rescheduled from Monday, October 29.

### The Bookcase Book Discussion: In the Garden of Beasts

Thursday, December 13, 7:30 p.m.: Join The Bookcase leader Toby Zabin-ski for a discussion of Erik Larson's bestselling narrative non-fiction book In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin. Copies are available at the circulation desk. Please pre-register.

### Genealogy Workshop

Thursday, December 27, 7 p.m.: Greg Thompson of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists will teach you how to research your family history. A new topic is covered each month. Please pre-register.

### New Year New You!

Learn how to save money, get organized, eat right, get fit, and reduce your stress at the Library!

Couponing Basics: Monday, January 14, 6:30 p.m.: Learn how to use coupons to save at least 50 percent on groceries, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items, restaurants, school supplies, and so much more! This introductory class will cover acquiring, organizing, and utilizing coupons. You can't afford to miss it!

Ask the Organizers!: Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m.: What space in your life causes the most stress and frustration? Closets? Garage? Office? Or is it the endless piles of paper? Sandra Wheeler is a professional organizer for homes and offices, working with clients to clear the clutter, sort, and organize. Questions about your personal and business questions are welcome at this informational session.

### Film Buffs

Thursday, January 24, 7 p.m.: Young Goethe in Love. After aspiring poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe fails his law exams, he's sent to a sleepy provincial court to reform. Instead, he falls for Lotte, a young woman who is promised to another man. 100 minutes.

### Vincent: A Portrait by the Postman Roulin

Saturday, January 26, 1 p.m.: Actor Ted Zalewski as Joseph Roulin, the Postman, captures the spirit of van Gogh - the man - and the essence of van Gogh - the artist. As Vincent's loyal friend, Roulin relates van Gogh's amazing personal and artistic journey from his native Holland to the south of France. Sponsored by the Shirley Martin Prown Fund.



Case Memorial Library

### Cookbook Club

Monday, January 28, 7 p.m.: Come to the cookbook club for great food and great discussion about cooking, cookbooks, and chefs. Participating is simple: choose a recipe from one of the featured chef's cookbooks, prepare it at home, and come ready to share your dish and your experiences with the group. This month we're cooking from the cookbooks of Jamie Oliver. Cookbooks are available at the circulation desk for copying. See Rebecca for more information.

### Friends Book Sale

'Tis the season to be charitable! Help support the library by donating your new and gently used books, CDs, and DVDs to the Friends of the Library's semi-annual book sales. Proceeds enable the Friends to support many of the great materials, programs, and services you enjoy at the library.

### One-on-One E-Reader Training

Do you need help learning the ins and outs of your e-reader or tablet? Are you still trying to figure out how to get free library books onto your device? The Library can help! In our one-on-one training sessions, a Librarian will guide you through the process of using your e-reader or tablet and downloading books from the Library's free e-book service called OverDrive. Call or stop by the Library to schedule your appointment.

### Art in the Library

Oil and prisma-color by Graham Dale will be on display in the meeting room through the month of December. Thursday, January 10, 5-7 p.m.: Meet artists Joy Haines and William Boland at the opening reception for their exhibits of mixed media, watercolors, and photography. Artwork will be on display in the meeting room through the month of January.

*Programs at the Case Memorial Library are free (except as noted for materials charges) and open to the public. Pre-registration is required for Library programs. Library hours are as follows: Monday and Thursday 10-8; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10-5; Saturday 10-4. The Library will be closed on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Library will close at 5 p.m. on December 31 and will be closed on January 1 in observance of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.*

## And the List Just Keeps Growing...

The Case Memorial Library, 176 Tyler City Road, announces its latest additions to its movies, audiobooks and music CD collections for your pleasure:

### Movies on DVD

Being Flynn (2012) • The Cabin in the Woods (2011) • Dark Shadows (2012)  
Dexter, Season 1 (2006) • The Five-Year Engagement (2012) • Glee, Season 2 (2011)  
Prometheus (2012) • Safe (2012) • 30 Rock, Season 1 (2007)  
What to Expect When You're Expecting (2012)

### Audiobooks

Agus, David - The End of Illness (613) • Cornwell, Patricia - The Bone Bed  
Evanovich, Janet - Notorious Nineteen • Flynn, Gillian - Gone Girl  
Grisham, John - The Racketeer • Kellerman, Jesse - Trouble  
O'Reilly, Bill - Killing Kennedy • Patterson, James - Now You See Her  
Rushdie, Salman - Joseph Anton (Biography/Rushdie/[Salman]/Rushdie)

### Music

Broken Bells (self-titled) (ROCK) • Grizzly Bear - Shields (ROCK)  
Hamilton, Chico - Revelation (JAZZ) • Krall, Diana - Glad Rag Doll (JAZZ)  
Mumford & Sons - Babel (FOLK) • The Rolling Stones - Beggars Banquet (ROCK)  
Scofield, John - A Moment's Peace (JAZZ)  
Springfield, Rick - Songs for the End of the World (ROCK)  
Stone, Joss - The Soul Sessions (R&B) • Swift, Taylor - Red (COUNTRY)



## Veterans Let Freedom Ring at Race Brook School Event

By Melissa Nicefaro – Orange Town News Correspondent

To every person, the word 'veteran' has a different meaning. To some, veterans are members of our armed forces, honored once a year. To others, a veteran is a family member or loved one full of stories and memories of their time in the service. To the kids at Race Brook School, a veteran is all of that and more. These children have learned firsthand that a veteran is a person directly responsible for our freedom. On November 9, the school held an assembly that honored some 31 veterans, and to each of them, the word veteran has a different personal meaning.

According to Principal Michael Gray, "Merriam Webster defines 'Veteran' as: an old soldier of long service, a former member of the armed forces and a person of long experience usually in some occupation or skill." To him, veterans are a courageous group of individuals from all walks of life that have made extraordinary sacrifices and accomplished tremendous feats of valor while enduring the physical and emotional fallout that war embodies. "Without the commitment to country and honor that so many of our men and women in the armed services displayed and continue to display in what have been some of the toughest times for our Nation, we would not have the luxury to enjoy the freedoms we have today. To our Veterans I say 'thank you,'" he said during the assembly, which was sponsored by the school's student council under the guidance of Race Brook teachers Pamela Galatioti and Jo-Anne Escandon.

The event was attended by Aleks Morosky, a congressional aid and veteran himself. He read a letter from Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro that asked attendees to reflect, be thankful and understand what it means to be an American. He read: "We are a unique people because we live in a nation devoted to the ideals of freedom and democracy. World Peace is one of life's most precious gifts, and we should be ever grateful to the dedicated individuals who helped to maintain the liberty and security we cherish." The message was not lost on students, who shared their own letters with veterans before the crowded assembly, a sea of red, white and blue.

Fifth grade student Leah Turner read, "Thank you for fighting for our country. I know you sacrificed a lot. You left your family for a very long time so others could enjoy freedom. You put your life in danger to protect our rights. We are all very thankful for the service you provide to us. We are all so very proud of you."

Gray said Veterans Day is a day to honor our service men and women and also their loved ones. "Let us not forget those who were left behind, the families of our veterans, as we owe them a debt of gratitude as well and recognize the sacrifices they too made while their loved one was away defending our nation," he told the crowd. He urged the children to remember the wives, husbands, children, mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers of veterans, since they also had courage and strength as they bid their soldier farewell and prayed for the day they would see them again. "For many, sadly, this was a dream that would never come true. For others, I suppose, the reunion was heartfelt yet bittersweet as war leaves invisible scars and very deep wounds that not even time can heal. Please afford these men and women the respect they so rightly deserve, not just with your words, but through your actions."

Through their actions of singing patriotic songs and thanking veterans personally for their time of service to our country, the students showed their appreciation and understanding with the honorees. A slideshow of pictures—some from many years ago—played along with music, featuring photo after photo of veterans with their military comrades or families, a visual reminder of the sacrifices the veterans have made for our country. The focus at the assembly was not just on those sacrifices, but also on how those sacrifices can be recognized every day, not just on Veterans' Day.

Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Bill May encouraged students and adults to give back to honor veterans every day by becoming involved with such programs as House of Heroes. He oversees the Connecticut branch of the national organization which offers no-cost home improvements to veterans and their families. The mission is to recognize, honor and serve military and public service veterans for their service and sacrifice. Those who participate discover the rewards of selfless service, leadership and team-building. The organization accepts monetary donations and is always looking for volunteers to join their effort. "We make a difference in a day," May said. "Now use the freedom we fought for to do good things for your community."

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## Amity Students Invited to Boston Science Symposium

By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent

Developing cutting edge technology that could eventually make algae a viable source of biodiesel fuel or discovering a way to use polymer plastic to create synthetic human organs that may revolutionize the organ donation system are hardly typical high school curriculum topics. But Amity Regional High School's Science Research Program gives seniors like Tanay Lathia and Satish Bhat the freedom to indulge their love of science without limits, enabling them to take on research projects as involved as any scientist.

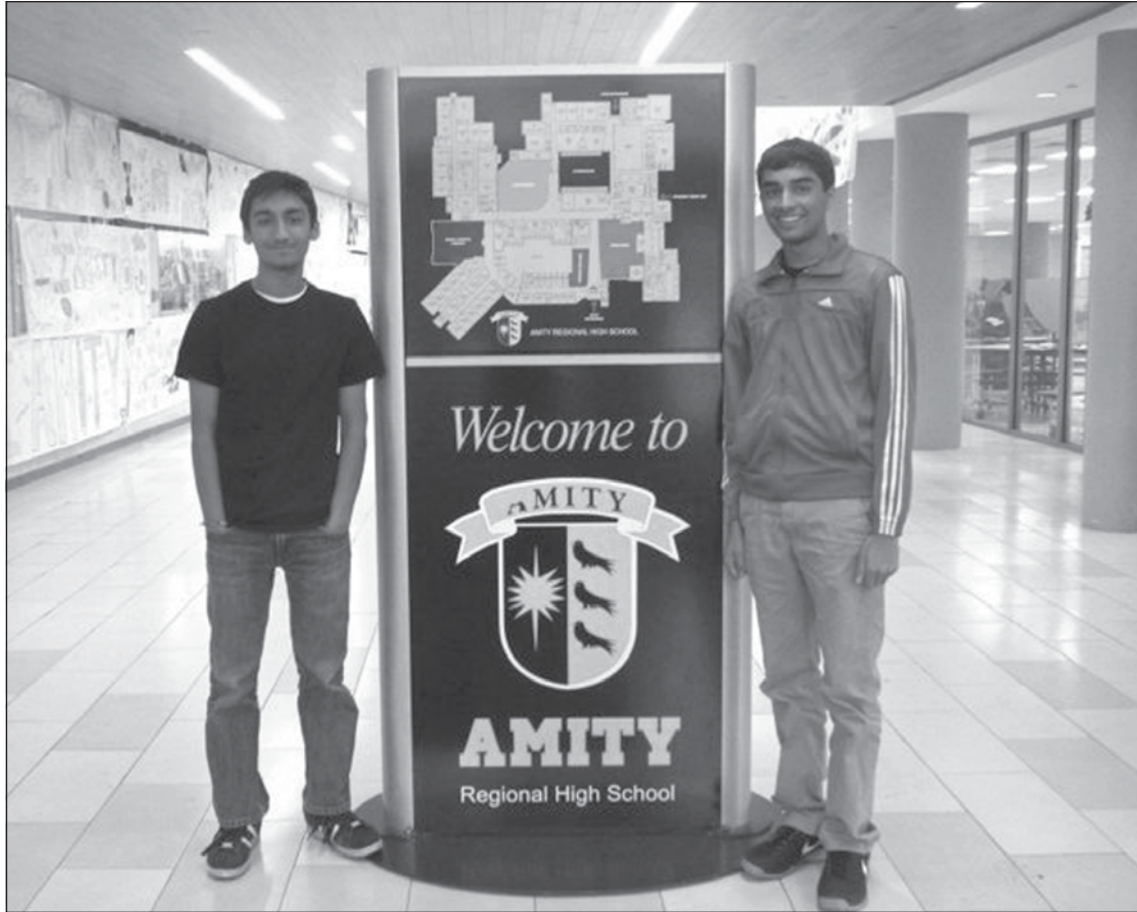
The research the two conducted for their classwork led to a recent invitation to attend an international science symposium in Boston, hosted by the international Materials Research Society. According to its website, the MRS is "an international organization of materials researchers from academia, industry, and government that promotes communication for the advancement of interdisciplinary materials research to improve the quality of life." To

attend the conference, hopefuls must submit an application about their research and of the 6,500 who attend, nearly all are at the college, graduate and post-doctoral level. Though Lathia and Bhat were among the youngest there, there was nothing inexperienced about the research they champion.

Lathia has spent the past year testing the "Trigger Theory: The Effect of Different Nutrients on the Lipid Content in *Tetraselmis suecica*." For those of us not so science-savvy, Lathia did his best to put his work in layman's terms. He explained that in his experiments to change algae's growing conditions, and "starve it of its nutrients," his findings revealed the algae would nearly double its oil production. "Algae fuel is currently about five times more expensive than oil so my research is of interest to people investigating an economically viable fuel source," Lathia said. "Thirty percent of algae's body weight is oil, but under starved conditions it increases to 60 percent. This is a fairly new field that is gaining interest as a sustainable source of green energy fuel."

Attending the symposium was eye-opening and exciting for Lathia who was able to see projects above and beyond the scope of typical high school work. "It was cool to see cutting edge projects done by people from Massachusetts Institute of Technology or the Indian Institute of Technology in India who have all the resources at their disposal," he said.

Bhat presented the work he conducted at local labs and at the University of Connecticut in tissue and biomedical engineering. Working with the thermal plastic, polymer (polycaprolactone), Bhat extracted pieces of rats' heart ventricles then used the material to create "scaffolding" to see if the material could stimulate the body to regenerate its own organ tissue. The rats not only survived but their platelet counts rose and they had increased blood flow to the heart indicating it functioned at or above the level it had before the scaffolding was implemented. "I am not the first person to ever try this but it's still pretty novel," Bhat said. "It has been done in bone tissue engineering, but not commonly investigated in the heart. A lot of research is being done in tissue engineering, because the main goal is finding a solution to the organ donor system. If we can develop synthetic organs people won't have to wait for organs."



Pictured (l-r): Amity High School Students Tanay Lathia and Satish Bhat.

me! A gentleman even asked me if I was doing my Ph.D. work in the U.S.!" he said.

Bhat particularly enjoyed the opportunity to interact with scientists from countries like Japan, China and India. "It is very interesting to see the different experiences people are having around the world. Even though we think America is on the forefront of technology, it is really other countries like Poland, Switzerland, and Sweden that are on the cutting edge of research," Bhat said.

Both Bhat and Lathia are thankful the Amity curriculum includes this independent study course. "I've always been fascinated by science and sitting in a classroom taking notes was never enough," Bhat said. "I was always looking for scientific experiments on YouTube and reading about the newest inventions in Popular Science. I read anything I could get my hands on. In this class I finally found a great science experience that fit my needs."

Among the largest program of its kind in the state, according to instructor Deborah Dey, the class is representative of an authentic research program where students choose their own course of study and the facilities where they will work. "It's typical for students in this program to learn this level of sophistication and knowledge of material that gives them the ability to present at high profile competitions and conferences," Dey said. She was thrilled when her two students were accepted to attend the MRS forum. "It was an extremely selective and competitive process, there are professionals whose work is not accepted," she said.

For their next projects, both young men plan to do cancer research. In the meantime, they are applying to universities with strong science programs like the University of Michigan, and Rice University and hoping to have their work published by the MRS.

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# Silver and Gold for the Holidays

By Roberta L Nestor

Perhaps one of the most frequent questions that is asked by clients is "Should I be buying gold or silver in my portfolio?" While certainly hard assets such as gold and silver can be a part of one's portfolio, it is not a typical part of asset allocation. Investors who are concerned with inflation, the dollar, the euro or the yen tend to be buyers of gold versus those that want to see it in their 401k plans. Many people associate owning gold and hard assets with growth and wealth, when the reality is that this asset class can be extremely volatile. If you are the type of investor who looks at your investments daily and hits a panic button when the markets trend down, you may want to reconsider owning gold or silver. Price swings tend to be substantial in these markets, and not always in the forward direction. So, if short term market volatility has impacted your investment decisions in the past, you may want to rethink owning such a volatile asset class. If you still want to proceed, you need to know how.

First of all, gold and silver are sold by the "Troy" ounce. A "Troy" ounce weighs more than the ounce that is used to measure milk or meat. A Troy ounce is 31.1 grams, which is more than the 28.35 gram ounces you come across in everyday life. So, a Troy ounce weighs about 10% more than a regular ounce. It is most common to buy and sell precious metals by the Troy ounce.

When you are buying physical gold or silver, you can buy numismatic or just plain bullion. Numismatic coins are for experienced coin collectors. There are numismatic gold coins and silver coins. The value is determined on things such as date it was issued, rarity, condition and even the mint where it was produced.

A coin is a universally recognized unit of weight, and many consider gold and silver coins to be money. No, you cannot go to the supermarket with a gold or silver coin and buy groceries, but coins are the most liquid way to own bullion. Unlike jewelry, you know the exact amount of gold or silver in the coin. It is minted by a government, and that makes it very difficult to counterfeit. These features make gold coins and silver coins easy to cash in and trade.

Coins or bars? With coins you can sell large or small quantities when you want to cash out. Coins have advantages over bars because of their acceptability. Once again, coins are better than bars because bars (small or large) do not carry the same prestige as a minted coin. Even when prices rise dramatically, coins will likely be accepted without question.

So, which gold one ounce coins should you buy? The 3 most popular coins to own are the US Gold or Eagle, US Buffalo Eagle or Canadian Maple Leaf. For silver, the most popular are the American Eagle or Silver Canadian Maple Leaf. Most brokerage firms will facilitate the purchase of these coins and will have some fees attached, much like those purchased directly ([www.fidelitrade.com](http://www.fidelitrade.com)). Some firms allow you to hold coins in an IRA account, but that is something you certainly want to discuss with your financial advisor. How would the volatility of gold or silver affect your bottom line?

Fortunately there are many books on the subject of buying and selling of gold and silver that might make a nice holiday gift for someone you know who wants to own gold. Best known is "The Guide to Investing in Gold and Silver" by Michael Maloney. "Stack Silver Get Gold" by Hunter Riley, III and for history buffs, our former Fed Chairman, Alan Greenspan wrote "Gold and Economic Freedom in 1966."

Happy Holidays to all and best wishes for the New Year ahead!

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](mailto:roberta@nestorfinancial.com).

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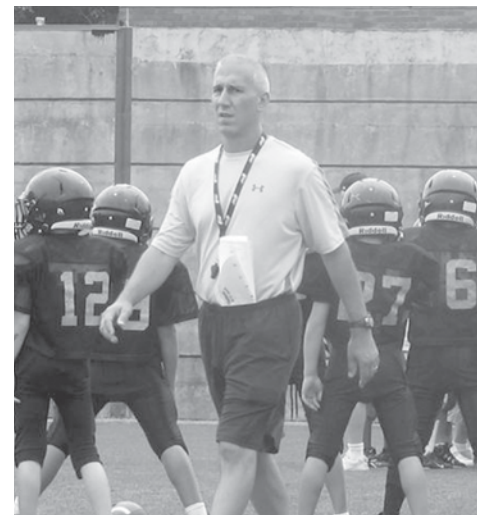


Laura Fantarella

A Black Knight lineman might deliver a bone-crushing tackle, but he'll also be giving his target a hand to help him back on his feet. You won't hear a Black Knight needling his opponent and when the game's over, the opposing players can expect a fruit roll up along with a handshake. There's no celebrating after scoring a touchdown, no carrying on when the referee makes a questionable call and no one on the team addresses an official but the coach. "We are teaching them to be walking, talking, shining examples of sportsmanship," Sansone said. "They are taught to respect each other, respect your opponent and respect the game. It becomes a culture."

Sansone's coaching philosophy is based on the principles of a youth football movement championed by Dave Cisor, founder and president of the Screaming Eagles in Nebraska, a program which strives to shape young boys into good sports as well as good athletes. The system incorporates instilling values, promoting sportsmanship, parent involvement, and fitness. "Dave Cisor lectures around the world about youth football – not about plays but how to set up a successful program which is very different," he said. Sansone, who is also co-owner of the Fitness Edge clubs which have nine locations throughout Connecticut, said he uses the same principles to coach football as he does in business. "I set out to find the most successful youth football program out there and follow what they do," he said. When he started his research, he found one name came up over and over again, Dave Cisor. Sansone contacted him and the two became friends, spending at least a week together each year talking football, and sometimes meeting at the annual Pop Warner "Super Bowl" championships in Orlando, Fla. where they both enjoy watching some of the best young talent in the country.

In addition to the tenets of sportsmanship, Cisor's program also teaches how to build a winning team by defining a player's characteristics and determining what positions best complement a player's attributes. "We don't have all the best players, but we have the right players," Sansone said. And, of course, there's Cisor's "Perfect Practice," DVDs which Sansone follows to the letter. "We follow the system. Habits and preparation equals success," he said.



Jim Sansone

His Black Knights team, made of boys from Orange, Woodbridge and several surrounding towns, travel all over the country to play games in tournaments with other travel leagues. Two of Sansone's three children, 12-year-olds James and Nu-Kwan Fair, play on the team. Parents of Black Knights players make a huge financial and time commitment, as the team has played over 100 games in 22 states all over the country, from the East Coast to the South and even in Canada. Most of the team has been playing together since they were nine-years-old in Pop Warner, but when the league's weight restrictions threatened to break up the team, Sansone established the Black Knights in 2009, the first travel league of its kind in Connecticut. "The entrepreneur in me thought -- why not pioneer this?" Sansone said.

Now fans, players, referees and coaches around the country are beginning to take notice. "I've received hundreds of emails and facebook posts from people who have met our team that say they have NEVER seen such an example of sportsmanship among any team, ever," he said.

The experience has been exhilarating for Sansone, a football fanatic who played from the time he was seven years old through college, where he played on Temple University's Division I team. "This has been one of the most amazing experiences of my life – right up there with getting married and the birth of children," Sansone said. He went on to work as an assistant coach at his alma mater and then at Rowan (N.J.) College before opening the Fitness Edge clubs with his brother, Vincent. The business that started because the brothers did not know what to do with "life after sports," now has 70,000 members, over 1,000 employees and consistently wins "Best Of" accolades in local publications.

"I've always loved football, I was raised on youth football fields," he said. "It's hard not to love the sport when you watched your older brothers play your whole life." His goal is to instill that same love of the sport and make playing on a team a positive experience for all his boys. While being champions game after game certainly adds to the fun of playing, Sansone is confident when they finally experience a loss they will handle it with the same grace they celebrate their wins. "These boys have so much pride and handle themselves with such remarkable class and honor in everything they do I expect they will handle defeat as well. They will show the same sportsmanship and handle everything the great game of football throws at them," Sansone said.



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**celebrity  
extra**  
by cindy elavsky



Mark Deklin

**Q:** Ever since "GCB" was canceled, I've scoured the networks to find some of my favorite actors on other series. I haven't seen **Mark Deklin** on anything recently, so I wondered if you could tell me what he is up to. N- Gigi W., via email

**A:** Mark recently filmed a guest spot on "Castle" (it is episode 10, which is set to air in early January), where he plays a man whose girlfriend is found dead. Later in 2013 (an exact date has not been set yet), you can see Mark on the big screen in a live-action version of "Tarzan."

Mark told me about the film and his character, John Greystoke: "It's not the Victorian 'Tarzan' that we all grew up with. It's a modern take on it. My character is almost like a **Richard Branson** type -- a wealthy but well-intentioned adventurer and entrepreneur. He discovers there's a serious energy source -- a sort of meteorite, which crashed in Africa -- and he wants to find it."

"He brings his family with him, which of course is a stupid decision, but I suppose in the moment it doesn't seem stupid because he doesn't go thinking he's going to die. He ends up unleashing a mystical force that he never could have anticipated, and everything goes south."

\*\*\*

**Q:** I just rented "The Queen of Versailles" and was mesmerized by the story of **David Siegel**, his wife, **Jackie**, his family, and his struggle to save his time-share/real-estate business. Do you have any updates on how he is doing now? -- George F., Naples, Fla.

**A:** David recently made national news when he sent a memo to his employees encouraging them to vote for

**Mitt Romney** in the recent presidential elections. But, politics aside, David was quoted in a Reuters interview this past summer: "We're the most profitable we've ever been." He also is continuing work on his family's new home, which is modeled on the Palace of Versailles in France. In fact, just before the movie's premiere, David filed a defamation suit over the film's portrayal of his business as failing, asserting that some of the film's scenes were staged or exaggerated.

\*\*\*

**Q:** When will "Merlin" return to Syfy? -- Felix S., via e-mail

**A:** Season five of the popular fantasy series, which premieres Friday, Jan. 4, at 10 p.m. ET on Syfy, will be the final season of the show. Executive producers (**Johnny Capps** and **Julian Murphy**) promise fans that "Merlin" is "leading to a spectacular finale that draws on the best-known elements of this much-loved story, and brings to a conclusion the battle for Camelot."

\*\*\*

**Q:** Will there be an "Avengers" sequel? -- Paul G., Tulsa, Okla.

**A:** After "The Avengers" smashed all sorts of box-office records this summer, you can bet there will be a sequel. "The Avengers 2" is set to premiere May 1, 2015, with the original cast, as well as some new faces.

Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475; or e-mail her at [letters@cindyelavsky.com](mailto:letters@cindyelavsky.com).

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- a statement long associated with Frank Woodruff Rogers. However, after 56 years in the real estate business, Frank gave up his real estate office and joined Weichert Regional Realtors. Why? Frank said he simply didn't want to do it all by himself anymore, and knew that being associated with a national name agency would provide a broader service base to meet the needs of his many Orange clients. Frank can be reached at 795-2349, or on his cell phone, 795-0000

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Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center of Orange recently held a pajama drive for the children in New Jersey who were devastated by Hurricane Sandy. Holly Hill children and their parents, along with the staff, generously donated 138 pairs of brand new warm and cozy pj's to these children. Pictured here, left to right, are teachers, Nicole Catalano, Katie Busk and Kristen Amato along with several of Holly Hill's generous students.



Brothers Phil and Justin Grande, owners of Soundview Landscape Supply, once again opened up their West Haven business to sponsor the annual Touch-a-Truck event held in conjunction with Toys for Tots. On hand were many construction, fire and police vehicles for children and adults to climb inside and explore. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and also to those that came out to support this wonderful event. Many much needed toys were collected!



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 No tickets sold at the door.  
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Manicure  
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Extensions**

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## Orange Firefighters Pose for a Good Cause

*By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent*

Orange firefighters showed their warm and fuzzy side recently when 13 of them volunteered to pose for a calendar to raise money for a local feline rescue shelter. Firefighter and Mary L. Tracy School kindergarten teacher Lisa Kaplan volunteered her comrades for the project after hearing about it from a friend. At first they planned to be a part of a calendar that included firefighters from other towns as well. "But so many of us wanted to do it that we ended up just doing our own Orange calendar," Kaplan said. "We had a blast and it was such a good cause. To see some of these guys with the kittens was so damn cute."

The project is sponsored by Branford photographer Mary Johnson who runs the Branford Compassion Club, a shelter for homeless felines. For the past four years Johnson has been photographing area firefighters with the kittens who live at the shelter as a way to raise money and awareness. "Each year most of the kittens featured on the calendar are adopted, and it increases adoptions of other cats in the shelter as well," Johnson said. There are eleven firefighters for January through November and newlyweds Lt. Richard Lohrenz and his wife Cristen are featured for the month of December. The group dressed in full gear and even brought along some fire gear to use in the photos and spent several afternoons at Johnson's studio.

"It was so much fun, there were kittens running around, and the firefighters loved it. They all had great personalities and I tried to display that in the photographs," Johnson said. She expects to raise several hundred dollars from the project.

Calendars are \$25 and can be purchased from the Orange Ale House on the Boston Post Road or through [maryjohnsonphotography.com](http://maryjohnsonphotography.com).

Orange Town News

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# AMITY MIDDLE SCHOOL – ORANGE CAMPUS

## First Marking Period Honor Roll

### First Honors 7th Grade

Nicholas Abrams  
Kayla Abreu  
George Antonellis  
Alexandra Ashworth  
Amelia Bailey-Schetlin  
Jack Balocca  
Erin Barillier  
Bridget Barnsley  
Hailey Benedetto  
Nitya Bhattarai  
Isobel Browe  
Catherine Brown  
Roberta Buccilli  
Lauren Canna  
Brian Carson  
Kevin Cox  
Isabella Crasilli  
Ulada Dubovik  
Alaina Dwyer  
Carsan Dziczkowski  
Christina Emmerthal  
Ann Foley  
Andrew Forchetti  
Ryan Ford  
Arvand Golbazi  
Shayna Goldblatt  
Jenna Goldwitz  
Amanda Granados  
Courtney Greifenberger  
Michael Gulia  
Jillian Gusciora  
Hannah Hipona  
Michael Holloway  
Hannah Hutchison  
Hadiya Iftikhar  
Julia Itzler  
Benjamin Kemp  
Emily Kilian  
Nicole Koshes  
Vince Li  
Arthur Lihar  
Bianca Longobardi  
Justine Luo  
Brooke Matyasovsky  
Talia Mayerson  
Leah Mongillo  
Adam Moscato  
David Nizzardo  
Haegan O'Rourke  
Maya Oestreicher  
Jessica Paradis  
Veronica Pisano  
Caroline Rafferty  
Hannah Rappaport  
Matthew Rothman  
Nicholas Saxa  
Christina Skerritt  
McKenzie Sullivan  
Grace Vocalina  
Maren Westgard  
Grace Whitman  
Patrick Winkel

### First Honors 8th Grade

Genevieve Angerame  
Michael Anil  
Emily Bacal  
William Butler  
Jeremy Cable  
Chloe Capuano  
Nathan Carney  
Daniel Chodos  
Charles Csejka  
Emily Cucurello  
Matthew D'Onofrio  
Paul DeBassio  
Daniel DeFeo  
Marissa Della-Giustina  
Stefanie DelVecchio  
Himay Dharani  
Shannon Dillon  
Emily Drezek  
Tommy Driscoll  
Yuliya Faryna  
Roger Fernandes  
Jeffery Gallo  
Emma Gehr  
Bianca Gibbons-Morales  
Jethin Gowda  
Hayley Grande  
Jacob Hollander  
Katia Howard  
Daniel Jaques  
Haya Jarad  
Kathryn Kaligian  
David Kennedy  
Christine Knudsen  
Matthew Knudsen  
Thomas Knudsen  
Zachary Kosa  
Maggie Lasto  
Alina Lisowitch  
Kyle Marieb  
Cassidy Marry  
Kelsey McCormack  
Molly McGuire  
Jasmine Moon  
Emily Mullins  
Maya Mutalik  
Sarah Nevolis  
Jacob Okolo  
Kelsey Paier  
Rohan Patel  
Hugh Potter  
Matthew Sabitsky  
Katherine Schittina  
Kiley Stackpole  
Clare Staib-Kaufman  
Jenna Thomas  
Nuala Tzovolos  
Sakkarin Vilay  
Jennifer Vitale  
Nicholas Yoo  
Seungi Yu

### Second Honors 7th Grade

Yusaf Ahmad  
Abigail Allen  
Michael Allen  
Samuel Arnold  
Stone Bragaw  
Sarah Cartier  
David Chen  
Michelle Chimid  
Ruby Ciskowski  
Brian Curtin  
Peter DeBassio  
Carly DeMaio  
Natalia Dobbs  
Sean Farrell  
Michael Ficaro  
Clayton Fischman  
Timothy Gnidula  
Jeremy Gustafson  
Brian Hackenjos  
Tyler Holloway  
Lena Howard  
Alexandra Justo  
Ryan Kennedy  
Traci Kingston  
Michaela Kraut  
Sam Kruger  
Peter Lampropoulos  
Danielle London  
Carly Marchitto  
Taylor Martin  
McKenzie McDermott  
Alyssa Mencucci  
Charles Moore  
Shaan Patel  
Quentin Pitter  
Morgan Ramadon  
Ryan Sabo  
Sydney Sachs  
Melissa Satonick  
Joseph Schittina  
Nevia Selmon  
Jenna Shaffer  
Alexandra Smith  
Jared Smith  
Emilia Steinbrick  
Taylor Walsh  
Blake Wetter  
Catherine Whitaker  
Jaiden Williams  
Sunwoo Yoo

### Second Honors 8th Grade

Priya Aggarwal  
Joseph Antaya  
Tyler Appel  
Zachary Bailey  
Kyle Beaudette  
Cassandra Bishop  
Matthew Bonvicini  
Micaela Casapulla  
Arianna Centore  
Christian Cooper  
Joshua Crow  
Sophia Cuzzo  
McGovern Deane  
Stephanie Durkee  
Michael Dziczkowski  
Rachel Einbinder  
Mikaela Flora  
Griffin Frobelt  
Grace Grzegorzczuk  
Victoria Gustafson  
Justin Hawkins  
Tory James  
Kiersten Keating  
Priti Khire  
Samara Koproski  
Megan Lasto  
Daniel Madsen  
Juliet Melotto  
Gia Mentillo  
Francis Novak  
Taylor Nuzzo  
Alessandro Pacelli  
Selly Patel  
Nisansa Perera  
Danielle Quirion  
Angelina Racaniello  
Nico Salati  
Max Scheps  
Kyle Stuart  
Grace Sweeney  
Ray Tian  
Megan Tichy  
Marissa Yanez  
Garrett Yocher  
Mimi Zschack



### Citizenship Award – 7th Grade

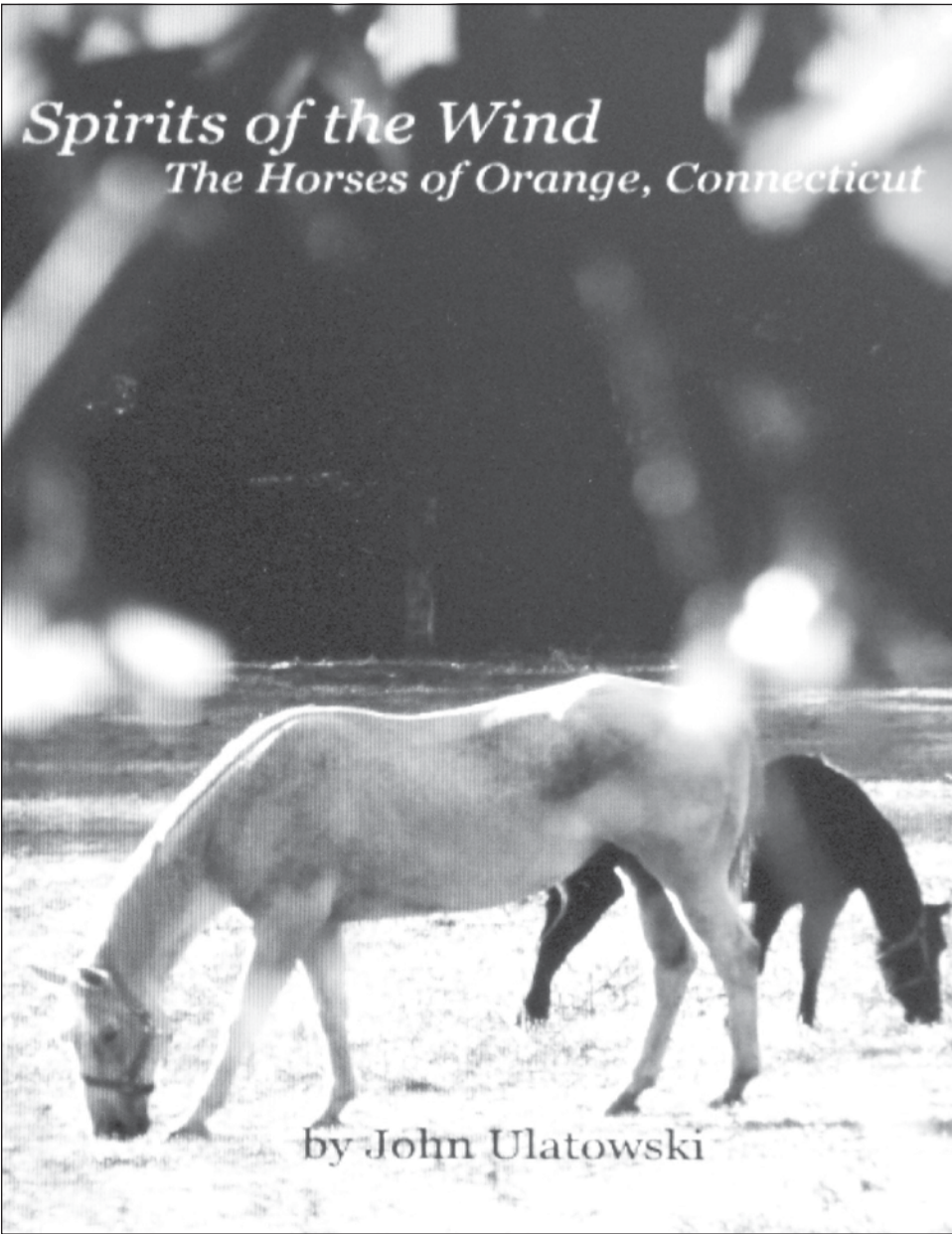
Erin Barillier	Ann Foley	David Nizzardo
Bridget Barnsley	Ryan Ford	Haegan O'Rourke
Nitya Bhattarai	Jeremy Gustafson	Maya Oestreicher
Isobel Browe	Brian Hackenjos	Quentin Pitter
Roberta Buccilli	Hadiya Iftikhar	Morgan Ramadon
Ruby Ciskowski	Emily Killian	Hannah Rappaport
Harley DeMatties	Arthur Lihar	Ryan Sabo
Natalia Dobbs	Robert Lyngdal	Alexandro Smith
Carsan Dziczkowski	Brooke Matyasovsky	Emilia Steinbrick
Jocelyn Eagle	McKenzie McDermott	Maren Westgard
Christina Emmerthal	Leah Mongillo	Catherine Whitaker

### Citizenship Award – 8th Grade

Genevieve Angerame	Haya Jarad	Francis Novak
Michael Anil	Kathryn Kaligian	Taylor Nuzzo
Joseph Antaya	Kiersten Keating	Alessandro Pacelli
Emily Bacal	Priti Khire	Kelsey Paier
Jeremy Cable	Mirela Klobucishta	Rohan Patel
Chloe Capuano	Christine Knudsen	Selly Patel
Nathan Carney	Thomas Knudsen	Nisansa Perera
Micaela Casapulla	Daniel Koproski	Hugh Potter
Arianna Centore	Samara Koproski	Kristen Poulin
Jung Choi	Zachary Kosa	Angelina Racaniello
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Marissa Della-Giustina	Alina Lisowitch	Katherine Schittina
Stefanie DelVecchio	Kyle Marieb	Kaitlin Schultz
Shannon Dillon	Cassidy Marry	Kiley Stackpole
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Emma Gehr	Juliet Melotto	Jenna Thomas
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Hayley Grande	Nicolina Messoro	Nuala Tzovolos
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Victoria Gustafson	Emily Mullins	Marissa Yanez
Jacob Hollander	Maya Mutalik	Rachana Yetukuri
Katia Howard	Philip Nam	Seungi Yu
Kiersten Ignatowski	Sarah Nevolis	Mimi Zschack

## Congratulations To All The Honor Roll Students!

# ARTS & LEISURE



## Ulatowski Launches New Book

Orange Youth Services Director John Ulatowski recently launched his new book entitled "Spirits of the Wind -The Horses of Orange Connecticut". The book is published by Blurb.com and contains 80 pages of horses in various activities and scenes. Ulatowski stated "I have always felt an affinity with the horses and the work was a labor of love."



Visitors at Davis Gallery



Carol Raccio, (Left)

## At the Davis Gallery: Carol Raccio

An Opening Reception for impressionist artist, Carol Raccio was held at the at The Davis Gallery in Orange on Saturday, December 1st. At her opening of "Ancient Cities". Ms Raccio's art exhibit featured various types of media, such as oil paintings, water colors, portraiture and printmaking. Carol expresses her ideas skillfully, well portrayed in her excellent monotype prints. Attendees of the exhibit's opening found her inspiring works most engaging.

Her illusionistic visions of ancient places are unique and colorful, beautifully captured in her prints. Mosaic images, reminiscent of vernacular forms are artfully composed with color, depth and texture to develop the view. Unique irregularities, naturally incurred through the process of creating monotype prints, are inherent of the finished piece and often enjoyed by the artist as unplanned events. Collectively, Ms Raccio's works are included in private and corporate collections throughout the United States and Europe.

Carol Raccio's attractively unique works are definitely worth a visit to The Davis Gallery. Carol's paintings and monotypes are exhibited in the main gallery, and will remain on display through January 5th, 2013. Many of her works will then be shown in the 'Gallery's, "Past Presented" Wing, where additional works from prior artists will also be on display, many featuring artfully pictured homes, local scenes, brightly colored floral arrangements, many with touches of abstract and imagination, including several pieces of the highly detailed watercolors of young artist, Saiyara Fahmi, the local artist shown in November.

A visit to The Davis Gallery, located at 200 Boston Post Road in Orange, is free and open to the public from 10am to 6 pm weekdays and Saturday until 4pm. The Davis Gallery is affiliated with VideoLab in Orange and is located in the VideoLab Vestibule.

T U E S D A Y







## HISTORY CORNER

With Ginny Reinhard

# The Whys & Wherefores of Christmas Customs

For those of you who celebrate the Christmas holidays or know friends and neighbors who follow the customs of the season, I would imagine that many of you follow family traditions without question, as "it is the way we have always done it". Sound familiar? I remember being told of a child who asked her mother why she cut off the ends of the ham before putting it into the roasting pan being told, "that's the way we always did it". Upon further questioning of the little girl's grandmother, the real reason emerged. The ham had been too large to fit into the pan, thus the ends were cut off, and tucked into the sides of the roaster "just as we always did".

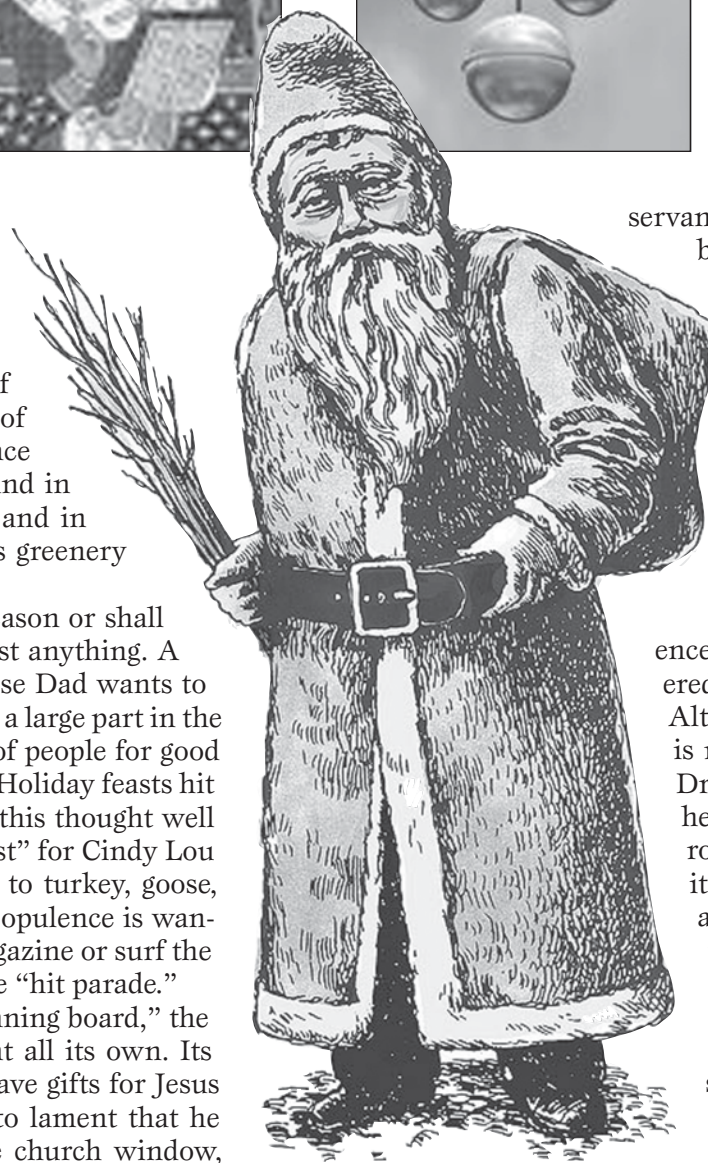
It is quite the same for Christmas traditions which emerged over the centuries passing through Puritanism, religious persecution, 4th century Roman Emperor Constantine and the Julmond festival, a German and Celtic ritual of harvest and rebirth, to say nothing of the celebration of the winter solstice designed to appease the sun and ask for its return as the days grew shorter in December. It should be noted here that Jul, later became Yule with very deep pagan roots where the Druids, among others, burned massive logs in winter to celebrate the sun with the log being lit for the entire festival. After being cut the previous 2nd of February, it was often soaked in spices and decorated with greenery.

I had a teacher once who scoffed at the abbreviation of Xmas as being disrespectful to Christ and I must admit, I often cringe at the spelling BUT had she done HER homework, she would have found that the "X" stands for the Greek letter "Chi". It was not uncommon in the schools of the 40s & 50s to have a day or maybe even two, where chains of red and green construction paper were created for the tree that stood in the foyer of the elementary schools of my childhood. But why the red and green? No one seems to know for sure but the green can obviously be connected to the boughs of pine from the earliest, European celebrations but why the red? An educated guess by those who ponder these things, associates the red with the holly berry that endures through the winter. Sounds reasonable, don't you think?

The date of February 2 emerges in Jewish law where a mother had to be brought to temple forty days after her child's birth in order to be purified. If Jesus was born on the 25th of December then the 2nd of February would have been the day for this ritual. Since the 7th century, this date has been commemorated and in lighting candles, the name Candlemas Day emerges and in England, it is considered bad luck to keep Christmas greenery up after this day.

It would appear that Americans have adopted a reason or shall I say "excuse" to have a festival to commemorate most anything. A block party, a beach party, a family picnic, just because Dad wants to use his new grill etc. etc. Extravagant feasts played a large part in the winter solstice of ages past apart from the gathering of people for good will but to show faith in the prosperous year to come. Holiday feasts hit its peak in medieval England and Dr. Seuss portrays this thought well when he cuts a huge slice of meat from the "roast beast" for Cindy Lou Who. By Victorian times the large "beast" gave way to turkey, goose, plum and Yorkshire pudding. According to some, the opulence is waning in favor of family gatherings but just pick up a magazine or surf the food network and holiday foods are riding high on the "hit parade."

Not to be outdone by the extravagance of the "groaning board," the poinsettia, in its vibrant red color makes a statement all its own. Its origin arose long ago in Mexico where tradition to leave gifts for Jesus on the alter on Christmas Eve caused a young boy to lament that he had no gift. Legend has it that kneeling outside the church window,



the boy prayed and where he knelt a beautiful plant with vibrant red leaves emerged. In Mexico, this plant is called the Flower of the Holy Night and Dr. Joel Roberts Poinsett, the first American Ambassador to Mexico (1825-1829) brought the plant to the United States and was subsequently named in his honor.

"The night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung"...ok why were they hanging there..oh yes, in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there. Well, that's not quite right, at least not the first pair of stockings. In the 4th century A.D. a young man was born whose life became legend if not fact in becoming the Bishop of Myra in Turkey. Nicholas, being born into wealth, touched the lives of many people with one story emerging to explain the "stockings". He was known for his love of children and as the story goes he came upon a family whose three daughters had no dowry with which to enter into marriage and would have been sold into slavery. Before devoting his life to his faith, Nicholas had to rid himself of his worldly goods and thus hearing of this story of poverty dropped 3 bags of gold down the chimney, landing in the stockings that were hanging there to dry.

After his death in 343 A.D. Nicholas was made the patron saint of children, sailors, bankers and of all things, pawnbrokers. Yes, pawnbrokers and the 3 balls often associated with the outside of a pawnbrokers shop symbolizes the 3 bags of gold given to the girls. During his lifetime, Nicholas, returning from a pilgrimage by sea, to the Holy Land met with a terrible storm. Kneeling and praying it is said that the sea calmed the instant he dropped to his knees and this act has endeared him to sailors. His death on December 6th is observed in Europe marking the beginning of the Christmas season.

The Dutch translation for Nichols is Sinter Klaas and it would appear that the "naughty and nice" of today's Santa comes from the tradition that he spent time in the company of his servant, Black Peter, a Moor who kept records of the behavior of the girls and boys. It is the bad boys and girls who received switches from Black Peter. Another anti-Santa is Belsnickel, a tattered and torn figure, carrying a switch, who comes around a few weeks before Christmas to check out the behavior of the little girls and boys. He now appears to be the "Elf on the Shelf" perpetrated by Barnes & Noble, a story and stuffed elf that parents are instructed to hide, here and there to keep their children "in line". Bah humbug to that one!

Greenery has always been a sign of reverence during the cold dark winters and often considered to be magical, remaining green, all year long. Although mistletoe is popular in song and story, it is not allowed inside a Christian church. Both the Druids and Romans considered it to be sacred, a healing plant and a charm against evil. Without roots, growing on the side of non-evergreen trees, its magical qualities remain. No one seems to be able to explain the reasons behind the popularity of the Christmas tree but along with Santa, it is now the most common secular identification with Christmas in the United States. Whatever the reason, decorating a tree at home, in the shopping centers, in Rockefeller Center and, of course, the White House, tis the season to be jolly.

# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## Congregation Or Shalom Upcoming Events

**Coffee & Learn with Rabbi Wainhaus:** Wednesdays, 11:00 am: Each week the Rabbi addresses interesting and sometimes amusing topics regarding Hot Topics, Judaism, Bible, Yiddish, and much more. The class begins at 11:00 am and runs until Noon. These classes are held every Wednesday through March. All are welcome. There is no charge and no reservations are required. Refreshments (Coffee And) are served.



Congregation Or Shalom

**Latkes & Magic, Friday:** December 14, 7:00 PM: We celebrate Hanukkah with a menorah lighting in the lobby followed by a brief service and then celebrate more with latkes and a magic show. All are welcome.

**Zumba Gold:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Join Zumba Gold with coach Robin Allen each week for a one hour class. Call Robin for more information at 203-314-8176.

**Naming Babies:** Does your Jewish child need a Hebrew name? If so, we will provide him/her with one. There is no charge and this is open to Congregation Or Shalom members and non-members. Call the Or Shalom office at 799-2341.

**Services:** Sunday mornings: 9:00 am, Monday mornings: 7:30 am, Thursday mornings: 7:30 am, Friday evenings: 7:00 pm (the first Friday of each month is our Family Service where Rabbi Wainhaus reads the children a story in lieu of a sermon. Following the Service, there will be a dairy Oneg Shabbat--refreshments. Saturday mornings: 9:30 am.

*All events are open to non-members.*

## Hanukkah at Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven

Come join the fun and celebrate Shabbat Hanukkah at Temple Emanuel, 150 Derby Avenue, Orange. On Friday, December 14, we will welcome Shabbat with a music-filled service led by Rabbi Michael Farbman and the Temple Emanuel Band, light our chanukiot together and enjoy a delicious latke dinner with family and friends. All are welcome to participate in this joyous annual event. The service begins at 6pm; dinner reservations can be made by calling the Temple office at 203-396-3000 or on the TE website: [www.templeemanuel-gnh.org](http://www.templeemanuel-gnh.org).



Temple Emanuel

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 dinner. Simchat Torah was marked by another family program including adult study, the consecration of new religious school students and the opportunity for everyone in our community to dance with the Torah, with musical accompaniment by members of the TE Band. All of our events end with our famously tasty onegs.

For more information about Temple Emanuel programs, please go to [www.templeemanuel-gnh.org](http://www.templeemanuel-gnh.org), or call the office at 203-397-3000.

## Pasta Dinner on Saturday

The public is warmly invited to attend a Jazz Vespers Service followed by a Pasta Dinner at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 690 Race Brook Road, Orange, on Saturday, December 15, at 5 p.m. The exciting and entertaining event will be held to raise money for the Nambale Magnet School in western Kenya. A suggested donation is \$10 per person/\$20 per family.



Church of the Good Shepherd

For more information about the residential school, check out [www.nambalemagnet.org](http://www.nambalemagnet.org), a dynamic website which is extremely informative and contains highly interesting content enhanced with great photographs and videos. Then you will be moved to attend the inspirational event at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

## Congregational Church Holds "Long Night" Service

The busy holiday season is usually thought of as a high-speed joyful time; filled with social gatherings, lavish gifts and glittering lights. But for many, the joy of the holidays can be a reminder of loss and pain. For those who have lost a loved one, or a job, or are struggling to cope with illness, depression or isolation, the prospect of a long, bleak winter can be too much to bear. Those in despair often may not know where they can turn for comfort at a time of year when the rest of the world seems to be consumed with holiday festivities.



Orange Congregational Church

On Wednesday, December 19, 2012, the Orange Congregational Church will once again hold its "Long Night" worship service at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The Long Night Service is an opportunity to pause amid the frantic haste of the holiday season, to share a quiet evening of word and song and to celebrate the assurance that we are never isolated from God's presence.

Long Night services, or Blue Christmas services as they are sometimes called, are becoming quite popular at churches around the country. They are scheduled to take place at or around the time of the winter solstice, when the daylight hours give way to the longest nights. These services have a more quiet, meditative feel than a traditional Christmas worship service. Scripture, music and healing prayer will be offered and will remind us of God's presence even during the dark times.

All are invited to attend, regardless of religious background. Following the worship service, refreshments and fellowship will be offered in the dining hall. Any questions about the service can be answered by calling the church office at 795-9749. The Orange Congregational Church is affiliated with the United Church of Christ and is located at 205 Meeting House Lane in Orange.

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## WORSHIP EVENTS

### Jewish Unity Concert

The Jewish Community of Greater New Haven is proud to announce the "Jewish Unity Concert," which will take place on the 8th day of Chanukah, Sunday December 16, 2012 at the Lyman Center for Performing Arts at Southern Connecticut State University, 501 Crescent Street, New Haven. Doors open at 3:30; concert begins at 4:00.

JFACT, the Jewish Federation Association of CT, representing all nine federations in the state, will be honoring our retiring senior Senator Joseph I. Lieberman at the concert. The tribute is in recognition for the decades of service provided by Senator Lieberman to our country, our state and the CT Jewish Community. Regarded as Israel's best friend in the U.S. Senate, the Jewish Ledger joins the CT Federations in honoring Senator Lieberman upon his retirement. JFACT will present a gift to the Senator and all CT Federations are encouraged to join in the festivities. Senator Lieberman will offer brief remarks.

The concert will feature 8th Day and the Maccabeats. 8th Day is one of the hottest new bands in Jewish music today infusing rock, blues, reggae with its inimitable vocal harmonies and uplifting lyrics. Fans all over the world have been raving about this Southern California based Jewish rock group. They have performed hundreds of shows across the globe, including Lincoln Center, American Airlines Arena (Miami), Australia, Hong Kong and many more.

The Maccabeats Premier A Cappella group has performed all over the world, from Alabama to (New) Zealand, including the White House. In addition, they are a YouTube sensation with over 7.5 million hits on their "Candlelight" music video, which earned them a special appearance on The Today Show.

This event is cosponsored by Chabad Centers of Greater New Haven, JCC of Greater New Haven and Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy. The concert promises to be entertaining for all members of the community.

Chanukah is the holiday which celebrates the victory of right over might, and religious freedom over tyranny. It is most appropriate for these organizations, all of which promote Jewish unity, to join together for this community-wide celebration.

Tickets can be purchased by phone: The John Lyman Box Office (203) 392-6154 or online: [jewishunityconcert.com](http://jewishunityconcert.com). Tickets in Advance: Adults \$12, Children 12 & under \$8. Tickets at the Door: Adults \$15, Children 12 & under \$10. VIP Tickets: Single Ticket \$36, Family VIP package of four \$118. For more information, email [info@jewishunityconcert.com](mailto:info@jewishunityconcert.com).

### Adult Ed Programs at Congregation B'nai Jacob

On Sunday, January 6 at 10AM, come hear noted author, professor and Professional Trainer at the ADL of Difference Institute, Hadar Lubin, MD, as she presents a multi-media program on: Contemporary Anti-Semitism: Can you read the writing on the wall? Lubin is on the Board of Trustees at The Jewish Federation of Western CT, Chair of the Israel Advocacy Committee at B'nai Israel, a Capital and Congressional Club member at AIPAC and the Recipient of the 2012 Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Award. Her CBJ presentation will illustrate how contemporary anti-Semitism manifests itself on American college campuses, in discussions of America's foreign policy, world opinion and in the media.

Professionally, Lubin is the Co-Director, Post Traumatic Stress Center of New Haven and an Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry at Yale University School of Medicine. She's the author of Trauma-Centered Group Psychotherapy for Women, (Haworth Press, 2008) and a leading expert on the treatment of trauma-related disorders.

Audience members will have the opportunity to take part in a Q&A immediately following the presentation.

On Friday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m, CBJ invites the community to a very special Shabbat service to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our featured speaker will be Robert Burns Stepto, who is a member of the Yale faculty in African American Studies, American Studies and English since 1974. He will speak about: Shared Vision of the Promised Land. Through citing various literary narratives and historical events, Stepto will compare the many experiences that confronted both Eastern European Jews and African Americans in their quest for the American Dream. How have our cultures transitioned and adapted? What have we learned? And where do we go from here?

Stepto's principal fields are American and African American autobiography, fiction, poetry and visual arts since 1840. He has also served on numerous editorial boards, national literary committees, and has been a featured lecturer at conferences here and abroad. This fascinating program takes place at 8:15-9:00pm., immediately following 7:30pm Friday night services.

For more information, visit-- [www.bnaijacob.org](http://www.bnaijacob.org), or call (203) 389-2111.

## Get Ready to Cruise News

By Leslie Marsh

### The World is Now More Accessible than Ever!

Statistics show that twenty percent of the US population has some type of disability. The good news though, is the world is actually more accessible than ever and there's no reason why those with a disability can't go explore and enjoy it! Here are a few tips to ensure that when your next travel opportunity arises, you're ready to go.

**Outline your travel needs:** Take time to evaluate the logistics of your trip with your travel agent. What modes of transportation will you be using? Make a list of your specific requirements. What types of special needs equipment do you depend on at home? What do you use or need when shopping, dining out or going to the movies, the theater or sporting events at home? Can you hear and see clearly without special auditory equipment or visual aids? How far can you walk without a rest break? Are stairs difficult? Can you get in and out of the tub or shower at home without handgrips or other assistance? If a wheelchair, scooter or portable oxygen will make your trip easier, place that item on your list. Many people who don't use wheelchairs or walkers at home feel more comfortable using these mobility aides for tours and excursions.

**Plan Ahead:** If you already own a scooter or portable oxygen, it's important to know the policies and procedures for bringing your equipment onboard all the transport vehicles included in your itinerary, from planes to taxis to ships. Does that transport have a way to stow your scooter or wheelchair? Is oxygen allowed on board? Airlines operate under strict rules, so there may be packing procedures to follow if they do allow the equipment. Cruise ships tend to be more lenient in allowing oxygen. All require that the oxygen be delivered to the ship, and that you have enough for the entire voyage. Oxygen may never be brought aboard in your luggage. Requirements vary, so check your cruise line for proper instructions.

Whether you're headed for a cruise ship or hotel, double check for wheelchair access. Confirm that accessible hotel rooms, resort accommodations or ship staterooms are available for your travel dates. The earlier you book, the better your chances of securing fully accessible accommodations.

As a newly Certified Accessible Travel Advocate (certified by Special Needs Group [www.specialneedsgroup.com](http://www.specialneedsgroup.com)), I now have unique, specialized knowledge about how to help individuals with disabilities enjoy a wonderful, hassle-free and memorable trip. Please don't hesitate to contact me for additional details!

Leslie Marsh, ECC owns and operates Cruise Planners of Orange. You can reach her at 203-799-2367 or [leslie@getreadytocruise.com](mailto:leslie@getreadytocruise.com).



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**"Dining with Susan"**  
 By Susan Noonan

**Gino's Steak House**

I always get very excited when something old gets resurrected and has a new beginning. That is exactly what happened at the iconic Chuck's Steakhouse in West Haven. So many local baby boomers and their parents remember when Chuck's opened in 1964. The menu was mainly grilled steaks and "an all you could eat" salad bar (always loved their blue cheese dressing & warm bread). A concept that was unique to New Haven County in the sixties and Chuck's quickly became a hit. The crowds (especially on the weekends) were unbelievable. Fast forward to 2011 and Chuck's had lost some of its steam and along came successful restaurateur Claudio Sanfrancesco (owner of the well known & respected Jeffrey's Restaurant in Milford) to the rescue. Now in 2012, after over

a year of serious upgrading, Claudio has worked his "magic" with his new business partner Gene "Gino" Arganese. These two gentlemen really know how to do it right and have created a high end New York (Peter Luger style) Steak House at this well known location and the crowds are returning!



Not to worry long-time Chuck's fans, the place is still as charming as ever, actually even more so thanks to Claudio & Gino's special touches both inside and out. They have maintained the best features of Chuck's and improved the areas that needed attention. The Dining room is still warmly lit with hardwood tables,

comfortable chairs and aged wood panel walls but now everything sparkles! Claudio & Gino have assembled a great professional staff including a few of the dedicated employees who worked at Chuck's (one for 37 years).

Gino's new menu features USDA Prime Dry Aged Meats. In addition to the selection of appetizers, soups, side dishes, steaks, prime rib, Chateaubriand, Rack of Lamb, Herb crusted Chicken, Broiled Atlantic Salmon, Lobster, Jumbo Stuffed Shrimp, etc., they have kept the popular salad bar (included with all steaks & entrees choices). The most popular additions to the menu are "Gino's Table Side Caesar Salad for two" and the "Table Side Banana Foster for two". Claudio mentioned that these items are definitely a hit with their customers. In addition, Gino's is now serving lunch Monday-Saturday and a fabulous "old style" buffet brunch on Sundays. The brunch features omelettes made to order, carving, pasta, dessert stations, etc. Live piano music on the Baby Grand or a duet are featured in the dining room on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. You might even find Claudio serenading the crowd with a special song. Gino's has several options for hosting parties in its private dining room from business events to birthdays, anniversaries, bridal and baby showers or wedding receptions. The staff will make your event memorable and flawless, accommodating parties of up to 120 people. A variety of menu and pricing options, wifi access and room options make Gino's the perfect choice. Gino's offers many cozy areas to enjoy a private dinner for 2 or a special meal with a group of family and friends. The fireplaces are always lit during the winter season giving the restaurant that very special ambiance. Outdoor patio for cocktails & dining during the warmer months. Reservations recommended - Handicapped accessible - Ample parking surrounding the building - All major credit cards accepted - Take-out available on all menu items. Open 7 days a week - Lunch served Monday-Saturday 12:00pm-3:00pm Dinner -Monday-Thursday 4:30pm-9:00pm -Friday & Saturday 4:30pm-10:00pm - Sunday 4:00pm-9:00pm -Brunch -Sunday 10:00am-2:30pm. Happy Hour (in the lounge only) Monday-Friday 4:00pm-6:00pm. GINO'S STEAK HOUSE - 1003 Boston Post Road, West Haven, CT 06516 - 203-934-5300 - website: [www.ginossteak.com](http://www.ginossteak.com).

Final notes: Claudio is a true gentleman and the ultimate host making his customers feel like they are part of his family. Make a visit soon during this holiday season as you will love all the changes to this popular location where many share fond memories. Claudio, Gino and their staff are waiting to help you create new ones! Remember to support our local family owned businesses. If you have a favorite restaurant e-mail: [susan@orangetownnews.com](mailto:susan@orangetownnews.com).  
 Happy Holidays to all our loyal readers!

# Wine Talk

With Ray Spaziani

## Where is that \$10 Bottle of Wine in Restaurants?



*"Give me a bowl of wine. In this I bury all unkindness." - William Shakespeare (1564-1616)*

When the Franzia group featured "two-buck-chuck" the \$1.99 wines of the Charles Shaw Winery a wine revolution began...and it is going to continue. The good quality of the Charles Shaw line of wines and the extremely low cost attracted many, many new wine drinkers to the club of wine consumers. Millions of cases were sold in California at that low price and even at a dollar higher per bottle in other states the wine flew out of the stores by the thousands of cases.

The question raised by many was "how can this wine be sold so cheap and be so good?" The Franzia Group had the answer as they purchased millions of gallons of decent wine when there was a surplus and then turned pennies into dollars by selling it in great volume and in the meantime generated numerous new wine drinkers. Now the question is if they can do it why can't others do it? California wine prices have been rising at an alarming rate making wine purchases limited to those with excessive discretionary income and forgetting about the everyday drinkers. But now, there are more options for the consumer as other California producers have evaluated their portfolio prices and have made some downward adjustments.

But where the lower wine bottle prices should occur, at the restaurant level, they have not adjusted to accommodate the consumer; at least most of them have not adjusted. The pricing of wine by the bottle in restaurants in most cases is obscene. The average consumer knows what a bottle of wine costs at the retail liquor outlet and when they go to a restaurant for dinner and want to order a favorite wine of theirs they suddenly are shocked at the price. A friend recently went to a restaurant and ordered a bottle of Luna di Luna Merlot/Cabernet Blend and paid \$30 for the bottle. The wholesale cost to the restaurant was \$79.88 for a case of 12 bottles or a bottle cost of \$6.66 and they charged \$30 generating a 22% beverage cost, a ridiculously low percentage figure for wines.

The retail price for this wine in a liquor store is \$11.99 per bottle and yet the restaurant offers to sell a bottle for \$30 expecting the consumer to pay almost three times more than at a liquor store. How can that be justified? How about wines by the glass? How can area restaurants live with themselves for charging \$7.00 to \$10.00 PER GLASS of average wines they do not know how to handle properly? Many bars and restaurants just open a bottle of red wine pour out a glass and then stick a cork in the bottle. Then a day or two later after the red wine has oxidized, they pull out the cork and charge the consumer more than the bottle costs us retail for a single glass of wine. All they have to do is VAC the wine or stick in a rubber stopper and use a device to suck out the air. It takes the bartender less than 30 seconds to treat the wines properly yet they do not do so. They know how to charge for wines but many establishments do not know how to treat wines properly. Whites should be chilled and in doing so they do not have to VAC the wines to keep them from oxidizing. It makes me wonder, wine being a food, that if they do not know how to treat wines, if the steak or burger you are eating is being handled properly as well!

If you go into an establishment that is selling red wines by the glass be sure they VAC those wines or make sure they open a new bottle in front of you! If you go to the bar at the Olive Garden Restaurant on the Post Road in Orange and you will see five to ten red wines open at the bar. They are ALL VACed and have rubber stoppers in them. They know how to handle wines. They also charge \$9.00 to \$10.00 per glass of fair to good red wines that cost them between \$8.00 to \$12.00 per bottle. Assuming \$10.00 is their bottle cost and five servings per bottle that gives them \$45.00 to \$50.00 per bottle!!

Distilled spirits is another area where price gouging is running rampant. A case of Iceberg Vodka costs the restaurant \$133.92 or \$11.16 for a 25.4 ounce or 750ml bottle. The per ounce cost to the restaurant is \$.44 and if a one ounce drink cost \$5.00 (Vodka-tonic, etc.) the cost percentage per drink would be 12.5% for liquor alone and soda, garnish, ice may add another 12 cents per drink for a total drink cost of \$ .525 or 10% drink cost. Amazing. And my estimated per drink cost is too low for most bars and restaurants so that percentage goes even lower with higher prices and the profit margin increases. Now we are not against restaurants or bars making money, but it gets to the point of being ridiculous and unfair to the consumer.

By overpricing wines people are turned off and refuse to buy when they should be drinking a nice bottle of wine with dinner. We know that wine and food go together very well and each is enhanced by the other and...it is traditional and good for us health-wise.

If a quality wine like Charles Shaw can be sold for \$1.99 or even \$2.99 per bottle why the restaurateur can't use some imagination and offer a food compatible wine list that is reasonable and saleable and sell wine for \$10 a bottle? It takes education, training, fiscal understanding and a spirit of wanting to satisfy customers and stay solvent and profitable at the same time.

America is never going to ever be a wine-oriented country until the wine prices are reasonable and the retailer and restaurateur realize that sales will only increase with product knowledge and reasonable prices. There has to be an incentive to buy the product and price is a key inspiration for sales.

**BEST BUY OF THE WEEK: 2010 BODEGAS ALBERTO PUCELA Sauvignon Blanc Viura \$9.99** from Spain with love, a crisp, fruity easy-to-drink white wine which could match up nicely with most fish and chicken dishes. Toast the coming holiday season with some wonderful Villia Yolanda Prosecco Italian sparkling wine. At about \$10.00 per bottle you will be glad you did!

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 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.

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This compelling three floor home, just a walk away from Wildermere Beach, provides a delicate balance of originality, breadth, charm and charisma.

Options and flexibility of space are throughout, along with sun-filled rooms and views of L.I. Sound.

A generous addition added in the 90s, it boasts 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, and updated kitchen, a cheerful front porch, back deck, and second floor balcony.

The finished third floor has both office and bedroom potential. This home sits on a double lot and has a cedar shed gardens, tree and shrubbery for privacy. With a myriad of wood accents throughout that would catch any architects' eye, this home is a true catch.



**DPH: It's Not Too Late to Get Vaccinated**

This holiday season, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) encourages state residents to give the gift of health and get vaccinated for the flu. "Getting vaccinated for the flu not only helps keep you healthy, but it also helps prevent the spread of the infection," said DPH Commissioner Dr. Jewel Mullen. "It's still not too late to get vaccinated. In Connecticut, the flu season typically peaks sometime between late December and early March, making now a great time to get vaccinated."

State health officials said that less than 48% of Connecticut residents 6 months of age and older were vaccinated last season. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages all people over the age of six months old to be vaccinated. Vaccines are especially encouraged for high-risk groups, including children from 6 months to 18 years of age, women who will be pregnant during the flu season, people at least 50 years old, anyone with certain chronic medical conditions and people who live in nursing homes and long-term care facilities.

This year, the influenza vaccine was added to the state's childhood vaccination program. The Connecticut Vaccination Program (CVP) provides required vaccines at no charge to healthcare providers to immunize all of Connecticut's children, helping to reduce costs and increase access to vaccination. In addition to the influenza vaccine, the CVP also announced the addition of the pneumococcal conjugate and hepatitis A vaccines to the program, covering fourteen of the sixteen vaccines currently recommended by the CDC. "The expansion of the state vaccine program will improve access to important immunizations, including influenza, so that children across the state can be vaccinated on time," said Dr. Mullen.

"Every child has the right to be fully immunized, and we can do better. This expanded program moves us closer to the goal of vaccinating all Connecticut children." Influenza, commonly known as "flu" or "the flu," viruses are constantly changing, making it important to get vaccinated every year. Each flu season, different flu viruses can spread, and they can affect people differently based on differences in their immune system. Even healthy children and adults can get very sick from the flu. Every year it's estimated that more than 200,000 people are hospitalized because of flu-related complications nationwide.

The influenza season runs from October to May, with activity usually peaking between December and March. Vaccination is the most effective way to protect yourself, and others, from the flu. Individuals can continue to be vaccinated throughout the course of the flu season. This year's flu vaccine includes three different strains of the flu virus, including the 2009 H1N1 virus.

Whether you get the flu vaccine or not, there are ways you can avoid the flu this year and stay healthy:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick, too.
- Stay home when you are sick. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Seek care early. See your healthcare provider immediately if you develop flu symptoms; antiviral medications can help if taken early in the illness.

To get vaccinated for the flu:

- Check with your regular health care provider to see if they have the flu vaccine available.
- Visit the HealthMap Vaccine Finder at <http://flushot.healthmap.org/> to find a flu clinic near you.

For more information on influenza and vaccination, visit the DPH website at [www.ct.gov/dph/flu](http://www.ct.gov/dph/flu).

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## LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Local Attorneys Named "New Leaders in the Law"

The law firm of Berchem, Moses & Devlin, P.C. is pleased to announce that partners Shelby L. Wilson of Orange and Mario F. Coppola of Milford have been named "New Leaders in the Law" for 2012 by the Connecticut Law Tribune. The Law Tribune had asked firms across the state to nominate attorneys age 40 and under who stand out as leaders in the legal profession. Nearly 250 attorneys were nominated for the honor, of which 60 were selected.

"Mario and Shelby are exemplary young lawyers who are dedicated to their clients and their craft," said Robert Berchem, senior partner. "Their personal and professional accomplishments speak to their talent, determination and hard work. The firm is very proud of these two fine attorneys."

Ms. Wilson and Mr. Coppola will be listed in a New Leaders in the Law yearbook to be published by the Law Tribune. They attended an awards dinner November 9, where the keynote speaker was Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy.

Ms. Wilson practices in the areas of estate planning, estate administration and tax law. She advises individuals, families and closely held businesses on issues dealing with estate and generation-skipping tax planning, income tax planning, tax compliance, business succession planning, estate settlement and trust administration. She has lectured several times before the American Bar Association Tax Section on tax and estate planning topics related to closely held businesses. She has also lectured extensively at the local level on family estate planning. Ms. Wilson is active in her community, currently serving as Assistant Town Moderator in Orange. She also sits on the boards of the Milford Rape Crisis Center and Hopkins School Alumni.

Mr. Coppola practices in the areas of municipal law, land use and zoning, property tax assessment appeals, real estate transactions and general civil litigation. He has held leadership positions with area bar associations and is a frequent speaker at professional seminars in the areas of land use and zoning, as well as property tax assessment appeals. Since 2009, Mr. Coppola has served as a Town Attorney for the Town of Trumbull. He regularly provides legal representation and services to other municipalities, including the towns of Westport and Easton. In addition, Mr. Coppola is active in civic affairs. He currently is chairman of the Greater New Haven Columbus Day Committee's Board of Directors and serves on the Walter Camp Football Foundation's Board of Governors.

Berchem, Moses & Devlin is a multi-specialty law practice with offices in Milford and Westport. Since 1933, the firm has provided high quality legal services to clients throughout Connecticut. Clients include individuals, small and midsize businesses, government agencies and Fortune 500 companies. For more information, please visit [www.bmdl.com](http://www.bmdl.com).



Mario Coppola  
& Shelby Wilson



### Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio Opens Second Office

Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio Real Estate proudly announces the opening of its second office at 174 Cherry Street in Milford on November 1, 2012. The expansion of the office is timely, as Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio has seen a record sales increase in 2012. "We started with five agents and have increased to 18 in just 14 months. This move puts us closer to many of our existing customers and prospective clients in the Orange, Milford and upper Fairfield County," said John Wareck, partner and designated broker.

The Milford office is conveniently located less than half a mile from the I-95, 39A exit/entrance and under a mile from the Milford Green. "While we continue to focus on Greater New Haven and the Yale community in our New Haven location, this new Milford office allows us and our agents to expand in more directions. It fits well with our business strategy for the future," added Wareck. "Today's consumers want a full relationship with their real estate agents and the company that stands behind them. Real Living continues to help us deliver a fresh message that speaks to the consumer on multiple levels," added Wareck. "We continue to expand on the Real Living branding. We anticipate the hiring of more agents to fill both offices and to accommodate clients as the company continues its record growth," said Wareck.

Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio Real Estate has considerable expertise assisting clients with buying and selling homes. The company has its roots in retail and office brokerage. It also has a history of servicing developers and investors. Real Living is a full-service real estate franchise with 400 offices and more than 10,000 sales professionals coast to coast. Real Living Real Estate is owned by Warren Buffet and his company, Berkshire Hathaway.

### Coldwell Banker - Orange Supports the Yale Toy Closet Program

The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Orange has been designated as a local drop site for the Yale Toy Closet program this year.

Founded in 1993 by Ann Nyberg, WTNH News 8 anchorwoman, the Toy Closet helps insure that pediatric patients come away from their hospitalization with a pleasant memory. In addition, the toys serve as gifts for special occasions such as birthdays and holiday celebrations for hospitalized children. Toys, gifts and financial contributions are needed throughout the year. The success of the Toy Closet program is directly related to community involvement.

The Orange office, located at 564 Racebrook Road, will be accepting donated toys through December 14th. Once the reception area of the office is full of toys, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage staff and sales associates will deliver the toys to the Yale Toy Closet.

For more information about the Yale Toy Closet collection, please contact Aileen DeFeo at (203) 795-6000. A list of toy suggestions is also available upon request.



## LIQUOR PERMIT

## Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I,  
BART A RIVEZZI  
60 CEDAR LAKE RD  
NORTH BRANFORD, CT 06471-1246

Have filed an application placarded 12/15/2012 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a CAFE LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at  
501 POST RD  
ORANGE CT 06477

The business will be owned by: BART'S BILLIARDS PARLOR LLC  
Entertainment will consist of: Karaoke Live Bands Disc Jockeys

Objections must be filed by: 01/26/2013

BART A RIVEZZI

## Public Notices

A public notice is information informing citizens of government activities that may affect the citizens' everyday lives.

Public notices have been printed in local newspapers, the trusted sources for community information, for more than 200 years.



## Death Notices



Orange Town News

### Death Notices

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



## 10 Ways To Beat Holiday Stress

Whether your holiday stress is caused by Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or New Year's Eve, there are ways to ease the pressure so you can actually enjoy the holiday. Here are 10 tips for Happier Holidays. (P.S. They also work all year round).

1. Hide: It works nearly every time. If you need a little break, admit it and seek refuge. Go to a private place and take a few long deep breaths and sing your favorite holiday tune to regroup.

2. Rehearse the worst, then, if it happens, you've already made advance preparations. And since the worst seldom happens, you can make a game out of what does.

3. Get organized early. List all your holiday chores: cards if you send them, decorating the house, gifts, special cooking, wrapping, mailing and shopping. Just listing everything you have to do will help you to feel less harried. Set a schedule, and do a little every day. Check items off your list as you complete them. This will show you your progress. Address a card or two per day. Wrap a present while you watch a favorite TV show. Remember, procrastination is the real "Grinch" who stole Christmas.

4. Reinstate the draft; get everyone in the house to help. Share the fun, share the duties. Children, too ... just confine them to one room so if they make a mess you only have one room to redecorate come spring.

5. Use modern innovations to make your traditions easier. Say you have five dozen cookies to send in with Johnny or Mary for the school party. Throw away the "from scratch" recipe. Buy a tube of ready mix cookie dough, and cook them two minutes less than the directions say (it makes them chewy). Put some sprinkles on the cookies and swear the children to secrecy. This creates little mess and is fast.

6. Moderation, and "this too will pass." No matter what we think to the contrary, there will only be 31 days in December this year. If things get rough, start the count down. Look forward to something in January, like December being over. Use moderation in eating, drinking and spending. You don't want a head, belt or debt hangover.

7. Empathy works when you think the world is out to get you. Look around. There are undoubtedly others who are worse off. If you see someone struggling, offer to help, if appropriate. Focus on what you do have, and count your blessings. Remember, love is free to share. And, it comes in unlimited supply to those who use it.

8. QTIP: The next time you're in a holiday traffic jam, stuck in a slow checkout line, or your online order doesn't go through, remember QTIP, and quit taking it personally. The checkout line isn't there to drive you crazy. The stoplight is not a part of a plan to ruin your day. Don't get upset about what is beyond your control.

9. Contrarian shoppers start early and end early. Take an early lunch and shop on off-days at the mall. Shop online, the prices are often good, and many online stores now include free shipping. What can't you find at Amazon? Have a detailed list of gifts with alternates if your first choice isn't available. Consider shopping year round for the holidays. Often, summer sales mean better gifts at a lower price next year.

10. The Chemistry of Joy will see you through. There is an actual chemistry of joy and happiness that occurs within us. It is a chemical reaction caused by signals our brain gives to our autonomic nervous system. A positive, happy outlook triggers immune strengthening responses in our body. Laugh, enjoy humor, sing and think about the joy you give to others and the joy that others give you.





## BULLETIN BOARD

**Orange Board of Education Long-Range Strategic Planning Survey**, To access the survey, click [HERE](#), all members of the Orange Community are invited to participate in this 10-15 minute online survey. If the link does not connect you, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/parentscommunity>.

**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](http://www.ct-al-anon.org) or call Margaret at (203) 877-4313.

**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.

**Trumbull Stitch 'n \*itch**, Wednesdays, 10:00am-12:00pm, Panera Bread, Westfield Shopping Park. Spend a pleasant time with fellow knitters and crocheters. All levels of experienced knitters and crocheters are welcome. For more information, call Sylvia at 203-268-6570.

**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, Case Memorial Library, 176 Tyler City Road. The public is invited.

**Orange Recycling Committee** meets every 3rd Wednesday except for January, July & August, 7pm, HPCC conference room, 525 Orange Center Road, public is invited to attend. For more information, email [Orangerecycles@gmail.com](mailto:Orangerecycles@gmail.com).

**Blood Pressure Clinic** presented by Gentiva & Maplewood of Orange, 1st Thursday of every month, Maplewood of Orange (formerly Laurel Estates), 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.orangetrotary.org](http://www.orangetrotary.org) for information about the club.

**Chabad of Orange ~ Woodbridge Weekly Puppet Show**, Saturday Mornings, 11:30am, 261 Derby Avenue, puppeteers will captivate your children's attention each week while learning about their Jewish Heritage, history & values; geared for children ages 3-8.

**The Davis Gallery Presents Carol Raccio's Oil Paintings "Ancient Cities"**, Saturday, December 1, 2012-Saturday, January 5, 2013, 200 Boston Post Road (inside VideoLab), Orange; free and open to the public. Hours: Monday-Friday/10:00am-6:00pm, Saturday/10:00am-4:00pm. For more information, call 203-795-4705 or go to [www.DavisGalleryCT.com](http://www.DavisGalleryCT.com).

**Aqua Zumba Classes** Led By Renay, Mondays, December 10, 2012-February 18, 2013 and Fridays, December 14, 2012-February 22, 2013, Milford Parks & Recreation, McCann Natatorium, 34 Park Circle, Milford, no swimming skills required, use Latin and international music for a fun aquatic dance exercise program; pre-registration required; \$112/residents, \$122/non-residents; bring bottled water and water shoes to class. For more information and/or to register, go to [www.ci.milford.ct.us](http://www.ci.milford.ct.us) or call 203-522-2616 or [zumbarenay@gmail.com](mailto:zumbarenay@gmail.com).

**Breakfast At The Milford Masonic Hall**, Sunday December 16, 2012, Milford Chapter #49 Royal Arch Masons and Adam Sattig Council #35, all you can eat breakfast, 59 Broad Street, Milford, 8:00am-11:00am, \$8.00/person, special prices for families with young children. For further information call Bob Sherrick at 203-877-4977.

**Hooked on the Sound Crochet Guild**, Saturdays, January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7, 2013; 10am-1pm, Case Memorial Library, 176 Tyler City Road, small meeting room on 2nd level (elevator available); share stitch successes, assist with pattern problems and have a great time crocheting, no fee. For more information, visit <http://hotscrochetguild.yolasite.com/>, Email [HOTSCrochetGuild@Live.com](mailto:HOTSCrochetGuild@Live.com).

**Bridgeport Art League** - Artist Christine Ivers Demonstration In Pastel, Monday, January 21, 2013, 11:45 a.m. coffee and dessert, St Paul's Episcopal Church Community Center (right of the Huntington Green), Huntington, CT, all are welcome to attend, new members may inquire about our painting classes. More information may be obtained from Diane at 203 924-6074.

**Milford Knights of Columbus Cruise**, March 13-22, 2013, 10 day/9 night from NYC aboard the Norwegian Gem - San Juan, St. Maarten, St. Thomas and Samana. Price includes round trip bus from Milford/inside \$970.00, outside \$1060.00, PP,DO. Call John Benard 203-877-2737. Valid passport is needed.

Orange Town News

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## WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS

### Weaver/Snyder Wed

Owen Thomas Weaver and Christine Marie Snyder were married and celebrated their reception on October 13, 2012 at The Mansion at Bretton Woods in Morris Plains, NJ. The Honorable Vito L. Bianco, for whom Owen served as a law clerk, officiated. Owen is the son of Louise and William Weaver of Orange. Christine is the daughter of Miriam and David Snyder of Robeson, PA.

Best Men were Owen's childhood friend, Evan Verney-Fink and college friend, Nick Shriver. Groomsmen were Matthew Meeker, Guillermo Beades, and Michael Snyder, brother of the groom. Maids of honor were Christine's childhood friend, Vicky Killion and college friend, Stacey Garcia. Bridesmaids were Ellis Weaver, sister of the groom, Jamie Smith, sister of the bride, Renee Hood and Julie Morley. Flower girls were Kyli and Abbie Smith, nieces of the bride and Mackenzie Powers, cousin of the groom.



Photo by Powers Photography

The couple met while students at Ursinus College in Collegeville, PA. Owen, a 2002 graduate of Amity High School, received his Juris Doctorate, magna cum laude, from New England School of Law in Boston. He is an attorney with Inglesino, Pearlman, Wyciskala & Taylor, LLC in Parsippany, NJ. Christine received her Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology from Boston University and is employed as a research scientist at Biomet Spine & Bone Healing Technologies, also in Parsippany. They reside in Randolph, NJ.

Owen delivered a poignant tribute in memory of his childhood friend, Seth Roberts, who was to have served as a groomsman.

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# top 10 movies

- 1. The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn -- Part Two (PG-13)**  
Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart
- 2. Skyfall (PG-13)**  
Daniel Craig, Judi Dench
- 3. Lincoln (PG-13)**  
Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field
- 4. Rise of the Guardians (PG)**  
animated
- 5. Life of Pi (PG)**  
Suraj Sharma, Gerard Depardieu
- 6. Wreck-It Ralph (PG)**  
animated
- 7. Red Dawn (PG-13)**  
Chris Hemsworth, Isabel Lucas
- 8. Flight (R)**  
Denzel Washington, Nadine Velazquez
- 9. Silver Linings Playbook (R)**  
Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence
- 10. Argo (R)**  
Ben Affleck, Alan Arkin

## TOP DVD RENTALS AND SALES

- 1. The Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13)**  
Andrew Garfield
- 2. Prometheus (R)**  
Noomi Rapace
- 3. The Campaign (R)**  
Will Ferrell
- 4. Brave (PG)**  
animated
- 5. That's My Boy (R)**  
Adam Sandler
- 6. Magic Mike (R)**  
Channing Tatum
- 7. Marvel's the Avengers (2012) (PG-13)**  
Robert Downey Jr.
- 8. Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG)**  
animated
- 9. The Raven (R)**  
John Cusack
- 10. Arthur Christmas (PG)**  
animated

# Chartbusters

### Top 10 Pop Singles

- 1. Rihanna**  
"Diamonds"
- 2. Maroon 5**  
"One More Night"
- 3. Ke\$ha**  
"Die Young"
- 4. Bruno Mars**  
"Locked Out of Heaven"
- 5. fun.**  
"Some Nights"
- 6. Ne-Yo**  
"Let Me Love You (Until You Learn to Love Yourself)"
- 7. PSY**  
"Gangnam Style"
- 8. The Lumineers**  
"Ho Hey"
- 9. Taylor Swift**  
"We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together"
- 10. Flo Rida**  
"I Cry"



PSY

### Top 10 Country Singles

- 1. Taylor Swift**  
"We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together"
- 2. Florida Georgia Line**  
"Cruise"
- 3. Luke Bryan**  
"Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye"
- 4. Hunter Hayes**  
"Wanted"
- 5. Carrie Underwood**  
"Blown Away"
- 6. Lee Brice**  
"Hard to Love"
- 7. Jake Owen**  
"The One That Got Away"
- 8. Rascal Flatts**  
"Come Wake Me Up"
- 9. Miranda Lambert**  
"Fastest Girl In Town"
- 10. Justin Moore**  
"Til My Last Day"

## COUCH THEATER DVD PREVIEWS BY DNA SMITH



Ana Kendrick in "Pitch Perfect"

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** New DVDs reviewed in this column will be available in stores the week of December 17, 2012.

### PICKS OF THE WEEK

**"Pitch Perfect" (PG-13)** -- The Bel-las are an all-vocal university ensemble looking to reinvent themselves after an embarrassing performance. Beca (Ana Kendrick) is an incoming college freshman who's already too cool for school, but somehow gets coerced into joining this singing group. Of course, the gaggle of misfits drastically improve their singing and take on the obnoxious rival singers, the Treble Makers.

It's more tolerable than an episode of "Glee." The musical performances are impressive, even for


those who aren't into such things. Kendrick brings vocal talent and star power to the musical numbers. Self-referential humor and some promising young comic-relief actors push this one over the line from tolerable to even enjoyable.

**"Total Recall" (PG-13)** -- In the grimy, blue-tinted future, you can get sweet memories implanted in your brain. Instead of taking a vacation or seeking therapy, Douglas Quaid (Colin Farrell) chooses to have memories of another life as a super-spy zapped into his brain. During the process, something goes awry and Quaid is suddenly hunted by the authorities and finds himself in the role of revolutionary hero.

This movie hardly has the right to exist in the same universe as the 1990 film of the same name, starring good ol' Arnold Schwarzenegger, so I'll hold back on comparing the two. Don't expect mind-bending science-fiction or over-the-top humor. This is boilerplate futuristic blockbuster thriller. The action sequences are nice, but your recall of the film will intertwine with the boring bits from movies like "Minority Report," forming one blu-ish futuristic memory mush.

**"Trouble With the Curve" (PG-13)** -- Clint Eastwood snarls and grumps his way through this drama about a reluctant old codger reconnecting with his daughter through the business of baseball. Gus (Eastwood) is a renowned talent scout for major-league baseball, but it seems his age is catching up to him. His daughter (Amy Adams) takes a leave from her big-shot law firm to accompany him on one last season of high-pressure drafts. It's a slow, predictable drama that isn't exactly a stretch for ol' Clint.

- When and where did the Bee Gees make their American television debut?
- Which one-hit group recorded "Please Love Me Forever" in 1961?
- What is singer Tony Burrows best known for?
- Name Herbie Hancock's best-known solo jazz efforts. (Hint: Think fruit.)
- Name the song with this lyric: "I get so tired of working so hard for our survival. I look to the time with you to keep me awake and alive ..."



1. In 1968 on "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour." Their name came from the initials of a DJ named Bill Gates who introduced them to a promoter named Bill Goode, and is not an abbreviation of Brothers Gibb, as is widely believed. 2. Cathy Jean and the Roommates. The original duo's biggest claim to fame was coming in second in a talent show behind Tom & Jerry, aka Simon and Garfunkel. 3. Burrows consistently sang with groups who had only one hit. "Love Grooves (Where My Rosemary Goes)" and "My Baby Loves Lovin'." both in 1970. 4. "Watermelon Man" (1962) and "Can'toupe Island" (1964). 5. "In Your Eyes," by Peter Gabriel on his 1986 album "So." It took nearly 20 years, but in 2005, the song finally had enough sales to be certified Gold.

Sudoku answers on page 45

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

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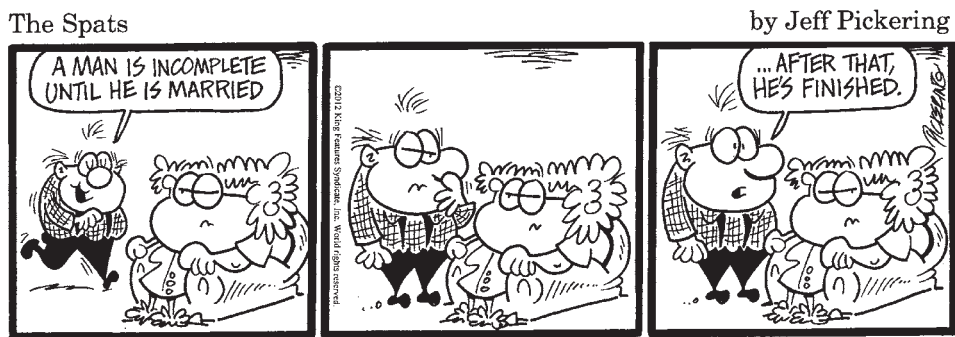
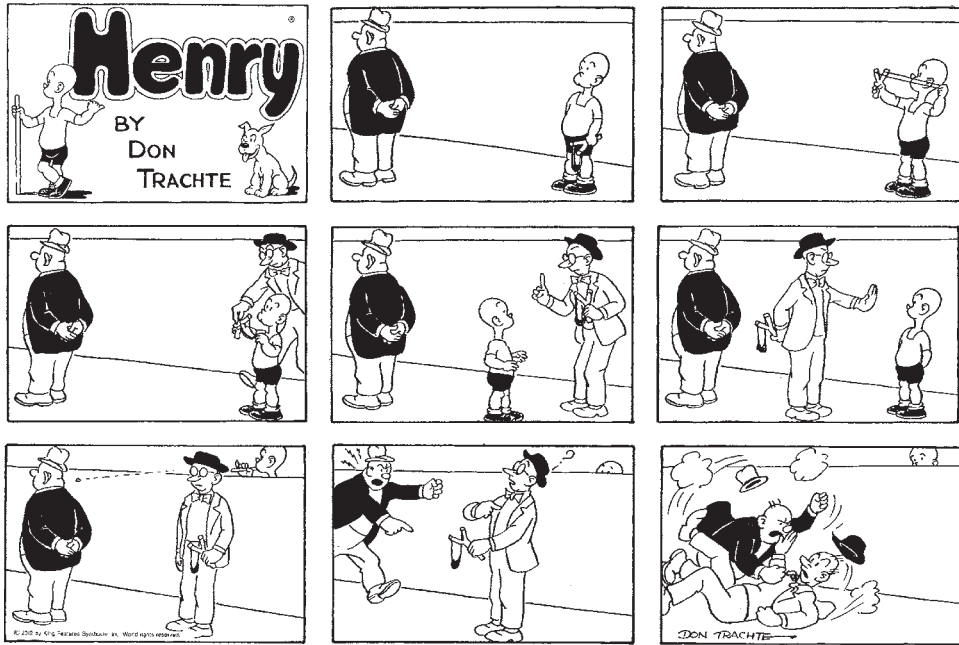
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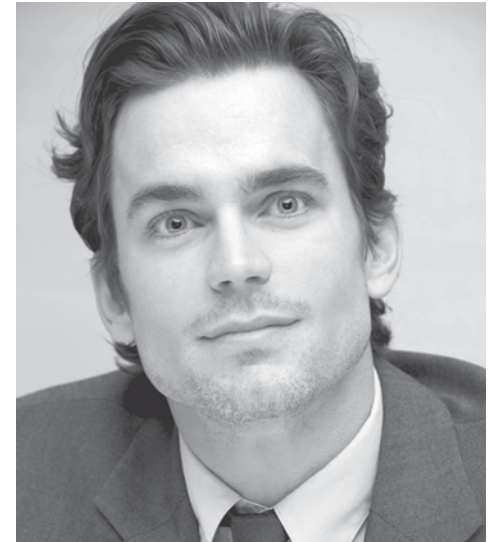
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# COMICS / CROSSWORD / HOLLYWOOD



## HOLLYWOOD

By Tony Rizzo



Matt Bomer

**HOLLYWOOD** -- Matt Damon, like George Clooney, has major causes. He's an environmentalist and philanthropist, as well as one of the founders of the Not On Our Watch project, which aims to bring attention to stopping mass atrocities. He's also one of the founders of Water.org, which provides clean water to Africa, and strives to fight AIDS and poverty in the Third World. Now he will narrate an eight-part documentary series on Showtime being developed by James Cameron and Jerry Weintraub. It will focus on the effects we humans have had on climate change. It's about time someone woke up!

\*\*\*

"Modern Family's" Ty Burrell is headed to the big screen in three major films. He'll join "Saturday Night Live" players Kristen Wiig and Bill Hader, plus Luke Wilson, in "The Skeleton Twins," about estranged twins (Wiig and Hader) who unite to talk about issues after they cheat death. Burrell plays Hader's former teacher who becomes his lover. Next, he's a butter carver in "Butter" with Jennifer Garner, Olivia Wilde, Alicia Silverstone and Hugh Jackman. Ty also will be the voice of Mr. Peabody in the animated "Mr. Peabody & Sherman," with Stephen Colbert and Allison Janney. Nine-year-old Max Charles, the young Peter Parker in "The Amazing Spiderman," will voice Sherman.

\*\*\*

Speaking of "Modern Family," "White Collar" star Matt Bomer is the real thing. He and his partner, publicist Simon Halls, have three children: Kit, Henry and Walker Bomer. Matt and Simon recently received the "Inspiration Award" from The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Edu-

cation Network. It was presented to them by Matt's "Magic Mike" co-star Joe Manganiello (they were together in college at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh). Manganiello said, "You are the example that the rest of our country needs to wake up to and see in terms of equality and putting an end to the bullying epidemic and making sure that every family is respected in our schools and our society."

Going public with his real life hasn't hurt Bomer's "reel" life. He's got the film "Space Station 76," which is being called a sci-fi comedy, with Liv Tyler, Patrick Wilson and Jerry O'Connell, and then "Winter's Tale" with Will Smith, Colin Farrell, Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly, William Hurt and Eva Marie Saint. (In case you don't know Eva Marie Saint, she won an Oscar for playing opposite Marlon Brando in "On the Waterfront.")

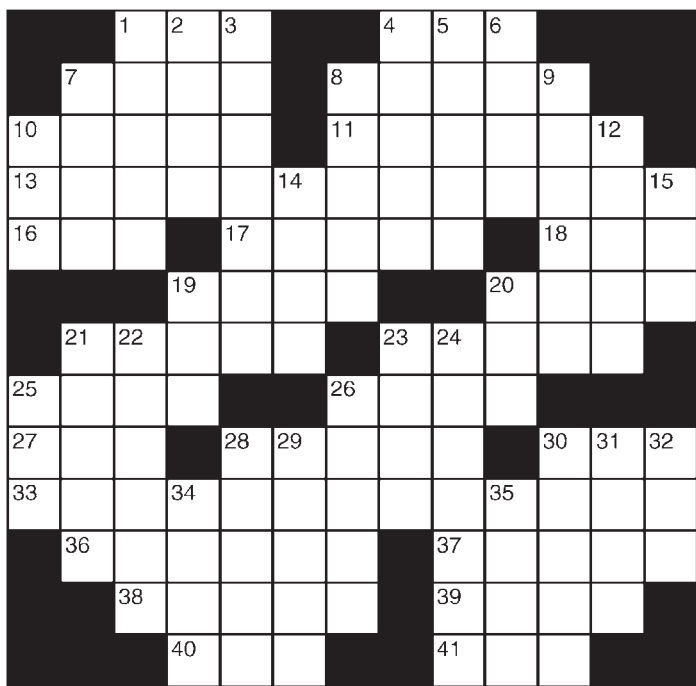
Bomer explains why he went public with his relationship, "When you aren't allowed to speak about who you love or who you're attracted to, it makes you feel invisible." On the plus side ... he never has to worry about getting lipstick on his "White Collar."

Send letters to Tony Rizzo's Hollywood, 8306 Wilshire Blvd., No. 362, Beverly Hills, CA 90211.

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 "Bam!"
- 4 Altar affirmative
- 7 Consequently
- 8 Dodge
- 10 Decorate
- 11 Eateries
- 13 Good thing with a bad element
- 16 Pigpen
- 17 Beethoven's "Für —"
- 18 Slithery squeezer
- 19 Chow
- 20 Galley supply
- 21 Nervous
- 23 Move laterally
- 25 Humdinger
- 26 Finished
- 27 — Baba
- 28 Accumulate
- 30 Witticism
- 33 Ambivalence of a sort
- 36 Sir Isaac who developed a short hand method
- 37 Finish
- 38 Archaeologists' meccas
- 39 Best pocket



- 22 Panacea
  - 23 Mediocre
  - 24 As an alternative
  - 25 Felon's flight
  - 26 Curses
  - 28 Fess up
  - 29 Wherewithal
  - 30 Web surfer's need
  - 31 Responsibility
  - 32 Recipe meas.
  - 34 Needle case
  - 35 Bygone Peruvian
- DOWN**
- 1 Substitute
  - 2 Shrek is one
  - 3 Is curious (about)
  - 4 Wall-climbing plants
  - 5 Thickly populated
  - 6 Mined-over
  - 7 Rewrite, maybe
  - 8 Forgo the cue cards
  - 9 — Council ("Survivor" meeting)
  - 10 Mornings (Abbr.)
  - 12 Sleep soundly?
  - 14 Sad
  - 15 Petrol
  - 19 Wildebeest
  - 20 Praise in verse
  - 21 Dutch flower

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King Crossword Answers on Page 45



## PROPERTY TRANSFERS

- 123 SUNRISE HILL CIRCLE**  
Sunrise Hill estates LLC to Miriam Edberg..... \$574,856.00
- 841 BIRCHWOOD DRIVE**  
Howard M Moyer to Alexander C Beck. .... \$339,000.00
- 46 RED CEDAR CIRCLE**  
John H Clark and Dorothy R Clark Revocab to Lucienne Smith ..... \$275,000.00
- 953 RED FOX RD**  
Jonathan Antal to Ryan P Donohue ..... \$374,500.00
- 395 HILLTOP RD**  
Sandra R Berger to Paulo J Melo..... \$355,000.00
- 43 WELLINGTON DR**  
Rise J Siegel to Robert E Phelan..... \$347,500.00
- 814 HOLLYHOCK LANE**  
Michael Schoen to Ryan Mooney..... \$425,000.00
- 15 FOUNDERS WAY**  
Jing Le Lin Aka to Ping Sheng. .... \$646,000.00
- 810 WOODRUFF RD**  
Joseph J Stawicki to Vallerie Rivera..... \$125,500.00
- 356 WOODLAND LANE**  
Miriam Edberg TR to Seth Leventhal..... \$440,000.00
- 821 NORTH GREENBRIER DR**  
Lorraine C Salerno to Alisa Paskiewicz..... \$260,000.00
- 122 SUNRISE HILL**  
Sunrise Hill Estates LLC to Peter Halepas ..... \$474,799.00
- 406 SYCAMORE LA**  
Marco Macci to William Joseph Mcenery Jr.....\$270,000.00
- 265 HEARTLAND TER**  
Gerald R Hine to Marco Macci ..... \$540,000.00
- 041 GARDEN ROAD**  
Nelson E Cruz to Lorenc Metanaj ..... \$380,000.00
- 11 GRANNIS RD**  
Charles Whiting to Robert J Packer ..... \$300,000.00
- 517 OVERLOOK DR**  
Anne M Marino to Drew J Panapada ..... \$355,000.00
- 461 YELLOW BRICK ROAD**  
Daniel L Vencak to William H Katt Jr ..... \$380,000.00

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### King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

	P	O	W		I	D	O					
	E	R	G	O		A	V	E	R	T		
A	D	O	R	N		D	I	N	E	R	S	
M	I	X	E	D	B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G
S	T	Y		E	L	I	S	E		B	O	A
			G	R	U	B			O	A	R	S
	T	E	N	S	E		S	I	D	L	E	
L	U	L	U			D	O	N	E			
A	L	I		A	M	A	S	S		M	O	T
M	I	X	E	D	E	M	O	T	I	O	N	S
	P	I	T	M	A	N		E	N	D	U	P
		R	U	I	N	S		A	C	E	S	
		I	T	S			D	A	M			

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



## LOCAL SPORTS

### Karate Classes Offered

The Orange Parks and Recreation is offering karate classes for ages 4 - adult. The fall session starts January 15, 2013 at the High Plains Community Center. Superior Karate offers a new family discount and teaches in Stratford, Trumbull, Ansonia and Monroe. For more info call 203-783-9768 or visit [www.superiorkarate.net](http://www.superiorkarate.net).

### What Year Is It?

The front page featured headlines about America's two theaters of war and the suffering of the Eastern European nations. Korea was a looming threat. A Democrat was re-elected president. The sports pages heralded the upcoming championship game in college football -- No. 1-ranked Notre Dame vs. No. 2 Alabama.

"Honey ..." I began to ask my wife, lowering the paper enough to peer across the table at my pretty wife, who was sitting there in a nice dress leafing through a catalog.

(I start most of my requests with "honey." It's my cue to her to pay attention because I am clearly in need of something ... like the time we were running late for a function and I stood at the top of our stairs in my T-shirt and boxers, clearly in need. "Honey! What should I wear to this thing tonight?" Her reply: "Put on a pair of khakis and a polo shirt." I nodded, went back to my closet and realized that all of the clothes I own are khakis and polo shirts. But I digress.)

"Honey," I asked again, "what year is this?"

Forget the wars, Korea and the election thing for a moment. Those things didn't seem out of place to me. But really? Notre Dame vs. Alabama? For the championship? And my wife is Donna Reed? What is this? 1950?

I think I may have shared the fact before that I'm a lucid dreamer. That is, I have the ability to know when I'm in a dream. Typically, a surreally preposterous event occurs in my dream ... like the person I'm talking to suddenly morphs into my dad or something. Alarmed, I will seek out a newspaper in my dream. I can't read in my dreams, and since I write for a living, I know that can't be true. (I have poor grammar usage both in my dreams and real life, however.)

But there it was, in black and white and not some weird kanji script. Notre Dame and Alabama.

There is not column space enough to share the rich histories of these two fabled football programs. I suppose that in the days to come, plenty will be written about Grantland Rice, Rudy, Knute Rockne, the "Four Horsemen" and winning one for "the Gipper." Bear Bryant, Gene Stallings and colorful hat selections, stock footage of Heisman winners from over the years and lots of other bronze ornamental artifacts will be displayed.

I'll just focus on the surreally preposterous for now (the 12-point line for Alabama being one of them ... bet on the Irish). Alabama has an elephant for a mascot. Notre Dame has a fighting Irish leprechaun and plays under the watchful eye of Jesus Christ signaling for a touchdown.

I put down the newspaper and spread a little marmalade on my English muffin. I don't care what year it is, I think to myself ... Rudy was still offside.

*Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City.*

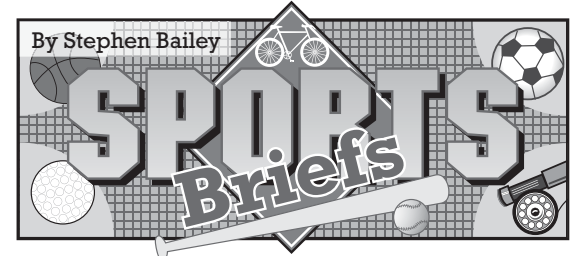
### Amity Girls' Basketball Opens Season with Win over Sacred Heart

Chloe Brinton scored a game-high 16 points as the Lady Spartans recorded a 45-35 season-opening victory over Sacred Heart. The Lady Spartans ran out to a 14-5 lead with 1:48 left in the first quarter and never looked back, forcing 15 turnovers, en route to defeating a team which beat them three times last winter.

A quick score from Molly Schmitt and back-to-back buckets from Brinton gave Amity an early 6-1 lead as the Lady Spartans wasted no time in starting the 2012-13 season off strong. After taking a 14-8 lead into the second quarter, Brinton and Kristen Post converted consecutive layups before Molly Ronan and Janae Graham each went 2-for-2 at the foul line to send Amity into halftime leading 24-16. The Lady Spartans held Sacred Heart to just 2-of-15 shooting in the frame.

While the Amity offense slowed down in the middle

quarters, a jumper from freshman Elise Graham helped keep the Lady Spartans ahead before Brinton stole ball and scored a layup at the other end as Amity took a 31-23 into the fourth quarter. While the Lady Spartans did not record a field goal, they made 9-of-16 free throws in the closing period to seal the victory. Led by Post (nine rebounds) and Schmitt (eight), Amity controlled the glass by a 43-32 margin.



### Spartans Ice Hockey Returns to Division II

Amity's ice hockey team won state title in 2008 and 2010 at the Division-II level before being promoted to D I in 2011. After a treacherous two-year experiment, head coach Gary Lindgren and the Spartans are heading back to D II.

Amity lost 19 players over the two seasons and will lose six more this winter. Lindgren and the CIAC agreed that the move was best for all parties after the Spartans finished 6-13-1 last year, two wins away from qualifying for the state tournament. Key components Joe Bianchi, Luke Sacramone, Riley Hine and Joe DeGoursey all graduated leaving tri-captains Nick Nuzzolo, Patch Flynn and Eric Dykun to pick up the slack.

Nuzzolo, the goalie, is looking for an improved season after facing the tough D-I competition. Flynn will line up at left wing with Dykun the team's most reliable defender - though he will be sidelined for the first two weeks of the season due to a broken clavicle.

Branford will likely be Amity's top competition in the Southern Connecticut Conference after the Hornets made it all the way to the state finals last year before falling to Trumbull.

Junior Brian Mosher and sophomore Christian Mortali are the reserve net minders while the Spartans roster will include six more blue-liners in senior Zhang Liu, returning juniors Johnny Usailla, Ryan Hauser, and Scott Saffran, first year-junior Justin Proto and sophomore Dalton Luciani. Junior Adam Shea centers the first line that includes senior right wing Dane Simone and junior left wing John Crocker. The Spartans' second is junior center Brett McNeill, senior Keating Seymour and the junior Flynn. Junior Bubba Pignataro and sophomore Liam Caracciolo flank third line senior center Brendan Ferrer and the fourth line is freshman center Graham Hughes and sophomore wingers Zach Shelnitz and Kevin Ryan.

The Spartans will open their season when they host Sheehan at 1 p.m. on December 15 in the Edward Bennett Rink in West Haven.

### Four Amity Football Players Named to Levi Jackson All-Star Team

Amity place kicker Lyle Luth, defensive back/quarterback Tyler Burns, and linemen Dennis Flanagan and Greg Purcell were named to the Levi Jackson All-Star team, selected by coaches in the Greater New Haven area. The 25 chosen players will be honored at an annual awards banquet, this year held Thursday, December 6 at the Cascade Banquet Facility in Hamden at 6 p. m. Tickets are \$40. each and can be purchased by sending checks to the New Haven Gridiron Club, PO Box 32, New Haven 06501. All questions should be directed to Gridiron Club Executive Director Don Nielsen at 203-795-5331.

Purcell was also named the recipient of the 6th annual Floyd Little Scholarship, given by members of the Gridiron Club. David Sampoli and Minnie Chen Named CT/SCC Scholar Athletes for October. David Sampoli and Minnie Chen were two of 16 scholar-athletes honored by the SCC. Only Varsity letter winners who have a 3.0/B average and demonstrate leadership abilities are honored with the award. He is also involved with National Honor Society, Student Government, Link Crew, and AHS Challenge Team, participated in the American Legion Boys State 2012 and was presented with the Fairfield University Book award.

Chen is a three-sport athlete (cross country, indoor track, outdoor track) and also ranks in the top half of her class. She is involved in the Environmental Club, Habitat for Humanity and the school orchestra and has received numerous academic awards including being named to the National Honor Society, CAPT Scholar, Student of Distinction, and Class I,II, and III awards.




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**LOCAL SPORTS**



**Nuzzolo Leads Spartans Back to Division II**

By Stephen Bailey – Orange Town News Correspondent

Nick Nuzzolo was a freshman when the Amity ice hockey team won the 2010 Division-II state championship. It was the Spartans second title in three years and was the final piece of evidence coach Gary Lindgren and the CIAC needed to elevate Amity to Division I.

Unfortunately for the Spartans, that two-year experiment was a failure. In 2009, they finished 9-10-1 and lost to No. 4 Saint Joseph's in the first round of states. And last year, with Nuzzolo between the pipes, Amity finished just 6-13-1, two wins away from qualifying for states.

This year, the Spartans return to Division II and Nuzzolo says the team is ready to return to their status as a D-II power. "I know what it was like to win it, but I didn't play in it," Nuzzolo said. "I know me and a couple other seniors that were on the team really want to win because we experienced that, but we didn't get to play."

Nuzzolo, of Orange, is one of three captains, along with defender Eric Dykun and right-winger Patch Flynn. Nuzzolo will be protected by Dykun and John Uscilla while center Adam Shea leads the Spartans offensive. Nuzzolo said Dane Simone, John Crocker and Brett McNeil will all be heavily relied on for scoring as well. The team is hoping to at least reach the Southern Connecticut Conference championship game and make another run in the state tournament.

Amity started practicing in early September and has won most of its exhibitions, Nuzzolo said, but the first real test will come on December 15. The Spartans host Sheehan at 1 p.m. at Edward Bennett Rink in West Haven in their season opener. "I'm feeling really confident," Nuzzolo said. "So is the rest of the team. Dropping down to D-II was the best thing for us."

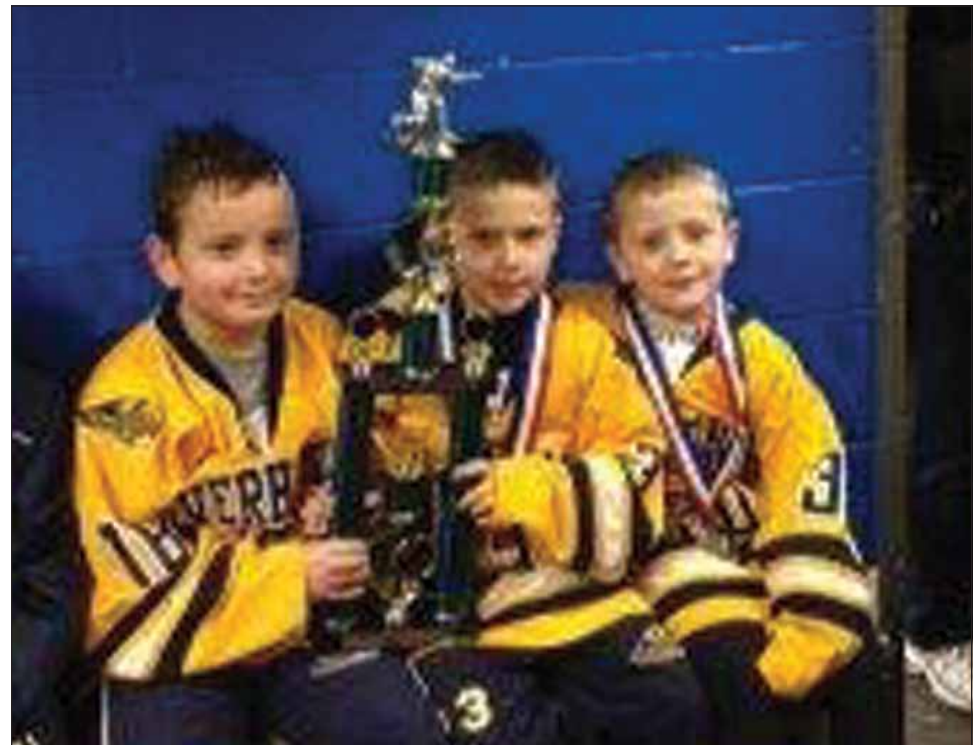
Nuzzolo said that this team is closer-knit on the ice and that he thinks it will help them as the team continues to work together in practice. All of the key contributors have D-I experience now as well. Neither of those statements could be said last year. "We have more chemistry and we're more together friend-wise," Nuzzolo said. "We know what everybody's capabilities are."

This will help the younger, less experienced players ease their way into comfort ability and hopefully, success. "You're going to have to learn, get used to the playing level in high school," Nuzzolo said. "For the most part we've all played last year so most everyone has Division-I experience and that will really help us playing Division II."

Having witnessed the triumph of winning a state title in 2010 and the frustration of D-II mediocrity, Nuzzolo returns to lead the team in his last season at Amity. As a captain and the goalie, he knows all the communication starts with him. Nuzzolo said the hardest part was just getting the kids to listen to him in the first couple weeks of practice. Since then, it's been easy. "I'm just working hard, being the best player that I can be and having fun with it said Nuzzolo"



The boys from Bethany, Orange and Woodbridge finished up their season by winning their division as well as the MIST tournament. Great job! The team is coached by Seth Ragaini of Everson Soccer and managed by Sabra Donovan.



Three of Orange's Finest Mite Hockey Travel Players from the CT Riverhawks took 2nd place in the Annual Avon Old Farms Thanksgiving Tournament. The Riverhawks had wins against Avon and The Wonderland Wizards before losing in the Championship game 3-1 to the Mite A Colonials from Danbury. Pictured with the trophy from left to right are: Johnny McNabola, Cameron DelVecchio and Jayson Gherlone.

Orange Town News

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**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Make a start on that new workplace challenge. But get more information before you find yourself too deeply involved without knowing in which direction you should go.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** You might find things becoming tedious as your schedule slows down for the holidays. Use this time to get information about a possible post-New Year job change.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** The creative Twin finds outlets for her or his ideas in the early part of the week. The practical Twin takes it a step further and rallies support to turn the ideas into reality.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** It's time to stop being intimidated by someone's negative behavior. Start taking positive steps on your own to help strengthen your position down the line.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Look closely at that so-called golden opportunity. Best to be a cautious Cat who approaches things slowly, than one who pounces without knowing where you'll land.

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Your apology can resolve that personal situation before it overshadows the holidays. You'll feel better, even if you're only partly to blame for what happened.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Avoid overtaxing yourself, even if your energy levels are high and you feel that you can do it all. Best to pace yourself so you won't run yourself down before the holidays.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Your sense of humor helps get you through a stressful period. Some of your quick quips can take the edge off any remaining negativity being aimed at you.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Your artistic talents not only help you express yourself these days, but they also set up a line of communication between you and someone very special.

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** It's fine to appreciate the importance of "proper form" for doing things. But relax a bit in order to allow newcomers on the project to feel less intimidated by you.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Use your boundless reserve of optimism to persuade others to work with you to resolve a difficult workplace problem before it can ruin your holiday fun.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** You brim over with self-confidence as you begin to tackle a new challenge. And, before you know it, you're not alone: Others have taken the plunge with you.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a highly defined sense of commitment to others. You would make a fine social worker.



## Bark Bytes...

By Vicki & Richard Horowitz

### Don't Give a Puppy as a Gift!

Please don't give a puppy as a holiday gift! As a professional dog behavioral therapist and trainer, I see cases year after year of puppies that were given as a "wow for now" surprise, but when the newness wore off and their owners became tired of all the daily puppy care responsibilities, they were neglected, given up or even abused. A living puppy should not be thought of in the same category as a holiday toy. When a puppy is adopted, he should be carefully chosen as a permanent addition to the family who will contribute much, but will also have needs of his own, which require a serious commitment from all family members to meet.

Many dogs surrendered to shelters are young—just six months to three years old—and a good portion of these are puppies less than six months old. In addition, people need to know that the number one cause of death for dogs isn't trauma or disease—it's euthanasia due to behavior problems. In fact, three to four million dogs and cats will be euthanized this year in the U.S. That number could include that cute puppy bought as a Christmas gift!

Adding a puppy to your life is, on average, a 15-year responsibility. Raising a happy, well-balanced puppy requires an enormous time commitment, so a young pup is not a suitable choice for every dog-lover. Remember, it may take several years for a rambunctious puppy to settle down into a calmer adult dog.

If the intended recipient seems ready for a puppy, be sure they can answer "yes" to these questions:

- Are you ready to participate in training and managing all aspects of the responsibilities of puppy (and dog) ownership, each and every day?
- Can you afford to provide good nutrition, veterinary care, training and everything else the pup will need to become a good canine citizen?
- Are you willing to walk or take your dog out to toilet at least six times a day, in all sorts of weather?
- Do you have a reliable pet sitter or dog walker who can care for your pet when you're at work or out of town?

If someone on your gift list really wants a puppy, consider giving a homemade gift certificate for one instead. Wrap a can of dog food, fancy collar or good book on raising a puppy, and include a note saying a puppy (or dog) of the recipient's choice comes with the gift.

And remember too that dogs of all ages make perfect companions. Most adult dogs tend to be calmer, have more predictable behaviors, and are already housebroken.

If your gift recipient is really ready for dog ownership, set a date after the holidays to start looking for the perfect dog. Research responsible breeders or visit your local animal shelter or rescue so the gift recipient can choose a dog that they really want and one that will match their lifestyle.

As a trainer with the world's largest dog training company, I am committed to helping people better understand how dogs think, act and communicate, and therefore be responsible dog owners. The holidays are the giving season—so give a puppy his best chance to become a long-term companion and have a happy life by NOT putting him under the tree.

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.BarkBusters.com](http://www.BarkBusters.com).

## Find the Right Gift for Dogs or Cats



**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** My daughter and her family have two big dogs and a cat. I like giving gifts to the pets as well as my grandkids. Do you have any suggestions? -- Tammy, via email

**DEAR TAMMY:** Anything that looks cozy, fun and safe for pets is a good bet. I've always appreciated even small gifts like a cute bandanna for my dog or small catnip toys for my cat. If you're looking for gifts beyond stocking stuffers, here are some that most pet owners will appreciate:

- Dog and cat beds: These range in price from about \$15 on up to a few hundred dollars. Look for a sturdy fabric covering that is easy to brush fur from, and stuffing that can't be easily pulled out and chewed on.
- Cat furniture: From a simple padded windowsill seat to "kitty condo" play complexes that cats can wander through, cat owners appreciate these combination scratching posts and rest areas.
- Travel safety: A number of products have come on the market to keep dogs and cats safe in the car, from traditional travel crates to adapted seat belts that keep Fido securely in his seat.
- Toys: For your daughter's big dogs, sturdy chew toys are probably welcome. I still really like Kong chew toys, which are nearly impossible to damage and can be filled with peanut butter or another treat. For cats, something beyond the catnip mouse could include one of Bergan's "Turbo Tracks," in which a ball inset in a round or figure-eight track scoots around with every swipe of the paw.

No matter which gift you choose, or if you decide to just give small, inexpensive gifts to your daughter's pets, I'm sure they'll be appreciated.

Send your question or comment to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com), or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at [www.pawscorner.com](http://www.pawscorner.com).

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Cakebread Cabernet Napa..... \$57.99	The Prisoner 2011 ..... \$44.99	Bolla Amarone..... \$29.99
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Justin Isosceles '07 ..... \$47.99	Ferrari Curano Rsv. Chard..... \$26.99	Carpazzo Brunello di Montalcino.. \$39.99

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<b>Brothers Brut</b> (750 ml) <b>\$19.99</b>	<b>Bogle (Merlot, Chard, Reis. Sauv. Blanc)</b> (750 ml) <b>\$8.99</b>	<b>R. Mondavi PS Wines</b> (750 ml) <b>AFTER \$2 REBATE \$6.99</b>	<b>Martini &amp; Rossi Asti</b> (1.5 L) <b>\$19.99</b>	<b>Captain Morgan Rum</b> (1.75 L) <b>\$28.99</b>	<b>All Wine &amp; Liquor Gift Sets On Sale!</b>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>L Martini Napa Cab.....\$20.99</li> <li>Cupcake Wines.....\$9.99</li> <li>Mark West Pinot Noir.....\$9.99</li> <li>Apothic Red or White.....\$9.99</li> <li>Toasted Head Wines.....\$9.99</li> <li>Bella Glos Pinot Noir.....\$19.99</li> <li>Duckhorn Decoy Reds...\$19.99</li> <li>Laguna R. R. Chard.....\$21.99</li> <li>Smoking Loon Wines.....\$7.99</li> <li>La Crema Chard.....\$18.99</li> <li>McManis Wines.....\$9.99</li> <li>Franciscan Cabernet.....\$21.99</li> <li>Naked Grape Wines.....\$5.99</li> <li>Crane Lake Wines.....\$3.99</li> <li>Mirassou Wines.....\$7.99</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lindemans.....\$9.99</li> <li>Frontera.....\$8.99</li> <li>Beringer California.....\$10.99</li> <li>Sutter Home.....\$9.99</li> <li>Barefoot Wines.....\$11.99</li> <li>Bolla Wines.....\$12.99</li> <li>Woodbridge Wines.....\$12.99</li> <li>Turning Leaf.....\$11.99</li> <li>Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio..\$13.99</li> <li>Cavit Wines.....\$12.99</li> <li>Bella Serra.....\$11.99</li> <li>Liberty Creek Wines.....\$8.99</li> <li>Two Oceans.....\$12.99</li> <li>CK Mondavi.....\$10.99</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juan Gil (750ml).....\$14.99</li> <li>Honoro Vera (750ml).....\$7.99</li> <li>Gascon Malbec (750ml) ...\$12.99</li> <li>Anakena Wines (750ml).....\$7.99</li> <li>Alamos Wines (750ml).....\$9.99</li> <li>Trapiche Oak Cask Malbec (750ml)...\$9.99</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Amsterdam (1.75)....\$19.99</li> <li>Skyy Vodka (1.75).....\$23.99</li> <li>Vikingford Vodka (1.75) ... 2 / \$14.98*</li> <li>Tanqueray Gin (1.75).....\$29.99</li> <li>Ketel One Vodka (1.75)....\$39.99</li> <li>Belvedere Vodka (750) ....\$25.99</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bailey's All Types (750)....\$23.99</li> <li>Johnnie Walker Red (1.75)..\$34.99</li> <li>Jack Daniels (1.75).....\$41.99</li> <li>Seagrams 7 (1.75).....\$19.99</li> <li>Kahlua (750).....\$19.99</li> <li>Amaretto Disaronno (750) ..\$23.99</li> <li>Johnnie Walker Double Black (750) ..\$37.99</li> </ul>
		<b>Italian/French</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santa Marg. Pinot Grigio (750ml).\$19.99</li> <li>Hob Nob Wines (750ml).....\$9.99</li> <li>La Vieille Ferme (750ml) ....\$6.99</li> <li>Ecco Domani (750ml).....\$9.99</li> <li>Delas Cotes du Rhone (750ml)..\$11.99</li> <li>Monte Antico Rosso (750ml).....\$9.99</li> </ul>	<b>Rum/Tequila</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacardi Rum (1.75).....\$22.99</li> <li>José Cuervo Gold (1.75) ..\$34.99</li> <li>Captain Morgan (1.75).....\$28.99</li> <li>Patrón Silver (750).....\$41.99</li> <li>Malibu Rum (1.75).....\$26.99</li> <li>Familia Camarena Tequila (750) ..\$19.99</li> </ul>	<b>Champagne</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moet Imperial Brut (750) ..\$36.99</li> <li>Korbel Brut or Extra Dry (750) ..\$11.99</li> <li>Segura Vivas Brut (750)...\$7.99</li> <li>Cooks All Types (750).....\$7.99</li> <li>Moet Dom Perignon (750) \$139.99</li> </ul>

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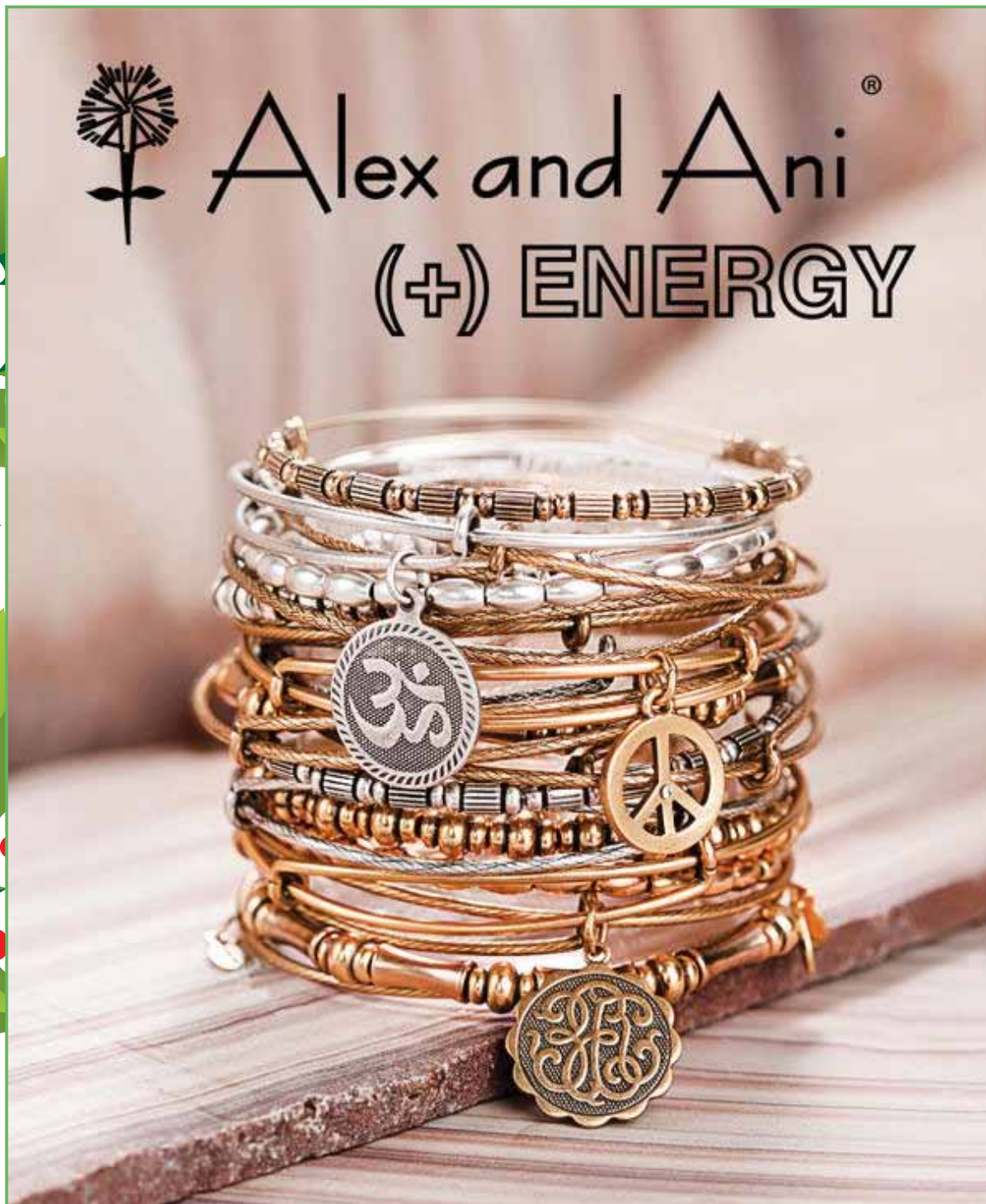


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