

The Orange Times

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

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September 20, 2018

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**Special
Pull Out Section -
Ask The Candidates**

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Company Makes Moove On Stew Leonard Property?

Development may be in the works at the long-vacant 41-acre Marsh Hill Road property known as the "Stew Leonard" property. Scannell Properties LLC, an Indianapolis-based development company, came before the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission Sept. 11 for approval of a stormwater treatment plan in anticipation of building a service/distribution center on the site.

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Orange Votes To Buy Train Station Land

By *Brandon T. Bisceglia*

The residents of Orange voted nearly unanimously at a special town meeting Sept. 5 to move forward with a proposed purchase from the state of a tract of land that had originally been set aside as the location for a now-defunct Metro North Railroad station project.

The 8.09-acre property, known as 28 Salemme Lane, is being sold by Orange Land Development Holdings, LLC. Though the town is the buyer, it will not actually spend any money on the parcel. The purchase is contingent on the receipt of a grant-in-aid from the state of Connecticut in the amount of \$6,143,250, which has offered to pay the \$5,533,250 price based on a state-led appraisal, with the rest of the money set aside to cover the expenses the town would incur in making the transaction.

The special meeting, following the regular Board of Selectmen meeting in the gym of High Plains Community Center, was 198-1. The turnout was well above the 100-resident threshold needed for a town meeting. Some observers suggested it was the highest turnout for a town meeting since the 1970s.

The vote was required because the purchase price was above the amount stipulated by the charter to trigger a town meeting.

The agreement between Orange and the state allows Orange to develop the land in any way it likes, with the stipulation that the town maintain an easement for the state for 25 years, in case it should revive plans to build a platform along the tracks. First Selectman Jim Zeoli has indicated it will not be left as open space.

The vote does not make the purchase a



28 Salemme Lane in Orange, CT. Photo courtesy of Google Maps.

done deal. Dichello Distributors, which is headquartered adjacent to the parcel, has right of first refusal, meaning it could choose to match the \$5.5 price and buy the property from the state, preventing the town from doing so.

The vote starts the clock on a 60-day period for Dichello to step in. Representatives for the company have indicated their concerns about having a voice in how the land is developed. Zeoli said the town has been in conversations with Dichello.

While the "free" land could be a boon for Orange, it is something of a consolation prize. Plans for a railroad station in that location had been in the works for years. State budget shortfalls and the building of a station next door in West Haven led to the scrapping of the project for the time being.

Orange had created a special transit-oriented development district zone contingent on the

station's creation where the parcel sits. Without the station, the area is zoned as light industrial.

A train station is still not out of the question. At the Aug. 8 meeting of the BOS, selectman Mitch Goldblatt asked to add to the purchase agreement that any future platform build in that location be named the "Orange Train Station."

In a related move, the Town Plan & Zoning Commission voted unanimously at its Sept. 4 meeting to extend its 2016 approval of site plan improvements to the property submitted by Orange Development Holdings. The approval was set to expire this month, and although it appears the station will not be built, the applicant wanted to preserve its options.

Orange Development Holdings had requested a three-year extension, but commissioner Judy Williams pointed out that the TPZC's normal procedure is to grant one-year extensions with the option to renew.

United Way Of Milford Holding Campaign Kickoff

United Way of Milford's Annual Campaign is set to kick off with an event Sept. 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Subway World Headquarters at 325 Sub Way in Milford.

The emphasis this year is on "Raised here. Stays here. Local support brings local change" according to president Gary Johnson.

The campaign kickoff marks the start of United Way's annual fundraising effort and gives the organization an opportunity to thank local companies, donors and volunteers for their generosity and commitment to the community. Last year, United Way funded 20 local partnering agencies to ensure direct services such as providing food, shelter, healthcare, victim services, and educational initiatives were available every day to our local community.

For the 2018 kickoff, the United Way will have WQUN radio host Brian Smith as campaign chair, along with Jonathan Law and Foran students Cora Sula and Treanna Kandrach as campaign co-chairs. Smith is the current host of *The Brian Smith Afternoon Show* on WQUN Radio and was the former co-host of *The Smith and Barber Morning Show*, a top-rated morning

show in Connecticut for many years.

"Brian has a strong commitment to improving our community and understands that change doesn't happen alone and that it will take everyone in our community connecting and coming together to make a difference," said Johnson.

"The United Way of Milford creates life-changing moments in our community," said Smith. "Thousands of families and individuals depend on these vital services in our community that United Way supports. The work United Way and their partner agencies do for children, families and seniors in Milford is important in keeping our community strong, healthy and thriving."

The speaker for the kickoff event is Quinnipiac University women's basketball head coach Tricia Fabbri. Fabbri is the all-time winningest coach in Quinnipiac women's basketball history and recently completed her 23rd season on the Bobcats' sideline, earning the MAAC Coach of the Year Award and raising her career total to 407 victories.

"A successful campaign is not determined

by a monetary donation, rather by our ability to meet the funding requests that address the needs in our Milford community. United Way of Milford is proud of our accomplishments and value that none of this would have been possible without the generosity and support of this community," said Johnson.

The event is free and open to the public. All attendees are requested to donate a package of

diapers upon attending this event. To register call 203-876-6791 or email ebento@unitedwayofmilford.org. For more information, visit unitedwayofmilford.org.



WQUN radio host Brian Smith will serve as campaign chair for the United Way of Milford's 2018 annual campaign. Photo courtesy of the United Way of Milford.

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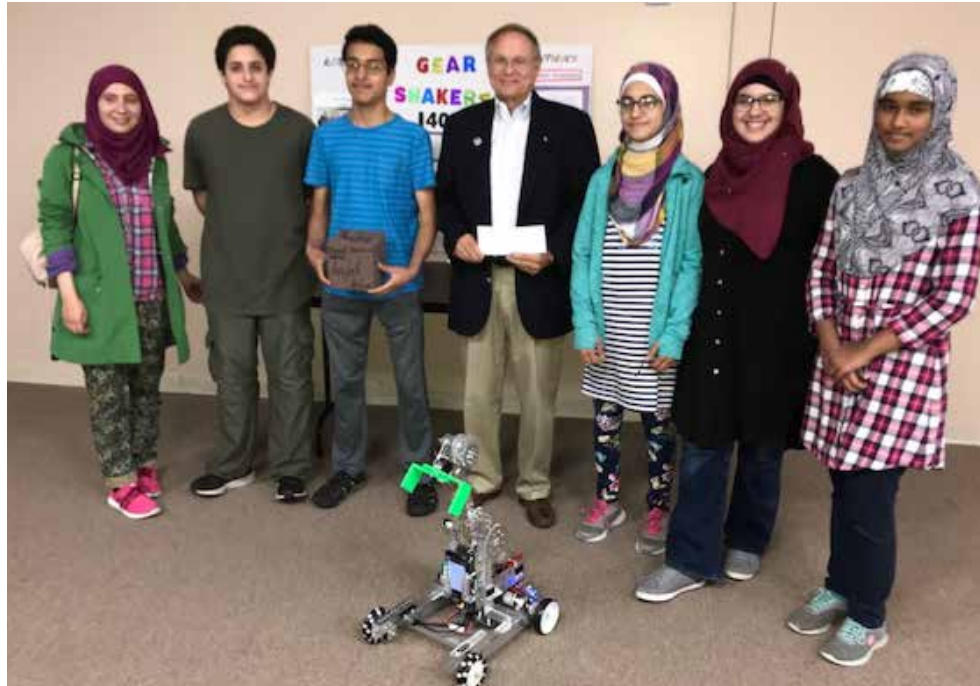
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536 Dogwood Road, Orange Listed for \$360,000	243 High Plains Road, Orange Listed for \$379,000	102 Sunrise Hill Circle, Orange Listed for \$473,777	650 Saint Johns Drive, Orange Listed for \$1,375,000

News & Events



REACH students Lindsay Rasmussen and William Michael joined, at far left, Chapel Haven President Michael Storz and Anthony "Tony" Anastasio of the Woodbridge Rotary Club in celebrating the donation of proceeds from the Woodbridge Club Wine Tasting. Chapel Haven received a \$2,000 check from the May 31 event. Photo courtesy of Catherine Sullivan-DeCarlo.



The Orange based Islamic Center of New Haven Gear Shakers Robotics Team with former Orange Rotary Club president Bob Sigler. Photo contributed by Lynda Hammond.

Friends Of Milford Library To Host "Party In The Stacks"

The rules of the library will be suspended for one evening on Saturday, Oct. 20 when the Friends of the Milford Public Library sponsor their third annual "Party in the Stacks!" from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. This year's theme is "Legends of Charles Island."

The event will feature literary-inspired hors d'oeuvres and dessert. There will be music and dancing, a silent auction, a literary-themed party game and a costume contest. By dressing up as characters from their favorite sea-themed book or in the garb of a pirate, participants can compete for the best costume of the evening and take their winnings from the Treasure Chest.

For costume inspiration, think *Treasure Island*, *Peter Pan*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Robinson Crusoe*, or *the Little Mermaid*.

Check the library's Facebook page and Pinterest page for costume inspiration as well. Costumes are encouraged but are optional. The emcee for the evening is Brian Smith. Sponsors include Crushed Grape, Milford Bank, ShopRite of Milford, Stirling Printers and Graphics and the Williams Agency.

Individual tickets are \$35 for members of the Friends and \$40 for non-members. After Oct. 1, all individual tickets will be \$50. Tickets may be purchased at the Milford Public Library Circulation Desk or on the library's website (at the Friends' page). The library is located at 57 New Haven Ave. in Milford. Additional information is available at party_in_the_stacks.milfordlib@gmail.com, at 203 783-3291 or on the library's website at milfordlibrary.org.

Orange VNA 2018/2019 Community Flu Clinics

Orange Visiting Nurse Association has scheduled the following Community Flu Clinics for the 2018/2019 season:

- Wednesday, Oct. 3, High Plains Community Center, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 23, High Plains Community Center, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 25, Orange VNA, 4 p.m.-7 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 5, High Plains Community Center, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

No appointments required. The following insurances are accepted: Anthem, Aetna and Medicare. Connecticutare is accepted up to Oct. 31. Cigna, United

Healthcare, Oxford and Husky/Medicaid are not accepted.

Remember to wear short sleeves and bring your insurance card. If you are not the insurance policy holder, be sure that you have the name and date of birth of the policy holder.

Orange VNA is a state licensed, Medicare and Medicaid certified homecare agency which provides skilled nursing, physical, occupational and speech therapy, dietitian, home health aide and social work services to patients who require skilled services in the home and live in Orange, Milford, West Haven and Woodbridge.

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 535 Highfield Drive, Orange \$670,000	 52 8th Avenue, Milford \$642,000	 792 Orange Ctr Rd, Orange \$619,000	 65 Centennial Dr, Milford \$574,900	 32 Shell Avenue, Milford \$550,000	 111 North Street, Milford \$499,900
 403 Prudden Lane, Orange \$479,900	 102 Sunrise Hill Cir, Orange \$473,777	 73 Valley View Rd, Milford \$469,999	 164 Woodruff Rd, Milford \$399,900	 347 Coachmans Ln, Orange \$399,000	 719 Orange Ctr Rd, Orange \$399,000
 15 Sandpiper Cres, Milford \$384,900	 243 High Plains Rd, Orange \$379,000	 536 Dogwood Rd, Orange \$360,000	 85 Sunset Drive, Orange \$339,900	 555 Dogwood Rd, Orange \$334,900	 44 Lamplight Ln, Milford \$332,500

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News & Events

Orange GOP Hosting Comedy Night

The Orange Republican Town Committee is holding a fundraiser “Comedy Show” at the St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church social hall located at 480 Racebrook Rd. in Orange on Friday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m.

The night will feature comedy with Pat Oates, Mel Vs and E J Murphy. Oates has been performing all over New England for over 10 years and is a regular on WPLR’s the Chaz & AJ morning show. Mel Vs is a favorite of audiences all over the Northeast and is the founder and host of the Comedy

Cocktail Hour in Simsbury. EJ Murphy is a Vermont native and has built a reputation as one of the Northeast’s funniest comedy acts.

The event will have cabaret-style seating. It is BYOB, snacks and/or appetizers. There will be a large assortment of themed raffle baskets plus coffee and dessert.

The cost is \$40 per person. Advance ticket sales are a must. Tickets can be purchased by calling 203-795-9651 or 203-795-4619 or by going to orangectrepublicans.com.

Orange Chamber Holding 2018 Awards Breakfast

The Orange Chamber of Commerce is celebrating the businesses and individuals who contribute to the community and economic wellbeing of the Town of Orange at its 2018 Awards Breakfast sponsored by Coldwell Banker. The recognition breakfast will be held at the Grassy Hill Country Club in Orange on October 25 at 7:30 a.m.

The awards are:

- Notable Newcomer: TGI Friday’s.
- Chamber Service Award: the Town of Orange and Eli’s Orange.
- Community Service Award: Avangrid.
- Milestone Award: Eagle Leasing.

– Business of the Year award: Coldwell Banker.

– Business Person of the Year: Vincent Marino of Cohen and Wolf.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Henry Lee, one of the world’s foremost forensic scientists, who is currently the director of the Forensic Research and Training Center and the Distinguished Professor in Forensic Science at the University of New Haven.

Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased in advance. Call 203-795-3328 or email director@orangectchamber.com.

Group Trip To Portugal Being Offered

Joanne Byrne, former Orange Senior Center director and regular columnist for *The Orange Times*, is coordinating a trip to sunny Portugal for Oct. 1 through 10, 2019. This ten-day trip offered by Collette Vacations includes the Portuguese Riviera, a tour of Lisbon, a trip to Fatima, tours of vineyards and wineries, stops in the beautiful countryside, and a chance to experience the local cuisine and immerse yourself in the moving sounds of Fado. Fourteen meals are included as well as round-trip transportation and all air taxes, hotels, and group transport

to and from the airport.

This is considered a “leisure stay” tour in which the itineraries are designed to allow for multiple-night stays in two or more cities. This allows a more leisurely pace and more time to relax and enjoy destinations on your own. Per-person cost is \$3,449 for double occupancy or \$3,749 for single. Each includes a \$100 early booking discount. Trip cancellation insurance is available for \$315 per person.

Call Joanne Byrne 203-623-0325 or email joannebyrne41@gmail.com if you would like a trip brochure.

Sicilian Trip Night At Milford’s Total Wine

Karen Quinn-Panzer and Frank Panzer, owners of Dream Vacations of Milford, are holding a complimentary trip night at Total Wine & More, located at 230 Cherry St. in Milford on Monday, Oct. 15 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Information about a Fall 2019 group trip to Sicily will be presented by Dream Vacations. A wine tasting focusing on the wines of southern Italy will be presented by Total Wine and complemented by flatbread and antipasto, courtesy of Dream Vacations.

The Sicily trip will offer a total immersion into all things Sicilian and is packed with

Greek and Roman architectural treasures that have withstood the ages on this Italian island. Along the way you will experience the Sicilian culinary specialties that have been handed down for generations – an epicurean’s dream. From ancient works of art, architecture, and archaeological treasures, to beautiful seascapes, and quaint villages, Sicily is unlike any other part of Italy.

A special discount will be offered to those who attend the trip night. Call 203-647-3107 for more information.

Insuring Your Future:

Countdown To Open Enrollment

There are only 25 days until the start of open enrollment. October, November and December are the months when people who are on Medicare or individual health plans have the opportunity to renew or change insurance plans. It can be a very confusing and stressful time, or it can be a chance to improve coverage and save money. For seniors, the news is good. For those under 65 on individual insurance, it appears 2019 might be slightly better or, at the very least, not much worse.



TRISH PEARSON

Beware of “phishermen”: Medicare recipients began receiving new ID cards in May, and distribution will continue over the next year. While the old number was the social security number with a letter at the end, the new Medicare number is a combination of letters and numbers. If you have not yet received a new card, the current number will work.

Some seniors have reported receiving phone calls asking for the “old number” to verify receipt of the new card. Do not give out any information over the phone. This is an attempt to gain access to much of your private information.

Every day the mailbox will be full of cards and letters offering to provide “new and updated” information on your Medicare benefits. These are not from the federal government, but from large insurance brokerages. By signing and returning the card as requested, you are giving that insurance agency permission to call you. The agents are not local and can be relentless.

There are much easier and less invasive ways to learn about what’s new in Medicare. Agents are not allowed to “cold call” or knock on your door. These regulations are in place to protect

seniors from unwanted, predatory phone calls. It is a violation for an agent to call uninvited. To report these agents, contact the Center for Medicare Services, the insurance company or insurance commissioner.

Start of dating season: This is the time of year when insurance companies and their representatives come calling. As I tell my clients, everyone wants

to date you, but nobody wants to go steady. This year bodes well for those in the senior market. There are more carriers, which creates more competition for your business. Many companies have added some extra bonus benefits at no additional cost. Some companies are even offering rebates for having an annual physical – your “wellness visit.” Don’t leave money on the table – make sure you have the PCP sign off and send or fax the form.

Preexisting conditions protected: Insurance companies in Connecticut cannot deny nor rate up health coverage because of preexisting conditions. This misconception still exists in the minds of many citizens, which creates stress, especially for those transitioning into Medicare. However, if something unexpected were to occur after choosing a plan during open enrollment, during the first three months of 2019, Medicare recipients will have an additional opportunity to make a change, either to a Medicare Advantage or supplement/prescription drug plan.

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

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Opinion & Editorial

In The House:

Sports Gambling Plan Needs Time, Work



STATE REP. (R-114)
THEMIS KLARIDES

Gov. Dannel P. Malloy has recently laid the blame at the feet of Republicans for not moving fast enough on a sports gambling plan for Connecticut in the wake of the US Supreme Court ruling that allows it nationwide. He could not be more wrong.

While other states have embarked on sports gambling, their situations are not complicated by having to deal with the competing interests of tribal casinos as we are in Connecticut. Any significant change to the state's existing gambling compact with the tribes will require working out a complex agreement.

Questions have been raised about where the sports betting can take place and what entities outside of the tribes might be able to participate in the process. Before Connecticut can set up a sports gambling program these issues have to be resolved.

The Supreme Court ruled in June after the regular legislative session had ended that a federal law limiting wagering on sports was unconstitutional. This being an election year crowded by political conventions and primaries, the opportunity to address these issues was reduced as the calendar became more packed.

There was not enough support in either the House or Senate, among Democrats or Republicans, to pass legislation during the regular session to account for the possibility that the court might rule sports gambling legal.

A new General Assembly and a new governor will have the opportunity beginning in January to move forward on sports gambling. It will require public hearings where all interested parties can participate and a full discussion of how the new world of gambling in Connecticut will be structured.

We need to do this right, not fast.

State Launches New 9-1-1 Service



STATE REP. (R-117)
CHARLES FERRARO

The State of Connecticut recently launched a new 9-1-1 service, which gives residents the ability to send a text message in an emergency when unable to make a phone call.

Connecticut joins several other states that offer the text-to-911 feature statewide. The "Call if you can, text if you can't" campaign emphasizes that the best way to receive help is by calling 9-1-1. But if a person is unable to do so, they now have an option to text 9-1-1.

How does it work?

1. Enter the numbers 911 in the "To" field
2. Text the exact location of the emergency
3. Briefly describe what kind of help you need
4. Push the "Send" button
5. Respond to any questions
6. Follow instructions
7. If you're driving, pull over when it's safe. Do not text and drive.

According to the state, texts to 9-1-1 are routed to one of Connecticut's 100-plus public safety answering points, similar to 9-1-1 calls. All PSAPs (9-1-1 call centers) are operated on a 24-hour basis, receive 9-1-1 calls and texts and dispatch emergency response services.

Providing this new 9-1-1 text service will be extremely helpful for individuals with disabilities to receive emergency assistance quickly.

If you accidentally text 9-1-1, send a reply indicating that you have made a mistake, there is no emergency and you are not in danger. For more information visit, text911ct.org.

Please contact me with questions or concerns at Charles.Ferraro@cga.ct.gov or 860-240-8700.

\$10 Million Toll Study Update



STATE REP. (R-119)
PAM STANESKI

In July, the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee voted to bond \$10 million to study electronic highway tolls in Connecticut. I joined my Republican House colleagues in calling for a special session to reverse this decision. Whether you are for or against tolls, I believe that you would agree with me that a special session should have been called.

Moving this forward (and spending \$10 million of taxpayer money!) via the Bonding Commission, Gov. Dannel P. Malloy circumvented the legislative process. It is the responsibility of the General Assembly to decide whether money should be spent on a toll study. It is not solely the governor's prerogative, along with his mostly appointed Bond Commission. Comptroller Lembo agreed with this and cast a no vote.

The General Assembly had an opportunity this past session to vote on a similar bill. However, the bill failed to gain a vote in either chamber. In making the decision to add the study to the Bond Commission agenda, the governor's spokesperson blamed the Republicans for the failure of the bill. But Democrats hold the majority and didn't move it forward. Regardless, the governor does not have the authority to spend taxpayer dollars via executive order. Processes and rules are in place for a reason – this governor blatantly thumbed his nose at them, and the majority party joined him.

By our rules, the governor or a majority of the members of each house may call a special session of the General Assembly. Republicans hold 71 out of the 151 seats in the House. All 71 supported the call for a special session; three of our Democratic colleagues joined us, leaving the call short by two signatures. The mere fact that the leaders of House Democrats did not push for a special session makes them complicit in the failure of our democratic process. If they don't like the rules, they make them up. Setting this kind of precedent is not good for Connecticut and takes us down a road we cannot afford – in this case a \$10-million-dollar road. And who knows how much in the future?

As always, please reach out to me with any questions on the issue of tolls or other matters of concern to you. My office number is 1-800-842-1423, and my email is Pam.Staneski@housegop.ct.gov.

Resources Available For Suicide Prevention



STATE REP. (D-118)
KIM ROSE

The decision by a person to end their own life has tragic consequences for those left behind as they try to figure out what went wrong and how they could have helped. Many questions are often left unanswered, and the struggle of enduring guilt continues for many years after a suicide takes place.

Suicide prevention week is this month and is an opportunity to become more aware and learn about the signs, ways to help and programs available to prevent suicide.

In the United States alone, at least 44,000 people commit suicide every year. Reasons may include financial and emotional stress, a response to bullying and harassment or depression and mental disorders. Whatever the contributing factors, the devastation to family and friends is always the same.

Many families across Connecticut and our nation have been touched by suicide, including my own. Someone may be struggling nearby, but if those around him or her do not know how to spot the signs, they may miss an opportunity to help. Many of my family members wondered if there was something they could do or if there was advice that could have been given to make a difference.

While there is no sure way to prevent suicide, providing support, communication and regular follow up with loved ones are ways we can help others during times of difficulty, as well as connecting them to available resources and services.

An active role can be taken to help those in crisis by understanding the issues surrounding mental health and suicide. Signs include withdrawal, alcohol or substance abuse, major physical illnesses, previous suicide attempts, relationship breakups and family history of suicide.

There are resources available such as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, a national network of crisis centers that provide free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They can be contacted at 1-800-273-8255.

The Suicide Prevention Lifeline is also a great website to visit to learn more about how to have a positive impact on someone who may be suffering and contemplating suicide. The website is at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Another resource is Bridges in Milford, which provides indispensable help with mental health and addiction recovery programs and services for families and individuals with severe and prolonged mental illness and addiction problems in one location. It is another great resource that can have a positive impact.

I encourage everyone to learn more about this issue and share this information with anyone that might be able to use the help.

Have A Tip? Send It To Us At
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And Visit Us Online At:
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David Crow, Conversations	Annamarie Mastrangelo, Flooring	Eric Tashlein, Finances
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Peter Hechtman, Books	Karen Panzer, Travel	Michele Tenney, Health
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We Regret The Error

In a story on page 1 in the Aug. 30 edition about an offer from the state to pay for the purchase of a tract of land known as 28 Salemme Lane, the acreage was listed incorrectly. The land consists of 8.09 acres.

In a story on page 10 in the Aug. 30 edition about state House candidate Cindy Wolfe Boynton winning the endorsement of the Working Families party, it was erroneously stated that voters could vote for her on Row C "in addition to" Row A of the November ballot. Boynton will appear on rows A and C, but voters can only vote for her on one line or the other, not both.

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Giving Back

Rotary Sponsors Exchange Student

By Maria LaViola



September kicks off the unofficial beginning of fall with the start of another school year. It is exciting to see our children and young adults getting back into their academic and sports schedules.

This year the Rotary Club of Orange has the honor of hosting an exchange student from Bergamo, Italy: Andy Biroli. Biroli is 17 years old and spending his senior year

at Amity High School. He is taking many different courses and he plans to study economics when he returns to Italy to attend college next year. He is bright, engaging, athletic and appreciative of this opportunity to come to the United States and live with a host family. Biroli will be here for the full academic year, and the Rotary Club of Orange is excited to offer the opportunity to a local family to host him for part of his stay. It's an especially wonderful cultural exchange experience for a family that currently has a student at Amity High School.

Hosting an exchange student allows families to develop a profound connection between their home life, the community and the wider world. As adults, many of us are not able to travel to other places for an extended time. Having someone from another country living with you not only helps you to appreciate their culture, but also allows you to share your own culture, customs, and traditions. Cultivating lifelong friendships that span continents can open one's perspective to the diversity of our global community, and offers a lifetime of

inspiration, learning and fun.

Often the host family and the exchange student's family become lifelong friends. They continue to be a part of each other's life well after the exchange student has returned home. The two families may visit each other in their respective countries and become immersed in the culture, language and family life.

If you are interested in becoming a host family and having Biroli spend time with your family, call Glenn Pearson at 203-640-8231.

Letters To The Editor:

Speak Your Mind

The Orange Times encourages readers to submit letters to the editor. Letters should be limited to no more than 350 words. Submit letters to publisher@theorangetimes.com. Letters may be edited for clarity or content. See theorangetimes.com/print-schedule for submission deadlines.

To The Editor:

It's was a crisp fall day with a couple hundred high school cross country runners on the line in Wickham park. I'm nervous thinking about what the 3.1 miles will take and as I bring my attention back to the starting line I turn to my right and I hear, "Hey Joe! How are you doing?" and then BANG! the race started. That was the last time I saw James Maroney that day... he's fast and I wasn't fast enough.

Even in the heat of competition, James

is cool, calm and friendly. These traits amongst others like integrity, leadership and persistence have served our community very well. From his accomplishments ensuring our children can achieve their educational aspirations through the Devon Rotary and governor's scholarships to the complete transformation of Founder's Walk.

In fact, Founder's Walk is a perfect example where James took an idea to beautify our waterfront and worked with local and state entities to secure the necessary funding at no additional expense to Milford citizens. But not only that, he worked with both Republicans and Democrats in a way only he can. What voters should know is that his tough persistency is only matched by his genuine good nature and ability to bring people together.

Sadly, it appears that this can't be said of his opponent who is quoted saying, "I am going to be his worst enemy." As a lifelong resident of Milford, I feel comfortable saying that Milford citizens don't view each other as enemies, they

are our neighbors and our friends. Viewing people as enemies will not get anything done here in 14th district or in Hartford.

Having known James for more than half my lifetime, almost 30 years, and I can attest he is the right person for state senator in 14th district.

Joe Honcz, Milford

To The Editor:

I am writing with grave concerns over Rep. Pam Staneski's vote this past legislative session against HB 5542, the ban of bump stocks. As you and your readers may or may not know, bump stocks can turn a semiautomatic weapon into a fully automatic weapon, and this bill was passed in the wake of the Las Vegas massacre. In a day when mass shootings have become a frequent event and we have almost become numb from the violence, I want to add a personal note to her vote.

As a mental health professional, I have seen the interplay of mental illness and the

amplification of gun violence. As a landlord, I have had to ask for a tenant to turn over his rifle that he had made fully automatic, after a drug overdose. I feared not only for him, but the community at large as he was volatile.

As a parent of a school-age child, I frequently think of the events of Sandy Hook. I have friends that were in the building and survived as they heard the constant firing of weapons and the two people that ran out the door were killed in front of them. People still suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of those events. I know Rep. Staneski was not in office at the time of Sandy Hook and maybe she would have voted differently if she faced the families torn apart by the tragedy.

I am not a gun activist, nor do I believe in taking away gun rights, but I do believe in common-sense gun laws and I want to ensure that our next state senator listens to their constituents instead of blindly following the calls of the NRA.

Dominic Cotton, Milford

Get To Know All The Candidates

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Republican candidate Bob Stefanowski declined to participate Sept. 5 in the first gubernatorial debate of the general election season. But that didn't stop Democrat Ned Lamont from showing up.

No, he didn't argue Clint Eastwood-style with an empty chair. He had another perfectly viable opponent on the stage: Oz Griebel, the moderate Republican running as an unaffiliated candidate for governor on a fusion ticket with Democrat Monte Frank.

You likely won't see Griebel in the coming debates. Despite having secured a spot on the ballot, debate hosts usually also require candidates to meet a minimum threshold in the polls before allowing them on the stage. In an Aug. 23 Quinnipiac poll, Griebel only garnered 4 percent of the vote – too low for most venues.

The rules surrounding access to the debates are tricky. The organizations that host debates – media companies, commissions and nonprofits – want to avoid the unwieldy prospect of having any and every no-name who fills out a candidacy form crowding out the candidates who, frankly, actually stand a chance.

At the same time, legitimate outsiders face a catch-22. You need high-visibility events like debates to increase your poll numbers, but you need higher poll numbers to get into those events.

Make no mistake: Griebel is, by all accounts, a valid option. He has a solid background in both the private and public sectors, having worked as a teacher at Worcester Academy, as CEO of BankBoston Connecticut, and as the president and CEO of the MetroHartford Alliance, where he focused on economic development in the Hartford region.

Nor is Griebel the only alternative out there. Air Force veteran and Russian linguist Rod Hanscomb is running as the Libertarian Party candidate. Educator and businessman Mark Stewart is also running as an unaffiliated candidate. And those are just the people for the governor's seat.

Even with all these choices, the allure of hedging your bets by backing a sure thing can be powerful. Just ask the two minor parties with the largest voter blocs in Connecticut: the Working Families Party and the Independent Party. They cross-endorsed Lamont and Stefanowski, respectively, rather than fielding their own candidates.

It's worth asking, though, how anyone will ever be able to break through the stranglehold that the Democrats and Republicans have on the election process if even the minor parties won't give anyone else a chance.

You too may ultimately decide that the person who will best represent your interests and the welfare of the state comes from one of the major parties. But that decision shouldn't

be hampered by ignorance of the options available to you. Look at everyone out there, regardless of label, and come to your own conclusions.

Debate hosts, partisan PACs and media

pundits aren't going to spend much time on third-party candidates in the foreseeable future. That means it's up to you to do the legwork of becoming a fully-informed voter before election day Nov. 6.



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Arts & Entertainment

Culture is the arts elevated to a set of beliefs. – Thomas Wolfe

by Patricia Miller

ART IN THE LIBRARY (176 Tyler City Rd., Orange) will feature a display of acrylic works by Jo Rembush through the month of October. There is also a possibility of the display case housing the glasswork and jewelry of Orange artist Lucia Boom. She comes from an artistic local family. Her father, Louis Crescenti, had a posthumous show a few years ago in which his impressionistic paintings were exhibited. Her mother, Lucia Crescenti, was a talented designer and seamstress who studied for her profession in New York.

The exhibit is open during regular library hours: Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The gallery is located in the Meeting Room on the second floor. Art in the Library sponsors monthly exhibitions of area artists.

ORANGE ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL is once again sponsoring a bus to the New Haven Symphony Orchestra's Classic Series. The Thursday, Oct. 4 concert is the 125th anniversary opening night at Woolsey Hall at 500 College St. in New Haven. The program includes "Scheherazade" by Rimsky-Korsakov, "Violin Concerto in A Minor" by Dvorak, "Hansel and Gretel Prelude" by Humperdink, and the world premiere of "Fanfare for 125" by Cole. William Boughton is the conductor and Chad Hoopes in the guest violinist. Tickets are on sale at 203-787-4282 or at newhavensymphony.org. To reserve a seat on the bus, call 203-397-8915.

ORANGE PLAYERS (525 Orange Center Rd., Orange) invites the public to attend its general meeting to be held Thursday, Oct. 11 at High Plains Community Center at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. There will be a brief business meeting before the program. The speaker for the evening will be George Kulp, a founding member of the New Haven Theater Company, a small company based in New Haven. Its season's productions range from the works of Neil Simon and Harold Pinter to the works of previously unpublished playwrights. Kulp will talk about the founding of the group and other theatrical experiences.

Susan Kulp, also a member of the company, is a former Board member of the Orange Players who also appeared in the OP musical revue *It's A Grand Night For Singing!*

Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome.

ORANGE PLAYERS (525 Orange Center Rd., Orange) presents the Acting Up! festival of previously unpublished works of ten playwrights, directed by ten different directors and played by 23 actors. The productions will be presented on Friday, Oct. 19 and Saturday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. at High Plains Community Center. Seating is cabaret-style, so patrons can bring their own beverages and snacks, can invite friends, make up a table, and make a socializing night of it. Tickets will go on sale soon; watch for more information.

XFINITY THEATRE (61 Savitt Way, Hartford) is the home of the Farm Aid Benefit Concert on Saturday, Sept. 22 at noon. Farm Aid was founded in 1985 by superstars Willie Nelson, Neil Young and John Mellencamp and has raised over \$50 million dollars to support American farmers.

This is the festival's first time in Connecticut. Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds, Chris Stapleton, Kasey Musgraves and other superstars will join the three founders. The concert lasts all day. For ticket information, go to farmaid.org or XFINITY.com.

IVORYTON PLAYHOUSE (101 Main St., Ivoryton) presents *ONCE* Wednesday, Sept. 19 to Sunday, Oct. 14. In this affecting play, a young Dublin street musician is about to give up on his dreams until he and a young Czech immigrant are drawn together. The



Jonathan Goodwin is an escape artist, writer, performer, and has appeared on Discovery Channel. Contributed photo.

winner of 12 Tony Awards in 2012, including Best Musical, *ONCE* is an original theatrical experience. It features an impressive ensemble of actors/musicians who play their own instruments onstage. *ONCE* is a story about going for dreams, rerouting a life and music's power in connecting us all.

All of the songs from the critically acclaimed movie, including the Oscar winner "Falling Slowly," are in the score of the show. It's a beautiful, uplifting show that only comes around – once. Tickets can be obtained by calling 860-767-7318 or going to ivorytonplayhouse.org.

PALACE THEATER (100 E. Main St., Waterbury) presents *The Illusionists* Oct. 13 and 14, direct from Broadway. This production showcases the sometimes-unbelievable talents of five illusionists, reputed to be the finest on earth. This promises to be a compelling show packed with thrilling and sophisticated magic. The rest of the season includes *Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer*, *Legally Blonde*, *Tap Dogs*, *The Book of Mormon* and *Chicago*. For subscriptions or single tickets, call the box office at 203-346-2000 or go to tickets@palacetheaterct.org.

LONG WHARF THEATRE (222 Sargent Dr., New Haven) opens the season with *The Roommate*, written by Jen Silverman and directed by Mike Donahue. A recently divorced fiftyish woman, Sharon, needs a roommate to share her Iowa home. Robyn, a woman of like age, needs to have a place to hide and a chance to start over. But secrets are uncovered, inspiring Sharon to respond to her deep-seated desires to transform her life completely. The play takes a look at what it takes to reroute one's life and what can transpire as the result. For tickets, call 203-787-4282 or go to longwharf.org.

THE GOODSPEED (6 Main St., East Haddam) offers *The Drowsy Chaperone*, a laugh-out-loud musical comedy Sept. 21 to Nov. 25. Music and lyrics are by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison. This show is characterized as a hilarious valentine to showtunes and show people. A forgotten Jazz Age musical comes to life in the living room of a die-hard theater fan. As he spins his favorite cast album, a fizzy vintage show suddenly appears, with song, dance and pure entertainment. There is a quirky narrator who fills in the gaps. Tickets can be obtained by calling 800-873-8668 or by going to goodspeed.org.

SHUBERT THEATER (247 College St., New Haven) has a jam-packed season of hits and interesting shows, starting with *Les Miserables* from Oct. 4 to 7. On Oct. 13, it's *Sister's Back to School Catechism*. Sister holds forth in the Halloween season with hysterical tales and lessons. October 29 brings *Comedy Great Again*. For tickets, call 203-562-5666 or go online to shubert.com.

REGINA A. QUICK CENTER FOR THE ARTS (1073 N. Benson Rd., Fairfield) presents its Open VISIONS forum opening night, featuring Jane Fonda in "Speaking Out: Artist as Social Activist" Thursday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. Jane Fonda is not only a

Hollywood icon, but also as one of America's most outspoken advocates for social justice and women's empowerment. She founded the Fonda for Adolescent Reproductive Health at the Emory University School of Medicine and sits on the Bards of Women and Foreign Policy at the Council on Foreign Relations, Women's Media Center and served as UN Goodwill Ambassador. She has earned two Oscars, the honorary Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival and the American Film Institute's Life Achievement Award and is back in a Netflix series. She will share her candid off-screen views on where she's been, what she's learned and what we are facing in America's political landscape today.

YALE HILHARMONIA (500 College St., New Haven) will have Peter Oundjian, principal conductor, present selections from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* and music by Berlioz and Vaughn Williams at Woolsey Hall Friday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets may be obtained by calling 203-432-4158 or

online at musitickets@yale.edu.

YALE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY (111 Chapel St., New Haven) was named one of the best cultural art attractions in Connecticut by *Connecticut Magazine*. The current exhibitions include a virtually unknown period in the career of the young Leonardo da Vinci and the largest collection of Sol LeWitt wall drawings in the world. September brings the opening of "Seriously Funny: Caricatures through the Centuries," a recent acquisition of nineteenth-century French satirical lithographs. The permanent collection spans one-and-a-half city blocks and features more than 400 works plus a rooftop terrace and a sculpture garden.

WADSWORTH ATHANEUM (608 Main St., Hartford) is the nation's oldest continually operating public art museum and rivals any in the country. It houses more than 50,000 pieces of art from around the world in its permanent collection and features blockbuster traveling exhibits – such as "Monsters and Myths: Surrealism and War in the 1930s and 1940s" from Oct. 20 to Jan. 13) This exhibit show works of Salvador Dali, Jean Miro, Max Ernst and more.

COLLEGE STREET MUSIC HALL (238 College St., New Haven) was recently named the best large performing arts venue by *Connecticut Magazine*. This venue has 2,000 seats, and has become a magnet for some of music's top acts as well as some quirky performances, such as the Mystery Theater 3000 Live! show arriving Saturday, Oct. 13. Ray La Montagne plays on Oct. 8 and Arlo Guthrie appears on Oct. 20. Call 203-867-2000 or go to collegestreetmusichall.com for more information.

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

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The Book Club:

This Is The Way The World Ends

Michel Houellebecq, *Submission*, William Heinemann, 2015

Europe has lately experienced a deluge of immigrants from the Middle East. France began receiving immigrants from North Africa in the 1960s and now has about 4.7 million Muslims, or 10 percent of the country's population. Because of their higher birth rate, this population is projected to be 6.9 million in 2030.



PETER HECHTMAN

Europe is anxious, not merely about terrorism but about the future of its "civilization." Will Muslims take over, impose Sharia Law, restrict the rights of women, and abolish the secularism that has been won after centuries of battle with the church? The novel *Submission* wrestles with these issues but does so in a manner that only a Frenchman could conjure up.

The novel's hypothesis is that the Muslim Brotherhood has reconfigured itself as a political party, found a charismatic but moderate leader and entered the election campaign, challenging, among others, the "nativist" National Front led by Marine Le

Pen. The Muslim Brotherhood wins and forms the government of France. The Muslim government shows little interest in economic matters or foreign affairs. Education is at the center of their concerns and, in particular, the use of education to marginalize women and keep them in the homebound roles of child bearing and child rearing. The Sorbonne becomes the Islamic University of Paris, where non-Muslims are no longer allowed to teach.

The protagonist (he is certainly not the hero) is Francois, a fortyish professor of French literature at the Sorbonne. His

purpose is to witness and respond to the changes taking place in France. He understands that his academic work is past its prime and he is merely marking time. He has no family or close friends. His life consists of satisfying his carnal and carnivorous needs with no commitments to the providers of either.

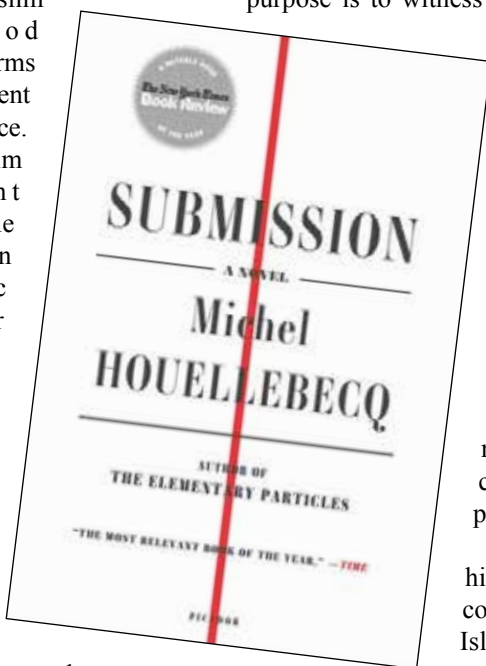
He is told that his choices are conversion to Islam or a generous pension. Here is where the novel slides, if not into action, then into much deep thought. As a French savant, the prof intellectualizes the whole problem and then rationalizes it away. Western civilization is doomed, he


muses. Once we had a workable system and it was called patriarchy. It worked because it produced children. Once church influence waned, patriarchy was replaced by radical individualism. This undermined all Western institutions, most notably the family. No one is marrying anymore and making babies.

His conclusion is drawn mostly from his own loneliness but also from French birth rates. By subordinating women to make babies and serve men, Islam has restored the family as the viable center of civilization. Besides, if he converts (i.e. submits), not only is his job restored but his new Muslim overlords throw in a pretty 15-year-old bride with options on a second or third. It all seems a little too facile.

Following Francois's sophistry is the novel's highlight. If this novel requires a poetic epigram ending, I suggest T.S. Eliot's line: "This is the way the world ends, not with a bang but a whimper."

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





Orange Recycle Tips

Reduce your paper consumption. Change your paper bills to online billing and pay them online. You will be saving trees and the fuel it takes to deliver your bills by truck. Read documents online instead of printing them. Save your receipts in a file on your computer. Set your printer to two-sided and think before you print. Try to end junk mail.

For more information, visit the Orange town website at orange-ct.gov/180/Recycling or visit the Orange Recycling Committee on Facebook at [bit.ly/ORC-Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ORC-Facebook).

Milford Trick or Trot 5K To Benefit The Homeless And Hungry

The seventh annual Milford Trick or Trot 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Beth-El Center will take place on Saturday, Oct. 27 beginning at Lisman Landing at 37 Helwig St. in Milford at 9 am. Run or walk a 3.2-mile scenic route through Milford.

The fee is \$27 per person for advanced registration, and \$30 for same-day registration. Participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item as a donation to the Beth-El Center.

Register at milfordtrickortrot.com.

The event is sponsored by the law firm of Harlow, Adams, and Friedman, P.C. and Sikorsky Credit Union.



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Lifestyle

On Your Mind:

The Science Of Stress

Stress is blamed for everything from smoking and overeating to cancer and the flu. Every client who comes to me begins with the stress with which they're dealing. Whether they have come to lose weight with hypnosis, stop smoking or to get help with anxiety and depression, it is always about the stress. It seems to be the basis for every issue presented to me.



FERN TAUSIG

As a health educator, I always began the first lesson of the year with stress management. My students were under tremendous stress, and I enjoyed teaching them how to handle it and reduce the effects it had on them. I continue in that role with my clients.

The only people who don't have stress are dead people. It doesn't have to be seen as a force that destroys your life. Stress triggers a series of physiological events in the body that can make you sick both

physically and emotionally.

Coping with stress begins with reversing those physiological events. Although you can't control stressful events, you can control the effects they have on you through the way you respond to them. It's easier than you think.

Take the example of a mosquito bite. You can't change the fact that you were bitten. But if you scratch the bite it gets worse. If you ignore it, the itching feeling goes away.

The brain can't focus on two things at the same time. If you continue to focus on something negative that is happening that you cannot change, you will feel awful. If you think about something that you enjoy or a positive thing in your life, your feelings will become positive. Thoughts create feelings and feelings create behaviors. Positive thoughts don't change anything except the way you feel.

Psychoneuroimmunology is the science of how thoughts and feelings affect your immune functionality and wellness. The physical events triggered by stress include the release of hormones and other chemicals that create inflammation, overstimulation of the nervous system, tightening of muscles and stress on all organs (including the heart). The immune system is impaired, or its functioning is reduced.

"In a real, true sense, stress makes you physically sick," explained Professor of Psychology at the University of Colorado Dr. Steven Maier in a 2001 story for the American Psychological Association. "In addition, many of the changes over time in mood and cognition from day to day are driven by events in the immune system of which we are unaware."

The article said the "sickness" response triggers a series of physiological and behavioral changes, including fever, changes in liver metabolism, as well as increased anxiety. It also activates a classic

stress response, releasing stress hormones such as cortisol.

There are many ways to reverse the effects of stress. Exercise is probably the best, because it releases healthy chemicals that counteract the effects. Exercise includes walking, yoga, dance and anything that you do using your body. Other ways to cope with stress include enjoying music, deep slow breathing, meditation and self-hypnosis. Studies have shown that these techniques, as well as optimistic thinking or prayer, promote the release of beneficial hormones that bolster the immune system and negate the damaging effect of long-term stress on the body.

The power you have over your wellness is too important to ignore. It's easier to stay healthy than to get healthy. Stop focusing on the ways your life is affected by stress and focus on how to negate those effects.

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

Travel Matters

Catch The European Seasons On A River Cruise

European river cruising is ideal for travelers who want to immerse themselves in culture thanks to year-round itineraries that highlight local customs and embrace seasonal themes. Each season has its own special charm on any European river, though certain rivers lend themselves to certain seasons.



KAREN QUINN-PANZER

Here are some popular themed cruises for each season of the year:

- Fall Foliage with AmaWaterways: Fall in love with the colors of France along the Rhone River while cruising the "Colors of Provence" itinerary. Fares start at \$2,999 per person aboard the AmaCello departing from Arles, France.

- Spring Tulip Time with Avalon Waterways: Bright tulips in full bloom add a colorful pop to an already magical landscape complete with windmills on this cruise through Belgium and Holland. Fares start at \$1,999 per person aboard the Tranquility II departing from Amsterdam, Netherlands.

- Summer Danube Waltz with Viking: History comes to life on this popular itinerary along the Danube. Fares start at \$2,949 aboard the Prestige departing from Passau, Germany.

- Winter Christmas Markets with Uniworld: Get in the holiday spirit by exploring these enchanting markets. Fares start at \$3,299 per person aboard the S.S.

Beatrice departing from Vienna, Austria.

River cruises are like luxury boutique hotels floating over the rivers of Europe, where civilizations originated centuries ago. You can explore Roman ruins in Arles on the Rhone River or castles along the Rhine in Germany, France and Switzerland. See the great cities of Vienna, Salzburg and Budapest on the Danube River. Enjoy a cruise through the vineyards of the Bordeaux wine region in France or the Douro River in Portugal. You only need to unpack once and your destination changes throughout the trip.

The food and wine is often locally sourced and superb – perfect for foodies. Wine, beer and soft drinks are generally included with lunch and dinner. Some cruise lines offer special dinners at wine estates along the river, such as AmaWaterways along the

Douro River in Portugal. Excursions are included on most ships, and some cruise lines offer active options like biking and hiking in addition to visiting castles and wineries. Each river cruise line has a distinct personality. There's a perfect match for all travelers.

Many river cruise lines have free air offers. This is especially true for fall and spring sailings, but sometimes offers are given for the summer as well. This is a great way to save because traveling by air to Europe can be so variable. There are many great flights advertised, but not always when you actually want to go.

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

Getting To Know You:

Tell One On Yourself

One of the great traditions in my family is storytelling. We especially love stories where the storyteller does what we call "tell one on yourself." What that means is to poke fun at the mistakes you've made. This month I hope to entertain you by telling one on myself.



DAVID CROW

I take being a father seriously and I work hard at it. Fortunately, my children have turned out well in spite of my best parental efforts. I love my children dearly, but from time to time they drive me batty.

For instance, like everyone else in the greater New Haven area, every month I get a bill for cell phone service. Everybody in my home has a cell phone. I do this so that if I need to get in touch with my family, I can. I pay a lot for this connectivity. I don't know if my kids are going to college, but the children of the good folks over at AT&T are all set.

So perhaps you can sympathize with my consternation when I can't seem to get my

kids on the phone. I paid the bill. I know the phones are with them because my kids, like yours, are never more than an arm's length from their phones. I know the batteries are charged because every outlet in my home has a dongle sticking out of it. I even know that when I call my face pops up on their phones with a button that says "answer."

Yet for some reason I can't get anyone on the phone without calling three times and then sending a text asking them to call me.

I've worked myself into quite a lather about this several times, and my children all nod and agree to answer my calls. Then I call the next day and it goes right to voice mail. It causes my blood pressure to jump up about the same amount as the cell phone bill.

Fortunately for my children I have lunch with their grandfather, my dad, at least once a month. I must confess here that it never ceases to amaze me how the tyrant I grew up

with has such amazing patience for the antics of his grandchildren. His grandchildren could burn his house down and he'd proudly tell the firemen that his grandchildren were geniuses because they figured out how to use matches.

When I sat down to lunch with my dad today I was fuming over the cell phone issue. He knew something was bothering me and asked me what it was. I proceeded to spew the latest tale of my unsuccessful attempts to get my kids on the phone. I expected a calm, patient ear. What I got was a derisive chuckle.

"What do you need to call them for anyway?" my dad asked. "We never had those things when you were that age."

"Well, dad, I might have to tell them something."

"Yeah? What's that?"

I didn't have a good answer for that question, so I switched tacks.

"I need to know where they are."

My dad smirked.

"Son." He always calls me "son" before he

reveals how stupid I am.

"That old car they've got makes 20 miles to a gallon and they haven't got twenty bucks between them. How far do you think they'll get before they have to call you for gas money?"

I didn't have a good answer for that question either.

"Stop hassling my grandkids," my dad finished while checking out the menu. "They'll call if they need you."

Thankfully the waitress came to take our order before he could make me admit out loud that he was right. I do, however, have to take this opportunity to thank my dad for a new perspective on what everyone my age believes is a problem.

David Crow lives in Orange with his wife and three children. He practices law and he asks everyone to call him "Dave." Only his mother and his wife call him "David," and only when they're mad at him. You can contact Dave at Sit.a.Spell.and.Visit@gmail.com. He'll always find a half hour for a good chat.

Home Sales Rise
 Advertise In The Orange Times Call us at: 799-7500
 See Page 6. he was offered a fellowship at Northwestern in 1960. Very shortly thereafter he changed fields and became a young man in the country, he said while sitting in the Case Memorial Library in...
 Home sale values in Orange are outpacing Chen's studies brought him to America...
 "They once called me the most outstanding young man in the country," he said while sitting in the Case Memorial Library in...
 In many cases, such as the United States, neighboring communities according to here he found himself dealing with a was I from? I told him I am from free

Home & Garden

Real Talk: You Ask, A Pro Answers

An Easy Move

Real estate transactions always require a lot of patience and preparation. Research and making decisions are crucial when purchasing a home, but the future can be full of unknowns.

Each time you buy a home you hope to know exactly what you are committing to. The easiest moves allow you to look for a place, qualify to own two homes for a period of time and concentrate on the home you're buying. That way you can focus on *one* thing (the new place) without being in a bind to purchase it. If you put *your* sale on the back burner you eliminate time as a factor as well as the stress that comes from hoping that the person buying *your* home comes through.

The new home needs to reflect your



BARBARA LEHRER

comfort level. If it doesn't, you can walk away knowing you still have your current home to live in. Inspections can be costly, but in the long run it's better to make sure everything is okay. From flue liners to underground oil tanks, there is much to look at during an inspection. Some things are bound to get neglected in order to meet deadlines. Take a long enough period in the inspection to document costs to repair or replace items found. In this way you can explain to the seller that there are unexpected budget crunches, and maybe you can both share the load together.

Another reason to buy without selling is so that you can renovate the new place without living in it. Buyers love to make a home the way they want it, but sometimes they buy a

remodeled property just because they don't have the time to do the upgrades themselves. Think about it: you can pay less for a home that needs a kitchen and turn it into that dream kitchen you always wanted. There is nothing worse than living in the construction. If you can help it, wait until major renovations are complete to clean and move.

You can market your home while you are still in it. In fact, that is best. The prospective buyers looking at your home want it in move-in condition. The better staged, tidy and decluttered you are, the more inviting your home will be. Once you have purchased a property that needs some work, you will be more relaxed about leaving the old homestead. All negotiations will be done on your purchase and you can focus on your listing agent's agenda with marketing and availability.

The professional realtor has this as one of

his or her scenarios to discuss on your first appointment together. Don't hold back; if you have worries about the process, speak up. If you think you might want this type of process to buy, get preapproved and get a market evaluation on your home to substantiate how much profit you can foresee. There are other options, such as selling your home and moving into a rent temporarily to get new work accomplished. Just remember, the price to market your current home may change if you wait 90 days to market it. If you are not selling to buy, be ready to renovate immediately. There are plenty of contractors available to tweak the old house, give you prices on inspection issues for the new house and make that new kitchen happen ASAP.

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

The Garden Spot:

Plant Your Spring And Summer Blooms In Fall

Autumn is one of the best times of year to reevaluate your garden and plan for spring and summer blooms. Many garden centers have shrubs and perennials on sale. Spring blooming bulbs are readily available. You can plant them and perennials up until the first frost. It's also a great time to get new plants for free, either by splitting your established perennials or asking friends and neighbors if they have anything they would like to share.

You may have received a number of bulb catalogues in the mail recently. As much as I love the many colors and forms of tulips and the way that they can transform a flower bed, I also have learned to treat them as annuals. Any bulbs in my garden that aren't eaten by the



PAT DRAY

moles and voles are left as treats for the deer. Those that survive the critters don't tend to bloom after several years. For these reasons, I prefer to plant daffodils to give my spring garden a pop of color. Many people think of the "gold standard" when it comes to daffodils, but they're now available in many hybrids that have different colors, sizes and forms. I love the almost pure white petals and dainty, pale yellow cup of the "Sea Princess," as well as the sweet-smelling white and yellow of the "Bella Estrella." The traditional yellows are also beautiful. Most are deer and rodent proof and do much better in my garden.

Think beyond the typical tulip and daffodil bulbs and consider planting some allium. Allium is in the onion family and blooms

later in the season. They also dry well and are stunning in floral designs – you can even spray paint them to match your design. I love the traditional purple of "Purple Sensation," and the creamy white of "Mount Everest."

In general, plant large bulbs at about twice as deep as the bulb is tall with the pointy end facing up. If any of the bulbs are soft, they should be discarded. Cover with soil, then mulch and water well.

Split perennials when the plant looks its best. Don't wait until it starts to have stunted growth in the center or has invaded its neighbors. Water the plant well and dig the entire plant

up, starting at the drip line. This will allow you to dig up the entire root system of the plant. Shake off any loose soil. If the roots are dense and tough you may need to use a saw to split the plant. Otherwise you can use your shovel or two pitchforks. Put some organic matter in the new hole and replant the two or three you've just created at the same depth that they were originally growing. Mulch and water well.

Have fun expanding your garden or sharing your plants!

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

Room 911:

Just Shelve It

When I hear the word "shelves" I immediately think of my student days when the we would take a couple of flat wood boards, sand them, stain them and put them up with brackets. Their main purpose was as a space for textbooks, knickknacks, your key ring and all the miscellaneous stuff that came out of your pocket or purse that day.

Now shelves are found everywhere and serve very specific storage purposes. Glasses, envelopes that need to be mailed and smart phones that need to be charged can all find a happy home by building an open shelf box structure that has dividers and a horizontal piece of wood underneath in which to put pegs. These pegs can hold key chains. This type of shelf could be located in your mud room, the back entrance to your house or the garage door area.

Though we know the benefit of shelves as bookcases, there are so many variations on this theme. My favorite shelves are built-in bookcases, generally painted the color of the wall (with perhaps a contrasting color on the back frame), that features not only books but knickknacks, low-light plants, a small piece of art on a tiny easel, pottery, china or candlesticks. A bookcase can flank a fireplace, but an open bookcase can also divide a room, surround a window and add depth and interest.

There are brave souls who have open shelving in their kitchens, such as a plate



TEDRA SCHNEIDER

rack, or an open shelf pantry, or glass doors to cover their cabinets. However, you need to have a free spirit-type of personality and not care how it looks or be an obsessive-compulsive type who needs to make sure each can of peas, each cereal box, each pop corn bag looks just right, with the height and width of each item lined up in a pleasing configuration. The easiest, no-worry open shelving in a kitchen is under an island

where you can store cookbooks and serving platters or a small wine rack.

Bathroom shelves can store towels, toiletries, or medicine. All serve specific purposes. In your laundry room, you can utilize one long shelf going across a washer/dryer or several shelves designated to house detergents, clothespins, hangers and fold-out drying racks.

For those who like to use shelves in a more discreet way, you can build them into drawers and integrate them into the risers of your staircase and hide items that aren't often used. You can even put shelves under or along the side of a staircase going up to another floor.

Shelves can be made of many materials: glass, wood, even marble. The most important thing is to make sure the material you choose is appropriate to the weight you will put on it.

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Lifestyle

Wine Talk:

European Wines For Autumn

“Give me a bowl of wine, In this I bury all unkindness.” – William Shakespeare

With fall approaching it is a good time to discover some new wines. In the hills of Campania in southern Italy there is a grape called Aglianico that may be one of the oldest varietals still in existence today. The grapes are big, hearty black grapes that grow in large bunches and look like small plums. The grapes, it is believed, were first grown in Greece in ancient times and were brought to southern Italy by Greek settlers. It flourished in Campania, but Basilicata is the only demarcated region in Italy for Aglianico. In ancient Roman times the grape was one of the earliest first-growth wines. Pliny the Elder, who was Ancient



RAYMOND SPAZIANI

Rome’s best-known wine master, was known to have commented on the grape.

Aglianico is a full wine that is high in acid with lots of tannins. It ages well; it is not desirable to drink it young. It needs aging to prevent harshness and give the wine an eloquent character. It has been blended with Cabernet and Merlot in recent years with some spectacular results. It has a deep color and smells like plum with a

chocolate aftertaste. Green wine, or “Vinho Verde,” is a wine made in northern Portugal. This region has produced wine for 2,000 years. It is not based off a single grape. This one is a young

wine. The winemakers would bottle the early versions of the wine before it had completed malolactic fermentation, which caused the wine to have a slight fizz to it. A slight effervescence, which is usually a fault in wine, became very popular. The winemakers found people liked it so much they didn’t filter or rack the wines so as to leave sediment in the wine so the fermentation – and the fizz – could continue.

Although current techniques of production no longer use this procedure, the wine is crisp and high in acids. It is still a relatively young wine. If does include a little fizz, that’s because it was added to the wine after the fermentation was complete. The wine can be red, white or rose.

The most popular versions are white wines

without the fizz that are high in acid. They are great wines with big fish dishes. The most popular and highly rated white grape varietals include Alvarinho, Avesso, Azal, Arinto, Loureiro and Trajadura.

Try some Aglianico and some Vinho Verde this coming fall. What’s old is new again.

Ray Spaziani is the Chapter Director of the New Haven Chapter of the American Wine Society. He teaches wine appreciation classes at Gateway Community College and for the Milford Board of Education Adult Ed Program, and is a member of the International Tasting Panel of Amenti Del Vino and Wine Maker Magazine. He is an award-winning home wine maker. Email Ray with your wine questions and wine events at Realestatepro1000@gmail.com

Here’s To Your Health:

It breaks my heart when I read studies showing that only 23 percent of adult Americans are getting enough aerobic and muscle strengthening exercise. Despite the wealth of health knowledge we have at our fingertips, rates of obesity, heart disease and cancer are still climbing.

The CDC recently reported that only 28.8 percent of men and 20.9 percent of women meet federal exercise guidelines. Why?

What is at the root of our apathy towards our health and wellness? We all have a desire to live long, healthy, disease-free lives. So what is the disconnect? I do believe I have an inclination of what may be at the root of it all.



MICHELE TENNEY

Let’s Get a Move On

When was the last time you told yourself you were more important than the things on your to-do list, the projects at work or your laundry basket? Perhaps somewhere along the way of growing up you bought into a lie that you needed to be perfect to receive acceptance and love. Perhaps you’re in an environment where climbing the ladder is the only way to achieve a good paycheck or status.

If any of these things resonates with you, perhaps it’s time to ask yourself what it’s all worth. What’s the cost? Your body is an investment, so why save up for retirement if you’re not going to be around to enjoy it, or

perhaps spend it paying medical bills.

I don’t need to tell you the benefits of working out, eating healthy, destressing and getting the proper amount of sleep. What I would really like you to hear and know is that you are worth the time and the effort. Nothing should come before making yourself the first priority when it comes to whole wellness – mind, soul and body.

I know that most of us struggle to make ends meet. Some of us are single moms (I’ve been there) and are carrying a heavy load. Most of us feel as though we really don’t have the time. On Tuesdays and Thursdays I meet a friend for a bootcamp class that starts at 5:30 a.m. Getting up at 4:45 twice a week is not my idea of fun. But those happen to be my busiest days to fit in a workout. And my friend? Her

schedule is tremendously busier than mine.

If you’re working out and you’re not getting a good sweat four to six days a week, weight training twice a week and doing some form of yoga, Pilates and/or stretching, you are not a part of the 23 percent meeting the goal. People who live in active communities are more likely to be more active, so we really need to evaluate where we live and what we can do better. It is a community affair. Stop and evaluate how you can make time to make yourself a priority.

Where there’s a will there is a way. I believe in you. You can do this.

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

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We Asked The Candidates Some Questions...

Probate courts in Connecticut handle a wide range of issues that intimately affect the lives of residents, from childhood to death. What can the Milford-Orange probate court do to improve the services it provides, and what do you intend to do to make those changes happen?

Candidate Response: Milford-Orange Probate Judge

Christopher T. Goulden – R

Thank you for the invitation and opportunity to respond to your question regarding what the Milford-Orange Probate Court can do to improve its services and how I would make those changes. I have set forth some of those changes in my candidacy for Probate Judge. When I announced my candidacy, I stressed that if elected, I would make sure that the probate court would serve all of its citizens in a manner that its citizens needed.

When citizens appear before the Probate Court, they have just lost a loved one, or they

are dealing with the challenges of a loved one's competency or the struggles of a minor child's guardianship. They have the added stresses of having to take time from their jobs to deal with these life-altering situations. It is imperative for the Probate Court to understand the needs of its citizens at these times and to provide them an opportunity to have the assistance of the court on days and at times that are not "usual business hours."

To that end, and with my commitment to keeping at the forefront of my work that the

Probate Court serves the taxpayer, I would advocate for evening and weekend hours so that people who work, or have other daytime responsibilities, can still have access to the court.

Citizens are often faced with a great number of questions that seem daunting to them regarding their rights and the procedures in the Probate Court. While judges cannot give legal advice, my goal to address these concerns would be to establish an outreach clinic program with local attorneys. As the

President of the Milford Bar Association I am with a great many attorneys who are committed to this community. There are attorneys who have already offered me the generosity of their time in order to accomplish my goal of establishing these clinics for the benefit of our citizens.

These are necessary changes that have been needed for a very long time, and now is the time to implement these changes, and assist our citizens in Milford and Orange with their Probate Court.

Candidate Response: Milford-Orange Probate Judge

Hon. Beverly K. Streit-Kefalas – D

From improving efficiencies in procedures and finances to keeping up with modern technology, I have been a leader in improving the Milford-Orange Probate Court and the state system since my first election in 1998.

Probate matters are more than just legal cases. Each case is a family with needs beyond legal concerns. Families who grieve for the loss of a loved one, who worry for the well-being of a grandchild or the parent who has addiction problems. A son fearful for a mom with dementia, or parents concerned that their disabled child will be 18 but continue to need support. Being probate judge is not just about the law – it's about your family.

In the nearly 20 years I have been probate judge, I have been extensively involved with many improvements to the court. My work for change includes saving the state millions of dollars through court consolidation to working as an originating judge in the first Regional Children's Probate Court.

Recognizing that our families' needs were greater than just legal, I worked with other New Haven area probate judges to develop and open the state's first Regional Children's Probate Courts. Since 2004, I have been

meeting the legal and the psychological needs of abused, neglected and abandoned children and their families to ensure safe placement with relatives where each child can thrive and succeed rather than in state custody.

In 2006 the Council of State Governments awarded the court with its Innovations Award for "exemplary state programs." The children's court, of which I am currently the Administrative Judge, has continued as a model for additional children's courts in the state. In recognition of my expertise on children and improving services, the Probate Court Administrator appointed me to implement this model in New London and in Meriden.

In addition to the critical daily work with hearings and deciding cases, my court involvement includes ensuring that the statewide probate court is continually modernizing while maintaining its tradition as a user-friendly system. Since my first election, I have volunteered on many Probate Assembly committees to work on changes to Connecticut laws and to work with our legislators to improve access and assistance in the probate courts.

In 2011, I was appointed to the Probate

Court Practice Book Advisory Committee to undertake the first substantial revision of the probate court procedures in decades. This publication is a hands-on user's guide on the rules of probate court procedure for lay people and lawyers alike. It has incorporated many changes to ensure communication between fiduciaries and parties in probate as well as to assist the general public in how to handle a probate matter. I continue to serve on that committee and am the chair of one of its subcommittees.

Key to the probate court is its user-friendliness, where families can meet their probate needs on their own. To ensure access to the court and expedited hearings, I am available after hours for matters such as protecting at-risk children for immediate temporary custody or end of life medical treatment emergencies.

In addition to promoting the consolidation of courts saving millions of dollars, I also worked to require that all probate courts are open full-time and that all judges are lawyers. In recent years, I have advocated for electronic filing, which will include online access to a case by the parties. This initiative will begin shortly and will allow parties to remotely

review court files and file documents without having to actually visit the court.

This past spring, I was selected as a symposium panelist on Unsupervised Probate at the Quinnipiac Law School to review existing procedures in Connecticut and other states to explore expedited alternatives to the current probate system.

However, change goes beyond legal services. We also need to support our community services. Advocacy for families includes my life-long volunteer commitment to many community organizations. As a long-time board member of Bridges Healthcare, Inc., I work for funding and access to behavioral and mental health services. As an appointee to the Milford Senior Center board, I ensure our senior center offers the best in the state. As a past board member and active volunteer for the United Way of Milford and other agencies, I volunteer so all the needs of our families can be met – not just the probate court needs.

You deserve an experienced full-time Milford-Orange Probate Judge committed to your probate and personal needs. I ask for your vote on election day so I may continue to meet your family's needs.

Connecticut's budget deficit is expected to be over \$4 billion in the next two years. At the same time, state money for education and aid to Orange and Milford has been slashed. What specifically will you do to improve the state's fiscal situation while helping the towns?

Candidate Response – State Senate 14

James Maroney – D

It's no secret: Connecticut's finances are not in great shape. For far too many years too many members of the General Assembly and governors of both political parties – Republicans and Democrats – have kicked the proverbial fiscal can down the road. As a result, Connecticut's budget is in the midst of a fiscal reckoning. With forecasted deficits reaching into the billions over the next two years, this is going to require an all-hands-on-deck approach.

First, we need to ensure that we are protecting the quality of life in our communities. A lot of us were attracted to Milford and Orange because of the quality of their schools and the quality of life our towns offer. If I am elected to the Senate I will fight to protect aid to cities and towns, hold the line on property taxes and fund our local schools so that our kids are prepared for college and jobs in the modern economy. I will do this by

working to deliver balanced budgets.

To put the state's fiscal house in order we need to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past. For more than half a century, Connecticut governors and legislatures did not put enough (or any) money into the state's pension funds. Connecticut must never again fail to make the actuarially required contributions to our pension funds.

Connecticut can help preserve our quality life by making smarter financial decisions when it comes to our resources. We need to assess all state assets to see if any of them, such as the state lottery corporation, can be placed within the teachers' retirement program or state retirement program to bolster the assets of those pension funds. This would help to reduce the increasing amount of payments that must be made towards the state's unfunded liabilities.

Additionally, we need to explore

innovative methods for reducing costs. The largest line item in the state budget is Medicaid. Connecticut must find ways to reduce the cost of prescription drugs, as they represent an increasing component of Medicaid expenses.

The state should also implement "Pay for Success" financing methods to reduce costs. Pay for Success is an approach to contracting that ties payment for service delivery to the achievement of measurable outcomes as a means of ensuring that high-quality, effective social services are working for individuals and communities. To give just one example, the state of Ohio has already utilized Pay for Success financing to reduce their costs around asthma treatment.

Finally, Connecticut needs to develop a rational and coherent economic development strategy that fosters a climate where small businesses like mine are confident that they

can make investments and grow jobs. That means providing stability and certainly to the business community and taxpayers by delivering a state budget that is balanced and on time. It also means listening to the business community, from our largest employers to our locally owned business, and working with community colleges and other higher education institutions to create a school-to-jobs pipeline.

It is true that Connecticut faces many significant challenges, but our state is also a great place to live with an enormous amount of raw potential. It's a place I've chosen to raise my family, and a place that I am proud to call "home." We have work to do, and it will take smart decisions by the next legislature and governor, but we are all in this together. I look forward to working with you and I ask for your support to serve as your next state senator.

Connecticut's budget deficit is expected to be over \$4 billion in the next two years. At the same time, state money for education and aid to Orange and Milford has been slashed. What specifically will you do to improve the state's fiscal situation while helping the towns?

Candidate Response – State Senate 14 Pam Staneski – R

The last several years' "fixes" used to address fiscal challenges have only contributed to the current fiscal mess we face today. These include negotiated deals with public bargaining units, reducing state services, and passing the two largest tax increases in the state's history, and the governor's favorite – mid-year holdbacks.

Every year the state takes in more money in taxes than the prior year, and every year it spends exponentially more too, meaning the state isn't really suffering from a lack of revenue, just the self-control to stop spending all of it. This past session I worked with my colleagues to change this continuing budgeting cycle by placing strict controls on the state's checkbook and credit card. We were able to include a spending cap and bonding cap in the final budget. These, along with other structural changes, are baby steps necessary to achieve a financial balance so that we can provide what municipalities

want – predictable and sustainable budgets.

I hear our city and town leaders when they say *no more mandates* and have promoted policy that would require a super-majority vote to enact any unfunded mandate on municipalities. These unfunded mandates contribute to increasing property taxes that hit our seniors and working families the hardest.

There are five *common sense* principles that my Republican colleagues and I have used to build and offer budget alternatives. Last year, one of those budgets had bipartisan support and passed both House and Senate chambers with my friends from the other side saying, "It was time for the state to change the way business is done" (unfortunately the governor vetoed that budget).

The *common sense* principles we used to craft that and other budgets are:

- Spend within our means: Abide by the spending cap and reduce spending to match what is reasonably anticipated in revenue

without adding new taxes.

- Borrow only what you can afford to pay back: Stand by the newly enacted bonding cap and restrict borrowing to public works projects, school construction, and roads and rails. Stop the silly spending – \$12,000 clocks, renaming of stadiums, and a *\$10 million-dollar toll study*.

- If it's not broken, don't fix it; but if it's not working, get rid of it: Implement a results-first policy with all state programs in which they are evaluated every two years and those that do not achieve stated results are eliminated.

- The more government tries to do, the less it does well: We need to focus on public safety, education, public health and transportation and look for other means to provide non-core functions

And finally:

- We should have all the government we need, but only the government we

need: Consolidate services to eliminate duplication.

Fixing Connecticut will not be done overnight. As a state policymaker, I have and will continue to hold our government accountable and work to get our economy back on track. I believe that we need to create an environment that encourages businesses to choose Connecticut and keep businesses that we have. Practicing the above principles in policymaking will help make Connecticut business friendly again. Businesses come to Connecticut and jobs come with them, houses get purchased, classrooms get filled, budgets get help from a growing tax base and local communities thrive.

It would be an honor to be a voice for the 14th Senate district and continue to bring these common sense principles that I have practiced as your State Representative to Hartford to accomplish positive outcomes for our district and Connecticut.

Candidate Response – State House 114 Themis Klarides – R

All indications for the next biennial budget are that Connecticut, once again, faces a massive deficit. The non-partisan Office of Fiscal Analysis puts the number at more than \$4 billion over that two-year period. Despite the two largest tax increases in state history, in 2011 and 2015, revenues have not kept up with exploding costs.

The lesson of the last eight years is that if we do not make significant decreases in overall spending, tax revenue hikes will not be enough to balance the budget.

Republicans have taken on deficits in recent years and have offered balanced budgets without raising taxes. During the budget impasse of 2017 Republicans authored and offered at least eight budget plans that were balanced and did not contain tax hikes. It was only when we were able to come together on a bipartisan plan in the fall of that year that the stalemate was ended.

That budget also did not include tax hikes.

Locally our towns stood to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars primarily for education under the governor's proposal for the current fiscal year. The legislature mitigated some of the cuts and was able to restore some of the funding within the bipartisan budget we enacted this spring.

The major problem we face now are the so-called fixed costs within our budget framework that inhibit our ability to account for changes in the economy. Those costs are largely for personnel: long-term retirement and healthcare benefits, and a no-layoff provision that the governor negotiated with state labor unions in 2017 within the State Employee Bargaining Agents Coalition agreement.

That no-layoff ban does not expire until after the next two-year budget.

The biggest impediment to getting our fiscal house in order is SEBAC because

it was extended out to 2027. One way to address the looming deficit is to have the unions agree to re-open the plan, although at this point there appears to be little incentive on the part of organized labor to do so. Another option available is to raise taxes, something I am not prepared to do.

One proposal Republicans put forth during the 2017 budget battle was an innovative plan that allowed the state to save hundreds of millions now by accounting for future savings once the SEBAC provisions expire. The OFA's non-partisan staff agreed that we could reduce current costs by planning on a smaller workforce with smaller long-term pension costs. Our annual pension contributions would drop and those savings would be applied to fill the coming fiscal hole.

That proposal was rejected.

Better overall management of state government is also going to be required in

order to eliminate the deficit. For instance, overtime costs are exploding, costing us millions because of collective bargaining arrangements favorable to labor. In the Department of Corrections alone, overtime costs increased by \$10 million in just one year. The rules and regulations within collective bargaining have to be addressed.

The spike in overtime also leads to future deficits because retiring state workers are allowed to calculate their pensions based on their total salary, which includes overtime.

This is not to be critical of state employees; they are simply living within the rules that have been set by collective bargaining. But those rules must change, either now with a negotiated agreement with labor, or in the future when the rules expire.

Candidate Response – State House 114 Mary Welander – D

For me, this is personal. The success of our state will help determine if my family, my children – all of our children and families – can find success here.

In order to protect our towns and schools from further reductions in aid we need to look beyond broad statements of "cutting government spending" and be proactive in our investments. Yes, we need to eliminate inefficiencies and develop smarter ways to operate within the state, but there are simple, low-cost/high-impact actions that can encourage fiscal growth in our towns, our region and our state.

Retaining and attracting businesses will be key, but we need to approach this in a new way.

For example, let's look at our children in the educational system from a product development perspective. We invest vast amounts of resources – time, money, land – in our children and their education because we know they are our most important investment. We try to provide as many different options for enrichment and access as possible, whether through athletics, music and performing arts, academics, or other clubs and activities, as we

recognize that this exposure teaches them the lessons they need to become the leaders of tomorrow. In effect, we develop a product for 18-21 years, and when it is ready to launch and become a productive member of our community it is often shipped to another state because there aren't enough viable options here. That just doesn't make any sense to me.

I would work to develop stronger partnerships between our schools and the advanced manufacturing and technology industries in our region. Not only would this provide a clear pathway for graduates toward well-paying, respected work, it would help fill some of the 10,000 unfilled manufacturing jobs in the state that exist right now. We should work with companies like Sikorsky to educate and develop the workforce that will meet their needs now and in the future. Technology and innovation require cutting edge thinking and adaptability. By starting partnerships or, at the very least, dialogues with our students when they are still in school we can give them the advantage of expanded opportunities as well as demonstrate a strong regional commitment toward technological innovation.

To be clear, I know that advanced manufacturing is only part of the puzzle that will help fix our state's economy. We are seeing a clear lack of communication and dialogue between our universities, our business community and Hartford. We need to open these pathways and be leaders in forging connections between these groups if we want to compete with states like New York and Massachusetts that retain and attract new businesses due in part to the easily accessed skilled workforce. We already have a strong educational foundation in place; taking the next logical steps would have a ripple effect on our economic activity that would provide much needed revenue, which in turn would lighten the ever-growing tax burden on our middle-class families.

The reality is there aren't any quick fixes – and those who tried that in the past have made the situation worse. When we look at the most thriving cities and states around the country, their success stems from the same approach: learning from their history while governing for the future. The companies of tomorrow – and the families who will work

for them and support the local economy – will establish themselves in states that are looking ahead, not behind. States that provide safe neighborhoods, access to quality education, a support structure for all their residents, responsibly managed state government, and access to affordable healthcare and medications have seen their GDP grow, unemployment numbers go down, and economic activity grow generally.

Put simply, their quality of life has gone up and their state is stronger.

We don't need to reinvent the wheel, but we do need change. It's time to stop pointing fingers and end the practice of short-sighted policymaking. It's time for a fresh perspective from someone who is willing to do the hard work needed to get our state back on track and protect the towns we love.

I have personally knocked on well over 2,000 doors to listen to the concerns and worries of my neighbors. If elected, I promise to keep listening and to fight to make our state and our towns better and stronger, both for my family and for yours. I would be honored to earn your vote.

Connecticut's budget deficit is expected to be over \$4 billion in the next two years. At the same time, state money for education and aid to Orange and Milford has been slashed. What specifically will you do to improve the state's fiscal situation while helping the towns?

Candidate Response – State House 117 Cindy Wolfe Boynton – D

My vision for Connecticut includes us simultaneously growing state revenue; increasing our investment in education; and creating a pipeline for young people and unemployed workers alike to get good-paying jobs in fast-growing industries.

It's a giant, multifaceted task. But these are giant, multifaceted issues. We can no longer afford to look at educational problems as separate from economical ones. They are intrinsically connected.

Rather than turning to education whenever budget cuts are needed, we should be investing in early and the highest-quality education for every child. This is why Connecticut needs new leaders, with new ideas, to take us in a new direction.

But before I go further, let me be clear: I am against turning to taxes to solve our fiscal mess. Rather, our state needs to be open for business and progress, which is currently not the case. Regulatory burdens are holding back businesses from being successful here, and the same is true in education.

We need a clear path for communities like ours to do good work without being penalized for innovation. I will be a hands-on legislator committed to not just facilitating

positive change, but to spending time with stakeholders to discover how best to do it.

An example: Worried about the lack of skills I was seeing in some of the community college students entering my English classes, I decided a couple of years ago to spend some time between semesters visiting, and substitute teaching at, area schools. Among the many things I witnessed:

- ZIP code determines the quality of education our children receive.

- We are not letting our teachers teach. Under such pressure to ensure students score high on mandated tests, they are unable to meet students' individual needs.

- Towns like Milford and Orange – towns with slashed state education funds that have figured out how to do more with less – are being punished, rather than rewarded, for innovation and good work.

Our state seems to have gotten to a place where (A) we see funding of public school systems as a necessary burden, and (B) we judge the success of these systems by how many graduates go on to college.

But what if, instead, we decided to view education funding as an investment essential to the futures of our residents and state.

The goal of high school would be not just to prepare students to get accepted into the best colleges – something that today is seen as a must, rather than a choice – but to help them become their best selves. School would be where students gained knowledge, discovered their individual talents, and were encouraged to take the best next step.

For some, that next step might be college. But for others, it might be to learn a trade or enter an apprenticeship program.

Aside from our vastly under-supported vo-tech high schools, no statewide pipeline currently exists to educate young people about the benefits of learning the skills needed to enter fast-growing, good-paying fields like advanced manufacturing. Yet the benefits of creating this kind of program could be far reaching.

Connecticut manufacturers currently employ approximately 160,000 workers. The industry is growing so fast, however, that a need for up to 14,000 additional skilled workers is expected over the next few years. Right now, there are 2,000-plus good-paying, open manufacturing jobs available across the state, but no skilled workers to fill them.

Creating programs to guide students and

unemployed workers toward the training needed to take on these positions will help grow our economy, increase our tax base, and reduce the number of people receiving state assistance.

Filling these jobs will also mean more people staying and living in Connecticut. The benefits of providing state manufacturers with the skilled workers they need, and perhaps even attracting new manufacturers to relocate here, goes without saying.

When it comes to improved education and economic policy making, Connecticut needs more than money. It needs forward-thinking leaders able to create the kinds of partnerships that will make both people and companies want to stay and work here. Change like this takes time, but the results become long term and, perhaps most importantly, can serve as the foundation for even more growth.

A pro-growth economy requires not just a motivated, well-trained workforce, but a modern, pro-business atmosphere. Bogged down by policies written before cell phones and computers existed, our current regulatory system needs to be reviewed for burdens that are preventing the Connecticut economy – and the educational and workforce opportunities we provide our children – to grow.

Candidate Response – State House 117 Charles Ferraro – R

After the 2016 election, we entered the 2017 legislative session facing a billion-dollar budget crisis due to years of governors and the majority party kicking major financial problems down the road.

Early on in the 2017 session, Gov. Dannel P. Malloy and the majority party, the Democrats, made our fiscal problems worse by catering to unions by approving a deal to restructure the state's pension problems. The deal extended the state's payment of the unfunded liabilities by an additional 15 years, which will end up costing taxpayers more than \$11 billion.

In addition, later in the year Malloy and the majority party rubber stamped another deal with the unions. This agreement, the SEBAC agreement, extended union benefits until 2027, included a three-year no-layoff provision, and guaranteed bonuses and wage increases starting in 2019.

I highlight these two union deals because you can't talk about the budget crisis without addressing union contracts and the unfunded pension liabilities facing taxpayers.

For the entire 2017 session, House

Republicans didn't sit on the sidelines. As the minority party, we wanted a seat at the table and to help find solutions that would move our state forward.

We offered a number of budget proposals and an alternative SEBAC agreement.

Our SEBAC agreement would have forced fringe benefits to be approved by a statute and didn't include guaranteed pay increases or a no-layoff provision, but the proposal was rejected by the majority party.

However, in a historic vote, a Republican budget was passed in September 2017. The budget included a state spending cap, a bond cap, additional aid to cities and towns, and added \$58 million in FY18 funding and \$160 million in FY19.

Yet Malloy decided to play partisan politics and vetoed the bipartisan budget. A new bipartisan budget was then passed with a veto-proof majority.

The final passed budget provided cities and towns with a predicable ECS formula that didn't shift teachers pensions onto municipalities and implemented municipal mandate relief.

As we entered the 2018 legislative session, there was a significant drop-off in tax revenue, which created a deficit of \$165 million in the FY19 budget. Republicans got right back to work to find solutions to fix the shortfall.

Malloy offered his proposal early in the 2018 session. The Malloy budget proposal relied heavily on tax increases and eliminated funding to 33 towns, including Orange.

Just like in 2017, Republicans offered a budget proposal that rejected Malloy's attack on fiscally responsible municipalities like Orange and Milford. Ultimately, Republicans and Democrats came together again to agree on a FY19 budget that continued to exempt municipal aid from holdbacks.

As you can see, the past two years have been very busy in Hartford. Addressing the budget problems of Connecticut has always been my top priority.

I was proud to work in a bipartisan manner to pass budgets that prevented drastic cuts to our towns and cities and our local school districts.

If Malloy had his way Orange and Milford

would have seen municipal cuts in the millions and local leaders would have been forced to raise property taxes to cover the loss in state funding.

Even though we stopped the Malloy agenda this time, many of his failed policies were implemented by the majority party.

I believe the only way we restore our economy is by eliminating many of the tax-and-spend policies of the past eight years and focusing on prioritizing spending and borrowing.

We need a long-term vision for the state of Connecticut, a vision that gives taxpayers and business owners hope. The state can no longer operate month-to-month or day-by-day. We need to regain the confidence of taxpayers, and that starts by stabilizing our economy.

Our number one focus as lawmakers in Hartford has to be on the budget and fixing our economy. We need to stay focused on Connecticut and not Washington, D.C. partisan politics.

I will always be committed to fixing our state and putting taxpayers first!

Candidate Response – State House 118 Kim Rose – D

As a state representative, my number one priority, and responsibility, is to advocate for the 118th district in Milford, which means being fully committed to bringing as much state funding back to our community as possible. This year, I was able to fight Gov. Dannel P. Malloy's proposed cuts to education aid and secure an additional \$746,371 over what Milford received for fiscal year 2018.

The budget deficit is largely due to the state's ballooning fixed costs as employees retire, and decades of underfunding of our long-term debt obligations by both parties.

Clearly part of the answer to our current

fiscal challenge is learning to do more with less.

I will not support any tax increase, but believe it is unrealistic to eliminate the state's income tax as some have suggested. This would only result in the slashing of vital services residents depend upon, and cause local property taxes to rise as a result of less state aid for education, road repairs, etc.

Advocating for state aid for Milford is the most important part of the job of your state representative. We want to give municipalities a solid and dependable foundation on which to supplement their own budgets. When cutting state aid, the very real consequence

of rising property taxes becomes apparent, and we've seen this already. Municipalities control the property tax, and I don't want to see Milford in a position where they have to raise this tax again to make ends meet for the city's budget.

A large part of working our way out of this deficit while taking care of municipalities – and it is a long-term project – is boosting the economy. We must continue our investments in education, especially technical schools, to give companies a skilled workforce, and a reason for both companies and employees to stay in Connecticut!

Additionally, earned family and medical

leave, a livable minimum wage, and protections for affordable healthcare are all proven ways to attract young people to come live and work in our state. Having a skilled workforce is the best way to help companies thrive, and a booming economy can raise revenue and help the state get to financial stability. These issues are all connected.

If I am fortunate enough to be reelected, I will also work to identify and eliminate wasteful spending in government, while being a fierce advocate for Milford. We need to change the state's direction and focus on investing in the middle class.

Connecticut's budget deficit is expected to be over \$4 billion in the next two years. At the same time, state money for education and aid to Orange and Milford has been slashed. What specifically will you do to improve the state's fiscal situation while helping the towns?

Candidate Response – State House 118

Connie Jagodzinski – R

This next legislative session will go down in history as the longest fire walk on the burning coals of Connecticut's budget deficit. There will be 189 official participants: 151 state representatives, 36 senators, the governor and the lieutenant governor. But every Connecticut resident will feel the heat. The ground has been laid for decades by one-party rule, the fire lit by unsustainable contracts, wasteful spending and partisan politics. Every candidate for office this year knows this walk is inevitable but has still volunteered. If elected, there's no way around it, no way out except to cross it.

People in Connecticut want a clear, simple answer to what I'll try to do about the deficit that will safeguard both our state and our cities and I will give it.

It's simple common sense that the first two steps on which everything else depends is to cut wasteful spending and then cut taxes. It's a no-brainer. Cutting waste and spending will free up revenue and make it possible to enact tax cuts. Do this and there will be money for our towns and schools and everything else. Within reason. We must get our economic

house in order to effect desperately needed, long lasting changes that improve the lives of Connecticut residents, encourage business growth and create a state people want to move into.

If you want specifics on what cuts would repay taxpayers with immediate returns, I'll give you a few gathered from months of research by reputable, respected sources.

Specific waste and spending cuts:

- Eliminate Pork: 'Pork' is vote-getting projects that bring some advantage/improvement to a legislator's town/district. No more pork until Connecticut's financial crisis is resolved. Deal with it.

- Eliminate/streamline departments: State audit reports, which have been ignored and disregarded for years, show a staggering, mind-boggling lack of departmental management: unauthorized payout of comp time for retiring state employees, no-bid contracts, unauthorized rehiring of retired employees (double dippers), dead employees receiving transportation cost reimbursements from the Department of Social Services and misuse of state vehicles, to name only a few.

- Tens of millions of dollars in grant money to large corporations (over \$70 million in assistance and tax credits to Bridgewater – one of the largest hedge funds in the world).

- Tax fraud in the Earned Income Tax Credit program, estimated to be between 20 percent to 30 percent.

- Connecticut transportation administration costs are three times higher than other states. So why do our roads fall apart after only two years? Europe's roads last 20 years.

- Eliminate all but one deputy commissioner in all agencies.

- Consolidate legislative committees.

- Prohibit taxpayer dollars from being used to pay for union work by state employees. Currently, union contracts allow employees to take time off to do union work but still get paid a normal salary. We are paying for union work being done on taxpayers' time. There are documented cases of employees who haven't shown up for work in years, yet they continue to be paid six-figure salaries!

- Trains and bus lines that are over-served and underused.

- Excessive bonding for unwanted,

unnecessary projects forced upon communities.

Of course, the two biggest issues facing legislators are the state union agreement, which guarantees union workers gold-plated health benefits and job security, and funding retirement pensions. Shame on all lawmakers who failed to fund the pensions and kicked the can down the road for others to deal with. So what are we to do? Fund those pensions! People worked all their lives and deserve their pensions, but from now on, workers must take more responsibility for their own pensions.

I hope this clarifies the positions I will take as a state legislator. No one person has all the answers, but the first step must be to cut waste so less revenue is needed. Only then can you lower taxes to give people and businesses desperately needed relief. This goes beyond party lines. Every department, every budget, every bill must be scrutinized.

The only question our new legislators should ask after this election is, "How does this help Connecticut?"

Formula for success: Put your feet to the fire and get moving.

Candidate Response – State House 119

Ellen Russell Beatty – D

Municipalities continually face challenges of decreased state aid that lead to service cuts and increasing dependence on local property taxes. All municipalities are grappling with the need to enhance quality of life while costs of healthcare, education and essential services rise. I oppose further cuts to municipal aid and consider these challenges as complicated but solvable. It is time to examine the financial structure of Connecticut and develop long-term solutions to the problems facing us.

One such long-term, structural solution might begin with the Educational Cost Sharing fund which is distributed to towns as a grant to support elementary public education in Connecticut. Anticipated funding in 2017-18 was not made available to municipalities and our elected officials moved quickly to condemn cuts to municipal aid. The ECS account had not been properly sustained by the legislature due to inadequate funding over a period of many years. The ECS grant is also intended to equalize state funding on education based on a formula adopted by the legislature. I support the ongoing updating of the ECS formula and a commitment to fully fund ECS based on these determinations. Quality, well-funded public education

benefits everyone and drives the engine of prosperity for Connecticut. This is not going to be easy and will take creative problem solving, long-term planning, collaboration and patience.

In the meantime, we can begin the process of making certain that fixed costs are sustainable with a dedicated revenue stream for the ECS fund. One suggestion worth exploring is securing a specific percentage of the state lottery toward the state teachers retirement fund and/or ECS. Strategies to create dedicated revenue streams serve an important purpose of avoiding the negative consequences of inadequate state funding, dependence on property taxes, cost-shifting to municipalities and cutbacks to town aid while keeping the funds sustainable. I support the newly created Connecticut Achievement and Resource Equity in Schools Commission, which will bring expertise, important stakeholders and necessary data to recommendations regarding the funding and distribution of state education funds.

Another strategy to create sustainable funding streams without raising taxes includes refinancing of the state debt and pension liability burdens. Refinancing of the debt, unfunded liabilities and bonding

can be used to relieve the fiscal burden in the short term while long-term adjustments are developed and a vibrant economy is supported.

Connecticut must invest in public education, infrastructure, business innovation, health care, job creation and the environment. People will flock to work in areas with opportunity and they will spend hard-earned money in the communities in which they live. Connecticut can and will develop "smart" living areas where middle and working-class people want to live and work.

It is the responsibility of elected officials to find creative solutions to complex problems and move forward with action plans. Suggestions to control health care costs include creation of partnerships with municipalities and state plans. This may be an answer for small businesses as well and serve as an opportunity to create legislation and enact policies that allow for health care pooling to benefit all through partnerships. These can be both public and private partnerships that capitalize on volume as a means of holding down expenses.

There has been an absence of long-term thinking to address the challenges facing Connecticut and promote a vision of growth

and prosperity. We need bold new ideas to make the economy of Connecticut work again. There are many factors that have contributed to the current economic situation, and therefore a diversity of plans and actions are required to set the state in the right direction.

The challenges may be steep, but they are surmountable as long as new ideas and action plans emerge. The politics of blame, doom and gloom coupled with inertia will not serve us well. Despite the negative campaign by Republicans, Connecticut is still attractive to outside business. Tech giant Infosys is establishing a Hartford site that will employ 1,000 people, mostly in high-wage jobs, due in part to Hartford's reputation as an important tech city. Connecticut has a well-educated workforce, a diversified economy in finance, defense, education and health services.

It will take the reestablishment and investment in the building blocks of the middle class along with the hard work of reexamining our financial structure to sustain these investments. Simply put, it is time again to nurture housing, education, infrastructure, transportation and health care for the long-term benefit of Connecticut. Our beautiful state and the people who reside here deserve no less.

Candidate Response – State House 119

Kathleen Kennedy – R

As a long-time PTA member and former state PTA president, I am dedicated to being the voice for our children, an advocate for providing sound curriculum and quality instruction for all children in Connecticut. As the next state representative in the 119th House district, I will continue to be that voice.

The Educational Cost Sharing grant has been in existence since 1989-1990 and is the primary education equalization aid program in Connecticut. It accounts for well over 50 percent of the total state contribution to public elementary and secondary education. ECS is a formula that follows a pupil-based model. We need to ensure all towns receive their proper share of state and federal grants for education. Over the years the formula

has not properly been used throughout Connecticut, resulting in school districts scrambling to meet their budgets. There continues to be an inequity facing many of our towns and cities. Currently, that formula has been challenged and we are awaiting a decision from the Appellate Court.

The Connecticut State Department of Education mandates most of the standards governing our children's education. With unfunded mandates, it creates a hardship and unreasonable burden on our towns and the taxpayers. All children must be provided with an opportunity to receive a quality public education, regardless of where they live.

The last two years, Gov. Dannel P. Malloy has threatened to slash education funding to

many communities, including Milford and Orange, and that threat was beaten back by Republican lawmakers each time. We need to make sure any future governor knows they face united opposition to any massive cuts to our local education budgets. The cuts the governor proposed would have forced both Orange and Milford to either dramatically raise property taxes or would have led to large-scale school layoffs.

In the upcoming session the legislature will be facing a huge budget deficit that will need to be addressed. I will oppose any budget plan which puts Milford or Orange education funding in peril. The successes in our local education budgeting should not be penalized to the benefit of fiscally mismanaged

communities like Hartford and New Haven.

One of the first priorities to address next year will be the almost \$4.5 billion deficit left by the previous Malloy administration. Too many of our hard-earned tax dollars have been spent unwisely, and we need to stop the constant over-spending in Hartford and the never-ending tax increases. Small businesses continue to leave Connecticut because the costs of doing business in this state and the mandates placed on those small businesses make it impossible to succeed.

I'm running for state representative to take the fight to the State Capitol and protect the interests of Orange and Milford. We cannot permit taxpayers to pay for the bad budgeting of others.

Ferraro Gets Independent Party Nod

State Rep. Charles Ferraro received the endorsement Aug. 29 from the third largest political party, the Independent Party of Connecticut in his run to maintain his 117th district seat. The district includes parts of Orange, Milford and West Haven.

"I want to thank all the Independent Party members that came out to support me on Wednesday," Ferraro said. "I have always been committed to working across the aisle and listening to residents' concerns no matter their party affiliation."

"In my two terms in Hartford, I have passed bipartisan legislation that has helped working families, seniors, veterans, and those suffering from addiction," he continued. "We need leaders who are going

to stay focused on the issues impacting Connecticut and provide real solutions on how to fix our state. I believe my track record in Hartford proves that I am a candidate that is 100 percent committed to fixing our state and doing so with an independent mindset and not a partisan one."

Ferraro, a Republican, has held his current seat since 2014, when he ran as a political outsider and defeated longtime incumbent Paul Davis. He faces Democrat Cindy Wolfe Boynton in November.

Ferraro lives in West Haven with his wife. He owns West Haven Academy of Karate, Inc. and oversees over 70 karate schools in the United States and 30 in South America.

Milford Independent Party Endorses Maroney

James Maroney, a Democrat running for the state Senate for the 14th district, received the overwhelming endorsement of the Milford Independent Party Aug. 29 by a 25 to 10 vote.

"I am honored to receive the endorsement of the Milford Independent Party," Maroney said after the vote. "I believe they recognized that I could be a new independent voice for our district and they understand that I want to serve the entire district, not just certain factions. We can best solve our problems and move our community forward if we work together."

Milford Democratic Town Committee Chairman Rich Smith was equally supportive, saying, "James' nomination by the Independent Party demonstrates his wide support, across the political spectrum, across

generations and demographics. His honest and common-sense approach to addressing the issues facing our state is refreshing."

Maroney is a small business owner in Milford. He has operated First Choice College Planning since 1999. He has served as president of the Devon Rotary and is co-founder of the Milford Education Association, a group that has donated tens of thousands of dollars supporting local education. He is a graduate of Jonathan Law High School and Yale University. He is a former majority leader of the Milford Board of Education and was a state Representative from 2012 to 2014. He was the driving force behind the recently completed Founders Walk in Milford Center. He lives with his wife and son in Milford.

Klarides Earns Realtors Endorsement

State Rep. Themis Klarides received the endorsement in early September of the Connecticut Realtors Association for her bid to maintain her seat in the legislature this November. The Connecticut REALTORS represents 17,000 members involved in all aspect of real estate in Connecticut. Klarides' district includes parts of Orange.

"I am honored and humbled to receive the endorsement from Connecticut's Realtors," Klarides said. "It is clear that now more than ever they are fully engaged in the process that will determine the path forward for our state and how important it is to have their message resonate. Their 'Help us Sell' Connecticut is the best indication that they understand what is at stake, and I stand ready to work alongside this group."

A native of Seymour, Klarides was raised around a family supermarket business that she has said taught her the value of hard work and the rewards of community involvement. Klarides continues to help manage her

family's shopping plazas in the Valley.

Klarides serves on has on numerous boards and civic organizations in the Valley region. She is of Counsel to Bridgeport-based Cohen and Wolf in the firm's Orange office.

For more information, visit votethemis.com or contact Spencer Rubin at 203-823-5756.



State Rep. Themis Klarides. Contributed photo.

Local Candidates Meet With Homeless Service Providers

Candidates for state office took part in a candidate information session Sept. 6 at the United Way and the Beth-El Center in Milford titled, "From Entry to Exit: How the Greater New Haven Coordinated Access Network is Ending Homelessness."

State Comptroller Kevin Lembo and state Reps. Pam Staneski and Charles Ferraro attended, as well as state representative candidates Cindy Wolf Boynton, Kathleen Kennedy and Connie Jagodzinski.

This nonpartisan information session gave candidates the opportunity to meet with homeless services providers from the Greater New Haven Coordinated Access Network and to learn how investments in homeless services and housing solutions are ending homelessness and saving lives.

"We are so proud to be able to highlight the successful work of the Greater New Haven Coordinated Access Network in ending homelessness across the greater New Haven region," said Beth-El Executive Director Jennifer Paradis. "The Beth-El Center is a proud partner and leader in these efforts and

by the participation in today's informational session and Beth-El Center tour, it is clear that we are all committed to ensuring we do our best to serve the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in our community."

The event began with information sessions at the United Way of Milford. Candidates then took a tour of the Beth-El Center and learned about their Emergency Shelter program. They also visited Liberty Pointe, a permanent supportive housing program that is case managed by the Beth-El Center.

Other providers of the Greater New Haven Coordinated Access Network that took part in the session included Jim Farrales of Continuum of Care, Margaret LeFever of the United Way of Greater New Haven, Sarah Fox of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, Sean Ghio of the Partnership for Strong Communities, Camille Roach of Columbus House, LeAnne Reynolds and Caitlin Rose of New Reach, Elaine Matt of BHCare, Susan Agamy of Spooner House and Marcella Tratnyek of Yale New Haven Hospital.



Local candidates and Greater New Haven Coordinated Access Network providers gather on Sept. 6 to discuss homeless services and housing solutions for the region. Photo courtesy of the Beth-El Center.

PINK IS POPPING UP ALL OVER!

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State Legislative Internship Program Accepting Applications

College students looking for hands-on experience in state government may submit applications for the 2019 Legislative Internship Program for the 2019 legislative session. The application deadline is November 1.

The program seeks to offer Connecticut college students the opportunity to gain knowledge about how state government works through experience in the Connecticut General Assembly.

Students will learn the formal and informal aspects of the legislative process and will be provided with opportunities for training and

academic examination.

They will also become familiar with bill tracking and analysis, policy research, drafting news releases, speeches and/or testimony, social media and administrative functions.

To be eligible for the program, students must be at least 18 years old, have completed 20 college credits, possess a minimum 2.7 GPA and be registered for a course to receive internship credit.

Additional information and applications are available at cga.ct.gov/ISC/INTERNSHIP.ASP.

Profiles

Those Who Give:

Volunteering At An Early Age

Jonathan Law High School sophomore Sam Bergami IV is a young man who has a passion to serve the community. The 15-year-old member of the school's football team makes a point of reaching out to help others, using his enthusiasm and leadership skills to encourage peers to join him.



SHAILEEN LANDSBERG

He began volunteering as a small child, working alongside his parents, Sam Bergami III and Brenda Bergami, and sister Michaela, in numerous charitable initiatives around Milford. Because his father is a member of Milford Rotary Club, Bergami has had the opportunity to be a volunteer at many of the club's events, especially the annual Lobster Bake, serving meals at the Beth-El Center's soup kitchen, and packing toiletries for those receiving services through the center.

He has also volunteered his time alongside his parents at the Milford Oyster Festival, selling food to festival patrons. His positive spirit has brought smiles to all he served.

"I love doing it, and I get to meet so many different people," Bergami said. "It makes me happy."

Bergami also enjoys his role as the volunteer manager of Jonathan Law's varsity girls' softball team.

"I'm very good at motivating them. I help them practice, and last year was proud that they got all the way to the state semi-finals," he said. He plans on continuing to serve as the manager throughout his high school career.

Bergami joined First United Church of Christ's volunteer mission this past summer. He described the trip enthusiastically.

"There was a big group of us; about 40

high school and college age 'kids,' and we went to Spring, Texas, which is a suburb of Houston, for a week. We were helping people there rebuild their homes that were destroyed by Hurricane Harvey last year. It was so rewarding," he said.

Bergami hopes to join another mission trip in the future, maybe someplace outside of the US.

Not all of Bergami's service work has been through official organizations; his caring heart has led him to help others in need as well. For example, he often assisted a (late) elderly neighbor who had health and mobility issues.

"I would help her with stuff that needed to be done, like yardwork or taking out the trash, and other things around the house," he said. "It felt good to help someone who needed it, and she loved it."

Bergami encourages other young people interested in giving back to the community to take steps to get involved.

"There are even clubs at the schools, like

the Interact Club and Key Club, that can help someone get started volunteering," he said.

When asked why he is so involved and encourages others to join him, Bergami grinned. "There is really nothing more rewarding than helping someone out."



Sam Bergami IV. Photo by Shaileen Kelly Landsberg.

Coldwell Banker Orange Associate Earns Premier Certification

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Orange announced Sept. 7 that realtor Lori Miko has completed the real estate industry's most comprehensive residential construction course to earn her national certification as a Residential Construction Certified professional. With this certification, she joins a group dedicated to providing the highest level of professionalism and service.

"This course is recognized as one of the very best ever offered in real estate," explains Miko. "The training covered architectural design and planning, blueprint reading, topography, building site design, evaluating quality construction, materials, methods,

construction terminology and scheduling. This provides me with the expertise, strategies and tools to more professionally assist anyone interested in a brand new or existing home."

"I'm excited to have more of our associates earning this certification," said Aileen DeFeo, manager of Coldwell Banker's Orange office. "This knowledge provides a foundation that allows them to communicate more confidently and professionally with buyers, sellers, appraisers, inspectors, lenders, designers, engineers and construction professionals. This expertise positions them to better help their customers make their best decisions."

Completion of the training involves over

20 hours of specialized interactive course work and successful completion of the RCC certification test. The course was created by trainer, author and consultant Dennis Walsh, who is recognized internationally as a leading authority in all aspects of residential construction, new home sales and marketing.

Miko has been active in real estate sales for 17 years and works in the New Haven and Fairfield County areas. She holds various designations and has recently won the Diamond Society award. She is recognized as a leading sales producer. She can be reached at 203-641-0486, Lori.Miko@cbmoves.com or LoriMikoRealEstate.com.



Lori Miko. Photo courtesy of Coldwell Banker residential Brokerage.

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Compelling Reasons To Vote

Election day is close – a month and a half away. We’re nearing the end of the tiring campaign season and drawing closer to that exciting day when we have the opportunity to choose the best direction forward for ourselves, our children, our grandchildren and generations to come. This year, as in the past, we will voice our opinion and select which individuals are best able to lead us into the future.



JOANNE BYRNE

today’s politics, we must meet our obligations as citizens head-on by staying abreast of what is happening in our government, learning about the candidates and their respective platforms, registering to vote, and then actually voting. In so doing we can look to the lessons of the past to take steps toward a better future.

Here are some additional reasons we should vote:

- We should honor the men and women who fought for our right to vote – founding fathers and freedom fighters, military and first responders – and who continue to fight for the American ideals of equality, justice and democracy today. These voices are essential for our nation’s moral health and communal vitality. Voting is a way to honor their heroism and sacrifice and sets a good example to our children and grandchildren by demonstrating our faith in America.

- Voting is society’s great equalizer. Decisions are made by those who show up. Pollsters do not determine who wins elections; voters do. While the choices we pick are confidential, the fact that we have voted or failed to vote is public record. Elected officials know which individuals and demographic groups are voting. Non-voters are voiceless and by not participating can

Unlike nations that suffer under tyrannical rule, our representative form of government allows active citizen participation. Voting is not just a right; it is a sacred responsibility. Yet compared against other democracies around the world, the US has one of the lowest voter turnout and voter registration percentages. According to the Pew Research Center, only 56 percent of the voting-age population voted in 2016. This is dismally low compared to Sweden’s 83 percent or Germany’s 69 percent. What’s worse is that (according to the OECD) only 64 percent of the voting-age population in America was even registered to vote in 2016.

This is embarrassing. When such a large percentage of America isn’t even registered to vote, it’s no wonder the frustration levels with election day results are so high.

Our vote is our voice, and we should be passionate about this right that people have fought and died for, defended and debated. It should not be lost on anyone that people in the US are still fighting for legislation that would make it fairer and more equal for all citizens to vote.

Our founding fathers knew what they were doing when they wrote the Constitution and subsequent Amendments. They believed in a participatory democracy. Sure, sometimes there’s intolerable mudslinging. But despite all the negativity, vitriol and divisiveness in

ever. Some states have early voting options so people don’t have to stand in long lines on election day (not Connecticut, though we do have same-day registration). All states have absentee voting, which makes it easier for everyone to participate. Call your local registrar of voters for more information on how to register, vote by absentee ballot or to find out your polling location. Thirty minutes of one day every two or four years is not a lot of time out of our lives, but it will have a profound impact on our lifetimes.

- Regret is preventable. The day after the election is one day too late. “Could have, should have” are sorry alternatives to acting. Be part of making history. Every indicator points to the 2018 election having an impact for years to come, so every vote this election day is even more important. Being a participant in affecting history gives each of us a sense of pride in democracy and the power to touch the future. And you can’t complain about your elected representatives or the direction of your community or country if you don’t exercise your right to vote.
- Voting is now more convenient than

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.

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Business

Your Finances:

Retire With A Purpose



ERIC TASHLEIN

Have you thought about life after retirement? I'm not talking about ensuring you'll have enough money to live comfortably or setting up an estate plan. I'm talking about knowing your purpose.

In an earlier era, retirement was understood as a few years of rest following a lifetime of hard work. But as lifespans have lengthened, many people are facing retirements lasting 25 to 35 years. And thanks to better health care, many retirees are as energetic and vital as ever at age 65 or 70. They're less likely to be content to sit on a recliner. Of course, all of this goes double for those who retire early.

A major part of retirement planning today is to spend time before you retire visualizing what your life will be like. This type of exercise will not only help with financial planning; it will also help with peace of mind. You'll feel more comfortable going into retirement if you have a fairly clear picture of what it will look like.

One of the first factors to consider is how strongly you will feel the need for a sense of purpose. Some people slide into retirement knowing they'll be content to work around the house, babysit the grandchildren, watch TV and play an occasional round of golf.

But if you are a hard-charging executive or professional, that may not be enough.

If you are a high achiever making decisions with a lot on the line, your career may define you. Leaving that behind can lead to a real crisis if you have nothing to replace it. The key for you will be to continue practicing some of the good habits you developed as a business person. Find activities that allow you to set specific goals, work toward those goals and keep track of your progress.

One idea is to go back to school. Maybe you dreamed of studying Russian literature but never had the time. Or perhaps you would like to earn an advanced degree in an area more closely related to your own field with an eye toward teaching others.

If you're really driven, or retire early, you might consider starting your own business, either something related to your previous experience or something totally different, like a coffee shop or a bakery.

If you're interested in helping others directly, there are numerous opportunities to get involved, including helping the elderly, helping the homeless, youth programs, sports programs, local politics and church programs involving building infrastructure

in poor countries.

If you have expertise related to the business world, there are many opportunities for you to help others starting out in business. SCORE Association is a nonprofit organization of retired executives who serve as mentors to young entrepreneurs, teaching marketing, manufacturing, financial management and other skills to future business leaders. You can also find opportunities to lecture to students in the business department of your local university.

Eric Tashlein is a Certified Financial Planner professional™ and founding Principal of Connecticut Capital Management Group, LLC, 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, Securities offered through Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., a Broker/Dealer; Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment Advisor Representative, Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., A Registered Investment Advisor. Cambridge Investment Research Inc., and Connecticut Capital Management Group, LLC are not affiliated.

Colonial Brokers \$3.6 M Multi-Family Sale In West Haven

Orange-based Colonial Properties announced Sept. 9 that it completed the sale of 125 Coleman St. in West Haven for \$3.6 million.

Senior Vice President Fred A. Messore, represented the seller in the transaction. The investment property consists of two fully leased apartment buildings, one 18-unit and another 12-unit, on 1.84 acres.

"This transaction demonstrates the high demand for stabilized multifamily properties in the greater New Haven market. We had significant interest in this asset and realized a high per unit sale price for the seller," said President and Designated Broker Michael Richetelli.

Benjamin Hale of Hale Real Estate represented the buyer. The seller's attorneys were Jerome A. Lacobelle, Jr. and Lawrence Levinson. The buyer was represented by Vincent Falcone, Esq.

Colonial Properties, founded in 1978, is a full service commercial and residential real estate brokerage which handles all types of real estate transactions.

Home Sales Rise
by Joseph Cole
editor@theorangetimes.com
Home sale values in Orange are outpacing neighboring communities according to information shared by Coldwell Banker. Market data shows that the average selling price of a home in Orange increased 5.9 percent.

Annual Appointment Checkup

September 20th-28th

Do you need a hearing test?

- 1. Do people around you seem to mumble? YES NO
- 2. Do you have ringing in your ears? YES NO
- 3. Do you often ask people to repeat themselves? YES NO
- 4. Do you have trouble hearing on the telephone? YES NO
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Did your last annual physical include a hearing assessment?

Medical professionals report it is important for people age 50 and over to have their hearing evaluated annually. Beltone is sponsoring a **FREE hearing screening** to assess your hearing health **September 20-28**.

In addition, state-of-the-art Video Otoscope technology will be used to inspect the inside of your ear canal. This procedure is quick and comfortable. The entire evaluation is free, and you are under no obligation.

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PROMO CODE: ORT-0920

Youth & Education

Test Prep:

Focus On Depth, Not Breadth Of Activities

Part of getting back into the swing of the school year is figuring out how to balance all of your extracurricular activities. Clubs, sports, the newspaper, yearbook committee, youth groups, maybe internships and jobs – it adds up. For students who are thinking about their college applications, these activities play an important role in helping stand out from the crowd. But what does that really mean? Should you try to sign up for every club out there, just so that you can put it on your application?

The reality is that colleges are looking for a depth of involvement, not breadth. They want to know what you're passionate about, and what you will bring to the table on their campus and in the world. If you are a younger student, you should first think about what kinds of things they are interested in.

Check out a number of different activities and ask yourself if this is something you could see yourself being involved in for a long time. Survey the options that are out there. Even if something seems mildly interesting, drop in. Don't focus right now on how it will look on your resume. Focus on finding activities that you would want to stick with for all four years. You won't know if you really enjoy something until you try it out.

If you are an older student, this is your chance to show the colleges how passionate you are about your activities. Most top schools are looking for leadership. If the opportunity to take a leadership position within a club or activity presents itself, seize



JAMES MARONEY

it. Keep your focus on those clubs and activities that you truly enjoy. Your time isn't unlimited, so make sure you use it wisely. Take on responsibility in activities and clubs that you love, and maybe lessen your involvement in those clubs that just don't motivate you. Again, the school wants to see you really dig in and commit to a few things rather than playing a surface role in a ton of different activities.

As always, don't let your academics suffer because of your extracurricular workload. Maintaining strong grades is the most important part of your college application. If you've bitten off more than you can chew, take a good hard look at what you can let go. You want to start

off strong in the new school year.

For sophomores and juniors, the PSAT is just around the corner. Don't forget to be prepared for it. The PSAT is a good predictor for what the SAT will be like, so take this chance to get a feel for the experience. If you have a shot at a National Merit ranking, you'll want to think about preparation now. Standardized tests are not the kind of thing that can be prepped for quickly – you'll have much better results with the same amount of time and energy if you get started early.

James Maroney, is the owner of First Choice College, which has been helping local students prepare for college since 1999. James is also the former co-chair of the Financial Aid Working Group for the Connecticut State Planning Commission for Higher Education.

Milford Teachers Get Prep For Challenges Ahead

Milford Public School teachers and staff spent one of their final days of summer not on the beach, but in breakout rooms to help prepare for the first day of school. They weren't engaged in activities you would typically affiliate with the beginning of school, such as preparing their classrooms, setting up bulletin boards and writing lesson plans.

Instead, they were engaged in professional learning around strategies to help identify and manage the fundamental pressures that teachers and students experience throughout the year.

The program, called "OneDayForDayOne" provided one day of togetherness, workshops and networking where best practices were shared in preparation for day one of school and beyond. This year's theme was "You've got to nourish to flourish," and much of the focus was around taking care of teachers' minds, bodies and souls in order to serve their students to their fullest capacity.

The day was made possible through a partnership between Milford Public Schools and the Milford Education Foundation, whose focus is to promote excellence, creativity, and innovation in education.

The day kicked off with a keynote by Dr. Jennifer Ju about how mind, body and spirit relate to each other and work together. Dr. Alicia Farrell, a cognitive psychologist and former university professor, presented three workshops focusing on anxiety and the impact on technology in the lives of children and adults.

The program was that relied little on

outside experts and concentrated on the expertise and intellectual capital residing within the Milford Public School system. This helped build a bond among the teachers while they learned some practical new ideas and practices for the coming year.

"This day helped us realize that we have so much in common across grades and disciplines, especially when it comes to some of the so called 'softer' issues that are critical to a student's success," said Annaliese Spaziano, Instructional Supervisor of Student Development at Milford Public Schools.

Ed Faruolo, president of the Milford Education Foundation said, "Every day, teachers and students are faced with new pressures they couldn't predict. Bringing together the best, brought out the best producing sensible, and vital approaches for the coming school year."

"I gained a wealth of knowledge and practices that I can use for myself, my family and best of all my students. I left with a huge smile on my face feeling refreshed and recharged," said MaryEllen Luth, a kindergarten teacher at Live Oaks Elementary School.

"I love One Day. This is my second year attending. It is super inspiring and it helps me to be mindful in my classroom which I definitely need," said Lisa Farrell, a teacher at Foran High School.

Learn more about the Milford Education Foundation at MilfordEdFoundation.org or by contacting info@milfordedfoundation.org.

Orange Public Schools Title IX Officer

Title IX is a Federal Law that was passed in 1972 to insure that male and female employees and students in educational settings are treated equally and fairly. The law protects against discrimination based on gender. Title IX requires that each school district have at least one person designated as the Title IX Officer.

Director of Special Services Rosemary (Rosie) Slowik is the Title IX officer for the Orange public schools district. Should you feel you have been discriminated against, you should contact Slowik either by e-mail at rslowik@orange-ed.org or by phone at 203-891-8023 ext. 1204. Slowik's office is located in Central Office.

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prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employments on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or if all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistant program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the department.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint form found online at ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html.

Orange, Regional Superintendents' Release Policy On Weather Issues

We are facing the time of year when New England weather can be unpredictable and severe. Area superintendents of schools must ensure that each district meets the state mandated number of school days and number of instructional hours in a safe and secure manner.

The Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge, and Amity school districts will continue to participate in a regional school transportation collaborative. This arrangement allows elementary schools to dismiss at similar times and the Orange and Bethany Middle Schools to open and dismiss at the same time in coordination with Amity Regional High School.

When one BOWA school district closes, delays the opening of school, or dismisses early due to inclement weather, all BOWA school districts will also close, delay, or dismiss early. A delayed opening for elementary, middle, and high school will be two hours. The BOWA superintendents try to make a decision to close or delay the opening of school by 5:30 a.m. based upon what is expected to happen in the following two to eight hours. Notifications will be distributed by district automated messaging services (SwiftK12), radio, television, and designated internet-based sites. Stay tuned when a delay has been announced since it may turn into a cancellation if weather conditions do not improve.

Although early dismissals are avoided whenever possible, it may be occasionally necessary to dismiss school early due to the unexpected deterioration of weather conditions or in an individual school because of an emergency. In these situations, an announcement will be issued by 10:30 a.m. Weather-related early dismissal for middle

school and high school students will be at 11:45 a.m. Bethany and Woodbridge elementary school students will be dismissed at 1:10 p.m. Orange elementary school students will be dismissed at 1 p.m., and the Orange kindergarten students will be dismissed at 12:50 p.m. and will go to their respective schools to take their neighborhood buses at 1 p.m.

Families should have an emergency backup plan in place in the event of an early dismissal. Please make sure that children understand where they should go in the event of an early dismissal from school. Child care arrangements at home or on the same bus route should be made in advance of the early dismissal day since it will be impossible for the school staff to personally contact each parent. On days when the weather may be problematic, in addition to announcements on local radio and/or television stations, parents can expect notification from district automated messaging services. As alternate drop-off and pick-up procedures vary from school to school, parents should follow the established procedure.

Unless otherwise indicated, when school is delayed, all morning activities and meetings are cancelled. Additionally, unless otherwise indicated, when school is cancelled or dismissed early, all afternoon evening activities and meetings are also cancelled. The school buildings will be closed.

The decision to delay, close school, or dismiss early is often a difficult one. During inclement weather when an administrative decision to open school has been made, this is not meant to preclude a family's choice to keep their student(s) home. Families are encouraged to exercise their own judgment in such cases.

St. Mary School Milford Car Raffle

This year's raffle is underway! A \$5 ticket gives you the chance to win one of the following: 2018 Nissan Altima 2.5S, Apple 9.7 iPad 128GB w/wifi or \$250 Shoprite gift card. Tickets can be picked up at either St. Mary School (72 Gulf Street) or the Precious Blood Parish Office (70 Gulf Street). Tickets will also be available for sale after most Masses at St. Mary and St. Agnes Churches every weekend. The drawing will take place at the carnival on Sunday, September 23rd at 4:30pm. www.saintmaryschoolmilford.org

Have A Tip? Send It To Us At editor@theorangetimes.com

And Visit Us Online At: TheOrangeTimes.com

News & Events

Milford Library Events



Presenter Michael Dooling. Photo submitted by Nancy Abbey.

Nautical Napkin Rings, An Adult Craft Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2 p.m.

Join us for an easy craft that will grace your table with fun and flair. Crafters will be using old curtain rings to create napkin rings that look like tiny life-savers. It will be another reuse, recycle craft. All materials and instructions will be provided. The event is free and open to all. Register by stopping at the Reference desk or by calling 203-783-3292. Class size is limited.

Korean Cooking Demonstration Saturday, Oct. 6, 11 a.m.

The Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project will be at Milford Library Oct. 6 for a cooking demonstration that will feature some of the most-loved dishes in Korean cuisine. This demonstration will feature bulgogi (beef marinated in soy sauce), bibimbap (rice and vegetables), kimchi salad and dubu jorim (pan fried tofu). Short videos about Korea will be shown, and Koreans in native dress will be preparing and serving lunch. Register for this free program by stopping at the Reference desk or by calling 203-783-3292. Attendance is limited to 30 people, so register early. The event is sponsored Brought by the Friends of Milford Library.

Mango Languages Online Saturday, Oct. 6, 2:30 p.m.

Milford Public Library offers access to many electronic databases, including Mango Languages. Most of the databases can be accessed both within the library and remotely for users with valid library cards. Come down to the library for an informative overview of how to get started using Mango Languages and learn a new language right from home.

Milford Library is located at 57 New Haven Ave. in Milford. For more information, call 203-783-3292.

Genealogy Workshop at Milford Library Monday, Oct. 1, 1 p.m.

Join the free monthly genealogy workshop at Milford Library. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned, experienced genealogist, you're sure to learn more. Presented by genealogist Greg Thompson, this free monthly meeting has continued for several years.

Understanding The New Tax Laws Tuesday, Oct. 2, 7 p.m.

Milford Public Library in collaboration with Rebecca Miller and The Financial Awareness Foundation will present a workshop on the important changes to the new tax laws Oct. 2. Miller will discuss changes in future tax brackets, modified deductions and credits, and how they may limit or eliminate your Schedule A deductions, including mortgage interest, charitable contributions and medical expenses. She will also address limitations to state and local taxes as well as changes to the estate tax. The workshop is free and open to all.

Milford Rotary Awards Scholarships



The Milford Rotary Club recently awarded over \$25,000 in scholarships to youths heading off to college at its annual scholarship luncheon. Back row, from left: Samuel Nassar and Oreoluwatomiwa Opayemi. Front row from left: GraceAnne Piselli, Rosalie Filippone, Allyson Voytek, Morgan Macey, Rhea Grant, Lily Stiffler, Ethan Skuches, Lauren Conner, Kiersten Conner, Matteo Menta, Carly Malesky, Jessica Intelisano and Michael Shannon Jr. Recipients not pictured were Carl Maxwell and Abigail Huebner. Photo courtesy of the Milford Rotary Club.

The Orange Fair



The Orange Fair was held Sept. 15 and 16 at the fairgrounds at High Plains Community Center. Photo by Lexi Crocco.

Business After Hours



The Milford Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours took place at Colonial Toyota on Thursday, Sept 13. Photo by Steve Cooper.

Back To School Special!!!

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Congregation Or Shalom's 4th Annual Comedy Night!!

Saturday, October 13th
Presented by Treehouse Comedy Productions

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John Romanoff - Winner of the "Funniest Comic In New England Contest", featured on ABC & FOX

Doors open: 7:00pm
Cocktail Reception: 7:15-8:15pm
Comedy show: 8:30pm
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News & Events

Milford Diaper Drive Kicks Off

Milford's legislative delegation, in cooperation with the United Way of Milford and TEAM Inc., are hosting a City-Wide Diaper Drive for in-need Milford families. Donations will be accepted from Sept. 12 to Oct. 10.

Diapers are incredibly costly and are not covered by Woman, Infants and Children or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits.

According to the National Diaper Bank Network, one in three American families will struggle to afford diapers. Locally, this problem touches about 16.5 percent of Milford residents.

According to state statistics, a month's supply of diapers can cost over \$100. The vast majority of licensed day care centers do not accept cloth diapers, and require parents and caregivers to provide a steady supply of disposable diapers.

The Milford United Way, in cooperation

with the Milford Legislative Delegation and TEAM, Inc. of Derby want to help these families by converting their Diaper Closet into a much larger Diaper Bank, with a constant supply of diapers in all sizes.

Visit unitedwayofmilford.org/DIAPERDRIVE/ for the full list of diaper collection sites.



State Reps. Charles Ferraro, left, and Pam Staneski promote the Milford City-Wide Diaper Drive. Photo courtesy of the Connecticut House Republicans.

Restaurant News

South Sea Grill Sold

South Sea Grill in Orange was sold to Pasquale Cavallaro, who had been employed as the chef when it reopened after about a year of being closed. Strong Tower LLC has applied for a liquor license.

Barcode Bar Opening

Barcode Bar & Restaurant at 501 Boston Post Rd. in Orange will be open soon and will be serving American bar food. Located at the former LT'S (formerly Corner Pocket), owners Michael and Chris Delvecchio and Jason Carver will be offering live music on the weekends, Taco Night and Wing Night, with additional special nights planned.

Milford And Orange Chambers Of Commerce New Members

Milford

AFLAC/Liz McGovern & Associates
Aiping Tai Chi Center
Dockside Brewery @ Village Marina
East Commerce Solutions, Inc.
The Fig Cooking School, LLC
FLC Insurance Agency, LLC

Sleep Number

Stinard Inspections
Total Lawn Care & More
Urban Air Adventure Park

Orange

Barcode Bar
Traveland

Recognized Florist Named Milford Columbus Committee Italian-American Of The Year

The Milford Columbus Committee has named retired florist Vincent J. Lambiase, Jr. its Italian-American of the Year.

Lambiase was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. and moved to Milford 45 years ago. He attended Milford High School and graduated as Senior Class President. He started Beachwood Florists with his wife, Linda Wordell, in 1984. He ran the business for 33 years and sold it in 2016. Their shop grew to become Teleflora's President's Club members for 18 years for top 1 percent sales nationwide. He also won a Star of Respect award for his help on the 9/11 Garden Committee as well as the Milford Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award in 2011.

Lambiase gave back to his community by helping charities, schools and churches with their fundraising activities. He started a Christmas wreath sale for Troop 1 in 1982. Groups now use it as their primary fundraiser, selling over 3,000 wreaths per year.

Lambiase has also been an active member of the Devon Rotary Club for almost 25 years, serving as club treasurer for almost 18 years. He has been honored with the Oliver Andrus Founders Award, the Norman Purcell's Award and the Devon Rotary Life Time Achievement Award.

Also being honored with a Special Achievement Award by the Columbus Committee is Diane Candido. Candido is known for her extensive work in various education fields, including her lifetime membership in the PTA. She has volunteered and chaired the United Way of Milford board of directors and participated in allocation discussions to disperse donations to UWM partner agencies.

The Special Recognition Award winner is Senator Gayle Slossberg. Slossberg was elected to the state senate in 2004 and is a passionate and tireless advocate for her

community and the state. She is widely considered one of the most effective legislators in Hartford, respected by both Democrats and Republicans.

The Milford Columbus Committee also will award scholarships to three students from Milford. This year's recipients are Julia Bryant, Abigail Huebner, and Michael Sciancalepore.

The committee realizes the value of education and how it helped each of them in their own lives, event organizers said. To date, the committee has awarded over \$200,000 to Milford students.

Comprised of 25 Italian-American members, the Columbus Committee represents a cross section of professionals and business people in the Milford community.

A dinner dance takes place on Saturday, Oct. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Vazzano's Four Seasons in Stratford. Call Jim Birarelli at 203-877-8980 for tickets.



Retired florist Vincent J. Lambiase, Jr. has been named Italian-American of the Year by the Milford Columbus Committee. Photo courtesy of the Milford Columbus Committee.

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Obituaries

For full obituaries, please go to our website at TheOrangeTimes.com.

Roderick James Chisholm Bell, age 73, of Orange entered into rest on September 6th, 2018.

Mary Blanche Chapman, 94, of Milford, passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 9, 2018.

William F. "Bill" Ferguson 86, of Orange, passed away on September 13, 2018.

Matthew T. Hofmiller, age 66, of Milford passed away on Monday, September 10, 2018.

David L. Ivanovich Sr., age 74, of Milford, CT and Palm Beach Gardens, FL, passed away on September 2, 2018.

Thomas A. Moeller, age 70, of Orange passed away on August 29, 2018.

Gertrud Opalinski, of Milford, passed away peacefully on September 1, 2018.

Catherine A. Pistey, age 80, of Milford, died on Monday, August 27, 2018.

Jeanette Lee Rush, age 70, a lifelong Milford resident, passed away on Thursday, August 30, 2018.

Rino John Servadio, 77, of Milford, passed away peacefully on August 30, 2018.

William Sidarweck Sr., age 67 of Milford, died peacefully on Tuesday September 4, 2018.

Jerold (Jerry) Wanosky passed on August 27, 2018. He was 76 years old.

Murphy Praises Vouchers To End Veteran Homelessness

Senator Chris Murphy Sept. 14 praised the release of 50 new federal grant vouchers to Connecticut to help end chronic homelessness for the state's veterans.

"I, for a long time have been a big proponent of a program called the HUD-VASH program. The HUD-VASH program is a highly successful program where the federal government helps give vouchers to homeless veterans to get housed. Connecticut has received substantial numbers of HUD-VASH vouchers over the past ten years and that has been a big part of our success story becoming one of the first states to effectively end chronic veteran homelessness. At one time in this state we had up to a thousand veterans who were living out on the streets. That is unacceptable, and it is a fact of Connecticut's past now because we can actively get veterans who become homeless off the streets and in housing," Murphy said.

"These new vouchers, a total of 50, are going to Norwalk, to Hartford, to West Haven and to the Connecticut Department of Housing. They will be spread all over the state wherever veterans need them, and

they will help continue our commitment to make sure no veteran in this state becomes homeless," he said.

Murphy went on to talk about meeting an Iraq War veteran from Waterbury named Shelly Anne Burke when he first arrived in Congress. Burke developed post-traumatic stress disorder from her experiences in the war, and she and her 8-year-old daughter became homeless, Murphy said. Burke later received vouchers through the HUD-VASH program and was able to get a job, a home and treatment for her PTSD.

"The fact of the matter is it is unconscionable for this country to let veterans who've put their life on the line for this country become homeless; and to become homeless for a substantial period of time is even more unconscionable. We know that veterans will sometimes hit hard times. They will often find themselves outside in the streets, but these vouchers allow us to find those veterans quickly, and get them into safe places quickly, and I'm really glad that we are going to deliver another 50 of these vouchers to Connecticut," Murphy said.

Visit theorangetimes.com for complete obituaries with photos. Obituaries are free of charge.

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Tuesday, October 16th 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
– High Plains Community Center

SEYMOUR:

Wednesday, October 4th
9:30 a.m. – Senior Center

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