



Milford-Orange Times

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Town Guide In This Issue!

Inside this issue for Orange readers of the *Milford-Orange Times* is a new town guide for Orange residents and visitors. The guide has information on who's who in town government, town services, schools, houses of worship, parks, clubs and organizations.

Orange Sets Budget Proposal

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Property taxes would go up slightly in Orange under a budget proposal for the 2019-2020 fiscal year released by the Board of Finance that voters will have the chance to approve in May.

The budget request of \$72,157,952 represents a 3.08 percent increase overall, and would raise the current mill rate of 32.38 to 32.59.

The budget is broken down into three major components. The portion for town government comes to \$26,519,330. The portion for the Orange Board of Education, which educates children through sixth grade, is \$20,902,548. The third portion of the budget is Orange's contribution to the Amity School District, which is \$24,736,074. The Amity district includes students from Bethany and Woodbridge. Each town pays a proportion based on the

See Budget Proposal on pg 4.

Index:

Lifestyle	8-9
Obits	22
Op-Ed	4-5
Arts & Entertainment	6
Youth & Ed.....	18-19
Home & Garden.....	16
Planning Ahead	20
Senior Living.....	21

Board Of Finance Leaves Milford Budget Unchanged

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

A budget proposed by Milford Mayor Benjamin Blake in January went largely unchanged by the Board of Finance at its March 18 budget hearing, despite a brief dispute over whether a surplus fund in the Board of Education budget should be eliminated.

The mayor's budget calls for total spending of \$216,528,371, an increase of \$6,333,116 over the previous year's adopted budget. Despite the rise in costs, the budget would lower the mill rate by 0.06 from 27.74 to 27.68, representing the fourth year in a row that Milford residents would see a tax decrease.

Blake wrote in his January budget address that falling taxes are due in part to the fact that new businesses in Milford continue to "skyrocket," with 465 added in the previous year alone.

"A tidal wave of economic activity has helped grow our tax base to over \$6.7 billion; we now have the largest grand list in New Haven County and one of the top in the state," he wrote.

One of the larger expenses this year comes from the police department, which would see an increase from the previous year of \$711,015. Part of that is for communication costs, which went up from \$10,000 last year to \$162,000 in the current year. Other increases would be for capital outlays, including \$25,000 for radar speed signs, an additional \$30,000 for police cruisers, and an increase of \$19,000 for body worn

camera storage.

There have been criticisms of Blake's lean budgeting policies, particularly among the police. Blake instituted a hiring and spending freeze in March to make sure the city ended the current fiscal year with a surplus. Police Chief Kieth Mello has complained that his department isn't getting enough for overtime, and the department was livid with the administration in March when Blake announced he was sidelining a longstanding plan to build a new police headquarters because of long-term debt service costs.

Public debt service already will already jump higher in this year's budget, going up \$1,328,756 to a total of \$12,523,313 – an increase of 11.87 percent.

The BOE portion of the budget would rise 1.89 percent, or \$1,763,332 to a total of \$95,078,487.

During its hearing on the BOE budget, BOF members Joseph J. Fitzpatrick, Jr. and Joseph Castignoli questioned James Richetelli, chief operations officer for the BOE, about the education department's surpluses. Richetelli said the surplus for the current year was under \$1 million. When pressed further on his expectation for the coming year, Richetelli said the Board of Education had already gone over this material in previous meetings.

"We've already been through that. We're not going to get into that again tonight," he said.

See Board Of Finance on pg 8.

Slossberg To Join Yale New Haven Health System



Former state Sen. Gayle Slossberg, who represented Milford and Orange before retiring last year, has taken a new position at Yale New Haven Health System and will be heavily involved with special projects, according to a source close to the former legislator who asked not to be named.

Yale New Haven Health is the largest network of healthcare providers in southwestern Connecticut, including Greenwich Hospital, Bridgeport Hospital and Yale New Haven Hospital.

Slossberg, of Milford, was first elected to the state Senate in 2004. She held the seat until 2018, when she chose not to run. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Milford Visiting Nurses Association and as a member of the Endowment Committee for Milford-based Bridges Healthcare.

Woodbridge Eagle Scout To Build Pavilion In Orange

By Brandon Bisceglia

The Orange Board of Selectmen unanimously approved a plan by an Eagle Scout from Woodbridge to build a small pavilion at Fred Wolfe Park to give children and families shelter from the elements.

Simon Khairallah, a sophomore at Amity High School, pitched his pavilion concept to the board at its April 3 meeting.

"If you're wondering why a Boy Scout from Woodbridge is coming to do a project in Orange, I grew up in the Orange soccer program. I played there since I was 8 years old," he said. "I referee there. So when I was considering a project, I really thought that a good way to give back would be to really help out Orange soccer in whatever way I could."

The Orange Soccer Association has agreed to fund Khairallah's project, which he said he's hoping to begin in late April and finish by the end of May. Construction would

See Eagle Scout on pg 14.



Woodbridge student Simon Khairallah won unanimous approval April 3 from the Orange Board of Selectmen to build a pavilion at Fred Wolfe Park for his Eagle Scout project. Image courtesy of Orange Government Access Television.

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News & Events

Local Job Group Hosting Session With Indeed In Orange

The Housatonic River Job Network, an open group dedicated to those underemployed or in transition, will host guest speaker Cindy Torres of the online jobs site Indeed at its next meeting on Thursday, April 25 at 7 p.m. at the Case Memorial Library in Orange.

In addition to its job search tools, Indeed has become the go-to resource for information and research about companies. It publishes labor market news, blogs covering employer trends and current outlooks for hiring.

Torres is the company's site lead for veterans and allies group, and manager of national franchise accounts.

The Indeed team will discuss what the site is, how it has grown, recent changes and how to best operate it. In the first half, the team will explain and discuss the best ways to navigate Indeed, as well as illustrate how to upload a resume so employers can clearly see it. They will also reveal some tips to ensure a job seeker's profile stands out.

In the second half of the presentation, the

Indeed team will demonstrate the best ways to utilize Indeed for company research. Attendees will also be able to get help creating an Indeed account and uploading their resumes.

Participants are welcome to bring their laptops. They will have the chance to do some searching and applying to jobs on their own.

Torres is an experienced talent acquisition professional with a history of working across numerous industries such as healthcare, insurance and logistics. More recently, she has shifted to an emphasis within the automotive space. She is skilled in search engine optimization and places a high emphasis on building strong relationships, fusing technical knowledge with versatile problem-solving skills. Her current focus is on developing strategies for hiring despite industry talent shortages, geographic and population challenges.

Email Alex Yaworowski at alexy56@hotmail.com for further information.

Milford, Orange Police Crack Down On Distracted Driving

In support of April's National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, the Milford and Orange police, along with the Connecticut Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office, will be partnering with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration from April 2 to April 30, for the national "U Drive. U Text. U Pay." high-visibility enforcement effort.

The goal of the campaign is to step up enforcement efforts to catch distracted drivers and enforce distracted-driving laws.

Over the past decade, distracted driving has become one of the leading causes of vehicle crashes on U.S. roads. According to the NHTSA, nearly 20,000 people died in crashes involving a distracted driver between 2012 and 2017. There were 3,166 people killed in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2017 alone. While this represents a 9 percent decrease in distracted driving fatalities from 2016 to 2017, police say there is clearly more work to be done.

"People know texting and driving is dangerous and illegal, but many do it anyway, putting others at risk," said Joseph Giulietti, commissioner of the Connecticut DOT. "Beginning April 2, you will see increased law enforcement efforts as officers will be stopping and ticketing anyone who is caught texting and driving."

Since 2015, nearly 30,000 crashes in Connecticut have involved a distraction, resulting in 41 fatal crashes.

"It seems that every day, you can look out of your car's window and see a driver using their cell phone," said Lt. James Gosselin, Support Services commander for the Berlin Police Department. "It is painfully obvious to law enforcement when you are driving distracted. If you text and drive, you will pay."

Violating Connecticut's distracted-driving laws can be costly. Drivers who are ticketed are fined \$150 for the first offense, \$300 for the second offense, and \$500 for the third and subsequent offenses.

Milford Announces Bulk Waste Pickup Schedule

Milford Mayor Benjamin G. Blake announced March 11 that the city will begin its 2019 bulk waste pickup program on Monday, April 29.

The schedule for the pickup will be differentiated by residents' regular garbage day. Those who have regular trash pickup on Mondays will have bulk pickup on Monday, April 29; those on Tuesdays will have bulk pickup on Monday, May 6; those on Thursdays will have bulk pickup Monday, May 13; and those on Fridays will have bulk pickup Monday, May 20. Bulk pickup for condominiums will be Wednesday, June 5.

Items set out for collection are to be placed at the curb no sooner than the Saturday prior to the scheduled date of the collection and all items are to be at the curb by 6 a.m. on the scheduled pickup date.

In order to qualify for this free pickup service, the resident must properly prepare and separate the bulky waste. Metal must be separated from burnable items. Yard waste

should be placed in disposable containers or bags. Brush and wood must be cut to four-foot lengths and tied in bundles. No more than four passenger car tires may be included in the items set out for collection. Where possible, similar items should be placed together in containers which the homeowner wishes to discard. All acceptable items placed at the curb will be taken, including any containers.

Prohibited materials include batteries; logs and stumps; concrete or cement; any item that requires more than two men to pick up; hazardous waste; liquid waste; oil-based paint; motor oil; propane tanks; grass clippings; and sheetrock and demolition material.

Sheetrock and demolition material must be brought to City Carting (Waste Conversion), located at 211 Old Gate Ln. in Milford. These items are longer accepted at the transfer station.

Questions should be directed to the Public Works Office at 203-783-3265.

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News & Events

OVFD Celebrates Members' Service At Annual Dinner

Six members of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department with a combined 250 years of service were recognized on March 12 by the department and the Connecticut General Assembly at the department's annual dinner.

Joining Orange firefighters at the dinner were fire and EMS officers from surrounding towns, Orange Police Chief Robert Gagne, Orange selectwoman Judy W. Williams, state Rep. Charles Ferraro (R-117) and state Sen. James Maroney (D-14). Ferraro and Maroney brought special resolutions from the legislature celebrating years of service for six members.

Those members were George Geane, with 25 years of service; Secretary Peter Daniel and David Gagel, each with 40 years; Ken Mitchell Jr., with 45 years; Deputy Chief Charles Sherwood, with 50 years; and Fred Palmer, with 55 years.

Other firefighters receiving recognition included: Lt. Daniel Abrams, Lt. Eric Auscavitch, Executive Board member Steven Bernadini and Klevis Kimca, with five years of service; Capt. Daniel Cole, Capt. Joe Duplinsky and Corresponding Secretary Lisa Kaplan, with 10 years; Chief Vaughan Dumas, Assistant Chief Dan Johnson, Drew Panapada and Lt. David Tufano, with 15 years; Stephen Douglas, with 25 years; and John Grasso Sr, Joseph Oleschuk and Roman Oleschuk, with 30 years.

Other awards were given to Engineer Robert Panapada, who was named Firefighter of the Year; Tom Astram, for Most Responses; and Lt. Eric Auscavitch, who was given a special award.

Fire Chief Vaughn Dumas, who acted as master of ceremonies, also awarded honorary membership in the association to Joe Davis, Harold Manley and George Rogers. Honorary membership is conferred on people who have supported the fire department in a variety of ways.

Dumas acknowledged a donation from the Fire Department Auxiliary. The money, raised through a variety of fundraisers, will be used to purchase rescue equipment for a new fire truck that will be delivered later this year.

Volunteer firefighters in Orange responded to 579 incidents during 2018, said Dumas. That is among the highest in the fire company's history during a year without

a major event, such as a hurricane. Dumas also noted that false alarms were down 13 percent.

"The calls we're getting are more and more challenging," said Dumas, using automobile accidents as an example. "You can't just throw down some absorbent material anymore. These jobs often include hazardous materials and other challenges."

Dumas pointed out that in addition to responding to alarms, many members had completed lengthy classes for certifications as firefighters, fire officers, emergency medical technicians and paramedics. He acknowledged and thanked all the town's active firefighters for their time and hard work.



Six members of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department were honored March by the Connecticut General Assembly for their service at the department's annual dinner. Together, the men have given 250 years of service to the fire department. From left: Peter Daniel, David Gagel, Ken Mitchell Jr., George Geane, Fred Palmer, and Deputy Chief Charles Sherwood. Photo courtesy of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department.

Orange Memorial Day Committee Seeking Veterans

The Orange Memorial Day Committee is seeking input from Orange residents who know a veteran, male or female, especially from the Korean War for this year's events. The committee is honoring all veterans, but this year's theme will highlight Korean War veterans.

Every year, the committee chooses veterans to honor during the Memorial Day ceremony on the Orange Fairgrounds before the parade. These veterans fill the roles of Grand Marshal, Chief of Staff, and Honored Veteran in the Memorial Day parade.

The committee is looking for Orange residents who were honorably discharged. There is a lot of planning and preparation that needs to be done and choosing candidates to recognize this year is at the top of that list.

If you have someone in mind, or if you know a veteran who would like to be considered, email kellimartino@yahoo.com or kgoldberg@orange-ct.gov, or call 203-891-4738.

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Opinion & Editorial

Hands Off Our Schools



STATE REP. (R-119)
KATHY KENNEDY

As a member of the legislature's Education Committee, I listened to almost 10 hours of testimony on proposals: Senate bills 457, 738 and 874, as well as House Bill 7140, all regarding the forced regionalization of school districts in the state.

The overwhelming testimony from educators, administrators of local school districts, parents and yes, even students, were that these proposals would lead Connecticut's school districts away from local autonomy and toward state control over local education decisions. In doing so, there would be a lack of local influence, with our school districts being out of touch and unrepresentative of their student bodies.

Orange First Selectmen James Zeoli also drove to the State Capitol to testify against the forced regionalization measures, saying that there are some communities that could possibly benefit from joining with a neighbor town, but that it should be a choice they make, not a threat or demand.

I agree with Zeoli. While I am not opposed to voluntary regionalization when it is best suited for two (or more) school districts to agree to share their resources, I am opposed to a mandated regionalization. It would further broaden the scope of Connecticut's state government while reducing the interactions our municipalities have with their citizens.

With no previous studies having been conducted, there is no fiscal evidence that this legislation would save our taxpayers money or improve student performance. Children are not cut from cookie-cutter molds; they learn and develop at different paces and in different manners. Regulating the education of our state's children at the state level would take away the delicate attention our municipalities are able to provide their school districts and families.

I am greatly concerned when it comes to the language in SB 738. My first worry can be found in section 3 of the proposal. There it mentions this legislation becoming effective state-wide for the school year commencing July 1, 2021 if such plan has not been approved by the General Assembly and signed into law on or before July 1, 2020. How is that democratic?

I firmly believe school districts should not be punished via a decrease in any kind of funding should they decide to not conform to the proposed regionalization. Is the state really going to penalize successful school districts like Milford's and Orange's? I will encourage my fellow committee members to consider striking the punitive section of this proposal while including language that guarantees regionalization would not be forced upon our school districts.

The Education Committee deadline to report out bills was April 1. I will keep you up-to-date on the latest proposals on regionalization.

As always, if you have questions about our state government, please contact me by phone at 1-800-842-1423 or email me at Kathy.Kennedy@housegop.ct.gov.

Small Businesses Need Health Insurance Cost Relief



STATE REP. (D-14)
JAMES MARONEY

As a small business owner, I know the struggles that small businesses face. For years both my wife and I were self-employed. To some that may seem exciting, but the fact is that owning a business and working for oneself often comes with unique problems.

One area of increasing concern for businesses and self-employed individuals is the cost of health insurance.

Costs have skyrocketed and high-deductible health plans have established expensive milestones before people can access coverage. Small businesses and individuals are being crushed in Connecticut and nationwide due to the constantly increasing cost of care.

Knowing these struggles, at the beginning of this legislative session I submitted legislation to allow small businesses to buy into the state's health insurance program.

Fortunately, my colleagues in the General Assembly also recognize that this is a major issue. Last week, the Insurance and Real Estate Committee passed two bills to the House and Senate floor – very similar to the legislation I submitted – which will create an option for small businesses to purchase their health insurance through the state's program.

This is legislation our small businesses and families need. No small business should have to choose between keeping the lights on and paying for health insurance. More than half the people in our state are employed by small businesses, and strengthening the climate for those businesses will help the entire state.

The proposed legislation will open the state employee health plan to small businesses and nonprofits with less than 50 employees. With the state employee health plan being so large, there is already a stable risk pool with low administrative costs. This has allowed the state to seek minimal premium increases compared to other small group plans. Adding this option will also bring competition to the health insurance marketplace, which will result in better prices and care for consumers.

We want small businesses to know they can succeed in our state. A public option will solidify that by removing the heavy burden of health insurance costs. I commend my friends in the Insurance and Real Estate Committee for passing this legislation to the House and Senate. I look forward to working with my colleagues to find other creative solutions to improving the business climate in the state of Connecticut.

Banking Committee Bills Would Help Connecticut



STATE REP. (R-117)
CHARLES FERRARO

This session I was a new member on the legislature's Banking Committee. The Banking Committee handles all matters relating to the Department of Banking, banks, savings banks, bank and trust companies, savings and loan associations, credit unions, the supervision of the sale of securities, fraternal benefit societies and secured and unsecured lending.

The Banking Committee is one of the least controversial or partisan committees in the legislature. In total, about two dozen bills were voted out of committee and sent to the House and Senate for pending votes.

Here are two important bills that I supported out of committee.

Senate Bill 72, "An Act Establishing a Tax Credit for Employers that Make Payment on Loans Issued to Certain Employees by the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority," would grant a partial tax exemption to employers who make educational loan payments on behalf of employees. This bill would retain students that attended the Connecticut State College University system.

The Connecticut Realtors Association support this legislation because many first-time home buyers are delayed an average of seven years, mainly due to student loan debt.

I believe this is a great solution to reducing student loan debt and will help Connecticut's economy.

Senate Bill 811, "An Act Increasing Penalties for Computer Crimes Against Financial Institutions and their Customers," would increase the penalties for such computer crimes to a Class A felony with a new jail term of 25 years and a maximum fine of \$25,000 per violation. Currently, the penalty is a Class D felony with a maximum jail term of five years and a maximum fine of \$5,000.

With most Americans' important information online, we need to get serious about penalizing those who try to steal our personal information.

The legislative session will conclude at midnight on Wednesday, June 5. To keep track of legislation, visit cga.ct.gov.

As always, please contact me with questions, concerns or ideas at 860-240-8700 or by emailing Charles.Ferraro@cga.ct.gov. You can also visit my website and sign up for email updates at RepFerraro.com.

Past Labor Agreements Can't Be Agreements For State's Future



STATE REP. (R-114)
THEMIS KLARIDES

The vote on March 27 secured nearly 200 newly unionized attorneys to receive base salary increases totaling 11 percent over the next two years.

The current unionized attorney salary average is \$120,000. Once the new terms go into effect, the salary average will be raised to \$133,000 per year. The salary increase is comprised of an increase for just being on payroll – or as it's called, a step increase – in addition to cost-of-living increases. Most of these employees will also receive a \$2,000 lump sum bonus.

Department heads will receive the 11 percent salary increase plus bonuses totaling \$20,000 over the next two years. All of these monetary deal sweeteners come with an incredible detail: a no-layoff agreement, a benefit that lasts the full duration of the contract.

Connecticut's current financial state of affairs cannot shoulder the continuation of labor agreements that put the taxpayer at risk, while unionized attorneys receive benefits that most people could only dream of (let alone receive) in the private sector. Our state employees proudly serve our state, and we are fortunate. But the labor agreements of the past cannot be the agreements for Connecticut's future; it is simply not realistic.

The taxpayers of Connecticut will feel the impact of the new assistant attorney general pay raises to the tune of \$3.3 million per year. How can the governor, Senate and House Democrats say they want to be conscious stewards of the state when every time we turn around this session there is runaway spending of taxpayer dollars at a time when we can least afford it.

Connecticut is on the verge of an overwhelmingly high tax increase, the possible implementation of tolls throughout our entire state, Democrats in the House and Senate encouraging forced school regionalization, an unrelenting outmigration of residents that is chipping away at our economy, all while we are drowning in debt and long-term employee costs into the foreseeable future.

When considering these items and the extensive list of other costly taxes, proposals, and benefits, it's a wonder how 77 representatives and 19 senators could have voted in favor of these newly unionized attorney and department head salary increases.

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Senator's Seat: Sen. James Maroney

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Benjamin Blake, Milford Mayor	Barbara Lehrer, Real Estate	Raymond Spaziani, Wine
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Editorial: State, Municipalities Walk Fine Line On Budgets

By *Brandon Bisceglia*

Budgets are on everyone's mind this time of year. Even as tax season winds to its April 15 crescendo, Connecticut and its municipalities are busy figuring out what revenue they have coming in and what they can afford to spend.

The state budget, which is supposed to be finalized by the end of the session in June, is mired in a debate over how to cover a projected \$1.7 billion deficit for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, along with more than \$2 billion in red ink projected for 2020-2021.

Most of what's driving Connecticut's annual wrestling match with billion-dollar shortfalls are required debt payments for programs and loans that were chronically underfunded going back generations. Teacher and state employee pensions, for instance, were shortchanged starting all the way back in 1939 – and that irresponsible practice continued through 2010.

Now we're stuck paying back for the borrowing of our parents, grandparents and (in some cases) great-grandparents.

Still, there isn't much that lawmakers or the governor can do that won't upset some major bloc of constituents. Legalized marijuana and sports betting might be new, less painful sources of revenue. But they'll only bring in a few hundred million dollars at best.

Cuts won't be sufficient, either. Gov. Ned Lamont's predecessor already shrank the roster of state employees significantly, and other programs, such as the state's public colleges, are facing multi-million-dollar shortfalls every year, forcing them to do things like raise tuition rates. Eventually these

cuts begin to cost us more than they're worth. Milford and Orange, like many municipalities, have been feeling the pinch of these state-level woes. The state's Education Cost Sharing grant to Milford and Orange, for instance, has been shrinking for several years now, thanks in part to their relative wealth when compared to places like Hartford or New Haven.

Even without the continual fiscal crisis at the Capitol, the cost of living and doing business would continue to rise with inflation. Costs for towns and cities go up in good years, too.

Residents of Milford and Orange can count themselves lucky that they do live in prosperous places. The grand lists, which determine the amount of taxable property, are stable or growing. Mill rates remain below those of many of their neighbors.

The budget process unfolding now is not without its challenges. Milford Mayor Benjamin Blake has come under some criticism that his "spending freeze," while keeping taxes down, is harming some departments and services. Orange, meanwhile, is facing a total budget increase of 3.08 percent, with a proposed mill rate increase from 32.38 to 32.59.

Voters will ultimately have to decide whether their money is being spent appropriately. In Orange, they'll be able to have a say in the annual budget referendum. In Milford, they can reach out to the Board of Aldermen and the mayor. In all cases, new elections are just around the corner.

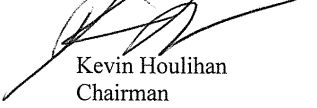
Whatever format the budget process takes, it pays to stay informed and participate.

TOWN OF ORANGE
 NOTICE OF HEARING
 TOWN BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the statutes in such cases provided, the Orange Board of Finance will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the **High Plains Community Center Cafeteria**, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange, CT 06477 relative to the expenditures and proposed budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. Citizens may present oral and/or written comments. The proposed budget will be available for examination in the Office of the Town Clerk in the Orange Town Hall on Thursday, April 18, 2019.

Dated at Orange CT this 1st day of April 2019.

Orange Board of Finance



Kevin Houlihan
 Chairman

File:BOF/budgethearing19

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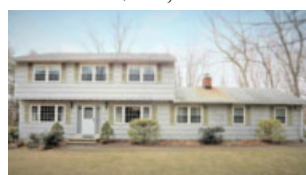
358 High Street, Milford
 \$465,000



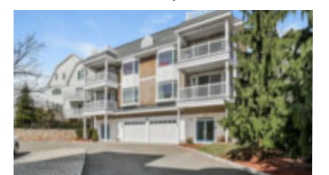
851 N Greenbrier Dr, Orange
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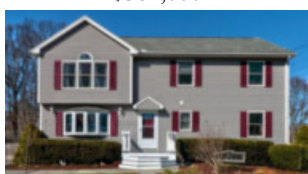
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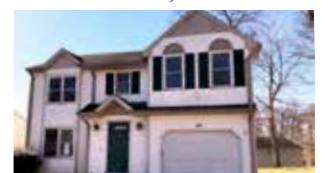
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Arts & Entertainment

Every child is an artist. – Pablo Picasso

by Patricia Miller

THE ORANGE PLAYERS (525 Orange Center Rd., Orange) present their spring production, *The Dinner Party*, by Neil Simon, on May 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. at High Plains Community Center.

The Dinner Party is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French. The cast, pictured in the accompanying photo, features Orange Players actors Hugh Baker, Tara Chorney, Kristopher Bates, Lisa De Angelis, Alexander Borghetti Ferreira and Rebecca Miller. Ensemble understudies are Cyndi Consoli and Leland Schick. The director is Chelsea Dacey and the producer is Orange Players co-president Cyndi Consoli. The stage manager is Sarah Messiore, and technical director John Miller is responsible for set design, construction, lights and sound.

The play is set in Paris in a high-end restaurant's private dining room. Each of the invited guests arrives separately, with no knowledge of who is the host or why each has been invited. Their confusion compounds as they recognize arriving guests – former husbands or wives from whom they are divorced. Barbs and one-liners fly. It's a fast-moving, hilarious play in true Neil Simon style.

Curtain time is 7:30 p.m., and doors open at 6:45 p.m. Seating is cabaret-style, and patrons are encouraged to bring food and beverages to enjoy. There will be live music by the Rich Moran Quartet before the show. Tickets can be purchased online at orangeplayers.net or by calling the box office at 475-227-7547.

ART IN THE LIBRARY (176 Tyler City Rd., Orange) is sponsoring its annual art exhibit of Orange kindergarten through sixth grade students at the Case Memorial Library. The show is the result of the commitment and hard work of the three art teachers from Orange public schools: Jon Kalusynski, Erin Garney and Ahli Jalil. Audrey Galer, chairman of the Art in the Library Committee, was also instrumental. This highly-anticipated exhibit is one of the most popular of the year, drawing not only family and friends of the exhibitors, but also many other interested community members. There will be an artists' reception on Thursday, April 4, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The exhibit is available for viewing during regular library hours.

THE FRIENDS OF THE CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY (176 Tyler City Rd., Orange) reports that the March Great! Library Book Sale was the most profitable ever. The proceeds from the book sales enable the Friends to support the library in many ways: presenting programs for children and adults, providing passes to cultural and artistic venues throughout the state and often fulfilling specific requests made by the librarian. The group is dedicated to serving the library and hard-working. Countless hours and many hands are involved in sorting and organizing books and other materials, such as CDs or DVDs, for sale.

THE FRIENDS OF THE CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY (176 Tyler City Rd., Orange) announced that on Saturday, May 4 at 2 p.m., there will be another concert in their concert series – a jazz and swing concert by the band Survivor. Survivor originated in Wallingford, where it grew from four to seven members, all seasoned players with years of experience. Their players include Jeremy Alston on drums, Jules Bashkin on alto sax, Ralph DeLuca on guitar, Frank DeVito on sax, Lauren Humpage on bass and vocals, Dave Mechler on cornet and trumpet, and Sandra Whitman on piano. They took their name for



Cast members of the Orange Players production of *The Dinner Party*. From left: Rebecca Miller, Lisa DeAngelis, Taryn Chorney, Alexander Borghetti Ferreira, Kristopher J Bates, Hugh Tucker. Photo by Cyndi Consoli.

many reasons, including the fact that they are senior citizens, that the band continues to play despite losing some band members, and their band performances help ensure that swing music lives on.

Swing music became popular in the 1930s, a time when the country was deep in the Great Depression. It allowed people to forget their worries as they danced away in ballrooms throughout the country, often staging dance competitions.

The popularity of this music continued through the 1940s and 1950s, with the big band sounds of Tommy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman and Harry James. Vocalists included Frank Sinatra, Peggy Lee and Sarah Vaughn, Frances Langford and The Andrews Sisters. "Begin the Beguine" and "Summertime" are classic examples of the genre.

The creativity of improvisation that is the soul of jazz and makes each band or performer unique is alive and well in this group.

The music is sure to make you want to put on your dancing shoes and move to the beat. Register at 203-891-2170 or go to orange.lioninc.org. Seating is limited.

AMITY CREATIVE THEATER (23 Newton Rd., Woodbridge) presents its spring musical, *Catch Me If You Can*, based on the real-life exploits of Frank Abagnale, Jr., a master conman and forger, who, before his nineteenth birthday had successfully pulled off scams that resulted in his working as a copilot for Pan Am, as a Georgia doctor and as a prosecutor for a Louisiana parish. He was a master of deception and a brilliant forger, for which he earned his first claim to fame. Carl Hanratty, an FBI agent made it his mission to catch Abagnale. However, quick-witted Abagnale was one step ahead of the FBI until, after forging checks all over Europe, he was apprehended in France and then spent time in French and American jails. He eventually began to consult for the FBI. Because of his talent as an expert forger, he became invaluable to the FBI in their quest to track down and bring to justice other practicing forgers. The story was made into a movie in 2002, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks.

The Amity version has dancing and singing to the max, and is yet another memorable theater experience. Rob and Andrea Kennedy consistently direct shows of artistic excellence, showcasing the many talented students of the Bethany-Orange-Woodbridge region. The show opened April 6 and will also play the weekend of the April 13 and 14. It may be sold out already, but you can try to obtain tickets by going to amitytheaterdepartment.com.

MILFORD ARTS COUNCIL (40 S. Railway Ave., Milford) presents the Ronnie Gill Band on Friday, April 19 at 8 p.m. Gill was the winner of "The Best Emerging Artist" from the National Songwriters Hall of Fame. His music draws from rock and roll, folk, Americana and soul, but exhibits his own unmistakable sound. Gill has been performing in New York City at the Rockwood Music Hall and other venues, and throughout the Northeast and California for over a decade. His music has been performed in film, on satellite radio, on television and on stage.

Seating is cabaret-style in MAC's Speakeasy Lounge and patrons are invited to bring their own everything, sit at a candlelit table and enjoy the show. Call 203-878-6647 Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MILFORD ARTS COUNCIL (40 S. Railway Ave., Milford) also announced the 2019 Milford Photo Expo, which will be on view until May 30 at the Milford Art Center. The expo is open to all skill levels and is an open-category exhibition of black and white and color photography.

SMOOTH JAZZ FOR SCHOLARS (70 West River St., Milford) will hold its annual concert featuring world-renowned jazz musician and composer Jay Rowe on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27, in the Veterans Memorial Auditorium at the Parsons Complex. Rowe, a local resident, concert promoter and a graduate of Joseph A. Foran High School, donates a portion of the ticket sales to the Milford Schools music department in appreciation of the Milford educators who taught him and supported him in the beginning of his career. Over the years, this annual effort has raised and donated approximately \$81,200.

Rowe has performed and recorded with the jazz elite and has performed in many major jazz festivals in the U.S. and around the world. He has also recorded and released six CDs as a solo artist.

The Friday show features guitarists Nick Colonne and Chieii Minucci, and saxophonist Marion Meadows. The Saturday show features guitarist Steve Oliver, saxophonists Jessie J and Eric Darius and pianist Brian Simpson.

Tickets are \$45 and may be purchased online at eventbrite.com/e/17th-annual-smooth-jazz-for-scholars-benefit-concert-friday-42619-saturday-42719-tickets-55041943936 or at the Milford Arts Center, Café Atlantique or the Canvas Patch.

THE BUSHNELL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (166 Capitol Ave., Hartford) presents Shen Yun, the Chinese performing arts extravaganza, on Saturday, April 20. This entirely new production, with a live orchestra, immerses patrons in stories going back 5,000 years and in realms beyond our visible world. The production features classical Chinese dance, original orchestral works, innovative special effects, and gorgeous costumes. Traditional Chinese culture was displaced by Communism in China. Today, only the New York-based Shen Yun is keeping this heritage alive on stage. For tickets, go to shenyun.com/hartford or call the box office at 860-987-5900 or 800-898-3401.

YALE PHILHARMONIA (500 College St., New Haven) presents a concert on Friday, April 26, at 8 p.m. at Woolsey Hall with principal conductor Peter Oundjian leading the orchestra in Reinecke's Flute Concerto in D Major, Opus 283 and Brahms' Symphony No. 1 in C Minor. For tickets go to music.yale.edu or call 203-432-4158.

ORCHESTRA NEW ENGLAND (700 Hartford Tpke., Hamden) presents "Harps and Rags" on Saturday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Society of New Haven. The concert features the music of Ned Rorem, Scott Joplin, Maurice Ravel and Sima Wolf. The performance showcases 11 of ONE's first-chair players. Guest artist Wendy Kerner will be the harpist in this potpourri of colorful works. For tickets, call 203777-4690 or go to orchestranewengland.org.

THE INSTITUTE LIBRARY (847 Chapel St., New Haven) announced the program "Listen Here," featuring classic stories read aloud, on Tuesday, April 16 at 7 p.m.

The theme is "Bad Girls," written by Matilyn Robinson and featuring Connie Bronson, and "The Lesson" by Lori Cade Bambera. There will be a talk back following the presentations. This program meets monthly, every third Tuesday, with tea and freshly baked cookies.

The Institute also has another popular program, Poetry Institute, that celebrates an eclectic mix of poetic voices. It is an open mic with featured readers in a casual setting. This program meets monthly on the third Thursday with wine and cheese.

Both of these programs are open to the public. Interested parties can register online at institutelibrary.org.

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

Technology:

Get Ready For Microsoft To Close The Window On Old Platform

January 14, 2020. Most people in the tech community know the significance of that date. That's the date when Microsoft cancels all free Windows 7 updates and support.



KEN OAKES

What do we have to do to prepare? A few years ago, Windows had free upgrades from Windows 7 and 8 to Windows 10, but that ended about two years ago.

You can still upgrade to Windows 10 from 7, but you have to pay for a license. The good news is they're relatively inexpensive. It costs approximately \$100 for Windows 10 Home. You can also purchase original equipment

manager, or OEM, licenses from Amazon, which is permanently attached to one specific computer. OEM licenses were originally for computer resellers or system builders, but it's common for people to purchase them for their regular computers for anywhere from \$15 to \$50.

A lot of my friends and clients still use Windows 7 and would like to continue to use it. It's reliable and stable. There is an option to stay. Microsoft recently released information about an option to pay for updates. It will be up for the next three years.

Here's the catch. The first year is \$50 per computer and that doubles each year after. Yes, that will be \$200 per computer on year three. That's pretty expensive, considering laptops and desktops start around \$300 for budget models.

There's an interesting twist to Windows 7 going away. In the past six months, Microsoft has been having a lot of trouble with Windows 10's mandatory monthly updates. Those are normal software fixes and security updates. They are mostly to protect the computer from hackers and flaws. It's gotten so bad that Microsoft has released mandatory updates to remove its own bad updates. I wish this were an April Fool's

joke. It's not.

It's tough for me to recommend to somebody to just jump to Windows 10 when they are happy using Windows 7.

There are still several months to make a decision. Your best bet may be a Windows 10 home license for under \$50. Have a qualified professional do the work if possible.

Ken Oakes is a computer technology consultant from New Haven County. He has lived in the area his whole life aside from eight years in the United States Army. He provides services for local businesses, residences and professionals. Contact Oakes at 203-444-3432.

The Book Club:

Ripped From The Headlines

Moshin Hamid, *Exit West*, Penguin, 2017

Who doesn't remember those news clips showing panicked Africans on overcrowded wobbly boats attempting to reach the shores of Europe, or of fearful Chinese women packed into overheated trucks abandoned by some snakehead, or ugly displays of anti-immigrant xenophobia by "nativist" mobs in Europe or America?



PETER HECHTMAN

Refugee crises, caused by implosions in the East and South and, in turn, destabilizing the West, are the stuff of today's headlines. It is an issue longing for a novelist who can put a human face on it all.

Nadia and Saeed are at the beginning of their courtship, while their city, the capital of an unnamed Muslim country, is in the final stages of civil war. Saeed is a quiet, thoughtful man. Nadia is summed up in the following exchange:

Saeed: "If you don't pray, why do you wear the robe and headscarf?"

Nadia: "So men won't fuck with me."

As destruction pours down from the skies, the lovers know they must flee to the West.

Here is where our author abandons the raw and gritty interface between East and West:

the journey. He is not interested in this part of the refugee story and simply employs the rather tired literary device known as magic realism to bring the pair first to Mykonos, then to London and finally to Marin County, California.

What the refugees encounter in London are nativist mobs, as well as attempts by the army and police to evict them. Inexplicably,



these shows of hostility are replaced by practical solutions in which refugees work to construct houses, some of which they will get to own.

But the author is more interested in the sense of dislocation that goes with the refugee experience than he is in the particular events that cause it. We hear from Nadia that

"the farther they moved from the city of their birth...the more (Saeed) sought to strengthen his connection to it, tying ropes to the air of an era that for her was unambiguously gone."

And yet, since the house in which they live appears to have a large Nigerian squatter population, Saeed comes to identify with these people enough to develop a romantic

infatuation with one of them.

As for Nadia, a more forward-looking character, her response to exile is to wallow in the luxuries of the new home. Nothing says luxury better than: "The water pressure in the shower was magnificent, striking her flesh with real force, and scouring her clean. The heat was superb too, and she turned it up as high as she could stand."

Over their refugee period we do glimpse the incredible resourcefulness and ingenuity that people on the run display. Indeed, the author's refugees do not appear to suffer anywhere near as much fright or pain as CNN's refugees.

One of Hamid's previous novels was *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, in which a young Pakistani living the American Dream finds himself a pariah on 9/11.

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

17th annual SMOOTH JAZZ for SCHOLARS

Benefit Concert for the city of Milford, Connecticut
Public Schools Music Department

4/26 8pm

Nick Colionne

Marion Meadows

Chieli Minucci

presented by Jay Rowe

4/27 8pm

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Brian Simpson

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Lifestyle

On Your Mind:

Stop Clenching Your Jaw

Do you suffer from jaw pain and don't know why? Sometimes you feel it when you wake up in the morning because you were grinding your teeth in your sleep. Dentists are happy to offer you an expensive appliance to wear at night to prevent grinding, but why not find out the underlying reason that you do it and find out how can you stop?

There can be a few interesting reasons people clench their jaws during the day or at night. I have successfully worked with several clients to stop this unconscious and unwanted habit.

As you might guess, it's definitely related to stress. That's the simple answer – but there's more. I was able to determine that my clients who clenched during the day were in stressful jobs or situations where they had to hold back things they wanted to say because they felt uncomfortable or unable to say them. By identifying their underlying

feelings and releasing them, the clenching stopped.

Although current situations may remain stressful, the underlying causes are usually from the past. One client was brought up in a family where her father was an alcoholic. He was often angry and loud. She learned to be quiet and keep her thoughts or complaints to herself.

This is a familiar theme among those who clench. Resolving habits and issues from the past is easier than you think. The past is over, but the neural pathways of the brain maintain old habits until new neural pathways are created. Awareness of the effect that many old habits and beliefs from the past can have on our everyday day life is the beginning of healing. Grinding teeth at night is a habit also



FERN TAUSIG

related to stress. Learning how to relax before bed and dealing with the old stressful feelings removes the need to clench or grind teeth even while asleep. Hypnosis can help your unconscious mind to keep your jaw slightly parted through the night, thus creating a new habit.

Clenching and teeth grinding can be the source of headaches, as the tightness of the muscles of the jaw can constrict the flow of blood.

People hold stress in different parts of their body. Where do you hold yours? Problems in one's life aren't about the amount of stress in your life; they're about the way you handle it. Only dead people don't have stress.

Becoming aware of the things in your life that increase your level of stress can be

divided into three categories:

1. Things you can control;
2. Things you have no control over,
3. Things that you are creating in your mind by worrying.

Many of my clients worry a lot. Worrying is the habit that creates the most amount of unnecessary stress. When you realize that you will deal with whatever happens, you can also realize there is no point in worrying. If you spend today worrying, you did not enjoy the day. No one ever laid on their deathbed and said, "I wish I worried one more day!"

Live each day to the fullest. Prepare for tomorrow instead of worrying about it and you'll notice your jaw will remain relaxed day and night.

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

Board Of Finance, from pg 1.

Fitzpatrick and Castignoli then moved to reduce the Board of Education budget by \$600,000.

Board of Finance member Lauren Ranges asked how they came to that reduction.

"I think there's going to be a surplus," Castignoli responded. "We were told there will be a surplus. So I think that's more than enough."

Blake then stepped in to ease the tension. "My observation is the last several years, the Board (of Education) has come in with very lean budgets. I have not provided too much input just because they have been sensible," he said, adding that the increases have generally stayed under 2 percent.

Fitzpatrick pointed out that a previous study had recommended the district could close a school because of reduced citywide enrollment. He said he understood the reticence of the BOE over closing schools, but added it was the BOF's responsibility to keep costs down.

"That is not keeping the costs down. If you're keeping the school open, that's costing us money," he said.

Ultimately, the BOF passed the full BOE budget request, with Fitzpatrick and Castignoli dissenting. In the message that accompanied that approval, though, the board repeated its warning about the BOE's future.

"Members of the BOF are indeed deeply and legitimately concerned about current

BOE funding levels in light of the continuing trend of decreased student enrollment and would like to see the BOE implement a long term plan and to take the appropriate measures to address the decline in student enrollment," the message said.

The budget is now with the Board of Aldermen, which is holding hearings with departments throughout April and May and will adopt the final budget by late May.

Budget Proposal, from pg 1.

number of students enrolled from that town.

One of the largest drivers of the increase in the budget this year are employee benefits, which are projected to rise from \$6,518,761 to \$7,271,736, or 11.55 percent. Another increase comes from the \$137,133 budgeted this year for the town's teacher retirement contribution. Teachers' pensions have been paid for by the state in the past, but a proposal moving through the state Capitol would have towns share some of the burden.

The town's grand list in 2018 was essentially flat, rising from \$2,074,196,022 to \$2,084,058,708, an increase of only 0.0048 percent.

You can read the full budget on page 13.



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Four Winds! Spectacular totally updated 3 Bedroom, 2.1 Bath Colonial/Cape-style home in sought after complex. Open floor plan w/hardwood floor. Additional 1404 sf in newly finished walk-out LL.
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Lifestyle

Here's To Your Health:

Have You Ever Felt The Wonder?

Recently, my oldest son got engaged to a young woman we absolutely adore. It was a great surprise because they have been dating for nine years. Our families were filled with joy.



MICHELE TENNEY

Then it occurred to me that I had been somewhat joyless for some time. I realized I had been in essence going through the motions of life without being intentional about my happiness.

Don't get me wrong: I am grateful for the life I have, my family and children, our health and wellbeing and so much more. But what happens when we stray or lose our ability to be in awe?

The definition of awe is this: filled with wonder, wonderstruck, awestruck, amazed, astonished and lost for words. I think of places that I've been, things I've seen. But more than that, I find I can be in awe right in my backyard watching hummingbirds in their feeders. Being intentional about your peace and quiet time is essential to your wellbeing. Being purposeful about putting time aside is critical to your peace and inward healing.

Experiencing awe has some amazing health benefits. Studies show that experiencing awe shifts our attention away from ourselves and makes us aware there is something greater than ourselves. It makes us more generous to others. That is something truly awesome.

Studies also have shown there are physiological, psychological and social effects awe can have on us. When we feel awe, we can have heart rate changes, and there is some evidence that this feeling can decrease inflammation. Have you ever experienced a sense of chills or goosebumps when feeling awe? There you have it. Feeling awe can give you the sense of having more time available, can enhance critical thinking, can give you feelings of increased connectedness and a

positive mood.

So how do we experience awe? Perhaps it's viewing some remarkable artwork, taking a long hike through the mountains or stargazing at night. I have always found awe in holding a newborn child.

Your spirituality is directly connected to awe. I recently watched a YouTube video about the Apollo 8 mission, the first manned mission to orbit the moon.

Those men who went around the moon were not so awestruck with the fact they actually reached the moon as they were with the sight of Earth coming up over the horizon.

The most profound broadcast in our history came from space when these men sent us a Christmas Eve message while experiencing complete and utter awe. I personally was moved to tears watching and listening. You can check it out yourself at [youtube.com/watch?v=6vvNxlPIjA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vvNxlPIjA).

We have become a rat race society. A quicker, faster, do more with less time, sleep deprived, drive-drive-drive society. Our overall health has suffered tremendously because of it. I challenge you this spring to spring back to life by letting some things die that don't benefit you or enrich your life and begin a new journey of taking back what truly matters: love, peace, contentment, honor and rest.

Life is too short. Be in the now. Be in awe. I believe in you. You can do this. Here's to your health.

Michele Tenney is a Certified Personal Trainer and Nutritionist & Wellness Coach. She is the Chair of the Healthy Lifestyles Committee for the Orange Elementary School System and is a member of the Orange Board of Health. She can be reached at 203 668 2969 or email of Hmgbdr3@gmail.com.

Room 911:

Just Do It

The athletic shoe company Nike's slogan is "Just Do It," and this philosophy can be applied to many aspects of interior decorating and home design.



TEDRA SCHNEIDER

Sometimes I want to say, "Just get rid of it" or "Do you really use it that often?" And now is the time of year to think about it, with numerous estate, tag, yard and garage sales beginning to sprout up.

Having moved a few years ago from a place in which I lived in for 30-plus years, and with clients constantly asking what to do with their tchotchkes, knickknacks and bric-a-brac, here is the best advice I can offer.

First, recognize that it is hard to part with personal things. They are remembrances from vacations, family trips, a great-great grandmother's lamp, collections of cups, saucers, figurines, linens, tableware, vases... you get the idea.

Second, go to an estate sale on the first day and on the third day. Look around and observe. There are definitely some items to be acquired, but for the most part the bereaved family (which has plenty to deal with) is trying to get rid of old Christmas items, plate collections, clothes, purses, ties, and bedspreads. We have discussed the effort put into this before. It includes things from table set ups to hanging racks, categorizing and grouping like objects, pricing and advertising.

Now go back to the estate sale on the third day and notice that not a lot of stuff has been

sold. There are many companies that will come in and arrange your merchandise, but naturally they will take a sizeable cut. Then it will be all sold off for pennies on the dollar, if you're lucky. You may even have to pay people to cart it off.

So just do it now. Go through room after room methodically, including the attic and basement.

In the kitchen you may have a special pot for making rice. If you use it often, keep it. If you use it once a year, then it has to be given away or sold. You can always make rice in a regular pot.

How often are your gadgets used? Did you recently go to your linen closet when thinking of the forthcoming holidays and discover you have nine tablecloths, five of which haven't been used in 10 years? Just get rid of them.

By simplifying, you are creating extra space so things don't have to be crammed in. Like clothes, we only use 20 percent of what we actually own. This process is cathartic. Put this test to the many items you already possess. Do it now, when you are able. Have your children help. I threaten my grown children by saying, "Help me now, or what a mess you will be left with when I go."

Make your mantra: spring, simplicity, serenity.

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

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Milford Chamber Member Spotlight: Jim Wilson Of Milford Photo

Q: When did you become a chamber member?

A: I joined the chamber the first year I opened my business and that was 1995.

Q: What is the benefit of joining the Milford Chamber of Commerce?

A: The chamber is really the one that promotes business not only downtown but also throughout the city of Milford – you’d be crazy not to join the chamber. There are certain business organizations that we belong to because those are the organizations that are advocates for business and certainly the chamber is one of those.

Q: How has the chamber been a valuable resource?

A: When I was the president of the downtown merchants, I worked closely with the chamber and I was happily surprised that they were heavily involved with the City of Milford, and were instrumental in helping me when I needed to find information and make connections.

Q: What is special about doing business in Milford?

A: Being born and raised here, Milford is a great town and beyond everything that it has to give, it’s all about the people. It’s a special community.

Q: What would your advice be to someone starting a new business in the city?

A: When I opened my business, I got

involved in a lot of different business groups. What you find is even though it could be a totally different business than yours, everyone has the same problems, the same growing pains. We all think we are on an island doing this all by ourselves, but there’s a lot of people on the island, there’s a lot of people going through what you’re going through not just in starting a business but growing and maintaining a business. I would tell people to get involved, especially in organizations like the chamber.



Jim Wilson of Milford Photo. Photo courtesy of Milford Photo.

Orange Resident Honored



Kevin Moffett was honored for community service by the Orange Democratic Town Committee March 21 at the Fifth Annual O'Sullivan Award Dinner at the Birchwoods at Oak Ridge in Woodbridge. From left: Moffett, wife Patty, daughter Krista Moffett Milberg, and son Dan. Photo Courtesy of ODTC.

Orange, West Haven Join For Women’s Leadership Conference



West Haven & Orange Women in Business sponsored the Annual Women’s Leadership Conference on April 2 at the West Haven Italian American Club in West Haven. From left: Monique Bolt of the University of New Haven; West Haven Mayor Nancy Rossi; Sara Longobardi of Peoples United Bank; Jennifer Heath of the United Way of Greater New Haven; Orange Chamber of Commerce Director Carol Smullen; Kathy Hart-Jones of West Haven Community House; and Louise Pelletier of Stone Academy.

West Haven & Orange Women in Business, a joint committee of the West Haven and Orange Chambers of Commerce, sponsored the Annual Women’s Leadership Conference on April 2 at the West Haven Italian American Club in West Haven. Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz opened the event that brought 200 area women and high school students to hear local businesswomen sharing their stories of conviction, commitment and courage. Speakers included

Jennifer Heath, president and CEO of the United Way of Greater New Haven; Monique Bolt, director of events for undergraduate admissions at the University of New Haven; and Sara Longobardi, senior vice president of retail banking for People’s United Bank. The proceeds from the conference benefit the Women in Business Scholarship program for female, college-bound, high school seniors from Amity and West Haven High Schools. Scholarships were presented to Jenna Nicole Acanfora and Taylor Joy Gourdiere, both from Amity High School. Acanfora will be attending the University of Rhode Island where she will pursue a career in business. Gourdiere will be going to the University of Connecticut. She is interested in pursuing a career combining business and social action. Two students from West Haven High also received scholarships.

ALEXANDRA JOY PHOTOGRAPHY

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Living Treasure Awards Ceremony Coming

Tickets are currently available for the annual Living Treasure Award ceremony. Each year the Orange Senior Center recognizes three Orange senior residents who have given much of themselves and their time to the Orange community.

This year the center is recognizing Doris Knight, Leo Moran and Lea Turner. They will be honored at the ceremony on May 24 at Race Brook Country Club in Orange.

Knight has been a part of Orange since 1941. She is a founding member of Knights, Inc. and still works there. She helps at the Agriculture Fair, Volunteer Fireman's Carnival or for her church. Knight is an honorary member of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department, and a volunteer at auxiliary functions. She has volunteered for many boards and was a selectperson in Orange. She also has sung for years in her church.

Moran is a retired shop foreman with the Orange Highway Department and has served the town as a volunteer firefighter for over 40 years. He offers his time to assist in presenting public education presentations for all ages, from nursery school to seniors. He organizes the Volunteer Fireman's Carnival raffle. Moran takes the time to guide newer members of the fire department to help ensure their safety and the safety of those they serve. He also volunteers with the Orange Agricultural Fair.

While a teacher at Race Brook School, Turkey Hill School and later at the Foundation School, Turner was a Girl Scout leader. She served on the board of directors of the Race Brook PTA. Upon retirement she tutored French and math for Orange Youth Services. She also was chair of the Orange satellite group of necessity bags, which supplies necessities

for breast cancer patients. Turner chairs the neck cozies committee for chemotherapy patients with the Orange Lions Club. She is a cofounder of the Leo's Club and a Leo advisor at the Foundation High School, where she has served as club treasurer and volunteers for most of the club service projects and fundraisers. She also serves as a "bunny helper" at the Lions Club Easter egg hunt. Turner was the recording secretary for the Orange Historical Society, where she continues to work with the American Girl Doll Camp and is planning a Fancy Nancy Tea Party for young children as a fundraiser.

Tickets to the ceremony are \$35 and can be purchased at the Orange Senior Center in the High Plains Community Center at 525 Orange Center Rd. in Orange. Checks should be made out to Treasurer – Town of Orange.

Orange Resident Appointed Director Of Regional Realtor Association

Orange resident Michael Richetelli has been appointed to the Board of Directors for The New Haven Middlesex Association of Realtors for a two-year term.

Richetelli is the president/designated broker of Colonial Properties, Inc., located in Orange. He has been a broker for 20 years and specializes in commercial real estate. He holds two bachelor's degrees in business administration from the University of New Haven.

"Mike will be a dynamic addition to our board of directors," said NHMR CEO Dawn Calvo. "Directors are nominated by fellow board members and voted on by our general membership. His nomination and approval are a testament to his professionalism, knowledge and the respect he has gained throughout the real estate community."



Leo Moran and Lea Turner. Photo by Lexi Crocco.



Doris Knight. Photo by Lexi Crocco.

Eye Care cont. on page 18

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FINANCE DIRECTOR'S BUDGET MESSAGE

May 2019

On behalf of the Honorable James M. Zeoli - First Selectman, and the Orange Board of Finance, I submit our recommended Town of Orange General Fund Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. This document is the result of many hours of careful consideration by the Board of Finance, Department Heads, Town Boards and Commissions, Management and Staff. The focus of the 2020 budget is to continue to offer the level of services to which our citizens have become accustomed, tempered by the ability of our taxpayers to pay for those services.

Again Federal pass-through funds and State initiated funding have remained frozen, or in some cases, have been reduced, or eliminated entirely. The State Legislature and Governor have proposed many pieces of tax legislation that if passed could have a very significant impact on The Town of Orange. The current proposal cuts the Towns Educational Cost Sharing Grant for this budget year and next year by in excess of \$294,000 each year. In the current fiscal year the Town expects to receive in excess of \$1.2 million, but in the 2019-2020 budget the projection is \$917,660. The October 1, 2018 Grand List reflects an increase of .48%. However, increases in interest investment earnings, Licenses, Permits and Fines and other revenue has helped to offset some of the state funding losses. We have carefully designed this financial plan to balance the growing request for municipal services, the needs of the Town's infrastructure, public safety, recreation and community health and welfare while maintaining our commitment to the education of our children: the leaders of tomorrow.

The Budget Process

The budget process begins in late October when each department prepares and then reviews with their Board or Commission the department budget request for the new fiscal year. After Board or Commission approval the department submits the departmental budget to the Director of Finance. Each departmental request is reviewed and evaluated together with the First Selectman for submission of a recommended budget to the Board of Finance. The Board of Finance then spends a day in town hall to conduct individual hearings and discussions with department management as required. This budget has no funding for any new positions. Contracts for four of the six town unions expire on June 30, 2019. Negotiations have yet to start so salary lines carry current year's salary for those union positions. There are inevitably unanticipated costs that occur when projecting expenditure some eighteen months into the future. Toward that end, it is incumbent on the administration of any municipality to maintain a sufficient undesignated fund balance to provide for such unforeseen events and circumstances.

Fund Balance

The Town's Fund Balance is a measure of its capacity to withstand financial emergencies or to provide for unforeseen emergent projects and expenditure. I am projecting the undesignated portion of the fund balance at July 1, 2019 to be approximately 11.4 million dollars, or 15.86% of the 2019-2020 operating budget.

Revenue

The net taxable grand list for October 1, 2018 equaled \$2,078,900,122 which is compared to the October 1, 2017 net taxable grand list as below:

Category	2018 Net Grand List	2017 Net Grand List	\$ Change	% Change
Real Estate	\$1,800,746,700	\$1,791,701,920	9,044,780	0.0050
Motor Vehicles	137,820,788	136,681,160	1,139,628	0.0083
Business Personal Property	145,491,220	145,812,942	-321,722	-0.0022
	\$2,084,058,708	\$2,074,196,022	9,862,686	0.0048

Departmental Operating Expenditure:

The budget for general town operations has increased by 4.15% or \$928,544. Debt and Teacher Retirement contribution increased by 8.46% or \$250,677 while our share of the Amity budget increased by \$554,204 or 2.29%. The Orange Board of Education costs increased by 2.07%, or \$423,416. The aggregate increase in the budget for the fiscal year ended 6/30/2020 is \$2,156,841 or 3.08%.

Capital Replacements and Expenditure:

Several years ago at the recommendation of the Town's auditors the Board of Finance setup a Capital Fund Account to pay some future capital expenditures. The auditors recommended this to build up future reserves for some capital purchases to avoid bonding and borrowing cost on some items. The Board of Finance funded this account by moving \$443,000 from the General Fund. The funded items for the 2019-2020 fiscal year include a new Public Works dump truck to replace a 1984 model. A new freezer for Peck Place School and various ceiling replacements at the schools. There is also money for security and computer upgrades at the schools and town offices. These items were chosen after discussions with the Capital Planning Committee.

The annual budget development is an intensive task that requires a concerted and coordinated effort on the part of all. I want to express my personal gratitude for the support and cooperation from all of our professional department managers and their dedicated staff. I would also like to thank my staff in the Town's Finance Department, specifically Audrey Geer, Karin Lewis, and Arthur Williams. It takes a team effort to compile this budget. On behalf of First Selectman Zeoli, and the Board of Finance I want to acknowledge the many committed professionals who selflessly serve on our Boards and Commissions without compensation. It is that kind of public spirit that makes Orange a unique and special community in which to live.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Cifarelli
Director of Finance and Administration

Audrey Geer
Assistant Finance Director

Members of the Orange Board of Finance

Kevin Houlihan, CPA - Chairman

James Leahy - Vice Chairman

P. J. Shanley, Joseph Nuzzo, Kevin T. Moffett, Patricia Romano, Deborah Satonick (Recording Secretary)

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**TOWN OF ORANGE, CONNECTICUT
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-20**

GENERAL FUND REVENUE					
Classification	FY 2017-18 Actual	FY 2018-19 Budget	FY 2019-20 Board of Finance	Increase/(Decrease) Amount	Percent
Property Taxes	63,925,883	65,169,223	66,717,423	1,548,200	2.38%
Property Taxes Prior Years	464,586	310,000	300,000	-10,000	-3.23%
Tax Interest & Liens	234,812	130,000	160,000	30,000	23.08%
Licenses, Permits & Fines	1,330,987	863,400	951,350	87,950	10.19%
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,654,725	1,040,200	1,409,329	369,129	35.49%
Program Revenue	622,108	707,788	667,500	-40,288	-5.69%
Investment Interest	250,688	267,500	483,100	215,600	80.60%
Facility & Service Charges	122,151	133,000	117,000	-16,000	-12.03%
Other	<u>1,632,763</u>	<u>1,380,000</u>	<u>1,352,250</u>	<u>-27,750</u>	<u>-2.01%</u>
Total General Fund Revenue	70,238,703 ✓	70,001,111 ✓	72,157,952 ✓	2,156,841	3.08%

BUDGET SUMMARY BY DEPARTMENT					
Classification	FY 2017-18 Actual	FY 2018-19 Budget	FY 2019-20 Board of Finance	Increase/(Decrease) Amount	Percent
General Government					
01-001 Selectmen	219,680	224,677	226,743	2,066	0.92%
01-010 Probate Court	5,473	5,647	5,767	120	2.13%
01-030 Accounting	128,037	98,300	98,050	-250	-0.25%
01-031 Assessor	228,468	265,367	235,367	-30,000	-11.31%
01-032 Board of Assessment Appeals	8,447	4,500	4,500	0	0.00%
01-033 Director of Finance	334,046	231,701	235,008	3,307	1.43%
01-035 Tax Collector	158,946	172,321	164,015	-8,306	-4.82%
01-036 Treasurer	83,614	90,664	91,668	1,004	1.11%
01-037 Board of Finance	2,336	2,850	2,950	100	3.51%
01-038 Director of Technology	21,120	363,070	384,310	21,240	5.85%
01-039 Pension	189	300	400	100	33.33%
01-040 Legal	251,297	255,000	255,000	0	0.00%
01-050 Town Clerk	169,022	187,565	185,215	-2,350	-1.25%
01-055 Voter Registrars	68,281	84,756	113,490	28,734	33.90%

BUDGET SUMMARY BY DEPARTMENT					
Classification	FY 2017-18 Actual	FY 2018-19 Budget	FY 2019-20 Board of Finance	Increase/(Decrease) Amount	Percent
01-170 Town Hall	189,452	189,400	192,100	2,700	1.43%
01-200 Planning & Zoning	136,549	130,903	129,903	-1,000	-0.76%
01-201 Zoning Board of Appeals	1,970	3,050	3,050	0	0.00%
01-202 Economic Development	71,624	72,950	72,950	0	0.00%
01-204 Inland-Wetlands Agency	46,964	47,663	31,857	-15,806	-33.16%
01-205 Conservation Commission	5,543	3,400	3,400	0	0.00%
01-206 Building Inspection	<u>124,825</u>	<u>157,321</u>	<u>137,453</u>	<u>-19,868</u>	<u>-12.63%</u>
Total General Government	2,255,883 ✓	2,591,405 ✓	2,573,196 ✓	-18,209	-0.70%
Public Safety					
02-100 Police: General Services	912,087	711,274	743,295	32,021	4.50%
02-101 Police: Uniformed Patrol	3,321,033	3,589,527	3,568,837	-20,690	-0.58%
02-102 Police: Investigative Services	493,678	525,052	525,647	595	0.11%
02-103 Police: Communication/Dispatch	<u>298,527</u>	<u>353,367</u>	<u>340,972</u>	<u>-12,395</u>	<u>-3.51%</u>
Sub Total: Police Services	5,025,325 ✓	5,179,220 ✓	5,178,751 ✓	-469	-0.01%
02-120 Fire Marshal	234,831	283,061	253,828	-29,233	-10.33%
02-121 Emergency Medical Service	273,029	274,707	285,200	10,493	3.82%
02-122 Fire Suppression: Water for Hydrants	528,601	541,000	570,000	29,000	5.36%
02-122 Volunteer Fire Department	200,000	200,000	227,500	27,500	13.75%
02-130 Emergency Management (Civil Def.)	5,563	6,500	5,500	-1,000	-15.38%
02-135 Animal Control	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Total Public Safety	6,342,349 ✓	6,559,488 ✓	6,595,779 ✓	36,291	0.55%
Public Works & Public Buildings					
03-150 Administration & Engineering	385,936	404,082	385,947	-18,135	-4.49%
03-155 Roadways	1,100,981	1,200,056	1,221,781	21,725	1.81%
03-157 Snow Removal	193,760	172,000	202,000	30,000	17.44%
03-158 Vehicle Maintenance	352,277	381,326	385,735	4,409	1.16%
03-161 Refuse	<u>972,041</u>	<u>987,051</u>	<u>1,044,327</u>	<u>57,276</u>	<u>5.80%</u>
Sub Total: Public Works	3,004,995 ✓	3,144,515 ✓	3,239,790 ✓	95,275	3.03%
03-171 Community Center	366,427	395,400	393,800	-1,600	-0.40%
03-172 Clark Building	38,273	47,575	47,725	150	0.32%
03-173 Case Library Building	<u>128,018</u>	<u>131,850</u>	<u>131,850</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Sub Total: Public Buildings	532,718 ✓	574,825 ✓	573,375 ✓	-1,450	-0.25%
Total Public Works & Public Buildings	3,537,713 ✓	3,719,340 ✓	3,813,165 ✓	93,825	2.52%

BUDGET SUMMARY BY DEPARTMENT					
Classification	FY 2017-18 Actual	FY 2018-19 Budget	FY 2019-20 Board of Finance	Increase/(Decrease) Amount	Percent
Culture & Recreation					
04-250 Library	574,884	636,040	655,539	19,499	3.07%
04-260 Parks & Recreation - Admin	212,215	212,758	208,524	-4,234	-1.99%
04-261 Parks & Recreation - Maint	268,909	282,504	281,204	-1,300	-0.46%
04-262 Parks & Recreation - Pool	290,500	278,778	282,328	3,550	1.27%
04-263 Parks & Recreation - Programs	4,852	6,500	7,500	1,000	15.38%
04-270 Town Contributions	<u>27,270</u>	<u>27,770</u>	<u>27,270</u>	<u>-500</u>	<u>-1.80%</u>
Total Culture & Recreation	1,378,630 ✓	1,444,350 ✓	1,462,365 ✓	18,015	1.25%
Health & Welfare					
05-220 Environmental Health	190,806	195,110	195,210	100	0.05%
05-223 Drug & Alcohol Action	20,384	21,450	20,810	-640	-2.98%
05-226 School Nursing	263,652	278,982	285,474	6,492	2.33%
05-227 Director of Health	21,824	22,319	22,639	320	1.43%
05-228 Board of Health	<u>140</u>	<u>850</u>	<u>850</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Sub Total: Health Services	496,806 ✓	518,711 ✓	524,983 ✓	6,272	1.21%
Community Services					
05-241 Community Services-Administration	146,014	150,140	153,368	3,228	2.15%
05-242 Community Services-Disabilities	3,348	6,460	6,510	50	0.77%
05-243 Community Services-Youth	38,401	42,368	46,403	4,035	9.52%
05-244 Community Services-Transportation	79,024	73,500	76,300	2,800	3.81%
05-245 Community Services-Elderly	135,352	139,126	140,976	1,850	1.33%
05-246 Community Services-Counseling	<u>79,647</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>-10,000</u>	<u>-10.00%</u>
Sub Total: Community Services	481,786 ✓	511,594 ✓	513,557 ✓	1,963	0.38%
Total Health & Welfare	978,592 ✓	1,030,305 ✓	1,038,540 ✓	8,235	0.80%
Employee Benefits					
06-300 Employee Benefits	<u>5,776,887</u>	<u>6,518,761</u>	<u>7,271,736</u>	<u>752,975</u>	<u>11.55%</u>
Total Employee Benefits	5,776,887 ✓	6,518,761 ✓	7,271,736 ✓	752,975	11.55%

BUDGET SUMMARY BY DEPARTMENT					
Classification	FY 2017-18 Actual	FY 2018-19 Budget	FY 2019-20 Board of Finance	Increase/(Decrease) Amount	Percent
Town Services & Debt Service					
08-034 Property Insurance	311,551	370,750	405,250	34,500	9.31%
08-249 Government Access TV	69,725	74,350	76,132	1,782	2.40%
08-320 Town Services and other	59,991	67,420	68,550	1,130	1.68%
Teacher Retirement Contribution	0	0	137,133	137,133	#DIV/0!
10-290 Debt Service	2,583,319	2,963,940	3,077,484	113,544	3.83%
09-325 Capital Projects	<u>1,252,310</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>
Total Town Services & Debt Service	4,276,896 ✓	3,476,460 ✓	3,764,549 ✓	288,089	8.29%
SUBTOTAL - TOWN BUDGET	24,546,950 ✓	25,340,109 ✓	26,519,330 ✓	1,179,221	4.65%
Education					
07-090 Orange Public Schools	20,143,648	20,479,132	20,902,548	423,416	2.07%
07-095 Amity Regional Schools	<u>23,626,829</u>	<u>24,181,870</u>	<u>24,736,074</u>	<u>554,204</u>	<u>2.29%</u>
Total Education	43,770,477 ✓	44,661,002 ✓	45,638,622 ✓	977,620	2.19%
Total Budget	68,317,427 ✓	70,001,111 ✓	72,157,952 ✓	2,156,841	3.08%
control totals	68,317,427	70,001,111	72,157,952		

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May 16th.... The 2nd Annual Pizza Challenge Fundraiser
Live music, Celebrity Judges and the best Pizzas in the Gr. Milford Area

May 18th.... The Lords of 52nd Street
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May 31st.... The Everly Bros. Experience
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The Milford Chamber of Commerce

The Value Of Networking

It's great when a topic you write about generates buzz. As columnists, we all love to know that someone out there is waiting with bated breath for the next piece. Okay, maybe I exaggerate a little. What could I say about the Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce that would have my inbox lighting up?



PAM STANESKI

This one might just be the article. Not everyone enjoys networking. How do I know this? A chamber member told me, thus it must be true. I was standing in line at a local eating establishment (a chamber member business) when the person behind me whispered, "I am a member of the chamber, and am thinking about my membership renewal."

My thoughts immediately went from "What to have for lunch?" to "Hmmm, how do I answer him, or do I answer him?" He was a member whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting and who obviously knew who I was. Were his thoughts a positive "Gee, I need to renew," or "Gee, not sure?"

This was my test. I proceeded with caution. I introduced myself and politely replied that I did not understand his comments, asking him to elaborate. He said that he had outgrown networking. I asked him if he would consider his business to be successful. He answered yes, very. I asked him if the chamber had advocated for his business. He answered yes. I asked him if he had used networking to raise the profile of his business, capture new contacts and leads. Again, he said yes.

He then said that he doesn't think he provides value. I almost fell over. Wasn't I supposed to ask what value he thought was missing in his membership?

We stood there for a moment and then I replied: the value you got through your years of membership – advocacy, referrals, education, networking opportunities and the relationships you built – are the very reasons you should stay a member.

People do business with those they trust. Our newest members need to hear your story because you are the reason the chamber exists. The effort you put directly into the chamber correlated with your success, and your story is something that can be shared with new members and young entrepreneurs. Your presence builds trust in the organization and our local community.

I asked him who the first person he met at a Business After Hours was. He wouldn't say, but the smile on his face had him shaking his head. We ordered our lunches, shook hands, and went on our way.

I am not sure if he will show up on the renewal list, but I am sure he left remembering his first days as a member of the chamber and how he got a good return on his investment.

Our next Business After Hours will be hosted by the Milford Rotarians at Gusto's Restaurant on April 18 at 5 p.m. Come by and show my new friend that you never outgrow networking opportunities. Call 203-878-0681 to register. Hope to see you there.

Our business is business.



Eagle Scout, from pg 1.

be staggered around scheduled practices and games in the park to avoid interfering with the players.

The pavilion would use a prefabricated design of cedar and aluminum sitting on a floating cement slab, with several inches of gravel underneath. The floor of the pavilion would be flush with the soil to prevent erosion. It would be 16 feet on each side, but the roof would be smaller than the cement floor, eliminating the need for gutters.

Tom Pisano, co-president of the Orange Soccer Association, spoke in favor of Khairallah's proposal, noting that having a shelter at the park is a matter of safety for the children.

"We were there once at night. A fog kind of rolled in, and I said, 'I just can't have this,'" Pisano said. "We had little boys and girls in a shed, and the coaches outside with umbrellas. With today's concern about safety for the kids, this is a great idea."

Pisano said they would also try to add a lightning rod at the top of the pavilion. He added that every effort was made in the design to make the project maintenance-free for the town.

Selectman Mitch Goldblatt lauded the project. "Many of us have been to those fields, and it would be nice to have a little shelter somewhere," he said.

First Selectman Jim Zeoli commended Khairallah for being proactive in his Eagle Scout duties, joking that most of their proposals come "at the eleventh hour, when they're headed to college, and they're trying to get something done before they have to leave the scouting."

Milford Resident Celebrates Citizenship With Maroney



Riccardo Baires celebrated his new U.S. citizenship at his home in Milford on April 5 with state Sen. James Maroney. Baires has been in the U.S. for 29 years, and a Milford resident for 10 years. He has been a Spanish teacher at Bassick High School in Bridgeport for 16 years. He received his bachelor's and his master's in literature from Central Connecticut State University. Photo by Shaun Regan.

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Around Milford

Social Security Not The Drain Some Claim



ELLEN RUSSELL BEATTY

without any understanding of how it is funded, managed or distributed. There is little waste in this program and it is difficult to earn eligibility. The SSDI fund is separate from the main Social Security fund but administered under the same program.

Social Security and Medicare have been inappropriately lumped together in the austerity narrative, adding to the confusion. The costs driving Medicare are complex.

Organized Nursing says that this has been done deliberately to allow detractors to bolster support for major cuts and policy revision to Social Security.

Why are we focused on cutting benefits to the elderly and poor to reduce the federal deficit?

One piece of legislation proposed in January aims to redirect this reform drive, clarifying the correct Social Security situation based on sound actuarial analysis. The proposed bill emerges out of the subcommittee on Social Security, part of the House Ways and Means Committee spearheaded by Connecticut Rep. John Larson.

The solution aims to raise the cap on earnings subject to Social Security payroll deductions. The last review and adjustment made to benefits was done in 1983 and is long overdue. Economists agree that had adjustments been made earlier the projected deficits would have corrected incrementally, bringing in sufficient funds.

Larson says that the only reason to touch Social Security is to strengthen or expand it.

Some detractors misrepresent the nature and degree of necessary program adjustments, preferring privatization or major structural changes. Inaccurately connecting Social Security to the national debt confounds the issue and muddies the waters of reform.

Now is the time to come together across generational, gender and political divides to advocate for Social Security on behalf of current and future Americans.

Dr. Ellen Russell Beatty holds the rank of Professor Emerita in Public Health and Nursing from Southern Connecticut State University. She is currently serving in her second term on the Board of Alders in Milford where she resides with her spouse, Edward. Ellen has an extensive background in health care, higher education, organizational management and strategic planning. Dr. Beatty writes frequently on related topics and welcomes comments from readers at Ellenbeatty@gmail.com.

There has recently been repetitive attention in the media about the continued viability of the Social Security program, yet much confusion and misinformation remains. A national narrative has emerged that major reform in the form of cuts in benefits is necessary to preserve the program and protect the deficit.

What's often missing from discussions of Social Security is the impact on future generations.

Diminishing retirement incomes, flat wages, and increased housing, food and transportation costs combine to bring heightened importance to future benefits. Identity politics has divided people across age lines, pitting Baby Boomers against younger Americans. It is only more recently that Americans have begun to understand that cuts to Social Security pose potential harm to all. Social Security is vital to future generations to help meet human needs and preserve opportunity. It requires our advocacy and protection.

Social Security is credited with dramatically reducing the poverty rate for senior citizens. In this it has been an outstanding success. The principle underlying the program is that all working adults contribute so that everyone has some protection in later years. Money to support the program are paid for by involuntary participation. All workers contribute via the Federal Insurance Contribution Insurance deducted from payroll. There are currently about 50 million recipients. The funds are not paid through taxes; they're held in separate accounts and administered federally. Women represent approximately 57 percent of all social security beneficiaries 62 and older and approximately 69 percent of all beneficiaries over 85.

The origins of the attacks on Social Security have historically not been limited to one political party but inadvertently began by a bipartisan effort to examine the national debt. Fueled by economic crisis and mounting concerns about fiscal matters, the Obama Administration set up a bipartisan commission. The commission devolved into a discussion focused on program cuts. Its approach provided a cushion for strong public opposition, since neither of two political parties bears full responsibility.

The other portion of the original 1935 legislation created the Social Security Disability Insurance. Disability benefits have more recently come under attack in the proposed federal budget, seemingly

Rotary Gets Check For Laughs



The Rotary Club of Orange received a check from Treehouse Comedy for \$2,395 on April 6 at Rotary's comedy night fundraiser at High Plains Community Center in Orange. Photo by Hilda Salerno.

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Home & Garden

Just Floored:

How To Clean Stained Grout

Having tile in your home can create a beautiful overall ambiance. Tile is durable, attractive and easy to clean.

But cleaning grout is not so simple. Due to its light colors and porous composition grout, is inevitably prone to staining. Types of stains vary from room to room. If your mudroom is tiled, dirt and grime are the usual culprits. In the kitchen, spills are the main cause. And in the bathroom, mold and mildew tend to form.

While these inevitabilities may feel intimidating, there are numerous ways to ensure your grout is cleaned and restored using common household products. When beginning to clean, it is always best to start with the mildest cleaning product possible. For eliminating dirt, begin with using warm water and a stiff-bristled brush to scrub the grout. If you don't have a brush for this purpose lying around, most home centers and hardware stores carry different options that are specifically designed for the purpose of cleaning grout.

The Garden Spot:

For heavier dirt and mild stains, vinegar can be the solution. Spray the grout with equal parts warm water and vinegar, let it sit for five to seven minutes, and get to scrubbing! If vinegar is not powerful enough, baking soda paste can rid grout of its stains and dirt. Start by covering the grout lines with a paste of baking soda and water, then proceed to spray the vinegar solution. Once the mixture ceases foaming, scrub with a brush and rinse with plain water.

Moderate stains require a bit more elbow grease and a stronger chemical. Hydrogen peroxide is available in most drug stores and can be applied straight to the grout. For a stronger effect you can also apply baking soda paste with the hydrogen peroxide.

When it comes to tougher stains and very grimy grout, oxygen bleach can be used. This cleaning product is mostly sold in powdered form. Some of the best-selling brands are OxiClean, Clorox OxiMagic, and Biokleen Oxygen Beach Plus. Regardless of which

product you may choose, make sure the area you are preparing to clean is well-ventilated, and follow the directions exactly. Always rinse off the cleaning products with clean water so that the dirt does not resettle into the grout lines.

In extreme cases, chlorine bleach can be used sparingly on grout. When all else fails, a helpful product to use is Clorox Clean-Up spray. Before the application, it is crucial to make sure all prior attempts with cleaning agents are thoroughly

washed off. In particular, it's essential to rinse off any vinegar before applying chlorine bleach. Even small traces of vinegar mixed with bleach will emit a highly toxic chlorine gas into the surrounding air. This option should be a last resort, and definitely not used often. Long-term use of caustic cleaners will erode grout, so make sure to only use it when absolutely necessary.



ANNAMARIE
MASTRANGELO

For the worst grout stains, a steam cleaner can be an effective tool in attempting to thoroughly clean the surface. Not only are they extremely effective, but they are also an environmentally friendly method of cleaning grout. They also are useful for many hard surfaces in your household. Some brands for residential cleaning are Bissell, Oreck, and Hoover.

To maintain cleanliness and avoid having to use bleach, try to spray your grout with vinegar and

wipe it down once a week. You can also wipe it down with alcohol in order to keep mold and mildew at bay. Just a few sprays and wipes a week can save you quite a bit of time and effort cleaning, as well as preserve your home's appearance.

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

Welcoming Back The Hummingbirds

I always look forward to the return of the hummingbirds, or "hummers," in late April or early May. In reviewing my garden journal entries for the past four years, I see that there is very little variation regarding when I see the first one – the earliest I've seen one is April 27, and the latest has been May 2. That means it's time to get the feeders ready and set out around mid-April. Here in Connecticut, we will be most likely to see the ruby throated hummingbird.

Hummingbirds are migratory birds that winter in South or Central America and begin their migration in early February. They travel during the day at a low altitude so that they can see the nectar sources that they require for the long journey. According to

Hummingbird Central, these birds are expert at using tailwinds to save energy and have been found to travel up to 23 miles in a single day. They are unique in that their hearts beat up to 1,260 times per minute and their wings flap between 15 and 80 times a second. They require a tremendous amount of energy to support this level of activity.

Although most of us think of hummers as consuming nectar, they also will eat small insects such as aphids and spiders as a protein source. Their favorite color is red, which is why so many commercial feeders are colored red. I find that the feeders that are shaped like a flying saucer are easier to maintain than those that are bottle-shaped, but either type works well.

You can make your own hummer food by dissolving one part sugar into four parts water. You can make the nectar either by boiling the water or heating it in the microwave until the sugar is completely dissolved. Allow it to cool before filling the feeder. You should not add red food coloring, because some colorings have harmful chemicals. You should change the solution at least once a week.

I run my feeders through the dishwasher every few weeks to sterilize them. Remember that hummers are very territorial – we often see them chasing competition away from one feeder to another. If you want to hang more than one feeder, try to have them out of sight from each other.

Hummers also need a water source. If your bird bath is too deep for these tiny birds, you can put some flat rocks in the center so that



PAT DRAY

they have a place to land. As with all bird baths, clean them frequently with a stiff brush to prevent bacterial growth.

You can also plant specific plants that will attract the hummers – generally bright colors with tubular shapes. Some good choices are butterfly bush, lantana, milkweed and salvia. Many of these hummer favorites are also butterfly favorites, doubling your viewing pleasure.

I hope that you'll be hearing the "hum" soon. You can get up-to-date information on their migration at hummingbirdcentral.com/hummingbird-migration.htm. You can also enter data on when you see your first hummer to keep the map updated throughout the season.

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

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

Orange Garden Club Shines At State Flower Show

Pat Dray, a member of the Garden Club of Orange and columnist for the Milford-Orange Times, won a blue ribbon for her petit design entitled "Love Locks" at the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut's Standard Flower Show in February.

Dray is a member of the Judge's Council and served as publicity chair for the event. The show was part of the 38th Connecticut Flower & Garden Show, held at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford.

Other members distinguishing themselves at the show included Larry Huzi, who won a blue ribbon in horticulture for his orchid dendrobium. In addition, two of his floral designs received second and third place.

Member Debbie Slansky competed in the photography section with a photo of an insect. Out of 12 entries she was awarded fourth place, an honorable mention.

The Garden Club of Orange is a member of the FGCCT, NEGC and NEC. For

membership information, contact Joanne Friedrichs at 203-795-4266.



"Love Locks" by Garden Club of Orange member Pat Dray won a blue ribbon at the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut's Standard Flower Show in February. Photo by Linda Bradford.

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News & Events

Orange Girl Scouts Visit Fire Station to Learn About Firefighters, Safety



Orange firefighters recently welcomed a local Girl Scout troop to their Boston Post Road firehouse where the girls learned what firefighters do and how to stay safe at home. Photo courtesy of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department.

Members of Girl Scout Troop 60247 visited firefighters in Orange recently to get some insight into what firefighters do and about fire safety in their homes.

About 30 girls talked with firefighters, crawled under a low structure, climbed ladders and sprayed water at a target from a fire hose.

They also reviewed some fire safety tips, including getting out of the house if a fire alarm or smoke detector sounds. They were taught “get out, stay out” and to meet at a special, prearranged meeting place.

“These demonstrations are so important because they really can save a life,” said firefighter Lisa Kaplan, who arranged and oversaw the demonstration. “This was a lot of fun for the kids, judging by the smiles on

their faces. But we hope they’ll go home and ask their parents about smoke detectors and arrange for the family to have a place to meet if they ever have to evacuate their home.”

Kaplan, who is also corresponding secretary of the Orange Volunteer Fire Association, is one of the officers in charge of public fire education.

“The best way to fight a fire is to prevent it from happening,” she said. “We have programs for kids of all ages and for adults of all ages.”

Kaplan said people interested in learning more about the Orange Volunteer Fire Department’s public education programs can call the fire department at 203-891-1052 and leave a message.

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Extended Hours Return To Milford Transfer Station

Milford Mayor Benjamin G. Blake announced the return of extended hours at the Transfer Station beginning Saturday, April 6th and running through mid-December.

The extended hours will be from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. Regular weekday hours will remain the same, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.).

“This program provides residents a convenient way to dispose of their bulky trash items, while leaving less for city crews to pick up, offering a cost savings to the city,” Blake said.

This program is for Milford residents

only. The extended hours do not apply to commercial haulers. Visitors to the Transfer Station will be asked to present their vehicle registration at the gate.

The Public Works Department says that construction and demolition materials will not be accepted at the Transfer Station. These items may be brought to Waste Conversion at 221 Old Gate Ln. in Milford. Waste Conversion is open Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 7 a.m. noon. It is a private company, so residents are responsible for disposal costs.

Holy Infant Women’s Guild Hosting Installation Dinner

The Holy Infant Church Women’s Guild is having their 75th Anniversary Installation Dinner on Tuesday, May 7 at 5:20 p.m. at the Grassy Hill Country Club, located at 441 Clark Ln. in Orange. Newly elected officers will be sworn in. Two female students from the parish will be awarded scholarships.

The cost is \$40 per person. There are

three menu choices: breast of chicken francaise, baked stuffed filet of sole and eggplant parmigiana. For more information and reservations, call the rectory at 203-799-2379 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday. No reservations will be accepted after Tuesday, April 30.

Visit Us Online At: Milford-OrangeTimes.com

Milford And Orange Chambers Of Commerce Holds Joint Business After Hours



The Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce held a business after hours event Mar. 14 at the Orange Ale House in Orange. Photo courtesy of the Milford Chamber of Commerce.

Youth & Education

Yale Summer Medical Academy Offered For HCC And GCC Students



Participants in the Yale School of Medicine Summer 2018 Enrichment Medical Academy Program. Photo courtesy of Housatonic Community College.

A free summer program is giving community college students at Gateway and Housatonic community colleges who are considering careers in medicine the chance to fully explore the field on the Yale campus.

The Yale School of Medicine Summer Enrichment Medical Academy is a six-week program designed to help students from diverse economic backgrounds who plan to pursue careers in medicine. The summer program was developed through YSM's Office of Diversity, Inclusion, Community Engagement & Equity and funded through the medical school. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Customized to the meet the needs of GCC and HCC students interested in careers in medicine, the summer program is full and begins June 8.

Professor Megan deLivron, who teaches biology and biochemistry, serves as coordinator for the program and said that being in downtown New Haven puts GCC

in an ideal location for this partnership. deLivron works with GCC students who want to apply. Approximately 20 students have been accepted into the competitive program, which has been running each summer for several years.

deLivron noted that there are specific criteria that must be met to be eligible for the program. Designed and funded to serve students who come from economically or educationally disadvantaged backgrounds, applicants who identify with a group that is racially/ethnically underrepresented in medicine are given preference. Other students given priority consideration are those who are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and students who are the first in their family to attend college.

"This is an incredibly valuable opportunity for our students who aspire to work in the medical field," said Paul Broadie II, president of both GCC and HCC. "We're proud to partner with the YSM to provide

students with the opportunity to become familiar with medical school early in their academic journey."

Those eligible for the program must have completed biology 121 and chemistry 121 with a C or better prior to the start of the program.

deLivron noted that she meets a lot of students who are interested in careers in medicine and are appropriate candidates for this career path. Those interested in getting into the program should plan to enroll in the prerequisites in fall 2019 or spring 2020.

This program speaks to Yale's commitment to serving underrepresented populations in medicine by ensuring that students fully understand what to expect in medical school and how to prepare to apply, deLivron said, adding that the information is essential to students considering this highly competitive field. Students served by the program aren't exclusively pursuing careers as medical doctors, as any students interested in a career in the medical field are encouraged to apply.

GCC Student Christina Alvarez, who

attended the program last summer, said that it was very helpful to her in determining her career path. She had an interest in the medical field since she was in high school but admitted that she didn't understand the scope of what was involved. The program helped her decide to become a nurse practitioner.

The academy provides academic enrichment in basic sciences, research skills and communication. Lunch seminars, meals and a transportation allowance/bus pass are included.

deLivron said that in past years students have learned organic chemistry and benefitted from a wealth of information provided throughout the program. The academy also gets students thinking about where to transfer to complete undergraduate work after obtaining their associate degree.

Information about the summer academy can be obtained by contacting deLivron at 203-285-2454, calling the YSM Office of Diversity, Inclusion, Community Engagement & Equity at 203-785-7545 or by emailing dice@yale.edu.

Maroney Visits The Foundation School In Orange



State Senator James Maroney (D-Milford) toured The Foundation School's Orange campus and joined the school's students for a game of Jeopardy! on April 5. All of the questions in Jeopardy! were about Connecticut's history. The Foundation School educates 80 special needs students from 30 districts. The school has campuses in Milford and Orange. Photo courtesy of James Maroney.



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Youth & Education

Milford Library Children's Events

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Come to the library and enjoy stories, a craft and new friends. For ages 3 and up with a caregiver. There will be no story times on Tuesday, April 16 and Wednesday, April 17.

Toddler Time

Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Share fingerplays, songs and stories together. Meet new friends at the library. For ages 2 and under with a caregiver.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, April 13 from 11 a.m. to noon
For children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Kids are invited to read out loud to some special library friends – the four-legged kind. All therapy dogs and their handlers are certified through Pet Partners. Space is limited. Registration required.

Be Homeful

Monday, April 15 at 10:30 a.m.
Join the library for a story about Be Homeful's mascot, Paddington Bear, and art activities. Decorate your own marmalade jar to help make a difference in your community. Be Homeful is a community initiative of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness in partnership with the Beth-El Center of Milford.

Dog Safety with Molly the Therapy Dog

Tuesday, April 16 at 2 p.m.
Children in kindergarten and up are invited to get to know Molly, a Pet Partners certified therapy dog, along with her owner

Chris Cook, and learn all about the safe ways to meet new dogs.

Spring Vacation Family Movie: Mary Poppins Returns

Wednesday, April 17 at 2 p.m.
Everyone's favorite nanny is back to care for the Banks family in this delightful family musical.

Starry Night Stories

Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m.
An evening story time for ages 3 and up. Siblings are always welcome. Make sure to come dressed in your pajamas. Starry Night Stories will be held the third Wednesday of the month.

Half Day Earth Day

Thursday, April 18 at 2:30 p.m.
For ages 5 and up. Plant beautiful pansies in mosaic flower pots, decorate your own reusable tote bags and color your own Earth Day buttons. All supplies are included. Plants are donated by River Crest Farm of Milford. Master gardener Cheryl Cappiali will help plant and answer all your gardening questions. Space is limited. Registration required.

The Write Stuff

Thursday, April 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Fun writing activities and prompts for children ages 8-12 to get those creative juices flowing. Bring a friend or make a new one. All writing abilities are welcome. Just bring your imagination. Space is limited. Registration required.

YMCA Gears Up For Summer With Healthy Kids Day

The Woodruff Family YMCA in Milford is holding a free community event on April 27 to inspire more kids to keep their minds and bodies active at the annual YMCA's Healthy Kids Day, the Y's national initiative to improve health and well-being for kids and families.

The day-long event features activities such as a moon bounce and obstacle course, kids Zumba, kids POUND, kids fit, healthy snacks, local medical professionals and vendors, games, arts and crafts; and more to motivate and teach families how to develop and maintain healthy routines at home throughout the summer months.

Healthy Kids Day, celebrated at over 1,500 Ys across the country by over one million participants, works to get more kids moving and learning, creating habits that they continue all summer long.

When kids are out of school, they can face hurdles that prevent them from reaching their full potential. Research shows that without access to out-of-school learning activities, kids fall behind academically. Kids also gain weight twice as fast during summer than the school year.

"When a child is healthy, happy, and

supported they can make great things happen," said Josh Royce, district executive director at the Woodruff Family YMCA. "We believe in the potential of all children, and we strive to help kids find that potential within themselves. A child's development is never on vacation and Healthy Kids Day is a great opportunity to educate families and motivate kids to stay active in spirit, mind and body throughout the summer."

"All of us at Howard Johnson are incredibly proud to be supporting Healthy Kids Day, inspiring families to get active, spend quality time together and create smiles that last a lifetime," said Clem Bence, brand leader and vice president of operations for Howard Johnson, which is supporting the event. "Giving back to the communities where our hotels operate is fundamental to our values as a brand and we couldn't be more excited to be partnering with local Ys across the country on such a meaningful initiative."

The Woodruff Family YMCA's Healthy Kids Day takes place at 631 Orange Ave. in Milford from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, contact the Y at 203-878-6501 or visit cccymca.org.

Race Brook Students Hold Drive For Bridgeport Learning Center

Race Brook School students held a drive in March to show their care and support for the children at the Hall Early Learning Center, part of the Hall Neighborhood House in the East Side of Bridgeport.

Hall's Early Learning Center provides services to over 270 preschool-age children. Race Brook School's student council, directed by third grade teacher Janet Greenspan, collected hundreds of new or nearly new books, educational games, puzzles and craft supplies for the children at the center.

Fifth grader Remmy C. enjoyed contributing to the success of the drive, saying, "I'm happy I was able to help make the flyer for collecting donations. I felt terrific knowing I was helping younger children."

The Hall Early Learning Center is affiliated with and supported by the Jamie A. Hulley

Foundation. The center is named in memory of Jamie A. Hulley, a former student at Race Brook School. Hulley attended the school from 1987 to 1993. She was involved in the arts throughout her young life. Jamie's Fund helps to provide the children at the center with enriching experiences in literature, art, music and theatre.

Third grader Ashlie A. said, "I feel lucky I was able to help younger kids. Being on student council, I had the chance to collect toys, books, art supplies to put smiles on many children's faces at the center."

Fellow classmate Sophie C. added, "I think it was important for me take part in making the flyer and inform the school about the drive. The Jamie A. Hulley organization gives our school many grants to help us run fun enrichment programs. This is our way of giving back."



Student council members at Race Brook School in Orange showed their support for the Hall Neighborhood House in Bridgeport with a special drive to collect gently used or new books, educational games, puzzles and craft supplies. Photo courtesy of Race Brook School.

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Planning Ahead

Your Finances:

Retirement Planning For Longer Lifespans

You have heard the alarm sounded: your retirement funds need to last longer because you are likely to live longer than past generations. It's true that longer lifespans are a major threat to your retirement security, and financial planners are spending significant time and effort tackling this growing risk.

Let's look at some figures. In November, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta released new data on U.S. life expectancy that raised alarm for a different reason. In 2017, life expectancy at birth actually fell slightly for the third year in a row. Due primarily to a rising tide of opioid overdose deaths and suicides, life expectancy at birth (for both sexes and all races together) was 78.6 years in 2017, down from 78.9 in 2014.

But the widespread news coverage often failed to mention a more hopeful statistic: life expectancy at age 65 has actually increased, the CDC reported. A U.S. citizen at age 65 in 2017 could expect to live another 19.5 years.

How does that compare with previous years? Expected lifespan at age 65 has steadily risen, from 13.9 years in 1950 to 19.5 years today.

That's an added 5.6 years, for a 40.2 percent increase. In other words, your nest egg has to last 40 percent longer today than it had to for a 1950 retiree.

If you are still a decade or two from 65, what can you do? Here are some steps you can take:

Learn about retirement finances. Understand the Social Security system, know what Medicare does not cover, and be aware that your IRA and 401(k) plan savings will be taxed starting at age 70.5 (unless you are investing after-tax funds in Roth plans).

Set up and follow a financial plan. You need a plan for saving, investing and paying taxes. You have to follow a roadmap



ERIC TASHLEIN

to reach financial security, and a financial advisor can help you create a comprehensive financial plan based on your individual situation and goals.

Take care of your health. Since health care costs continue to rise, it makes sense for you to consider purchasing long-term care insurance and disability insurance. And put aside money for other health care needs such as a Medicare supplement insurance policy.

Earn, save and invest. Find ways to increase your income. Make savings your top priority. Build a diversified investment portfolio and periodically rebalance, or have an experienced financial planner handle it for you.

Take solid steps today to ensure your financial security tomorrow. Set up a budget and live below your means. Place the

maximum amount in your retirement plans. Your future self will thank you.

Eric Tashlein is a Certified Financial Planner professional™ and founding Principal of Connecticut Capital Management Group, LLC, 2 Schooner Lane, Suite 1-12, in Milford. He can be reached at 203-877-1520 or through 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.

From The Bench:

Spring Cleaning Of Your Estate Planning Documents

It is that time of year when the daylight lasts longer, we clean out our closets, we look forward to flowers blooming and trees budding. It is a perfect time to look at your estate planning documents and advance health care directives.

This is a primer on exactly what estate planning documents and advance directives are. The more commonly known document – a last will and testament – directs how you would like your assets distributed after your death. If you have no will, your assets are distributed as stated in Connecticut statutes. Did you know that if you are married and have children, even minor ones, that your spouse does not necessarily inherit all your assets under the laws of intestacy?

With a last will and testament, it is common that a married couple leaves their assets first to each other. In the absence of a will, it is possible that the children will inherit some

of these assets.

A last will and testament should also provide for guardianship of any minor children and proper distribution of assets if your spouse does not survive you. You should designate a guardian who you believe will raise your child as you would. You may also consider distribution of assets to children to occur at a later age – perhaps after college rather than immediately. Funds can still be used by a designated trustee for education, support, and medical needs, but giving a large inheritance outright to a young adult is not always wise. It's called the "red Corvette" phenomenon. A rush to buy an expensive fancy fun thing...and then all the money is gone.



HON. BEVERLY K. STREIT-KEFALAS

Often confused with a last will and testament is a living will. A "living" will is just that – an expression of your own will while you are living. It is a health care directive to direct medical treatment at the end of life. It is a critical expression of what you would do if you were able to say it yourself but because of your medical condition – a terminal, permanent vegetative state – you can't say it. It is an "advance" directive because you say what you want in advance of possible terminal conditions.

Depending on your age, health, and other factors, you may or may not want CPR performed. You may or may not want a feeding tube or to be on a ventilator. What is critical is that you talk to your doctor

about what all these "end of life" medical treatments are and then you direct your own medical treatment. You may also include designation of a health care agent to act as your advocate and to designate a conservator should you need one.

If there is no health care directive, family members must make emergency decisions in a vacuum of not always knowing what you would want. The strain on family is tremendous and sometimes the pain and suffering they endure cannot be overcome.

So "clean out your closet" by making sure your papers are up to date and your wishes expressed.

The Hon. Beverly K. Streit-Kefalas is a Judge of Probate for the Milford-Orange Probate Court. She can be reached at judgebeverly@aol.com.

Editor's note: This piece ran in the April 2018 issue.

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Colonial Properties Brokers \$675,000 Sale In Orange

Colonial Properties Senior Vice President Fred A. Messore was recently the sole broker in the \$675,000 sale of 311 Racebrook Rd. in Orange.

The approximately 3,400 square-foot mixed use building on about 0.45 acres was a real estate only sale. The former tenant, Inner Essence Spa has relocated to 781 Boston Post Rd. in West Haven. The buyer, Alfred Building LLC, plans on converting the building to a medical-related use. The seller, McCarthy Enterprises, LLC was represented by Attorney Vincent N. Amendola, Jr. of West Haven. The buyer was represented by Attorney Tom Lynch of Lynch, Trembicki and Boynton in Milford.

"This property is truly one-of-a-kind, as it is the only mixed-use building in the town of Orange, and we are very pleased to have sold it twice in the last 15 years," said Michael Richetelli, president of Colonial Properties, which is located in Orange.

Senior Living

Insuring Your Future:

Scams, Services And Signs Of Stroke

Watch out for scams. Recently clients have reported receiving phone calls from people claiming to represent an insurance company or an affiliated organization. They offer a variety of services such as equipment for help with mobility, such as chair lifts or stair assists, in-home safety evaluations or other medical equipment.



TRISH PEARSON

Do not provide any information regarding insurance coverage such as membership numbers or personal information. Before

allowing anyone to come to your home, check with the insurance company to verify that the caller is an authorized representative. None of these callers have the authority to cancel insurance coverage or to change benefits. Some insurance carriers have contracted with outside agencies to provide in-home medical assessments, which are strictly voluntary and not a requirement for insurance coverage to be renewed or continued. While these visits can be very helpful, they are in no way mandatory. If you decline the offer, also tell them to take you off the list so you do not continue to receive calls.

Know how to use insurance outside your home state. Most insurance plans will cover emergency care anywhere in the United States, and often outside of the country as well. An emergency is defined as medical symptoms for which a prudent person recognizes the need for immediate medical attention. The medical care could be provided in a hospital emergency room or a walk-in clinic.

If possible, it is best to notify the insurance company about the incident by calling the

member services number on the back of your membership card. Sometimes it is hard to know if the situation is a medical emergency. If the doctor says it is not a medical emergency, most insurance companies will still recognize it as an in-network expense if the patient reasonably thought their health was in danger. In some cases, the patient will need to pay the bill and then seek reimbursement from the insurance company.

Recognize stroke symptoms. If a neurologist can get to a stroke victim within three hours, the effects of a stroke often can be reversed totally. The key is recognizing the symptoms, diagnosing it, and then getting the patient medically cared for within that time, which can be challenging.

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness leads to disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions, known as "STR":

First, ask the individual to smile (S). Second, ask the person to talk (T) and speak a simple sentence coherently. Third, ask him or her to raise both arms (R).

Another trick is to tick out your tongue. If the tongue is crooked or goes to one side or the other that can also be an indication of a stroke.

If someone you love has trouble with any one of these tasks, call an emergency number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

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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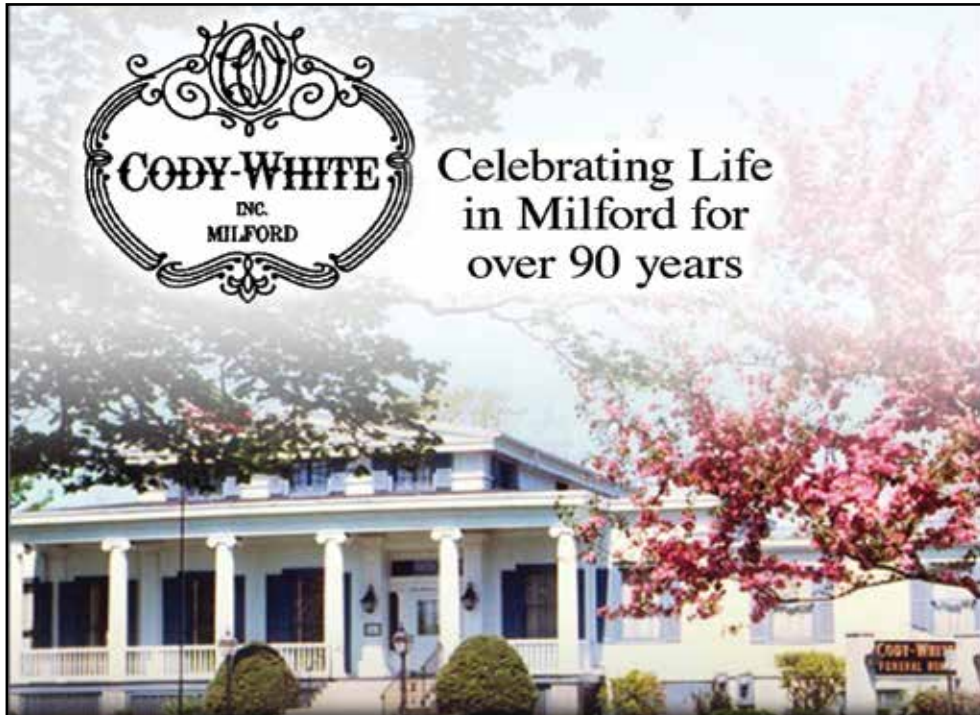
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Full obituaries and pictures (if provided) of the deceased are on our website at www.milford-orangetimes.com and are published at no cost to residents of Milford and Orange.

Barbara Ragonese Altieri, 82, of Orange, entered into rest on April 1, 2019.

Michael J. Balint, age 53, of Milford passed away suddenly on Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

Dianne M. Beesley, age 69, of Milford passed away peacefully on April 1, 2019.

Mr. Scott Bell, age 52, passed away unexpectedly on March 12, 2019.

George T. Blaszczyk, 85, a lifetime resident of Milford, passed away on March 20, 2019.

Susan E. Bonney, aged 77, of Milford passed away on March 15, 2019.

Helen Granger Breck, age 87, formerly of Orange and more recently Milford, CT passed away on March 7, 2019.

Mario A. Castiello, 90, of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 20, 2019.

Irene Rita Collins Clark of Milford, passed away peacefully in her sleep on March 10 at age 87.

Edwin Collins, 93, of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 9, 2019.

Jeannette Wilson Connelly, age 86 of Milford, passed away on March 2, 2019.

Roderick P. Copida, Jr., 75, of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 30, 2019.

Gloria M. Adante DeNardis, 91, of Orange passed away March 13, 2019.

Robert Louis Dest, 69, of Orange, passed away on Thursday, March 21, 2019.

Herbert F. Diener, age 82, a lifelong Milford resident, passed away on Monday, March 18, 2019.

Rachel Carbone Gaudino, 95, of Milford, formerly of New Haven and Bridgeport passed away on March 31, 2019.

Richard P. Golubowicz, age 71 passed away on Monday, March 18, 2019

Louis Thomas Guarino ("Twinnie"), age 87 of Orange, CT, passed away peacefully on March 10, 2019.

Douglas Miles Hassenmayer of Durham, North Carolina passed away on February 14, 2019 at the age of 59.

Evangelia "Lily" Krasinski, age 68, of Milford passed away in her home on Friday, March 22, 2019.

Tom Krumwiede of Milford, Old Saybrook and Westport, CT passed away on February 27, 2019.

Susan M. Lazarecki, age 64, passed away Sunday, March 24, 2019.

William John Maloney, Jr., 76, of Cheshire, CT, passed away peacefully on March 2, 2019.

Margaret Rae McGladrigan, (Nee: King), aged 87, formerly of Orange, CT died peacefully on March 28, 2019.

Sally Ann McKenna, 94, of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 14, 2019.

Dorothy "Dot" Eleanor Oliver, aged 90, passed away quietly, on January 24th, 2019.

Dawn Elaine Overholser, 73, of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 16, 2019.

Joseph Michael Paglia "Big Bear", 57, of Milford, passed away Saturday, March 9, 2019.

John V. Pagliaroli, age 78, entered into eternal rest March 8, 2019.

Lawrence D. "Larry" Pol, 60, of New Haven passed away suddenly March 22, 2019.

Yolanda Rascati, age 96, formerly of Orange, entered into eternal rest on April 3, 2019.

Mark Steven Redford, 48, passed away peacefully on February 10, 2019.

Angelo Salvatore Rinaldi, age 87, of Ludlow, MA and formerly of Milford, CT, died on Tuesday, March 5, 2019.

Diane Rodono, 69, of Milford, passed away on March 18, 2019.

Carole Ann Sotaski, age 77, of Milford, died on Thursday, April 4, 2019.

Margaret M. Stancavage, 95, longtime resident of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 16, 2019.

Gary L. Sullivan, 67, a longtime resident of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 18, 2019.

Dorothy Swanson, age 97, of Milford, passed away on Monday, March 25, 2019.

Patricia E. Gerathy Theis, age 72, of Milford, passed away on March 12, 2019.

Darlene Elizabeth Thibodeau, Age 61, of Milford, CT, passed over peacefully.

Sandra Marie Thomas, 68, of Milford, passed away peacefully on March 14, 2019.

Edmund Tucker entered into eternal rest.

Louise Versteeg, 71, died peacefully on March 18, 2019.

Barbara May Hall Wolfe, 88, of Milford, died on March 11, 2019.

Jane W. Yozie, age 96, of Milford, entered peaceful rest on Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

Precious Blood In Milford Offers Bereavement Support

Precious Blood Parish in Milford is hosting a spring bereavement support group to be held in the St. Agnes Church Hall at 400 Merwin Ave. in Milford. This free 10-week program will be held on Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. starting from April 11 to June 13. Anyone coping with the loss of a loved

one, whether recent or years ago, is welcome. This group has helped people dealing with grief for years. For more information or to register, call Margaret at 203-874-2376 or the parish office at 203-878-3571. You can also visit preciousbloodparishmilford.org to learn more.

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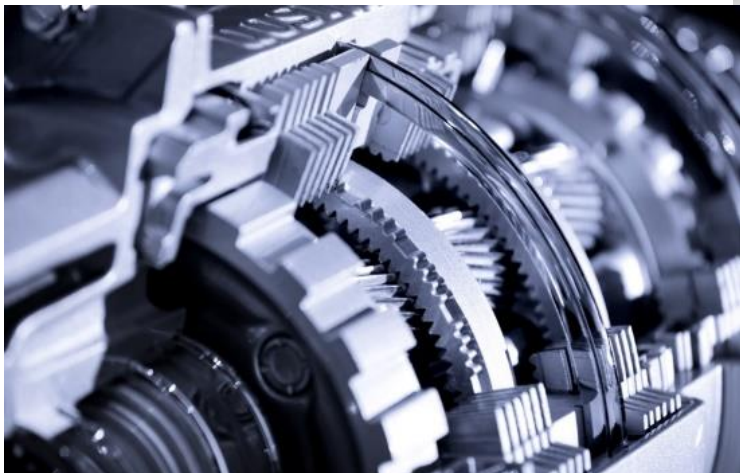
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