

Orange's Exclusive Newspaper

Mailed FREE to Every Home & Business in Orange

VOL. 12 - ISSUE 13

CIRCUILATION 6025

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2017



NEW ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY PROPOSED

By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent

Orange native Attorney Toni Marie Gelineau described her presentation to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission as "serendipitous" as she proposed a zone change to allow the construction of an assisted living and memory care facility on property that was once her family's homestead known as "Cuzz Acres". In a public hearing before the board, Gelinaeu spoke on behalf of the applicant, Senior Living Advisors, LLC, and property owner, Indian River Road LLC. Gelineau appealed to the commission to amend the Orange Zoning Regulations to add a definition for "Dwelling Unit, Senior Independent Living," and to amend the Orange Zoning map and to changes the seven-acre property known as 231 Indian River Road-Lot 2 from Light Industrial (LI-2) to Senior Mixed Use District.

Citing the town's aging population, Gelineau said Orange has a need for more independent and assisted senior housing and the Indian River, Marsh Hill and Prindle Road area would be the perfect spot to create such a zone. Close to the Post Road and highways and minutes away from dialysis facili-

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ties, medical offices and pharmacies, the area is already uniquely compatible to senior living, Gelineau pointed out. Maplewood at Orange, an assisted living and memory care facility is also located on Indian River Road.

Mark De Pecol, principle for Senior Living Advisors, presented the details about the assisted living and memory care facility they would propose for the site if the zone change is approved. Describing the type of assisted living homes Senior Living Advisors operates statewide, De Pecol said the "resort-like" facilities are always "beautiful and aesthetically pleasing," with inviting grounds and gardens, elegant dining rooms and communal areas, wine bars and hallways, lighting and furniture specifically designed to meet the needs of seniors. The proposed building, located on seven acres, would be three floors and have 100 rooms, 20 of which would be designated for memory care. Admittedly pricey, the annual cost for what De Pecol describes as "gracious living" would be about \$72,000. Accord-

See "Facility" continued on Page 3



BIG Y COMING TO ORANGE-DERBY SHOPPING CENTER

By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent

WORLD CLASS MARKET

Only The Best...

Residents in the Turkey Hill School side of town are thrilled with the news that Big Y Foods, Inc. has announced plans to open a World Class Market in the former Wal-Mart location in the

Orange Derby Shopping Center at 656 New Haven Avenue in Derby.

The store will fill a huge void for shoppers who frequented the Adam's Supermarket store located in the same plaza which closed in July 2016. Wal-Mart closed its doors just weeks later, the two

businesses leaving a gaping abyss in the 177,000 square foot retail center. The shopping center had always included a grocery store as far back as the 1970s with ShopRite, Klarides and, most recently, Adam's being among the supermarket chains that operated there. With the exception of Woodland Wine and Spirits, the entire right half of the plaza is vacant. The new Big Y will be approximately 60,000 square feet and will be the 71st store located throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The shopping center is being redeveloped and marketed by DLC Management Corporation of Elmsford, NY with an anticipated opening in 2019. As part of the project, DLC Management Corporation plans to overhaul the center with a multi-million dollar renovation

which will include façade modernization, parking lot repaving/restriping, sidewalk repairs, streetscape, landscape enhancements and lighting improvements. According to Chris Ressa, DLC's Senior Vice President of Leasing, the

See "Big Y" continued on Page 3



new windows; roof; high end Porcelain tile flrg; two new gas furnaces; new c/air, much more.-Vitd ceilg and skylights; **Buddy DeGennaro 203.710.2548**

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EDUCATION



Students at Mary L. Tracy invited family members to share their holiday traditions with their classmates on December 8.

STUDENTS EMBRACE THE GIFT OF GIVING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

By Melissa Nicefaro – Orange Town News Correspondent

The holiday season brings out the best in many adults, but in Orange, it brings out the best in children, too, many as young as preschoolers and kindergarteners. "The MLT community has participated in several community service projects this year. During the month of October, we participated in the Sock-Tober Event, collecting over 100 pairs of socks that were donated to a local shelter, and we had Treats for Troops and Survivors, collecting over 50 pounds of candy. Currently we have a Giving Tree for Boys and Girls Village," said Mary L. Tracy Principal Kai Byrd.

Through the Holiday Giving Drive, staff and families are invited to purchase items from a list to donate to the Boys and Girls Village of Milford. Organizers ask that all items be returned to MLT unwrapped and placed in the boxes in the main lobby by December 18th.

Not only are students at MLT encouraged to give to the community; they embrace diversity by learning about tolerance and acceptance. On December 8, students were invited to have a family member join the student's class to share a holiday celebration or tradition that the family celebrates.

Activities for the event included a family quilt project, where each student and their special guest designed a quilt square that represents their family and their traditions. Teachers pieced together the quilts for display in our school. A variety of seasonal stories were also read in the classrooms by family members and then the teachers and room parents provided a snack. Students also made creative crafts that they brought home.

At Race Brook School, the annual student council Holiday Gift Drive is in full swing and staff was overwhelmed by the generosity of families who have contributed to the gift drive. Within the first few days of the annual gift drive many of the candles had already been spoken for, and gifts had already begun to trickle in. Parents chose from paper

candles on the main entrance bulletin board that listed the gender, age and type of gift requested. Once the drive concludes, the gifts are delivered to local families who can use the help of others at the holidays.

At Turkey Hill, students donated toys for kids in the Boys and Girls Village of Milford, a local organization dedicated to helping children and families in need. Beginning in late November, there were paper mittens and stars hanging in the front lobby. Written on each mitten or star was an item that a specific child wishes to receive for the holidays. Gifts were brought in to school unwrapped and will be delivered to local families who will now have a holiday that is a little brighter than it would have been without the generosity of students.

Students at Peck Place collected food items for the Orange Food Pantry through Orange Community Services. At the holidays, Community Services looks for organizations, businesses and residents to sponsor the baskets and adopt a family.

According to Director of Community Services Joan Cretella, "We can also use donations of gift cards to distribute to supplement the baskets. If you are able, please consider a monetary donation for our Community Assistance Program Fund which supplements the Food Bank and provides funds for fuel assistance. These programs are funded solely by donations and the generosity of our community."

According to Cretella, "Every year Community Services also organizes a gift-giving event for our resident families and elderly in need. We are asking Orange residents to adopt one of our families/elderly residents or to donate whatever they can."

The families that participate are asked to send wish lists from their children to help sponsors with ideas for gift giving, whether it's a toy, clothing, and a book or gift card. The identities of recipients are kept confidential for their privacy.



"Facility" continued from Page 1

ing to the company's market findings, the average age of residents is 84 and they typically live in the facility for two and half years. "We've found there's a tremendous need for assisted senior living in the Milford, Orange, Stratford, West Haven, Westville and Woodbridge communities," he said. "If there wasn't a need we wouldn't be proposing this."

According to De Pecol, benefits to the town would be significant, citing significant tax revenue with minimal impact on town services. Residents obviously would not have use for schools; little traffic is generated as residents rarely drive; "lights out" is early; and the property is quiet. Even ambulance and EMT visits are minimal, averaging about five visits a month and typically arriving without sirens and lights. In addition to the internal amenities and attractive exterior of the building, the company goes "overboard on gardens and landscaping," he said. If approved, the project is slated for completion in 2020.

De Pecol said Senior Living Advisors is extremely proactive when building one of their facilities within a town and works diligently with residents and officials throughout the process to address concerns and minimize any issues. Indian River Road resident George Finley, who met with De Pecol prior to the public hearing, did have concerns to bring before the board. "Senior living is needed and wanted in Orange and this project is aesthetically pleasing to the neighborhood. If that's all we were talking about here tonight I'd say approve it immediately," he said. "What bothers me are the words 'mixed use' and the attempt to bring retail in under the false dressing of senior living." Finley pointed out the nearby Post Road offers all the stores and conveniences a senior resident might need. He suggested limiting commercial use to professional services which would be closed on weekends when Post Road traffic is at its heaviest.

Commissioners talked briefly among themselves about whether a zone change permitting residential use in the area could lead to other housing applications – like affordable housing. They decided to leave the public hearing open to continue discussions at its January 2nd meeting.

"Big Y" continued from Page 1

store represents an investment of over \$5 million into the local community, providing opportunities for local contractors during the construction process and creating more than 150 full and part time positions.

Haystack Hill resident Eileen Mantell couldn't be happier about the news. "I can't tell you how inconvenient it feels to have to drive miles out of your way when you just need to run into a grocery store to pick something up like a gallon of milk or Half and Half, or a cooked chicken for dinner!" Mantell says she's been asking the employees at the nearby CVS for months if they'd heard anything about what might go into the empty Wal-Mart space and was thrilled to finally hear the good news.

In a press release from the company, Big Y's President and Chief Operating Officer Charles D'Amour said, "We are excited to announce this addition to our Connecticut community of stores. We look forward to bringing Big Y's world class service, quality and selection closer to shoppers in Derby and surrounding communities." According to D'Amour, the company is strongly committed to giving back to the communities surrounding its stores, donating food values at more than \$4.5 million to local nonprofit organizations, schools, churches and educational programs each year. Big Y also awards 300 academic scholarships worth \$250,000 each year and has helped more than 2,000 local schools earn over \$11.5 million in teaching materials and educational equipment. Its Education Express Program, has helped more than 2,000 local schools earn over \$11.5 million in teaching materials and educational equipment.

As a Big Y World Class Market, the store will offer prepared meals, a broad selection of specialty and local foods, a full service butcher shop, seafood direct from New England piers, an extensive produce department and a full service pharmacy.









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ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP





TURKEY HILL SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE WAS A SUCCESS

Written by Sam Sender, THS Grade 6 Student

The Turkey Hill School (THS) Student Council hosted a food drive for the Orange Food Bank. Donations were collected from November 2nd to November 10th. THS students Sophia Tashlein, Ava Storz, McKenna Kirck, Avery Ketchian, Sam Sender and Hannah May planned and coordinated this food drive. Miss Carpinello and

Mrs. Arterbery helped the students plan the drive. They collected 419 items for the Orange Food Bank! This drive was a very big success! On Wednesday, November 15th Joan Cretella, Director of Community Services for Orange, and Jim Moule picked up the items from Turkey Hill in time to fill Thanksgiving food baskets.



Orange Amity Middle School 8th Graders are shown serving hot chocolate at the annual Holiday Festival. They have been doing this event for the past 6 years. Faithful volunteers look forward to doing it year after year. They were quite busy this year. Biggest crowd ever!



FIRST LEGO LEAGUE COMPETITION

Race Brook School & Turkey Hill School Compete

Have you heard of the wonderful Lego League program that is happening at Race Brook and Turkey Hill Schools? It is amazing. In this program students learn some great S.T.E.M. skills; everything from programming, acting, teamwork, to cooperation.

Each year there is a competition entitled the First Lego League where students build a robot to perform a real world science and technology challenge. This year, in only 8 weeks, Math/Science Specialist Mr. Bruni, and LEAP specialist Mrs. Harned managed to put Race Brook's first Lego League team together. Mrs. Corcoran, Mr. Marano, and Mrs Acker coached the team at Turkey Hill School. They all assist their students in

building robots that were challenged to conserve water by fixing broken pipes made from Lego pieces, changing a water filter, making an object rain Lego water.

The teams of 5th and 6th grade students met after school and, during their free time at school, to work on this project which included a poster presentation, computer coding, a skit, and building of the robots and set.

The competition went off without a glitch. The students were focused on their task and some finished in the top 10 out of 27 teams. It was amazing to watch these future engineers hard at work solving the world's problems. They are all excited to come back and compete again in the following year.



RACE BROOK SCHOOL'S FAMILIES SHOW COMPASSION & GENEROSITY

Race Brook School families from Orange once again sponsored children this year during the Student Council's annual collection of gifts for the Connecticut Education Association's Holiday Bear Project. Many Race Brook School families now include the gift drive as part of their annual holiday tradition. The goal of the program is to collect donated gifts for less fortunate children in Connecticut's public schools. Orange families chose from over 200 paper candles from the school's front bulletin board. Each calendar had a child's first name, age, and gift wish on it. The sponsoring families bought and wrapped the gifts for the children, hoping that their gifts would bring

smiles to children's faces. The gift drive was organized by the Student Council under the direction of teachers JoAnne Escandon, Pam Galatioto, and Janet Greenspan. The students pictured with the gifts are members of the Student Council Gift Drive Committee. "It meant a lot to me that I was part of the gift drive," says fourth grader Remmy C. "I loved going from classroom to classroom asking for the gift donations and being able to help people." The students commendably collected the gifts from all the classrooms first thing in the morning and during their recess, giving them the opportunity to show citizenship, responsibility, and good will towards others.



ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP



EDITORIAL CARTOONIST TO VISIT AMITY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Bob Englehart, the award-winning editorial cartoonist, visited Amity Regional

High School on December 13, 2017, to offer a workshop to Amity's History, Journalism, and Art students. Mr. Englehart was the first full-time editorial cartoonist in the 251-year history of The Hartford Courant and worked for that newspaper for 35 years.

Mr. Englehart maintains a website (Bobenglehart.com) where he displays a collection of his cartoons, a blog, and his

memoir "Trackrat: Memoir of a Fan". He still draws 3 cartoons a week for the cartoon syndicate, Caglecartoons.

com. Mr. Englehart discussed his creative process and shared insights about

writing gags, drawing cartoons and caricatures, and the perils of the daily newspaper.

The event was hosted by Amity librarians, Robert Musco and Victoria Hulse, and made possible by the Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation. More information about the Foundation's mission and work can be found at jamiehulleyartsfund.org.

For more information contact Robert Musco

(robert.musco@reg5.k12.ct.us) or Victoria Hulse at (victoria.hulse@reg5.k12.ct.us)



Bob Englehart



VETERANS HONORED AT RBS

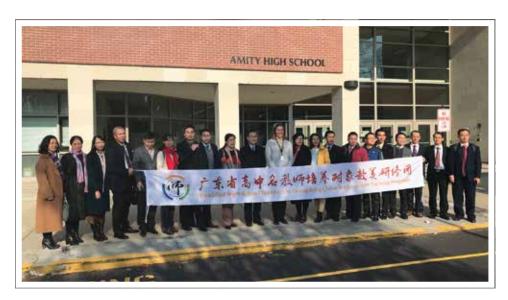
On Friday morning, November 10th, the students and staff of Race Brook School in Orange held a special Veteran's Day assembly to honor the men and women in the military who have served their country. The assembly and the activities afterwards were diligently planned and organized by the directors of the school's Student Council: JoAnne Escandon, Pam Galatioto, and Janet Greenspan. The assembly organizers and school principal, Mike Gray, began the assembly with a special thank you to all the parents, students, and staff who worked on putting together the assembly. Student Council was also able to donate over \$500 in donations for Homes for Heroes, an organization that raises donations to help heroes of our nation save on a home and on homerelated purchases.

The veterans were sincerely impressed with the warm welcome and very attentive behavior of over 400 elementary students during the hour-long assembly. The majority of the attending veterans were relatives and friends of the school's families. A striking and poignant onscreen MS PowerPoint presentation displaying photos of the veterans with identifying captions and apropos lyrics playing in the background touched the hearts of everyone in the audience and brought tears to many eyes. The children

sang well-rehearsed songs to pay tribute to the veterans during the assembly. They also wrote heartfelt poems and letters of gratitude and handed them out to their guests during the assembly. Marea L., a fifth grader, states, "It's important to honor veterans because they are selfless and brave and fought for us to be free and to be able to live beautiful lives."

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

Fifth grader Neva A. feels, "It's important to celebrate veterans because they fought for our country and were willing to leave their families and sacrifice their lives for us and for our country."



The full delegation posed with principal of Amity Regional High School, Anna Mahon, in front of the school.



Left to right: Associate Dean, Muhang Huange; Superintendent of Amity Schools, Dr. Charles Dumais; and Director, Haiyan Zhang.



Amity Regional High School students (left to right) Jingjiang Liu, Jason Li and Ruqui Jiang, discuss lessons and educational approaches with members of the delegation.



Amity Regional High School Principal, Anna Mahon (2nd from right) and Associate Principal, Monica Kreuzer (2nd from left) present copies of the 2017 Embers Yearbook: The Story Behind to the heads of the delegation.

VISITORS FROM CHINA AT AMITY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Educators from the Guangdong Province of China visited Amity Regional High School on Monday, December 4, 2017 and spent 3 hours shadowing students and talking with administrators. Members of the delegation were led by the Associate Dean and the Director of the School of Professional Development

and Research on Primary and Secondary Education from Guangdong Province. Their goal was to observe teaching and learning in the comprehensive high school.

Approximately 14 students were shadowed by the 20 guests. Gifts were exchanged with the guests as well.





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Mailed **FREE** to Every Home & Business in Orange Circulation of 6,025.

Mailing Address: **P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 Phone: 203-298-4399 | Fax: 203-298-9818**

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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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Sponge Brothers Car Wash	79 Boston Post Road
The UPS Store	554 Boston Post Road
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of the Orange Town News

available at your organization or business, please call 203-298-4399.



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

Upcoming Issue Deadline	<u>Upcoming Issue Dates</u>
January 5th	New Year's Issue January 12th
February 2nd	Valentine's Day Issue February 9th
March 2nd	St. Patrick's Day Issue March 9th
Note: Copy due by 4:00p.m. Thank you	<i>ı</i> .

FROM OUR READERS

Holiday Letter to the Editor

The holidays are a time to surround yourself with family and friends, eat seasonal treats, and toast to what's to come. Help keep the celebrations going and #GiveADamn about the safety of your family, friends and community this holiday season. If you choose to celebrate the holidays with a "cheers," always remember to drink responsibly and plan ahead to use a ride share service, designated driver, or public transportation to get to and from your destination safely.

Drunk driving is 100 percent preventable and it's up to you to do your part this holiday season to keep our roads safe. That's why we're joining Budweiser to celebrate the holidays by reminding everyone to plan ahead for a safe ride home from his or her holiday celebrations.

Over the past 35 years, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler partners have invested more than \$1 billion in the United States to promote alcohol responsibility and reduce drunk driving, and we are looking forward to continuing this effort through 2018 and beyond.

From everyone at Dichello Distributors, we wish you a happy and safe holiday season!

Tonty Lota Alcohol Awareness Coordinator Dichello Distributors, Inc.

Reader Supports National Popular Vote Interstate Compact

As people left the polls on Election Day, I'm sure they took for granted that their vote would matter and the candidates who received the most votes would be declared the winner. That's the way it works for virtually every election in the U.S., except for the president.

With winner-take-all Electoral College voting, a dozen battleground states with only 33% of the population decide who becomes president. Our votes don't matter. Every one of the

673,215 Connecticut voters who cast a ballot for Donald Trump could have stayed home and the Electoral College count would have been exactly the same.

A solution is the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, a nonpartisan solution to make everyone's vote for president count—regardless of whether they live in a blue, red or battleground state—the winner is the candidate with the most votes.

The Connecticut General Assembly has considered joining the Compact five times over the past decade. In the 2017 legislative session there were 68 co-sponsors of H.B. 5434.

There are hundreds of grassroots advocates across Connecticut who will be asking the legislature to pass a national popular vote bill in 2018. Seven out of ten U.S. adults agree that the candidate with the most votes nationwide should become the president. Contact your state Senator and Representative and ask them to support the NPV.

This isn't a partisan issue. The Compact is not a Democratic plan to gain an unfair advantage. Newt Gingrich endorsed the Compact in 2014. Just after the 2016 election, President-elect Trump said, "I would rather see it where you went with simple votes. There's a reason for doing this, because it brings all the states into play."

Beverly Propen

Thanks Go Out to Orange PD & Good Samaritan

To celebrate my 80th birthday and upon entering a new age group (Men 80-84) I again participated in the Orange Rotary 5k Turkey Trot this past Thanksgiving. My celebration of first place in my age group (I was the only one) was cut short due to the loss of both my hearing aids and my car key fob (both of which I had placed in my fanny pack for safe keeping). We drove the course

See "Letters" continued on Page 9



OTN Letters Policy

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

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

ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP





Left to right: Ms. Anna Mahon, Amity Regional High School principal; Dr. Richard Dellinger, Amity Middle School Bethany principal, and Ms. Kathy Burke, Amity Middle School Orange principal.

AMITY DISTRICT 5 JOINS THE CT GREEN LEAF SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Connecticut Green LEAF Schools is a program of Connecticut Departments of Education, Energy and Environmental Protection, Administrative Services, and Public Health, in collaboration with more than thirty-five environmental and educational partners. Connecticut Green LEAF helps schools to grow greener and focuses on "Leading, Educating, Achieving, and Fostering healthy, green schools for all". There are three goals to the program including: providing effective environmental and sustainability education; improving the health and wellness of students and staff; and reducing environmental impact and cost.

Connecticut Green LEAF Schools is free and open to all K-12 schools, both public and private. Implementation starts with a letter of commitment from the school administration. The school then can complete a self-assessment of their "green" activities and goals. Schools receive support in meeting their goals, including webinars, lessons, and professional development.

All three schools in Amity Regional School District No. 5 have signed on to the Green LEAF program. All participating schools are recognized for their accomplishments. Schools that show substantial progress in greening their schools may be eligible for nomination for the U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon honor. To date, 13 schools and one district across the State have earned federal Green Ribbon recognition

The Connecticut Green LEAF School program supports Connecticut schools in providing effective environmental and sustainability education, improving the health and wellness of their students and staff and reducing their environmental impact and costs. LEAF stands for "Leading, Educating, Achieving and Fostering green, healthy schools for all". The program is a collaborative effort led by the Connecticut Departments of Administrative Services, Education, Energy and Environmental Protection and Public Health, along with other state educational and environmental organizations. The program celebrates and recognizes those Connecticut schools making progress toward sustainability. The Connecticut Green LEAF School program will also support the nomination of a select group of schools to the U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon School program. For more information, please visit www.ctgreenleaf.org.





Director of Mission Advancement/Campaign Director Debbie Camner (Hamden), Capital Cabinet members and current parents Nancy and Stephen LaPointe (Cheshire), and President Sr. Sheila O'Neill, ASCJ, Ph.D., '71 (Hamden) reviewing plans for the new school center.

EVER HIGHER

The Capital Campaign for Sacred Heart Academy

Sacred Heart Academy of Hamden recently launched Ever Higher - The Capital Campaign for Sacred Heart Academy at the Up, Up, and Away... Ever Higher kick-off event. "We plan to build a space that will allow us to keep pace with the changing academic climate of the 21st century, and that will enhance the sense of community that is central to our mission," offered Sister when speaking to the more than 250 attendees. Plans call for a new school center which will become an educational, social, and cultural hub - offering a new student commons, a gallery, and offices for the president, principal, alumnae relations, and admissions, as

well as a new main office with enhanced security and safety. The new space will also feature a green roof - also known as a "living roof" - both functional and attractive, a green roof reduces storm water runoff, lowers cooling costs, and is a visible manifestation of Sacred Heart's commitment to stewardship of the Earth. The 7,500 square foot space was designed by David Thompson Architects (DTA) of New Haven. It has a projected cost of five million dollars and as of the launch - the Academy has \$4,380,000 toward the goal from generous donors in the Sacred Heart community and from funds that were saved and invested.

STUDENTINEWS

Achievements

Eastern Student Mollee Lasto Of Orange Selected As LEC Swimmer-Of-The-Week

Willimantic, CT -- Eastern Connecticut State University junior Mollee Lasto '19 of Orange received the Little East Conference (LEC) Swimmer-of-the-Week Award for the week of November 19. This is the fifth individual award of Lasto's career. Lasto's major is Health Sciences. In her last week of action at the PSU Natatorium against Plymouth State University and Western New England University, Lasto won the 50-meter backstroke with a time of 30.32, and the 200-meter backstroke with a time of 2:20:57. Her time in the 200 meters was a season-best, and her 50 meters was 0.02 off from her season-best mark. She also swam the opening leg of the 400-meter medley relay and anchored

the 400-meter freestyle relay. The Warriors won both events.

Eastern's Megan Lasto Repeats As Rookie Swimmer-Of-The-Week

Willimantic, CT -- During the week of November 5, Eastern Connecticut State University Megan Lasto of Orange, CT, received the Little East Conference (LEC) Rookie Swimmer-of-the-Week Award for the second week in a row. Lasto's major is Visual Arts. Paired with her sisters, Mollee and Maggie, as well as junior Amber Albe of Wallingford, Megan led the Warriors to a victory in the 200 medley relay, while also winning three individual events. She also took second place at the Louise Goodrum Invitational, which was hosted by the University of Massachusetts.



LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDUP

NEW CHILDREN'S ADVENTURE FACILITY SEEKS APPROVAL

By Laura Fantarella - Orange Town News Correspondent

Whether you're young or young at heart, a proposed family amusement facility on Bull Hill Lane will have an adventure for everyone if the plan is approved by the Town Plan & Zoning Commission. Lakshman Paidi, principal of Bull Hill Lane Associates presented a plan to open an Urban Air franchise at 260 Bull Hill Lane. The property was once home to Bradlee's, Builder's Square and Kmart, but has been vacant for more than a decade. The new facility would feature 84,200 square feet of "familyfocused" activities all under one roof, including trampolines, 'café' bowling, electric go carts, bumper cars, an arcade, laser tag, zip line, trapeze and climbing

Paidi, a New Jersey resident who also owns Apex Pharmacy, Home Care & Nutritional Center in Hamden, says he is getting into the family entertainment business at the urging of his two children who are eight and ten years old. "It is going to be an affordable adventure park featuring freestyle fun," he said when

presenting his proposal to the TPZC last week. The facility is also expected to host school fundraisers, special events, birthday parties, corporate events and fitness classes. The franchise, which is headquartered in Texas, has 50 other locations nationwide. The Orange location would be the only one of its kind in Connecticut and employ a staff of approximately 75. "There will be an emphasis on safety," Paidi said. "It will be a safe and fun place." According to Paidi, though "moms" are the customers, the "clients" will be children age five and up and even adults are welcome.

The Commission asked the applicant to present detailed plans for refurbishing the 547 car parking lot, landscaping, lighting and signage at its January meeting before voting on the plan. Commissioners expressed a desire for the landlord and applicant to "beautify" the outside of the facility as well. TPZC Chairman Ozzie Parente said, "This land hasn't been touched in 20 years and we're concerned with the aesthetics."

SUSAN SPETRINI JOINS COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Aileen DeFeo, Branch Vice President welcomes Susan Spetrini to her team of experienced and dedicated real estate agents. Susan is passionate about real estate; a professional full-time agent for over 35 years with strong ethics who places her clients first. Her goal is to provide the best service and communication and assist buyers and sellers through the process of their real estate transaction.

Susan specializes in residential homes - new construction, water front properties and investment properties in New Haven County. A Connecticut native with over 35 years of experience, she has full knowledge of the changing real estate trends. Over 70% of her business comes from the referrals of satisfied clients past and present. As a multimillion dollar Realtor, she consistently ranks at the top of her profession. She is a Connecticut 5 Star agent for 8 years and ELK for 10 years. She is dedicated to selling her clients homes quickly at maximum prices as well as finding buyers the right home that meets their



Susan Spetrini

wants, needs and budget. She understands selling and buying homes is a large decision for her clients and she wants to ease the process.

Susan can be reached at Coldwell Banker's Orange office at 236 Boston Post Road, at her direct line phone number 203-376-7080 or email at Susan.Spetrini@CBMoves.com.

COLDWELL BANKER PARTNERS WITH GUARANTEED RATE AFFINITY

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut, a leading residential real estate brokerage firm, announced that it has partnered with Guaranteed Rate Affinity, LLC to include an enhanced mortgage service offering for its affiliated sales agents and their customers. Through this business partnership, Guaranteed Rate Affinity will offer a wide array of mortgage products and origination services to agents' customers to provide them with a convenient, value-added advantage during the home buying process.

"We want to provide our customers with an exceptional home buying experience. Having this partnership with Guaranteed Rate Affinity enables us to provide them with a streamlined process that translates into outstanding customer service," said Joe Valvano, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut estimates it represents thousands of buyers each year who are purchasing a property and who can benefit from this offering. With this partnership, a Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut affiliated agent can easily recommend a loan officer affiliated with Guaranteed Rate Affinity to offer personalized guidance from the mortgage loan application process through the home closing. Additionally, Guaranteed Rate Affinity provides seamless technology, new loan products and will introduce access to an innovative, digital mortgage platform that provides clients and their agents 24/7 access to mortgage documentation and resources.

"Our customers are our responsibility to serve from the start of the process when they begin their home search, to when they are handed the keys to their new home and beyond, and Guaranteed Rate Affinity is clearly the right partner to help us in that initiative," continued Valvano.

"We look forward to partnering with the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Connecticut affiliated agents by offering an innovative and streamlined mortgage process and powerful, innovative technology for their customers," said Guaranteed Rate Affinity Chairman Victor Ciardelli. "Mortgage financing is a critical component of the home purchasing process and I am confident that the Guaranteed Rate Affinity team will provide the world-class service that is expected and deserved in this everevolving industry."

Guaranteed Rate Affinity, LLC is a mortgage origination joint venture between Realogy Holdings Corp. (NYSE: RLGY), a global leader in residential real estate franchising and brokerage, and Guaranteed Rate, Inc. one of the largest retail mortgage companies in the United States.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, a leading residential real estate brokerage company in Connecticut, operates approximately 51 offices with more than 2,300 affiliated sales associates serving the communities of Connecticut. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is part of NRT LLC, the nation's largest residential real estate brokerage company. For more information, please visit Coldwell-Banker Homes.com.

COLDWELL BANKER COLLECTS TOYS FOR THE YALE TOY CLOSET

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

The Coldwell Banker Residential Toy Closet program is directly related to community involvement.

The Orange Office, located at 564 Racebrook Road, will be accepting donated toys through December 15th. 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.

"The holidays are a way to get away from the pain of the year, creating something people can laugh at. That's a gift." — JOSH GORDON



FROM OUR READERS

"Letters" continued from Page 6

and searched the field and parking lot to no avail.

I reported the loss to an Orange police officer on the scene and the following day obtained a replacement key fob from the car dealer and ordered new hearing aids from Costco, covered by the 18 month-from-purchase insurance.

The next day Officer Koches came to our door with the hearing aids, found by his dog at the Orange track and then Officer Anderson called to tell me that an un-named good Samaritan had found the key fob and turned it in! I canceled the Costco replacement order and retrieved my now back up key fob from Police headquarters.

I give thanks to Officer Koshes, his dog and the other officers and Staff of the Orange CT Police Department and the unknown Good Samaritan who finally made my day.

Gustave L. Davis MD

Thank You Robert Bocek

We are writing to acknowledge the work of Robert Bocek on the Orange Board of Finance and recognize him for his unparalleled effort on the budget development process this year.

Acting on his own initiative, Mr. Bocek conducted a full analysis of over 1,000 Town budget items. Based on that work, the full Board came to agreement on over \$1,000,000 in cost reductions. These targeted reductions led to reduced budget expenditures which, in turn, resulted in significantly lower taxes paid by Orange taxpayers.

While Robert will not sit as an elected member of the Board, in our view all Orange taxpayers owe him a hearty debt of gratitude for his exemplary efforts while serving on the Orange Board of Finance.

> Kevin Houlihan, Chairman Orange Board of Finance Jim Leahy, Vice Chairman Orange Board of Finance

"Open Enrollment" is Open Season on the Majority

As we continue through the open enrollment period for healthcare many of us surely feel like it is open season on the working class. Most of the articles I have seen focus on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and subsidies. Sure ACA premiums rose a reported 34%, but evidently so did subsidies which will help negate that increase for qualified participants.

By many accounts, about 10 million US citizens participate in the exchange. Our recent census shows total population at about 323 million citizens. If you remove folks who are over 65 because they are covered under Medicare, that leaves about 264 million of us who need to fend for ourselves. Let's face it, we liked our old plans and doctors, but we were not able to keep them and now it is time to pay and pay again.

A more relevant fact is the increase to non-subsidized plans like most of us have. In my local picture, the average increase for ACA compliant, non-subsidized plans was 44.5%. Our personal plan (same one we have had for a couple of years) increased from \$1612.97 per month to \$2413.01 per month. A friend of mine saw a jump to \$33,000 per year for his family. The increases have been most notable on the plans which will renew at the beginning of 2018, but fear not if you are in a group, your increase is coming. These figures are roughly three or four times what comparable plans cost before the Affordable Care Act. In Connecticut, we can only choose between a rock and hard place with no explanation for the increased rates.

As these increases become widely realized, hopefully they will be reported on as that is where a true breaking point will be reached. Increases in premiums, with no real added inclusions and higher out of pocket costs will adversely affect the economy. Businesses are sure to face higher insurance contributions and employees will be chipping in more as well. Small business owners and others on Individual plans will likely see the most dramatic increases. This prevents money from being used elsewhere in the economy. For businesses like mine, when the cash is spent on increased premiums it won't be available for wages, capital purchases or even other necessary operations. Personally, consumers will clearly have less disposable income. Those consumers who are not subsidized and already judged by the government to be able to spend more will, in fact, have less of their own money to spend.

The working, middle class is under assault by government policies in collusion with insurance companies. We need less government intrusion to help remedy this looming crisis which will undoubtedly hamper any economic gains we hope to realize in the near term. We need to stop being distracted by inconsequential political stories and focus our concern on tangible, necessary issues.

Phil Grande



ORANGE RESIDENTS!

Have an Upcoming Birth Announcement,
Anniversary, Engagement or Wedding?
Send it to us with a photo and we will publish it FREE.
Orange Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477
Email: edit@orangetownnews.com

Did You Know?

Many Connecticut residents will be hurt, financially, by changes in the income eligibility rules for Medicare Savings Programs. The changes are effective starting January 1, 2018.

Medicare Savings Program help low income seniors pay for the cost of health care. Medicare Savings Programs go by the acronyms QMB (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary), SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary), and ALMB (Additional Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary).

In all three programs, the State will pay your Medicare Part B premium (generally \$134.00/month in 2017). You also automatically qualify for Extra Help (also called Low-Income Subsidy) with the cost of prescription medication. If you are covered by QMB, the State also will pay your Medicare deductibles and co-insurance amounts. All of this can be an enormous help for an individual/family with limited income.

The changes in the income eligibility rules, effective as of January 1, 2018, were dramatic as you can see in this chart.

Program	2017 income limit Single Person	2018 income limit Single Person
QMB	\$2,120.00/month	\$1,025.00/month
SLMB	\$2,321.00/month	\$1,226.00/month
ALMB	\$2,472.00/month	\$1,377.00/month
Program	2017 income limit Couple	2018 income limit Couple
Program QMB		
Ü	Couple	Couple

What can you do? If you divert your excess income to something called a PLAN Pooled Trust, you can maintain your eligibility. Although the money you divert to a PLAN Pooled Trust will be used to pay bills you previously paid from your own Bank account, the cost (\$1,050.00 Enrollment Fee and a modest monthly Service Fee) and inconvenience may not make this a good choice for you.

What else can you do? If you think the changes are unfair, contact your legislator. Many Connecticut residents already have done this and there is talk of a special session of the legislature being called to address this issue.

If you are interested in learning more about how these Medicare Savings Program changes affect you, please visit our website and read our blog for recent posts. For advice specific to you or your family, please contact the office. We would be glad to meet with you for a no hassle, no charge initial consultation, no matter how long it lasts.

NOTE: ON DECEMBER 6, THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ANNOUNCED IT IS POSTPONING THE START DATE OF THE LOWER INCOME ELIGIBILITY AMOUNTS, PENDING FURTHER REVIEW AND STUDY.



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

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TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES



POLICE DESIGNATE MEET-UP SPOT FOR SALES INITIATED ONLINE

By Melissa Nicefaro – Orange Town News Correspondent

With the holiday season upon us, many residents will look to websites such as OfferUp, Craigslist, LetGo, or Facebook to buy/sell things, often resulting in the need to meet with a stranger to complete the transaction.

Police realize that while these sites are a great way to save money or even make a little, one of the more challenging aspects is meeting a stranger somewhere to complete a transaction. With that in mind, Orange Police created a spot to meet individuals right at police headquarters, in a safe and secure environment, with the added benefit of being recorded on video inside police

headquarters.

Police urge anyone who is making a transaction with a stranger to come to police headquarters at 314 Lambert Road. At the end of the driveway, on the right, the very first parking space is marked with a permanent sign designating it as the the 'Meetup Spot' for internet transactions. The spot will remain, even once the holiday season has passed.

Police also advise that if you are conducting one of these transactions and anything about the exchange does not feel right, there are police officers inside the headquarters building to help.

FROM THE YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

By John Ulatowski



Youth Services Job Bank Residents Can Assist With Variety Of Jobs

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, raking,

snow shoveling, mother's helper, and more. For further information, please contact John Ulatowski, Orange Youth Services Coordinator at 203-891-4785.

Youth Services High School Volunteers Can Assist With Community Events

Orange Youth Services has a list of Orange High School youth who are available to assist their community with a variety of volunteer needs. Our volunteers have signed up with a parent with Youth Services to access opportunities in regards to attaining their necessary school volunteer credit hours. They are available for a variety of community and organizational services located in Orange. For information, please email John Ulatowski, Orange Youth Services Coordinator, at julatowski@orange-ct. gov.

OCC SEEKS PUBLIC'S HELP

The Orange Conservation Commission announces once again that there will be stepped-up enforcement activity in Orange's Open Spaces by the Animal Control Officer from Milford Animal Control. Cindy Ruggeri, Chairperson of the Orange Conservation Commission, wants to remind the public using Orange's Open spaces that there are Local Ordinances requiring that owners of dogs must have their animals leashed and that solid waste left by their dog must be removed by the owner. She states "there is an increasing number of instances in our Open Spaces where unleashed dogs are running loose and frightening other users. This combined with owners failing to clean up after their dogs is detrimental to other people trying to enjoy our beautiful open spaces."

The stepped- up enforcement activity will include random visits to Orange's Open Spaces (Wepawaug Conservation Area, Ewen Farm Preserve, Turkey Hill Preserve, Wright's Pond/Wepawaug Bend, Racebrook Tract, Fred Wolfe Park and Housatonic Overlook & Tucker's Ridge) by the Animal Control Officer from Milford. The Officer will cite violators of the Local Ordinances. Such violators "shall be subject to arrest and prosecution and may be fined an amount not to exceed \$100 for each violation.

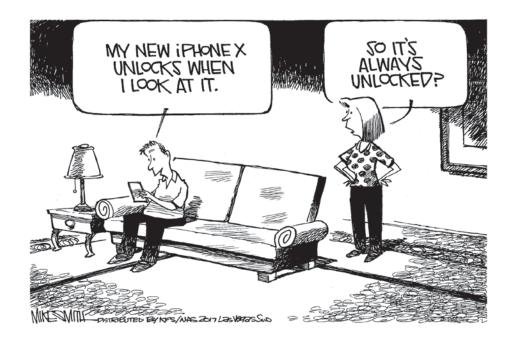
Users of the Orange Open Spaces are asked to call the Animal Control Officer at 203-783-3279 to report dogs off-leash or owners failing to clean up after their dogs. It is hoped that with the Public's help and increased enforcement, the Open Spaces will once again be enjoyable places to hike for all users.

TOWN OF ORANGE MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF DECMEMBER 2017

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



18th	Family Counseling Youth Services Orange Board of Education Board of Finance Board of Health	7:00 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 pm	HPCC HPCC Mary L Tracy Bldg Town Hall HPCC
20th	Park & Recreation Comm		Town Hall HPCC





DOLLARS AND SENSE

CAN YOU AFFORD TO RETIRE EARLY?

Provided by Tad Smith, AAMS®, Edward Jones, 50 Broad Street, Milford

Some people dream of retiring early. Are you one of them? If so, you'll need to plan ahead – because a successful early retirement can't be achieved through last minute moves. So, if you're determined to retire early, consider taking the following steps:

Pick a date. Early retirement means different things to different people. But it's important to pick an exact age, whether it is 60, 62, 64, or whatever, so you can build an appropriate retirement income strategy.

Think about your retirement lifestyle. You may know that you want to retire early – but have you thought about what you want to do with your newfound time? Will you simply stay close to home and pursue your hobbies? Do you dream of spending two months each winter on a tropical island? Or are you thinking of opening your own small business or doing some consulting? Different retirement lifestyles can have vastly different price tags. Once you've envisioned your future, you can develop a saving and investment plan to help you get there.

Boost contributions to your retirement plans. If you want to retire early, you may well need to accelerate your contributions to your retirement accounts, such as your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer sponsored plan. You may need to cut back in other areas of your life to maximize the amounts you put into your retirement plans, but this sacrifice may be worth it to you.

Invest for growth. Your investment strategy essentially should be based on three key factors: your goals, risk tol-

erance and time horizon. When you change any one of these variables, it will affect the others. So, if you shorten your time horizon by retiring early, you may well need to reconsider your risk tolerance. Specifically, you may need to accept a somewhat higher level of investment risk so you can invest for greater growth potential.

Keep a lid on your debt load. It's easier said than done, but try to manage your debt load as tightly as possible. The lower your monthly debt payments, the more you can contribute to your retirement plans. Life is unpredictable.

Even if you take all the steps described above, you may still fall short of your goal of retiring early. While this may be somewhat disappointing, you might find that adding just a few more years of work can be beneficial to building resources for your chosen retirement lifestyle. For one thing, you can continue contributing to your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan. Plus, if you're still working, you may be able to afford delaying your Social Security payments until you're closer to your "normal" retirement age, which, as defined by the Social Security Administration, likely will be 66 or 67. The longer you put off taking these benefits, the bigger your monthly checks, although they will max out once you reach 70. And even if you are not able to retire early, some of the moves you took to reach that goal – such as contributing as much as you could afford to your IRA and 401(k), controlling your debts, and so on – may pay off for you during your retirement – whenever it begins.



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SENIORCENTER

By Dennis Marsh

A Special Double Feature Christmas Cabaret!

Come join us on December 20 at 5:30 for Christmas cookies and Egg Nog. At 6:00pm the Girl Scouts will sing Christmas Carols. At 6:30 Willie Nininger will take the stage for a Holiday show. Call (203) 891-4784 to reserve a seat!

Suzanne's Rock Painting Party

Join us on December 29 at 1:00pm for egg nog & cookies as we paint rocks to replenish our Kindness Rock Garden. Let us know that you are coming at (203) 891-4784 and we'll supply the paint!

Lunch & Fun

We screwed up our Social Tea! We are mixing tea and chocolate. What are we thinking!?! Join us January 12, 2018 from 11-2pm for Social Tea & Chocolate as Kim Larkin of Klassic Kreations as she leads us in a pairing of teas and chocolate. Sitting is very limited; \$10 per person.

Hot Lunch

The Orange Senior Center offers a lunch Monday through Friday, 11:30am – 12:00pm. A \$3.00 donation is suggested for persons 60 years and over. To register, call (203) 891-4765 before 1pm the day before.

Movie of the Month Friday, December 8 "Moonlight", 1:00pm

2016 Oscar winner for Best Picture, a chronicle of the childhood, adolescence and burgeoning adulthood of a young, African-American, gay man growing up in a rough neighborhood of Miami. Popcorn & soda will be served. Call for a seat (203) 891-4784.

Money Management

Join us for Money Management the first and third Tuesday of the month, December 5 & December 19 from 9:30 – 10:30am. On January 16 Drazen Law Firm will present "How to Keep Long Term Care from Becoming a Long Term Financial Crisis". Call (203) 891-4784 to reserve a seat!

Try our New Class! Yogalates

You tried the demo now come out for the class. Hot New Class Yoga meets Pilates with Traci Weber, Tuesdays at 10:30 starting January 2, 2018; 10 weeks \$50.

Trips

SOUTH PACIFIC WONDER, March 13—27, 2108: 15 days, 20 meals. Highlights: Great Barrier Reef, Sydney Opera House, Mount Cook National Park, Queenstown, and more. Cost - Early Booking Discount Cost Double \$5,999pp taxes until September 15, 2017. Passport required for travel. Deposit and Insurance are due at registration.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST & CALIFORNIA, April 23-30, 2018: 8 days, 10 meals. Highlights: Seattle, Mount St. Helens Visitor Center, Portland, Columbia River Gorge, Portland Spirit Cruise, Redwood National Park, San Francisco, and more. Cost: \$2,999pp double, with early booking discount before October 23, 2017. Deposit & insurance are due at registration.

ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTH-ERN LIGHTS, October 30-November. 5, 2018: 7 days, 10 meals. Highlights: Reykjavik, Northern Lights Cruise, Golden Circle, Geysir, Blue Lagoon, and much more. Cost: \$3,299pp double. Deposit & insurance are due at registration.

VOLUNTEERS AGE 55 + NEEDED

The Agency on Aging of South Central CT has volunteer opportunities for adults age 55+. Volunteers can tutor young children in reading in East Haven, Hamden & New Haven schools and afterschool programs (training provided), help frail seniors organize their monthly

bills, read with a child in a North Haven elementary school, or visit with a homebound senior or a veteran.

For more information, call Cherie at 203-785-8533 x2907 or email volunteer@aoascc.org. Also, visit www. aoascc.org.



DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

2018 FINANCIAL PLANNING CALENDAR

By Roberta L. Nestor

By any standards, overall markets have been kind to investors in 2017. Typically good markets equate to less activity with your investments, retirement planning and maybe even less thorough reviews of your investment portfolios. It's encouraging when you see growth in your retirement accounts, however that doesn't mean you should just sit back. Now is a great time to take inventory and prepare for the year ahead and ideas to help you stay on track for all of your financial goals.

December

- End of year tax planning, especially if you are considering taking profits from non-retirement accounts.
- If you are over age 70 ½ make sure you have taken your required minimum distribution (RMD); the IRS has hefty penalties if you don't (50% of the amount you should have taken). Don't forget you can have a tax-free RMD if you use it as a charitable contribution (check with your tax advisor)
- Gifting (annual exclusion for 2017 is at \$14,000 has to be completed by 12/31/2017
- For families with college bound children in 2018 – get moving on FAFSA. Filing for federal aid was available October 1st, 2017. Don't delay, you don't have to wait for your 2017 tax return.

January

- Review your end of year investment statements, not just looking at the returns but also your asset allocation. If you are getting statements electronically, print your end of year statements so they can be reviewed by your financial advisor.
- Make sure you have scheduled your appointment with your tax advisor

February

Time to gather all of your necessary tax documents as you will be receiving your 1099s and other documents.

March

• When was the last time you in-

- creased your 401k, 457 or 403b payroll contributions?
- If you have "auto-increases" available take advantage and set it up.

April

- Tax filing deadline for your return is Monday, April 16th, 2018. It is also the deadline for funding any ROTH or other retirement plan contributions outside of your 401k plan.
- Make an appointment with your financial advisor to review your taxes and see what impact, if any, your investments may have had on your taxes.

July/August

This is a great time for non-tax or investment related financial planning. Beneficiary reviews, insurance review and estate planning are all important.

October

 If you filed for an extension then your 2017 tax return has to be filed no later than October 15, 2018

November

 This has been declared as National Long Term Care Awareness Month.
 Great time to meet with family members and discuss your plans in the event of needing long term care.

These are just a few things to help you stay on track. Best wishes to all for a happy holiday season and to 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.



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Orange Elementary School Student Calendar 2018-2019

August 2018	September 2018	October 2018	Date	Event
M Tu W Th F	M Tu W Th F	M Tu W Th F	August 24	Teacher Day
1 2 3		1 2 3 4 5	August 27	Professional Development
6 7 8 9 10	3 4 5 6 7	8 9 10 11 12	August 28	Professional Development
13 14 15 16 17	10 11 12 13 14	15 16 17 18 19	August 29	First Day of School
20 21 22 23 TD	17 18 19 20 21	22 23 24 25 26	September 3	No School Labor Day
PO PO 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28	29 30 31	September 10	No School • Rosh Hashanah
1010233	17 15 15 17 10	13/20/51	September 19	No School - Yorn Kippur
3 School Days	17 School Days	22 School Days	October 8	No School - Columbus Day
		44	October 23	Min. Day - Evening Conferences
November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	October 25	Min. Day - Evening Conferences
M Tu W Th F	M Tu W Th F	M Tu W Th F	November 6	No School - Professional Development
1 2		1 2 3 4	November 21	Minimum Day
5 PO 7 8 9	3 4 5 6 7	7 8 9 10 11	Nov. 22 & 23	No School - Thanksgiving Recess
12 13 14 15 16	10 11 12 13 14	14 15 16 17 18	December 21	Minimum Day
19 20 21 22 23	17 18 19 20 21	21 22 23 24 25	Dec 24 - Jan 1	No School - Holiday Recess
26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28	28 29 30 31	January 21	No School - Martin Luther King Day
19 School Days	15 School Days	21 School Days	February 18	No School - President's Day
	The second second second	The second recognition of	February 19	No School - Winter Break
February 2019	March 2019	April 2019	February 26	Min. Day - Evening Conferences
M Tu W Th F	M Tu W Th F	M Tu W Th F	February 28	Min. Day - Afternoon Conferences
1	1	1 2 3 4 5	March 15	No School - Professional Development
4 5 6 7 8	4 5 6 7 8	8 9 10 11 12	April 15 - 18	No School - Spring Recess
11 12 13 14 15	11 12 13 14 PD	15 16 17 18 19	April 19	No School - Good Friday
18 19 20 21 22	18 19 20 21 22	22 23 24 25 26	May 27	No School - Memorial Day
25 26 27 28	25 26 27 28 29	29 30	June 11	Last Day of School (tentative) Min. Da
18 School Days	20 School Days	17 School Days		
May 2019	June 2019	BOE Meeting Dates		
M Tu W Th F	M Tu W Th F	August 20th		
1 2 3		September 17th		
6 7 8 9 10	3 4 5 6 7	October 15h		
13 14 15 16 17	10 11 12 13 14	November 19th		
20 21 22 23 24	17 18 19 20 21	December 17th	Report Card I	Dates: Nov 16, March 15, June 11
27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28	January 21st, 2019		
22 School Days	7 School Days	February 11th		
CONTRACTOR SECTION	Veneros serva 34	March 18th	Make Up Eme	ergency/Snow Days - June 12-21
Open House Dates: MLT	- Aug.30th RB - Sept. 4th	April 22nd	101	
PP.	Sept. 5th TH - Sept. 11th	May 20th		
		June 17th	Approved by BOE	on 11-20-17

BOE CALENDAR SET FOR 2018-19 WITH MINIMAL HALF-DAYS

By Melissa Nicefaro – Orange Town News Correspondent

The Board of Education approved a calendar for the next school year that carries far fewer minimum days after hearing frustrations from parents who need to take time off from work or make arrangements for their children. "I know we've talked about this in previous months. One of the main goals that I have is to align ourselves as best as we can to Amity," said Superintendent of Schools Vince Scarpetti.

"One thing that we've received feedback on is the amount of half-days that we have had, with some concern. I go back to professional learning for teachers, it's important, not that I want to put any parents out with what they have to do with leaving work and picking up their children on minimum days. The insights that I have as the superintendent is to really make sure that the staff gets those professional development opportunities," Scarpetti said.

"Next year, we're doing things differ-

ently and only having half-days where it's contractually obligated for parent-teacher conferences, and the days before Thanksgiving, and the holiday break," he said, admitting that his proposal comes with a little bit of trepidation. "I'm willing to try it out and see the impact, because we do have our Wednesday meetings where we can work with our teachers regarding professional learning."

"I noticed that there were very few minimum days and I thought that was a wonderful thing to do. Also, the fact that the first day of school is going to be a Wednesday as opposed to a Monday; that was something that I felt strongly about, that it's hard to start little children with a whole five-day week," said board member Betty Hadlock.

The board voted unanimously to approve the proposed calendar. School will start on August 29 and end on June 11, barring any weather-related closures throughout the year.

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RACE BROOK STUDENTS, FAMILIES DONATE FOOD TO THOSE IN NEED

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

The Student Council's message for the food drive was, "Your thoughtfulness and generosity will help bring joy to others less fortunate during this holiday season". The entire student body, with the help of their parents, whole-heartedly participated in donating 682 pounds of non-perishable food items, including supermarket gift cards. The council members proudly presented the donations to FISH on behalf of the school. "Working on the food drive is so much fun. It's special to me because my great-grandmother worked at Fish of Greater New Haven helping others," says sixth grader Sarah G.

The photo shows enthusiastic Student Council members who dedicated their time and energy to collect the donated food items. The children from the town of Orange prove once again that they put their hearts into giving to those in need. "It feels great to help people going through hard times," emphatically states sixth grader Kaleigh F. "All I can say is thank you to all the people who made donations."

ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

By Melissa Nicefaro - Orange Town News Correspondent

The Orange Board of Education welcomed two new board members at its November monthly meeting. Mary Welander has three sons at Race Brook School and Charles Flynn has a child at preschool and two at Peck Place. "I really appreciate the opportunity to work with a lot of the people that I have respected from afar and now get to work with," Flynn said. "I'm so excited to be joining you guys tonight, thank you for the opportunity," Welander said.

Superintendent Vince Scarpetti took advantage of the introduction of new members to explain a bit about philosophy of the board and district overall. "With new board members, I thought it would be a good opportunity to talk about the lens that I see myself and our team sees themselves," he said. "I have set three goals for myself and the entire district. This year we are focusing on creating and instilling a viable curriculum, implementing process writing and reviewing and revising our SRBI (scientific research based interventions) process."

These three goals will continue to be the focus throughout the school year in classrooms and at the district level. "It's important that you hear about these elements throughout the whole entire year in many different ways: at board meetings, budget workshops, so that you can see it living and breathing by sharing these documents, for example, the long range plan I'll be talking about, writing pieces that I'll share with all of you. I ask you to remember that. It is important that these goals are followed through," he said to the board.

He said he preferred to keep the list of goals short for a reason. "One thing that I appreciate is that while we're focusing on three goals, there are others we will be focusing on, too. If you look at the acronym FOCUS, (follow one course until successful), I think that's very difficult to do, but we remind ourselves that if we do too much, we usually don't succeed at the things that we set out to accomplish," he said.

He explained to the new members that education in Orange is about more than curriculum. "Even though we are focused on teaching and learning, which many think is the main focus of a school system, we also focus on the entire child. We focus on the physical, intellectual, social and emotional needs of a student," he said. "You may hear about me dressing like Woody from Toy Story and going to the schools. You may hear me talking about parades, or going to Lego League or the PTA pancake breakfast. It's not just to say I went. It's about connecting. I thought this would be a good time, with new board members, to remind ourselves of our goals."





ORANGE PRE-SCHOOL BLIND LOTTERY

Limited Openings For 2018-19 Community Peer/Tuition Based Program

Mary L. Tracy School is known as a place where "the love of learning and the love of children are celebrated each and every day!" The Orange Elementary School System is now accepting names for the "Blind Lottery" for our 2018-2019 Pre-School Program. Our Special Education integrated Pre-School Program has a "limited number" of

openings for three year olds with a birth date of January 1st, 2015 thru December 31st, 2015, to participate as a general education community peer. By law, students with special needs identified with an

IEP are placed in the Pre-School Program by the Department of Special Services thru the PPT process.

Our Pre-School Program enriches each child's social, emotional, physical, cognitive, intellectual, and creative abilities through early academic and social experiences. It is designed to prepare the children for early success and school readiness. Community peer children are selected thru a "Blind Lottery". This Pre-School Program is fee-based, 5-days/week, 3-hrs/day. The total cost

of tuition for general education community peers will be \$3,250. If a family qualifies for the State's Free and Reduced Lunch Program, they may be eligible for tuition assistance. No transportation is provided for general education community peers.

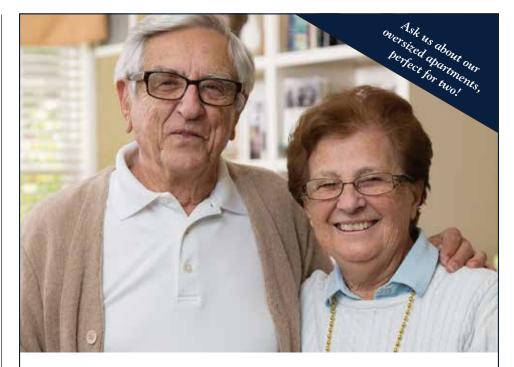
Our Pre-School Program will follow the district's school year calendar: the AM class is held from 8:30

a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and the PM class is held from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Each classroom will be a blending of both 3 yr. old and 4 yr. old students. Class sizes are limited to a total of

12 students per class, including our special education students. In order to participate in this lottery your child must be 3 yrs. old (birthdate of January 1st, 2015 thru December 31st, 2015). Children turning 3 yrs. old during the months of September thru December will start attending the pre-school program after their third birthday.

The blind lottery is conducted in two stages. One: All names of the 3 yr. olds

See "Pre-School" continued on Page 16 $\,$



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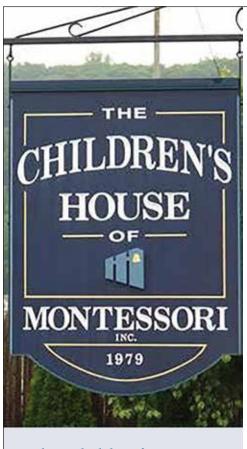
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SLOSSBERG NAMED CCM STATE LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM announced that State Senator Gayle Slossberg has been named State Legislator of the Year by CCM. Senator Slossberg was presented with the award at CCM's Annual Dinner Meeting held on November 28 at the Foxwoods Resort.

Senator Slossberg represents the 14th Senatorial District which includes the communities of Milford, Orange, and parts of West Haven and Woodbridge.

"Connecticut would not be the great state it is without healthy cities and towns. CCM has been a great partner and advocate for communities throughout Connecticut. I am grateful for this award, and for their commitment to our state. There's still much to be done, and I look forward to working alongside CCM in the coming legislative session," said Senator Gayle Slossberg.

An early 2017 decision by Connecticut's Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) on siting small cell antennas in municipalities across Connecticut now mandates -- thanks to Senator Slossberg's efforts -- that companies in this emerging field engage local governments in more advanced consultations and notification as they consider and propose sites in a community.

"Senator Gayle Slossberg is a dynamic leader who exemplifies a lifetime of community involvement," said Joe DeLong, CCM Executive Director. "And Senator Slossberg was a major actor in bringing this pro-municipal decision on the critical small cell-tower issue to the finish line. She addressed CCM's Legislative Committee on the issue early in the session, and as promised, remained a steadfast supporter of cities and towns throughout these proceedings. It should not go unnoticed that Senator Slossberg took up the fight on behalf of towns and cities during a time when other issues before the General Assembly were of much higher visibility."

The plan and process for siting small cell antennas and distributed antenna systems in public rights-of-way has been a hot button issue for towns and cities for over a year. The new process calls for greater participation by the municipality where such small cell canister antenna and distributed antenna systems are proposed to be sited.



Senator Gayle Slossberg

And given the uncertainty of the 2017 General Assembly session and the incredible lobbying force of the utility industry, this ruling was a big win for residents --because of Senator Slossberg's efforts.

First elected in 2004, Senator Slossberg was reelected in 2016 for her seventh term as State Senator. She is Senate Co-Chair of the General Assembly's Education and Housing committees and Vice Chair of the Government Administration & Elections Committee. She is also a member of the Appropriations and Regulation Review committees.

During her time in the legislature, Senator Slossberg has earned a reputation as a tireless advocate for job creation in Connecticut. She was responsible for developing the first tax incentive program in the state aimed at increasing job growth and enticing new businesses to move to Connecticut. Senator Slossberg's program became an essential part of landmark jobs legislation passed in 2011 and expanded upon in 2012. As part of this legislation, Connecticut created the highly successful Small Business Express Program. This program provides loans and grants to small business to spur business growth and promote job creation.

CCM's 35th Annual Convention is the largest gathering of municipal leaders in New England. Nearly 1,000 leaders from local and state government as well as the business community convened at Foxwoods for two-days of intensive education and networking on key state-local-federal issues on November 28 and 29.

"Pre-School" continued from Page 15

are 'picked out of a hat' for the limited number of available spaces, with the first 12 names moving on to the 2nd round and the remaining names drawn will be put on a wait list. Two: the 2nd lottery will decide if your child will attend the AM or PM class in order to balance each classroom with an equal amount of new 3 yr. old children with the returning 4 yr. old children.

All children must be toilet trained and a bona-fide Orange resident. If you wish to have your child participate in the Blind Lottery, please call the Special Services Dept. (203-891-8023) between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

to place your child on the list. We will be accepting names to enter the blind lottery up until 4:00 p.m., Wednesday. January 31, 2018.

Parents will be notified of the lottery results by February 9, 2018. A non-refundable tuition deposit of \$325 is due by February 23rd to reserve the spot for your child. Registration paperwork will be due by March 30th, 2018. The deposit is your first month's tuition for September. Tuition payments are due on the first of the preceding month, e.g. tuition for October will be due September 1st. Any further questions, call the Special Services Dept. (203-891-8023) at the Orange Board of Education.





Q: I've really gotten into **Sarah Jessica Parker's** comedy on HBO called "**Divorce.**" Can you tell me if it will be back for another season? -- Barb T., via email

A: The 10-episode second season of "Divorce" premieres Jan. 14 at 10 p.m. ET. If you're not familiar with the series, "Sarah Jessica Parker and **Thomas Haden Church** star in this biting comedy series from creator **Sharon Horgan** about the lows and lower lows of a very long divorce," as per HBO. Joining the cast this season are **Steven Pasquale** as a love interest for Sarah's Frances, and "**Ugly Betty**" star **Becki Newton** is coming aboard as Jackie, a successful realtor who will be a new squeeze for Thomas' Robert.

Q: For years I've been hearing that there is going to be a sequel to "**The Incredibles,**" but it's been so long, it feels like it might not be happening. Can you give me any info about that? -- Katie S., via email

A: It's been 13 years since "The Incredibles" captured the hearts of so many adults and children alike, and it's about to make its mark on a new generation. The computer-animated Pixar superhero film -- which starred the voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter and Samuel L. Jackson -- will be back with a follow-up, appropriately titled "Incredibles 2," which is due to hit theaters June 15.

Craig, Holly, Samuel, et al., are reprising their roles and, according to Pixar, the sequel picks up right where the first one left off, with the Parr family about to face off with The Underminer (voiced by Pixar favorite **John Ratzenberger**). "Incredibles 2" will focus on Helen Parr (Holly), also known as Elastigirl, while



Sarah Jessica Parker [HBO]

her husband Bob (Craig) remains at home to watch their children, Violet, Dash and Jack-Jack. The family struggles to maintain normal lives while they remain unaware of Jack-Jack's powers. However, they, along with Frozone (Samuel), soon will have to battle a new villain with a sinister plot.

Q: Can you tell me when the Golden Globes will air? I feel like it's coming up soon. -- Marc J., via Facebook

A: The "75th Annual Golden Globe Awards" is set to air live coast to coast on Sunday, Jan. 7, from 8-11 p.m. ET (5-8 p.m. PT) on NBC. Late-night host/comedian **Seth Meyers** will be the emcee of the annual gala, which has always been known as the more "fun" awards show, where almost anything can happen, with many viewing it as an indicator of who will be honored at the Academy Awards.

Robert Greenblatt, chairman of NBC Entertainment, said in a statement: "We are thrilled that Seth Meyers is going to be hosting the Golden Globes this year. As he does every night for us in late night, he will be taking a closer look at this year's best movies and television with his unique brand of wit, intelligence and mischievous humor."

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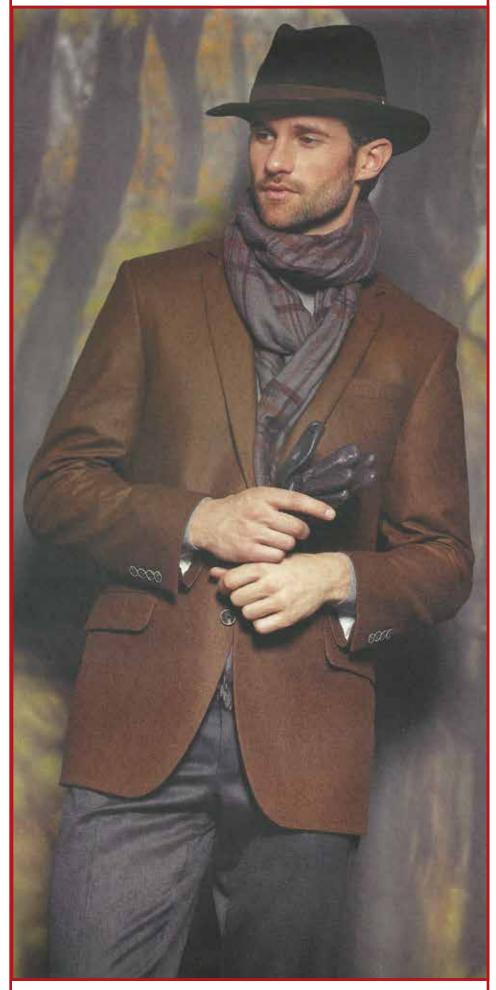
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ARTS & LEISURE



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND... BUBBLE MANIA!

Orange Community Women (OCW) would like to thank the Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation for sponsoring its January 20th, 2018 fundraiser "Casey Carle's Bubble Mania" to be held at High Plains Community Center at 3:00pm. Bubble Mania is a highly-acclaimed show combining the science of bubbles with theatrical showmanship and comedy. Its website describes the show as an "extremely unique program combining high energy entertainment with artistic achievement. Bubble Mania is loaded with visual comedy, quick wit, big band swing music and the untamed, often unbelievable qualities and beauty of spherical liquids." This will be a wonderful community event and lots of fun for all ages.

Tickets are \$5 in advance before January 15th or \$7 at the door, and under 1 yr. are free. Contact Michelle Bailey for tickets at fbailey1@optonline. net or any OCW member.

Orange Community Women is a chapter of Connecticut Junior Women, Inc. We seek to unite the women of Orange and surrounding areas by participating in community service and providing enrichment, leadership and social in-

teraction. Our projects include: awarding scholarships to Amity students, donating children's books to the library, collecting for veterans, organizing activities for the Tracy Bunch (a group of special needs adults sponsored by Orange Community Services), visiting and working with the seniors at Silverbrook Estates, and donating holiday food baskets and gift cards to Orange Community Services. We also contribute our time, talent and funds to other organizations such as Days for Girls, Manes and Motions - Therapeutic Riding Center and Female Soldiers/Forgotten Heroes. Proceeds from this fundraiser support projects such as these.

For more information on Orange Community Women, contact Donna Wesolowski, 203-799-3519.

The Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation is a non-profit organization founded to celebrate the memory of Orange resident, Jamie Alaine Hulley, and dedicated to the arts and the educational enrichment and professional development of young performers. For information on the Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation, visit www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org, call (203) 891-8869, or email: jamieart@snet.



P.V. O'DONNELL COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN SESSIONT

Featuring Sarah & Chris Buteux

All-Ireland Champion fiddle player Sarah Buteux and her father Chris Buteux, on guitar, will join the P.V. O'Donnell Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann traditional music session Thursday, December 21, at St. Gabriel Parish Hall, 26 Broadway, Milford, 7:45 pm. Admission is Free. Musicians, dancers, singers and guests are welcomed. BYOB.

Sarah studied with renowned teacher Rose Flanagan at the Pearl River School of Irish Music in Rockland County, NY. Pearl River is a cultural epicenter of Irish music and dance led by a collection of dedicated arts activists who have taken responsibility for ensuring that the cultural traditions of Ireland stay alive and healthy.

For holiday giving, Chris will bring a variety of handmade soaps that can be purchased from Comfort and Joy, a company owned by his wife, Lisa.

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann was founded in 1951 in Ireland to promote Irish traditional music, song, dance and language. Today there are 415 branches worldwide and over two million people attend Comhaltas functions each year. For information on the session, call 203-876-9973.

ART IN THE LIBRARY

Artist Dennis Gentle, together with Doug Toth and Joseph Barber, is presenting an art exhibition of watercolors, sculptures and mixed media entitled, "The Language of Art" in the Case Memorial Library from January 2, 2018 through January 31, 2018 in the second floor gallery.

The reception is January 11, 2018, 5-7 P.M. (snow date January 18, 2018). All are invited to the library at 176 Tyler City Road, Orange, CT.



OUTDOOR ICE CANDLES ADD HOLIDAY GLOW

Candles have been glowing this month on our advent wreath, on my husband's birthday cake and on our front porch to welcome guests who come by to share in holiday festivities. Different occasions, different meanings, but the candles are universal. There's something about that small circle of light that has drawn people together through the ages. So no matter what you celebrate now and into the new year, light a candle and let its gentle flicker draw you closer to the people and community you love. Here are my favorite candle crafts for delightful winter lights:

OUTDOOR ICE CANDLES

Fill a balloon with water until it is the size of a softball. Blow once into the balloon and tie a knot. Place in a plastic bowl or recycled deli container and set in the freezer for about 6 hours. Once a thick shell of ice has formed inside the balloon but you still hear water sloshing inside the shell, pop the balloon and discard properly. Pour the excess water out to leave a cavity in the middle, where

a votive candle will later be placed. Refreeze

At sunset, remove from the freezer, place a votive candle in the cavity and light it outside. It will sparkle like crystal!

If you make the ice candles in an area where the temperature will be above freezing the next day, store it in your freezer.

Indoor use: Fill a decorative bowl with snow or chipped ice. Set the ice candle in the middle of the ice, and light for a centerpiece on a buffet table.

CANDLES IN A JAR

Pour 1 cup of sand into a clear, glass canning or jam jar and nestle a votive candle in the sand. Make several for an eye-catching display indoors or out.

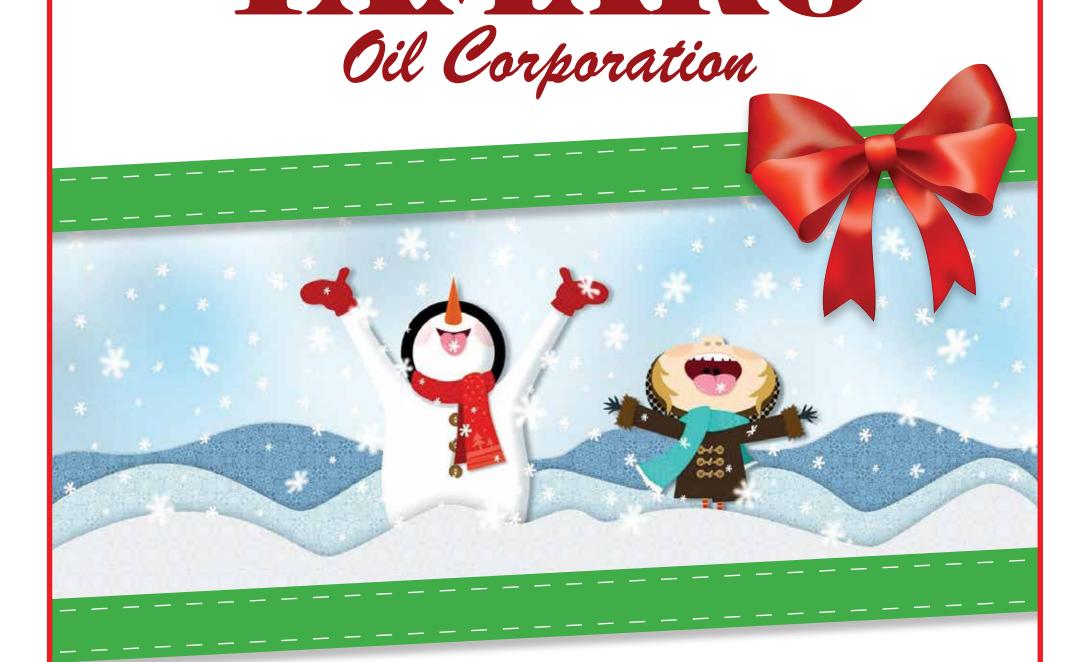
FLOATING VOTIVES

Fill a tall, clear vase one-third full with fresh cranberries. Add water and a candle floating on top near the rim for a buffet or dining table centerpiece.

Safety note: An adult should always be present when burning candles.

Wishing you and your family a warm holiday season!

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



Photo by Linda Bradford - Guest speaker Leslie Martino demonstrating one of her original designs.

HOLIDAY DESIGNS BY LESLIE

Leslie Martino past President of the Woodbridge Garden Club, Master Judge and Landscape Designer presented a program, "Designs for The Holidays" at the November meeting of The Garden Club of Orange. Seven unique creations suitable for the holiday season included

the use of unusual plant material and containers.

The Garden Club of Orange is a member of the FGCCT, NEGC and the NGC. For membership information, contact Joanne Friedrichs 203-795-4266.



GIRL SCOUTS OF CONNECTICUT LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Your time is now! Girl Scouts of Connecticut is looking for volunteers across the state to help girls and young women in Connecticut shine. With your help, you can prepare girls in Connecticut for a lifetime of leadership and be the mentor she needs to succeed.

Did you know that there are hundreds of girls in Connecticut who want to be Girl Scouts, but can't due to a shortage of volunteers? As a volunteer, you'll introduce girls to new experiences that show them they're capable of more than they ever imagined. You get to choose what capacity and how much you want

to volunteer. Do you want to be a coleader in a troop or help at a program or event? The choice is yours, and Girl Scouts of Connecticut will help you every step of the way!

As a Girl Scout volunteer, you'll be a girl's cheerleader, guide, and mentor, helping her develop essential life skills and confidence that will last a lifetime. Imagine the excitement, the impact, the memories made—those are the moments you'll share at Girl Scouts.

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Top: Wreath Workshop [Photo by Lind Bradford]; Bottom: Library Rotunda [Photo by Lana Ho]

GARDEN CLUB PREPARES HOLIDAY WREATHS & GARLANDS

The Garden Club of Orange, under the direction of Civic Chairmen Nancy Becque and Teresa Evangelista, once again embellished fresh green wreaths with plant cuttings from member gardens. The wreaths, complete with elegant bows, were hung on the town buildings to celebrate the season.

The Case Memorial Library rotunda

and balcony was draped with garland, new ribbons and bows by club members. Chairwoman Lana Ho redesigned the decorations giving the area a fresh look.

The Garden Club of Orange is a member of the FGCCT, NEGC & NGC. For membership information, contact Joanne Friedrichs 203-795-4266.





CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

NEW YEAR'S DAY CHILLY CHILI RUN IN ORANGE

Come on out to ring in the New Year in Orange at the 21st annual Chilly Chili Run, a 5K Road Race and 2 Mile Fitness Walk, followed by a hot chili brunch, to benefit the Amity Teen Center. The race begins at 10:30 a.m., Monday January 1st, at the High Plains Community Center at 525 Orange Center Road.

Our race is known as the "Showcase for 90 year-old legends who Run, Compete, Inspire...". We were the first 5K race in the country to have three 90+ year-olds participate and finish the 3.1 mile course. It has become a tradition on New Year's Day and this year we will continue to have 3 or 4 of these elite runners coming out to run.

You can register online at www.hitekracing.com until December 26. Applications are also available at the Orange Park and Recreation office. On Friday, December 29, we will have early packet pickup and late registration in person in the High Plains Community Center lobby from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. On January 1 we will begin the registration at 8:00 a.m. and continue until race time.

Our highlights are: Being the first 5K race of the New Year in Southern Connecticut, an award-winning long sleeve t-shirt for all of those pre-registered and the first 100 to register on the day of the race. Plus, we have the BEST post-race buffet ever!

Entry fees before December 16 are \$22.00 for runners, \$12.00 for runners 12 and under, \$12.00 for those doing the 2 Mile Fitness Walk. Entry fees after December 16 are \$27.00 for runners, \$15.00 for runners 12 and under and \$15.00 for those doing the 2 Mile Fitness Walk.

For more information email us at wssac-ct@iuno.com or chillvchilirun@ hotmail.com or cohen.lindad@gmail. com. You can also call Race Director Joe Riccio at 203 481-7453 or Jane Opper at 203 795-9351.

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In the spirit of holidays, the folks from the New Haven Islamic Center came to see First Selectman Zeoli on November 21, 2017 to present the check. Pictured left to right are M. Asaf Sheikh, Imam Dr. Bachir Djehiche, First Selectman James Zeoli and Dr. Amir Mohammed. Needless to say, First Selectman Zeoli was humbled by this donation and is grateful to the New Haven Islamic Center for its thoughtfulness. Many residents in need will benefit from this kind gift.



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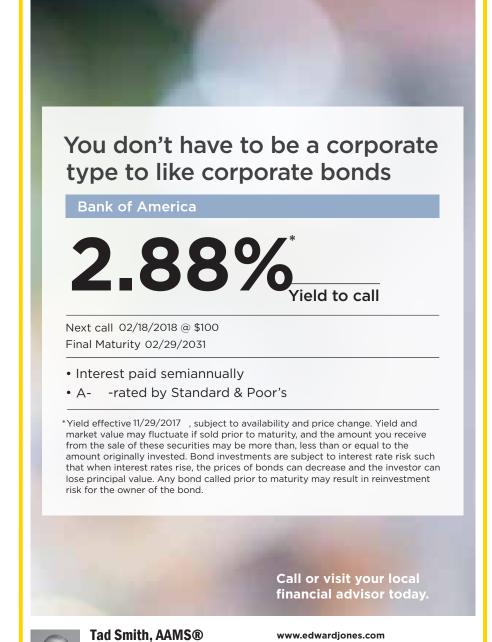
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'Tis the Season...

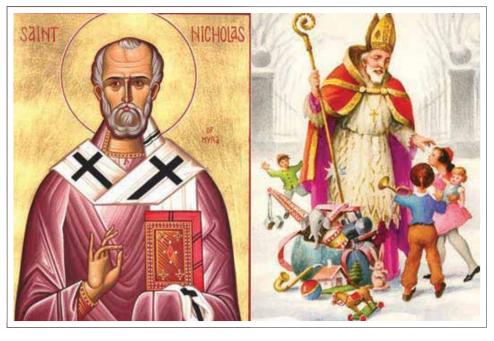
It seems that Christmas time gets closer and closer to Halloween. Maybe the colors for the fall should mix and mingle to make one big holiday. Thanksgiving is almost overshadowed by the trees and decorations in the stores so that it makes it hard to decide whether to line the walls with paper decorations of turkeys and cornucopias or Santa and his reindeer leaning over the feast.

But the flicker and glow of candles on the table evokes another tradition, that of the yearly celebration on December 13, the Feast of St. Lucia. History has a young Swedish girl, in the 3rd century, bringing food and aid to Christians who were hiding from terror, wearing a wreath with candles on her head to light her way. In modern celebrations, the youngest girl in the family dresses in white with a red sash wearing a wreath to symbolize Lucy's journey into the catacombs. Today, candles add

a tenderness and warmth to our homes and with a bit of green, red and gold, and perhaps a pine bough or two, today's homes can be transformed into the homes of yesteryear when only the simplest of decorations were used during the winter holidays.

In days gone by, a homestead, like the Bryan-Andrew house, had a fireplace over nine feet wide and, as in those long ago days, it warms the home with its expansiveness. Known as the keeping room, it keeps the house warm, holds the heat in the many iron kettles hanging there and beckons visitors to enter into another world, out of the cold. Decorating our modern kitchen can be exciting with the many herbs that can hang from the ceiling on a simple dowel. As in the days when storage was a challenge, herbs from the summer garden could be suspended in such a way as to dry them and keep them from those little hitchhikers that come inside in the winter.

Although our society rushes out to the malls right after Thanksgiving for those "bargains", it was not the tradition in the 18th and 19th centuries to do such a



thing. First of all, there were no malls and 2nd, the love of giving from the hearth and home WAS the tradition. Gifts of food are true expressions of country spirit using the harvest of

> one's efforts during the year. The appreciation of something made from the kitchen not only pleases the recipient but the giver as well. Almost any delicacy can be found on store shelves, but the most memorable are those made at home by the littlest, loving hands.

> It seems hard to believe that Christmas, as we know it today, was not celebrated when our ancestors first set foot upon our New England shores. Christmas was banned by our stern Puritan ancestors who reacted to the "relics of the Pope" and sought to purify their religious lives. There was, in the old country a centuries-old conflict between Cath-

flict between Catholics and Protestant faiths with over 80% of the earliest settlers seeking the Protestant life having arrived from England and Germany. It was in the south that more revelry was condoned with an obvious antidote to the harsh winters which were dull, grey and cold. As the settlers moved west, both European born and the "new" Americans found

themselves making merry with a somewhat festive meal and homemade gifts. Yes, they actually made a gift.

The most powerful influence was the British Christes Maesse or Crist's Mass; a church ordained reenactment of the nativity. As early as the fourth century A.D. Christians had adopted the 25th of December as Christ's birthdate giving rise to the Epiphany, the Twelve Days of Christmas for the arrival of the Wise Men. Pagan celebrations crept into the religious celebrations with the week long Roman Saturnalia where gifts were given to children and the poor. Since the Middle Ages, the Yule Log and evergreens symbolized survival and eternal life and although we have become more materialistic, one can find these aspects in our homes not knowing their origin.



December 6th, St. Nicholas Day, had become the day for gift giving, leaving the 25th for sacred reflections. Nicholas grew up in Turkey to wealthy parents, he being a very precocious child. He wished to devote his life in a monastery but was required to rid himself of the wealth his father had bequeathed to him. It is this thought that has given us his identity as a gift giver. As the story goes, a family in his town of Myra, with three daughters of marriageable age, had no dowry. Their lives would be sold and hearing of this Nicholas placed three bags of gold coins into the window of the widower's home and left under cover of night. One version says he threw the bags down their chimney, landing in the stockings hanging there to dry. In any case...the girls now had a dowry. His generosity made him the patron saint of merchants or what we now know as a pawnshop; thus, the three gold balls hanging in front of the shop.

Nicholas was now able to enter the monastery and became the Bishop of Myra. On a trip through rough seas to the Holy Land, Bishop Nicholas prayed for the safety of the ship and crew and upon the prayer, the storm subsided and all were safe. So important had Nicholas become to sailors that Greek and Russian seamen always sailed with an icon of St. Nicholas, known as the patron saint of sailors. December 6th is the day of St. Nicholas' death marking the beginning of the Christmas season. Though popular throughout Europe, nowhere is the saint more celebrated than in Holland which leads us to the origin of "Santa Claus", Sinter Klaas. His clothes were typical of a Dutchman with breeches, a long pipe, a broad brimmed hat and a beard.

St. Nicholas may have had a reputation of only good deeds but his legend has a dark side. He is also depicted as a rather ominous wandering visitor, giving gifts AND switches for naughty children. According to the Dutch, Sinter Klaas spends the majority of the year in Spain with his black servant Black Peter (a Moor) who keeps records of the behavior of boys and girls.

As stated before, religion was a strong influence in the new world leaving the cult of saints and anything

associated with it behind. However, the legend of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, was so popular that he remained in the hearts of mankind. However, there was one hitch in this, his name was changed. In England he was Father Christmas, in France, Pere Noel, Holland, Sinter Klaas, and Sweden Jultomten. Many people give credit to the Germans

for Kris Kringle but the true name for their Nicholas is Weihnachts-mann. In this country, it can be said that the true Christmas of today did not emerge until after the American Revolution with slow acceptance.

Clement Moore's influential poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas" was written in 1822, but it did not become popular until several years later. He had written the poem for his children. Moore was not the first to assign reindeer to St. Nicolas but was the first to assign eight to the sleigh and the names of each; Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donder and Blitzen. So, where is Rudolph? Well, he came later in a story written by Robert L. May in 1939 and put to song, an ever-popular holiday song.

Merry Christmas Everyone!









LOCAL BUSINESS



AVANGRID PROVIDES TWO MILLION DOLLAR GRANT

Funding Will Keep Popular State Zero Emission Vehicle Rebate Program Running in 2018

AVANGRID, Inc. (NYSE: AGR), a diversified U.S. energy company, today announced a \$2 million grant that will allow the State of Connecticut to continue offering a popular rebate program for zero-emissions vehicles. The initiative, known as the Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate (CHEAPR) program, provides direct financial incentives up to \$5,000 for state residents who purchase or lease a new zero-emission vehicle. It was launched in 2015 by Gov. Dannel P. Malloy.

Commissioner Rob Klee of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection announced the funding at the opening of the Connecticut International Auto Show in Hartford, where non-polluting electric and hydrogen vehicles were on prominent display. "CHEAPR reduces the cost of electric vehicles at the point of sale, directly benefiting Connecticut consumers who may not have otherwise considered this technology," Klee said. "It will also help Connecticut meet its goals as part of an eight-state effort to put 3.3 million zero emission vehicles on the road by 2025 — driving down harmful carbon emissions linked to climate change, reducing conventional pollutants that threaten public health, and helping cut costs for motorists."

Orange, Connecticut-based AVAN-GRID provided the funding as part of a broader commitment to support energy efficiency, renewable generation, energy storage, alternative transportation and

other clean technologies in Connecticut. In addition to its regulated electric and gas companies in the Northeast, its Avangrid Renewables business owns and operates renewable generation facilities — primarily wind and solar — in 22 U.S. states, and is one of the top U.S. wind generation companies.

"As a new kind of energy company, AVANGRID is helping to build the clean energy infrastructure that will bring the benefits of transformative technologies, such as electric vehicles, to our customers' homes and businesses," said Anthony Marone III, president and CEO of Connecticut operations for Avangrid Networks. "We're pleased to support programs, such as CHEAPR, that help make these technologies affordable and available to Connecticut residents." Zero-emission vehicles include batteryelectric vehicles, plug-in hybrid-electric vehicles, and hydrogen fuel-cell-electric vehicles, among others.

Since Gov. Malloy launched CHEAPR in May 2015, nearly \$4.6 million in rebates have been issued or reserved for the purchase or lease of 2,135 electric vehicles in Connecticut. Consumers purchasing EVs have the option to receive a reduction in the price of their vehicles under the CHEAPR initiative at the point-of-sale. This up-front cost reduction is critical because EVs may cost more than their conventional counterparts, and their residual value can be lower because of their rapidly evolving technology.





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HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS



Left to right, 2nd row: Rev. Peter Orfanakos (Greek Orthodox Church), Rabbi Michael Farbman (Temple Emanuel) 1st row: Rev. Suzanne Wagner (Orange Congregational Church), Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus (Congregation Or Shalom), Imam Bachir Djehiche (New Haven Islamic Center), Rev. Norman Brockett (Holy Infant Church) and Rev. Diana Rogers (Church of the Good Shepherd).

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE HOSTED

On Sunday evening, November 19th, it was Congregation Or Shalom's turn to host the annual Orange Thanksgiving service. Over 250 people of all faiths participated.

The service featured an interfaith children's choir, led by Bryan Campbell and Cindy Chandler of the Orange Congregation Church. Donations went to the Orange Food Pantry & Fuel Assistance Fund.

Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus, spiritual leader of Congregation Or Shalom said, "The wonderful feeling of unity we enjoy here tonight is sorely needed in our country... In fact, it's what America is all about!"

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The First Church of Christ Woodbridge invites all members of the community to join us at 5 Meeting House Lane, for the following Advent Special Services and Events.

Sunday, December 17, is the third Sunday of Advent. The annual Christmas Pageant will be held during the 10 a.m. service. In the afternoon members of the congregation will go caroling at local senior facilities.

Sunday, December 24, is Christmas Eve and the fourth Sunday of Advent. In addition to our regular Sunday service at 10 a.m. we will have our traditional Candle Light Service at 7 p.m. in the Meetinghouse.

Sunday, December 31, A service of Lessons and Carols at 10 a.m.

Weekly Bible Study - Wednesday, 10-11 a.m., will continue to meet through Advent and the New Year in the Parish House. We study both Old and New Testament passages based on the Lectionary. Nursery care will be available for the Christmas Eve service in addition to the Sunday morning services.

In January we will return to our regular schedule of services and events:

Sunday Services – 10 a.m. including



The First Church of Christ

our Intergenerational Service the first Sunday of each month. Nursery care for small children is available during the Sunday services.

Church School – Sunday at 10 a.m. the second through fifth Sundays during the school year with lessons based on the life and teachings of Jesus.

Confirmation Class for children in 7th – 9th grades meets the first Sunday of the month in the parish House.

Middle School Youth Group for 5th – 8th graders – The Youth group generally meets the 2nd Sunday of the month from 4 – 6 pm. The group gathers for fellowship, service, conversations, and fun in a faith based community.

For more information on these events, please contact us at (203) 389-2119 or office@uccw.org.

ORANGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES

Orange Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming Congregation, located at 205 Meeting House Lane in Orange. On Sunday December 24th, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, there will be a 'Christmas Eve' morning service at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary; our Crib Room will also be open for all birth to Pre-K children. Please note, there will be no regular coffee hour following the Christmas Eve morning service. Later in the day, there will be two 'Christmas Eve' evening services in our Sanctuary: a family service entitled, "The Message of St. Nicholas" will take place at 5 p.m. This service will include music from the Junior Choir. A traditional Candlelight service of Lessons and Carols will take



Orange Congregational Church

place at 10 p.m. with music from the Senior Choir. On New Year's Eve we will have regular Sunday morning worship services at 8 a.m. in the Chapel and 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, with fellowship hour and coffee following each. For more information or any questions, please call the church office at 203-795-9749.



Jackie Ashworth with her creation.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS AT HOLY INFANT CHURCH

That is what Orange resident Jackie Ashworth calls her project. Jackie heard that homeless men in local shelters carry their belongings in plastic grocery bags. Being creative, she sat at her sewing machine and came up with a bag that folds into a pillow. She purchased flannel material and poly fill and presented her idea to the Holy Infant Church Women's Guild. Seven members volunteered to

help make the bags. The ladies worked factory style to cut, sew, and fill the bags. After 9 hours, 70 bags were made! They will be filled with cards and toiletries by Midnight Run volunteers and will be given to the homeless shelter the week before Christmas. What started out as just an idea from Jackie turned into so much more. The spirit of Christmas is visible right here at Holy Infant.



HOUSES OF WORSHIPEVENTS



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP EVENTS

At The Church of the Good Shepherd

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd welcomes the community to celebrate the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Please join us for joyous music, fellowship, and the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Children and adults throughout the area are invited to participate in the annual Christmas pageant. The pageant will be held on Sunday, December 17 at the 10 am service. A holiday wassail party will follow the service. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about the true meaning of Christmas. There will be a rehearsal on Saturday, December 16 at 10 am. Interested families may call the office or simply show up to the rehearsal on December 16.

- Sunday, December 17th, No 8am worship. Christmas Pageant at 10am with Wassail Party following;
- Sunday, December 24th, Combined 9am service, 4:30pm Carols, 5pm Christmas Eve Service;
- Monday, December 25th, 10 am Christmas Day Service.

Advent: After "Thoughts and Prayers": Actions for Peace, What comes after "thoughts and prayers" are offered? continues in December. Please join St Andrew's Episcopal Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd on Friday nights in Advent for a prayer service that will serve as a springboard into action. As we prepare for Christ's coming, and seek to stem the flow of violence in our world, let us draw near to the God who calls us to this mission. This unique

prayer service combines the contemplative space needed to confront evil with practical steps that we can take to make the world a better place. The service will be held at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 283 Bridgeport Avenue in Milford on December 8 and 22, and at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 680 Racebrook Road in Orange on December 15, all services start at 7pm. All are welcome to attend this contemplative service and then take action!

Blue Christmas: In the midst of joy and the anticipation of Christ's arrival, a Blue Christmas service sets aside a time to acknowledge the darkness of the loss and pain that are present in our lives. For some, the loss is new and immediate; for some, the loss is well-worn with time's passing. Come on December 17th at 7pm to this contemplative, peaceful service, creating a space for memories that may seem out of place this season. All are welcome at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 283 Bridgeport Avenue, Milford.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd is located on 680 Racebrook Road, Orange, Connecticut. Sunday service times include Rite II Holy Eucharist without music at 8am and Rite II Holy Eucharist with music at 10am. Children's Christian Faith. For more information about The Church of the Good Shepherd's many other programs, please call the Parish Office at (203) 795-6577, email us at thegoodspheherd@optonline. net, visit our website at www.thegoodshepherdorangect.org, and, of course, check our Facebook page www.facebook. com/cgsorangect for frequent postings.



Attention Churches, Synagogues & Houses of Worship!

Send us your organizations events listings and items of interest.

We will publish them for free.

Orange Town News – P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 edit@orangetownnews.com



CHANUKAH AT TEMPLE EMANUEL OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

Come join the fun and celebrate Shabbat Chanukah at Temple Emanuel. On Friday, December 15, we will welcome Shabbat with a music-filled service led by Rabbi Michael Farbman and the Temple Emanuel Band. We will fill the sanctuary with the light of our chanukiot and have a delicious dinner with family and friends. All are welcome to participate in this joyous annual event.

The service begins at 6pm. Please bring your voices, your favorite chanukiah and candles and, if you'd like to, some latkes to share as part of our family-style meal. Dinner reservations are required and can be made either on our new website, tegnh.org, or by calling the TE office: 203-397-3000. The suggested donation for dinner is \$10 per person or \$25 per family.

Not a member of TE? Come check us out.

For more information about services and celebrations at Temple Emanuel, please go to the TE website, tegnh.org. Temple Emanuel is located at 150 Derby Avenue in Orange.

CONGREGATION OR SHALOM EVENTS

Weekly Services

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

Coffee and Learn with the Rabbi

Every Wednesday (please call the office for schedule) Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus teaches an hour-long class devoted to the ancient texts of our heritage and the light they shed on the current issues. The class begins at 11:00 am and ends at 12 noon sharp. All Are Welcome. Please call the office to confirm class is meeting.

Latkes & Magic!

Friday, December 15, 2017 - Join us for a fun-filled evening of Hanukah celebration! We'll light the menorah at 7 PM sharp, then gather for a very brief Friday evening service. Dreidles, chocolate gelt, and latkes will follow, along



Congregation Or Shalom

with an engaging magic show! All ages are warmly welcome!

ZUMBA GOLD At Or Shalom

Congregation Or Shalom announces the continuation of ZUMBA GOLD on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 7 PM. ZUMBA GOLD is an easy to follow dance movement program that incorporates music from every decade to create an upbeat and fun exercise class. Burn lots of calories, meet new friends, and have a blast. No experience needed and classes are on a drop-in basis. Contact Robin at zumbarobin@gmail.com or call 203-314-8176 or temple office at 203-799-2341.

www.OrangeTownNews.com



CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Programs at the Case Memorial Library are free, except as noted for materials charges, and open to the public. Library hours are as follows: Monday and Thursday 12-8; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10-5; Saturday 10-4. The Library will be closed Saturday, December 23 and Monday, December 25 in observance of Christmas; Saturday, December 30 and Monday, January 1 in observance of the New Year; and Monday, January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Events For Adults

Book Discussions

The Bookcase: Evening Discussion Group

Thursday, December 14, 7 p.m.

Join The Bookcase leader Toby Zabinski for a discussion of Rules of Civility by Amor Towles. Check for copies at the Circulation Desk.

Books and Breakfast: Morning Discussion Group

Tuesday, January 16, 10 a.m.

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

Join Books & Breakfast leader Carol Davidson for a discussion of The Snow

Events For Teens

Child by Eowyn Ivey. Check for copies

at the Circulation Desk.

Book Chat Café

Tuesday, December 19, 2:15 p.m.

For Amity Middle School students who love to read and share their opinions over refreshments. Held at the Amity Middle School Media Center. Please see Ms. Leibrock to join.

Teen Cooking Class

Wednesday, December 27, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

For students in grades 6-12. Learn how to make tasty, healthy recipes with Courtney Huggins, Orange ShopRite's

registered dietician. Registration is required and begins Wednesday, December 6. Please notify the Library of any food allergies at the time of registration.

Events For Children

3-5 Year Olds Storytime

Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Enjoy storytelling, books, music, fingerplays and puppetry at this story time series especially for 3-5 year olds! A story-related craft is offered following each session. Registration is not required. No storytime on December 25, January 1, or January 15.

Lapsit Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 p.m.

Little ones and their caregivers are invited to this high-energy story time with Ms. Michelle! We'll practice nursery rhymes, sing and move together, plus explore touch-and-feel books. Registration is not required.

2-Year-Old Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Audience participation is highly encouraged at this storytime session just for 2s. Enjoy books, stories, music and movement, fingerplays, and puppetry together. Registration is not required.

The Hampstead Stage Company presents "Robin Hood"

Monday, December 11, 4:30 p.m.

For children ages 5 and up. This classic English folktale chronicles the life and adventures of the infamous outlaw with a heart of gold. We'll follow Robin as he wages an ongoing war against the oppressive tyrant King John, while befriending the residents of Sherwood Forest and making mischief with his Band of Merrie Men. Prepare for an action-packed hour filled with brave heroics, bumbling villains, and heartwarming moments. Registration is required and begins Monday, November 20. Sponsored by the Shirley Martin Prown Fund.

Art Receptions

December: Watercolors by Puja Sinha, Anisha Jain, Francesca Giannattasio, Erica Chen, and Rachana Yetakuri, on view December 2-28.

CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

By Mellissa Nicefaro – Orange Town News Correspondent

Orange's Case Memorial Library welcomed a new Executive Director on November 30. Milford resident Kathy Giotsas took the helm from Meryl Farber, who is retiring after 18 years. The two co-piloted the library for the past few weeks as Giotsas learned the ropes from Farber. "I have met a lot of great people so far," Giotsas says of her first couple of weeks in Orange. "Meryl was a great help and has done a phenomenal job with the library and I plan to take what she has created, give it a fresh look and improve something that is already really great."

Giotsas plans to bring the library more up to date with a new technology program that will help bring in the town's generation that tends not to use the library: teenagers. "We have wonderful offerings for our seniors and our younger children, but now we need to commit to the teens," she said.

"At the last library I worked at, we had a program for teens where they built a computer from scratch and then developed games on it," she said. Giotsas knows that such programs cost money that might not be available in tightly budgeted times, so she plans to apply for grants for funding. "Grants are available to towns, whether they are affluent or not. With an emphasis on STEM, we can justify grants that may lead to funding for technology."

She'd also like to strengthen relationships with the Orange Board of Education and the Chamber of Commerce by offering resources for the town's businesspeople. Giotsas has a full background in library leadership and education.



Kathy Giotsas

Since September, she has been working as a substitute teacher in Milford schools. Prior to that, she was executive director of Great Neck Library in New York, a four-location library system with 96 employees, an operating budget of \$9.6 million and serving the needs of a community with 43,000 residents. From 2011 to 2015, she was executive director for the West Haven Public Library's three-locations and bookmobile.

She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Bridgeport, a Master of Library and Information Science from Pratt Institute, a Master of Science in Certificate Information Systems from Pace University and a Master of Business Administration in Business Administration from the University of Connecticut.

"I'm excited to be here. Meryl is wonderful to work with and has really made my first few weeks great," Giotsas said. The library honored Farber with a retirement reception on November 16.

NEWEST ADDITIONS TO CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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

Movies/TV on DVD

The Book of Henry
Going in Style
The Mummy
My Cousin Rachel
On the Way to School
The Ottoman Lieutenant
Riverdale, Season 1
Table 19
The Walking Dead, Season 7
Wonder Woman

Audiobooks

Harlan Coben -- Don't Let Go Stephanie Dray -- America's First Daughter Sue Grafton -- Y Is for Yesterday David Grann -- Killers of the Flower Moon John Sandford -- Deep Freeze

Music

Tim Berne's Snakeoil -- Incidentals
David Crosby -- Sky Trails
Foo Fighters -- Concrete and Gold
Jack Johnson -- All the Light Above It Too
The Killers -- Wonderful Wonderful
Son Little -- New Magic
Christian McBride Big Band -- Bringin' It
Now That's What I Call Music 63
Roadcase Royale -- First Things First
Yusuf -- The Laughing Apple



DEATH NOTICES

Matthew Shea Galligan

On November 22, 2017, Matthew Shea Galligan, 20, a lifelong resident of Northborough, MA, passed away after a courageous battle with Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM) brain cancer. Diagnosed in December 2015, Matt never let his diagnosis get him down, and he maintained his positive attitude to the end. He was a 2015 graduate of Algonquin Regional High School and was attending Sacred Heart University at the time of his diagnosis.

He had many passions, including fishing, going to the beach, playing with his dogs, playing basketball, and collecting sneakers. He enjoyed traveling, including trips to Disney World; Bristol, Marne; Pittsburgh; and his favorite city, New York. His favorite family vacation was a three week trip to Ireland in 2014, where he got to meet many of his relatives, played soccer with his cousins, and took pictures of the beautiful mountain scenery.

Matt also enjoyed helping people. He worked as a cashier at Hannaford during high school, delivered birthday presents and party supplies to underprivileged children in Worcester County

for Birthday Wishes, and worked to help coordinate the "135 Tournament," which raised funds for Coaching for Change, a non-profit that assists inner city youth. Recently, he volunteered for and was a participant in fundraising events for the National Brain Tumor Society.

After a brief period of remission, his cancer returned. With the help of people at the Massachusets General Hospital Pediatric Hematology Oncology clinic, in September 2017 The Sister's Wish, a Maine charity that grants wishes to terminally or chronically ill young adults arranged for a trip to Oregon. He was able to visit Nike Headquarters, the Nike Employee Store, the University of Oregon football training facility and see an Oregon Ducks football game.

Matt is survived by his parents, Michael and Mary, and his brother Colin, all of Northborough; his grandmothers, Kathleen Shea of Quincy, MA, and Patricia Galligan of Orange, CT; his aunts and uncles, Jamie Galligan, Margaret Shea and Bob Nielsen, Ellen Shea and Kevin Cullen, Donald Galligan, Dennis and Linda Galligan, and Jon and Carlene Galligan; and his cousins Kate and Jack.

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

HELP OUR HEROES

Holiday Fundraiser

For the V.A. Medical Center (West Haven Campus)

We are Requesting donations of basic necessities for our local Veterans. The drive will take place through thanksgiving and Christmas. Please see attached list for desperately needed items and drop-off sites.

A special Thanks to the local businesses for allowing us access and to you for your generous

Please Share!!!!!!

Local Drop-off Sites

Savin Rock Roasting Co. 305 Captain Thomas Blvd West Haven, CT

Video Lab Contempo Square 200 Boston Post Road

Orange, CT

Items Needed:

· Fixodent/Denture Cleaner

Bar Soap/Body Wash

Deodorant Cream/Lotion Toothbrushes Mouth Wash (no alcohol)

Powder

Shampoo Conditione

Brushes Nail clippers Nail files

Thank you again,

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Crossword, Word Search puzzle books

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

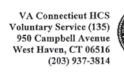
Feminine Hygiene Products (i.e.- pads, tampons)

The Branford Art Studio 483 East Main Street Branford, CT The Borough Barber Shop 1372 New haven Avenue Woodmont, Ct

Rainbow Garden 117 Broad Street Milford, CT 555 Campbell Avenue West Haven, CT

Stevie B's Bar and Grill

State Marshal Bryk 3074 Whitney Avenue Building 1, Floor 1 Hamden, CT



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Voluntary Service staff

The items dropped off at local sites will be picked up by Dani Wade, delivered directly to the VA Hospital where the VA will deliver them to local veterans in need.

If possible can you please make sure that all of the products are for men and women. These items are needed by our Veterans and whatever you and your organization can do is very much appreciated.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF ORANGE PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that there will be a caucus of all Registered Republicans of the Town of Orange on Wednesday, January 10th at 7:00 pm in the Senior Lounge at High Plains Community Center to endorse membership to the Orange Republican Town Committee (ORTC) for 2018-2020.

ENTERTAINMENT

TOP 10 MOVIES

1. Coco (PG) animated

2. Justice League (PG-13) Ben Affleck, Gal Gadot

3. Wonder (PG)

Jacob Tremblay, Owen Wilson

4. Thor: Ragnarok (PG-13) Chris Hemsworth, Tom Hiddleston

5. Daddy's Home Two (PG-13)

Will Ferrell, Mark Wahlberg

6. Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13)

Kenneth Branagh, Penelope Cruz

7. The Star (PG) animated

8. A Bad Moms Christmas (R) Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell

9. Roman J. Israel, Esq. (PG-13) Denzel Washington, Colin Farrell

10. Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri (R)

Frances McDormand, Woody Harrelson

TOP 10 VOD

1. Atomic Blonde (R)

Charlize Theron, James McAvov

2. Wind River (R)

Kelsey Asbille, Jeremy Renner

3. Cars 3 (G) animated

4. The Emoji Movie (PG) animated

5. The Dark Tower (PG-13) Idris Elba

6. War for the Planet of

the Apes (PG-13) Andy Serkis

> 7. Kidnap (R) Halle Berry

8. Nut Job 2: Nutty By Nature (PG) animated

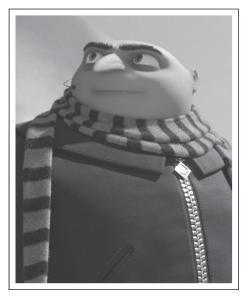
9. The Glass Castle (PG-13)

Brie Larson

10. Wonder Womatn (PG-13)

Gal Gadot





Scene from "Despicable Me 3" [Universal Pictures]

EDITOR'S NOTE: DVDs reviewed in this column are available in stores the week of December 4, 2017.

PICKS OF THE WEEK

"Despicable Me 3" (PG) -- After Gru (Steve Carrell) and wife Lucy (Kristen Wiig) are sacked from the Anti-Villain League for failing to thwart a former child actor-turned-villain, the aptly named Balthazar Bratt (Trey Parker), the adoring minions hope for a return to villainy. Unfortunately for them, the family instead packs it up to visit a newfound relative -- long-lost twin brother Dru (also voiced by Carrell) -- in his native Freedonia. With a family history of wicked behavior, Gru and Dru battle for influence while Lucy manages the misadventures of their adorable girl gaggle. The gang doesn't necessarily raise the bar in this iteration, but they certainly don't drop it. Minions still rule. Banana.

"Better Watch Out" (R) -- It's a lovely Christmas holiday, and Ashley (Olivia DeJonge), like many other 17-yearolds, is picking up a little Christmas cash babysitting. Her charge, the precocious and angelic-faced 12-year-old Luke (Levi Miller), has other plans for his special night with Ashley; he cooks up a plot with his bestie to guarantee a closer relationship. But this is no peaceful silent night. Threats abound, and as events unfold, the decoration is more blood splatter than holly berries. It's surprisingly suspenseful and funny and disturbing, and it's the absolutely dead-black Christmas murder comedy you didn't know you wanted this year.

"Crash Pad" (R) -- Attractive mature woman Morgan (Christina Applegate) cheats on her neglectful husband (Thomas Hayden Church) with a younger, ginger-haired romantic named Stensland (Domnhall Gleeson). Instead of being the fulfillment of her dreams, it turns out he's a simply a tool in a revenge plot against her hubby. But when the Mister finds out, he confronts the younger man, and then abruptly decides to turn the tables on Morgan by moving in with Stensland and reliving his glory days. The pair of opposites' escapades make up the bulk of this underthe-radar bromedy. Gleeson remains incredibly adorable throughout, and Church's alpha-dog antics are giggleworthy indeed.

- 1. Who sang "Don't Say Nothin' Bad (About My
- Who wrote and released "Why Doesn't Somebody Get Him a Pepsi?" and when?
- Which song did Bob Dylan jokingly title "A Long-Haired Mule and a Porcupine Here"?
- 4. Who released the first version of "Tainted Love"?
- Name the song that contains this lyric: "Lips as sweet as candy. Their taste stays on my mind. Girl, you keep me thirsty for another cup of wine."

 $q^{\wedge}.noit>ubortni\,"ngoO-ngoO$ with a cover in 1981. 5, "Hooked On a Feeling," by B.J. Thomas in 1968. The 1971 version by Blue Swede was famous for the "Ooga-Chakamusicians swapped instruments, leading to much merriment and parading around the studio. 4. Gloria Jones, in 1964. Soft Cell followed Sedaka. 2. Frank Zappa ... more than once. The title of the 1975 song changed to "The Torture Wever Stops" and appeared in various incarnations on his albunde on Blonde. "While recording the background, the I. The Cookies, in 1963. The group went on to decome the Raelettes and worked as backup singers for Ray Charles, Little Eva and Weil



- 1. In 2016, Corey Seager, with 26 home runs, broke the Los Angeles Dodgers' franchise record for most homers by a shortstop. Who had held the record?
- 2. Name the last major-league team before the San Francisco Giants in 2016 to have at least four homers and four triples in the same game?
- 3. Dallas quarterback Dak Prescott set a record for most consecutive passes without an interception to start an NFL career (176). Who had held the mark?
- 4. When was the last time before the 2016-17 season that the Florida State men's basketball team finished a season undefeated at home?
- 5. Nashville's Pekka Rinne tied an NHL record in 2017 for most playoff wins by a Finnish-born goalie. Who else holds the record?
- 6. In 2017, Kyle Busch became the third NASCAR Cup driver to have back-to-back pole wins at Indianapolis. Name either of the other two.
- Who was the last unseeded tennis player to win the women's singles title at the French Open before Jelena Ostapenko in 2017?

and Ernie Irvan (1997-98). 7. England's Margaret Scriven, in 1933. 1. Glenn Wright hit 22 home runs in 1930. 2. The New York Yankees, in 1998. 3. Tom Brady, with 162 passes in 2000-01. 4. It was the 1975-76 season. 5. Antti Niemi (2010-2016). 6. Jeff Gordon (1995-96)

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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! © 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.

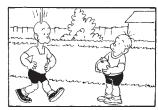
Sudoku answers on

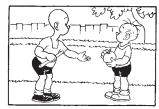


COMICS/CROSSWORD/HOLLYWOOD





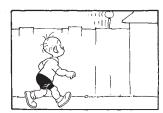


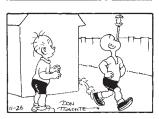


















14

17

30

46

King Crossword

16

19

23

28

38

ACROSS

- Use an old
- Plastic user's accumulation
- Resting
- hood
- 14
- 15 Shipwreck
- 16 Ancient Briton
- It's right on
- need
- 23 Mainlander's
- memento
- 28 Heckle or
- 32 Baking potato 33 Any of four
- Pac-Man 34 Aberration
- Last syllable of a word
- Ultra-
- modernist
- 38 Meadow
- 39 Dressed State of
- matter 44 Infamous lyre player

- phone Yon bloke

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- Neighbor-
- Expert
- site
- 17 Say it's OK
- the map 19 Shell game
- Took the bus canto
- 48 Fond du 25 Flower cluster 49 Abrupt
- 50 Fed 51 Bonfire resi-Jeckle
 - due 52 Soft cheese that chase 53 Dryer collec
 - tion 54 "How come?" 11 Apportion 55 Celeb
 - 56 Therefore
 - DOWN
 - 1 Tragic 2 Concept
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 - maybe Spotted

horse Huron neigh- 35

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- short Good ring? 10 On the rocks 39
- (out)
- 20 90 degrees 22 Overact
- American emblem 25 Carnival city
- Scoundrel 27 29 Luau bowlful
- 30 Doctrine

Greek H

44

50

53

- Dairy-section item
- 36 Overcoat named for a region of Ireland
- Talon
- 40 Whip
- 41 Sore 43 Bocelli show-
- stopper Eastern bigwig
- 46 Pealed 47 Aware of
- 49 Letterman's employer
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time as a producer than as an actor. He is involved in producing no less than 33 films, executive producing seven and acting in at least four. Mark L. Smith, who wrote "The Revenant," for which Leonardo won an Oscar, has written "Conquest," which Leonardo has in preproduction. He's also preparing to play Theodore Roosevelt in "Roosevelt," take on the Sicilian Mafia in "The Black Hand" and star in "Killers of the Flower Moon." He's just completed producing "Robin Hood," with Taron Egerton, Jamie Foxx and Jamie Dornan, as well as the miniseries "Frontiersmen," about Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, Lewis and Clark, and Andrew Jackson, no doubt inspired by "The Revenant."

HOLLYWOOD

By Tony Rizzo

Leonardo DiCaprio is spending more

Nicole Kidman celebrated her Emmy win for HBO's "Big Little Lies" by lining up films for 2018. First up is "The Upside," with Bryan Cranston and Kevin Hart, opening March 9; followed by "Boy Erased," with Russell Crowe and Lucas Hedges, arriving Sept. 28; and "Aquaman," with Jason Momoa in the title role, due Dec. 21, 2018. Kidman is currently starring in the BBC series "Top of the Lake," which is airing on The Sundance Channel in the U.S. Meanwhile, her "Big Little Lies" co-star Reese Witherspoon is co-producing a new series for Apple TV with Jennifer Aniston.

Jenna Elfman, who became a TV star in 119 episodes of "Dharma & Gregg" (1997-2002), has had less success with her series that followed: "Accidentally On Purpose" (18 episodes on CBS, 2009-2010), "1600 Penn" (13 episodes on NBC, 2012-2013) and "Imaginary Mary," (nine episodes on ABC, 2017). She'll now be a regular on "The Walking Dead" in its upcoming sixth season.



Leonardo DiCaprio [NASA/ Goddard/Rebecca Roth]

Sorry to report we lost "Magnum, P.I.'s" Higgins, John Hillerman, Nov. 9. I visited Tom Selleck several times on location in Hawaii, I was lucky to spend time with Hillerman as well. He was as funny and delightful as he was as Higgins. He received four Emmy nominations for "Magnum" (1980-88), and finally won in 1987. When his health declined, Hillerman decided to retire in 1999 and move back to his native Texas. Among his 24 films was 1972's "What's up Doc?" and two for Mel Brooks: "Blazing Saddles" (1974) and "The History of the World, Part 1" (1984). He was an original.

**'*

Get ready for another senior-citizen comedy. This one, "Just Getting Started," stars Oscar-winners Morgan Freeman and Tommy Lee Jones as golfing rivals at a Palm Springs senior resort who must put aside their differences to fend off a mob hit. Rene Russo, Jane Seymour, George Wallace, Joe Pantoliano, Glenne Hedly, Sheryl Lee Ralph and Elizabeth Ashley are along for laughs. It hits screens Dec. 8. It's not how you start, though, it's how you finish!



















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– **King** Crossword — — Weekly SUDOKU — **Answers**

Solution time: 24 mins.

D	_	Α	L		D	Ε	В	Т		Н	Π	М
Π	D	L	Е		Α	R	Е	Α		Α	С	Е
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Answer

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



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All real estate advertising in the Orange Town News is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. The Orange Town News will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law.









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BULLETIN BOARD



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

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

Nicotine Anonymous Meetings,

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

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

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

public is invited.

Orange Arts & Culture Council, meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month, 7:30pm, HPCC, 525 Orange Center Road, check chalk board for

Elm City Kennel Club General Meet-

meeting room. The public is invited.

ings, third Wednesday of each month, except during July and August, 7:00pm, North Haven Recreation Center, 7 Linsley Street, North Haven. For more information, contact New Member Coordinators Maureen Anderson, at 203-430-5229 (maureenanderson@ snet.net).

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

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

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

Continuum of Care Needs Caregivers, Would you like to make a difference in someone's life as a caregiver? Continuum Help at Home is currently looking for individuals to work as a Homemak-

er, Companion, or Personal Care Atten-

dant. We have full-time, part-time and live-in positions available. Visit www. continuumct.org/events to register and download an application.

Orange Recycling Committee meets every 3rd Wednesday 7:00pm, HPCC conference room, 525 Orange Center Road, public is invited to attend. For more information, email Orangerecycles@gmail.com. Meetings are at High Plains Community Center as follows: January 17, 2018.

NAMI Support Group Meeting, meetings begin promptly at 6:00pm and end promptly at 7:30pm, BRIDGES,

a community support system, 949 Bridgeport Avenue, Milford (entrance in the rear of the building), conference room on the second floor, on the following dates for 2018: January 9, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4. They are free of charge and facilitator led. Family & Friends welcome.



LOCAL SPORTS



ZAKARAI & ABBY MEET HENRIK LUNDQVIST

When Zakarai Schneider (age 14) and Abby Malek (15) of the CT STORM special hockey team in Bridgeport CT were presented a possible opportunity to meet star and hero – NY Ranger Henrik Lundqvist – we all thought we must be dreaming??!!

Through the generosity of the Henrik Lunqvist Foundation and Chase Bank/ NY Rangers, these athletes were able to see a big dream come true and meet their favorite player/hero Henrik!

Throughout Abby and Zakarai's hockey careers, they have overcome many of life's challenges to be special needs hockey athletes with the CT STORM. For example, Zakarai was born with many intellectual and physical disabilities, including Apraxia (limited verbal ability), Down Syndrome/Mental Retardation, sensory deficiencies, low muscle tone, and has other profound communication disorders. At his early years, it was questionable if he would be able to walk – let alone skate. Zakarai's projected life expectancy is about that of

his peers. Despite these and other limitations, disabled players Zakarai and Abby have both demonstrated perseverance; beat the odds and through the love for hockey pushed themselves to be inspirational hockey team mates.

Mark Schneider, parent. "From the moment we walked into the Rangers facility, it was first class. Mr. Martella from the NYR personally greeted us, he coordinated it perfectly, sat with us and entertained us the entire time. Ms. Bialous from the Lundqvist Foundation was so amazing she kept in touch each step of the way and made sure our experience was fantastic. I must say after the event in the parking lot the mom's shed some tears of joy for the kids. We were all choked up. The CT STORM team players and coaches were all buzzing the next day looking for photos."

Henrik was so kind, friendly, patient, and charming, it was great – he is really a role model professional athlete in all aspects.



The Amity Pop Warner Junior Pee Wee Cheerleaders, coached by Head Coach Carol Mastersanti and Assistant Coach Sarah Mastersanti won fourth place at the National Cheer Championships in Walt Disney World on Tuesday, December 6. This was the team's first time going to the national competition. The athletes, ages 8-11 are from Bethany, Woodbridge and Orange.



Front Row: Anthony Tomasko, Audrey Chung, Katrine O'Leary; Second Row: Head Coach Dave Reilly, Katie O'Connor, Sophia Velleco, Jakub Czachor, *Kevin Yanagisawa; Third Row: Olivia Velleco, Caroline Krawec, *Sierra Cripps, Nicholas Robinson; Fourth Row: Jack Crocamo, *Thomas Minar, Arsenio Bustos, *Colin Roy; Missing from photo: *Kate Alvarado, Shiva Gowda, Paul Homorodean, Franco Lee, *Jenna Lu, Abby Maoz, Emma Savoie, Claire Yuan, David Zhao.

WAC CELEBRATES SUCCESSES AT SWIMMING AWARDS BANQUET

Congratulations to the Woodbridge Aquatic Club which placed 23 swimmers in the Connecticut Top 16 swimmers during the 2016-2017 short course season and the 2017 long course season. The 2017 Connecticut Swimming Annual Awards Banquet recently

took place at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT, recognizing the swimmers for their outstanding achievements.

Athletes who were also awarded Connecticut Scholar Athlete awards are indicated by an (*) before their names.

AMITY YOUTH WRESTLING

Amity Youth Wrestling has embarked on its fifth season and it's better then ever! We have all certified coaches, boys and girls from kindergarten through 8th grade. Learn strength and conditioning! And have a lot of fun! Call Mike Cala at (203) 974-9493 or email us at amityyouthwrestling@gmail.com.



Amity Pop Warner Varsity Cheerleaders won third place at the National Cheer Championships in Walt Disney World on Monday, December 4. Coached by Association Coordinator Alicia Soderquist, Head Coach Tina Zito and Assistant Coach Victoria Scheff, this is the team's fourth consecutive trip to the national competition. This year, the team competed in the small level three division. The win was bittersweet as eight of the 12 girls move on to high school next year and pass the torch to their younger team.



LOCAL SPORTS



The Lady Orange Grade 6 girls basketball team just recently competed and won the WH Thanksgiving Tourney held at UNH this past weekend. Members of the team include: Mackenzie Martin, Vivian Cain, Kelsey O'Connor, Jillian Barnes, Bridget Lowder, Grace Cavallaro, Ava Holden, Lucci Dottori, Grace Launder, and Meghan Kirck.



STUDENTS GO TO 7TH WORLD KUNGFU CHAMPIONSHIPS

Students of Wu Dang Kungfu Academy, located at 518 Boston Post Road, Orange, Jubei D'Amato, Stanley D'Amato, Tori Matula and Victoria Ng, on behalf of the US National Wushu Team, participated in the 7th World Kungfu Championships held in E'meishan, China on 11/9-11/11 and won the first prize on Double Whips, the third prizes on Drunken Sword, Tongbei and Broadsword.

Chinese Martial Arts, also known as Kungfu, is getting more and more popular all over the world since it's been selected into the 2017 Universiade. The 7th World Kungfu Championships is the official world level sport-for-all event hosted by the international Wushu Federation. The 7th WKFC in principal take place biennially and features thousands of competitors in all age groups competing in a wide variety of divisions. There are more 3800 competitors from 57 Countries participated in this grand event. Among them, the US Team with over 300 athletes is the most influential delegation in this championship.

ORANGE LEGION TRYOUTS

Orange Post 127 Junior Legion (17u) and Senior Legion (19u) tryouts will be held on Saturday, December 16, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Connecticut Sportsplex, 216 Foxon Boulevard, North Branford.

Players 14 through 19 are invited to

tryout. Any questions should be directed to Bob Mirto at (203)687-8299 or Nick Mirto (203)464-9971.

Besides the legion season, the program will include a tournament outof-state and a winter hitting league as well as instruction.

ORANGE COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Students from the afternoon 3s class at OCNS enjoy a special Thanksgiving treat. The class enjoyed learning about being thankful through stories, songs and special projects.



The students at OCNS held a food drive for the Orange food pantry. The students learned about helping others and giving back to the community. Students from the 3s class and the 5s kindergarten readiness classes delivered food to the pantry.



Students from OCNS 4s and 5s classes enjoyed a music class by Suzuki Music of Orange. Ms. Dawn and Mr. Raphael taught us about tempo, rhythm and signing loud and soft. The children enjoyed dancing and singing songs along with the violin, triangle and drum.



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BARK BYTES...

By Vicki & Richard Horowitz



THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING

Remember Our Four Legged Canines

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

Holiday festivities can interrupt a dog's routine and present a potentially unsafe situation. But by following a few common-sense tips, the holidays can be cheery for everyone.

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

You can help ensure that everyone both two- and four-legged—has a fun and safe holiday season by considering the following:

- Most dogs get very excited when guests arrive. To help your dog be calmer, exercise him prior to the festivities. After 30 minutes of walking or playtime, your dog will more likely be relaxed or want
- As a general rule, don't allow the family dog to greet guests since unusual activities and commotion can cause him extra stress.
- Prior to people arriving, consider putting him in his crate or in a quiet room with his doggie bed and favorite toy. Allow him to rejoin the festivities after all guests have arrived and are settled.
- Putting your dog on a leash when you bring him to greet the guests will help you maintain better control of him.
- For safety reasons, no one should ever approach the dog. The dog needs to come to the person.
- If your dog is the type that gets anxious when guests are over, consider leaving him in another part of the house or board him for the holiday. This will keep him safe and allow you to enjoy the holiday without worrying about your dog.

Dogs that live in a household with no children may not be comfortable when kids come to visit.

The chaos created by youngsters like grandchildren will inherently raise the energy level in the house, causing the dog to worry

- Always supervise kids (especially very young children) and dogs when they are alone together. This is when most dog bites to children occur.
- Parents must be vigilant and monitor their children's interactions with all
- Never allow a child to feed a dog.

Many holiday foods can be harmful to canines, causing symptoms as mild as an upset stomach or as severe as vomiting and diarrhea.

- Avoid giving your dog fatty or spicy foods, bread dough, fresh herbs, alcohol beverages, caffeine and sweets of all kinds—especially those with chocolate or xylitol, an artificial sweetener.
- Particularly dangerous are cooked poultry bones. Cooked bones easily

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

Those holiday decorations can be dan-

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

That Christmas Tree

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

Should you give the dog a present? Absolutely, he is a member of the family.

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

Finally...A puppy or dog should not be given as a surprise gift!

A cute puppy or dog might seem like the perfect gift choice, but many of these holiday presents end up at animal shelters or just abandoned. Owning a dog takes a genuine commitment of time and responsibility and the "new" owners must be prepared to take on that responsibility and role. So you really want to make sure the "surprise" gift of a puppy or dog is going to be a welcome addition and at the right time.

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





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 De**cember 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 Febru**ary 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.

THE CASHIER

Just Like Cats & Dogs

WHAT A GREAT PARTY. EVERY

COUPLE WE KNEW WAS ARGUING

WE TOTALLY LOOKED NORMAL

LAFF-A-DAY

"I love what you tried to do to your home." BY RICARDO GALVÃO

by Dave T. Phipps



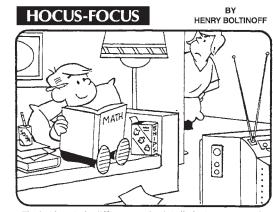
Out on a Limb I MUST SAY, THE LAST GUY WE ATE TASTED PRETTAY, PRETTAY, PRETTAY GOOD

by Gary Kopervas LARRY DAVID IN "CURB YOUR CANNIBALISM" KERAS

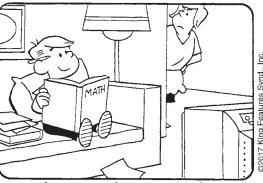
Weather Terms

- 1. Scorcher 2. Cow-quaker
- 3. Moor-gallop
- 4. Northern nanny
- 5. Cat's nose
- 6. Ban-gull
- 7. Mizzle
- 8. Hurly-burley
- 9. Lumps of rain
- 10. Lambing storm

Source: BBC



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Can is missing. 2. Pillow is smaller. 3. Lamp shade is different. 4. Box is missing. 5. TV controls are missing. 6. Antenna is missing. 24 HOCUS FOCUS puzzles \$3.50 • 24 Volumes • Order at: rbmamall.com

THE BEST GIFT YOU CAN GIVE YOUR PET

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I read your column about a person who did not vaccinate their house cats, and after one of them got out, lost all of them to feline leukemia. I can relate to this person. I only have one

cat, and I thought, for a while, that I could get away without vaccinating her. Fortunately, a friend convinced me otherwise.

It turns out that it doesn't take much to protect my baby when she depends on me to take

care of her. I've never gone without just to pay for "Racquel's" vaccinations, and in turn, she is a healthy cat who brings so much companionship to my life. Please tell your readers not to skip this important annual appointment. -- Donna in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

DEAR DONNA: You told them, and I thank you. Vaccinating indoor pets can seem like a pricey extravagance, but it pales in comparison to the cost of treating the diseases that they can contract if they're not vac-

To reduce the annual cost, check around for discounted shot clinics.

> These are usually held on specific dates and places -- pet supply stores, public buildings or participating veterinary clinics. However, these clinics often don't advertise extensively due to costs, so you may

need to search a bit. Contact your city or county government to see if any clinics are being held nearby, or stop in to major pet supply retailers like Petco, which often sponsor shot clinics. If not, their workers often know about pet health clinics nearby.

These clinics offer required vaccinations and licenses, and sometimes have microchipping and a basic health exam available at a low fixed price

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

Long before holly was used for Christmas decoration, it was considered sacred to the Druids. While other plants wither away in cold weather, holly leaves remain green and strong, and the berries remain bright red even in the harshest of winters. The pagan Druids regarded this as potent magic against the destructive forces of nature, and adorned their surroundings with cuttings of the plant to benefit from its powers. Cutting down a holly tree was thought to bring very bad luck. - Brenda Weaver

Source: howstuffworks.com

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