

The Orange Times

When there's better writing, there's better reading.

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November 21, 2017

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Zeoli, Republicans Win Big In Orange

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Republican incumbent Jim Zeoli easily won reelection as Orange's First Selectman Nov. 7 in a three-way competition against Democrat Margaret Novicki and unaffiliated candidate Alex DeAngelo.

Zeoli captured 2,990 votes for a 60.12 percent share. That was more than a thousand over the 1,919 Novicki garnered. She earned 38.59 percent of the vote share. DeAngelo received 64 votes, or 1.29 percent.

Republicans fared well overall in a mostly status-quo election that saw little evidence of the Democratic inroads made in other parts of the state and country on election night. Republicans in Orange got the most votes for posts including Board of Selectmen, Orange Board of Education and Town Planning & Zoning Board.

It was a more mixed bag for the town charter. Voters approved some proposed amendments, including a provision that would require all votes for the annual town budget be sent to referendum. Others, like a question asking residents to change the terms for first selectman and other elected positions from two to four-year terms, were rejected. Read the full results below.

Orange 2017 Election Results (Bold indicates winner)

First Selectman
(R)**Jim Zeoli: 2990**
(D)Margaret Novicki: 1919
(I)Alex DeAngelo: 64

Board of Selectmen
(R)**Ralph Okenquist: 2716**
(R)**Judy W. Williams: 2696**
(R)**John Carangelo: 2519**
(D)Jen Alfaro: 1732
(D)**Paul Davis: 2045**
(D)**Mitch Goldblatt: 2481**

Town Clerk
(D)**Patrick B. O'Sullivan: 3480**

Board of Finance
(R)**Joe Nuzzo: 2901**
(R)Robert Bocek: 2441
(R)**Pat Romano: 2724**
(D)Stu Crystal: 1747
(D)Shirley Fiedler: 1867
(D)**PJ Shanley: 2269**

Amity Board of Education
(R)**Thomas Hurley: 2665**
(R)**Steven DeMaio: 2769**
(R)**Shannon Carlson: 2571**
(D)**Carla Eichler: 2510**
(D)John Gagel: 1858
(D)Mark Rawden: 1800
(D)Ray Tuccio: 2130

Orange Board of Education
(R)**Jeffrey Cap: 2560**
(R)**Kimberly Browe: 2698**
(R)**Christian Young: 2511**
(D)**Charles Flynn: 2041**
(D)Frank Renaldi: 1959
(D)**Mary Welander: 2029**

Town Planning & Zoning
(R)**Oscar M. (Ozzie) Parente: 2844**
(R)**Kevin Cornell: 2876**
(D)Mike Muttitt: 1857
(D)Mike Sodins: 1767

Tax Collector
(R)**Sandra Pierson: 3003**
(D)Kristin Zanjani: 1794

Constables
(R)**Jody Daymon: 2397**
(R)**Glen Papelo: 2208**
(R)**Mike Donadeo: 2248**
(R)**Jeff Vargo: 2473**
(D)**Randy Thomas: 2262**
(D)**Bob Shanley: 2129**
(D)**Santo Galatioto: 2138**
(D)Marianne Miller: 2047

Ballot Questions

1. Shall the Charter be amended to increase the terms of the first selectman, board of selectmen, tax collector, town clerk, registrar of voters and constables from a two year term to a four year term, with terms to commence on the first Monday of December, or as otherwise provided by state statute, effective January 1, 2018?

Yes: 1813
No: 1954

2. Shall the Charter be amended to change the term of the town planning and zoning commission deferred position so that beginning with the 2023 biennial election, three members shall have the concurrent four year terms?

Yes: 1777
No: 1873

ORANGE cont. on page 19



Mayor Ben Blake



First Selectman Jim Zeoli

Democrats Dominate In Milford

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

No one was surprised in Milford Nov. 7 that Democrat Benjamin Blake won his reelection bid to serve a fourth two-year term as mayor. Blake ran unopposed.

Democrats continued to show strength throughout the city, winning a majority of seats for the Board of Aldermen, Board of Education, and the Planning and Zoning Board. Full results are below.

Milford 2017 Election Results (Bold indicates winner)

Mayor
(D)**Benjamin Blake: 7769**

Aldermen District #1
(D)Nija Phelps: 948
(D)**Ellen Beatty 1117**
(R)James Tranquilli, Jr.: 1113
(R)**Anthony Giannattasio: 1130**

Aldermen District #2
(D)**Janet A. Golden: 1121**
(D)**Nick Veccharelli: 1136**
(R)Tommy Rupich: 796
(R)Jeremy Grant: 984

Aldermen District #3
(D)**Marty Hardiman: 1153**
(D)**Frank Smith: 1170**
(R)Michael S. Casey: 921
(R)Connie Gaynor: 967

Aldermen District #4
(D)**Tony Sutton: 1197**
(D)**Phil Vetro: 1302**
(R)John Drapp III: 841
(R)Dan German: 1077

Aldermen District #5
(D)**Karen Fortunati: 1263**
(D)**Bryan Anderson: 1216**
(D)Dominic Cotton: 1173
(R)Bill Bevan: 992
(R)Raymond Vitali: 1080

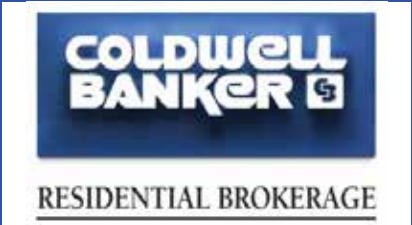
Town Clerk
(D)Kim Rose: 4930
(R)**Joanne Lasse Rohrig: 5079**

Constables
(D)**Brendan Casey: 5548**
(D)**Linda Hardiman: 5660**
(D)**Matthew Zancewicz: 4736**
(D)**Ted Boynton: 5531**
(R)**Steven T. Visconti: 4072**
(R)**George A. Marshall: 3931**
(R)**Shirley A. Serrano: 4338**
(R)Patrick Tokarz: 3635

Board of Education District #1
(D)**Ray Arnold: 1000**
(D)Desi Tango: 913
(R)**Scott Firmender: 1009**
(R)Walter W. Hagedorn: 945

MILFORD cont. on page 19

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News & Events

Orange Holiday Festival

The Town of Orange invites the public to attend the Annual Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting on Sunday, Dec. 3. Festivities on and around the Orange Town Green will begin at 3 p.m.

Visitors may tour the Stone-Otis House to learn what Victorian-era Christmases were like.

The Academy Building and the antique shop will be open from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. for viewings of the Historical Society’s antique collections and Emily Prudden watercolors, as well as the New Haven-to-Derby line model railroad in the lower level.

The Orange Congregational Church will hold a cookie sale and crafts for kids from 3 – 5 p.m. The Bell Choir will perform a hand bell and carol concert in the church sanctuary from 4 – 5 p.m., as well as an alternative giving opportunity for Heifer International.

The Case Memorial Library will be splendidly decorated and will host a performance of children’s music by Al deCant

of Half Moon Music from 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. and by the Amity Chamber Singers from 4:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Guess how many candies are in the jar at the library and win a prize. Write a letter to Santa Claus and make a craft in the craft room. The library will be open from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Annual Gingerbread Contest will be featured in the Clark Building. Friends of all ages are invited to enter a gingerbread creation. Entries must be dropped off at the Clark Building between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Dec. 3, and must be picked up between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. The winner will be invited to light the Christmas tree.

An ice carving demonstration will take place in front of the Clark Building from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Santa Claus will arrive at 5 p.m. The tree lighting will take place at 5:15 p.m. Children will be able to visit with Santa on the Town Green until 6 p.m., when the festival will end.

“Thanks For Coming!!” Awards For 2017

Milford Speaks Out’s “Thanks for Coming!!” awards for 2017 will be presented at the City Hall Assembly room on Monday, November 20, at 1:30 pm. Mayor Benjamin Blake will read a proclamation declaring the 20th as Immigration Day in Milford. Award presentation and refreshments will follow. The award is given to Milford citizens of foreign birth for service to town, state, or country. The honorees are:

Joseph Garbus, Russia, service as alderman, revitalization of Walnut Beach neighborhood, service to the arts, reconnection of Milford neighborhoods to Silver Sands.

Lesley Mills, England, support for “aging in place” with Griswold Homecare, preservation and restoration of historic buildings, philanthropy.

Wendy Safyre, England, feeding the hungry, support for Native Americans.

Nadia Bajrakterevic, Bosnia, helping the infirmed, support for recently arrived immigrants, election pollworker.

Moe Elhelw, Egypt, neighborhood improvement, employer, support for cancer research, transportation for therapy.

Terrance Copeland, Canada, representative on Planning and Zoning Board, environmental protection, youth athletics.

Eeva Copeland, Finland, volunteer at Senior Center, steering committee of Women Redefining Retirement, providing supplies for the needy, school PTA,volunteer at Boys & Girls Club, ESL tutor, museum docent.

Friends and colleagues are invited to attend. For further information or clarification, contact

David Duffner
49 Spice Bush Lane, Milford, CT 06461
(203) 305-4689 dlduffner@yahoo.com

Congregation Or Shalom

Weekly Services
Minyan Services:
Sun 9:00am Mon 7:30am Thur 7:30am
Healing Circle: Wed 7:30am
Shabbat Services: Fri 7:00pm Sat 9:30pm

Coffee & 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 Welcome. Starts November 15.

Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service
Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service, November 19th, at 7:00 pm. Congregation Or Shalom is hosting this years’ service. All are Welcome to attend. Clergy from all local Churches and Synagogues participate in the service. The service will be followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Adult Education Movie - Sun, Dec 3, 2017, 2:00 pm “The Wedding Plan”
The Wedding Plan is a much-acclaimed Israeli film, opened in the U.S. in May, 2017 to glowing reviews. Its main character has won Best Actress award at a number of film festivals. Runtime: 110 minutes. Subtitles. The first in our winter film-series! Michal, a 32 year-old unwed ultra-Orthodox woman - a

“spinster” by the standards of her community - is finally looking forward to marriage, when her fiancé suddenly calls the wedding off a month before the event. Mortified, and adamantly refusing to return to single life, Michal decides to continue with her wedding plan and leave it up to God to find her “bashert”! (destined one) She books a wedding hall, sends out invitations and buys a wedding dress, as her mother and sister look on dumbfoundedly. During Michal’s month-long search for a spouse, she goes on a series of disastrous blind dates while dismissing the pleas of her friends and family members that she reconsiders her misguided plan. As the day of the ceremony grows closer, Michal puts everything on the line to find happiness.

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 205 Old Grassy Hill Road, Orange, CT 06477 (203) 799-2341 www.orshalomct.org



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Opinion & Editorial

In The House:

Budget Passed



STATE SEN. (D-14)
GAYLE SLOSSBERG

After many months of negotiation, Connecticut's state budget has been passed by the legislature and signed into law by the governor. Throughout the many months of negotiations, I fought for a budget that had bipartisan support.

The budget ultimately passed with historic, bipartisan margins of 33-3 in the Senate and 126-23 in the House of Representatives. Now that the budget has taken effect, I want to let you know how it affects our state, and in particular, Orange and Milford.

There are no major tax increases in this budget. There is no increase to the income tax or the sales tax, and there are no major cuts to municipal aid, which would necessitate a property tax increase. However, it does eliminate taxes on social security and pensions. It also makes significant structural reforms that will begin the process of addressing Connecticut's long-term liabilities. The budget also preserves funding for transportation program and improvements, which are vital to strengthening our economy.

Governor Malloy's original budget proposal would have made deep cuts to municipal aide and education funding for Milford, Orange and many other communities. I fought against these cuts and am happy to report that this budget leaves municipal and education funding for Milford and Orange largely untouched. Additionally, the budget rejects Governor Malloy's proposal to shift teacher pension payments to the towns. Instead, it shores up the teacher's retirement fund by increasing teacher contributions by 1% to their own pensions.

The budget protects funding for Connecticut's social safety net. Funding needed to support people with mental and physical disabilities will be provided to private providers and state caregivers, and Connecticut's family resource centers will remain funded. This budget also ensures that we are able to continue combatting the state's opioid epidemic by funding addiction prevention and assistance programs.

This certainly is not a perfect budget, but no budget is. This is a good, responsible budget and it was one that was developed and passed as a collaborative effort between Democrats and Republicans. Unlike our national politics that have ground to a partisan and ugly halt, I am proud that in Connecticut, we worked together to try to begin to address our State's challenges. That's something to be optimistic about.

Hospital Tax Deal



STATE REP. (R-114)
THEMIS KLARIDES

The final pieces to the complicated and agonizing state budget puzzle came together with relative ease, considering that it took more than four months to settle the conflict. Gov. Dannel P. Malloy signed the budget on Halloween, but left hanging a major element of the \$41 billion, two-year budget when he issued a line-item veto to provisions that have huge implications for our state hospitals.

Those issues were cleared up in the ensuing weeks, when the hospitals and the administration came together and agreed on a deal that will impose a tax on the institutions that will then be reimbursed by the federal government through Medicaid payments.

The deal involves potentially \$1 billion in revenue to the state annually, and without it in place, threatened their viability and would have put the state budget out of balance.

In addition to the hospital tax, another issue that affects at least 37,000 Connecticut residents popped up unexpectedly after the budget was crafted. Those people, mostly elderly and disabled renters, saw their annual rebate checks that they qualify for disrupted because of a drafting error. There was no provision to distribute the estimated \$13 million in rebate checks as they have been in the past.

An agreement was reached by legislative leaders and all the caucuses to address the issue in the final special session of the year earlier this month.

In all, it was a long year at the Capitol. At certain points it seemed as if it would never end. But we have a balanced budget in place that was the result of compromises by both Republicans and Democrats. It features significant long-term fundamental changes in the way we will govern in the future, including spending and borrowing caps and mandatory legislative approval of all state employee union contracts.

While we come to the end of the year in Hartford, we are fully aware that the next legislative session is just around the corner...beginning in February.

Spirit of Giving



STATE REP. (R-119)
PAM STANESKI

In his Nov. 1963 Thanksgiving message, President John F. Kennedy said, "Today we give our thanks, most of all, for the ideals of honor and faith we inherit from our forefathers-for the decency of purpose, steadfastness of resolve and strength of will, for the courage and the humility, which they possessed and which we must seek every day to emulate. As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them."

These words hold true today, and while modern-day Thanksgiving celebrations include football along with good food and family, it is also a time that reminds us that we are part of something bigger than ourselves. It is a time to count our blessings and give thanks. It is also a time that our community comes together to help our friends and neighbors who might need a hand up. It is in this spirit that I encourage you to consider purchasing a few extra cans of food, a pie, or other holiday treat as you plan and shop for your big meal.

The Milford scouts are holding their 13th Annual Thanks for Giving Food Drive and have partnered with several local businesses that have agreed to be collection sites to ensure all have a happy holiday. Over 48 hours, scouts will camp at Wasson Field over 2 days, collecting, sorting and delivering food donated by generous residents and staffing tables at local supermarkets to local families. They are collecting frozen turkeys, non-perishable food items and monetary donations with all proceeds going to the cause.

As we celebrate the traditions of Thanksgiving, I want to wish you a joyous, happy, and healthy holiday.

Anyone wanting to share their thoughts on this or other state matters can contact me at Pam.Staneski@housegop.ct.gov. Visit my webpage at www.repstaneski.com to sign up for my newsletter, email blast, or connect with me via Facebook at www.facebook.com/RepStaneski.

Veterans



STATE REP. (R-117)
CHARLES FERRARO

Throughout our state and country on Nov. 11 we honored our brave men and women who took the call to serve and protect our freedoms.

In Connecticut, we have over 220,000 veterans, and it has been an honor to be their voice as the House Republican Ranking Member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. I, along with my colleagues, have been working hard to make our state a better place for veterans. Just this year, I worked to pass legislation to provide veterans who are suffering from PTSD the option to receive a handicapped parking placard.

I am also excited to announce that the state has revamped its website for veterans and launched a new smartphone app.

The new website, www.ct.gov/veterans, will provide an easier way for veterans to find services, and information on the site will be updated in real-time.

A new smartphone app, CTVeterans, can be downloaded in the iTunes Store or the Google Play Store. The Department of Veterans Affairs says the app will provide a directory of services the state provides for veterans, as well as access to the Veterans Crisis hotline, and information on how to support veterans in the state. The app will help veterans, those who are currently serving, their families, and supporters of veterans find services quickly and find out how they can help others.

We still have a long way to go in making sure that our veterans receive the benefits they deserve. As your State Representative, I am asking you to please reach out to me with your thoughts about how the state can better serve our veterans. Please reach out to me by email at Charles.Ferraro@housegop.ct.gov or by phone at 860-240-8700 with your comments, questions, or concerns.

Let us never forget that freedom is not free; it has been protected and defended by our brave men and women in the military. We must never forget their selfless service and sacrifice. I hope you will continue to join me in honoring our veterans, not once or twice a year, but every single day.

Letters To The Editor:

To the Editor:

Thank You. I look forward to continuing to serve the Town of Orange as your tax collector. As I begin my 9th term, the collection of delinquent taxes remains a priority. I am committed to continuing to achieve a high collection rate, both in an effort to keep taxes from increasing. Thank you for your confidence and support.

Sandra Pierson, CCMC
Tax Collector

The Orange Times

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Senator's Seat:

Sen. Gayle Slossberg (D-14)

Columnists:

Joanne Byrne, Retirement
Allison DePaola, Legal
Pat Dray, Gardening
Steven Floman, Legal
Peter Hechtman, Books
Barbara Lehrer, Real Estate
James Maroney, SAT Prep

Annamarie Mastrangelo, Flooring
Marianne Miller, Lions Club
Karen Panzer, Travel
Trish Pearson, Insurance
Tedra Schneider, Interior Design
Hon. Beverly K. Streit-Kefalas, Legal

Eric Tashlein, Finances
Fern Tausig, Hypnosis
Roger Tausig, Rotary Club
Michele Tenney, Health
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Trish O'Leary Treat, Profiles

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Recycling Tips



Plastic recycling is now available at the Orange Transfer Station and stores statewide! Put in designated bins: plastic shopping & produce bags, baggies, zip-top storage, box liners (cereal, crackers, etc.), snacks & pre-packaged food wrappers, dry cleaning bags, newspaper & magazine bags, and bubble wrap. Grocery stores, department and big box stores such as Kohl's, Shop-Rite, Whole Foods, Lowe's, Best Buy, Target and more have large recycling bins easily accessible. More tips & info on website bit.ly/OrangeRecycling and Facebook bit.ly/ORC-Facebook.

So What Is A Rotarian?



By Roger Tausig

In the short time I’ve been writing this column, I have shared with readers the upcoming events that the Rotary Club of Orange holds and made reference to the causes that the funds raised through those events are used to support. It is safe to say that these events don’t run themselves, but rather are the fruits of the labors of many dedicated volunteers (in this case, Rotarians) who give of their time, effort and expertise to do the work to make these events successful and deliver on the mission of Rotary.

You might ask, “Who are these people that do this work and why do they do it?” The best way to answer that is for me to share my personal experience and my journey as a Rotarian, which I will start by saying is one of the most rewarding endeavors in my life.

I had a fairly successful technology business that I started in 1994 and was fortunate enough to sell in 2014. Once I signed papers transferring ownership of the company, I completely separated from it, leaving myself to contemplate how I would live my life after effectively ending my professional career as a businessman. Since I have always considered myself to be very fortunate, my plan was to do what I could to help those less fortunate than

me in any way I could.

As fate would have it, I was invited by a good friend and Rotarian to a social event being held by RCO for prospective new members. While at the event, I was immediately struck by the fellowship and passion for service, both locally and globally, embodied by the Rotarians I met that evening. I knew immediately that this was where I needed to focus my energies to realize my goal of helping those in need.

What I have learned about Rotarians is that they have a rare combination of passion for their mission (the Rotary motto is “Service above self”) and a highly organized, well managed structure that starts at the local level and extends to district, regional, national and international levels. Rotary is ranked in the top echelons of not-for-profit organizations in the world for our partnership with The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and for our work, through funding and hands-on efforts, to eradicate polio outside the United States. These are but two of many examples of the contributions Rotary makes to societies home and abroad.

All of this is the result of the work of dedicated, committed, caring people who work together within an extremely well-designed organizational structure to deliver much-needed services. This is what I have learned is the profile of a Rotarian through my experience being part of it.

So, if you are reading this and are inspired to be a part of a team of extraordinary people who do amazing work, have fun doing it, and want to make new friends, please consider joining our club and help to make a difference in both our community and the world around us. For more information, please visit our website at www.rotarycluboforange.org.

Giving Help & Giving Thanks



by Marianne Miller
Special to The Orange Times

Recently the Orange and Milford Lions Clubs had a joint project with Anthem Blue Cross employees in making repairs and upgrades to the grounds around the Bethel Homeless Shelter in Milford. Some of the projects included painting and minor repairs inside, cutting back loads of shrubs and trees in the front, and planting hardy flowers and shrubs in the gardens. Leaves were raked and mulch was added to the gardens and playgrounds. The project was spearheaded by Orange Lion George Lesko who led more than thirty Lions and Anthem volunteers and the Beth El staff.

Congratulations to three new members who were inducted into the Orange Lions Club on Nov. 13th. They are Mohammed Munim, Rokhshana Rozee, and Navin Trivedi. Our District Governor, Shaukat Khan participated the ceremony.

At a recent Orange Lions meeting, Helene & Jerry Dellert (both Milford Lions), discussed the new Lions Diabetes awareness program. Diabetes is one of the fastest growing diseases in the world today effecting 422 million people of all races and ages. As Lions we are

dedicated to fighting the diabetes epidemic to improve lives, strengthen families and revitalize communities.


The Orange Lions will again host the Thanksgiving Dinner for seniors and those who don’t have family with whom to share a meal. The meal will include a full-course turkey dinner and pies, with entertainment by local musicians. Everyone is invited, but you need to make your reservation with Community Services by calling (203) 891-4788.

For a fun day come join the Orange Lions as we perform “Caroling for a Cause” at the Essex Steam Train Depot on Sat. Dec. 9th, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The Lions carolers will be accepting monetary donations and after listening to them, those intending to ride train should make reservations online at essexsteamtrain.com to be guaranteed a seat.

On Jan 6th and 13th, 2018 the Orange Lions will pick up your Christmas trees at the curb and make them into mulch. Leave this messy job to the Lions! A charge of \$15 per tree will be collected. All net proceeds will go to the Orange Lions Charities. The service is available to Orange residents only by calling Lion Fred Turner at (203) 389-4688 ahead of time.

Save the dates: March 16, 2018 Lions Annual Winetasting Event. More details will follow. Also, again this year on April 28, 2018 in conjunction with the Recycling Committee and the Rotary, the Lions will be picking up used mattresses at your home for a small donation.

For further information about the Lions Club or to become a member, call Lion Marianne Miller at (203) 795-3906.



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Orange LYONS inducted 3 Orange residents into the club on November 13. They are, L-R, Navin Trivedi, and husband and wife Mchammed Munim, Rokhshana Rozzi all residents of Orange.



Requiem.
See Page 6.

by Joseph Cole
editor@theorangetimes.com

In 1958, Lung-chin Chen was one of the most remarkable young men in Taiwan and the Republic of China. Chen's star shown so brightly that universities in America turned their eye toward him. he was offered a fellowship at North Carolina State University in 1960.

to handle or even address the situation. Mainland China had for years, under the same. The ROC saw things differently. among the adopted solution

location on February 20. "We're taking the week to move in and get everything set up," Dr. Peter Branden said. He will be one of several doctors working out of the 10,000 square foot space. He estimates between the group's rotating list of doctors and full-time support staff that the location

Eye Care cont. on page 18

Home Sales Rise
by Joseph Cole

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799-7500

Arts & Entertainment

“Art is an effort to create, beside the real world, a more humane world.” –Andre Marois

by Patricia Miller

SHAYLEN HARGER, a senior musical theatre major at Western Connecticut State University, recently starred as Evita Peron in the musical *Evita*, presented Sept. 10 to Sept. 17 on the Danbury campus. The Andrew Lloyd Webber rock opera is an exciting piece of theatre, directed by award-winning Tim Howard, conducted by Frank Schiro and choreographed by Mary Ann Lamb, who has 12 Broadway shows to her credit. This Broadway team brought a new vision to the show, reinventing and creating to give it their own unique vision.

Harger is no stranger to the stage. She was twice nominated as Best Actress in the National Collegiate Division of the Kennedy Center Awards. She won the National Best Collegiate Actress as Lucile Frank in *Parade*. She is an extremely talented young woman. She is also one of Orange's own, having attended Peck Place School and the Amity system. We will no doubt hear much more of her and her theatrical pursuits.

THE ORANGE PLAYERS' "Acting Up, the Festival of One Act Plays," played to sold-out audiences on Nov. 3 and 4. On both nights, extra tables had to be set up. The festival was even more successful than last year's, expanded to two nights and playing to larger audiences. The number of submissions from playwrights more than doubled this year, and there have been inquiries already about next year. It is an interesting and creative process, with authors, directors and actors collaborating on the plays.

ART IN THE LIBRARY(176 Tyler City Road, Orange) continues showing Waterworks XVIII, new works by the students of Audrey Galer. The themes and styles of the watercolor works are varied. The artists showing works in this show are Shuba Balakumar, Christine Barmmer, Jahnvi Bulusam, Sue Blanchette, Adita Chalasani, Renee Cohen, Molly Dineen, Millie Farrell, Lana Ho, Jeannette Jones, Rita Kelly, Avani Kulkarni, Chyeon Lee, Anna Langanovska, Inara Langanovska, Shari Lipton, Vinita Mnjunath, Linday Marieb, Pat Miller, Mukul Mukherjee, Ibert Munroe, Melissa Musante, Julia Nguyen, Carolyn Pickup, Lisa Rehm, Barbara Rosen, Kishal Shah, Joan Stenner, Mary Ann Veriinis, Rachna Vipparla, and Carol Wilson.

In December the exhibit will be Galer's *The Fabulous Five*, retrospective works by artists Erica Chang, Frances Giannattasio, Anisha Jain, Puja Sinha and Rachana Yetukuri. The exhibit will illustrate the progression of five young women who have participated in Waterworks from elementary school to college. The artists' reception will be held on Thursday, Dec. 7 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The gallery in the meeting room on the second floor is open during regular library hours.

ORANGE ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL presented its Eighth Annual Youth Concert on Nov. 19 at the Milford Art Council's Eastbound Theatre. OACC was proud to showcase the talents of Jason Chen, June Chen, Emily Killian, Hallie Syro and Brynn Weirsmann of Orange; Talya Braverman of Woodbridge; Lily Stockwell of Branford; Timothee Harrell of New Haven; and Kyla Heckett and Conor Wall of Shelton. The concert was well received and helps the OACC in the effort to support, sustain and promote the arts in our area.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY presents "Around The World In Thirty Minutes" on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 1 p.m. This program is part of the year-long celebration of the



Orange actress Shaylen Harger

Friends' twenty-fifth anniversary. Judy Hendler and Mark Levesque are a husband-and-wife team who have performed over 2,000 concerts together in the United States and Europe. Their sophisticated and expressive arrangements blend classical, Brazilian, Latin American, klezmer, gypsy, folk, jazz and Celtic influences to create a unique and extraordinary sound. Their program, *Rhythms of the World*, is an exuberant celebration of cultures from around the world. They will bring us the lilt of a jam session at an Irish pub, a rollicking tarantella from Italy, nouveau flamenco from Spain, the warmth and passion of Brazil, the rhythmic beauty of Eastern Europe, hard-swinging Gypsy jazz, a love song from Taiwan, the sultry sounds of Middle Eastern melody and more.

Please register at the library or call 203-891-2170. The Friends would like to thank those who have attended the programs presented in celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary and ask that interested people become members of the Friends, to work together to support the service of our town library.

PANTOCHINO PRODUCTIONS (Eastbound Theatre, 49 South Railroad Ave., Milford) mounts its holiday production, *School for Elves*, from Dec. 1 to 21. An award-winning musical with book and lyrics by Bert Bernardi and music by Justin Rigg, *School for Elves* is a holiday event for the whole family. New recruits do their best to impress that jolly old elf himself, Santa Claus. But something is amiss, and they are called upon to step up and save the day.

Friday and Saturday performances are cabaret style, with tables and chairs. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own food and beverages. Sundays performances are regular theatre seating in rows. For tickets, go to <https://showclix.com/events/pantochino/tag>.

ORCHESTRA NEW ENGLAND presents Colonial Concert XXXVIII on Saturday, Nov. 25 at 8 p.m. at the United Church on the Green at 270 Elm Street in New Haven. Ringing in the holiday season with ONE has become a family tradition. Wigs, waistcoats, candlelight and music by Hayden and Handel combine to make this event a special occasion. Walden Moore, organist at Trinity Church on the Green, makes his seventh performance at the Colonial Concert. Zachary Johnson of the Yale School of music will be the baritone soloist. Period hijinks ensue when the wife of the President of the Continental Congress, Phoebe Sinclair, (played by Yale School of Drama's Danielle Chaves) makes a visit to the Meeting House. Call 203-777-4600 or go online to

www.orchestranewengland.org for more.

A festive, pre-concert dinner will take place at the Graduate Club just across Elm Street. Dinner tickets are sold separately.

YALE REPERTORY THATRE (1120 Chapel Street, New Haven) presents *Native Son*, a play based on the Richard Wright classic novel of the same name. It tells of Bigger Thomas, a young man who lives in 1930s Chicago, who comes from a poverty-stricken background. He struggles to find a place in a world that shuts him out. After taking a position in a wealthy white man's house, he unwittingly unleashes a series of events that violently and irrevocably seal his fate. *Native Son* is an unforgettable theatrical experience that captures the power of Wright's iconic novel about oppression, freedom and justice. *Native Son* is the first of Yale's WILL POWER productions. The run includes 10:15 a.m. performances on Dec. 11 and 12, available only to high school groups. To book a group for WILL POWER performances, contact Roger-Paul Snell at 203-432-1541 or roger-paul.snell@yale.edu. This production contains strong language and adult content. For tickets to regular performances, call 203-432-1234 or go to yalerep.org.

NEW HAVEN ORATORIO CHOIR presents their Winter Concert on Friday, Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Church of the Redeemer at 185 Cold Spring Street in New Haven. The concert will feature Johannes Brahms' delightful *Liebesslieder Waltzes* Op. 52 and Op. 65. The 33 songs in this set capture a variety of moods and sentiments and will make for a very melodic evening. Tickets can be purchased in advance from choir members (Orange's Bradford Gesler is a choir member) or at the door. Admission is \$15. A choral singalong will follow the concert.

NEW HAVEN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (Woolsey Hall, 500 College Street, New Haven) presents *Holiday Extravaganza* on Thursday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. NHO performs their soundtrack for the holiday. The program will feature seasonal favorites such as Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" and much more. NHO pop conductor Chelsea Tipton conducts. For tickets, call 203-865-0811 or go to newhavensymphony.org.

HAVEN STRING QUARTET (Unitarian Society, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden) will present *Americana*, a concert featuring the works of Glass, Washington and Schickele. The Haven String Quartet serves as the performance quartet-in-residence and teaching faculty for Music

Haven. They spearhead the organization's tuition-free strings program for youth, and each HSQ member teaches a full studio of 15 to 20 Music Haven students in private lessons, group classes, studio classes, and chamber groups, as well as working with an advanced chamber orchestra. All ticket sales from HSQ concerts benefit Music Haven's programming. For tickets, call 203-745-9030 or go online to www.musichavenct.org.

THE SHUBERT (247 College Street, New Haven) presents *The Santaland Diaries*, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 24 to 26. This wickedly funny 'one elf show' by humorist David Sedaris, features Ian Galligan as Crumpet.

Coming soon after this is *The Blind Boys of Alabama*, featuring Preservation Hall Legacy Horns on Saturday, Dec. 2. Hailed as "gospel titans" by *Rolling Stone*, the group performs their signature harmonies, new songs and holiday favorites. For tickets to both of these performances, call 203-562-5666 or 888-736-2663, go online to shubert.com, or visit the box office on College Street.

LYMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (501 Crescent Street, New Haven) presents *Tidings of Jazz and Joy*, starring Euge Groove, Keiko Matsui and featuring Lindsey Webster and Adam Hawley. The charismatic saxophonist Euge Groove and vibrant keyboardist Keiko Matsui are joined by smooth guitarist Adam Hawley and silky vocalist Lindsey Webster to deliver an incredible evening of jazz with some holiday classics for good measure. For tickets, call 203-392-6154 or go online to lymancenter.org.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MUSEUM (1 State Street, New Haven) has a special holiday exhibit, *Peace on Earth-Creches of the World*, until Feb. 19. The exhibit, featuring crèches from around the world, celebrates the diversity of the cultures that created them. Besides pieces from the museum's own collection, including its popular Neopolitan diorama, there are recent acquisitions of Polish szopki, stone sculptures from Zimbabwe and Hummel figurines. Also on view are pieces loaned from the Glencurn Museum of Pennsylvania, the International Marion Research Institute at the University of Dayton, the Loyola Museum of Art in Illinois, and St. Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal in Quebec. There is free admission and parking. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART (1000 Fifth Avenue, New York City) has announced the largest Michelangelo exhibit ever for the Metropolitan. Michelangelo is a towering genius in the history of Western art. For his mastery of drawing, sculpture, painting and architecture, he was called Il Divino ("the divine one") by his contemporaries. His powerful imagery and dazzling technical virtuosity transported viewers and imbued his works with a staggering force that continues to enthrall us today. This exhibit presents a stunning range and number of works. There are 133 of his drawings, three of his marble sculptures, his earliest painting, his wood architectural models for a chapel vault, and a substantial body of complementary works by other artists for comparison and context. The exhibition's display was selected from 50 public and private collections in the United States and Europe, and shows Michelangelo's rich legacy as a supreme draftsman and designer. The exhibit runs through Feb. 12. Don't miss it.

Have an event, an idea, a comment? Send to patmiller605@sbcglobal.net.

Arts & Entertainment

Restaurant Review:

Rustica Ristorante A Pleasant Experience

Rustica Ristorante opened its second location recently, occupying the space of the former

LaFamilia Vincenzo on the Boston Post Road in Milford. The original Rustica is a local favorite in Chester. The location had its soft opening at the end of October.

We went for dinner early on a Sunday evening. Given the time of day, the restaurant dinner crowd had not yet arrived. We were greeted warmly by the host and seated quickly. The manager came over and introduced himself and welcomed us. The manager let us know that all the pasta dishes are made with homemade pasta. The wait staff was quick to take a drink order from the full bar.

For those of your who had been to the location prior to Rustica, don't expect a "happy hour." For whatever reason, the new management has chosen not to offer it, whereas other restaurants in Milford and Orange do so at Monday through Friday from 4 or 5 to around 6-7.

The ambiance is quite nice, yet the choice of background music surprised me for a restaurant that has a seemingly authentic Italian menu.

The menu is rather simple in that it does not have an overwhelming number of



MARK FAGAN

selections, but the names being rather complex, at least for me, I had to read the descriptions in order to know what I might be ordering. Rustica offers several different appetizers, from Carciofi in Padella (artichoke hearts over prosciutto) to Beetle (red beets over arugula and shaved ricotta), with many others in between. The appetizer prices ranged from \$11 to \$14 and the three salad offerings are \$10.

The entrees consist primarily of homemade pasta dishes and range from \$23 to \$25 with several additional meat and seafood dishes at \$26 to \$32. I decided on the Pappardelle Cavolfiori e Salsiccia, which is pappardelle pasta with cauliflower, fennel sausage, caramelized onions and parmigiano cheese. It was a large portion, surely more than enough. It was very flavorful. Paul decided on the Ravioli di Formaggio, a cheese ravioli served with Bolognese sauce. He said it was very enjoyable; he brought enough home for lunch the next day. The dishes are served with fresh warm bread and olive oil.

The menu is ala carte. They do offer a variety of salads, but we opted to have only the entree; this was more than sufficient for us. The desert menu was quite tempting as



well, but we resisted for this time.

Overall it was a very pleasant experience; one I would recommend. I do think I would change the background music and maybe the sports selection on the big screen over the bar. I personally would prefer a softer ambiance. Maybe my age is showing. Next time, I am surely saving room for desert.

Rustica is located at 1573 Boston Post Road in Milford and has plenty of parking both in the front and rear of the

building. The restaurant is open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday through Saturday; and from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday. The phone number is 203-301-4010. Reservations can be made online via Open Table at www.opentable.com.

Mark Fagan lives in Orange and serves on the Board of Directors for the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen in New Haven.

A Fresher, Harsher Look At Hemingway

Mary Dearborn,
*Ernest Hemingway:
A Biography,*
Knopf, 2017

How much more do we really need to know about Ernest Hemingway? Mary Dearborn, armed with some new material, insists that she is immune to the hairy-chested legend that has grown up around the most iconic of American authors. She examines Hemingway's life from fresh perspectives, which includes his troubled interpersonal relations with multiple wives, children, friends and publishers.

The bottom line is that Ernest Hemingway was not a nice man. He tended to lie about his accomplishments, to claim credit due others, to punish those who helped him and to be unable to take responsibility for failures



PETER HECHTMAN

of marriages and friendships. He could suffer criticism not at all.

Dearborn claims to have discovered the source of Hemingway's compulsive machismo. Old family photos show that Hemingway's mother dressed and coifed the young Ernest and his one year older sister Marcelline identically - sometimes as two girls, other times as two boys. She goes on to

reveal that hair styling was central to his sex play all his adult life and that he harbored anxieties that some (e.g. Gertrude Stein) would accuse him of homosexuality.

For some, Hemingway will be best remembered as a central figure in the American ex-pat artist community of 1920s Paris. Two ex-pat writers who were to help him break into the world of published literature were Harold Loeb and

Scott Fitzgerald. Both, for their efforts on Hemingway's behalf, were to be transformed into ugly caricatures in Hemingway novels. Sherwood Anderson and John Dos Passos, though not "fictionalized," were also to suffer exclusion from the Hemingway circle.

"... few things ever made Hemingway happier than to be surrounded by a group of male friends." Such a collection of friends formed the core of Hemingway's frequent hunting, fishing, skiing and bull chasing escapades. Yet, as his wealth and celebrity status grew he increasingly surrounded himself with sycophants, all of whom were fearful of catching a bigger fish or shooting a more ferocious lion than their patron.

Among Hemingway's most egregious lies were the tales of his war heroism. He promulgated a story of leading a French resistance group who were the first to liberate Paris. In fact, they liberated the wine cellar of the Ritz.

Hemingway committed suicide at the age of 60. By then his mental health problems were quite severe. The five brain concussions he had suffered clearly did not help. However this affected his writing he did manage, in his last years, to write *The Old Man and the Sea*, which some regard as among his best work.

We must understand that it is as necessary for the feminist movement to topple Hemingway from his pedestal as it is for the Civil Rights movement to topple Robert E. Lee from his.

A reason for reading this book: many of us can't get enough of Hemingway. His writings have merged with his outsized personality to create a legend. A reason for not reading it is that you have grown fond of the legend and can't bear to see it tarnished.

Peter Hechtman is the founder and owner of The Book Maven. Peter can be reached at thebookmaven@sympatico.ca.

Understanding Bad Habits

We have all been raised to believe in an American way that includes the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. There are many who tie their happiness to a future event: "I can't be happy until" or "I won't be happy unless."

Since all hypnosis is self-hypnosis, I encourage my clients to change that thought to, "I am happy and if that happens, I will be happier!"

Focusing on those things in your life that you can be happy about, also referred to as gratitude, can be very therapeutic. It doesn't change anything except how you feel. My goal is to help my clients feel better.

Recently I have had several clients who, while in hypnosis, stated that "eating



FERN TAUSIG

ice cream" or "smoking that cigarette" makes them happy. Then there is the part of them that would be really happy if they lost weight or stopped smoking. There is a constant subconscious battle over how to achieve the elusive goal of happiness.

I believe life was meant to be a playground, not a battleground. All these things are going on inside the mind. People are constantly fighting with themselves. Unfortunately, no one seems to be winning the battle, which often includes self-loathing, frustration, disappointment and feeling like a failure. These feelings clearly interfere with other aspects of one's life and that includes the pursuit of happiness.

I have learned that instead of hating the part

you who wants to engage in the bad habit, you can embrace that part with the understanding that it just wants to make you happy. You have programmed yourself to believe that you get pleasure or happiness from that bad habit. Because you created that belief, you can change it. Instead of happiness or pleasure, associate the habit in your mind with the consequence of the behavior. Focus on that consequence and notice the feelings that go along with that consequence. You change the happiness or pleasure program to one that is dangerous or repulsive.

Repeating that thought over and over again will create a new program. Allow your parts to come together and negotiate a compromise that will allow both parts to integrate with the same outcome...happiness. The part of you that wants junk doesn't want you to be fat, just feel good. It doesn't know that fat

doesn't feel good. The part of you that wants to smoke isn't trying to kill you; it's trying to comfort you to help you to feel happy. When your parts work together in harmony they create a new way for you to get relief, comfort, pleasure and happiness with the negative outcome of the bad habit.

I have made it sound simple because it is. It's not always easy, but with effort and commitment, it is much easier than you might imagine it would be to make changes. Understanding that all parts of you generally have positive intentions can help you love yourself while finding creative ways to achieve comfort or pleasure without the behaviors that have disgusting or unhealthy outcomes.

Fern is a certified hypnotist, lifecoach and health educator. She can be reached at www.myhealinghypnosis.com.

Home & Garden

The Garden Spot:

Forced Bulbs For Winter Color

I love to force a variety of bulbs so that I have indoor blooms all winter long. The “pop” of color really cheers me up, and with the wide variety of colors and forms flowering bulbs have, you can have something that looks great in every room.

The first question most novices ask is, “What does it mean to ‘force’ a bulb and how do I do it?”

Forcing merely means making the bulb bloom early – think of it as making it bloom when you want it to. If you buy spring blooming bulbs, such as daffodils or hyacinths, and



PAT
DRAY

want to force them, they need some special treatment. Pot them in a commercial potting soil, and keep them cool (about 50 degrees) and slightly moist for about 10-12 weeks. Periodically look at the hole in the bottom of the pot. When you see roots growing or top growth of about 1 inch and the bulb doesn’t easily wiggle, it’s time to move the bulbs to a warmer (around 60 degrees) spot with some indirect light for a few weeks until the stems are growing and you see the buds. Then move them to normal house conditions near a very

bright window until they bloom. The total potting-to-blooming period for small bulbs is about 14 weeks; longer for large bulbs.

If you don’t have the time or patience to follow that regimen, you can buy bulbs that are ready to go to a sunny, warm spot. One of the most common flowering bulbs that we see this time of year is the amaryllis. It comes in many different colors, so there is something for everyone to enjoy. It will typically already have root and top growth and be ready to go in a sunny, warm window. You can pot it in soil, or (as I prefer) in a tall and narrow glass cylinder vase. Put a few layers of stone, gravel or marbles in the vase, put the bulb in,

and then cover it about halfway with more of the chosen medium, making sure the roots are covered. If the cylinder is tall enough, you won’t need to stake the plant once it begins to bloom. Keep the bulb lightly watered—if you overwater it will rot, and your hard work and patience will have been for nothing. Rotate the plant about a quarter turn every day or so that its stem stays straight.

Before the holiday busyness begins, pot up some bulbs and enjoy them throughout the cold days of winter.

Pat Dray is a past president of the Orange Garden Club.

Just Floored:

Instant Kitchen Updates Based On Your Style

If you’re getting tired of your kitchen, you don’t have to rip everything out and start from scratch. By switching out the lighting, tile, and hardware you can easily change the style of your kitchen. You’re not only saving time, but money as well. Here are four kitchen styles and some fun touches for each.

If you think traditional flourishes and classic neutrals is the way to go when it comes to design, then add these traditional upgrades to space. A lantern-style pendant warms up the crisp white subway tile in the backsplash. Warm taupe and beige paint are a great update for your walls and will compliment the white



ANNAMARIE
MASTRANGELO

trim. Adding antique brass swag pulls to your window treatments helps tie this style all together. You can also update the hardware on your cabinets to give a more colonial style.

If you regularly find yourself wondering, “What would Chip and Joanna do?” No fear; easy-breezy farmhouse style is easy to pull off with the right details. Think barn pendant lighting

in black or even a bright color like yellow paired against crisp white walls, give a clean and simple look. Add some interest to your backsplash with different shapes like an arabesque pattern or even a larger subway tile instead of the standard 3x6 size. Reclaimed

wood is another great addition to a farmhouse kitchen; create a range hood with reclaimed wood or even a column or beam in the space to add a little extra charm.

Is there anything more charming than a sweet little cottage, especially when it’s packed with personality-filled accents? A geometric tile punches up the backsplash. Embrace the return of brass with vintage pulls, and unique lighting. Open shelving is a trademark cottage look. By distressing and painting the wood on a built-in unit, you create a perfect spot to display a vintage china collection.

Give your kitchen an upgrade inspired by the well-loved porches and boho spirit of bungalow style. Put a twist on traditional tile with a 3-d textured ceramic subway tile

in cool blue. Play off that with perfectly distressed zinc knobs. Pull it all together with an industrial-meets-earthy copper pendant and neutral walls. Adding a unique island to the space can add charm to this island oasis. Paint the island a pale blue or green to compliment the rest of the accents in the space.

All of these updates can be added into your kitchen and still express your style. You don’t need to do a complete renovation to update the space. A backsplash update or a new piece of furniture as an island are all great ways to makeover one of our favorite spaces in our home!

Annamarie Mastrangelo is founder/owner of A.A.I. Flooring Specialist. She can be reached at amoreinteriorsllc@gmail.com.

Real Talk: You Ask, A Pro Answers

In Memoriam: Maria Reynolds

I dedicate this article to my dear friend, Maria Reynolds, a true professional real estate agent. For over thirty years Maria worked as a top producer. Her work spanned New Haven County. She was well-known to the real estate community as a pleasure to work with, always researching the needs of the client and resourceful in completing their transactions. Maria was widowed early on; she immediately took on independence, becoming the sole supporter for her three exceptional children.

As a mother, respected professional, and dedicated friend she had the admiration of everyone in her life. I never saw her complain or waiver from her duties. If you knew her it was obvious that she was genuine and sincere. She volunteered to take over so others could go on vacation and you knew that those clients would be well taken care of. Our co-workers constantly sought her out for advice.

She had a quiet and calm style, was never flustered or annoyed, always busy coordinating her day around her family and her work. Maria’s dedication to her job was evident as she completed “multi generations” of transactions. Years ago, I watched as the team of Bob and Maria Reynolds swept the Westville real estate market, always savvy in style and workmanship. Maria had style her own: she was beautiful inside and out, with



BARBARA
LEHRER

a bit of Italian in her speech and a little ‘chutzpah’ in her step. She was a fabulous gourmet cook. Not a day went by when we were not discussing some recipe or other. Our good times were many, and the other real estate agents at the Coldwell Banker office would agree. The job is 24/7 for those who are dedicated, and Maria was the best. Her knowledge of the current inventory and value of a property came from her daily attention to the market and the experience of thirty years.

Maria was the exceptional realtor. She weaved her job through her personal life, always setting aside time, even if it was 8:30 at night, to solve a problem, or pulling herself away from a family activity for a minute to help a worried client. She gave thought to situations, friends in need and family. Her children, Stephanie, Philip and Anneliese are strong like Maria. They each spent years watching and listening to her counsel families on making their real estate choices. They observed their mother’s dedication to a trade.

Maria loved her job and her co-workers, and I hope she knew she made a difference. This example of grace, compassion and hard work made her a pillar in the real estate community. We have all lost a true professional. God Bless You, Maria.

If you need more information on these issues, email Barbara.Lehrer@cbmoves.com.

Real Talk: You Ask, A Pro Answers

Is There A Time Of Year When More Is More?

Many of you have heard me voice my disapproval of clutter that takes away from the beauty of your décor. Too many things on too many surfaces. After a while you hardly notice it as it becomes “background clutter.” You would no more pile clothes on the floor and add more daily, than you would do the same to the surfaces of your bookcases, coffee, kitchen and end tables, walls, bookcases etc. Yet, life has a way of forcing us to say, “one day I’ll get around to making the surfaces more attractive.” That one day does, in fact, present itself and it’s right around the corner.

Time to bring out the holiday decorating themes-Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas, Kwaanze. Along with your “regular” clutter you now want to add holiday ornaments, Christmas trees, adorable sled and elf arrangements, floral wreaths, door mats, garlands, jingle bells, advent calendars, or menorahs, banners announcing the Miracle of Light, chocolate candy coins, candle arrangements, seasonal platters of fruit and holiday cookies, Santa’s elves sitting atop mantels, fir cones in baskets on the coffee table, boxes and boxes of Christmas ornaments, miles of wire for lighting the tree and let’s not forget tinsel and diffusers with sticks of evergreen wafting the aromas of the deep forest throughout the home. Wait, there’s more.

No room is spared. The kitchen becomes a cookie making center. Glog, eggnog, mead and mull spices fill the room. Attempts to make a “buche de Noel” or Chanukah cookies, latkes, and even holiday address lists fill up your kitchen table.



TEDRA
SCHNEIDER

The guest bathroom now sports, Christmas themed hand towels, soaps, and a tissue box with jolly St. Nick on it. The basement becomes the wrapping center with rolls upon rolls of wrapping paper, bows, cards, and hiding places for the toys and gifts you have bought.

Let’s not forget the dining room which is now laden with your good dishes, and silverware, wine glasses, tablecloth or table runners, napkin rings, and baskets or silver serving dishes to hold the centerpiece. And where oh where will you put all the holiday cards you will receive from family, friends and proud grandparents holding the latest addition to the family.

Now here is your choice. You can remove your everyday clutter to make room for your holiday clutter or you can try to incorporate your holiday clutter onto your everyday clutter. It’s your choice but here’s a “strong” suggestion. Remove your normal clutter and let the holiday items take center stage. Then when the holidays are over and everything put away, here is your chance. Decide to put back only some of your everyday decorative objects. Give space between groupings. Then six months later, rotate and put out what you didn’t put out before and put away the other items.

So you see, there comes a day when we address our clutter issue and a day of reckoning when we can enhance our home by putting a minimum of our daily items back to enhance our homes – clean, simple, understated—lovely!

Tedra Schneider can be reached at: restagebytedra@gmail.com

Business

Your Finances:

Avoid Retiring With Debt On The Books

Retire as much debt as you can before you retire from work. Once you begin living on a fixed income it becomes more difficult to pay down debt. That's because your income will likely be lower and you won't be getting any pay raises unless you return to work.

Carrying debt into retirement will not only eat away at your assets, which you may need to last for 30 years or more. It will also become a constant worry that can erode your financial peace of mind.

After you retire, the money you have saved must begin producing income for you to live on. If you have to use a portion of your savings to pay off debt, that will lower the amount of money you can devote to investments.

Unfortunately, older Americans are deeper in debt than ever. A 2016 study by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York titled "The Graying of American Debt" shows that household debt among people age 50 to 80 has soared 59 percent since 2003. And it's not across the board: debt at age 30 fell 12 percent over the same period. In fact, older Americans consistently saw rising debt levels in home mortgages, auto loans and student loans over the period, while younger people saw lower levels in each category. In credit card debt, older people saw no change over the period, while younger people cut credit card balances by an average 36 percent.

Among all ages, the average American household with credit card debt has balances totaling \$16,883, and the average household with any kind of debt owes \$137,063, including mortgages, according to NerdWallet's 2016 American Household Credit Card Debt Study.

Among American families headed by someone 55 or older, 65.4 percent carried debt in 2013, according to a recent survey by the



ERIC TASHLEIN

Employee Benefit Research Institute, up a couple of percentage points from 2010 due mostly to higher housing debt.

A basic goal of retirement planning is reducing or eliminating debt prior to retirement. To do so:

Get credit card debt under control. Pay off your higher-interest cards first, and stop making purchases with credit cards unless you know you can pay off the balance each month. If you do have a balance, pay more than the minimum monthly amount.

Cut your housing costs. Compare renting versus owning in retirement. Consider moving to a lower cost state or locale. Have your financial planner review if it makes sense to make an extra payment or two each year to pay down your mortgage in time for retirement. The answers will vary greatly depending on the individual.

Increase your income. Not everyone can accomplish this, of course, but if there is a way for you to make more money you should consider putting in the extra time and effort, or asking for that raise. You can devote the new dollars to building a six-month emergency fund and then to paying off debt.

Eric Tashlein is a Certified Financial Planner professional™ and founding Principal of Connecticut Capital Management Group, LLC, "CCMG" 67 Cherry St., C-2, in Milford. He can be reached at 203-877-1520 or through www.connecticutcapital.com. This is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as personalized investment advice or legal/tax advice. Please consult your advisor/attorney/tax advisor. Registered Representative.

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Coldwell Banker opened at 236 Boston Post Road in Orange on November 2. "This location, with over 100 agents, is the largest Coldwell Banker office in the state," said Aileen DeFeo, Branch Vice President Broker Manager.

Youth & Education

Amity Regional High School Empty Bowls Benefit And Annual Winter Concert

On December 14th the Amity Regional High School National Art Honor Society will be hosting an Empty Bowls benefit. Students have been working hard to make bowls since the start of school in order to benefit those in need. Community members are invited to come to the Amity Regional High School cafeteria from 5:00-7:00 p.m. to enjoy a selection of soups made by the culinary students, pick out a bowl of their

choice, and enjoy each other's company. A suggested donation of \$10 per person will be sent to the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen in New Haven to help provide meals for the many people that struggle. This event would not be possible without the sponsorship of the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation. Immediately following dinner will be the Annual Winter Concert in the Brady Center.



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Amity Middle School- Bethany Character Of The 1st Quarter Award



Photo courtesy of Barbara Cassese
Standing (L to R): Roberto D'Onofrio, Sean Doron, Grace Gianquinto, Grace Lodewick, Lauren Wasikowski, and Anthony Ciavarella; Kneeling (L to R): Ethan Torrens, Jay Thomas, Karishma Bulsara, Nell Grant, Anchal Bahel, and Sam Anastasio.

Amity Middle School in Bethany has a "Character of the Quarter" awards program. Each marking period students are recognized for one of four traits: Accountability, Motivation, Independence, and Trustworthiness. Students from each team are selected to receive this honor. The character trait for the 1st quarter was "Accountability." These students were presented with their awards certificates at

the "Be Amity" pep rally held in October. The students who recently received the "Character of the Quarter" award are: Standing left to right: Roberto D'Onofrio, Sean Doron, Grace Gianquinto, Grace Lodewick, Lauren Wasikowski, and Anthony Ciavarella; Kneeling left to right: Ethan Torrens, Jay Thomas, Karishma Bulsara, Nell Grant, Anchal Bahel, and Sam Anastasio.

Amity Regional National Merit Scholars Announced

Amity Regional High School announced 23 seniors were recognized by the Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education at the October Board meeting for their performance on the PSAT during their junior year of high school. Sixteen of the students earned "Commended Student" honors, and seven students are being recognized as National Merit Semi-Finalists. Of the 1.6 million students who took the test nationwide last year, commended students are among the top 34,000 high performers.

The following are the Amity Regional High School Commended Students in the 2018 National Merit Scholar Program: Maya Barbieri, Erin Barillier, Sophie Baum, Andrew Burford, Howard Ding, Jacob

Gross, Qingli Hu, Tina Hu, Ananya Kachru, Emily Kilian, Helen Lenski, Eitan Minsky-Fenick, Leah Mongillo, Haegan O'Rourke, Hannah Rappaport, and Colin Roy.

The nationwide pool of semi-finalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state and among the top 16,000 scorers nationally. The number of semi-finalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

The following are the Amity Regional High School semi-finalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholar Program: Weixin Du, Ulada Dubovik, Elizabeth Frieden, Vince Li, Justine Luo, Sally Thach, and Weichu Yu.

Music In Motion At Amity Regional

Over 140 members of the Amity Regional High School Band performed for two nights over the weekend of Oct. 27 and 28 in the annual Music in Motion show.

This year's show, directed by Amity Regional High School Band Director, Phil Dolan, focused around the theme of "Grammy Night." The show featured renditions of various artists, including Led

Zepplin, Adele, Santana, and many more. Members of the award-winning Amity Regional High School Color Guard also performed.

Keep an eye out for more upcoming performing arts events, such as the fall play of *The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later* on Dec. 8 and 9, and the Amity Regional High School Winter Concert on Dec. 14.

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Youth & Education



Make a Difference Day

“Make a Difference Day” America’s largest day of service, was celebrated last week and St. Mary School in Milford was proud to have participated. Once again the school and greater Milford community collected Teddy Bears to donate to the Milford Hospital Surgi-Center, Emergency Room and Walk in Clinic. Patients love receiving the teddy bears as a way to ease their mind when visiting the hospital. Thank you to everyone who donated!

Office of Early Childhood Reopens Care 4 Kids to Families on the Wait List



We are pleased to share the news that the Office of Early Childhood has directed the Care 4 Kids program to begin accepting families from the wait list, effective immediately. Starting today, Care 4 Kids is beginning to contact families currently registered on the wait list, welcoming them to apply for state’s primary child

care support. Care 4 Kids will work hard to determine eligibility and admit families from the wait list as quickly as possible. We will increase enrollment to the greatest extent budgetary constraints allow. Milford and Orange combined currently have 8 kids in the program and another 49 on the wait list.



Good Shepherd Christmas Pageant Open To All Children

Children throughout the area are invited to participate in the annual Christmas pageant at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Orange. 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. The church particularly encourages families who do not regularly attend services to participate. Children of all ages are welcome. Older children are needed for narration and speaking parts. 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. Both the rehearsal and pageant will be held at the church which is located at 680 Racebrook Road in Orange. If you have any questions or require more information, please call the church office at (203)795-6577.

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by Joseph Cole

no handle or even address the situation

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Eye Care cont. on page 1

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Lifestyle

Here's To Your Health:

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It's a personal decision that is different for every woman.

There are several things aside from meds that we can do to help the battle of the bulge, sleep deprivation and emotional roller coasters. Exercise is your best weapon. Typically, we should be bumping up our cardio in our 40s in preparation for our 50s. Running is the best way to get rid of visceral fat. Visceral fat is what our midsection and it contributes to disease. If you're suffering knee or back pain, the elliptical will do trick. Getting 150 minutes a week at 70 percent of maximum heart rate to 80-90 percent of maximum heart rate. A minimum of 45 minutes is essential. To lose weight through exercise, you need to really sweat, sweat, sweat.

not just spritz. Exercising to this degree will release endorphins, natural analgesics. Endorphins are free “happy” drugs.

Second on your list should be food. Sugar is a killer. Salt is a runner up and anything “enriched” is not going to enrich your life in any way. Breads, pastas and cereals need to be swapped out with alternatives. Drinking half your body weight in water a day is critical to overall good health. Tapering back on the caffeine is also necessary. Red wine can contribute to hot flashes, so pay attention to how much you consume and whether it’s increasing your discomfort. Remember grapes are still sugar. Sulfites don’t help either, so consider an organic low sulfite wine.

Last, getting enough sleep requires two steps. Your body needs to rest and replenish.

Studies show people who take “siesta” time actually have healthier hearts. Studies also show that sleep deprivation causes us to remember things incorrectly. It’s bad enough that dips in estrogen can cause us to forget things. Proper sleep keeps us feeling refreshed and holds our emotions in check. Have you ever seen a cranky 2-year-old who missed her afternoon nap? Herbal supplements and teas are great for calming us down before bedtime to help ensure a good night’s sleep.

Here’s to your health. Here’s to putting up your dukes and fighting the good fight. Staying healthy in body and soul is the goal.

Michele O'Brien-Tenney is a personal trainer and nutritionist. She can be reached at 203-668-2969

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Exploring Cambodia And Viet Nam


Exotic destinations are becoming more and more enticing to baby boomers as they start to check off their bucket list of things to see and do, China and the Great Wall, the Nile and The Pyramids, African game preserves and Victoria Falls, the Galapagos Islands and the evolution of species... But most intriguing of all might be Viet Nam and Cambodia. Both are on Trip Advisors top 10 destinations for 2017. For many who served in the war it's a difficult decision to go back. Many veterans are curious to see the changes that have taken place in 50 years and others can't get over the memories of their youth. The recent television series by Ken Burns on the The Vietnam War puts this into a vivid perspective.

Recently, my husband Frank and I, with a group of 20 people, spent an amazing 14 days traveling from Siem Reap in Cambodia, along the Mekong River to Saigon and finished our journey in the ancient silk trade village of Hoi An. On Ama Waterways new ship, the AmaDara, each stop along the way had its AHA moment. Angkor Wat, the largest Buddhist temple in the world, (so massive it can be seen from space) was simply awe-inspiring at sunrise. Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia offered The Royal Palace, Tuk-Tuks (a \$2 ride anywhere) alongside Lexus autos, and a Michelin star French restaurant.

We took local boats and were dropped down into the everyday life of people living on the floating villages along the Mekong River harvesting the daily fish for the family. Getting



KAREN
QUINN-PANZER



REN
PANZER

blessed by a monk in the largest temple in Oudong was a special event. Discovering a silk factory in Tan Chau by local Trishaw. Local musicians and dancers entertained in the evening and the food was superb – offering both Western and local Asian choices.

Finally, we arrived in Saigon (or Ho Chi Minh City) and the Rex Hotel. The Rex was home to many journalists during the war.

The daily updates broadcast by the Vietnamese government were made from the rooftop bar at the Rex, and the propaganda became known as the “Five O’Clock Follies”. We visited the Reunification Palace where the occupants tried to escape at the end of the war by helicopter (still on display). The post office designed by Gustave Eiffel is now surrounded by upscale retail shops including Chanel, Dolce & Gabbana, Burberry and Prada.

The journey concluded in Hoi An, the ancient silk trade village, which has now become a mecca for every person who would like custom-made silk clothing – within 24 hours. It’s truly amazing how fast these tailors work and how gorgeous their clothing is when you see the final product. The town is filled with lanterns over the Old Town centered around a river and was a delightful way to end our trip to this part of the world.

Karen Quinn-Panzer is the owner of Dream Vacations Quinn Panzer Travel. She can be reached at kpanzer@dreamvacations.com



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Retired and Rejuvenated:

Having An Attitude Of Gratitude

Thanksgiving takes place this week and people all over the United States will gather and give thanks for their many blessings. Granted, some blessings will be hard to count, especially for people who have been hit by hurricanes, tropical storms, deaths of loved ones, and physical and financial losses. Nevertheless, the blessings are there, even though they may be fewer for some this year.

Gratitude and appreciation are closely linked. “How beautiful the leaves grow old,” John Burroughs, an American naturalist and nature essayist, wrote. “How full of light and color are their last days.” Appreciation often comes too late in our lives. When there is little else in life to do but to live well, life itself becomes all the more precious, all the more striking in its layers of beauty.

What is it about losing something that makes us all the more aware of it? Maybe that is one of the greater gifts of growing older. When we can no longer walk as fast as we once did, we come to see all the individual flowers, the cracks in the sidewalk, the children along the way, all the more clearly, all the more consciously than we ever have in the past. It seems as if one of the functions of aging is to give us the capacity to see what we’ve missed all the years before.

Unfortunately, in a society geared to overdrive, tasting and savoring are not the character of our days. We live in rush hour traffic. We’re too busy surviving to pause long enough to live well. When we see the days running out, each day becomes more of an adventure if only we make it so.

We recently returned from a trip to Costa Rica which was our adventure into a beautiful country where we saw marvelous examples of the spectacular tropical ecosystem of



JOANNE BYRNE

nature from the cloud forest to the rain forest to the dry sandy beaches along the coast. I gained a renewed appreciation of how all of nature interacts and depends on each other.....plants, insects, butterflies, frogs, animals, birds, water, and forests all making their contribution to sustaining a balance of life.

The lush Cloud Forest in Costa Rica is amazing where trees grow

to heights of 100 feet. We walked above the forest floor on a series of hanging bridges which gave a very different perspective of the forest below. One of the highlights of the tour was zip-lining over the forest’s canopy. I will never forget 92 year old Mimsie from Seattle, Washington, who inspired me to do the zip-lining when I saw that she was going to do it. I am grateful. It was exhilarating!

As I grow older, I find myself looking back more, collecting from memory what I overlooked during all the years of running and gathering and garnering and disposing of things along the way. I appreciate the gifts of all the people I have met along the way. I value the wisdom of all those good people who helped to form me into the person I am today. Not only do I appreciate the past, but also value the present in a whole new way. Happy Thanksgiving!

Joanne Byrne served as Senior Services Coordinator for the Town of Orange. She is now actively and happily retired. Email her at joannebyrne41@gmail.com to share your thoughts on retirement.

Joanne Byrne served as Senior Services Coordinator for the Town of Orange. She is now actively and happily retired. Email her at joannebyrne41@gmail.com to share your thoughts on retirement.

Senior Living
Orange Senior Center Events

Holiday Dinner Dance

Join the Senior Center at the Racebrook Country Club for the annual Senior Center Holiday Dinner Dance on Sunday, Dec. 3 from noon to 3:30 p.m. Good to Go will be returning as our musical entertainment at 12:30 p.m. There will be a meal choice of chicken, beef, or fish, with dessert and a cash bar. The cost this year will be \$35 per person. Many thanks to the generosity of the Orange Foundation Trust U/A, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee, who gave us a grant to pay for the music and to reduce the price of the ticket. Payment and meal choice must be made at the time of reservation. Tables will seat eight to 10 people. If you wish to be seated with particular people, payment for the group must be made at the same time. Make checks payable to “Treasurer, Town of Orange.” Tickets go on sale Nov. 2.

A Special Double Feature
Christmas Cabaret

Join the Senior Center Dec. 20 at 5:30 for Christmas cookies and eggnog. At 6 p.m. the Girls Scouts will sing Christmas carols. At 6:30 p.m. Willie Nininger will take the stage for a holiday show. Call 203-891-4784 to reserve a seat.

Suzanne’s Rock Painting Party

Join the Senior Center Dec. 29 at 1 p.m. for eggnog and cookies as we paint rocks to replenish our Kindness Rock Garden. Let us know that you are coming by calling 203-891-4784. We’ll supply the paint.

Lunch & Fun

Join the Senior Center Jan. 12, 2018 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Social Tea & Chocolate as Kim Larkin of Klassic Kreations leads the group in a pairing of teas and chocolate. Sitting is very limited. \$10 per person.

Maplewood Monday

Join the Senior Center as Chef Leif presents a special holiday culinary delight for you to sample on Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. Call 203-891-4788. Your taste buds are sure to be pleased.

Wellness with Shop Rite

Shop Rite of Orange’s registered dietitian, Courtney Huggins, will lead a discussion with a dish to try on Monday, Dec. 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Hot Lunch

The Orange Senior Center offers a lunch Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to noon. A \$3 donation is suggested for people 60 years old and over. To register call 203-891-4765 before 1 p.m. the day before.

Movie of the Month

See a screening of Moonlight Friday, Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. The 2016 Oscar winner for Best Picture is 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 and soda to be served. Call for a seat at 203-891-4784.

Money Management

Join the Senior Center for Money Management the first and third Tuesday of the month, Dec. 5 and 19.

Yogalates

You tried the demo; now come out for the class. Hot new class Yoga meets Pilates with Traci Weber, Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. starting Jan. 2, 2018. Ten weeks are \$50.

Caregiver’s Home Solution Sponsors Bingo

Come try out Bingo. Join the Senior Center Dec. 14 when Debra Syrowsky of Caregiver’s Home Solution sponsors Bingo at 1:00 p.m.

Trips

South Pacific Wonder, March 13–27, 2018: 15 days, 20 meals. Highlights: Great Barrier Reef, Sydney Opera House, Mount Cook National Park, Queenstown, and more. Cost: early booking discount cost double \$5,999 until Sept. 15, 2017. Passport required for travel. Deposit and insurance due at registration.

Pacific Northwest and 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: \$2,999 double, with early booking discount before Oct. 23, 2017. Deposit and insurance due at registration.

Iceland’s Magical Northern Lights, Oct. 30–Nov. 5, 2018: 7 days, 10 meals. Highlights: Reykjavik, Northern Lights Cruise, Golden Circle, Geysir, Blue Lagoon, and much more. Cost: \$3,299 double. Deposit and insurance due at registration.

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Planning Ahead

From The Bar:

Does A Revokable Trust Protect Against Creditors, Medicaid Losses

What we have been calling a “Living Trust” is an example of a revocable trust. In fact, it frequently is called a “Revocable Trust” instead of a “Living Trust”. Literally, this means you, the person who created the Trust (called a Grantor or Settlor), can revoke (undo) the Trust any time you choose. This leads to a sometimes confusing and different treatment of the assets in a Living Trust, depending on the circumstances.

During your lifetime. Because a Living Trust is revocable, during your lifetime, assets you put into it still are considered “available” to you. This means a creditor can look to the assets in your Living Trust to satisfy a debt you owe. It also means that if you apply for Medicaid (Title XIX), the assets in the Living Trust are considered owned by you.

After your death, for Probate Court administration. Assets put into the Living Trust while you are alive are not considered “solely owned assets” that are reported on the Inventory filed with the Probate Court after your death. That means they are not part of what is called your “Probate Estate”. However, even though they are not part of your Probate Estate, they still must be reported on the Connecticut Estate Tax Return filed after your death.

After your death, for creditor. Since assets in the Living Trust are not part of your Probate Estate, a creditor filing a claim against your Estate will have no right of recovery against assets in the Revocable Trust through your Estate. However, whether the creditor may be able to recover in a separate civil action against the Successor Trustee of the Living Trust (not through the Probate Court) is a separate question. If the Living Trust has “boiler plate” language that refers to paying “my debts”,



ALLISON
DEPAOLA

there is a strong argument that assets in the Living Trust will be available to a creditor. Even in the absence of that language, many commentators believe assets in the Living Trust will be available to creditors after your death. The policy argument is that since a creditor could have reached the assets during your lifetime, it makes no common sense to extinguish that right just because of your death.

After your death, for Medicaid recovery. This should be a non-issue. A Medicaid recipient is required to have reduced his/her assets to less than \$1,600.00 (which would include any assets in the Revocable Trust). If the Living Trust is one created by the “community spouse”, there is no right of recovery for care provided the “institutionalized spouse”.

After your death for a disinherited spouse. You can’t completely disinherit a spouse in Connecticut. Connecticut law gives a surviving spouse a statutory right to a 1/3 life estate in the “Probate Estate” of a decedent spouse. So, if husband and wife have been separated for many years and husband dies first with a Will that gives everything to the children and nothing to the estranged wife, the estranged wife still has a right to a 1/3 life estate in the deceased husband’s Probate Estate. However, if all of the deceased husband’s assets had been placed in a Living Trust, there would be no Probate Estate against which the wife could claim her statutory share.

Steven P. Floman, Allison M. DePaola, and Nicole M. Livesey of the law firm Floman DePaola, LLC are the authors of this article. This article has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute legal advice or to create an attorney client relationship.

From The Bar:

Health Care Winners & Losers

There has been a lot of press about changes in health insurance programs and how those changes will affect people, causing a great deal of confusion and uncertainty about who will be impacted and how much. It turns out that some groups will be the same or slightly better in coverage and premium costs, while others will experience sticker shock.

The Winners: Medicare recipients are seeing plans that are either the same cost or slightly cheaper, with enhanced benefits. The Medicare B premium has remained at \$134.00/month for most people. Many of the insurance companies have introduced plans with zero-dollar premiums, and all are offering “extra” benefits such as Silver Sneakers, dental plans, partial hearing and vision coverage. The cost of some prescription medications has changed, so it is wise to compare plans and pharmacies to make sure you are paying the lowest price. As of Oct. 1, pharmacies are required to tell you the cost for a prescription medication without insurance.

The Losers: People under 65 who purchase insurance individually in the marketplace and small groups with fewer than 10 employees face challenges. The premiums have increased between 20-30% in many cases, making an already expensive plan seem unaffordable. Unfortunately, there are not a lot of options. Insurance plans are not custom-made. There are a limited number of companies offering individual plans and they come “prepackaged.” If the current plan is unaffordable, try dropping down a metal tier, say from Silver to Bronze. The deductible will be higher, but some offer a primary care physician visit with



TRISH
PEARSON

only a copay from day one. This type of plan might be adequate for those who rarely go to a doctor and take generic medications, which aren’t expensive.

The picture is a little better for small groups in that there are more carriers and a greater variety of plans. Your agent can research the options and give you a range of choices that will be sufficient.

In many cases, both the employer and the employee will need to share the premium increases.

A Notable Exception: Those who participate in the Health Exchange and receive an Advanced Premium Tax Credit should find their premiums are about the same for the current coverage. Assuming the income and household size are the same, the net premium that people will pay should not change. Renewal notices have been sent from Access Health CT showing the premium before the subsidy is applied. Many people are misinterpreting these letters to mean their premiums will go up dramatically. It is best to log on to your Access Health CT account, review the information on file, and if you have no changes, the subsidy will be applied and coverage can be renewed under the same plan.

The deadline for renewing or enrolling in a plan on the exchange is Dec. 22. If you need help, call an agent who is certified on the exchange, call Access Health CT at 1-855-805-4325, or go online at www.accesshealthct.com and sign up.

Trish Pearson is a licensed independent insurance agent and certified long term care specialist. Contact her at 203-640-5969 or trishpearson281@gmail.com.

by Joseph Cole

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to handle or even address the situation... location on February 20... Eye Care cont. on page 18

A Probate Court Refresher

Despite our budget woes, most of us love Connecticut. We enjoy diverse recreational resources, great schools, medical providers and vast resources to balance our lives. And yet we worry. We worry about our families and their wellbeing. We worry about ensuring their future both in health and financial security.

Despite the economic hardships in our state, I am proud to say that the probate court system in Connecticut, though also facing budget shortages, continues to be

dedicated to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our families and to meeting the needs of our constituents.

Let me take a moment to give you a refresher of the services we handle in the



HON.
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probate court system, which is comprised of 54 probate courts and 6 regional children’s probate courts.

Probate court deals with so much more than decedent estates. We are often the first line of protection, through the appointment of a conservator, for a family member no longer capable of caring for themselves or managing their finances. With judicial oversight, we protect the conserved person’s right to remain as independent as possible

and live in circumstances using the least restrictive means of involvement. Sometimes the conserved person is an elderly person with progressive dementia, and sometimes the conserved person’s capacity to care for

themselves has been impaired by drug or alcohol addictions or psychiatric disorders. These cases and the people involved run the gamut, from those needing total assistance to those working toward recovery and full restoration.

Do you have a friend or a family member with an intellectual disability? The probate court is here to help you too. Once someone with an intellectual disability turns 18 years old, they are legally considered capable of making all decisions on their own. But sometimes those disabilities hinder the young adult from being completely independent. The probate courts appoint family members as guardians at age 18 so the guardian can continue to meet the needs for their young adult with intellectual disabilities.

Have a child who was bit by a dog at the park and the insurance company is paying for

the injuries? The probate court also appoints the guardian to handle these funds if they are greater than \$10,000. Guardianships of the estates of minors require accountings to the court, which looks to preserve such funds until the minor attains adulthood.

If you have ever had a family situation in which you needed to be appointed as guardian of a minor family member, then you’re familiar with the top-notch children’s probate court that serves our families in the New Haven area with skilled family specialists on site and a panel of attorneys experienced in representing children.

Other probate matters include mental health commitments, disputes over custody of a deceased person’s remains, name changes, and special needs trusts, among other legal matters. All of these go to the heart of what the probate court system is all about – family.

Murphy Receives 2017 Veterans Justice Award

U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) was presented with the 2017 Veterans Justice Award at the Connecticut Veterans Legal Center’s annual gala on Thursday evening, November 9th at the New Haven Museum. Murphy is being honored for his work in Washington to protect and defend Connecticut veterans. Specifically, the Connecticut Veterans Legal Center will recognize him for his Honor Our Commitment Act, legislation to ensure discharged military service members receive mental health treatment.



Photo Courtesy of Orange Government Access Television
Orange veterans were honored for their service by community leaders and organizations November 11 during an 11a.m. ceremony at HPCC.



Photo credit, Don Lewis
Lt. Col John Forgini, of the 103rd Air National Guard in Orange, spoke at The Orange Rotary’s Annual Veteran’s Appreciation Dinner at Grassy Hill Country Club on October 19. Over 40 Veteran’s were honored for their service.

Carriage Green at Milford’s third annual Holiday Wreath Silent Auction Event



Please join us for our third annual Silent Wreath Auction! All proceeds will be donated to our One Company Fund and the Alzheimer’s Association.

The Final bids will be taken at the night of the auction. Also, our TREASURE CHEST will be opened at this event. There are still a few keys left for the treasure chest. They are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

Wreath Auction -November 29, 2017
Please join us for wine and cheese cocktail hour 5:30pm - 7:30pm in our lobby.
77 Plains Road - Milford - 203-874-4408

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at Milford

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Profiles

Local Author A Lifelong Writer

Local author Janet Cesanek has been writing nearly her entire life. The Orange resident began writing at age 7 or 8, with little stories and imagined news articles.

“I would pretend I was a reporter on the scene of a big fire or something, and write about it,” she says. “When I was 9 or 10 I wrote a story from the point of view of an alien observing the human life and condition. That was really fun.”

Cesanek has four self-published novels. They are a series of young adult/adult action-adventure stories, following a number of recurring characters as they travel, meet new people, and face challenges. Cesanek explains that the series is not heavy on magic, even though the stories take place in an imaginary realm. One of her main goals when writing these books has been to focus a great deal on character development.

“I like to write believable people. They are flawed, make mistakes they have to fix, and



SHAILEEN
LANDSBERG

figure things out. My fans really appreciate that the characters are relatable.”

Cesanek’s first book, *Journey to the Land of Diamond Fire*, was published in 2011. The synopsis describes two main characters, village protector Valkrye and mercenary Thor. It says, “this unlikely pair would meet by chance as their different quests lead them towards the same goal, can they trust each other enough to join forces to help each other, or will their different goals and personalities break this new and interesting team.”

Cesanek says the story had been in her head for a while, and describes her method of writing. “I do it a little different than many authors: they’ll often have a structured outline and know exactly what is going to happen. I have a story in my head, and know where I want the characters to end up, so at the beginning I have the skeleton of the story, and then I start writing.”

As the second, third and fourth books developed, Cesanek says she always made sure to refer back to the previous stories to keep the tales and the characters’ histories consistent and avoid plot holes. “I have to stop myself from adding things at some point,” she explains. “It’s tempting to keep going, but then the books would never be finished.”

Those subsequent novels are *Journey of Past Secrets* (2012), *Journey to Solve the Riddles of Treachery* (2013), and *Journey to Fight Deceptions* (2015). She is currently working on the fifth novel in the series.

Cesanek says she loves being published. “It’s an unbelievable feeling, and when people read the books and give me feedback, I really appreciate it. Of course, I love to hear what they liked, but I also like feedback about what they didn’t like, so I can improve my writing.”

Cesanek’s books are available for purchase in hardcover, paperback, and digitally, and can be bought online through amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com. She is on Facebook at facebook.com/JanetCesanek/, and her Twitter page is twitter.com/Janetcesanek.



by Shaileen Kelly Landsberg
Special to The Orange Times

Crossing The Pond

On September 1, 1939, in what was called “Operation Pied Piper,” thousands of children were evacuated from London to protect them from the ravages of the war that Germany had just begun. Orange resident Joan Stenner, who was born in London, was one of those children.

She had an ID tag pinned to her coat and a gas mask in her hand that day as she boarded a train out of the city. Each evacuated child was given a postcard addressed to their parents, so the children could let their parents know their new address. Stenner was sent to live in Brighton, but after a few months she became ill and was sent back to her mother in London. (Her father was in the army in India and didn’t get back home until 1947). Soon after Stenner got back to London, the blitz began.

Though some schools managed to stay open, hers was bombed. Her mother became a postmistress. Stenner says she remembers her mother heading for work early in the morning armed with a flashlight because of the mandatory blackout. If there was a mailbox there, even though the building might have been destroyed, she delivered to that address.

You could sense an esprit de corps among Londoners, Stenner says, and groups would often cluster around a radio to hear the news. When their own house was affected by a blast, Stenner’s family had to be rescued by Air Raid Wardens. She says they had an air raid shelter in their yard, but only the dog used it.

Life would never be quite the same. They had ration books for bread and other food.



TRISH
O’LEARY TREAT

She remembers eating lots of vegetable stews, because each person was allotted only four ounces of meat and one egg per week. Children’s rations varied according to age. Even after the war ended, rationing continued.

Although most valuable paintings had been removed from London to protect them, many museums served as gathering places for people to attend lunch time concerts.

Stenner and her mother moved to Sussex. Her grandmother had friends there with whom they stayed until they were able to move into a semi-detached house. They planted a victory garden and kept chickens. Stenner became a Girl Guide there, and after taking a first-aid course she became a Junior Red Cross worker at the local first-aid station.

Stenner, who was a charter member of the Orange Players when it formed in 1973, became involved in the theater and singing when she was a child. One of her aunts was an actress in a traveling troupe, and Stenner sometimes helped her get ready before a performance. In high school, she had a part in *Arms and the Man*, and she sang with a choir and in choral groups. After college, she went to work for the BBC.

She came to the U.S. in 1956 to stay with an aunt and uncle in Little Silva, New Jersey, where she celebrated her twenty-first birthday. During that time, she met her husband Jack, a New Yorker, and began working for the BBC in its New York news division. As a BBC traffic manager, she

booked the landlines for transmission of BBC broadcasts in London to the U.S. She remembers working with Alastair Cooke and Peter Ustinov. She attended Queen Elizabeth’s New York ball in 1957 as part of the press corps with Jack as her escort. She said her aunt made her a beautiful red dress of raw silk for the ball.

Stenner and Jack were married in a little ancient church in Boshen, just outside of Chichester, England. In January they will celebrate their sixtieth anniversary.

When the couple moved to Orange, Stenner became head of the PTA at High Plains School, which their daughters Tracy, Lee and Kim attended. Besides serving as co-president of the Orange Players this year, she is also active in the Friends of the Library and the Orange Arts and Culture Council.

Stenner was formerly Dean of Admissions for the Yale School of Public Health. After her retirement, she added to her volunteer work by training as a docent at the Yale British Art Gallery under Curator Linda Friedlander. She

especially enjoyed becoming head docent when Friedlander started an innovative program in which YBAG docents help medical students sharpen their powers of observation by closely studying a painting and sharing observations.

Despite her many volunteer duties, Stenner still finds time to explore interesting places with her husband. Climbing the bridge in Sydney, Australia is only one of the items on her “bucket list.” Considering her many accomplishments, it’s likely we’ll get to see her photo from there some day.



Joan Stenner
Photo By Lexi Crocco

Rescue Me

by Fred Dray

Woodbridge Animal Control has a dog for your adoption whose breed is not seen at animal shelters very often. Beau is a neutered male, young juvenile, St. Bernard dog, about 80 pounds in the classic breed coloration. His personality is that of a big puppy, driven by curiosity and play. Master B is good with adults, older children and friendly dogs with cats an unknown. What he needs is more socialization from a large breed experienced family or individual with a fenced-in yard a must. Providing Beau with firm guidance will be essential to bring out his best. You will not need to look for him when you enter the kennel. He will be right there, front and center. Beau and other dogs and cats are available for adoption at Woodbridge Animal Control in Woodbridge. The shelter is located at 135 Bradley Road and can be reached by phone at 203 389-5991.





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News & Events

Toy Drive Benefits Yale-New Haven Hospital Program

The annual Walter Camp Day at the Bowl was held on Friday, Nov. 3, when the Yale University Bulldogs hosted the Brown University Bears in the second night game ever held in the 104-year history of historic Yale Bowl. Berchem Moses PC sponsored the pre-game event for the ninth consecutive year to support the Walter Camp Football Foundation and the Yale-New Haven Hospital Auxiliary Toy Closets Program.

Fans, friends and firm clients were asked to bring a new unwrapped toy to support the cause, and in return received a free general admission ticket to the game. Attorneys and clients of the law firm, along with friends and members of the Walter Camp Football Foundation, donated hundreds of toys again this year, bringing the total to date to more than 3,000 gifts for children who are patients at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

Guests had the opportunity to have their photo taken with the Walter Camp Player of the Year Trophy and the Heisman Trophy, won by Yale football player Clinton Frank in 1937. The Walter Camp Player of the Year Award is given annually to the collegiate American football Player of the Year as decided by the NCAA Division I-A head coaches. Walter Camp played college football at Yale College from 1876 to 1882 and is known as the “Father of American Football.” The Heisman Memorial Trophy Award is awarded annually to the most outstanding player in college football in the United States whose performance best exhibits the pursuit of excellence with integrity.



Photo courtesy of Marshall Studios LLC. More than 500 guests attended a fundraiser and tailgate party held before the Yale vs. Brown football game at historic Yale Bowl to benefit the Walter Camp Football Foundation and the Yale-New Haven Hospital Auxiliary Toy Closets Program. From left: Berchem Moses PC Attorneys and Staff, (Back Row) David DeGrasse, Greg Kimmel, Ira Bloom, Mario Coppola; (Middle Row) Josh Singer, Floyd Dugas, Bryan LeClerc; (Front Row) Steve O’Dea, Chris Hodgson, Carolyn Dugas, Cecilia Urbanowicz.

“The Walter Camp Football Foundation is very appreciative of Berchem Moses PC’s generous support over several years,” said Michael Madera, WCFF President. “Each year the WCFF Toy Drive sponsored by Berchem Moses PC has grown exponentially, becoming one of the largest annual toy drives for Yale-New Haven Hospital Auxiliary’s Toy Closets program, which provides good cheer for so many

hospitalized children,” Madera added. The Yale-New Haven Hospital Auxiliary’s Toy Closets program was developed to provide new, age-appropriate and educational toys to pediatric patients at the Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital. Founded in 1993 by Ann Nyberg, WTNH News Channel 8 anchorwoman, the Toy Closets help insure that pediatric patients come away from 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 Walter Camp Football Foundation is a New Haven-based all-volunteer group that was founded in 1967 to perpetuate the ideals of Camp and to continue the tradition of selecting annually an All-America team.

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Orange Election *continued from page 1*

Milford Election *continued from page 1*

(R)Thomas Nichol: 961

See Page 5.



by Joseph Cole

editor@theorangetimes.com

Require.
See Page 6.

Photo By Joseph Cole

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the fine China Times is a trustworthy edition

The Eye Care Group is set to open their Warehouse in Orange on February 27. They began transitioning from their New Haven location on February 20.

"We're taking the week to move in and get everything set up," Dr. Peter Branden said. He will be one of several doctors working out of the 10,000 square foot space. He estimates between the group's rotating list of doctors and part and full-time support staff that the location

Eye Care cont. on page 18

Home Sales Rise

Orange PD Statement On Fatal Nov. 9 Crash

The Orange Police Department defers any further comment to the Connecticut State Police Public Information Office.

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News & Events

Master Naturalists Complete Training

The Connecticut Audubon Society’s Center at Fairfield congratulates the graduates of the fall 2017 Master Naturalist Training Program.

The 20 class members from communities throughout Connecticut received their certificates Nov. 8 after completing more than 40 hours of both classroom and field training led by environmental education and conservation professionals from around the state.

Graduates will now start applying their knowledge and skills in varied volunteer capacities at the Center at Fairfield and other Connecticut Audubon centers. From assisting with nature walks and education events to helping behind the scenes in the office, nature store and with animal care, the Master Naturalists will contribute their time to a wide variety of projects and activities tailored to their own interests.

Master Naturalist training is for people of all experience levels who want to expand their knowledge of the habitats, plants, animals and natural history of their local communities. The training offers the rewards of sharing that knowledge through teaching others about the stewardship of our natural resources. It provides the opportunity to meet and work with those who share the same interests and concerns.

Rick Boucher, the Center at Fairfield’s director of operations, praised the Master

Naturalist graduates, saying, “Our community will benefit greatly from the time, effort and enthusiasm these class members have put into their training. Their contributions as educators and conservationists will inspire others to feel a greater connection to the beauty and wonder of Connecticut’s natural resources and understand the importance of preserving it on any scale, from protected sanctuaries to local backyards.”

The graduates were: Maureen O’Brien, Bethany; Debra Perez, Bridgeport; Diane Nizlek and Michelle Sikorski, Danbury; Susan MacKenzie, Darien; Bob Stobierski, Derby; Stephanie Gerlach, Nancy Moon and Jim Wood, Fairfield; Fran Ellesio, Guilford; Catherine Graham and Peggy Magdon, Milford; Thomas McCabe, Naugatuck; Mariliz Licata, Norwalk; Ron Blanchard, Oakville; Anne McNulty, Old Saybrook and Cheshire; Jennifer Salkin, Redding; Richard Diedrichsen, Stratford; and Carolyn Book and Jim Cortina, Trumbull.

The Connecticut Audubon Society conserves Connecticut’s environment through science-based education and advocacy focused on the state’s bird populations and habitats. Connecticut Audubon operates nature facilities in Fairfield, Milford, Glastonbury, Pomfret, Hampton, and Sherman, a center in Old



Twenty state residents received Master Naturalist certification from the Connecticut Audubon Society’s Center at Fairfield. After 10 weeks of classroom and outdoor training, program graduates will contribute to environmental education and conservation efforts through volunteer service at Connecticut Audubon centers. Seated, from left: Richard Diedrichsen, Jennifer Salkin, Colleen Noyes of Milford (Coordinator of the Master Naturalist Program in Fairfield), Nancy Moon, Stephanie Gerlach, Peggy Magdon of Milford. Standing, from left: Maureen O’Brien, Fran Ellesio, Catherine Graham of Milford, Jim Cortina, Jim Wood, Anne McNulty, Michelle Sikorski, Tom McCabe, Carolyn Book, Diane Nizlek, Debra Perez, Bob Stobierski. Photo by Alissa Harrison, The Connecticut Audubon Society.

Lyme, and an EcoTravel office in Essex. Connecticut Audubon Society also manages 19 wildlife sanctuaries around the state, preserves 3,300 acres of open space in Connecticut and educates over 200,000 children and adults annually.

For information about future Master Naturalist training programs offered in Fairfield email cnoyes@ctaudubon.org. To view Connecticut Audubon Society events and activities across the state visit www.ctaudubon.org.

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Requiem. See Page 6.

See Page 18.

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News & Events

Milford Moves
Contributes To Local
Veterans Groups



Milford Moves
FOR OUR VETERANS
5K RUN & WALK

Milford Moves for Veterans announced it has contributed a total of \$14,600 to Milford Veterans of Foreign Wars, Milford Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America Milford Chapter and the American Legion Milford Chapter. All funds donated will be used locally.

The funds were raised at Third Annual Milford Moves 5K, held on Sunday, June 13. That day, over 300 people registered for the run/walk ranging in ages from 5 to 82. The Milford Bank and Colony Grill co-hosted the event and a number of local businesses supported the fundraising effort through sponsorships and volunteerism.

The next race will be held on Father’s Day, June 18, 2018. Find more information at milfordbank.com/inside-the-bank/milford-moves.

Milford Moves was founded by The Milford Bank in 2014. Its purpose is to encourage healthy living among members of the communities in which the bank serves.

In the attached photo are Janet Harrison and Becky Tudor, employees of the Bank, Dan Thelan from Colony Grill, along with several members representing Milford’s Veterans Organizations.

The Milford Bank is Member FDIC.

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Milford Chamber Of Commerce Table Top Expo At The
Grassy Hill Country Club Wednesday, November 14



Photos Courtesy of Steve Cooper

Obituaries:

Maria O. Brown

Maria O. Brown, age 85, of Milford, passed away on Friday, November 3, 2017 in Milford Hospital. She was born on July 9, 1932 in Lisbon, Portugal to the late Antonio and Elvira Silva Dias. Before retiring, she was employed as a nurse’s aide for Dinan Memorial Center. The devoted wife of 47 years of Daniel S. Brown, she is also survived by a sister in Portugal, and several nieces and nephews. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by a brother, Victor Dias, Sr., and one sister, Maria Helena Mendonca.

Angela (Leah) Lunn

Feb 4, 1985 - Nov 5, 2017 Angela (Leah) Lunn, 32, of Johnstown, PA, originally from Milford, CT, passed away suddenly on Sunday, November 5, 2017. She is survived by her mother, Rosemarie Pacenti of Bridgeport, CT; her two sons, Joseph and Emanuel; many aunts, uncles and cousins; and her long time step father, Albert Edgerton.

Waltraud Stamm Nuzzaci

It is with great sadness that the family of Waltraud Stamm Nuzzaci, 85, a resident of Milford, announces her passing. Wally passed away on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at her home.

Wally was born on September 20, 1932 in Wiesbaden, Germany. She was the daughter of the late Elisabeth & Otto Stamm.

Wally is survived by her husband, Thomas Nuzzaci; two sons, David T. Nuzzaci (Michelle) and Jonathan P. Nuzzaci (Laura); five grandchildren, Lance Nuzzaci, Brittany Nuzzaci, Jackson Nuzzaci, Jessica Nuzzaci, Blake Nuzzaci; a sister, Elisabeth Wright (Wayne) from Anderson, Indiana; as well as many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Wally was predeceased by her three sisters.

Wally was a passionate cook, famous for her Christmas cookies and an avid gardener, known for her amazing flower beds. But, her greatest passion was her grandchildren.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to all of Wally’s dear friends and neighbors at Gloria Commons.

Georgette H. O’Brien

Georgette Haskins O’Brien, age 79, of Milford, beloved wife of James O’Brien, passed away on Friday, November 10, 2017, at home, surrounded by her loving family. Georgie was born in Pittsfield, MA to the late Roger and Blanche Haskins. She graduated from Stratford High School in 1956 and worked at Sikorsky Aircraft prior to raising her family. She played in the Milford housewives and Industrial softball leagues, womens golf leagues at Orange Hills and Woodhaven Country Clubs and was a proud member of the Roaming Red Hatters. She deeply loved her family, friends, and church and spent every day making their worlds brighter. Besides her husband, she is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and Robert Riordan, son, Darrin O’Brien, beloved grandchildren, Danielle O’Brien, Ryan Riordan, Joseph O’Brien and Katherine Riordan, and many loving in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends. She was pre-deceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Dorothy and Stanley Olsson and beloved niece and nephew, Mary and Lawrence Olsson.

Sandra Previs

Sandra Previs, 69, of Fairfax, VT, formerly of Milford, CT, entered into eternal rest November 4, 2017. Born on April 3, 1948 in Bridgeport, CT, she was the daughter of the late Frank and Antoinette (DiMassimo) Parlatore. Sandra was predeceased by her husband Stephen Previs. She is survived by her children, Dr. Stephen (Nadia) Previs,

of Branchburg, NJ, Robert (Yvonne) Fosse-Previs of Milford, CT, Lisa (Matt) Gardi of Apalachicola, FL and Dr. Michael (Samantha) Previs of Fairfax, VT; and her beloved grandchildren, Sami, Sofia, Dylan, Ella, Harper and August. She is also survived by her brother, Frank Parlatore of Fountain Inn, SC, formerly of Bridgeport; her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Robert and Joyce Previs of Trumbull, CT; her great-aunts, Jean DeMasemo of Trumbull, CT and Ida Damesimo of Syracuse, NY; her Goddaughter, Karen Parlatore of West Haven, CT, and her many other aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

After her husband’s death in 1983, she was the sole owner and operator of Lectra Coil Products in Milford; manufacturing temperature sensors, thermocouples and infrared thermal sources. She raised her four children as a single parent and took great pride in their educational accomplishments. She was particularly grateful to the Jesuits at Fairfield College Preparatory School and the Sisters of Mercy at Lauralton Hall for the supportive communities they provided her children. She was a huge fan of UConn women’s basketball.

Sandy was the Director of Religious Education at St. Agnes Church and a long-time CCD teacher, preparing a generation of children for their First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. Additionally she was a loyal member of the St. Agnes Ladies Guild and she considered the friends she made there to be some of her dearest.

Her son Steve gave her many of her firsts, most importantly with Nadia the first of her cherished grandchildren. They made many opportunities for her to travel to be with their family and she reveled in visits to New York City and all it had to offer. She and Nadia shared a love for cooking and recipe exchange. Many of us would gauge where we fell in the family hierarchy based on how many of our favorites were in the special boxes of cookies and homemade candy that Sandy sent for the holidays.

With her daughter Lisa and son-in-law Matt, Sandy traveled the world. She celebrated her Italian heritage with a trip to Italy visiting Cinque Terre, Venice, Pisa, Sienna, and San Gimignano. She also spent time visiting them while they were living in Heidelberg, Germany. Sandy escaped the cold Northeast winters with visits to Key West and most recently to Apalachicola, FL as they embarked on their newest venture of a bar and local music venue, Bowery Station. There she spent time with her favorite ‘four-legged grandchild,’ Stella.

Sandy loved music – from Andrea Bocelli to Elvis she always had a playlist going. She was the first to indulge her son Bob’s affinity for the arts and was overjoyed when he became a teacher of Visual Arts. Sandy was looking forward to her annual trek back to Milford for Thanksgiving this year. She and Yvonne shared the gift of gab and a fondness for the people and changing landscapes of Milford.

Sandra spent the last fourteen years living in Vermont, with her son Michael and daughter-in-law Samantha, finding tremendous happiness in spending her time with them cooking, reading, and sharing the joy of raising their children Harper and August. She was a devoted and valued volunteer at the University of Vermont Medical Center’s Gift Shop where she was recognized for over 10 years and 2000 hours of service. She most recently attended Saint Luke’s Church of Fairfax. As she had for much of her adult life, she loyally continued to follow her Lady Huskies.

Claire Proulx

Claire Barno Proulx passed away on Sunday, November 5, 2017 at Carolina

Medical Center-Pineville, NC.

A graveside service for Mrs. Proulx will be held at St. Mary’s Cemetery, Coventry, CT, at a later date.

Born in Coventry, CT, Mrs. Proulx married the love of her life, Anthony Proulx, in 1952, celebrating their 63 years together until his death in 2015. She was also preceded in death by her father Michael Barno. She was employed for 20 years as a Merchandiser with Gibson and American Greeting Cards, a member of the Sikorsky Friendship Club, Stratford, CT. She was also passionate about Bingo.

She is survived by her mother, Helen Barno Schroeter of Manchester, CT; her sons Timothy Proulx (Sandy) of Gastonia, NC, Harold Proulx (Doreen) of Milford, CT and Steven Proulx (Susan) of Northford, CT; her daughters Annette LaMore (Douglas) of Winter Park, FL, Nancy Grant (Ronald) of Rock Hill, SC and Norma Tetyanechko (Boris) of Bridgeport, CT; her brother Robert Barno (Ann) of Hartford, CT; her sister Barbara Willbrant of Ellington, CT and a stepsister Gale Schroeter of Pawtucket, RI; nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

She truly valued her family and friends, old and new, and requested that we thank all of you for being part of her life and giving her so many wonderful memories.

David A. Reher

David A. Reher, beloved son, brother and friend, passed away peacefully on October 30, 2017 after a long illness. U.S. Army Veteran. Worked as a clinical and environmental lab technician. Predeceased by his father Albert D. Reher, and mother Helen Reher Barney. Survived by four siblings: Roger (Susan) Reher, Holly (Andy) Pace, Mindy (Hank) Mayer and Richard Reher, and several nieces, nephews and cousins. He will be sorely missed by his longtime friends, Paul and Tonia Iwasaki, Cordalie Benoit and Mark August. Dave had a great love for nature. He dedicated many years of his life to preserving the parks in New Haven with the New Haven Land

Trust. Memorial donations can be made to the New Haven Land Trust. Arrangements will be private.

Maria Rosa (Vitti) Reynolds

Maria Rosa (Vitti) Reynolds, 61, of Orange, beloved wife of the late Robert Reynolds, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Monday, November 6, 2017 after a courageous battle with cancer. Born on July 5, 1956 in Settefrati, Italy, she was the daughter of the late Clelia and Giovanni Vitti.


Maria was a top real estate agent for over 30 years in New Haven County, most recently with Coldwell Banker. She will be remembered by her colleagues and clients as both a mentor and dear friend. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, and traveling, especially back to her childhood home in Italy.

Most important to her was her family, friends, and especially her three children and grand-dogs. She loved to bring them all together by hosting gatherings at the home that she and her husband built in Orange. It was always filled with love, laughter, and special memories.


Maria is survived by her children, Stephanie (Russell) Roberts, Annaliese (Daniel) Dunn, and Philip (Nicolle) Reynolds; brother, Antonio (Michele) Vitti; brother-in-law, Daniel (Diane) Reynolds; and her nieces and nephews, including Julia and Johnny Vitti, Jennifer Vincent, and Beverly Ciskowski. Maria was predeceased by her daughter, Marisa; and brother, Gaetano Vitti.

Edward N. Silver

Edward N. Silver, 92, of Orange, died peacefully on October 28, 2017, at Connecticut Hospice in Branford. Born in New Haven, he was a retired pharmacist and owner of Silver’s Drug Shop of West Haven, where he served the community with care and compassion for over 50 years. A graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, Edward was an avid and accomplished golfer, golf rules official, skier, potter, philanthropist, Rotarian, and lover of worldwide travel and classical



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