

# Milford-Orange Times

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www.TheOrangeTimes.com

October 31, 2019



Every election is determined by the people who show up.”

– Larry J. Sabado, American Political Scientist

## Orange First Selectman Candidates Tangle On Taxes, Amity In Final Debate



Orange first selectman candidates Jody Dietch, left, and Jim Zeoli, right, squared off Oct. 23 in their final debate at Grassy Hill Country Club. Image courtesy of Orange Government Access Television.

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

The candidates for Orange first selectman came swinging out of the gate Oct. 23 in the third and final debate before the votes are cast Nov. 5 for the town's top job.

The debate between Republican incumbent Jim Zeoli and Democratic challenger Jody Dietch was held at the Grassy Hill Country Club and sponsored by the Orange Chamber of Commerce.

Dietch used her opening statement to hammer Zeoli on multiple fronts, including quality of life and the town's fund balance.

"A nearly 20 percent fund balance is five to 10 percent higher than other towns in the state with AAA bond ratings – and we're among the highest in the state," she said. "He's [Zeoli] taxing you to inflate an unassigned

fund balance."

Zeoli, meanwhile, largely brushed off the attack, blaming the state instead for recent tax increases and the need to keep extra money in the town's coffers. He pointed out that the town had been anticipating paying into the teacher's retirement fund and other expenses that ultimately weren't implemented by the state legislature.

"So yeah, there is some surplus in our budget, and there should be some surplus in our budget," he said of those expenses.

"We can't keep blaming Hartford," Dietch responded. "I'm not looking to blame Hartford. I'm looking to take the bull by the horns and take care of ourselves."

One issue that dominated the debate, as it has all election season, was the prospect of

*Continued on page 23.*

## Vaccinations Still Low In Some Milford, Orange Schools

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Several Milford and Orange schools again showed low numbers of students vaccinated against the measles, mumps and rubella, according to school-by-school data released by the state Department of Public Health on Oct. 21 for the 2018-2019 school year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends a 95 percent immunization rate for measles, mumps and rubella in order to prevent the spread of these highly communicable diseases.

Six Milford schools and three Orange schools fell below that threshold. The rate of unvaccinated children in some of those schools was into the double digits.

So-called "religious" exemption to vaccination played a significant role in bringing all of those schools below the

threshold. At Calf Pen Meadow School in Milford, for instance, the overall vaccine exemption rate was 5.9 percent, of which 5.5 percent was under the religious exemption. At the Foundation School in Orange, the 9.1 percent exemption rate was entirely under the religious exemption.

The other schools with high exemption rates were: Live Oaks School in Milford, 6.3 percent; Milford Christian Academy, 14.7 percent; Milestones in Milford, 5.1 percent; St. Mary School in Milford, 10.7 percent; the Foundation School in Milford, 12.8 percent; Mary L. Tracy School in Orange, 8.6 percent; and Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy in Orange, 13.1 percent.

Immunized children and adults are generally not at risk of infection. A small number of individuals are unable to be

*Continued on page 22.*

## Milford Approves Affordable Housing Development

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Despite having secured a moratorium on the requirement for affordable housing under state rules, the Milford Planning and Zoning Board unanimously approved a residential development with an affordable housing component at its Oct. 15 meeting.

The application for the development at 34-40 Gulf Street had been filed before the moratorium went into place. David Lynch,

the lawyer representing applicant Angelo Lisi, said this will be the third phase of the project for Gulf Commons, which involves demolishing four dilapidated houses at the site and replacing them with 12 townhouse-style units. Twenty-two units have already been constructed during phases one and two.

"This has been an improvement to the area, an enhancement to the area," Lynch told the board. "And it's removed some

*Continued on page 9.*

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**BEN BLAKE**  
MAYOR

**KAREN FORTUNATI**  
CITY CLERK

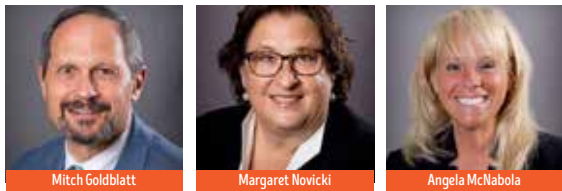
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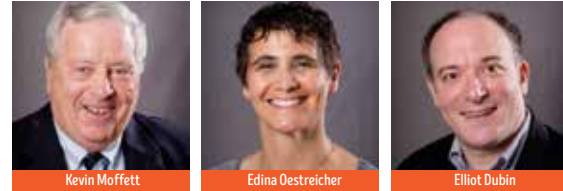
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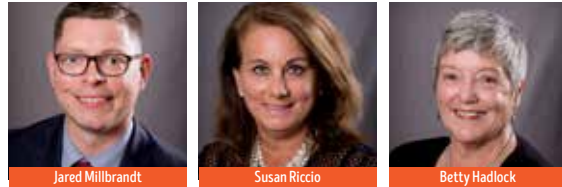
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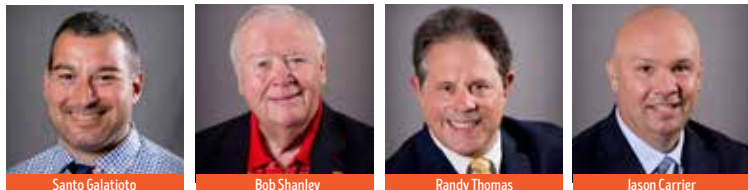
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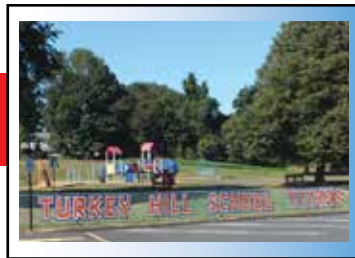
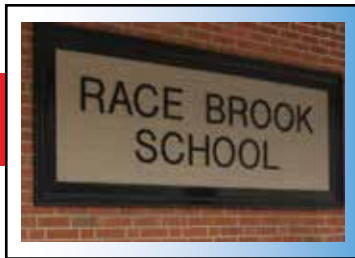


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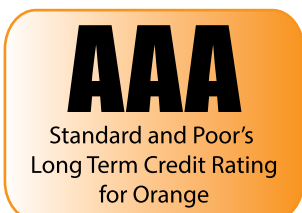
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## SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Our elementary school system is known for excellence, and a major reason families locate here. The local Orange Board of Education works with parents and teachers to keep class sizes small and curriculum the best available.



**Orange students moving on to the Amity Regional School system  
have achieved a strong record of success.**



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# Opinion & Editorial

## Building The Valley Fire Chiefs Regional Training School



STATE REP. (R-114)  
THEMIS KLARIDES

Once constructed, the Valley Fire Chiefs Regional Training School will serve as a community staple by offering a place far beyond just training our volunteer firefighters.

Classrooms, technology and facility buildings at this state-of-the-art training school will serve TSA, Homeland Security, EMS, law enforcement, fire marshal training, DEEP, military, National Guard, school safety and youth groups such as Girl and Boy Scouts of Connecticut.

Volunteer and professional firefighters are expected to bring the highest level of skill to an emergency and very often risk life and limb to protect the lives of others. This critical skillset can only be developed and cultivated if they have a facility of their own. Whether a person is entry level, experienced or pursuing continuing education courses to expand their expertise, having a Valley area facility allows our firefighters to continually practice techniques, refine their skills and be fully prepared when their community calls upon them in an emergency.

Currently, our volunteer firefighters and those in training will travel on any given day throughout Connecticut in order to receive their full range of training. They do this without compensation and without travel expense reimbursement. Because they have no facility of their own, they bring their computers, training equipment and miscellaneous items in rubber bins to each training site.

Our firefighters deserve better. They deserve their long-promised funding.

Without a facility for the last 21 years, the VFCRTS has recently received a local push by Valley communities. Valley towns have banded together and have passed resolutions requesting that the long-approved funding from the state finally be released so that the VRCRTS can be built.

The one-year anniversary of candidates, and now Gov. Ned Lamont's and Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz's campaign declaration that "if elected, the Valley Fire Chiefs Regional Training School would get built," is a few weeks away. This long-time bipartisan and community initiative needs to be funded and built. As we round out 2019, my hope along with all our Valley towns is that the VFCRTS will finally be listed on the next State Bond Committee agenda, and Gov. Lamont will keep his word and release the funding for our firefighters.

## Wind Projects Bring Windfall



STATE REP. (R-117)  
CHARLES FERRARO

In previous columns, I have talked about the bipartisan legislation we passed this session to open Connecticut's ports up for wind energy.

Early in October, the first wind farm project broke ground in New London and will be extremely beneficial to their local economy and our state. The two companies involved in this project, Eversource Energy and Orsted, are planning to invest \$57 million.

In addition, another wind farm project has the potential to bring hundreds of jobs to the greater Bridgeport region and the greater Valley region. Vineyard Wind also announced this month that they have submitted a proposal to build offshore wind turbines in Bridgeport. This potential project has the opportunity to create over 300 jobs and nearly \$400 million in new revenue. Vineyard Wind would team up with Kerite Cables in Seymour to have them produce the cables for the wind turbines.

All of these proposals are now before state regulators and are under review.

I am excited about these potential clean energy projects and the jobs that will come along with them. We need to continue to work together to find ways we create jobs here in Connecticut. We have a bright workforce, great universities and communities that are ready to work with businesses.

I am excited to get back to Hartford next session to see what else we can do to attract new businesses and industries to the state of Connecticut.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any ideas, concerns, or questions you may have at [Charles.Ferraro@housegop.ct.gov](mailto:Charles.Ferraro@housegop.ct.gov).

## New Smoking And Vaping Laws



STATE REP. (R-119)  
KATHY KENNEDY

As a member of the Public Health committee this year, one of the major issues discussed was the dangers of vaping and how our state can curb youth e-cigarette use.

I supported the new law called Tobacco 21 that increases the legal smoking age (including e-cigarettes) from 18 to 21. As of Oct. 1, all customers must be at least 21 years old to purchase any tobacco product, any electronic cigarette or vapor product.

The new law also makes various other changes to smoking laws, such as expanding the existing ban on smoking at schools and childcare centers. For example, it expands the existing law's prohibition on e-cigarette use to include the grounds of a childcare facility, instead of only inside the facility, and extends the prohibition to include cigarette and other tobacco products. As under existing law for e-cigarettes, the prohibition applies to family childcare homes (private homes caring for up to six children) only when a child enrolled in the home is present.

According to state officials and health advocates, raising the age of purchase will help prevent nicotine addiction. Nicotine has detrimental impacts on a developing brain, and 90 percent of smokers started before the age of eighteen.

Nicotine usage becomes more consistent between the ages of 18 and 21. The Institute of Medicine reports that raising the purchasing age will reduce the number of individuals who start smoking and consequently improve the health of adolescents and families. The younger an individual starts smoking, the greater the health impacts, including the propensity to continue smoking into adulthood and a higher risk of nicotine addiction. Three out of four adolescent smokers will continue smoking into adulthood due to nicotine addiction.

Raising the purchasing age should decrease the likelihood of students getting tobacco products from their friends. This in turn will minimize tobacco-related disruptions in schools. In addition, the Department of Public Health supports the expanded definition of tobacco products and the more precise labeling regarding nicotine composition.

In the last two months, three dozen people have died and about 1,500 vape users have suffered lung injuries. One death in Connecticut has been attributed to vaping.

The Centers for Disease Control is saying the common denominator in most of the lung cases is tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, which is the principal psychoactive constituent of marijuana, bought off the black market.

The CDC recommends that people who do use e-cigarette or vapor products not buy them off the street or modify products or add any substances that are not intended by the manufacturer.

I'm sure in the new 2020 legislative session, which begins in February; the General Assembly will examine the latest scientific evidence on vaping and what the legislature can do to educate the public.

As always, please contact me should you have any questions or concerns relating to state government at [Kathy.Kennedy@housegop.ct.gov](mailto:Kathy.Kennedy@housegop.ct.gov) or at 800-842-1423.

## Steps To End Elder Abuse In CT



STATE SEN. (D-14)  
JAMES MARONEY

Any form of abuse is devastating for the victim, their family and the community in which the abuse took place. As a state senator, I've made a concerted effort to deal with this important issue and protect our state's seniors. Thanks to the enactment of legislation I've championed which establishes an elder abuse registry and bans those convicted of abuse from working in healthcare facilities, I believe we've implemented a proactive approach to keep our seniors safe.

According to the National Council on Aging, elders who have been victims of abuse have a 300 percent higher risk of death compared to elders who have not been abused. Elder abuse includes, but is not limited to, physical, emotional and sexual abuse. Passive neglect, confinement and financial exploitation are also common forms of elder abuse. We can – and through this legislation we will – ensure our state's seniors are safe.

One method is the aforementioned Elder Abuse Registry. Here is how it will work: a public, easy-to-find database will be compiled from six other registries of offenders who have been convicted of assault or other forms of abuse. This public and user-friendly online tool will be maintained by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and the Department of Health will publish it on their website. The Commission on Women, Children and Seniors will also provide a portal on their website, leading users to the database. You can view the registry repository by visiting [wp.cga.ct.gov/cwseo/registry-repository/](http://wp.cga.ct.gov/cwseo/registry-repository/).

This is crucial information the public may not have been aware of in the past, now easily searchable in one place. By arming the public with knowledge, it ensures people across our district and state can have the peace of mind that their loved ones are safe. Twenty-six states across the country are using these registries. Although this issue is incredibly troubling, I am proud we will be joining these states in making real progress to deal with this issue head-on.

Still, this is a growing issue. Did you know that in the last seven years in Connecticut, the number of elder abuse investigations has doubled? This is another sobering reminder that there is much to be done. We therefore passed legislation which bans anyone convicted of an assault or abuse crime from gaining employment at a nursing home or long-term care facility.

In addition to the work of the legislature, AARP's Fraud Alert program also protects seniors from financial abuse. Financial exploitation is a common form of elder abuse. AARP's program provides bi-weekly watchdog reports on scams and allows you to report and search scams throughout the country. This is a serious issue, and thanks to these important proactive measures, we have made our state's seniors much safer.

If you or anyone you know is a victim of elder abuse, please do not hesitate to speak out.

**MOT**  
Milford-Orange Times

### Milford-Orange Times

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Senator's Seat: Sen. James Maroney

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Cathy Bradley, Running	Barbara Lehrer, Real Estate	Pam Staneski, Milford Chamber
Joanne Byrne, Retirement	Annamarie Mastrangelo, Flooring	Hon. Beverly K. Streit-Kefalas, Probate
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Pat Dray, Gardening	Trish Pearson, Insurance	Roger Tausig, Rotary Club
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## Letters To The Editor:

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

### To the Editor:

I have worked with Karen Fortunati on the Recycling Subcommittee of Milford for the last two years and because I have seen her commitment, energy and resourcefulness firsthand, I recommend you vote for her in the upcoming election for Milford city clerk.

Karen has served as a Milford alderman and has the local expertise and experience to elevate the city clerk's office to being more responsive and informative to the needs of Milford residents.

She is a well-educated, professional and warm human being with excellent communication and organizational skills and is truly concerned with the welfare of Milford and its citizens.

I am voting for Karen I believe she is far and away the best candidate for Milford city clerk. I hope you will vote for her too.

**Gayle Hoffman, Milford**

### To The Editor:

Recently, a friend from out of town asked me about Milford and our mayor, Ben Blake. He had heard that our mayor had facilitated four years of consecutive tax cuts. This friend was in disbelief and assumed, "Those tax cuts are great, but you must be suffering loss of services as a result." I corrected him and went on to explain the virtues and rewards of living in Milford these days.

There is a new-found sense of pride in our community that I never experienced growing up here. Maybe I am more aware because of our school-aged kids, and how they are thriving in Milford's schools. We are proud to show off the new fields on Orange Avenue to visiting teams and their families. And the new splash pad and revitalized Eisenhower park is truly a gem that makes this city enviable. Our streets get repaved and plowed. And if there's a problem with any public works issues, a call to the office gets prompt attention during the Blake administration.

Weekly there's something fun and engaging happening for the kids. Pirate Day, summer kick-off, the fishing derby, the firemen's muster, Pumpkins on the Pier, or the touch-a-truck are just some of the choices we have every weekend to entertain our kids and impress their friends. Now I hear that there's a big expansion underway for the kids' section of the downtown library.

Clearly, there has been lots of press about the Milford Renaissance lately, even on a national level – and it's not fake news. The city deserves all the positive focus we've received. I know I'm not alone in attributing this success to mayor Blake and his staff. Let's vote him in for another term, and hope that he stays on for a lot longer.

**Mike Lebov, Milford**

### To the Editor:

Alderman Ray Vitali has taken aim at Milford mayor Ben Blake, attacking him in social media and local press for not selling a piece of city-owned open space to a private party. The interested party plans to develop the property; the mayor fought to keep the city property open and undeveloped.

The mayor received countless signatures of the neighbors, objecting to the sale and the mayor agrees with them. Although these neighbors live in alderman Vitali's district, Vitali insists on pushing for the sale. He strikes some as more concerned with one developer than he does with the many neighbors and families who signed the petition opposing the sale.

We should again applaud mayor Blake for protecting our city's open space, pushing back on development and, most importantly, for listening to the residents of our neighborhoods.

**Rich Smith, Milford**

### To the Editor:

It is my distinct honor and privilege to endorse Joanne Lasse Rohrig for reelection as city clerk of the City of Milford.

Joanne has served with distinction and professionalism in the operation of this important city office, maintaining and constantly improving its functions, while providing taxpayer and resident-friendly assistance to all.

The city clerk's office performs many important municipal and public functions, so it is critical that we have – and continue to have – one who is well-versed and efficient in these matters.

I wish to thank Joanne and her entire staff, who over the years have provided our friends and neighbors with efficient and cheerful assistance.

Those of us who have gotten to know her either personally or professionally look forward to her reelection, and urge all Milford voters to cast their ballot in support of Joanne Lasse Rohrig, your city clerk.

**Stephen J. (Jack) Skudlarek, Jr.  
Former Chairman, Milford Board of  
Finance**

### To the Editor:

Same topic; four representatives; four columns; four headlines in the Oct. 10 issue of the *Milford-Orange Times*. Only one positive viewpoint about new laws going into effect on Oct. 1, and the three others emphasizing the burden of the new taxes. Other than Mr. Ferraro, why were the other politicians able to report their point of view without mentioning their political affiliations? Why is it that Mr. Ferraro was the only one who needed to brag about the bills he supported, to state that he was against all new the taxes? Only Mr. Ferraro had the need to play the partisan politics blame game, as he has come to do lately, voting against most things (replace the word "anything") the Democrats put on the table. We have enough of that in Washington – we certainly do not need it here.

Mr. Ferraro is supposed to represent all of us, and support items that may not be good for his reelection but could certainly be good for the state.

**Katalin Baltimore, Orange**

### To the Editor:

Richard Smith, who is the chair of the Democratic Town Committee, treasurer of the Lamont campaign and puppeteer for the Democratic majority on the Board of Aldermen seems to have forgotten the procedure as to how it all went down; the proposed sale of the Myers Lane land sale.

At the Nov. 10, 2016 public hearing regarding the sale of 0.07 acres of city-owned land was never described as "open space" as projected by the Democratic Town chairman. The party seeking to purchase the land explained their purpose was to permit them to build a single-story home on an adjacent lot they own. Their desire was to move from their split-level home into a single-story home to accommodate a disability.

On Dec. 5, 2016, the aldermen unanimously voted to reconsider their prior denial. Alderman Shaw successfully moved to amend the underlying motion so that the property would be "deed restricted to a single-family home." The amended motion passed unanimously. Again, a unanimous vote by the Board of Aldermen and unilaterally dismissed by the mayor, who again is over-stepping his authority, making this governing body irrelevant!

Mayor Blake is a guest at aldermanic meetings but frequently interjects his commentary and his untruths; here indicating that the issue is in litigation. Is it, as Smith claims, overdevelopment that is the reason for the mayor's refusal to act on the board's direction, or is it the nepotism that has been once again rearing its ugly head as demonstrated with the purchase of 701 North St. and now with the Myers Lane property? It is not an issue of overdevelopment, Mr. Chair of the Democratic Party, but the honesty and integrity of the office that is at stake.

The mayor and the complicit Democratic aldermen severed discussion at the Board of Alderman meeting that was held Oct. 7. Mayor Blake ducked-and-covered, citing "pending litigation," but misled the

*Continued on page 6.*

## Editorial: Rights Are Precious, In Hong Kong And Here

By **Brandon T. Bisceglia**

As election day approaches, we should look to the people of Hong Kong to understand just how important our right to participate in government is.

The people of Hong Kong have been protesting now since March.

The proximate cause of this uprising was a bill that would have allowed Hong Kong residents to be extradited to mainland China. But that was just the spark that lit this current conflagration. The protests are about something every American should (but perhaps doesn't always) appreciate: civil rights.

Hong Kong occupies an unusual corner of geopolitical history. Under British administration for almost 100 years, its people grew accustomed to largely Western attitudes, including self-governance and the rule of law. Yet Hong Kong always was, and still is, part of Communist China.

Both China and the U.K. recognized this odd state of affairs in 1997, when Hong Kong was "returned" to Chinese rule. Hong Kong was given a great deal of autonomy under a deal that would extend for 50 years.

In the last few years, though, China has begun to chip away at that edifice of rights and attitudes. And the people of Hong Kong – especially young adults who will still be around when the 50-year period ends – have noticed.

Only five years ago they came out for the so-called "umbrella protests" after the Chinese government changed electoral rules to restrict who could hold office. Despite those efforts, the mainland government made no concessions. Today candidates for chief executive and the legislature are essentially prescreened by the Communist Party.

The extradition issue constituted a further erosion, as the Chinese justice system does

not offer the same kinds of rights, such as the presumption of innocence, that Hong Kong or many Western justice systems have.

What the people of Hong Kong are facing may seem remote, but it's not. Whether you believe that rights come from God, from nature or from some other source, they are precariously preserved only by what people choose to do at any given point in time.

We should know this well in the United States by now. Millions of people have fought over centuries for their right to participate in civic life. Many still do.

We have certainly come a long way. If we look back to our national origins, we see that the right to participate was largely restricted to white Christian property-owning males. In the early days of Connecticut, you even had to be the right religious denomination. Forget about being included if you were a Catholic or an Episcopalian. These restrictions were explicitly written into our laws.

It's something of a cliché to tell people that they should vote because others fought and died to secure that right for them. It's true, but it's hard to keep in mind how fragile that and all your other rights are when there's no immediate threat to them looming over you.

The people of Hong Kong are coming to understand how fragile those rights are at this very moment. And many of them are fighting, even though they know it's likely to be a losing battle.

We too are taking a step to preserve our rights every time we vote; every time we show up to a town meeting; every time we write or call our legislative representatives; every time we write a letter to our local paper. These small actions, and many more, are the only ways to maintain our rights. All it takes to lose them is to not do anything.



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## (Continued From Page 5) Letters To The Editor

aldermen because there is no litigation pending at this point, again making this Board of Aldermen irrelevant! Milford deserves better.

**Ray Vitali, Milford  
Alderman, 5th District**

### To the Editor:

Several articles and social media posts have exposed the ongoing abuses of power by Milford incumbent Mayor Ben Blake. Specifically problematic is Blake's covert refusal since December 2016 to carry out the unanimous directive by the Board of Alderman to sell a sliver of city land at the end of Myers Lane to an adjacent Milford homeowner.

For three years Blake failed to effectuate the sale by refusing to sign any sales contract or deed of conveyance. In all this time, Blake has also refused to meet with the purchaser or give any reasons for his inaction.

Furthermore, at the Oct. 7 board meeting, Blake refused to provide any justification for his failure to follow the board's directive despite questioning from several board Republicans. Not surprisingly, Blake inappropriately met with board Democrats behind closed doors during the meeting recess.

Whatever Blake's hidden agenda or personal motives for defiance may be, he is circumventing the limited power and authority the office of mayor actually has in this case.

The mayor has no express discretionary power or legal authority granted by either the Milford City Charter or Connecticut statutes with respect to selling, or not selling, city-owned land. In this case, Blake's only role as the executive officer of the city was to effectuate the transfer and be the signatory on the contract and deed of conveyance, just as the board authorized.

The mayor has no express veto power or legal authority with respect to overruling any action taken by the board. To the contrary, the City Charter clearly states that actions by

the board can only be overruled after special petition and special vote by Milford's electors.

Any belief that Blake has sole discretion regarding the sale, purchase, or use of city land, and can secretly overrule the directive and authority of Milford's legislative body, is totally inconsistent with the Milford City Charter and Connecticut statutes.

Therefore, Blake is obstructing the exercise of the board's legislative power and authority by refusing to carry out the board's directive without any justification.

**Mark Leso, Milford**

### To the Editor:

Ever since my candidacy for the Amity Board of Education was announced I have been fielding inquires as to why seek that office rather than running for reelection to the Orange Board of Selectmen. I therefore thought it appropriate to make my reasons known.

For me working with and supporting young people has been a life's journey. I taught science at the middle and high school levels in West Haven for 34 years. I served as a teacher, mentor and head facilitator in the Governor's Partnership Intervention Program. I coached swimming for 40 years, including 27 at Amity High and was the founder and head coach of the Orange Program (Otters) when the pool was opened in 1975. I coached there for 18 years. I was an original member of the CIAC Committee on Sportsmanship and served as a past chair of the Amity Coaches Association. I was the first chair of Connecticut Swimming, which sponsors amateur swimming in the state.

I served 10 years as a member of the Legislative Education Committee while serving as your elected state representative. I was appointed by the governor to the Grade 11 Evaluation Task Force which resulted in a recommendation for the SAT to replace and reduce required testing. I co-chair the State Water Safety Task Force as an appointed member of the Connecticut Commission on Women, Children, and Seniors, and I serve on

the Orange Foundation.

With my background, I am hopeful that I can bring a level of knowledge and experience to the Amity Board of Education which would help me make a positive impact. While I would not be working directly with kids, I would be working with childhood related issues. I am honored to have served as a member of the Orange Board of Selectmen and would greatly appreciate continued support of my efforts to help improve education in our community as an Amity BOE member. Thank you.

**Paul Davis, Orange**

### To the Editor:

For those of us who have been paying mortgages on our homes in Milford for over 30 years, it's gratifying to at least see a decrease in our city taxes monthly for the past few years. It is a relief to know that our mayor's priorities include reigning in budgets and expenses. In addition to lower taxes there is a remarkable responsiveness from the mayor's office to residents' needs. Countless times over the past few years, I've called mayor Blake to ask about clogged sewers, traffic patterns at dangerous intersections, insurance issues and other concerns, and he always gets back to me with a prompt and reasonable response. Mayor Blake's work reaffirms my regard for local government and public service.

Some of my neighbors and older friends occasionally complain about the "newfangled" improvements to the city. Yet when they learn that the splash pad, the dog park, the pickleball courts and even the new sidewalks on Gulf Street were funded substantially through grants and non-municipal funds, they are more than impressed. Also, affordable to us as seniors is the Milford Senior Center - what a bargain at \$15 a year - where we can choose affordable lunches, learn of travel opportunities, receive medical reminders and updates, and participate in philanthropic work throughout the community. There are programs for everyone's interest, and mayor Blake often stops in for lunch to seek opinions

on civic issues.

As a long-time subscriber to the *New York Times* the last few years have made me so proud at the number of articles that have described Milford as "a great place to visit," an affordable, desirable place to live, and a terrific weekend getaway. This kind of coverage from prestigious journalists reminds me that, thanks to mayor Blake, our city is heading in the right direction.

**Nancy Horn, Milford**

### To the Editor:

Congratulations to the Orange Country Fair committee. The committee should be congratulated and thanked for the spectacular job planning and implementing such a wonderful weekend. Every year town residents come out to enjoy the wonderful and I do not think people realize how hard the committee works to plan such a perfect event. This year I arrived early to help set up a booth in the civic tent. When I arrived I saw neighbors helping one another up. Town residents who were working in various locations cooking breakfast for one another. Seeing friends and neighbors working together is a true testament to our town, and how much the people in the town care for one another. The Orange Country Fair is a significant event in town, and those who help put it together year after year should be thanked and commended for all they do.

**Santo Galatioto Jr., Orange**

### To the Editor:

I was disturbed to hear the inaccuracies and scare tactics of Jody Dietch regarding her regionalization plan for our Orange elementary schools at the Chamber debate on Oct. 23.

To threaten that if Bethany and Woodbridge (who have everything to gain) voted for the merger, but if Orange residents rejected it, that we would be thrown out of the Amity Regional system is ludicrous and patently false.

*Continued on page 7.*

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(Continued From Page 6)

# Letters To The Editor

When challenged on her assertion by the Amity Board of Education chairman that the board unanimously approved a study, all she could say was it was “her understanding” that the whole board voted to pursue this which is not the case.

We don't need to be misled by specious claims just to differentiate oneself in an election year. Jim Zeoli has been straightforward with us and deserves to be reelected.

**Christopher D'Addio, Orange**

**To the Editor:**

Jody Dietch has been pushing K-6 regionalization under the dubious premise that Orange students are not prepared when they enter seventh grade because they're not coming from an “Amity” school.

My daughter had no problem adapting, and it appears that most Orange students have no trouble thriving academically as evidenced by their success in high school. Amity would not achieve such a high ranking if it weren't for the students feeding into it.

As simplistic as “if it ain't broke” sounds, our property values remain high because of our successful schools, where decisions and expenses are kept under local control.

We like that Jim Zeoli backs the sensible choice to keep our town on the right course.

**Ron and Laurie Ruotolo, Orange**

**To the Editor:**

It is that transformational time of year again when the days grow noticeably shorter and campaigns for local elections are set into motion. Here in Milford, we have a tradition of courtesy and civility that candidates show one another; while we may represent different political parties, we all share the common purpose of serving the best interest of this community. So it is with respect and humility that we again ask for your consideration this election day, Nov. 5.

Milford continues to thrive. Our city employees, department heads, volunteers, political leaders, and an entire village of contributors have all worked diligently to seize upon opportunities to keep costs down while ensuring exceptional city services, unparalleled public safety and extraordinary schools.

Notably, new business continues to skyrocket as we outpace all other Connecticut towns and cities. This past year alone, we have had 465 new businesses make Milford home. A tidal wave of economic development 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.

All of this expansion has benefited Milford's bottom line, supporting the overall budget. Taxpayers have now experienced back-to-back-to-back-to-back tax cuts – four consecutive decreases in the amount of local taxes due; no other town in the state can boast this experience.

We are proud of Milford's accomplishments: a tax rate that is fair with excellent services; pristine parks, beaches, and open spaces that enhance quality of life for all; and a progressive optimism that turns potential problems into possibilities while pushing us all to work for a better, stronger, more innovative community. As we continue along this trajectory, we are also sure to safeguard the traditions, heritage, history and attributes that make Milford the Small City With a Big Heart.

Together we have accomplished a great deal, and yet there still remains much to do. So we ask for your support and confidence, and encourage you to contact us with any questions, concerns or ideas to make Milford an even better place to live.

**Ben Blake, Milford Mayor**  
**Karen Fortunati, Milford Alderman**  
**and candidate for City Clerk**

## Orange Lions Host Comedy Night



The Orange Lions Club's held a Comedy Night on Oct.19 at St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church in Orange. Photo by Lexi Crocco.

## Orange Rotary Raises Money For Kenya Project



The Rotary Club of Orange recently heard a presentation about a \$136,923 water project at a school in Nambale, Kenya, that was sponsored by Rotary International. From left: Loretta Smith, Richard Dumbrell, Rev. Evalyn Wakhusama, Martine Nolletti, Lynda Hammond, Trish Pearson, and Rick Benson. Photo by Jonathan Glassman



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Commentary:

# The Urbanization Of Farm Country

Orange is changing. I have to laugh a bit when our farming traditions are touted as a reason for not doing this or not doing that.

When it has been convenient, new houses and subdivisions have replaced farmland and the urbanization of Orange has moved along. Now the owners of that land are entitled to obtain the maximum return on their ownership. But not at the expense of our older preexisting residents' rights. When you buy a house next to a farm, you should expect that you are going to have smells and noises you didn't have in the city. You are the interloper there, not the existing residents.

The recent "rooster" hearing by the Town Plan & Zoning Commission is one of these issues. Chickens and roosters have been raised by various property owners along Route 34 for decades. After the first

farming days in Orange, Derby came along and built up a large commercial strip on the other side of the road. With this development, large commercial lights were introduced on the Route 34 corridor.

Now comes in the poor rooster, whose circadian rhythms are all messed up because of the lighting. Roosters crow at sunrise because of light clues. The poor rooster now sees these bright signs early in the morning hours and his first impulse is to do what comes naturally: crowing.

Increasing the regulations to accommodate the new interlopers should not be a high priority on the TPZC's list, but here we are trying to control the number of roosters you

can own and eventually eliminating them from the area in which they have existed for hundreds of years in our farming community. Poor roosters. Orange is changing.

On another note, the TPZC is getting more proposals for mixed residential types in residential areas. Indeed, the Orange Plan of Conservation and Development, the blueprint of what Orange should look like in the future, even contemplates moving commercial businesses into some of our neighborhoods in a mixed zoning designation that is not currently well-defined.

The ever-present threat by developers, of course, is the state's affordable housing

statutes, which in effect allows developers to decide where things should be built rather than the TPZC. The cost and the time of the litigation involved are the only things that slow this process down and discourage some developers.

Maybe it is time to come up with an area in town where 400 units of affordable housing can be built and get us out from under this recurring threat. Let's get creative. A senior community like those in Florida with three-story one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartment complexes with common areas for laundry, elevators and recreation could meet this requirement and meet the needs of our town's elderly residents at the same time.

Any other creative ideas out there?



THOMAS P. HURLEY

Life Online:

## Two Factor Authentication – The Annoyance Is Worth It

Every day it seems you talk to someone who has been hacked or had their identity stolen. More and more we find ourselves asking a Facebook user why they're asking you to be their friend again when you already are. The answer comes back: "I've been hacked."

No one is safe. Some of the most respected companies on the web, from Google to Adobe to LinkedIn, have had data breaches. One of the most common entry points for hackers is brute force software. Brute force software works by trying thousands of password combinations on an account until it hits on the right one. Another way is for a hacker to imitate a company's website that you do business with and get you to give them your password. That's how Russian hackers broke

into Hillary Clinton's campaign emails.

Two-factor authentication is one of the easiest and most reliable ways to protect your identity. The usual way this works is for the website you're logging into to send you a code that you must enter for you to get into your account. They send the code either by text or email. Once you enter it you're in your account and ready to go.

Google is one of the most supportive companies of two-factor authentication. In May they published some impressive statistics showing its effectiveness. One hundred percent of automated attacks were



JOHN A. MOFFITT

blocked, 99 percent of bulk phishing attacks were stopped and 66 percent of all attacks were prevented.

Despite these results, some people resist two-factor authentication. They think it's a hassle or they don't like giving out their cell number or email. But the facts can't be denied. Two-factor authentication is the easiest way to protect your identity.

You may be saying to yourself, "This seems like a hassle. Do I need to protect everything?"

Probably not. You should make an audit of all your accounts. Financial accounts, bank,

investment and credit cards most certainly need to have two-factor authentication. Most financial websites require it now. Social networking sites are another category for which you should consider taking this additional security step.

Considering all the risks, adopting two-factor authentication is an easy fix to a significant problem – one that is not going away anytime soon.

*John Moffitt is the president and owner of Elvin Web Marketing in Milford CT. He is a graduate of the University of New Haven where he earned BS in Management Science. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force. He lives with his wife Maryann in Milford.*

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**Grave Matters:**

# When Orange Was North Milford

A few days ago I took part in a walk around “Ye Old Milford Cemetery,” which was laid out in 1676. The tour was conducted by volunteers from the Milford Historical Society. We had perfect fall weather, and as we scuffled through leaves we stopped to listen to five reenactors talking about their lives.

Since Orange was originally known as “North Milford,” many of the names found in our Orange cemetery can be found in Old Milford’s Cemetery as well: Hine (six) , Clark (33), Woodruff (seven), Purdy (Pardee) (one) and Treat (28), to name a few.

The reenactors included Robert Treat, Jonathan Law, Molly Fowler and two others. We first stopped at the monument honoring Milford’s Revolutionary War soldiers, which included three black people who became

free after having fulfilled their servitude.

As we strolled from one tombstone to another, we were told the tale of the Milford good citizens who tended the Revolutionary prisoners of war who were released by the British in a prisoner exchange. Shortly before the revolutionaries were put aboard ship for the exchange, the British took two men suffering from smallpox and paraded them among the prisoners so that they too might contract the dreaded disease. And contract it they did.

Onboard ship, fearful that his crew would also contract smallpox, the captain abandoned the prisoners in Milford harbor.



TRISH O’LEARY TREAT

Thanks to the compassion of Dr. Carrington, a Milford physician, captain Stephen Stow and other townspeople, the sick prisoners were given clothing, food and shelter as they endured their illness. Some died and were buried in the Congregational minister’s acres without headstones. Others lived and returned to their homes elsewhere in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

We were reminded of how hard life could be in the 1600s when we saw the tombstones of three children of the Downs family who died within days of one another and the tombstone of their parents who died years later, the husband only a day before the death

of his wife Hannah.

The grave of Molly Fowler, who died at the age of 23 in 1792, is known for this stark epitaph:

Molly though pleasant in her day  
Was suddenly seized and sent away.  
How soon she’s ripe, how soon she’s rott’n  
Sent to her grave and soon forgott’n.

As we left the cemetery, I could not resist buying some of the books and pamphlets the Milford Historical Society had for sale, including the 1943 charting and mapping of the stones by Morris Woods Abbott published by the Friends of the Milford Cemetery. I look forward to visiting the Historical Society’s three restored houses near the cemetery in the near future.

**Your Health**

# An Update On Eastern Equine Encephalitis

The Connecticut Department of Public Health recently announced the death of a third person who was diagnosed with eastern equine encephalitis this year, as well as the diagnosis of EEE in a fourth person who remains hospitalized.

All the residents are advised to take active preventive steps to protect themselves and their family members from mosquito bites until the first hard frost of the fall. Additionally, it is best to avoid outdoor activities from dusk to dawn, when mosquitoes are most active.

An email sent to all the local health departments by Dr. Matthew Carter, state epidemiologist and director of infectious diseases said, “The risk for mosquito-borne disease is virtually eliminated by the first local hard frost which kills most remaining adult mosquitoes. A hard, or killing frost, is defined meteorologically as two consecutive hours of temperatures below 28 degrees Fahrenheit or three hours below 32 degrees. This will occur

at different times for different communities, and there may even be variation within communities based on local geography.

“The DPH does not have meteorological data or expertise and cannot determine when individual communities have experienced a hard frost. Sources of information to assist local officials with determining when a hard frost has occurred can be found on the weather reports from local media outlets, through the National Weather Service and other online resources such as Weather Underground,” it continued.

“Although mosquitoes are not killed until a hard frost occurs, they are extremely unlikely to be active when temperatures fall below 50 degrees in the evening, and communities may wish to consider this information when making decisions about scheduling or cancelling planned outdoor events late in the season.”



DR. AMIR MOHAMMAD

“This year we have noticed an increased EEE activity in the state. CT DPH continues to monitor and ask residents not to take unnecessary trips into marshes and freshwater swamps as these are typically breeding grounds for mosquitoes that transmit the EEE virus, with such mosquitoes being most active at dusk and dawn. Overnight camping or other substantial outdoor exposure in freshwater swamps in Connecticut should be avoided.”

It is reassuring to know that Orange has an active mosquito management plan. According to this plan, a biological larvicide is applied weekly from April through October to mosquito breeding areas, such as marsh areas, stagnant catch basins, parks and other public areas throughout town.

The Orange health department receives reports of larval surveillance of potential

breeding sites (wetlands, catch basins) after the application. Reinspection of breeding sites also occurs to determine the effectiveness of larvicide. Such sites include five recreational areas, four school grounds and various small areas of less than four acres totaling approximately 53 acres.

The most effective way to prevent infection from EEE is to prevent mosquito bites. Mosquitoes bite during the day and night. Use insect repellent, wear long-sleeved shirts and pants, treat clothing and gear, and take steps to control mosquitoes indoors and outdoors.

*Dr. Amir Mohammad is a practicing internist and preventive medicine physician. He greatly enjoys teaching and doing public health work. He is serving as the Director of Health for the Town of Orange. Zeb Kayani, a graduate of Amity Regional High School, and a first-year medical student at the Yale School of Medicine, contributed to this article.*

**Getting To Know You:**

# The Peculiar Case Of The Millennial

My grandparents were part of the “Greatest” (read World War II) generation, my parents are part of the “Baby Boom” generation and I am a part of what they call “Generation X.” Given that, it seems my children are part of the “Millennial” generation.

I’ve been hearing a lot of curmudgeonly carping about millennials lately. I’ve heard that millennials are soft and lazy. I’ve heard that millennials are entitled and demanding. I’ve heard that millennials are needy and impatient. I’ve heard that millennials are ignorant and naïve about the way the world works. I’ve heard that as soon as they hear the word “no” they go into fits and run to their parents to make things better and that this behavior just won’t work in the “real world” when they have to work with “real people.” I’ve heard people say that those millennials have got a nasty surprise coming when they get out on their own and have to earn a buck like the generations before them. I’ve heard millennials would rather stare blankly at their cell phones than have a conversation

with an actual person.

I’ve even heard grave predictions that millennials won’t be able to hold down jobs, have to move home with their parents and that the entire socioeconomic order of the entire world just might collapse under their watch. Striking.

It’s striking to me that the curmudgeonly carping comes from people my parents’ age and people my age. It seems that we’re curmudgeonly carping about our grandchildren’s or children’s generation. Odd.

It’s odder still that most of the people we refer to as millennials are either right around college age or fresh out of college. That means they either have no jobs or starter jobs, no money and no positions of power to speak of. Yet somehow this millennial lot is getting the lion’s share of the blame for the recent stirrings in our social and political arenas. Strange.



DAVID CROW

It’s strange to think that millennials, without money, without position and without power get blamed for a lot of the “disquiet” and “disruption” in our society right now. It also seems strange that a bunch of people openly derided as soft and lazy, entitled and demanding, needy and impatient, and ignorant and naïve, have managed to pull all that off while staring blankly at their cell phones rather than having actual conversations with actual people. Remarkable.

It’s remarkable that a previous up-and-coming generation has heretofore never expressed any ideas and/or thoughts that were different from those of the previous generations. Never has a generation said or done things that the previous generations found daring, unsettling or even abhorrent. Such a thing must be unprecedented in the history of mankind. Peculiar.

Yes, peculiar. Why would such people on the cusp of adulthood be concerned about their futures? Why won’t they heed the warnings and wisdom of their elders? Why would they worry what the economy, the society or the environment will look like when they begin to produce the next generation?

Surely no generation before them ever contemplated such things. I mean, no previous generation ever watched too much MTV or told their parents not to be “fuelish with fuel” or asked the world to “give us kids a chance,” right?

And just where did they get those cell phones anyway?

Until next time, y’all come out.

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

# (Continued From Page 1) Milford Affordable Housing

really blighted houses in that area.”

The latest phase of the project will follow a similar pattern to the previous ones, with four new buildings containing three units apiece, each with two bedrooms and approximately 1,100 square feet of living space. Four of the units will be set aside as affordable.

“In the last five years,” Lynch said, “the income guidelines [for affordable housing]

have actually gone up considerably.”

Lynch said the market-rate units that were already built have been consistently renting at close to \$2,000. He also said public gas and sewer service had already been brought to the site in anticipation of the project’s approval, thus avoiding any further work.

The police and fire departments had previously been signed off on the plans.

David Spear of DLS Engineering LLC presented the results of a traffic study at the site, saying the traffic impact would be minimal. He added that a study wouldn’t even normally be conducted for a development of this size, but was required under the affordable housing guidelines.

“These are negligible from a traffic point of view – the refinement of the analysis is

not specific enough to show any difference,” he said. “The fluctuation of day-to-day is more than the site traffic, so there’s really no capacity issue at all.”

No one, including members of the board, had any comments or questions about the proposal after the presentation was finished.

# Lifestyle

## On Your Mind:

### When You Feel Out Of Control...

The most common theme I hear from my clients is, "I can't help it."

Smokers "can't" stop, overweight people "can't" resist. Those who pick their skin or drink too much all feel powerless over their choices.

Remember that self-talk is self-hypnosis. Every time you tell yourself you can't do something, you actually reinforce the belief that you are powerless. It is just a belief. It doesn't mean it's true.

Learning to take back control over your choices and behaviors is simple, although not always easy. Anything worth achieving requires 100 percent effort. That powerless feeling is old and definitely embedded in your beliefs, but you can change it. Habits are repetitive patterns that your brain has become comfortable and familiar with. The

neuroplasticity of the brain makes it possible to make any change you want. It takes commitment, but the rewards are life changing.

Do you ask yourself if that desire for a cigarette is worth dying for? Is that craving for sugar or junk worth those self-deprecating feelings after you're finished? Is the scar from picking worth the few seconds of satisfaction?

Mindfulness of the way you feel right before the behavior can be the key to stopping the behavior. So many behaviors are unconscious, and you need to make them conscious by heightening your awareness right before making the decision to do it. That is the exact time to make a



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different choice. Being mindful of the consequences of that choice is the key to taking control. Being mindful at a meal that you remember how it feels to overeat can help you avoid that feeling. You will notice feeling satisfied and learn to stop.

Hypnosis works because of the nature of the brain. It's not an exact science, but it is science. Changing habits and beliefs is doable, but so many people give up and remain miserable. We have all heard the story of the young surfer girl who was bitten by a shark and lost one arm but returned to surfing anyway. She was determined, and everyone has the same amount of determination when they choose

to exercise it.

Anxiety is another example of feeling out of control or powerless over your thoughts and feelings. Anxiety shows up in many ways, but being mindful of the way you want to feel in place of the way you are feeling can jumpstart a brain pattern change. People who learn to be aware of the feeling when it begins are able to label the feeling as a false alarm, instead of preparing to panic. The brain is easier to change than you think, and clients often tell me they are amazed at how easy it seemed to change long-embedded negative thoughts or behaviors.

Change your brain. It will change your life.

*Fern is a certified hypnotist, lifecoach and health educator. She can be reached at [www.myhealinghypnosis.com](http://www.myhealinghypnosis.com).*

## Wine Talk:

### Gruner Veltliner With Wiener Schnitzel

There is a white wine grape in Eastern European countries that is grown primarily in Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and most notably in Austria called Gruner Veltliner. The grape produces a wonderful, light, refreshing white wine with flavors of stone fruit and citrus with a big flower nose and a white pepper aftertaste. Most of the wines are best drunk young. There are regions east of Vienna where the wines become complex once left to develop in the bottle. They offer more mineral notes.

Produced since Roman times, in recent years Gruner Veltliner has increased in popularity. This is due to the results of a wine tasting organized in 2002 by Masters of Wine Jancis Robinson and Tim Atkin. Gruner Veltliner from Austria beat out several highly acclaimed white Burgundian Grand cru class wines and as a result its popularity began to spread around the world.

Madeline Puckette is the James Beard Award-winning author and wine communicator of the year who cofounded Wine Folly and is one

my favorite wine writers. She tells us to think spice when we think of Gruner Veltliner. She indicates it is a perfect palate cleanser for richly flavored foods. It has been discovered by those who love Asian spices and matches up quite well with them. Puckette says that it matches up well against strong veggie dishes, such as artichoke and grilled asparagus.

My favorite match is a traditional Austrian dish called wiener schnitzel. My two older brothers, who are some 20 years my seniors, came back from West Germany in the early 1950s after successfully defending West Germany from North Korean and Chinese forces during the Korean War. I had missed them terrible while they were away, for they would play with me constantly, letting me ride them horseback. They took me everywhere with them.

I was about 3-and-a-half years old. They were in their early 20s, and I think they used



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me at the time to help them meet girls. In any case, they always spoke of wiener schnitzel. They taught me to ask our mother for it. She did her best making us thinly sliced veal cutlets she coated with egg and fried in butter. The meat was creamy and rich – and my favorite.

I found myself at age 21 playing with Sonny Costanza's big band in Montreux, Switzerland. We were playing in the Montreux Jazz Festival, which was a big deal in those days. We couldn't afford to have a meal or cocktails at the Casino du Montreux, which is where they filmed the James Bond movie "Casino Royale" a few years later. The waitstaff told us to go to a little place at the edge of town that had great food and at reasonable prices.

We met several young women in their late teens who were training with Swiss Air. We tried to say hi and meet them, but they had a matronly lady in her late 40s who looked

like she played for the Chicago Bears. She wouldn't let us speak to them. On the way out one girl who had a smile that lit up the room tapped me on the shoulder and said to have the wiener schnitzel.

We all ordered the wiener schnitzel. The waiter came over with a big smile and asked us what wine we'd like with it. I asked what the girl had. His reply: Gruner Veltliner.

It has been a long time, but every time I taste this wonderful wine I think of that June evening and the girl with the big smile. Try it, and if you can, have it with some wiener schnitzel.

*Ray Spaziani is the chapter director of New Haven Chapter of the American Wine Society. He teaches wine appreciation classes for the Milford Board of Education, Maltose wine and beer supplier and Gateway Community College. He is a member of the international tasting panel of Amenti de Vino and Wine Maker Magazine, and judges wine for various AWS events. Email Ray with questions or comments at [realestatepro1000@gmail.com](mailto:realestatepro1000@gmail.com).*

## The Milford Library

### Case Memorial Library: Beyond The Books

Public Libraries are always evolving to meet the needs of the community, and the Case Memorial Library is no different.

Sometimes we do not realize the value that the library provides until there are budget cuts. Most people see the library as a place to check out books and be entertained through programs, but libraries are much more than that. For children, libraries assist in literacy and developing a child's critical thinking skill, as well as preparing them for their future educational and employment needs. The library assists working adults in career development, research on products and services as well as expanding their intellect through books, movies and programs. For seniors, the library provides opportunities in exercising cognitive skills through book discussions, lectures, musical performances and much more. All these services are free and supported by your local tax dollars.

All of our programs and services can be found on our website at [casememoialibrary.org](http://casememoialibrary.org). Here are some of the wonderful things we are doing in the months of November and December. Some programs require registration in advance. For more details, please visit our website.

- The Friends of the Library fall book sale begins in early November with a members' night on Thursday, Nov. 7 from 4 p.m. to 7

p.m. New members are welcome to join the night of the sale. After that it is open to the public on Nov. 8 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Nov. 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Make & Take: needle felted ornaments. Monday, Nov. 25, 7 p.m.

- Fall Film Series: Registration is highly recommended for all films. Registration opens three weeks in advance of the film screening. All Wednesday afternoon screenings are shown with subtitles. Monday, Nov. 18, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Nov. 20, 1 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1 p.m.

- Mystery Book Discussion Group: *Miracle Creek* by Angie Kim. Led by Librarian Samantha Jasulavic. Thursday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m.

- The Bookcase: Evening Discussion Group: *Trinity* by Laura Hall. Led by Toby Zabinski. Thursday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.

- Hygge Holiday Party: Needle felted ornaments and hot cocoa bar. For teens in grades 7 to 12. Space is limited. Monday, Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m.

- Kids' Cupcake Decorating Class. For children ages 5 to 8. Wednesday, Nov. 6, 3:45 p.m.

- Chess Club. For children in grades 1



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to 6. Wednesday, Nov. 13 and Wednesday, Dec. 11, 3:45 p.m.

- Tween Cupcake Decorating Class. For children ages 9 to 12. Tuesday, Nov. 19, 3:45 p.m.

- Frozen Slime. For children in grades 1 to 3. Wednesday, Nov. 20, 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

- Kids' Cookie Decorating Class. For children ages 5 to 8. Wednesday, Dec. 4, 3:45 p.m.

- Hot Chocolate Slime. For children in grades 1 to 3. Monday, Dec. 16, 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.

- Tween Cookie Decorating Class. For children ages 9 to 12. Wednesday, Dec. 18, 3:45 p.m.

- Lapsit Storytime. Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

- 2-Year-Old Storytime. Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

- 3-5 Year-Old Storytime. Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

- Art in the Library. November: Artwork by Alexander Crocco and Marian Wittink. Reception: Thursday, Nov. 7, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. December: Waterworks – Artwork by students of Audrey Galer. Reception: Thursday, Dec. 5, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

*Kathy Giotsas is the Director of the Case Memorial Library. She can be reached at 203-891-2170 or [kgiotsas@orange-ct.gov](mailto:kgiotsas@orange-ct.gov).*

### Milford Travel Advisor Increases Knowledge At Summit

Milford-based Dream Vacations franchise owner and vacation specialist Karen Quinn-Panzer recently attended the Dream Vacations Land Summit in Jamaica to specialize in selling all-inclusive resorts, villas and tours. Quinn-Panzer is also a columnist for the *Milford-Orange Times*.

"Investing time with site inspections in popular Caribbean destinations always benefits my clients and our travel business. It's so important for us to experience the best of a certain destination, including resorts for various budgets, restaurants, villas and activities," she said.

At the summit, Quinn-Panzer learned how to expand her resort and tour business through 17 site inspections, interactive workshops, group excursions and private parties. Her first-hand all-inclusive vacation and villa experience can be used for corporate retreats, destination weddings, honeymoons, family reunions and more.



**Milford Performance Center**

**PRESENTS**

**ARLO GUTHRIE**

PERFORMING "ALICE'S RESTAURANT"

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Saturday November 2nd

Thursday November 7th



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**PINK FLOYD SHOW**

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**LAST IN LINE**

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**HENDRIX & CLAPTON**

A Tribute To The  
GUITAR GODS  
with Touch the Sky  
& Heavy Cream



**Milford Performance Center's**

*Holiday Jazz Spectacular*

Saturday January 18th

Saturday January 25th



**THE Corvettes**  
DOO WOP REVUE

**DOO WAP REVUE**

With Special Guest  
"ONLY THE LONELY"  
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The music of  
**SINATRA & DINO**  
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With 7 Piece Big Band

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# Milford Democratic Candidates

## MAYOR



### Ben Blake

In November 2011, at age 33, Ben Blake was elected the 10th mayor of Milford. He previously served eight years as a member of the Board of Aldermen, including terms as Minority Leader and as Chairman.

Blake was born in Milford and his parents, grandparents, and even a generation before that made Milford their home.

He grew up riding Bus "K" to Calf Pen Meadow Elementary and playing sports at Foran High School. He attended the University of Richmond in Virginia where he studied history and government. While in Virginia, Blake taught civics to high school juniors and seniors. He then returned to Connecticut, attended law school at Quinnipiac University, and from 2004 through 2011 practiced law on the beautiful downtown green.

As mayor, Blake has enacted a series of cost cutting initiatives and streamlined city operations to make Milford government more effective and efficient. He has implemented comprehensive conservation improvements within city buildings and infrastructure that have yielded significant energy savings for taxpayers. Most notably, Blake has led Milford through Storm Sandy and Blizzard Nemo, and has received widespread praise and appreciation for his management during two of the worst natural disasters in the city's history.

When not conducting Milford business, Blake and his wife, Sandy, delight in raising their three children, Carter, Caroline and Tucker behind the library – in walking distance to Milford's beaches, harbor, downtown, and the city's other fantastic amenities.

## CITY CLERK



### Karen Fortunati

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center; M.A. in American studies, Trinity College

Board of Aldermen, 5th District-chair, Milford Recycling Task Force

Introduced the city's first Green Halloween initiative

Former prosecutor specializing in narcotics and juvenile offenders

Introduced Milford legislation that provides tax break for families of fallen first responders

Former president of the Downtown Milford Business Association and managed the largest Pirates Day in the event's history

Award-winning novelist

Bridges Healthcare Board of Directors, co-chair of Bridges' Folks on Spokes with husband, Frank

Public Programs Manager, Pequot Library

"Serving on the Board of Aldermen, I've worked closely with Mayor Ben Blake to bring another year of tax cuts and improved city services. As City Clerk, I will continue that partnership and the good work being done on behalf of our great city."

**MILFORD DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES 1ST DISTRICT**  
(Northwestern part of Milford, bordering the Housatonic River and the town of Orange)

## PLANNING & ZONING



### Joseph Castignoli

Castignoli currently serves on the Board of Finance and has served on the Board of Alderman in the past for 10 years. He has lived in Milford for 60 years and is married to Maria and has three children: Julian, Monica and Gabriella. He attended UConn where he earned his B.A. and M.B.A. degrees.

Vice chairman, Milford Board of Finance

Corporate CFO and business consultant

Treasurer, Val Trebbia Scholarship Fund

UConn Alumni Association

"The Planning & Zoning Board should work to preserve Milford's charm while maintaining the vibrancy of the community. The year 2020 marks the ten-year renewal of the 'Plan of Conservation and Development.' We need to update this document to assure our resources, history, and preserve our rural lands."

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN



### Jason Zammiello

Zammiello was appointed to the Board of Alderman this year. He has been a business operations and facilities professional for more than 20 years in the non-profit and hospitality industries. M.B.A. in finance, Fairfield University; B.A. in public affairs, University at Buffalo

Board of Alderman, First District

Board of Assessment Appeals

Zammiello and his wife, Jennifer, a teacher, have been married for 18 years and have two daughters attending Milford Public Schools. "It is an honor to represent First District as an Alderman. I will fight to maintain Milford's current path of fiscal responsibility and balanced budget which benefits every resident of Milford."



### Michelle Parente

Michelle works with organizations promoting families and women's issues. She has held substantial positions as treasurer, finance director, board member and consultant to various groups in Connecticut, Colorado and California. Consultant, University of Colorado's Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

Campaign treasurer, Jared Polis for Congress (current governor of Colorado)

Consultant, Staton Hughes, et al. Silicon Valley

Deputy Finance Director, Capps for Congress, California

Board member, Get in Touch Foundation, Milford

Board member, Wall Street Theater, Norwalk

Founding member and treasurer, Ella's List, Connecticut

Michelle has one child who attends Harborside Middle School.

"I know that we all want our government to remain accountable, transparent, and honest. This will be my focus as a member of the Board of Aldermen."

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Ray Arnold

Arnold currently serves on the Board of Education. He is a 32-year resident of Milford. He is married to Ann Arnold and has put two children, Raymond and Lena, through Milford Public Schools.

B.S.I.E., Virginia Polytechnic University and State University

Corporate engineer for Unicorr Packaging Group

Former member, Milford Library Board

Christ the Redeemer Parish Council

Former coach of Milford United Soccer Club and Milford International Little League

Arnold is devoted to his family, friends and improving his home. He is committed to the Milford community and the public school system it provides. Arnold looks forward to returning to the Board of Education to continue his fine work.



### Betsy Ratner

Ratner is a former educator (pre-kindergarten through college) who is passionate about utilizing learning styles to forge intellectual, social, and emotional growth. She encourages validation for confidence through reflective thinking and sharing.

A.S. in early education; B.S. in education; M.S. reading consultant; 6th year advanced studies, special education

Conducts workshops on creative and critical thinking, decision making and problem-solving

Teacher in Kansas, Guilford and Milford (16 years)

Currently organizes groups utilizing proprioceptive writing.

Ratner has a son, daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren all living in Connecticut.

"Diversified education can initiate the essential gift of confidence, which in turn can produce growth to make a difference."

**MILFORD DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES 2ND DISTRICT**  
(Just west of downtown, and on either side of the Wilber Cross in the north.)

## PLANNING & ZONING



### John Mortimer

Mortimer was raised and educated in town and continues to support the community by owning a local business. He earned his master's degree from Fairfield University while working full time. No stranger to hard work and long hours, Mortimer understands the needs and priorities of the working people of the city. It's a cause he's championed as a lifetime member of the

Teamsters at Sikorsky Aircraft. Mortimer has learned the discipline needed to see a job through to the end.

M.A. in American studies, Fairfield University

Member of Teamsters Local 1150, Sikorsky Aircraft

Third degree black belt in Tang Soo Do

"Milford has seen great progress in many ways these past few years, and, if fortunate enough to be elected, I will work to continue Milford's forward momentum while maintaining the friendly, small-town feel that warmly defines our little city with a big heart."

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN



### Janet Golden

Golden was born and raised in Milford and is raising her family here. She is seeking her sixth term on the Board of Aldermen. She served on the Planning & Zoning board for four years and served two years on the Board of Education representing the 2nd district.

Graduated Magna Cum Laude B.S. in corporate communications, SCSU

Vice chair of Public Works Committee

Chair of Claims Committee

Graduate of Milford Police Citizens Academy

Liaison to Milford Board of Education

Golden has three children. Two have graduated from the Milford school system and her youngest attends Jonathon Law High. Her parents are seniors living in Milford.

"One of our most important challenges is achieving a budget that balances a quality education for our children with taxes that are fair to our senior citizens. The start for a better tomorrow begins today."



### Ward Willis

Willis is running to return to the Board of Aldermen. He has always fought against overdevelopment to protect the New England charm of Milford. Our beautiful beaches in Milford must be preserved and protected.

"Being a lifelong Milford resident, I understand the needs of this community. As a former alderman, I

have first-hand knowledge of the workings of the city government. Also, volunteering at the senior center has given me a special understanding of the needs of seniors in our city."

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Nicole Wasson

Wasson is a lifelong Milford resident, educated in the Milford Public School System. She currently works as the campus coordinator for students with disabilities at UConn Stamford. Wasson has always had a passion for education and wants to contribute to making sure our children, teens, and young adults have equal access to quality education.

B.A. in psychology and human development family studies, UConn; M.A. in public administration, UConn

Teaches a "First Year Experience" course for students entering college

Serves on the campus-wide Access and Accommodation Committee

Participates as an academic recovery advisor

"I believe it is important that Milford prepares students to be self-advocates and critical thinkers who will leave with the tools to contribute to society in their own individual way."



### Susan Glennon

Glennon is proud of Milford's school system and is seeking re-election to the Board of Education. She wants to continue to help the district build on its strengths, make improvements where necessary and keep the focus on high-quality instruction that meets the needs of every student.

Milford Board of Education 2011-2019; chairwoman, 2013-2019

PTA member since 1992

Connecticut PTA Board of Directors, 2004-2011

Business owner and licensed Early Childhood Professional for over 25 years

PTA Council Honorary Life Achievement, 2010

Certificated Board of Education member by CABE

"I care deeply about Milford, having raised my three children here. A strong school system enhances our community and I want to ensure every student has the opportunity to reach his or her full potential."

**MILFORD DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES 3RD DISTRICT**  
(Southwestern area of Milford, bordering on the Housatonic, including Devon and Walnut Beach)

## PLANNING & ZONING



### C. Robert Satti, Jr.

Satti has been practicing law for the past 40 years and presently is the Supervisory Assistant States Attorney in the State Attorney's Office in Bridgeport. He has lived in Milford for 39 years.

Graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Suffolk University Law School

Chairman of Milford's first Ethics

Commission

Former Majority Leader, Board of Education

Former Pension and Retirement Board

Presently member of the Planning & Zoning Board

Eagle Scout

Satti has been involved in youth activities as a sports coach (soccer, basketball, baseball) and is presently a certified soccer referee.

He and his wife Anita have three grown children: Rob, Chris, and Maura.

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN



### Marty Hardiman

Hardiman has served the city of Milford for nearly 32 years in both elected and appointed positions. He is seeking his fifth term on the Board of Aldermen.

Alderman, Third District, 10 years

Board of Education, eight years

Constable, 12 years

Zoning Board of Appeals, seven years

Co-founder, Milford Irish Heritage Society, Parade Grand Marshal, 2010

Member of the Public Safety Committee

Hardiman, his wife Linda, and their family enjoy many of the amenities of Milford, especially the St. Patrick's Day Parade, an event which he chairs annually.

"As a long-time public servant, I have continually acted in the best interest of my constituency. I strive to be a valuable voice for the residents of the Third District and Milford at large."

# Milford Democratic Candidates



**Frank Smith**

A life-long resident of Milford's Third District, Smith has served the citizens of Milford in many capacities over the years. He currently serves on the Board of Alderman and is chairman of the Ordinance Committee. Smith is very active in regional arts and environmental organizations.

Former member, Council on Aging, Inland Wetlands Agency  
Milford Preservation Trust Lifetime Membership Award, 2019  
Has served on Devon Revitalization Committee, Walnut, Wildmere and Laurel Beach associations  
Chair, Aldermanic Ordinance Committee  
Smith and his wife, Diane, have five grown children.  
"I am committed to providing responsive local government for the people of Devon and West Shore."

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**Warren Pawlowski**

Pawlowski is an author, editor, marketer, social media aficionado, graphic designer, woodworker and, most importantly, husband and father. He wants to return to the Board of Education for a second term to help ensure Milford's education system is the best it can be – both for his son, Matthew, and every other child in the city.

B.S. in economics, SCSU  
Website content editor at the Association of National Advertisers  
Author of two novels, Sanity's Flaw and The Nobodies, and produces a bimonthly video series.  
Having lived and loved the city for more than ten years, Pawlowski is eager to serve the great people of Milford – including its next generation.



**Una Petroske**

Petroske has lived in Milford for most of her adult life and is passionate about Milford's education system and the critical role it plays in our community. She became a member of the Board of Education in September 2018.

B.S. in economics, SCSU  
Vice President of Technology, Environmental Products Corporation (Envipco)  
School the World Investors Club, 2009-2019  
Milford Harbor Duck Race, volunteer, four years  
Editor, Milford 350th Anniversary Commemorative book  
Petroske enjoys reading, creating home-cooked meals for her large extended family and visiting the local beaches Milford has to offer for peaceful walks and doses of sea air. She is the proud mother to one grown son, Quinn, also of Milford.  
"I am excited to remain a dedicated supporter of the School Administration in their hard work for continued improvement of Milford's Public Schools – for all of our children."

**MILFORD DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES 4TH DISTRICT**  
**(Southeastern part of Milford, bordering West Haven. Includes Woodmont, Morningside, Point Beach, and Hillside.)**

**PLANNING & ZONING**



**Nancy Austin**

Austin wants to return to the Planning & Zoning Board and continue her excellent service to the city. She is a lifelong resident of Milford and is skilled in strategic planning, marketing, and advertising. She is a graduate of Elon University with a B.S. in sports medicine. Former account executive at Altice Media Solutions and News 12 (formally

Cablevision)  
Senior dealer consultant, Cox Automotive Autotrader – Kelly Blue Book  
Attended the Milford School System K-12  
Austin and her husband, Doug, reside in the borough of Woodmont.  
"This term, I look forward to the once-a-decade renewal of the Plan of Conservation and Development. I am mindful that we need to draft guidelines for development balanced against the conservation of our natural treasures, historic resources, and the preservation of our rural lands."

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN**



**Phil Vetro**

Vetro is chairman of the Board of Aldermen and is seeking his ninth term on that board. He is a Marine Corps veteran who served two tours during the Vietnam War.

Chairman, Board of Aldermen  
Served eight years on the Planning & Zoning Board, and served as chairman Board of Directors of the United Way of Milford, and serves on the Executive Board.  
Captain, Point Beach Volunteer Fire Engine Co. #6 for 30 years  
Milford DTC Distinguished Service Award, 2011  
Vetro and his wife, Peggi, have lived in Milford for the last 44 years. They have two grown sons, Phil Jr and Thomas, and four grandchildren.



**Anthony Sutton**

Sutton is proud to have the opportunity to represent his neighbors and fellow residents of the Fourth District on Milford's Board of Aldermen. He is seeking his second term on the board. Sutton believes that our city government must be inclusive, accessible, and responsive to all members of our community.

B.A., New York University; J.D., Quinnipiac University School of Law  
Alderman, Fourth District, 2017-present  
Planning & Zoning, Fourth District, 2014-2017  
Rated AV (highest ethical standard) by Martindale-Hubbell Legal Ratings  
Sutton is an attorney in private practice and has lived in Milford with his wife and children for almost 20 years.  
"In addition to continuing to make sound financial decisions, Milford must remain innovative in the way it provides services, recreation, and safety to its residents."

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**Rita Hennessey**

Hennessey is a 20-year Milford resident who graduated from Smith College and earned masters' degrees from CCSU and SCSU. She is a dedicated public school teacher with 24 years of experience who believes that every child can learn. She is taking a break from the classroom to earn a STEM leadership certificate. Certified Library Media Specialist

Member, American Association of School Librarians  
Member, Connecticut Association of School Librarians  
"Public schools are a 'public good' with the purpose of fostering the development of good citizens. As such, I want the education to be governed by judgements that are honestly made, supported by evidence, accountable and transparent."



**Cindy Wolfe Boynton**

Boynton is a college professor and community activist who believes that the success of our communities depends on the success of our children. Her two sons attended Milford Schools. Boynton is committed to seeing that Milford provides the highest-quality education, building on its strengths, and ensuring that every child receives the opportunities needed to reach his or her full potential.

Adjunct professor at Yale School of Medicine, University of New Haven and Housatonic Community College  
Consultant to UConn's NEAG School of Education  
Award-winning author and journalist; former associate editor of Milford Citizen  
Lifelong Milford resident, Jonathan Law High School graduate, and community volunteer  
"School is where children discover their talents, their abilities, and who they want to be. Every child deserves a limitless future and the chance to achieve it."

**MILFORD DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES 5TH DISTRICT**  
**(Southcentral area of Milford, includes downtown, Melba Beach, Gulf Beach, and most residences south of the Post Road.)**

**PLANNING & ZONING**



**Brett Broesder**

Broesder has significant private sector experience, beginning his career in corporate communications before opening a Milford-based small business. As a civic leader, Broesder served as a senior advisor to two mayors, helping to spearhead the economic rebounds of Connecticut's two largest cities.

B.A., Rhode Island College  
Milford-based small business owner  
Board member for Milford Progress, Inc.  
Member of the Milford Chamber of Commerce  
Broesder and his wife, Jessica, have resided in Milford for the better part of a decade.  
"We need leaders who serve the community."

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN**



**Ellen Beatty**

Beatty is seeking her third term on the Board of Aldermen after representing the 1st district for two terms. She has worked tirelessly to improve communication between and among alders, other elected officials, and municipal departments.

M.A. in nursing, New York University; M.Ed. and Ed.D., Columbia University  
Professor emeritus, Public Health and Nursing, Southern Connecticut State University  
Former Executive Board/chair of the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut  
Former chief academic officer at Southern Connecticut State University  
Beatty's husband, Ed, is a retired battalion chief with the Milford Fire Department and is an Eagle Scout. She has three sons: Luke, Zack, and Nicholas.  
"We want to live in a place governed by judgements that are honestly made, supported by evidence, accountable, and transparent."



**Greg Harla**

Harla is a long-time resident of the City of Milford. Along with his wife Carrie, they have lived in the Gulf Street neighborhood for the past 23 years.

B.S. in marketing, SCSU; M.B.A., Sacred Heart University  
Part-owner of construction equipment importing company  
Career in sales and marketing roles  
Advisory Board at the University of New Haven School of Business  
Vice chair, Milford Economic Development Commission  
Commissioner, Board of Assessment Appeals  
Harla believes the budget is not just financial but also a moral document. Citizens expect and deserve thoughtful stewardship of their city. He is also a proponent of expanding the grand list with new businesses to keep residential taxes low.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**Adam De Young**

De Young is seeking his second term on the Board of Education, has shown that he will work to bring greater transparency to the budgeting process and has been a fierce advocate for the mental health and wellness of all of Milford's students.

B.S., University of Massachusetts at Amherst  
Liaison to the Milford Prevention Council, 2017-present  
Milford small business owner (digital marketing agency)  
Graduate of the Parent Leadership Training Institute  
Contributing member of the Orchard Hills PTA  
De Young and his wife, Jessica, have lived in Milford for nearly 12 years. They have been married for 13 years and have two young children in the Milford school system.  
"I want education in Milford to be a joyful process, encouraging children of all abilities to engage with enthusiasm."



**Cynthia Twiss**

Twiss has 45 years as a teacher and special education administrator in area public schools and has lived in Milford for over 17 years. She is a strong believer in public education and is ready to use her extensive experience to further elevate the quality of education and services to our students.

M.S. and an advanced sixth year degree in special education  
Retired special education teacher and director  
Responsible for developing and managing million-plus budgets and grants  
Former adjunct professor at the University of Bridgeport in the School of Education  
Educational consultant providing guidance to area public school districts  
"I believe that all students can learn, that they need to be met where they start and that reading and addressing students' mental health needs are essential."

**Don't Forget To Vote!**  
**November 5th, 2019**

# Milford Republican Candidates

## MAYOR



### Dan German

Dan German has been a resident of Milford for 57 years. He attended Mathewson School and then Milford High School, class of 1979. After earning a business and finance degree from Northern Arizona University, he received his MBA from Sacred Heart University. In 1985, following college, German opened Creative Health &

Fitness, a successful fitness center in Milford, that later merged with Planet Fitness in 2007. Today he is a financial advisor with his own company, German Financial, and works with individuals and small businesses on their insurance and financial needs.

For the past 10 years, he has served on the Board of Aldermen and says it's only natural that he step up and run for mayor. German is challenging Democratic incumbent Mayor Ben Blake in this November 5th local election.

"As a veteran member of the Milford Board of Aldermen, we work hard each year to find ways to save money and be more efficient."

## CITY CLERK



### Joanne Lasse Rohrig

Rohrig along with her family are proud to live in Milford. She has four children and one grandson. Her family has owned and operated Lasse's Restaurant in Milford for over 55 years. She knows what hard work and commitment are and brings that sense of value to the City Clerks office.

Incumbent City Clerk, 2014-present

Connecticut Certified Town Clerk

Vice president and chairman of the Milford Oyster Festival

United Way of Milford Board of Directors

Board of Education Minority Leader, 2005-2009

New Haven County Town Clerk Association

Connecticut Town Clerk Association

"My position as City Clerk is and always will be my sole priority."

## MILFORD REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES 1ST DISTRICT (Northwestern part of Milford, bordering the Housatonic River and the town of Orange)

### PLANNING & ZONING



### Tom Panzella

Milford Planning and Zoning Degree in Civil Engineering, CUNY Milford Columbus Committee American Society of Mechanical Engineers Local business owner

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN



### Tony Giannattasio

Board of Aldermen Minority Leader Board of Aldermen, 12 years Former Zoning Board of Appeals Former Planning and Zoning Owner, Milford Barrel Company Lifelong Milford resident



### James Tranquilli

Former Board of Education Owner of Milford Home Renovations Foster one more dog and Trina canine rescue Birthday angel with military birthday wishes Member Saint Agnes Church Husband and father of four

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Scott Firmender

Milford Board of Education Supporter of Milford's Camp Happiness Medical Imaging Systems, CF Owner of Firmender & Company Milford resident since 1992 Married to Holly, two sons, Marshal and Michael



### Andy Fowler

Valedictorian, Jonathan Law HS University of Connecticut alum Member, Milford Irish Club Former production assistant, Morning Joe content producer Knights of Columbus HQ Milford resident since 1992

## MILFORD REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES 2ND DISTRICT (Just west of downtown, and on either side of the Wilber Cross in the north.)

## PLANNING & ZONING



### Frank Musante

Associates Degree from Housatonic Community College Student in political science at SCSU Graduated, Jonathan Law High School Milford Elks National Honor Society Lifetime Milford resident

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN



### Scott Marlow

Planning & Zoning Board, five years Plan of Conservation and Development Committee Board of Education, 1993-1999 Finance Committee Building Code of Appeals Board, three years Finance Board



### Jeremy Grant

Alderman, Second District 2015-present B.S. summa cum laude in environmental science, public health, computer science, SCSU Vice-chair, Milford Recycling Task Force Race Director of Milford Road Runners Friends of the Milford Library

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Mark Macchio

Platt Technical High School graduate Licensed Plumber Knights of Columbus Housing investor in Milford Treasurer, National Honor Society Assistant director of catering team, Black Rock Church

## MILFORD REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES 3RD DISTRICT (Southwestern area of Milford, bordering on the Housatonic, including Devon and Walnut Beach)

### PLANNING & ZONING



### Peter Berube

Boys and Girls Club of Milford Board member Milford Moves for our Veteran's 5k coordinator Milford Oyster Festival volunteer United States Navy veteran Awarded the Presidential Service Badge Member of VFW and DAV Milford Chapters

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN



### Connie Gaynor

Board of Aldermen B.S. in marketing, Fairfield University H.R. management certification Fairfield University trustee Milford Boys and Girls Club Former Milford Public Library Board Former St. Gabriel HSA Board member



### Mike Casey

B.A. in political science, UConn; J.D., University of Connecticut School of Law Milford Board of Aldermen, 2013-2017 Milford Planning & Zoning Board, 2011-2013 Zoning Board of Appeals, 2018-present Boys and Girls Club of Milford Board, 2013-19

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Tom Jagodzinski

Board of Education, two years B.S. in mathematics, Fairfield University Eucharistic minister and lector, St. Raphael's Justice of the Peace Retired Senior vice president of a major bank Married, three children, three grandchildren



### Erik Smith

Life-long resident of Milford B.S., Quinnipiac University; M.B.A., Fairfield University Jonathan Law High School class of 1997 Local top-producing real estate agent 14 years of experience as marketing manager

## MILFORD REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES 4TH DISTRICT (Southeastern part of Milford, bordering West Haven. Includes Woodmont, Morningside, Point Beach, and Hillside.)

### PLANNING & ZONING



### Chris Goulden

President, Milford Bar Association Milford Elks Milford Irish Club Volunteer, Milford Oyster Festival Volunteer, Milford Irish Festival Attorney practicing in Milford



### Dan German

Board of Aldermen, 10 years Small business owner in Milford 35 years Lifelong Milford resident M.S. in business, Sacred Heart University Insurance and financial advisor Passion for helping others



### Win Smith

Attorney, Dey Smith Steele, LLC Board of Assessment Appeals Milford Rotary Club Free Mason, Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 Boys and Girls Club of Milford Cub Scout leader

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Katie Martino

Early childhood education, Housatonic Community College Paralegal studies, Norwalk Community College Owner of iParalegalCT, LLC Connecticut licensed realtor, William Raveis member Milford Elks Lodge



### Dan Spicer

A.S. in electrical engineering technology A.S. in laser and fiber optic technology, Three Rivers Community College B.S. in physics, SCSU M.B.A. in global marketing, UNH Sales engineer, Light Sources Inc.

## MILFORD REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES 5TH DISTRICT (Southcentral area of Milford, includes downtown, Melba Beach, Gulf Beach, and most residences south of the Post Road.)

### PLANNING & ZONING



### Rick Vizziello

B.B.A. legal studies in business, Hofstra University Employed in the apparel manufacturing technology space helping bring manufacturing jobs back to the USA Married and father of 2-year-old son

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN



### Ray Vitali

Board of Aldermen, 12 years Retired teacher and administrator, MBOE Oyster Festival Committee Founder of Folks on Spokes Board of Directors, Bridges Health Care Former chair of Milford Prevention Council Chair of the Board, The United Way



### Bill Bevan

Police Commissioner Park, Beach and Rec Commissioner Former Board of Aldermen 4th and 5th districts Graduate of Milford Citizen Police Academy Justice of the Peace Milford native US Navy

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Rich LoPresti

Junior Achievement volunteer Pencils for Promise supporter Certified financial planner Local small business owner Son of a former public school principal Proud father of two daughters

# Orange Democratic Candidates

## FIRST SELECTMAN



### Jody Dietch

Jody Dietch grew up in Orange. She attended Race Brook School from kindergarten through sixth grade and went on to Amity Junior High and then Amity High School, from which she is a proud alumnus. She graduated from Keene State College with a bachelor of arts degree in journalism and from American University's Kogod School of

Business with a master's degree in public relations.

After moving back to Orange to raise her family with her husband, Jeff, and sons Howie and Mike, Dietch became active in the Race Brook School PTA, eventually serving as co-president. She spent two terms on the Orange Board of Education serving as secretary, vice-chair, chair of the Finance Committee as well as the Personnel, Policy, and Transportation Committee. Dietch is also on the board of Kids Count of Milford, a nonprofit organization that offers scholarships to families with children attending preschool. She has been the chair of the Orange Democratic Town Committee for the past four years and brings fresh perspective to the issues facing Orange.

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN



### Mitch Goldblatt

B.A., Muhlenberg College; M.B.A., University of New Haven  
Board of Selectmen, 1993-199, 2005-2019  
First Selectman, 1999-2005  
Town Plan & Zoning Commission, 1981-1993  
Town Constable, 1979-1981  
Chair, Orange Recycling Committee

Orange Bond Oversight Committee  
Library Building Committee, 1997-1998  
Fire House Building Committee, 1996-1997  
Inland Wetlands Commission, 1983-1993  
Human Resources Director, Town of Guilford  
Adjunct Professor, University of New Haven

As an elected official for 40 years, including three terms as first selectman, Goldblatt has consistently served as an advocate for our residents, our open space and our town.



### Margaret Novicki

B.S., Georgetown University; Master's degree, Columbia University  
Ran for first selectman of Orange in 2017  
Orange Community Services Commission, member  
Distinguished career in public service, communications and management  
Senior United Nations official for 22 years, 12 served at UN Headquarters in

New York and a decade in four African countries  
Led strategic communications at UNHQ and in 63 countries  
Managed \$70 million budget and over 300 staff  
Orange Rotary, member  
Long-time Orange resident, raised and educated locally



### Angela McNabola

McNabola's service on the Amity Board of Education, coupled with her work in the health care field for over 24 years, allows her to bring a unique skill set of real life. Educational and corporate experience to the Board of Selectmen and to our residents, including helping our seniors.

M.S. in laboratory biomedical sciences, Quinnipiac University; B.S. in pharmacology/toxicology, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science  
Amity Board of Education, 2007-2011

Adjunct professor, health sciences, Goodwin College, East Hartford  
Manager of Pathology Laboratory, Director Laboratory Services, 2008-2019 (Bridgeport Hospital, Yale New Haven Health System) holding several certifications with the American Society of Clinical Pathology

Research scientist, Bayer Corporation, 1995-2007  
Current chair, Health and Safety Committee for the National Society for Histotechnology and president of the Connecticut chapter  
Co-Girl Scout leader, 2011-2014

## TOWN CLERK



### Pat O'Sullivan

11-term Town Clerk, 1998-2019  
Board of Selectmen, 1973-1978  
Board of Finance, 1995-1997  
State representative, 1978-1980  
Justice of the Peace, 1972-1976  
Municipal Veterans Liaison, 2019  
Code of Ethics Committee, 2003-2004  
Senior Tax Stabilization Committee, 1996

Memorial Day Committee, 1973-1980  
Orange Country Fair Committee, 1975-1985  
Orange Bicentennial Commission, 1975-1979

## TOWN PLAN & ZONING COMMISSION



### Paul Kaplan

B.A., Boston University; J.D., Albany Law School  
Town Plan & Zoning Commission, current member  
Zoning Board of Appeals, former five-year member  
Attorney at Law, General Commercial/Real Estate

Part-time professor of real estate, Norwalk Community College



### Patty Post

B.S., Emmanuel College; M.S., University of Pennsylvania; Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh  
Mentor, Amity High School Science Research Program and Senior Service Learning Program  
Professor of biology, Albertus Magnus College, 16 years  
Managed \$650,000 National Science

Foundation grant  
Orange resident for 20 years  
Married with two children educated in Orange and Amity Regional school systems



### Santo Galatioto, Jr

B.A., Quinnipiac University; M.A., Quinnipiac University  
Town Constable, 2009-present  
Orange Foundation Scholarship Committee  
Orange Youth Service Board  
Justice of the Peace  
High school/middle school teacher  
Amity Graduate class of 2000

Eagle Scout  
Life-long Orange resident

## BOARD OF FINANCE



### Kevin Moffett

Board of Finance, 2003-2019  
Former member, Parks & Recreation Committee  
Former Constable  
Orange Little League former secretary and former coach  
Orange Babe Ruth president and former coach  
Orange Soccer and Basketball, former

coach  
Paugusset Club, former president  
Certified football, basketball and lacrosse official  
Holy Infant Church lector and eucharistic minister  
Retired senior buyer at Yale University  
42-year Orange resident  
Wife Patti, a retired teacher at Peck Place School for 35 years



### Edina Oestreicher

B.A., UConn; M.S., University of Bridgeport  
Board of Directors, Congregation Or Shalom, 2010-present  
Trained facilitator, Anti-Defamation League of Connecticut, 2006-present  
Trained mediator, CT Mediation Center  
25+ years as higher education administrator

Orange resident, 18+ years  
Married, two daughters who are Amity graduates



### Elliot Dubin

B.S., University Nevada Las Vegas; J.D., Northern Illinois University  
Providing a new perspective on old challenges with a passion for economic transparency and resource optimization.  
Licensed attorney in Connecticut and Illinois  
Former university faculty and academic leadership

Experience with large departments, budgets, human resources, business law, and management  
A happily married dog parent and avid traveler

## ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Betty Hadlock

B.S., SCSU; M.S., SCSU  
Member of Orange Board of Education, 2015-present  
HOT (Higher Order Thinking) Schools coach and facilitator, 2013-present  
Retired elementary school teacher, 1985-2013, Region 13 (Durham/Middlefield)  
Teacher of the Year, 1992  
Team Leader, 1991-2013

Head Teacher, 2000- 2013  
Project to Increase Mastery of Math and Science fellow at Wesleyan University, Summers 1996-1998  
Member of Orange Lions Club  
Chair of Pediatric Eye Screenings  
Co-Chair of Annual Wine Tasting  
Orange Historical Society Board of Directors  
Member of Garden Club of Orange  
Parishioner of Holy Infant Parish  
Orange resident for 38 years  
Married, four children, all graduates of Orange and Amity schools, seven grandchildren



### Susan Riccio

Passionate about education and the Orange School system  
Dedicated to Orange and fiscal responsibility  
Current Orange Board of Education Executive Board member and Finance chair since 2013  
ACES Chief Fiscal Officer and Governing Board member

Orange and Amity school graduate  
Monroe/Masuk High school mathematics, computer science and business teacher  
Winner of best new teacher award.  
Retired Accenture executive  
Shubert Theatre volunteer  
Parent of Zack, Amity High sophomore



### Jarod Millbrandt

B.A. in history, Nazareth College of Rochester; J.D., Western New England University School of Law  
Criminal defense attorney for State of Connecticut Division of Public Defender Services in Bridgeport since 2010  
Admitted to Connecticut Bar in 2010  
Husband to lifelong Orange resident Rosanna Cappetta and dad to Luca and Sofia

## AMITY BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Amy Esposito

B.S., Elizabethtown College  
Current Amity Board of Education member  
ABOE Personnel Committee chair  
ABOE Facilities & Curriculum member  
Senior marketing communications manager at ASSA ABLOY in New Haven  
20-year Orange resident

Parishioner at Holy Infant Church  
Former member of Nutmeg Women's Soccer League  
Married with two children raised in the Amity system



### Paul Davis

State representative 117th District, 2004-2014  
Member of Education Committee  
Chair, Regulations Review Committee  
Orange Board of Selectman, 2017-2019  
Connecticut Commission on Women, Children, and Seniors  
Chair, Connecticut Water Safety Task Force

Connecticut Eleventh Grade Evaluation Study Group  
Orange Foundation  
West Haven science teacher retired, 34 years  
Orange Swim Team Program (ARAC) founder  
Swim coach, Amity High School, 27 years  
Connecticut High School Coaches Hall of Fame  
Amity Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame  
Special Olympics World Games  
B.O.W. Relay for Life



### Gail Chotiner

Social worker for more than 35 years  
Worked for the State of Connecticut at the Connecticut Mental Health Center for 23 years  
In private practice in Orange for 11 years  
Married with two adult daughters

**Don't Forget  
To Vote!  
November 5th,  
2019**

## Orange Democratic Candidates



### Dr. Lubna Pal

Modernizing our curriculum to meet today's needs  
Improving health education standards  
Inspiring our children towards model citizenship  
Fostering opportunities for career guidance  
Celebrating our community's

diversity

Cultivating an environment of tolerance

Professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive sciences at Yale School of Medicine

Clinician, educator, researcher, mentor

Postgraduate and specialist training in the UK and US

Undergraduate and medical education in Pakistan

Pakistani-American

Resident of Orange for 20+ years

Husband, Dr. Sohail Kayani, is a member of the Orange Board of Health

Sons, Zeb and Teimur Kayani, graduates of Orange and Amity School Systems

### CONSTABLES



### Bob Shanley

Town Constable, 2009-2019  
Orange Police Commission, 1995-2005  
Knights of St. Patrick chairman, 1997-2005  
Past president, Greater New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade, Grand Marshal, 1987  
President, Professional Insurance

Agents of Connecticut, 1995-1996

Certified insurance consultant, Nicholson Associates

Graduate, Quinnipiac College

West Haven Irish American Club

Orange Little League-Softball coach

Amity Hockey Summer League coach

Married with two children



### Randy Thomas

B.S. in economics, SCSU; M.B.A. in management with honors, University of New Haven  
Town Constable, 2003-2015  
Former member, Zoning Board of Appeals  
Residential loan officer, Peoples United Bank, 27 years, Peoples United Bank

Connecticut Mortgage Bankers Association

New Haven Home Builders Association

Certified firefighter

Married with four children



### Santo Galatioto, Jr

B.A., Quinnipiac University; M.A., Quinnipiac University  
Town Constable, 2009-present  
Orange Foundation Scholarship Committee  
Orange Youth Service Board  
Justice of the Peace  
High school/middle school teacher  
Amity Graduate class of 2000

Eagle Scout

Life-long Orange resident



### Jason Carrier

Sergeant, Connecticut State Police, 1999-2019  
US Army, active duty, 1991-1996  
Military Police Corp  
Orange Little League manager/coach, 2014-2016  
Married with three children

## Orange Republican Candidates

### FIRST SELECTMAN



### Jim Zeoli

Zeoli has served five terms as first selectman and has been an active member of the Orange Board of Selectmen since 1999. He has shown the necessary experience in municipal management to effectively continue to lead our town as first selectman.

Zeoli is no stranger to hard work. His commitment to the people of Orange

is undeniable. He has always given freely of his time for Orange, serving as a volunteer fireman for over 20 years, past assistant treasurer of the Volunteer Fire Association and co-chairman of the Orange Agricultural Fair.

Zeoli knows the people of Orange. He listens to them and identifies with them and their problems. He is always genuinely interested in offering his advice and help. Zeoli tackles issues head-on and goes out of his way to find win-win solutions. He is the type of leader that considers the feelings of all residents from the very young to our growing senior population.

Zeoli is ready to continue his leadership of Orange as our first selectman. His honest straightforward leadership style is right for Orange. It is right for seniors. It is right for children. It is right for education. It is right for economic development. It is right for business. It is right for open space. It is right for all taxpayers. Zeoli's straightforward, honest leadership style needs to continue.

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN



### Judy Wright Williams

Board of Selectmen – 12 years  
Graduate, Orange and Amity School Systems  
B.S. Degree, SCSU; M.S. in special education, SCSU  
Teacher 33 years in the Orange School System  
Human Services and Historic District Commissions

“My special interests in serving on the Board of Selectmen are to promote educational excellence in our schools and to preserve the rural character and the historic core values of Orange.”



### Ralph Okenquist

Board of Selectmen – 18 years  
Orange resident over 42 years  
B.S. Fairfield University; MBA University of New Haven  
Fred Wolfe Park Committee 1995-98  
Parks & Recreation Commission 9 years, 5 years as chairman  
Capital Planning Committee chairman  
Allied Signal – Manager, Advanced

Business Program Planning

Chandler Evans – Senior Program Administrator

“As a selectman, I will continue utilizing my business, management, municipal and capital planning expertise to cost effectively plan and implement continuing improvements in our school and town facilities.”



### John Carangelo

Board of Selectmen – 8 years  
B.A., Syracuse University; J.D., Quinnipiac College School of Law  
Former Judge of Probate for the District of Orange (1998-2010)  
Practicing attorney with over 24 years of legal experience. Carangelo is licensed to practice in the State of Connecticut and is a member of the American, Connecticut,

Milford and New Haven Bar Associations and is a member of the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association.

Carangelo has been a lifelong resident of Orange and resides with his wife Kathrine and his sons Michael and Joey, who attend Amity High School.

“As a member of the Board of Selectmen I will continue my efforts to keep taxes under control for our residents and continue to improve our town's infrastructure and schools.”

### TOWN PLAN & ZONING COMMISSION



### Judy Smith

Elected vice chairman of Town Plan & Zoning Commission, January 2006 to present  
MBA in restaurant and hotel management, University of New Haven; B.S. in marketing, University of Connecticut  
General Manager – Orange Hills Country Club  
Instructor – University of New Haven,

1986-1988

Member of Town Plan & Zoning Commission, 1995, 1999, 2003, 2011-2019

“I pledge to promote the economic development of Orange by striking a balance between the quality of life of the residential districts and our vibrant commercial and light industrial zones; implement zoning regulations which promote coordinated development of the town and general welfare of residents. I will utilize my many years of zoning experience to address the future zoning challenges facing Orange infrastructure, open space, housing and commercial development.”



### Ralph Aschettino

B.S. in civil engineering, University of New Haven

Professional structural engineer with over 25 years experience, licensed in nine states.

Owner of structural engineering firm Aschettino Associates.

Served on: Town Plan & Zoning Commission, Board of Selectmen,

Building Committee HPCC Renovations, Amity Regional Schools Building Committee, Orange Building Board of Appeals

Member, American Society of Civil Engineers

Member, American Consulting Engineers Council

One of the impressive testaments to Aschettino's dedication to the financial wellbeing of our town is the fact that, while a committed fiscally responsible Republican, he was appointed to all of these committees by the former Democratic first selectman.

### BOARD OF FINANCE



### Kevin Houlihan

B.S. in accounting, University of Rhode Island

Certified Public Accountant

Chairman, Board of Finance since 2009

Board of Finance Member since 1999

Capital Planning Committee

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Connecticut Society of Certified Public

Accounts

Served on Amity Finance Committee

“It has been my privilege to serve on the Board of Finance since 1999. I am respectfully asking each of you as residents for your support so that I may continue to make decisions in the best interest of the town.”



### Jim Leahy

B.A. in mathematics, Bates College; M.B.A., Harvard Business School  
Board of Finance, 2005-present

Vice chairman, Orange Board of Finance, 2009-2019

Amity Finance Committee, 2005-2009

Orange Man of the Year Award, 2000

Served in the Army, U.S. government,

Sikorsky leadership team: OMEGA

project and ICE project

Jim brings over 35 years of experience and a proven track record of accomplishment with Fortune 100 organizations. He has consistently communicated his overarching theme of “Doing more with less” and shown how to utilize those principles in town budgeting and government. During his 14-year tenure, Orange has controlled its spending while maintaining town services and educational excellence.

“When I first came in 1983, I considered the Town of Orange a ‘hidden gem,’ a wonderful place to live and raise a family. Since then, it has been my pleasure to volunteer and contribute to our town. I respectfully ask for your support to continue in my role on the Board of Finance. Thank you.”

### ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION



### William Kraut

Chairman, Orange Board of Education

B.S., University of Rhode Island

Business Owner, Newport Tennis, Inc.

Active member of Turkey Hill School

PTA

Bill and Phyllis Kraut live in Orange with

their daughter Michaela.

“As a father of an Orange school student

and as a board member, my number one

priority is to provide a safe and secure environment for our children to receive the best education possible. We will provide the most advanced technology to keep our children on the cutting edge of tomorrow.”



### Ken Ziman

B.S. in marketing, University of Bridgeport; M.S. in education, University of Bridgeport

Eighth year in education, classroom

teacher

Specialist, Southern Connecticut State

University

Elementary School Teacher, kindergarten

through grade 6 in Bridgeport, 36 years

Former Member NEASC Evaluation Team

Ken Ziman is a 35-year resident of Orange. He and his wife Pat are

parents of two children who attended Orange Public Schools and graduated from Amity.

“For me, teaching was always a calling, never a job. I have been teaching adults as well as children for the bulk of my adult life. I will continue to use what I know about how people learn and combine it with what I have experienced as a parent and citizen to serve the children of Orange on the Board of Education.”



# Orange Republican Candidates



**Kenneth Vitelli**

B.S. in accounting, Quinnipiac University; M.B.A. and M.S. in computer and information science, University of New Haven  
 Certified Program Management Professional  
 Adjunct Professor, Business Information Systems  
 Mentorship for engineering, business and information technology students

“As a candidate for the Orange Board of Education, I am focused on educational excellence. We moved our family to Orange primarily because of the school system. I want Orange to continue to be a desirable place where your kids can thrive. I will work to make sure that we retain top educators, administrators and encourage parents to stay involved. Our children should be safe, happy and challenged to reach their potential academically.”

**AMITY BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**Christopher Browe**

B.S. in microbiology, University of Florida; M.B.A. in marketing, University of New Haven  
 Director in clinical operations at Boehringer Ingelheim

“As an Amity dad and ABOE chairman, I will continue to support Amity School’s excellence, remaining attentive to student needs and our shared community priorities. Whether in the classroom, on the athletic field or on the main stage, students of our three towns deserve exceptional educational and extracurricular opportunities to promote their success in the Amity district and beyond.”



**Shannan Carlson**

B.S., University of Rhode Island; M.A. in teaching, Quinnipiac College  
 Advanced Graduate Studies, SCSU  
 Principal, East Shore Middle School  
 Former Milford assistant principal and teacher

“Bringing my experiences as a teacher and school administrator to the Amity Board, I have worked to ensure that all Amity students receive the highest quality education. Children must be at the heart of all decisions made by the board.”

Amity students receive the highest quality education. Children must be at the heart of all decisions made by the board.”



**John Belfonti**

Chairman, Amity Finance Committee  
 B.S. in mechanical engineering, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; M.B.A. in finance, Fairfield University  
 President, Environmental Engineering, Inc.  
 Connecticut Registered Professional Engineer

Belfonti graduated Amity High School and he and his wife have three children attending Amity and Orange schools.

“I will continue to work hard on the ABOE and as chairman of the Amity Finance Committee to uphold the ‘3 A’s’ at Amity – academics, athletics and the arts, while being mindful of the concerns of Orange taxpayers.”



**George Howard**

Amity Graduate  
 B.A., Yale University; M.B.A., Purdue University Krannert School of Management  
 Amity Regional Board of Education, Curriculum and Policy committees  
 Howard and his wife Kathrin have three daughters who have attended Amity Regional High School.

“The Holy Infant, Orange and Amity communities have always provided a solid foundation for me and my family. I strongly believe in giving back to the community by serving on the Board of Education.”

# Orange Town Clerk Urges Voter Registration, Absentee Ballots

Orange Town Clerk Patrick O’Sullivan is urging all students to register to vote prior to leaving for school or college and to complete an application for an absentee ballot if needed.

“One of the greatest ways we can demonstrate our commitment to our democracy is to exercise our right to a free and secret vote,” O’Sullivan said. “When you look at other countries you immediately recognize it is not something that we should ever take for granted.”

Any U.S. citizen who is at least 17 years old may apply for admission as an elector by preregistering and will become an elector on the day of their 18th birthday.

People who wish to register may complete the voter registration application at Town Hall on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30p.m. Voter registration application and applications for absentee ballots can also be downloaded from the town of Orange website at orange-ct.gov.

Election day this year is Tuesday, Nov. 5. Voters in Orange will be choosing their first selectman, members of the Board of Selectmen, members of the Board of Finance, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, members of the Board of Education, members of the Town Plan & Zoning Commission, the Town Plan & Zoning (Deferred Term) Constable, Orange members for the Amity Regional Board of Education and to fill a two-year vacancy on the Amity Regional Board of Education.

Those voting by absentee ballot must first submit a completed application for absentee ballot, which can be done now. Upon receipt of the completed application, the Town Clerk will mail the actual absentee ballot to you; please be sure to have an accurate address. Absentee ballots may be issued by the Town Clerk starting Oct. 4.

The completed absentee ballot must be received by the Town Clerk by election day.

A new election law also allows U.S. citizens to register and vote on election day. Those who wish to do so must register and vote in the registrars’ office in Town Hall.

For further information, call the Registrar of Voters Office at 203-891-4715/4716 or the Town Clerk’s Office.

# Voting Locations Changed In Orange

The Town of Orange has changed the locations where residents will vote in the Nov. 5 municipal elections.

All three districts will vote at High Plains Community Center. The town cited weather-related parking problems at Mary L Tracy School during the previous election as the reason for the change. The school had been the location for District 1 residents to cast their vote.

This year, District 1 will vote in the gym at HPCC, District 2 will vote in Room 3 in the south wing, and District 3 will vote in the senior cafeteria.

High Plains Community Center is located at 525 Orange Center Rd. Residents can find their voting district on the Orange town website at orange-ct.gov. For more information contact the Democratic Registrar of Voters Janice Casey at 203-891-4715 or the Republican Registrar of Voters Frederick Kendrick at 203-891-4716.

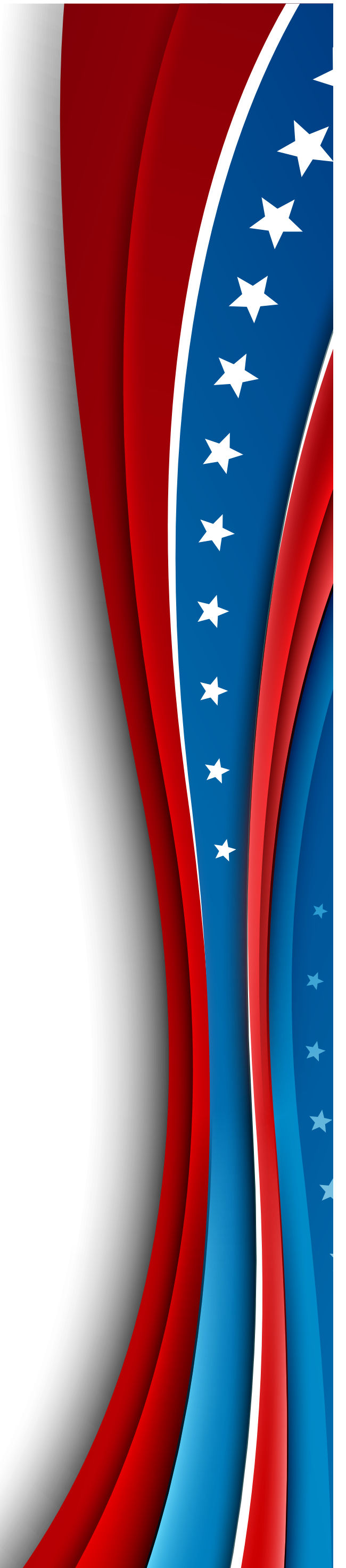
# Milford Registrars To Hold Limited Registration Session

The Milford Registrars of Voters will conduct a limited voter registration session on Monday, Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Registrars of Voters office at the Parsons Municipal Office, located at 70 West River St. in Milford.

The session is only for those seeking to vote in the Nov. 5 municipal election who have met the qualifications by turning 18 years old, have become a U.S. citizen or have become a Milford resident since Oct. 29.

The Milford Registrars of Voters are Debra Fellenbaum and Kerri Rowland.

**Don’t Forget To Vote! November 5th, 2019**



## Veterans Day: A Time To Remember Those Who Served

The following speech was suggested by the American Legion National Headquarters for members to present on Veterans Day.

Horrible, ghastly and ghoulish. These are some of the adjectives Medal of Honor recipient David Bellavia used to describe the battlefields that he saw in Iraq. Even so, the U.S. Army staff sergeant said it was also a place where he saw love.

"You see people doing these things for each other that they would never, ever do in any other circumstance – it's a sight to see," he said.

It was at the height of the Iraq War in the second battle of Fallujah where Staff Sgt Bellavia distinguished himself by rescuing an infantry squad that was pinned down by machine gun fire while the soldiers went house-to-house to clear the city of insurgent strongholds.

Bellavia's actions during a predawn mission on Nov. 10, 2004, made the former noncommissioned officer the Iraq War's first living recipient of the military's highest award for valor. Putting himself in that position is "what sets him apart," according to retired Sgt. First Class Colin Fitts. Fitts credits Bellavia's actions with saving the lives of 3rd Platoon, Alpha Company, that day. While Bellavia's valor is exceptional even amongst the extraordinary, his mindset is common within the women and men who serve our great nation. His heroism is one story of the millions of living veterans.

By virtue of your attendance at Veterans Day activities this year, you are holding our

nation's heroes in high esteem. But how many of their stories do we truly know?

Consider the story of Army Private First Class Monica Lin Brown. Brown was a combat medic assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division when she was deployed to Paktika Province, Afghanistan. On April 25, 2007, a roadside bomb tore through her convoy, wounding five soldiers. After the explosion, 19-year-old Brown ran through insurgent gunfire and used her body to shield her wounded comrades while mortars fell less than 100 yards away, her citation reads.

The military said her "bravery, unselfish actions and medical aid rendered under fire saved the lives of her comrades and represents the finest traditions of heroism in combat."

Her actions in the remote Southeastern Afghan province would lead her to become the first woman to earn the Silver Star in Afghanistan, and just the second woman to do so since World War II.

Again, the exceptional in the extraordinary. Comradery, warrior ethos, esprit de corps – all words we can use to describe what it means to be a veteran and to have served in our nation's military. In each other, we find community. We find it at American Legion posts and in unit Facebook groups. We find it in the familiar decal on the rear window of a car passing by. We often see ourselves in one another.

When news got out that a Vietnam War veteran had no living relatives to attend his funeral, the veteran community was there.

Friends of Wayne Wilson had put out a call for people to come to his burial service at the Silverbrook Cemetery in Niles, Michigan, and expected only a handful of people to attend. They underestimated the power of The American Legion. Three thousand people showed up to pay their respects that day.

"None of us figured that it would be as big as it was," said Sergeant-at-Arms of American Legion Post 51 Richard Stuart. "Every veteran has the right to have a funeral like this."

These are just three stories from the millions out there to be told and heard.

I have something to ask of you. Find a veteran and ask them to tell you their story. Every single woman and man who has raised their right hand and pledged to give their life for their country if needed did so for a reason. Ask them why. These stories and memories of ours are powerful. They are one of our most powerful weapons in securing a future for those who will follow us.

As veterans, we are acutely aware of the sacrifices made by our service members. We are equally aware of the cost of those sacrifices. We know the value in the lessons that our military service bestowed upon us. These are things that we cannot afford to lose to time.

American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford calls upon us to build a foundation for the future. Sharing the stories of our heroes and their contributions to freedom is part of that future.

The American Legion knows these stories well. We were founded 100 years ago, on the heels of the World War I. The stories that arose from the ashes of the War to End All Wars follow us. Like the legend of Marine Sgt. Major Daniel Daly in the Battle of Belleau Wood. Or that of William Henry Johnson, an African American soldier from World War I who was at long last awarded a much-delayed Medal of Honor by President Barack Obama in 2015.

For the past 100 years, the American Legion has been dedicated to serving those who have served. The commitment to caring for America's veterans is one that transcends partisanship. It is a commitment that covers all races. All genders. All faiths. The American Legion knows that service doesn't stop when the uniform comes off.

As we honor our nation's living veterans on the upcoming Veterans Day, it is fitting to bring to mind a piece of wisdom from Bellavia: "All throughout our history, we have had people that have dissented, that have disagreed, and we've found ways to put everything aside and focus on what's best for this nation, what's best for mission success."

So, to those who came before me. To those whom I had the privilege to serve with. And to those who have followed. Thank you for your selfless service as we honor those who have worn our nation's uniforms. God bless you all and God bless these United States.

young man in the country, he said while sitting in the Case Memorial Library in Taiwan in favor of international stability. In many cases, such as the United States, then they called me traitor. Chen's studies brought him to America. "One of my professors asked me, where

Home sale values in Orange are outpacing neighboring communities according to a report by the National Association of Realtors. Coldwell Banker Market data shows that the average selling price for a

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# Youth & Education

## Nursery Schoolers Visit Orange Farm



The four-year-old class at Orange Congregational Church Nursery School recently enjoyed a field trip to Buttermilk Farm in Orange. Photo courtesy of the Orange Congregational Church.

## Orange Student Wins Martial Arts Championship



Peck Place School student Elsie Guo (first row, middle) won grand champion Oct. 12 at the International Chinese Martial Arts Championships in Boston. She competed with other athletes in the group of Kids Advanced. Her sister, Elaine Guo (first row, right) won first prize on broadsword. Both of them are members of Kung Fu Team at Wu Dang Kung Fu Academy in Orange. They have been practicing for five years under the instruction of Master Jack. Photo courtesy of Wu Dang Kung Fu Academy.

## Amity School Board Sets Referendum For Projects

The Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education voted in favor of two resolutions Oct. 21 that will move two facilities projects forward to referendum in December. The referendum will take place on Dec. 4. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Bethany Town Hall, the High Plains Community Center in Orange, and the Center Building in Woodbridge.

The first of these projects will address improvements to the building and grounds facilities at all three schools. Included in this project are ongoing upgrades to the HVAC system at Amity Regional High School, as well as adding air conditioning the small gym, the last space in the building that is not air-conditioned.

These improvements are part of an ongoing plan to address needs identified in the vanZelm Condition Assessment report from January 2016. Chillers will also be refurbished at the high school and phase three (of three) of parking lot paving will be completed at Amity Regional High School. Additionally, the project seeks to design and improve the acoustics in the gymnasiums and cafeterias at both middle schools.

The second project aims for improvements to the Amity Regional High School outdoor athletic facilities. This project includes a

complete upgrade of the athletic stadium as well as upgrades to the competition field. The athletic stadium was last improved 30 years ago, and almost all aspects of the stadium are at end-of-life. The asphalt track, constructed in 1999, would be replaced with a post-tensioned concrete track with an expected lifespan of 50 years or more. The metal halide lights and wooden poles, installed in 1988, would be replaced with energy efficient LED lights on metal poles. An all-weather field would be installed, replacing the current sod field. Installation of an all-weather field would increase the use of the stadium from its current single sport, football, to all six field sports by adding competition space for girls' field hockey, boys' and girls' soccer, and girls' and boys' lacrosse.

The proposal also includes the installation of an LED scoreboard, which would allow the scoreboard to be adjusted to the sport or competition being played in the stadium.

Last, the proposal includes enhancements to the current Amity competition field. This field, originally designed as a practice field, would be upgraded with permanent spectator bleachers and an ADA compliant walkway, as well as an LED scoreboard.

Additional information can be found on the district website at [amityregion5.org/](http://amityregion5.org/).

## Parents Recognized For Service To Milford School



The 2019 St. Mary School in Milford recipients of the St. John Neumann Award for outstanding volunteer service went to two of the school's former parents: Diane Piechota and Michael Delaney. They were celebrated, along with award winners from 34 other local Catholic schools, at the 42nd Annual Help Our Parish Elementary Schools, or HOPES, dinner hosted by the Hartford Archdiocese Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis on Sept. 24 at Aqua Turf in Southington. Piechota and Delaney are pictured with principal Frank Lacerenza and assistant principal Liz Plasky. Photo courtesy of St. Mary School.



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# Senior Living

## Retired and Rejuvenated:

### Flu Shots A Moving Target

For most of us, flu season begins each fall. For flu experts in the United States, however, it begins in February. That's when scientists and researchers from around the world gather for a meeting hosted by the World Health Organization where they spend days reviewing which strains of the flu virus have been making people sick and decide which strains the next season's vaccines should cover.



JOANNE BYRNE

The truth about the flu virus is that it is a moving target. For laboratories and manufacturers who make the vaccine each year, tracking it is only the start. The flu is constantly changing, mutating as it replicates itself in ways that allow its strains to get past our bodies' immune defenses even if we've had the flu before or if we roll up our sleeves for the shot each fall.

This battle plays out not only within the bodies of people who come down with the flu's signature fever, chills and muscle aches, but also in laboratories around the world which must work quickly to analyze how the flu virus is changing in order to predict what to do next. The pressure is also on for the U.S. manufacturers who have about six months after the first February meeting to prepare, test and distribute more than 100 million doses of the vaccine.

The process of making flu vaccine starts with chicken eggs, which are fertilized with the viruses that have been selected for that year's vaccines. The eggs are left to incubate for several days before the virus is extracted and inactivated for use in the flu shot. Today, around 95 percent of all flu vaccines made in the U.S. start out in eggs, even as manufacturers look to new technologies as an alternative.

Even the most effectively formulated seasonal flu shot is, by design, only intended

to protect people from the types of flu that are currently circulating.

Having the flu can be potentially serious, especially for older people and those with an underlying medical condition. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated 90 percent of flu-related deaths and 50 to 70 percent of all hospitalizations for flu occur among people age 65 and older.

While the effectiveness of the flu shot varies year to year, the agency estimates that it prevents millions of cases of flu and flu-related doctor visits annually.

It takes about two weeks to build up immunity after receiving the flu shot, so experts say early vaccination is key. The CDC recommends getting the flu shot early in the fall or by the end of October. If you are 65 or older, ask your doctor about the high-dose version of the vaccine which is formulated specifically for older adults. The Orange Visiting Nurse Association had an active schedule for flu clinics throughout October and still has one remaining date available on Nov. 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the High Plains Community Center. The Milford Health Department has a flu clinic for the general public on Nov. 6 from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Health Department. It also holds monthly immunization clinics.

Experts hope that a universal flu vaccine that protects against all possible strains of the virus will one day be developed and replace the yearly shot. That prospect is a long way off. In the meantime, expert advice remains the same: get the flu shot. Your future self will thank you.

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

## A Look Back

By Priscilla Searles

This image of the toll house, once located on Derby Turnpike near Maltby Lakes, was constructed around 1851 after the original building was destroyed by fire. A toll house became necessary following the formation of the Derby Turnpike Company in 1798 when the newly formed corporation was charged with construction of a highway from York Street in New Haven to Derby Landing in (East) Derby.

The sign that can be seen to the right of the front window, now owned and on display by the New Haven Museum, lists the rates of toll. A four-wheel pleasure carriage, for

example, paid 25 cents for the right to travel. Posters promoting Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show are attached to the shed to the left of the toll house. In 1897 Orange paid \$800 for the right of way, eliminating the need for a toll house. The building was moved to an unknown location.

If you have a vintage photo of Orange and are willing to loan it to Town Historian Priscilla Searles, contact her at orangect200@gmail.com. All photos on loan will be scanned, with the scan becoming the property of the Orange Historical Society. Originals will be returned to the owner.



The tollhouse stood on Derby Turnpike until 1897, when Orange paid for the right of way. Postcard courtesy of the Orange Historical Society.

## Orange Senior Center Events

**Medicare Savings Plan Presentation:** There will be a free Medicare Savings Plan presentation on Nov. 4 for United Healthcare. The seminar will begin at 1 p.m. and reservations are requested. Call 203-891-4784.

**Veteran's Appreciation Cabaret:** Join the Senior Center for Lyman Orchard apple pie and a celebration of veterans on Nov. 4 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. as Karen Wagner performs. Drinks and dessert will be served. Call 203-891-4784 to register.

**Election Day:** Orange Community Services is offering transportation on Nov. 5 to and from High Plains Community Center during designated times. Call Orange Community Services for more information about times and to reserve a ride at 203-891-4788.

**Money Management:** On Nov. 12 at 9:30 a.m., Diane Fekete of Connecticut In-Home Assistance has partnered with Cody White Funeral Home to help people plan what they would do in a medical emergency, through all the steps to return home and get back to normal. She will walk participants through

from the ambulance to the hospital, rehab, home care and even planning a funeral. It will be a frank discussion on what you need to know. Open to all. Call the office to say you are coming.

**Orange Arts and Cultural Council:** The Orange Arts and Culture Council offers a free bus to the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. Join them Nov. 14 for Beethoven and Adams. The bus leaves High Plains Community Center at 6:45 p.m. for Woolsey Hall in New Haven. To reserve your spot on the bus call 203-397-8915.

**Diabetic and Geriatric Foot Care Presentation:** Dr. Mithun Sivadasan from Yale Podiatry Group will be hosting a seminar on diabetic and geriatric foot care. Learn how you can keep your feet healthy and safe all year round. The talk is on Monday, Nov. 18 at 1 p.m.

**Mind Fit from Home Care Assistance:** Just like the body, the brain will show signs of aging over time. While this is a natural result of growing older, there are positive lifestyle changes you can make to keep your mind sharper for longer. In the Mind Fit series, participants will learn about the various factors that contribute to brain health while engaging in group activities based on the Cognitive Therapeutics Method offered by Home Care Assistance. This is part of a six-part series. Part two will

be on Nov. 19 at 12:30 p.m. Call us to say you are coming at 203-891-4784.

**New Haven Chamber Orchestra:** The New Haven Chamber Orchestra will be performing at the Fair Haven School in New Haven Nov. 23. Park at High Plains Community Center and ride with the Senior Center into New Haven for this free concert. Call 203-891-4784 to register. Departs at 1 p.m.

**Take Me Home Country Road – A Tribute to Glenn Campbell and John Denver:** This trip goes to the Ace in the Hole on Nov. 7. The cost is \$115 per person, with full payment due at registration. The trip includes transportation, festivities, lunch and a driver's gratuity. There is minimal walking.

**An American in Paris:** This trip goes to Westchester Broadway Theater on Nov. 14. To be young and restless in Paris is a dream for many, but in the late 1940s, it's buoyant Jerry Mulligan's life. The cost is \$111 per person and includes lunch, transportation, admission and driver's gratuity. There is minimal walking.

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Local Wildlife

# Vampire Bats: Scary Or Sweet?

By Cynthia V. Catapano

Vampire bats are a legendary theme in horror movies and on Halloween, but are they really that frightening?

Fear of vampire bats has been around for centuries. Arthur Greenhall, in his book, *Natural History of Vampire Bats*, writes about a vampire bat that was involved in a rabies outbreak in Trinidad in the 1930s, leading to widespread execution of all kinds of bat species, including many thousands of fruit and nectar-eating pollinators throughout Latin America.

Vampire bat stigma still persists; however, vampire bats are far more intelligent and sophisticated mammals than we give them credit for.

Vampire bats are the only mammals that feed solely on blood, or “sanguivorous,” says bat biologist Christopher Wisniewski at Southern Connecticut State University. Of the 150 bat species in Latin America, there

are only three vampires – each with their own preference for blood. The white-winged vampire (*Diaemus youngi*) prefers birds and mammals; the hairy-legged (*Diphylla ecaudata*) feeds on birds; and the common vampire bat (*Desmodus rotundus*) feeds on mammals.

Your only chance of getting bit is to sleep outside in the open, where they are known to feed. You may not even realize you’ve been bitten. Vampire bats sport razor-sharp teeth; their incisors are so sharp that sleeping prey barely stirs when they’ve been bitten. Vampires do not suck their prey’s blood like in the movies; instead, vampire bats lap up their bloodmeal like other mammals.

“*D. rotundus* owes most of its success to its amazing saliva,” Wisniewski says.

Some proteins act as painkillers, lowering their risk of detection, and another serves as an anticoagulant. This glycoprotein, fittingly named Draculin, is currently being used in

medical research to treat illnesses such as heart failure and stroke, according to a 2008 article in *New Scientist*.

Wisniewski says that the vampire bat has an amazing stealth approach to find and feed on their prey. “It’s a pretty big deal, as well as rare, for a bat to walk on the ground,” he says, explaining that they land a distance away from their prey, tiptoe on all fours over to the animal, and hop on. They use echolocation like their insectivorous cousins, and can detect the slow, deep, breathing of a sleeping animal. More amazingly, they have a pit organ similar to that of snakes. This heat-seeking tool detects infrared radiation, so they are able to home in on where blood is flowing closest to the surface of the skin.

Vampire bats do not kill their prey, and although they consume over half their body weight in blood per night, they remove only two teaspoons of blood from a single animal. Due to their diet, *D. rotundus* cannot go more

than 60 hours without a bloodmeal.

Luckily, these sanguivorous mammals are generous with one another; they practice what is known as reciprocal altruism. It may sound strange to call a vampire bat compassionate, but they are astonishingly unselfish, sharing regurgitated bloodmeals with family and strangers in need. According to a 2015 article in *National Geographic*, they remember who has donated their meal before and will refuse sharing to a bat who has failed to donate in the past. Even more compelling, if a bat is unable to help out a friend one night, they will be extra generous once they finally have enough to share.

There are not many mammals who take part in reciprocal altruism amongst their family members, let alone strangers. Vampire bats might be viewed as scary or creepy, but we have to acknowledge that they are intelligent and compassionate creatures. Many of us could take a lesson from vampires this Halloween.

## Autumn Running

The holidays are upon us, and we all have a tendency to eat more than we should. And though the weather is getting cooler, there’s no need to hibernate and store up those extra pounds like a bear who sleeps through the winter.

This time of year is great for motivation. It is easy to enjoy being outside with the weather starting to cool and the views full of color.

Still, think about the temperature. If you start early the temperature may be a bit cooler. Do wear layers because as you exercise and your body warms, you may want to shed that outer layer.

Always watch your step. The leaves are

starting to fall. They may be crunchy under your feet, but they can also hide roots and holes and other dangers to those precious feet and ankles. Still remember sunscreen. Though the temperature is dropping, there are plenty of ultraviolet rays hitting your skin.

Wear reflective clothing. As the days become shorter, be sure cars and bicycles can see you, especially when you are forced to be on the road. And yes, still drink lots of water. Just because it is not as hot, doesn’t



CATHY BRADLEY

mean you do not need to drink as much. Don’t let the lack of humidity and heat fool you.

I enjoy running through Orange’s rolling hills and pretty neighborhoods. For me, it is more interesting than the track for my longer runs. On shorter runs and walks, I enjoy seeing friends and neighbors on the track.

But as I am out there on the track or running on Meetinghouse Lane, I am puzzled. On the track there are receptacles everywhere. The soccer fields, the baseball fields and the basketball

courts have sports drink bottles and papers inches from receptacles. On Meetinghouse, on one run alone, I counted 20 bottles and cans as well as paper and plastic.

It can’t be that hard to carry it home.

Join us Thanksgiving morning with friends and family to walk or run. Make it an annual event and a great way to start the holiday.

And please take the time to reflect on our blessings. Whatever our challenges may be, it’s important to pause every now and then to appreciate all that we have, on every level.

Cathy Bradley can be reached at [cathy@cb-enterprises.com](mailto:cathy@cb-enterprises.com).



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## (Continued From Page 1) Vaccinations Still Low In Some Schools

vaccinated for various medical reasons. They depend on herd immunity to avoid contact with diseases like measles.

Under current Connecticut law, a parent can claim a religious exemption simply by notifying the school nurse. Nurses have the right not to acknowledge the exemption, but in practice that is rarely done.

Although Connecticut has one of the higher overall vaccination rates among

schoolchildren in the country, local gaps in coverage can still result in limited outbreaks.

This is the second set of school-by-school data released by the DPH. The previous report, for the 2017-2018 school year, showed that 108 schools across the state fell below the CDC threshold. In the latest release, 134 schools fell below it.

The DPH said in a press release that the overall statewide number of religious

exemptions to vaccination increased by 25 percent between the two school years, representing the largest single-year increase in religious exemptions for vaccination since the DPH started tracking the statewide data a decade ago.

“The data reveal that a sharp rise in the number of religious exemptions is causing declining immunization rates. This unnecessarily puts our children at risk for contracting measles and other vaccine preventable diseases,” said DPH Commissioner Renée Coleman-Mitchell. “To address this unnecessary risk, I have recommended to Governor Lamont and legislative leadership that non-medical

exemptions to vaccination be repealed. This will help ensure that all children in our state can learn in a healthy environment.”

The state legislature briefly toyed with ending the religious exemption earlier this year, but ultimately decided to wait until the next session. Gov. Ned Lamont has previously voiced his support for ending the exemption.

There is a growing national trend toward ending the religious exemption. This year, New York and Maine joined California, Mississippi and West Virginia among those that have no religious exemption. Washington ended a looser “personal belief” exemption.

**Milford School-by-School Vaccine Exemption Rates, 2018-2019**

School	Religious	Medical	Total
Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Luralton Hall	0.5%	0%	0.5%
Calf Pen Meadow School	5.5%	0.4%	5.9%
Charles F. Hayden School at Boys & Girls Village	0%	0%	0%
East Shore Middle School	1.5%	0.5%	2%
Harborside Middle School	2.8%	0.7%	3.5%
J. F. Kennedy School	0.9%	0.6%	1.5%
Jonathan Law High School	1.5%	0.1%	1.6%
Joseph A. Foran High School	1.8%	0.2%	2.1%
Live Oaks School	6.3%	0%	6.3%
Mathewson School	4%	0.5%	4.5%
Meadowside School	1.5%	0%	1.5%
Milestones-Milford	3.4%	1.7%	5.1%
Milford Christian Academy	14.7%	0%	14.7%
Orange Avenue School	3.6%	1%	4.6%
Orchard Hills School	2.8%	1.3%	4.1%
Platt Technical High School	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Pumpkin Delight School	2.3%	0.8%	3.0%
Saint Mary School-Milford	10.4%	0.3%	10.7%
The Academy	0%	0%	0%
The Foundation School-Milford	7.7%	5.1%	12.8%
West Shore Middle School	1.5%	1.9%	3.4%
Woodhouse Academy	*	*	*

Source: Connecticut Department of Public Health

**Orange School-by-School Vaccine Exemption Rates, 2018-2019**

School	Religious	Medical	Total
Amity Middle School: Orange	0.6%	0.3%	0.8%
Hope Academy	3.2%	1.6%	4.8%
Mary L. Tracy School	7%	1.6%	8.6%
Milestones-Orange	*	*	*
Peck Place School	5%	0%	5%
Race Brook School	0.8%	0.3%	1.1%
Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy	13.1%	0%	13.1%
The Foundation School-Orange	9.1%	0%	9.1%
Turkey Hill School	1.3%	0.6%	1.9%

Source: Connecticut Department of Public Health

## Artists On Display At Case Memorial

The Case Memorial Library in Orange is featuring works from two artists in its gallery during the month of November.

Alexandria Crocco, a professional photographer who is legally blind and also takes photos for the *Milford-Orange Times*, will be showing work that brings her joy, including travel, animals/fur babies and children/babies. She will have both basic framed prints and prints on canvas and metal.

“What inspires me is the possibility of inspiring someone else to not let their challenges keep them from doing what

makes them happy,” Crocco says.

Marian Wittink, the other artist on display, will have her monotype print works shown, which include spontaneous experimentation with color, size and composition.

“My inspiration comes from finding a true balance between observing the beauty of nature that surrounds us, combined with the practice of meditative yoga and listening to great music,” she says.

There will be a reception for both artists on Thursday, Nov. 7 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.



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# Home & Garden

## The Garden Spot:

### Why Plant A Tree?

A recent *New York Times* article, “A.I. vs. the Tree Thieves,” said that tropical deforestation is “a major driver of climate change, accounting for about 8 percent of global emissions.”

Trees, like all plants, “breathe” through the process of photosynthesis. During this process, plants take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen as a photosynthetic byproduct.

According to Dr. Doug Tallamy, Professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, an acre of forest uses tons of carbon dioxide each year and stores it in the form of carbon, which is the major component of woody tree tissue. When a tree dies and decays, it releases the carbon dioxide into the atmosphere so that there is no long-term net change, but the Earth’s atmosphere is maintained at about 21 percent oxygen.

However, deforestation such as we are hearing about in the Amazon basin eliminates the oxygen product part of the equation and instead releases carbon, contributing to global warming.

Planting a new tree for every tree that is burned or decayed helps to maintain our atmospheric oxygen levels. In fact, forest remediation accounts for about 25 percent of the emissions reductions targeted by the Paris climate agreement of 2015.

I’m sure that you’ve also noticed another reason for tree planting – the shade they provide. The canopy of trees keeps the temperature noticeably cooler as the leaves reflect light as they provide shade. The leaf shape of deciduous trees also reflects sound,



PAT DRAY

keeping your yard quieter as well as cooler.

Fall is the ideal time for tree planting since the roots will have time to grow prior to the cold winters we have in Connecticut without the need for the heavy watering needed in summer to overcome water evaporation from the heat. When selecting a tree, be sure to understand the height and leaf spread of your choice so that you plant it in the right spot – not too close to the house, utility lines and any hardscape such as walkways. If possible, select a tree that is native to our area since it will thrive as well as support biodiversity.

The Town of Orange has a Tree Warden and a Tree Committee. The goal of the committee

is “creating a community understanding of, and an appreciation for, trees and how they improve our quality of life.” Starting in 2006, the committee began a “tribute tree” program where you can have a tree planted on public land in honor of or in memory of someone.

Nearly forty trees have been planted since the program began. The site and type of tree is selected by the Tree Warden. The price of a tribute tree is \$500 and includes the tree, planting, maintenance and a site plan and plaque stating the person honored. Trees are guaranteed for one year.

If you’re interested in this wonderful way to recognize a loved one, contact Town Hall for the application form.

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

## Here’s To Your Health:

### Feeling Good

I was recently laying on the beach with my eyes closed, taking some needed me time by listening to the waves washing ashore, the songs of the seagulls and feeling a nice gentle breeze blowing, when I heard a man and woman briskly walking past.

The man was coaching the woman and said to her, “If you look good, you’ll feel good and that will set you free.”

I found myself going into deep thought about that comment. I felt bad for the woman because I wondered what her perception of “feeling good” was. Did she feel she needed to be 50 pounds lighter when 20 or 30 pounds would be more appropriate for her overall health?

What do we compare ourselves to in the name of “feeling good?” Feeling good is not just about an outward appearance. It’s about our inner self as well. It has to include our self-esteem, our self-worth, how we

value ourselves and being comfortable in our own skin because we know who we are – and whose we are.

Our society has placed far too much value on our outward appearance. We have not placed enough value on inner beauty, which makes the outward appearance radiate.

So many young girls these days battle anorexia and bulimia in the name of what our society has deemed valuable on the cover of magazines and in Hollywood media. In reality, according to an article in *Medical News Today*, as many as 40 percent of models battle eating disorders.

I would like to see more magazines picture healthy, athletic models such as Sports Illustrated’s swimsuit editions and Athleta to



MICHELE TENNEY

better reflect what a healthy body looks like.

I was a dancer since I was 3 years old. My passion was ballet. I danced with the Connecticut Ballet Company until I was 15 years old. There was a certain body type I aspired to be like. As I grew into a young woman and my body began to change, I was not prepared to embrace the changes my body was going through and began a journey of anorexia and bulimia myself. In hindsight, I wished I had someone to mentor me during those body changes and to teach me to accept myself exactly the way I was. We all have our own DNA.

I have spent much of my life finding my way to wellness: spirit, soul and body. What worked for me in my 20s did not work for me in my 30s, and what worked in my 40s is

most definitely not now working in my 50s.

We have to seek and find as well as ask and adapt to new stages of our journey, being mindful of changes that come from certain foods, exercises that no longer work and levels of stress that most definitely need to be lowered.

We should embrace ourselves at every stage of life as aging is wonderful, because the alternative is not. I’m hoping future generations will be able to reverse what society and the media have deemed valuable. Where there is hope, there is a future.

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 Hmgbrd3@gmail.com.*

## Real Talk: You Ask, A Pro Answers

### Condominiums: Yea Or Nay?

It seems that the public has a negative attitude toward living in a village. Isn’t that what condo life is like? If you are social you can meet new neighbors and know that there are others around you, just in case. A clubhouse, a pool: sounds like a vacation. The pros and cons are many, but I can tell you that I really have never had a new buyer tell me he is unhappy in his or her condo.

Of course, if you are used to privacy and you have lived with a large yard then this new lifestyle may seem a little close. But think about the benefits. No longer will you mow the lawn, trim the trees, fertilize and weed, clean the gutters or worry about the roof and the driveway. You will not have to clear the snow or worry when you go on vacation that things could go awry at home.

What you get for your money, which is a monthly charge between \$300 and \$500, is even more than that. You get exterior home-owners insurance most of the time, garbage removal, sometimes water and sewer charges and a management company that will research and respond to any problems you may have that relate, for instance, to an adjoining wall of a neighbor.

You cannot buy a decent house these days for under \$250,000 but you can buy a good condo. The values in Milford and Orange are doing nothing but going up. We live in a great location. The shopping, transportation, entertainment, beach and



BARBARA LEHRER

education far outweigh most other New Haven county areas. Even out of our area, families are purchasing cluster homes in North Carolina and high-rise condos in Florida, all for the ease of living.

Don’t knock it because someone bought a unit on which the deferred maintenance of major issues was coming due, the kitty of funds was probably never established properly and now they need to raise the fees substantially.

Scrutinize your prospective units. Even a good lender who knows you are writing an offer on a condo will call the management company and request the budget and any outstanding lawsuits or bills.

You can even get on the board at most developments if you want to. These little “villages,” as I call them, welcome assistance in planning ahead and pricing out projects to be done. If you are purchasing, just make sure that the major items have been completed and paid for in the past 10 years. That is a safeguard that promises to keep your condo fee down.

Of course, a good real estate agent will get these answers for you up front also, finding out the percentage of renters on the property, how many units there are, what the most recent sales were closed at, and more. Always rely on your realtor first for the best advice and information.

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

## (Continued From Page 1) Orange First Selectman Candidate Debate

bringing Orange’s kindergarten through sixth-grade schools into the regional Amity school system. The Amity district, which includes Orange, Bethany and Woodbridge, currently begins for children entering seventh grade.

Dietch claimed at the beginning of the debate that the Amity Board of Education had recently voted to begin a study of consolidating the younger grades. She further argued that if the other two towns opted to regionalize and Orange did not, it could be kicked out of the system altogether.

Zeoli said he had anticipated Dietch’s argument and held up a sheet of paper that

he said was a copy of state statute 10-47B governing regional school districts.

“All three towns must vote in the affirmative for there to be a change to the school system as we know it today,” he said. He further pointed out that for Amity to even launch a study it would have to notify all the towns and include representation from them in the study process.

“That has not been done. So there is no official study being done, and if it is, it’s illegal as being done according to state statute,” he said.

The two continually tangled on

regionalization, with Zeoli claiming that the cost savings Dietch cited didn’t add up and pointing out that Amity was one of the best-performing districts in the state.

Dietch noted that the Staples district based in Westport, which is regionalized for all grades, continually outperforms Amity.

“It makes for a stronger school system, with all of our kids learning the exact same curriculum and hitting the ground running from kindergarten,” she said.

Toward the end of the debate, audience members were invited to come forward to ask their own questions. At that point,

Amity Board of Education chair Christopher Browe came up and challenged Dietch on her argument that Amity had begun a study. He said a lawyer from the state had been invited down to talk to the board, but that was as far as things had gotten.

“You referenced a vote that the Board of Education has taken, that Amity has taken,” Browe said. “I’m not aware of any such vote.”

“It was my understanding that the Amity board had voted to pursue a study on the Amity K-12 district. That was the information that was told to me,” Dietch replied.

## Your Finances:

# Make A Plan For Holiday Spending

Get ready for the biggest holiday spending season ever: The National Retail Federation has predicted Americans will spend a record amount on Christmas gifts and other holiday items this year.

The NRF forecasts holiday retail sales in November and December will increase between 3.8 percent and 4.2 percent over last year, to reach a record total of between \$727.9 billion and \$730.7 billion.

Record employment and an expanding economy could lead many people to overspend this year. A separate NRF survey last year showed the average American planned to spend \$1,007 on gifts, cards, flowers, decorations and food (survey results for 2019 were not available at press time). Multiply that by an average 4 percent and the spending average would reach \$1,047 this year.

It's great to be in a giving mood, but you

don't want to bust your budget after working hard all year to limit spending and boost your retirement savings. Here are some ways to keep Christmas spending under control:

**Cut where you can.** Unless you've already cut spending to the bone, search for ways to offset holiday expenditures. For instance, if your entertainment budget includes going to the movies and renting movies, think about going on a "movie diet" until the new year kicks in. Choose to make a healthy meal at home rather than eating out, say from now through Dec. 15.

**Make a mini-financial plan.** Decide how much you are willing to spend on holiday items and write out a seasonal budget, including limits on spending on gifts,



ERIC  
TASHLEIN

cards, food and holiday-related activities. How much will you spend per gift?

**Set aside cash.** All the good intentions in the world can go out the window when you're at the store with a credit card in hand. Resolve to pay for everything with cash, check or debit card until you're safely through to 2020.

**Get started early.** If you wait until Dec. 15 to start your Christmas shopping, you will be under more pressure to give in to "impulse buying." Hit the mall early and get some purchases under your belt to avoid the stress of last-minute decision making.

**Don't buy the hype.** If you find it fun to go shopping at midnight on Thanksgiving Day, that's fine, but studies show that Black

Friday and other special sales days generally don't produce better prices than most regular shopping days. Retailers offer sales throughout the holiday season.

**Offer a personal touch.** Some of your family members and friends might appreciate a homemade gift more than something you buy at the store. Traditional homemade gifts include baked goods, photo collages and crafts such as jewelry, ornaments and stitched or knitted decorations or blankets.

*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.*

## Insuring Your Future:

# All Balls Up In The Air In The Health Insurance World

October and November are busy months for sports and insurance. Baseball is winding down, football is in full swing, basketball and hockey seasons are just starting (like they ever really end). Open enrollment for most health insurance occurs during the last quarter of the year.

Individual and senior insurance plans renew Jan. 1 and many group (employer-sponsored) plans do as well. Confusion reigns and there are lots of distractions. However, once open enrollment closes, you are "stuck" with your current plan or – if you don't take the proper action – stuck without insurance.

The marketplace is fairly stable for senior insurance. Most companies are offering plans with \$0 premiums and lower copays. However, some plans have reduced doctors/providers in their network and the cost of prescription medications may change. Be sure to check both of these to determine if a change of plan is warranted. Also, many

MAPD plans are offering added benefits such as dental, eyewear allowance, over-the-counter medication credits and portability from one state to another.

There is some good news about prescription drug coverage in 2019. The total drug cost maximum has increased to \$4,020 and the cost share for prescriptions in the gap or "donut hole" has been reduced to 25 percent. Consumers are entitled to know the actual cost of any prescription medication before insurance is applied. Prescription drug discount cards may offer greater savings than going through insurance to purchase medications. The pharmacist must provide this information on request. Why is this important? Sometimes the actual cost of the medication can be less than the cost through insurance, depending on how it is classified



TRISH  
PEARSON

in the formulary.

The state legislature included all the current Medicare Savings plans and low income assistance in its budget, with current income qualifying levels. Each year the Department of Social Services sends a renewal letter for income and personal information verification. Do not ignore these letters. Some require a response, and some do not. Failure to reply could result in the special help being terminated.

Two insurance companies will continue to offer health insurance to individuals again in 2020: Connecticut and Anthem. Individual health insurance can only be purchased through the health exchange, AccessHealth. The premium increases are minimal, and the income maximums are slightly higher. This is good news for people at the top end of the

income scale. For example, an individual making under \$50,000 per year will still qualify for an advanced premium tax credit. Many plans at the silver level have been discontinued, with more plans offered at the bronze level. Those who are currently on a plan through the health exchange should read their renewal information carefully to determine if any action is needed to continue coverage in 2020.

While the news is not great for small business owners, there are decent plans available. It requires some creative planning and financing. Most plans still include high deductibles, but the tax laws have been adjusted so that employers can help with individual premiums, provide health reimbursement arrangements in addition to or instead of HSAs, and enjoy tax benefits.

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

## From The Bar:

# Proper Planning Protects Assets For Children And Grandchildren

Jane, an 85-year old widow, died survived by her three children and six grandchildren. She lived a long, happy life, worked hard, and saved smartly over the years. At the time of her death, Jane owned her home (valued at \$500,000), \$300,000 in stock investments, a \$150,000 retirement plan, and a \$1,000,000 life insurance policy. She and her late husband, Frank, had worked hard for these assets. While they both were alive, they had taken steps to protect these assets for their children and grandchildren. Here is what they did:

They asked their estate planning attorney to prepare wills and revocable trusts for each of them. They made sure their wills and revocable trusts were flexible and included provisions about who gets what after the second spouse dies. Their wills and trusts instructed the executor and trustee (the person in charge) to distribute \$50,000 to each grandchild, with the remaining assets to be left to the children equally.



STEVEN  
FLOMAN

The

marriage of their youngest daughter, Tara, had been rocky for many years. They wanted to be sure that Tara's share would not end up with her husband if the marriage ended in divorce. For that reason, they created a separate

trust for Tara's share. For similar reasons, they created a separate trust for the share of several of the grandchildren who they felt weren't old enough to responsibly manage \$50,000. Jane and Frank felt that their son, Carl, was the most responsible of the children, and therefore they named him as the executor in their wills, trustee of their revocable trusts, and trustee of the trusts for Tara and the young grandchildren.

After Jane's death, Carl, acting as executor and trustee, distributed the assets as directed in the revocable trust and created trusts for Tara and the young grandchildren.

Jane's and Frank's planning paid off. At the time of Jane's death, Tara was, in fact, in the middle of a divorce. If Jane had left Tara her share of the estate outright, it would have been an available asset in the divorce. However, since Jane's trust instructed the trustee to hold Tara's share in a new trust for Tara's benefit, those assets were protected for Tara and were not considered "accessible" by Tara's spouse.

Jane's grandson, Tommy, also benefited from the planning. Tommy had made some bad decisions in his late teens and was working on turning his life around. Having the \$50,000 in trust, but managed by his uncle Carl, was a way to enable him to benefit from the money. He was able to purchase a new car and pay some monthly bills as needed. He admitted that, had he had access to the entire \$50,000 all at once, he probably would have made some poor spending decisions.

Overall, Jane's and Frank's goal of preserving assets for their family was accomplished. Their children and grandchildren appreciated what Jane and Frank had done many years earlier.

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

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## OVFD And Auxiliary Conducting Annual Santa's Helper Fundraiser

For the 25th year, Orange volunteer firefighters and Auxiliary members will once again help Santa visit some of the good boys and girls in town. Sponsored by the Orange Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, the fundraiser has a few new rules this year.

"Every year, our firefighters bring Santa and gifts to families around Orange," said Jillian Gagel, president of the Orange Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. "Children and adults look forward to seeing the fire trucks with lights and sirens coming down the street to their front door and Santa hopping off the truck and visiting the family. They talk, take photos and create lasting memories. And while all these smiles are being delivered, the Auxiliary is raising money for the fire department."

Santa will arrive on Dec. 14 between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. But before he arrives, his elves need some help from families who wish to participate. Organizers ask that these guidelines be followed:

- Gift drop-off day is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 23 at Fire Station #2, located at 355 Boston Post Rd. Please arrive no earlier than 30

minutes before starting time.

- There is a fee of \$19 per gift/recipient.  
- Each gift must be individually wrapped in your favorite holiday paper with an overwrap of plain brown paper.

- The name and delivery address of the recipient must be clearly printed on the outside of each gift. This is to ensure the right gift gets to the right person.

- Because of all the gifts Santa has to carry, no gifts too large or too heavy. Have all the gifts for your visit with you on gift drop-off day.

Contact the Auxiliary for special directions if you have a large party or a large number of gifts.

- Parking for drop-off day is in the rear of the fire station. Firefighters will be there to assist you. The line is located inside the fire station. Use the rear door marked enter.

- Santa has set up his own email in Orange. Use OVFDsantasHelper@gmail.com if you need to contact us. However, emailing him does not guarantee you a spot on the delivery route. Sign-up is on gift drop-off day and is on a first-come, first-served basis.



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## Orange To Honor Veterans

The Town of Orange will be holding a program honoring veterans on Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. at the Orange War Remembrance Memorial at High Plains Community Center. Members of the public and all veterans are invited to attend. Applications are still available to purchase commemorative bricks for the Remembrance Memorial. Bricks are

\$100 each and can be purchased by veterans themselves or by families in memory of their beloved veterans, either living or deceased. For more information, contact the First Selectman's office at 203-891-4737 or adenny@orange-ct.gov.



## Milford Holding Parade, Events To Honor Veterans

Milford's Veterans Ceremony and Parade Commission will host the annual Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, Nov. 9th at 10 a.m.

The parade grand marshal and keynote speaker will be Lt. Col. Charles K. Jaworski of the Connecticut Army National Guard. Jaworski hails from Morris and just recently returned from a yearlong deployment in Afghanistan. All units and marchers are asked to assemble at the Daniel Wasson Field parking lot at 9 a.m.

After the parade and ceremonies, all are invited into the Milford Veterans Memorial Auditorium for a post-parade Veterans Festival featuring a screening of the animated film SGT Stubby and refreshments.

SGT Stubby depicts the documented heroics of SGT Stubby, who was the official mascot dog of the 102nd Infantry Regiment, based at the time in New Haven, and part of

the 26th "Yankee" Division during World War I.

The parade will follow the traditional route from West River Street to North Broad Street. Shuttle service will provide transportation to the Veterans Festival at 12:30 p.m.

"As chairman of the Veterans Ceremony and Parade Commission, it's a great honor to continue the Milford Veterans Day parade and to honor those who have greatly served our county and helped to preserve our freedoms," said Thomas Flowers, chairman of the VCPC.

On Sunday, Nov. 10, the Milford Concert Band will perform its "Salute to Vets" concert at Milford City Hall at 2:30 p.m.

Milford's Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony will be held Monday, Nov. 11 at 10:45 a.m. in front of Milford City Hall. All are invited to this short ceremony.



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# News & Events

## Milford Receives Best Practices Recognition

Milford Mayor Benjamin G. Blake announced Oct. 8 that the City of Milford received accreditation and recognition by the Connecticut Economic Development Association recognizing the use of Best Practices in Economic Development and Land Use Planning.

The CEDAS developed a certification program to encourage best practices in municipal economic development and land use to spur continuous improvement. The program is intended to drive communities to pursue excellence in land use and economic development practices and to recognize communities that have established best practices.

"I'm proud of the efficiencies we have made through our Building, Planning and Land Use departments. At our office, we strive to offer new and existing businesses a streamlined and quicker process with a focus on customer service," said Joe Griffith, director of the

Department of Permitting and Land Use.

"In Milford, our economic future has never been brighter," Blake said. "Milford's Economic Development department and associated commission have proven year after year that business growth coupled with a mission to improve workforce development, quality of life, and community produces great results."

We are very honored and proud to be one of the first communities in Connecticut to receive this prestigious recognition," said Julie Nash, Director of Economic and Community Development.

A committee consisting of several representatives from UCONN Extension, the Connecticut Economic Resource Center, CEDAS, and the Connecticut chapter of the American Planning Association evaluated the applicants. Communities can resubmit every three years for recertification and demonstrate continuous improvement.

## Milford Drive Collects Thousands Of Diapers



State Rep. Kathy Kennedy with a car full of diapers during the annual Milford diaper drive. *Contributed photo.*

Milford's legislative delegation, along with the United Way of Milford and TEAM Inc., hosted collected over 9,000 diapers during the recently-completed city-wide diaper drive for in-need Milford families.

Reps. Kathy Kennedy, Charles Ferraro, Kim Rose and state Sen. James Maroney spearheaded the drive.

"I am proud to help sponsor this diaper drive. Diapers are not luxury item for families; they are a vital component of the health and well-being of infants and toddlers," said Kennedy. "I have heard too many horrific stories that the high cost of diapers, leading to some babies spending a day or longer in one diaper. No child should be left in filthy diapers."

"I was honored once again to work with the United Way in increasing public

awareness with regards to the high cost of diapers on vulnerable families," Ferraro said. "This annual drive has successfully helped many needy families in providing the proper diaper care for their babies."

The average child will use more than 2,700 diapers in the first year alone, which can add up to more than \$550 (based on an average price of 20 cents per disposable diaper).

The goal of the annual diaper drive is to help Milford families by converting the United Way's Diaper Closet into a much larger Diaper Bank, with a constant supply of diapers in all sizes.

While diapers are expensive for any family, they are particularly burdensome for low-income families. At present, safety-net programs such as the food stamps and WIC do not cover the cost of diapers.

## Orange Chamber of Commerce Adds New Board Member



Hector J. Morales. *Photo courtesy of Patriot Bank.*

Morales has over 20 years of community banking experience and was recently

The Board of Directors of the Orange Chamber of Commerce voted Patriot Bank vice president and branch manager Hector J. Morales to serve a two-year term on its board beginning in September.

promoted to his current position of Patriot's Orange office, located at 7 Old Tavern Rd.

"We look forward to Hector's sharing his knowledge and leadership skills as we grow and improve the Orange Chamber of Commerce," said Orange Chamber of Commerce executive director Carol Smullen.

"I am exceptionally honored and excited to be a part of the Board of Directors for the Orange Chamber of Commerce," said Morales. "Interacting with and providing guidance for the financial needs of businesses, nonprofits and families throughout this magnificent community is tremendously rewarding. I and my fellow Patriot banking colleagues take this commitment to enhance and support the community very seriously."

## Orange Virtual Reality Lounge Holds Ribbon-Cutting



The Spot VR Lounge held a ribbon-cutting Oct. 11 sponsored jointly by the Orange and Milford chambers of commerce for its new location at 385 Boston Post Rd. in Orange. The venue offers virtual reality experiences in a relaxed atmosphere. *Photo by Nell Moll.*

## Orange Garden Club Joins Woodbridge For Floral Presentation



The Garden Club of Orange joined its Woodbridge counterpart Oct. 15 for a luncheon and floral presentation in Woodbridge. From left: Garden Club of Woodbridge president Joanne D'Angelo, Terri's Flower Shop owner Stephanie Fusco and Garden Club of Orange president Linda Bradford. *Photo courtesy of the Garden Club of Orange.*

The Garden Club of Orange was invited to join the Garden Club of Woodbridge for a luncheon and floral presentation Oct. 15 at First Church of Christ in Woodbridge. Stephanie Fusco, owner and floral designer of Terri's Flower Shop in Naugatuck, demonstrated floral arranging using the free

spirit rose in four designs. Each arrangement depicted a different season. Four garden club members won a raffle to take home an arrangement.

For information about membership in the Garden Club of Orange, contact Eileen Eisenman at 203-878-9597.

## NHSO Conductor Speaks In Orange



Alasdair Neale, music director and conductor of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, spoke recently at a program cosponsored by the Orange Arts and Culture Council and Case Memorial Library, explaining the music he has chosen for this year's classical series at Woolsey Hall. A free bus to the symphony underwritten by a grant from the Orange Foundation departs High Plains Community Center at 6:45 p.m. for every concert. Call 203-397-8915 to reserve a seat. *Photo by Caitlin Daly.*

## Orange Native To Share Holocaust Story

The Wepawaug-CT Valley-West Rock Hadassah is presenting "Visions and Voices: Writers at Work," on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. at the Case Memorial Library, located at 176 Tyler City Rd. in Orange. The featured guest speaker is Rebecca Freimann, author of *Family Tree: Rooted in Survival*. The book reveals the never-before-told true story of three family branches and their struggles

to survive the horrors of the Holocaust. Separated from one another, family members must find the will to survive on their own. Freimann is returning to her hometown of Orange to share her family's story and how it came to be written.

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. is the largest Jewish women's organization in the United States.

# Obituaries

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

**Marie Altieri**, passed on October 19, 2019.

**Virginia "Ginger" J. Burrows**, 90 of Milford, passed away October 16, 2019.

**Pasquale R. Cariglio (Pat, Patsy)**, 59, of Milford, passed away on October 19, 2019.

**Marilou F. "Lulu" Csizmadia**, 68, of Milford, passed away on October 13, 2019.

**John Joseph Cusmano, Sr.**, 79, of Milford, passed away peacefully on October 21, 2019.

**Robert W. Daley**, age 87, of Milford, died on Tuesday, October 8, 2019.

**Jo-Ann Marie Deer** passed away on Thursday, October 17, 2019.

**Yolanda DiMaggio**, lovingly known as "Nan" or "Tiny", 91, of Milford, passed away on October 15, 2019.

**Robert George Gulas**, 69, of Milford, passed away on September 28, 2019.

**Earle Hanson**, 90, of Milford, passed away peacefully on October 13, 2019.

**James Edwin Hoffman**, 79, of Milford, died on Wednesday, October 9, 2019.

**Anna B. Honek**, 87, of Milford, died on Tuesday, October 22, 2019.

**Carl Vernon Johnson** passed away on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

**Sharon Ann Kluchnick**, 66, of Milford, passed away on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

**San Shun Lee** passed away on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

**Umberto Macci**, 91, of Orange, passed away peacefully on October 8, 2019.

**Mae Manzo**, age 91, of Milford, entered peaceful rest on Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019.

**Richard "Ricky" Mason** of West Haven, formerly of Milford, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, October 8, 2019.

**George Arthur Marshall**, 76, of Milford, passed away on October 22, 2019.

**Peter S. Molloy**, 85, of Milford, passed away October 1, 2019.

**Serena Marie Mulligan** of Milford passed away.

**Steven Jay Polansky**, 63, of Milford, passed away on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

**Adolf Reizfeld** passed away peacefully at his home in Vienna, Austria at the age of 97.

**Urbano L. Tommasi**, 82, of Milford, passed away on October 9, 2019.

**Tammy Truscello**, of Milford, passed away on October 16, 2019.

Send obituaries to [editor@theorangetimes.com](mailto:editor@theorangetimes.com)



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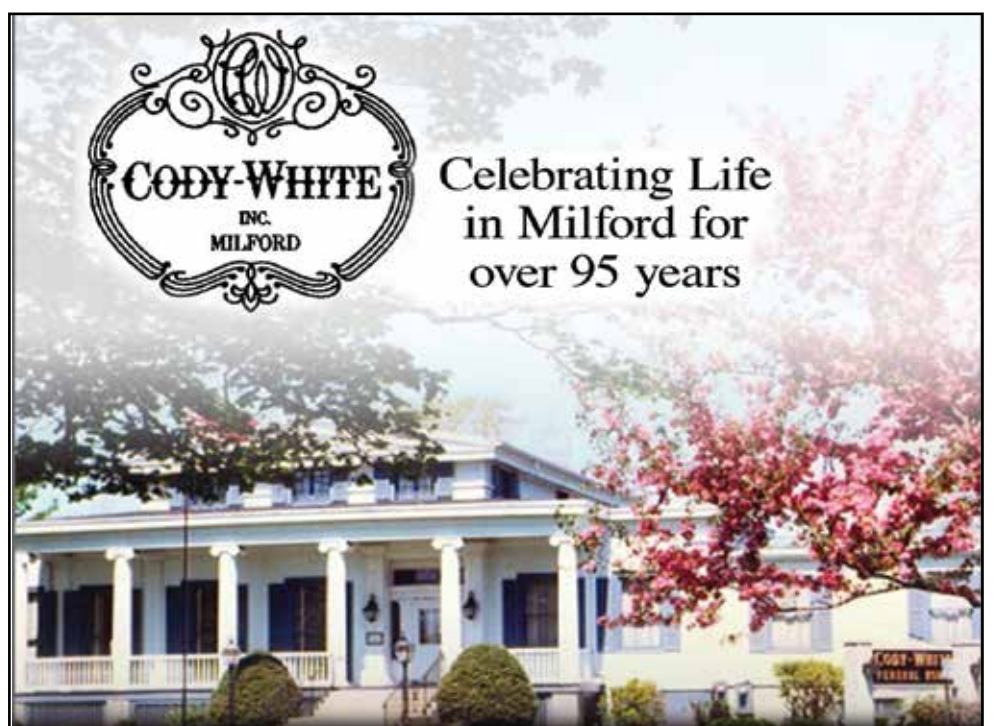
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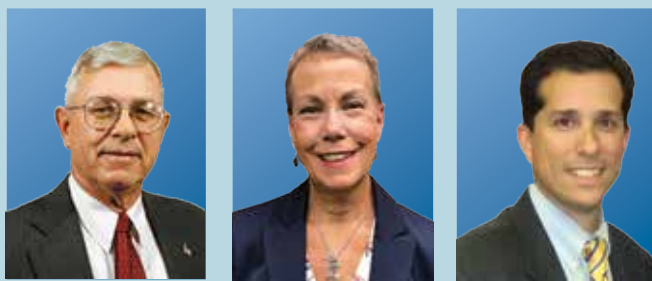
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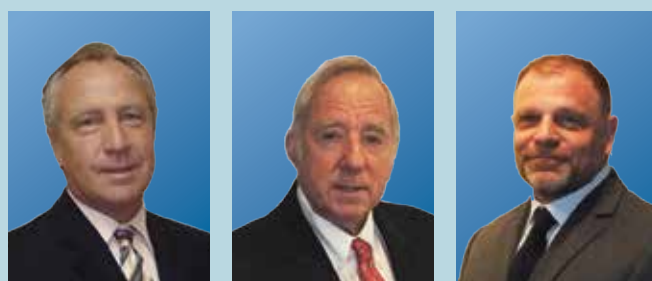
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