

Milford-Orange Times

Vol. 8 / Issue 15

www.TheOrangeTimes.com

December 19, 2019

Transportation Runs Through Milford And Orange

By **Brandon T. Bisceglia**

Gov. Ned Lamont's plan to improve transportation systems in Connecticut runs through Milford and Orange.

The proposal, dubbed CT2030, lays out a host of specific projects around the state meant to shore up aging infrastructure, eliminate choke points and shorten commute times.

The total cost, estimated at \$19.4 billion, would be paid for through a mix of low-interest federal grants, money from the state's Special Transportation Fund and – most controversially – by tolling trucks at certain locations throughout the state.

Two major projects are slated for Milford. The first would spend between \$80 and \$100 million to rebuild the exit 38 connector between I-95 and the Merritt Parkway. The connector is a notorious choke point, with numerous curves and several points at which drivers have to merge onto busy roadways over very short distances.

The second Milford project would rebuild exits 39A and 40 at a cost of between \$50 million and \$70 million.

"This critical section of I-95 is one of the chokepoints on I-95 that has led to headaches and delays for years on I-95," the project description on the CT2030 website says, adding that the exits would be "upgraded and improved, easing congestion, reducing travel times, boosting productivity allowing drivers to travel to and from work easier."

Orange also gets some attention in the governor's proposal. Between \$20 and \$24 million would be spent to make various improvements to the portion of Rte. 1 that passes through the town, including by building an extra turn lane to reduce crashes and congestion.

Milford and Orange would additionally receive some ancillary benefits from proposals to update rail and bus service.

The New Haven Line of the Metro-North Railroad would receive a suite of new rail cars. Track replacement and straightening would also improve commute times.

The highlight of the bus improvements would be a \$100 million upgrade that would create a so-called "Route 1 Corridor High Performance Bus," which would run through both Orange and Milford.

"This targeted improvement to the Route 1 corridor that connects Stamford, Bridgeport, and New Haven provides better and more reliable bus service to cities that rely on robust bus systems to get people home and to work," the proposal

Continued on page 17

Milford Performance Center Boosts Charity, Economy

By **Brandon T. Bisceglia**

The Milford Performance Center has made it through its third year as a venue for the arts in the city. In that time, founder Steve Cooper, a photographer who also takes pictures for the Milford-Orange Times, has coupled his efforts to bring in first-class entertainment with his efforts to give back to the community.

The most recent example of this charity was a donation of \$31,000 to Rotary District 7980, which covers much of southern Connecticut, for its global polio eradication initiative. The money came as a result of the MPC's final third season show, featuring famed musician Arlo Guthrie.

That show attracted over 900 patrons. The money raised through ticket sales was matched by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation two-to-one, making the total donation to Rotary \$90,000.

Cooper has been renting the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in the Parsons Government Center to bring big-name

Continued on page 15



Milford Performance Center founder Steve Cooper recently raised \$31,000 through a show at the center for the Rotary District 7980's global polio eradication initiative. From left: Rotary District 7980 Governor Jack Solomon, Steve Cooper, Ron Webb, Trish Pearson and Jeff Krause. Photo courtesy of Steve Cooper.

Hilton Hotel Opens In Orange



Homewood Suites by Hilton Orange-New Haven held a ribbon-cutting with the Orange Chamber of Commerce on Dec. 4 to recognize its new location in Orange. Photo by Robert Creigh.

Homewood Suites by Hilton Orange-New Haven held a ribbon-cutting with the Orange Chamber of Commerce on Dec. 4 to recognize its new location at 99 Marsh Hill Rd. in Orange.

"We are excited to bring an all-suites extended stay property to the New Haven area," said Tom Falco, general manager. "Whether you are in town for business, visiting a university or just a weekend getaway, we are your home away from home."

Developed and owned by Hartford Lodging Partners, LLC and managed by SBM Hospitality, the hotel boasts 121 suites with a combination of studio and one-

bedroom accommodations, featuring fully-equipped kitchens and separate living and sleeping areas. Guests are also provided complimentary daily full hot breakfast, evening socials from Monday to Thursday, Wi-Fi and a grocery shopping service.

The Homewood Suites also has an outdoor kitchen and grill area, fitness center, indoor pool and sports court. There are four electric car charging stations, and the property offers 650 square feet of flexible space for meetings and social events. A complimentary shuttle service within a one-mile radius of the property is also available.

Turkey Hill Developers Make Changes; Neighbors Still Not Convinced

By **Brandon T. Bisceglia**

The saga of a controversial housing development off Turkey Hill Road in Orange continued Dec. 10 before the Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Commission, with developers claiming to have addressed some earlier concerns and neighboring residents maintaining their opposition.

The development was proposed earlier this year by a team representing town resident Richard Meisenheimer, who wants to build 10 multifamily residential buildings and a single community building on a compilation of parcels on the 22.5-acre property that he owns.

A different proposal for the same property was the subject of strident opposition in 2018. That plan was eventually denied by the Town Plan & Zoning Commission. The new iteration has, if anything, drawn more discontented attention than the first did.

The Inland Wetlands Commission has brought in several experts to review the plans for the site. They presented many of their findings at a previous meeting in November. They voiced concerns on several points, but also expressed their belief that

Continued on page 7

WE HAVE THE MARKET



203-795-6000

WISHING YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS!

<p>SOLD! ON DEPOSIT IN 8 DAYS!</p>  <p>82 Oriole Lane, Milford \$268,400</p>	<p>SOLD! ON DEPOSIT IN 7 DAYS!</p>  <p>123 Cricket Lane, Orange \$360,000</p>	<p>SOLD! ON DEPOSIT IN 34 DAYS!</p>  <p>854 Mapledale Road, Orange \$415,000</p>	<p>SOLD! ON DEPOSIT IN 34 DAYS!</p>  <p>33 Morehouse Avenue, Milford \$490,000</p>
--	--	--	--

News & Events

A Look Back

By Priscilla Searles

The first free mail delivery occurred in Orange on July 1, 1902. Albert Miles Clark served as the first rural postal carrier, pictured here with his mail wagon, drawn by a pair of mules. According to Mary Rebecca Woodruff in her book, *History of Orange*, to celebrate the new town service, residents greeted him along with way, including Carleton Woodruff who came out from his house with a gun and fired a welcoming salute. It would be 1949 before a second mail route was established. As for Clark, in 38 years of services he missed only one day of work due to poor weather. He was active in town affairs until his death in 1972 at the age of 97.

An interesting sidebar to this story: Until the introduction of stamps, it was the recipient of the mail, NOT the sender, who paid for the cost of the postage. Think of what an impact that early system would have on today's junk mail. We could all just say "no thanks." The first general issue postage stamps went on sale in New York City on July 1, 1847. One, priced at five cents, depicted Benjamin Franklin, the other, a ten-cent stamp, pictured George Washington.

If you have a vintage photo of Orange



Photo courtesy of Orange Historical Society.

and are willing to loan it to Priscilla Searles, Town Historian, 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.

New Restaurants Coming To Milford, Orange

Flipside Burgers & Bar, which has had a location in Fairfield for over 10 years, is opening a new location at 1 Schooner Ln. in Milford in spring 2020. The location formerly housed Indigo.

Flipside specializes in creative burgers like the Chip and Dip burger, which is

topped with Swiss cheese, caramelized onions, house-made potato chips and French onion dip. It will also offer a happy hour with half-priced drinks and \$3 small plates from Monday to Saturday.

Another Milford restaurant, Conte Ristorante, is set to reopen at its former

location at 1573 Boston Post Rd. in the coming weeks. The location was home of Conte years ago and was most recently occupied by Rustica.

In Orange, Mission BBQ has signed a lease to occupy 4,000 square feet of space at 550 Boston Post Rd., the location of the

former Bertucci's. The build-out will be ready for occupancy by early spring. There are an additional 3,000 square feet of space at the location, which are still being looked at by other businesses.

bin100 restaurant

100 Lansdale Avenue | (Exit 34 off I-95)
Milford, CT | 203.882.1400 | Bin100.com

Always in good taste!

2020
Celebrate New Years Eve!
Call to Reserve your table today!

Order Your Party Trays
for Christmas Eve Pick Up

News & Events

Salt Therapy Business Opens In Milford



Revive Salt Therapy & Wellness, a store that specializes in dry salt therapy, held a ribbon cutting with the Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce Nov. 26 for its new location at 374 New Haven Ave. in Milford. Photo by Robert Creigh.

Ferraro, Kennedy, Support Salvation Army



State Reps. Charles Ferraro (R-117) and Kathy Kennedy (R-119) rang the bell for the Salvation Army and sang some Christmas carols for those in need Dec. 7 with the Key Club students from Foran and Jonathan Law High School at the ShopRite in Milford. Photo courtesy of Reps. Ferraro and Kennedy.

Temple Emanuel Gives Back to Community

This past September, during the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Temple Emanuel in Orange continued its annual tradition of asking its congregants to give what they can to help the local community.

Thousands of dollars were given to the following organizations: Beth-El Center homeless shelter and soup kitchen in Milford; the Jewish Community Alliance

for Refugee Resettlement; CONECT, a collective of churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, and civic organizations from New Haven and Fairfield Counties that have joined together to take action on social and economic justice issues of common concern; and Rise Against Hunger, an international hunger relief organization that aims to end hunger by 2030.

Orange Resident Named Meriden Finance Director



Orange resident Kevin McNabola was recently hired by the city of Meriden as its finance director.

McNabola has served as the finance director of Waterford since April 2018. Before that he served as finance Director in West Haven from 2014 to 2018. He was the business manager for the Orange Board of Education from 2009 to 2014.

McNabola started Dec. 16, replacing retiring finance director Michael Lupkas. He was unanimously approved by Meriden's City Council. He was chosen from nine candidates interviewed for the job.

McNabola ran unsuccessfully for Orange First Selectman as a Democrat in 2011.

Kevin McNabola. Contributed photo.



We provide independent, objective financial advice in an open and transparent environment, where your best interest always come first. We value the long-standing relationships we've built, and look forward to serving your financial needs and helping you achieve your goals and objectives now and in the years to come.

612 Wheelers Farms Rd, Milford, CT | 203.693.8525 | www.TrinityPointWealth.com

A Fresh Thinking, Forward Looking Approach to Managing Wealth

Opinion & Editorial

Pro-Toll Group Spends Big



STATE REP. (R-117)
CHARLES FERRARO

This month, the Journal Inquirer published an eye-opening article that showed how much pro-toll groups are paying to promote tolls and to sway public opinion.

The article "Spending on tolls pits 'David vs. Goliath'" showed that during 2019 a pro-toll organization, Move CT Forward, "spent nearly \$986,000 on its lobbying efforts."

In comparison, the anti-toll movement group created by a small group of concerned citizens only spent roughly \$15,000 this year.

One might ask who is funding the pro-toll group Move CT Forward?

According to the article, "Move CT Forward is a conglomeration of powerful construction organizations and labor unions."

The lobbying group consists of the Connecticut Asphalt and Aggregate Producers Association, Connecticut Road Builders Association, Connecticut Laborers District Council, New England Carpenters Labor Management Program, New England Regional Council of Carpenters, Connecticut Construction Industries Association, and Connecticut Ready-Mix Concrete Association.

With very little money, No Tolls CT took action and earlier this year submitted over 100,000 signatures from Connecticut residents who are against tolls.

As a lawmaker, I have always listened to both sides of an issue and have come to a conclusion on supporting an issue by listening to my constituents.

The majority of residents in my district that I have asked say that they don't want tolls in any form because they understand it is just another tax. It seems that many Connecticut residents are not being swayed by the big money public relations campaign in favor of tolls.

If tolls come to a vote, I will be voting no. My vote cannot be bought.

As always, please contact me with concerns, questions, or ideas at Charles.Ferraro@housegop.ct.gov.

Have a merry Christmas and a happy holiday.

APA Report Hearings Crucial



STATE REP. (R-114)
THEMIS KLARIDES

The legislature's Transportation Committee held a hearing recently to tackle an Auditors of Public Accounts report detailing problems at the Connecticut Port Authority, including granting significant contracts without competitive bids and spending recklessly on unnecessary items.

The APA performs important work, and their reports offer legislators – and the public – valuable insight into the mechanics of state government.

Considering that, you may be surprised to know lawmakers rarely get the chance to ask questions about those reports in a formal setting. Despite a state law that requires it, Democrats who control relevant committees don't hold these hearings.

State law requires committees of cognizance and the Government Administration and Elections Committee to hold hearings within 180 days from the time reports are submitted to the legislature. As it stands, there are nearly 40 reports that are overdue for hearings. There's more to be heard in the near future, too.

Examples of problems outlined in APA reports include abuse of overtime; workplace violence complaints; massive financial reporting errors; benefits payments to deceased individuals; and IT security issues.

A report issued just last month detailed how more than \$260,000 in checks submitted to the Department of Agriculture went uncashed for months.

I believe legislators should be able to ask questions about situations such as that, and it's why my caucus issued a letter to Democratic leaders urging hearings.

We haven't received a response yet, but I'll let you know when we do. In the meantime, check out the APA website and its many reports at <https://wp.cga.ct.gov/apa/>.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have questions, comments or concern about state-related issues.

New Year Brings More New Taxes



STATE REP. (R-119)
KATHY KENNEDY

Before Milford and Orange residents turn their focus to the holiday season, I wanted to write a short note on the latest news from the State Capitol.

We should have all the government we need, but only the government we need. In other words, there are certain core functions of government that almost everyone can get behind – for example, education, public safety, core social services for children, seniors, the disabled, and veterans, and transportation infrastructure.

To support these core functions of government, we create special taxes and fees designed to support them. But when is enough, enough? Connecticut's current tax policy seems to be creeping into every aspect of our lives.

Since the end of the legislative session in June there seems to be a never-ending parade of new or higher taxes every few months. In August, we had the grocery, prepared food tax and restaurant tax. In October we had the digital download tax (Netflix, iTunes, Disney+) and the vehicle trade-in tax hike (\$35 to \$100). Now coming up on Jan. 1 we have the new 6.35 percent sales tax on dry cleaning, parking, interior design service and safety apparel.

Dry cleaning services subject to sales and use tax include dry cleaning services, including cleaning processes that substitute for dry cleaning (such as "wet cleaning"); laundering services; and specialty cleaning services for specific types of garments and other textiles such as fur, leather, or suede garments, wedding gowns, hats, draperies and pillows.

Parking services to be taxed include metered parking, parking in lots with less than 30 parking spaces and parking in a seasonal lot.

Safety apparel to be taxed include any item of clothing or protective equipment worn by an employee for protection during the course of the employee's employment. Previously that apparel was sales tax free.

Last, there is a new 6.35 percent sales tax on interior designers, interior design consultants, interior decorating consultants and any other person or establishment that provides interior design services.

That is why I ultimately opposed the 2019 state budget: the \$1.75 billion in new taxes. Connecticut residents simply cannot afford to pay any more in an already expensive state.

Finally, I want to wish every Milford and Orange resident and their family a safe and happy Hanukah, merry Christmas and happy New Year!

Please visit repkennedy.com for news and commentary on the latest happenings in Milford and Orange and at the State Capitol. I encourage you to sign up for my e-newsletter so you can get updates and alerts emailed directly to your inbox. If you have any questions, concerns or ideas please feel free to contact me by phone 1-800-842-1423 or email Kathy.Kennedy@housegop.ct.gov.

Asking 'Are You Okay' Greatest Gift



STATE SEN. (D-14)
JAMES MARONEY

Last-minute shopping season is upon us. Malls and small businesses will be crowded with people hoping to find the perfect gift to make a loved one smile. The desire to please the ones we love is, understandably, very important to us. However, there are times we can't seem to do enough to make those close to us happy and we don't know why.

In recent years, mental health issues have been discussed more openly. Unfortunately, many still fear being stigmatized. More concerning, suicide rates are increasing nationally and statewide. According to recent government reports, suicide has become the second-most common cause of death among teens and young adults. According to the Connecticut Violent Death Reporting System, 1,170 individuals committed suicide in the state between 2015 and 2017.

This is incredibly sobering news, and highlights a need to have an open, progressive dialogue on methods to prevent these tragic instances from occurring. I recently hosted a Suicide Prevention Summit at the University of New Haven with state Sen. Mary Daugherty Abrams and UNH representatives. We heard from students and faculty from UNH, Dr. Frank Fortunati of the Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital and Dr. Madelon Barnoski, a professor of psychiatry at Yale University.

The summit was advantageous to all, especially to all legislators who attended. As the 2020 legislative session draws near, the information and feedback gathered will assist us in finding legislative solutions. This issue has impacted groups across demographics but has touched teenagers and young people especially hard.

From 2007 to 2017, the number of suicides among people ages 10 to 24 rose 56 percent. As these numbers rise, experts search for causes. From the internet to access to firearms to social media usage and a lack of coping mechanisms to effectively deal with stress, the causes can be any or all of the above. The Centers for Disease Control have cited family history of suicide, maltreatment, feelings of hopelessness, local epidemics of suicide and a history of alcohol or substance abuse as just a few more potential suicide risk factors.

The risk factors and potential causes grow, making it imperative that we continue to destigmatize mental illness and make everyone feel comfortable openly talking about what's bothering them. Prioritizing one's peace of mind can be a life-saving decision. According to the CDC, talking to a licensed therapist, giving oneself a break and staying away from drugs and alcohol are effective coping methods. If suicidal thoughts persist, call the suicide hotline at 1-800-273-8255 and also consult a psychologist. In addition to the suicide hotline, if you or someone you know needs help, you can call 211 and then press 1 for a crisis.

As the holiday season continues, most of us will be packed into stores searching for the right thing to make our loved ones happy. But take time to remember the best gift you can give someone is asking the simple question: "Are you okay?"

Milford-Orange Times

Stephen Hechtman, Publisher: publisher@theorangetimes.com
Patricia Miller, Entertainment Editor: patmiller605@sbcglobal.net
Brandon T. Bisceglia, Editor: editorinchief@theorangetimes.com

Creative Director: Wendy Macomber Photographers: Steve Cooper • Lexi Crocco

In The House: Rep. Themis Klarides (R-114) Rep. Charles Ferraro (R-117) Kathy Kennedy (R-119)
Senator's Seat: Sen. James Maroney

Columnists:

Christine Angeli, Milford Library	Thomas P. Hurley, Commentary	Carol Smullen, Orange Chamber
Cathy Bradley, Running	Barbara Lehrer, Real Estate	Raymond Spaziani, Wine
Joanne Byrne, Retirement	Annmarie Mastrangelo, Flooring	Pam Staneski, Milford Chamber
Cynthia V. Catapano, Local Wildlife	John Moffitt, Life Online	Hon. Beverly K. Streit-Kefalas, Probate
David Crow, Conversations	Amir Mohammad, MD, MPH, Health	Eric Tashlein, Finances
Pat Dray, Gardening	Trish Pearson, Insurance	Fern Tausig, Hypnosis
Richard Dumbrell, Rotary Club	Karen Quinn Panzer, Travel	Roger Tausig, Rotary Club
Steven P. Floman, Legal	Tedra Schneider, Interior Design	Michele Tenney, Health
Peter Hechtman, Books	Priscilla Searless, Town Historian	Trish O'Leary Treat, Profiles

The Milford-Orange Times is published by The Orange Times LLC, P.O. Box 584, Orange, CT, 06477
Phone: 203.799.7500 Online: www.milford-orangetimes.com

Facebook: [@milfordorangetimes](https://www.facebook.com/milfordorangetimes) Instagram: [@theorangetimes](https://www.instagram.com/theorangetimes) Twitter: [@OrangeTimesCT](https://twitter.com/OrangeTimesCT)

Opinion & Editorial

Editorial: Milford And Orange Should Welcome Refugees

By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Milford and Orange should follow the state's lead and affirm their willingness to accept refugees who wish to settle in the community.

It should go without saying that America welcomes those who are escaping persecution and violence in their home countries. Nevertheless, in September the Trump administration issued an executive order that requires states and municipalities to explicitly express their consent to having the State Department place refugees in their borders.

Gov. Ned Lamont, in a strongly-worded letter issued on Dec. 11, gave that consent on Connecticut's behalf, calling refugee resettlement "a bedrock principle of the United States of America." Lamont urged the state's municipal leaders to provide consent as well.

There is some question as to whether

the executive order is even legally binding. Governors and mayors do not have a right to deny any legal resident from settling in their state or city. And refugees are indeed legal residents. They are vetted extensively before being brought here under the auspices of the US State Department.

Even if the executive order is struck down by the courts, it ironically offers municipalities like Milford and Orange the opportunity to publicly display the value they place on caring for those in need, regardless of origin.

There is a practical reason to speak up, as well. Once in the country, refugees are paired with resettlement agencies around the nation. There are two nearby: Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services in New Haven and the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants in Bridgeport.

This proximity makes it quite likely that

a few refugees will wind up in Milford or Orange.

Indeed, in 2017 Syrian refugee Fadi Kassar was reunited with his wife and daughter at the Olive Tree restaurant in Milford after being separated from them for over two years. The choice of restaurant was not an accident; it is owned by Kassar's brother, another transplant today helping the local economy flourish.

It's not that Milford or Orange shunned people like Kassar before. But now local leaders have the chance to explicitly tell them they're welcome here.

According to the United Nations, there are currently almost 30 million refugees – defined as people who have fled their home country and cannot safely return – worldwide. Most have left because of wars and genocides.

Refugees make up a small – and shrinking – proportion of the estimated 35 million

immigrants in the country. That, also, is part of Trump administration policy. In 2018, 45,000 were admitted. In 2019, admission was capped at 30,000. Next year, the total will be dropped to only 18,000.

With those numbers spread over all 50 states, no community is in any danger of being overwhelmed.

The US portion of the refugee burden is miniscule. Germany, a much smaller country, currently hosts 1.1 million.

We aren't suggesting that the US bring in that many people. All we are asking is that our community leaders be able to affirm their support for the tiny role in this global crisis that they have to play.

It should go without saying. But it doesn't. So say it.

Diplomacy And Trump, Canadian-Style

By Peter Hechtman

"Two-faced!"
"Inauthentic!"

These were epithets hurled at Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau by President Trump. The president had entered the cocktail lounge at the NATO summit meeting in London only to find Trudeau at the center of a gaggle of prime ministers laughing and (no doubt) exchanging derisive stories about Trump, all unaware of that politician's nightmare – the open microphone.

Ah, the refinements of high-level diplomacy. But how did we, Americans and Canadians, get to this pass?

It is said that when an elephant and a flea share the same bed the elephant doesn't give any thought to where the flea might be, but the flea's life is dependent upon knowing, at every moment, where the elephant is. Canadians understand this to be a metaphor for our relations with our neighbors to the south. It certainly didn't begin with Trump and Trudeau, but these two have undoubtedly made it more theatrical.

When thinking about your northern neighbor, the first thing that Americans need to understand is that Canada is a country founded by people who were unceremoniously kicked out of the new American republic after seizure of their property. Your history books call them traitors. Ours call them Loyalists.

A few years later the US and Canada fought the war of 1812, which, in Canada, is remembered as heroic resistance to the threat of American invasion. What is forgotten here is that the war was started because the British Army in Canada sent weapons to native groups in the American Midwest to oppose westward expansion of the US. After that, mercifully, there was no more shooting across the border.

But there were military events we managed to conceal from the Americans by disguising them as something else. In the latter half of the nineteenth century, massive westward expansion occurred in both countries, but not in the same way. The problem was that there were no border markings between the US and the Canadian west, meaning, really, no border. If you don't have to wait in line and breathe in exhaust fumes you can't call it a border.

Americans went forth in their covered wagons basically anywhere they wanted, and if they encountered restless natives they telephoned the cavalry. Canadians understood that if they did nothing the Stars and Stripes would be flying over all of western Canada. We responded to that challenge by inventing the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, those

red-suited guys who "always get their man."

The Mounties are the reason why Canadians and Americans do not share the same political culture. Their presence ensured that the settlement of the Canadian West would be a far more orderly and less violent process than the settlement of the American West. Before white settlers moved, the RCMP signed treaties with the Indian nations. During the movement west all settlers lived under British law enforced by the Mounties (think Dudley Doright). It's not that we didn't have cowboys, but they tended to be a dull lot, working on ranches rather than shooting up saloons.

Ask any American of a certain age about the RCMP and he will most likely recall movies starring Nelson Eddy wearing his red clown suit and wide-brimmed hat singing tender love songs into the adenoids of Jeanette MacDonald. But silly uniforms and love songs aside, the RCMP were a Canadian army created to defend our southern border.

As we come to the present era, Americans and Canadians continued to both puzzle and challenge each other. Some examples: Canada is home to over 50,000 American draft-dodgers from the Vietnam era. This did not play well in Washington. Since the 1970s Canada has established universal medical coverage. Between patients and doctors or hospitals, not a dime changes hands. We seem to find our experience a subject of great interest to Americans: to Democrats who are intent on proving how wonderfully it works, to Republicans who need to prove how badly it works (the Dems are closer to the truth), and to seniors who drive up in caravans to raid Canadian pharmacies. Message to Americans: the drugs they buy in Canada are, mostly, US made, but are sold subject to Canadian regulatory law.

In 1988 Canada and the US signed a free trade agreement. This pact seemed not, in its early stages, to arouse much political ire, possibly because factory wages are comparable in the two countries. Only when Mexico joined the pact (which became NAFTA) did the issue of low wage competition rear its head, making the entire tripartite treaty a political issue that the Trump campaign pledged to address.

It is important to understand what is at stake here. Each country exports about \$300 billion in goods to the other side of the border, but since the Canadian economy is only one tenth that of the US, exports play a much larger role in the Canadian economy than down south. Again, think elephants and fleas.

Canadians experienced the Trump style of negotiation as yet another instance of bullying. Yet neither many Canadians nor Americans

Continued on page 15

Commentary:

Dear Santa, Where Is My Aircar?

It has been said that before a war starts, the military uses the last war for its tactics and battle planning and thus is not prepared for new disruptive technologies.

Airplanes and aircraft carriers were a disruptive technology that Germany and Japan used at the start of World War II, effectively ending the dominance of the battleship and introducing the air battle tactic of the blitzkrieg. German tanks and the end-run of the Maginot Line Defense System that the French maintained on their border with Germany resulted in the early collapse of the French forces.

What has this to do with Connecticut and the common citizen? We are doing the same thing with transportation in the state. Tolls are a bygone technology. We can put millions of dollars into creating a money pit, or we can embrace an upcoming technology that revolutionizes transportation and make the state a leader in the world.

The time is coming rapidly to use the third dimension of airspace to relieve our two-dimensional ground space transportation system. We see Amazon using this with delivery drones. The military is using drone technology, requiring minimal human intervention and risk, to perform missions.

What I am talking about is not a pie-in-the-sky technological revolution. Deloitte says the US passenger electric vertical takeoff and landing market size could reach \$17.7 billion by 2040 and foresees the disruption of current transportation-related companies like Pratt and Whitney and Lockheed's Sikorsky division.

The technology is nearly ready for this transition. What is not ready is the



THOMAS P. HURLEY

governmental regulation, air control rules and takeoff pad and landing infrastructures which would be much cheaper to build and maintain than many miles of new highway lanes. This technology by its very nature would expand the transportation grid by servicing areas where new rail or extensive highway/road infrastructure otherwise would be required and allowing the state and its citizens to use all

of Connecticut's potential. This would benefit everyone, not just a few near the roads or rails. It would reduce the wear and tear on roads and the need for more of the same infrastructure technologies.

We need to provide a market for this technology to bring this public good to reality sooner. Your acceptance and demands as citizens is also necessary. Imagine for a moment getting into your aircar, entering your destination, pushing start and within 30 minutes being anywhere in the state. No waiting, no car parking lots on the highway, no accidents to ruin your whole day. Energy efficiency at its finest.

Various combinations of technology provide different structures, efficiencies and capabilities. This is what the legislature and governor should be looking into now.

Some may call this visionary and others folly, but this transportation revolution is as the move to the automobile from the horse and buggy was 120 years ago. The same things were said about the automobile when it was introduced. Failure to see it and plan for it will put today's buggy whip makers out of business.

My question still remains: Dear Santa, where is my aircar?

Orange Democrats To Caucus

Enrolled members of the Democratic Party in Orange, Connecticut will hold a caucus Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. to endorse candidates for the Orange Democratic Town Committee and to transact other business that may come before the caucus. It will be held at High Plains Community Center, located at 525 Orange Center Rd. The caucus is open to members of the Democratic Party.

Advertisement for the Milford-Orange Times. The ad features a collage of images and text. The main headline reads "Advertise In The Milford-Orange Times. Call us at: 799-7500". The background includes a photo of a woman and child, and various snippets of text from the newspaper, such as "place in General Chiang Kai-shek's exiled Republic of China (ROC) government" and "Very shortly, everything changed for Chen." The ad also includes a small photo of a man and the text "Eye Cat" and "Honey Sal".

Arts Matters

“Every artist was first an amateur.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson



The Goodspeed Opera House's Terris Theatre is showing "A Connecticut Christmas Carol," through Dec. 28, playing off the Dickens novel with famous personas from the Nutmeg State. Photo by Pat Miller.



By Patricia Miller

ORANGE ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL (525 Orange Center Rd., Orange) filled the air with music at its tenth Annual Youth Concert on Nov. 17 at the Milford Art Council's Eastbound Theater. The program was enthusiastically received by the audience, largely consisting of family and friends of the performers. What was missing was the support of the larger community, supporters of the arts in the area. In order for these young people to share their considerable talents, they need a wider audience. There was more than a respectable number of attendees, but entertainment of this quality should play to a sold-out audience. The young performers are

exceptionally talented. Audience members are never disappointed and are frequently taken by surprise at the caliber of these young artists. Look for the announcement of next fall's Youth Concert and make it a priority. Mark your calendar – you'll be glad you did.

ART IN THE LIBRARY (176 Tyler City Rd., Orange) displays the watercolors of the students of Audrey Galer, Orange watercolorist and teacher, who founded the Art in the Library program over 20 years ago. She has taught hundreds of students over the years whom she has nurtured and inspired.

The gallery on the second floor is open to the public except when there is a scheduled program in the room during regular library

hours.

Artwork is juried in June and all media are welcome to be submitted, including watercolors, acrylics, chalk, charcoal, pencil and pastels, as well as sculpture, collage, jewelry and specialized handwork. For more information, contact Audrey Galer at 203-795-3695.

THE ORANGE PLAYERS (525 Orange Center Rd., Orange) is issuing a director search call for directors who wish to be considered for the spring production of Neil Simon's *45 Seconds from Broadway*. The play, another of Simon's popular comedies, has a variety of roles for actors and actresses of various ages and types. The regulars of this coffeshop hangout are interesting characters. The play will be produced in May. Look for tryout information at orangeplayers.net.

NEW HAVEN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (4 Hamilton St., New Haven) presents a "Holiday Extravaganza" on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Woolsey Hall in New Haven.

NHSO Pops Conductor Chelsea Tipton will be joined by the New Haven Heritage Chorale in a concert that blends holiday classics with new seasonal favorites, including *Sleigh Ride*, *Around the World at Christmas Time*, *Glory to God in the Highest*, a holiday sing-along and more. Kids are free with the purchase of one adult ticket.

The program will be repeated at the Hamden Middle School on Saturday, Dec. 21 at Hamden Middle School and on Sunday, Sept. 22 at Shelton High School. Tickets are on sale at 203-787-4282 or at newhavensymphony.org.

ORANGE ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL (525 Orange Center Rd., Orange) will continue its "Hop the Bus" program to the NHSO Dec. 19 concert. With the support of the Orange Foundation, the council sponsors the free bus ride to the Classic Series of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. Call 203-397-8915 to reserve a seat on the bus. The bus transportation has caught on and ran at full capacity for the last concert. To ensure your space on the bus, it's a good idea to call early for a reservation.

GOODSPEED OPERA HOUSE (6 Main St., East Haddam) celebrates the holiday by presenting "An Unforgettable Nat King Cole Christmas" with Evan Tyrone Martin performing the many memorable songs made popular by the late Nat King Cole. This show is onstage at the opera house Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 20, 21 and 22.

Down the street at 33 North Main St., Goodspeed's Terris Theatre presents *A Connecticut Christmas Carol*, a musical running through Dec. 28. Some of

Connecticut's most beloved (or famous) storytellers come alive onstage for a yuletide gathering. Famous actor and local legend William Gillette leaves his castle on the Connecticut River to adapt Charles Dickens' holiday classic. Local heroes Mark Twain and P.T. Barnum, along with antihero Benedict Arnold, make spirited appearances opposite Gillette's Ebenezer Scrooge in this highly theatrical twist on a family favorite. The script and music were created for the Goodspeed Theater and the resulting show is definitely "Nutmeg flavored." For tickets, call 860-873-8668 or go to goodspeed.org.

THE PALACE THEATRE (61 Atlantic St., Stamford) is hosting the 2020 Shen Yun. This most unusual show is steeped in timeless traditional virtues and aesthetics. The ideals celebrated are those that for thousands of years were the bedrock of Chinese civilization. It is said that the superb artistry transcends the trends and tastes of today. 2020 Shen Yun features the world's oldest art form – classical Chinese dance – along with patented interactive backdrops and all-original orchestral compositions. The traditional Chinese culture, with deep spiritual roots and a profound worldview, was displaced by Communism in China. Shen Yun cannot be performed in mainland China today. The company is reviving this heritage and sharing it with the world. For tickets go to palacestamford.org or call 203-325-4466.

There will be another performance in February at The Bushnell in Hartford. Information will be given closer to the date.

SHUBERT THEATER (247 College St., New Haven) presents "The Illusionists Magic for the Holidays" from Friday, Dec. 20 to Sunday, Dec. 22, with an additional performance on Tuesday, Dec. 31. An array of performers from around the world as well as performers from the show *America's Got Talent* display mystifying feats of magic. This is a family-friendly production. For tickets, call 203-562-5666 or go to shubert.com. Patrons can also visit the box office Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or two hours before any performance.

LONG WHARF THEATRE (222 Sargent Dr., New Haven) continues the run of *Pride and Prejudice* through Sunday, Dec. 22. Adapted by Kate Hamill from the original novel by Jane Austen, this version is quite different from the original, utilizing a more current feminist viewpoint – reportedly a screwball version. Some of the plot remains the same: Mrs. Bennet still seeks appropriate matches for her girls. But the world of the Bennets is upended when news

Continued on page 7

Saturday January 11th 8.00 pm

Sunday January 12th 4.00-7.00 pm

Souped Up Bluegrass Bash

A Winter Music Festival That will Warm Your Heart

Day 1

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

DEADGRASS

an acoustic five piece string band celebration interpreting the music The Grateful Dead

Day 2

featuring three amazing bands

Bees in the Barn

Hitch & the Giddyup

Switch Factory

BONUS:

Free soups and breads and cash bar featuring Milford Point craft brews

the mAc milfordarts.org

#Milford Arts Council

#milford.arts

The Book Club:

Of Love, Prison And Triangles

Tayari Jones, *An American Marriage*, Algonquin Books, 2018

At the center of this novel's plot is the arrest, conviction, and incarceration of a young man for a rape he did not commit. You will have no trouble deducing that this American marriage is between African-Americans. The occurrence of such miscarriages of justice is altogether too frequent even in the enlightened 21st century. The author, however, has chosen not to politicize the issue but rather to examine the shattering impact it has as the story ripples through the couple and their families.

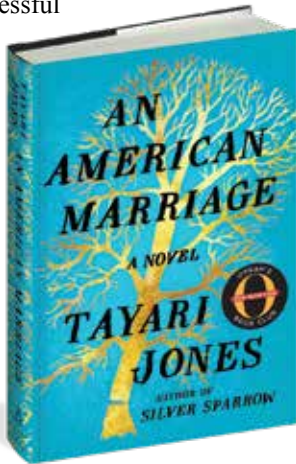


PETER HECHTMAN



so noble or sincere.

In this story, it is the actions and choices of Celestial that are most under the microscope. The judgement on her is harsh. She lacks the gravitas to wait for her man as long-gone generations of black women have stoically kept the home fires burning when their men were taken away. As a child of affluence, she has been directed by her feelings, not by the commands of duty. The origins of this judgement are also of interest. In an era of pop culture misandry readers will be surprised that, in this novel, fathers are treated as wise and experienced, as givers of sound advice, and as sources of moral authority. Even the negative archetype of the runaway father is redeemed by the wisdom and protection he belatedly offers his son.



This novel celebrates the achievements of African Americans in the post-Civil Rights era at the same time as it warns that the dreadful past is still present.

The beautiful Celestial, pampered and artistic daughter of a successful Atlanta family, is married to Roy, a Louisiana country boy with drive and determination to succeed. Three years into her life as a convict's wife, Celestial discovers that she does not have the moral stamina for this vocation.

Thus enters the third side of the love triangle which constitutes the framework of *An American Marriage*. He is Andre, the proverbial boy next door, who has been in love with Celestial since childhood.

The story of this threesome unfolds using an unusual narrative technique. Instead of an omniscient third-person narrator, we have alternating chapters narrated by each of the characters. This serves to keep track of information only known by each one of the characters, but it also reveals something else. Each narration contains a record of thoughts and beliefs that are noble and sentiments that are sincere, but also actions that are not quite

Roy is released after five years of imprisonment and the stage is set for the confrontation of the three principals of the love triangle. How does that go? Suffice it to say not in any way that any of them has planned it to go.

How does the author untangle these love knots? I shall have to keep some of her secrets for now.

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

Turkey Hill Developers (From pg 1)

those issues could be surmounted.

One of those experts was soil scientist George Logan of REMA Ecological Services. Among his concerns was that stacked septic systems proposed for the site could pass health code standards and still exceed the amount of nitrogen produced naturally "by an order of magnitude," thus changing the wetland environment.

In his latest appearance, Logan said the applicants had indeed addressed most of his concerns, though there was still some question as to whether the stacked system would work as proposed.

At one point, the commission asked developer representative Robert J. Wheway of Codespoti & Associates whether the septic system problem could be bypassed by bringing sewers to the site.

Wheway said bringing sewers in would incur an "astronomical" cost, requiring force mains for most of the distance along Grassy Hill Road. Neighboring Derby would have to be willing to accept the sewers as well.

The latter portion of the meeting was, once again, devoted to the numerous residents opposing the project.

Bryan L. LeClerc of Berchem Moses,

who is representing several of the residents challenging the development, contended that the applicant had not sufficiently proved there would not be disturbance to the wetlands, including the nitrogen that would be released into the environment.

Orange resident Dr. Lawrence Messina added to that his worry that problems with the septic systems could possibly cause well contamination down the line.

The fact that the units would be rented, not owned, has also entered into neighbors' opposition. Resident Tony Vitti suggested that the impact of the septic system might be controlled more effectively through an association of owners – but not by renters.

Dr. Amir Mohammad, who is the town's chief health officer and has spoken out against the development before, noted that it would ultimately fall to the town to deal with any health impacts that might occur. He suggested the applicant compromise with town members to come up with a feasible project with which everyone could be happy.

After three hours, the commission adjourned the meeting without making a decision, thus ensuring another chapter to the saga.

Continued from page 6

of a handsome, wealthy young bachelor of mystery appears in Hertfordshire. The lives of the Bennets are completely upset. (especially for the rebellious Lizzie). Hamill's adaptation is ingenious and sassy. For tickets, call 203-787-4282 or go to longwharf.org.

YALE REPERTORY THEATRE (1121 Chapel St., New haven) continues the run of *The Plot* by Will Eno, who wrote *The Realistic Joneses*, which played a season or two ago at the Rep before it went to Broadway.

The Plot is about a small plot of land in a cemetery and the resulting clashes between the owners and the team that has plans for developing the land as a distribution center. It is sometimes mysterious, sometimes touching and frequently very funny. There are twists and turns of the action that raise questions, but overall it is a well-acted and well-produced play. For tickets, call 203-432-1234 or go to yalerep.org.

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

武
武

\$50 Off For New Student Sign Up

CHINESE KUNG FU, WITH THE MOTTO OF "DISCIPLINE, RESPECT, UNITY, HUMILITY"

We focus on working to improve student physical and mental health while having fun.

PROGRAMS OFFERED:

TRADITIONAL & CONTEMPORARY KUNG FU FORMS
(Fist and Weapon Forms)

KID/ADULT SELF DEFENSE
(It's Important to Know How to Protect Yourself)

SPARRING

BIRTHDAY PARTY WITH KUNG FU OR RELATED THEMES

SCHOOL FIELD DAY TRIP

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

With the extension of another 2500 sqf, Wu Dang Kung Fu Academy will offer the new After School program starting January 2020.

Students will have the opportunity to spend time on Kung Fu, Chinese language and culture, math, and more.

Free Bus PickUp Available at Milford and Orange Elementary Schools
3:00-6:30 Daily Monday Through Friday

WU DANG KUNG FU ACADEMY
518 Boston Post Road, Orange CT 06477
(203) 283-5657 | www.WuDangKungFuAcademy.com

SERVING MILFORD/ORANGE FOR OVER 13 YEARS

Home & Garden

Real Talk: You Ask, A Pro Answers

Renovations Pay Off Now And Later

Renovations may be costly, by oh boy, how you reap the benefits. First you get to enjoy the newness of it all. Then when it is time to sell, your home is always chosen over those that need upgrading. New kitchens and bathrooms, remodeled basements, and new flooring are the items you can see with own eyes. Buyers will always pay more to get the home that is ready to move right in.

Although you can obviously ask a higher price for a remodeled home, how much more is always the question. Generic designs and grey paint are popular. If you put too much of your own taste into the project, others might not be attracted to your scheme.

Professional help is always recommended when considering major renovations. The expense to change cabinets, light fixtures or appliances are not cheap, but it could make the difference between selling and not selling. Any time you market your property, there could be five other homes on the listing service that are similar to yours. If you are a buyer and selling, you can really appreciate a home that has done all the work for you.

There are many facets to taking care of



BARBARA LEHRER

your home. For example, if you have just done windows, furnace and roof upgrades, you might next want to check the old bathrooms with the tiles from the sixties. It is a lot, but every home requires approximately \$5,000 or more a year in upgrades. In 20 years you've invested \$100,000. It is necessary in order to keep your investment current. Budgeting for the future and deciding on projects down the line is all part of home ownership.

Take the time this winter to evaluate the

interior, while the outside sits until spring. Start the new year off right: check the attic insulation, the basement corners for dampness and make sure these two areas are clean and dry so your home can breathe properly.

Then you can take a breath also while you put a pencil to paper and draw up a new wish list. Think about the one item you always wanted to change and get on the phone to a contractor. You will reap the benefits right away and later when you decide to sell your home.

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

The Garden Spot

Is That A Christmas Cactus?

Christmas cactus, Thanksgiving cactus, Easter cactus...aren't they all the same plant, just forced in to blooming at a different time?

Not exactly. Although the Christmas cactus and Thanksgiving cactus are in the same plant genus *Schlumbergera*, the Easter Cactus is in the genus *Hattiora*.

All three cacti are epiphytes, which are plants that obtain their moisture and nutrients from the air and rain and usually grow on another plant. Another common epiphyte is the orchid. They are found growing naturally in trees in the rainforests of Brazil and have such similar characteristics that they are obviously closely related.

The easiest way to tell the difference is that the Easter cactus has small bristles on the end of each leaf and there are no bristles on either

the Thanksgiving cactus or the Christmas cactus.

The fact that these cacti grow naturally in rain forests, rather than in deserts as one typically thinks of with other cacti, is important to remember if you want to keep one of these happy and blooming in your home. Some have been reported to live for more than 100 years, so don't give up on your plant.

The Christmas cactus does well under average home conditions with moderate care. It will adapt to low light conditions, but will produce blooms more readily if exposed to brighter light. Too much direct sunlight can burn its leaves, though, so keep the Christmas



PAT DRAY

cactus in an area with filtered light. This is a rain forest plant, so moisture is important as well. During its active growth in spring and summer keep the soil slightly moist. Allow Christmas cactus moisture levels to drop and dry out some between watering intervals, but never completely, and never let the plant sit in water, as this will lead to root and stem rot. Applying a mild houseplant fertilizer solution every other week is also a good idea.

The more tricky part of growing these plants comes about when they are most popular, which is during the heating season here in Connecticut. Not many of us have a rain forest environment in our winter homes, so placing a tray of pebbles

filled with water beneath the Christmas cactus container is a good way to add more humidity. They also prefer temperatures hovering between 60 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit your heating dollars to save your plant.

If you want your Christmas cactus to bloom again next year, let the plant to go dormant for about six to eight weeks prior to when you'd like it to bloom by cutting back on moisture, light and temperature. Simply cut back the watering and make sure the plant receives 12 to 14 hours of darkness and average temperatures around 50 to 55 Fahrenheit. Keep it away from drafty areas. Keep it up, and your plant may also hit the one century mark.

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

Orange Garden Club Decorates For The Holidays

The Garden Club of Orange has been busy decorating the town.

The club spent the morning of Nov. 19 decorating over a dozen wreaths to adorn the doors for the town buildings. Nancy Beque purchased fresh wreaths from a local Orange farm. Members brought clippings of greens such as pine, juniper, boxwood and holly berries from their yards to embellish the wreaths and added red bows. The holiday wreaths were ready for the tree lighting ceremony on Dec. 1.

On Nov. 22 the club also decorated the Case Memorial Library rotunda for the holiday season. Under the direction of Lana Ho, members have spent the last few meetings decorating new evergreen roping, swags and wreaths that adorn the railings around the rotunda. Ho designed the swags and roping and many of the club members implemented her design.

The club joined with other groups to

decorate the Osborne Homestead Museum in Derby for the holidays with a theme of nature's helpers and pollinators. Each group was given a room to decorate with a different helper or pollinator. The garden club decorated Eva Little's bedroom and front bathroom with hummingbirds. Club members attended summer workshops and have created hummingbirds and flowers they pollinate from colorful papers. These delicate creations along with other festive decorations have been used to enhance the two rooms.

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

The Garden Club of Orange designed wreaths to decorate the buildings in town for the holidays. Front row, from left: Rita Kelly, Lana Ho and Nancy Beque. Back row, from left: Caroline Dirs, Betty Hadlock, Teresa Evangeliste, Marianne Bauer, Laurian Kehoe, Gail Nixon and Linda Bradford. Photo courtesy of the Garden Club of Orange.



Tommy & R Masonry

For All Your Masonry Work

Stone, Brick, Block Walls, Flag Stone, Tile, Oven, Fireplace, Chimney, Stucco, Stairways, Steps, Patio, Foundations, Repairs, Pointing

CELL: 203 954-9677

Milford Garden Club Prepares Wreaths



Every year, the Milford Garden Club decorates and donates Christmas wreaths to spread the cheer of the holiday. When completed, the seven wreaths are delivered to local nonprofit and civic buildings, including The Red Cross, Bridges, Milford Public Library, Beth-El Homeless Shelter and Soup Kitchen and the DAR. This year's decorators consisted of Janet Kuryla, Christine Griffin, Ellenor Olson, Cindy Bevan, Barry Dana, Gwen Feher and Bunny Elmore. Photo courtesy of the Milford Garden Club.

On Your Mind

Why Can't I Sleep?

This is an interesting question that I get often. I have written about sleep before, but not only have I seen several clients in the past few weeks who suffer from insomnia, but the New York Times even featured a piece recently on this subject ("Hypnosis Changed My Life").

Insomnia is a sleep disorder that is characterized by difficulty falling and/or staying asleep. People with insomnia have one or more of the following symptoms: difficulty falling asleep and waking up often during the night and having trouble falling back to sleep.

I did a little research on the causes of insomnia and the recommended treatments. I was not surprised that my first five searches did not even mention hypnosis as a treatment. I am still surprised that the medical community uses pharmaceuticals first before any alternative treatments.

The causes are easy to guess; stress, alcohol,

caffeine, worry and overeating are the most common mentioned.

My perspective is a little different. Everyone sleeps. Sleep is a habit like any other habit. Once your brain experiences a pattern a few times, it creates a habit. That's how we learn to do things: by creating a pattern that our brain incorporates, making our life easier. Obviously, sometimes this is not a good thing. But it is still a habit and habits can be unlearned, replaced or eliminated.

There are two different aspects to sleeplessness. There is the physical part and the mental/emotional part. In order to sleep well the physical body must be relaxed and mental activity needs to slow. The conscious mind sleeps, but the unconscious mind



FERN TAUSIG

doesn't. That's why we dream.

Sometimes the fear of not being able to sleep creates an anxious feeling brought on by adrenaline. That is the physical aspect of fear or stress that you feel when you "can't" sleep. The best way to eliminate that feeling is with deep relaxing breaths and mindful relaxation of your muscles.

The second aspect of sleeplessness is the busy mind or racing thoughts going through your mind. These can be about anything going on in your life or whatever you are worried about. It can even just be an awareness of being awake.

The way to shut off the mind is by learning self-hypnosis or using a proven technique, such as the following.

After taking long slow breaths to shut off the adrenaline, focus your attention on your breaths as though you are breathing through your heart. If your mind wanders, just bring it back to your heart and focus. Because the conscious mind can't do more than one thing at a time, focusing on your heart breathing prevents other thoughts from entering your mind. If your mind wanders, bring it back to your heart and refocus. If your brain begins to engage in a thought, think to yourself, "I can't stay awake," and you will drift off to sleep.

Changing a habit requires repetition and practice. Don't give up. You can learn how your mind works to make it work for you instead of against you.

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

Here's To Your Health

Give A Gift To Yourself

Every year around this time I find myself trying to encourage everyone to find balance in their festivities that include temptations to overindulge. Parties are planned around food and alcohol, and most people put on an average of 7 to 10 pounds during the holiday season.

In years past I have found that people would rather overindulge in the name of "tis the season" than heed my "all about balance" advice. You are loved regardless of what you decide, so at the very least do it with those who love you in return and do something wonderful for one person who doesn't.

It is also with every passing year that I grow to understand the meaning of true, valuable and honored friendships. I try to believe the best in people, which sometimes can get my

heart a little hurt. However, I would prefer to live my life this way rather than being skeptical and fearful. We have all been disappointed or unjustly hurt in our lifetimes. When we are under pressure is when our true character is shown.

In light of that, do something nice for a person who may not necessarily deserve it. Why? Because it's good for your health.

An article written for the Rush University Medical Center explains the psychological benefits of giving and opens the discussion on a growing body of research that links the benefits of giving to greater



MICHELE TENNEY

health benefits. Some of those benefits are greater self-esteem and satisfaction in life, lower BMIs, lower blood pressure (which will reduce the risk of heart attack or stroke) and my favorite – lower risk of depression. Those are some amazing health benefits.

Life is about choices. So in this season of giving, give a present to yourself. Forgiveness is a gift you give to yourself regardless of whether the person you're forgiving knows it or not. Bitterness can make your bones brittle. Our emotions are directly linked to our overall health. So why not make the choice to give a gift to someone who has offended or hurt you?

I always tell my clients that we all have a story, we all have to begin somewhere, and one baby step just may change your life. Choose love, choose peace and choose to be the best, healthiest person you can be. Don't wait for a new year's resolution; start today. You can do this. I believe in you.

From my family to yours, merry Christmas, happy Hanukkah and happy holidays. 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.

Travel Matters

Christmas Markets In Europe

If you've ever seen pictures of the Christmas markets in Europe, they truly look magical. Not too long ago I was delighted to discover that they exceed expectations in person. I traveled on back-to-back river cruises on the Rhine and the Danube rivers – giving me the opportunity to explore Christmas markets in both large European capitals like Budapest and Prague and smaller towns like Cochem and Rudesheim, Germany.

There are more similarities than differences between the areas, such as the local artisan gifts that are difficult, if not impossible, to replicate in the US. Handmade ornaments made from sliced fruits, wooden Christmas trees that spin with candle wind-power, and papier maché magical light creations abound. Festivities are enhanced by the wonderful cinnamon aromas of the ever-present Gluhwein – the European name

for mulled wine – that makes the shopping warmer and very different than shopping in your local mall. Add to that delicious European treats such as chimney cakes (a traditional Hungarian pastry sold in many different markets), German sausages and roasted chestnuts. One of the fun opportunities is to pay a couple euros more to keep your festive Gluhwein mug as a souvenir and start a collection from different markets across Europe.

Since all the markets are located in prime locations in these (mostly) medieval cities, you literally feel like you are traveling back through centuries as you walk along the cobblestone streets with sparkling Christmas trees and festive red and white-striped awnings on the huts that house the artisans'



KAREN QUINN-PANZER

wares and food specialties.

The main Cologne, Germany market is located next to the UNESCO world heritage Cologne gothic cathedral. One of Vienna's best markets is located on the grounds of the Schonbrunne Palace, the summer palace of the Hapsburgs. There's even an indoor café on the grounds that not only serves one of the best strudels ever, but also allows you to take a cooking class there (which we did) and make your own. In Gengenbach, Germany, they offer the world's largest Advent calendar, where every evening at 6 p.m. the brightly lit windows of the town hall open and reveal a picture by a famous artist, such as Andy Warhol.

In large cities, like Budapest and Vienna, these markets seem to magically appear

around every corner. Nuremberg (on the Danube River cruise) has the largest and oldest Christmas market in Germany called Christkindlesmarkt.

Strasbourg (on the Rhine River) has the oldest and largest market in France. Known as the "Capital of Noel," its Christmas market has inspired a replica market in New York City. New New York market downtown in Bowling Green Park is billed as "a genuine French Christmas market" with Alsatian flavors, holiday spirit and gifts. It's open from Dec. 6 to Dec. 22 this year.

The European Christmas markets can be visited with Viking River Cruises, AmaWaterways, Avalon or Uniworld, to name a few. They're a good idea for next year.

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



ALEXANDRA JOY PHOTOGRAPHY

"You Make the Memories, I'll Make Them Last Forever."

Call today (203)-641-4527

Located at 382 Longmeadow Rd, Orange, CT.

Follow me:

Facebook- Alexandra Joy Photography

Instagram- Alexandra_Joy_Photography







Retired and Rejuvenated

Christmas Memories

I just finished baking Christmas cookies, something I had vowed not to do, but the memories of my childhood grabbed hold of me and drew me to the kitchen where I started to pull out the old recipes and ingredients to make a fresh batch.

I remembered how my sister and I made Christmas cookies with my mother and stored them in containers, each different kind placed in its own layer and then put in a closet for when the guests would arrive on Christmas day. This year I only made one kind.

I love Christmas. I love the lights, the sound of the holiday music, the hustle and bustle at the shopping centers, seeing freshly cut trees being brought home on the tops of cars, and even the hopes of a little of the “white stuff” to give everything a holiday glow. To this day, I can’t go through the holiday season without buying a balsam and cedar Yankee candle. I don’t want to calculate the number of hours my husband and I have clocked in practicing to sing with the choir for the Christmas

concert at our church.

As a youngster, trimming the Christmas tree was always a highlight of the season. In those days, everyone got a fresh tree, either from the Boy Scouts selling them as a fundraiser or by going out to a tree farm and cutting down the “perfect” tree. It was always my sister, brother and I who trimmed the tree after my father put on the lights. There was no such thing as a pre-lit tree. I remember that if one bulb was out, the whole string would not light up. It was a chore to try to find and replace that one faulty light.

I was meticulous about placing the ornaments (first child syndrome, I believe). My sister was more of a free spirit and would place them wherever she liked. I would carefully hang the tinsel on the branches. My brother would take handfuls and throw the tinsel at the tree. This often led to friendly



JOANNE
BYRNE

fight while we sipped the eggnog that was a part of the ritual.

Getting together with friends was a bit more festive this time of year. Special foods started with the Thanksgiving turkey, continued with the Christmas ham or Chanukah potato pancakes, and ended with a traditional New Year’s pork roast dinner. I grew up thinking that if you didn’t have pork on New Year’s day, the rest of the year would not turn out

well.

As an adult, I have a much greater appreciation for the special traditions found in our Judeo-Christian beliefs. The beautiful celebration of Chanukah usually comes in close proximity to the Christmas celebration. This celebration of the miracle of a small flask of oil burning for eight days when it was only supposed to last for one is more evidence of the spirit of God. The Festival of Lights

celebrates a miracle in a similar fashion that Christians celebrate the miracle of Christ’s birth.

There is an indefinable spiritual charge that binds generations together that cannot be found elsewhere. It can only be had when parents and grandparents do things like sitting together with their children, celebrating and discussing these miracles according to each of their religious traditions and beliefs. Getting in touch with the wonder of the past, the wonder of the present and the wonder of life is the true holiday spirit.

Let’s keep our individual and personal lights aglow so that we can shed light on some of the darkness in our current world. I wish you all happy holidays.

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

Your Health

Vaping: A Nationwide Epidemic Among Youth

By Maureen B. Lillis

In just one year, the number of high school students using tobacco products, which include e-cigarettes, increased by about 38 percent, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found in its annual National Youth Tobacco Survey. Approximately 27 percent of high school teens used tobacco products in 2018. This rapid growth of youth e-cigarette use over the year led the Surgeon General to call the use of these products among young people an epidemic in the United States.

In 2018, the CDC and the Food and Drug Administration data showed that more than 3.6 million U.S. youth, including one in five high school students and one in 20 middle school students, were past-month e-cigarette users. These numbers are staggering.

What are the risks of vaping? Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, which is highly addictive. Nicotine exposure during

adolescence can harm brain development, which continues until about age 25. It can impact learning, memory and attention, and increase the risk for future addiction to other drugs.

Many e-cigarettes come in flavors such as fruit and mint that make e-cigarettes more appealing to young people. E-cigarette aerosol can contain harmful substances, including nicotine, cancer-causing chemicals, flavorings that have been linked to lung disease, and metals such as nickel, tin and lead.

There have now been cases of e-cigarette or vaping product use associated lung injury reported in all 50 states. According to the CDC, since Nov. 20 there have been 2,290 cases of vaping-related lung injuries nationwide. A total of 47 deaths have been confirmed in 25 states and the District of Columbia. It appears that vitamin E acetate is associated with these

lung injuries, though there is not sufficient evidence to rule out contributions of other chemicals. Many different substances and product sources are still under investigation, and there may be more than one cause of this outbreak.

What can parents and caregivers do? We have a tremendous role in protecting our children from e-cigarettes. Talk to your teen about why e-cigarettes are harmful for them. Listen to them. These devices are out there, and most teens have either seen them or have peers who use them. There is a lot to learn from our children.

Educate yourself on the different types of e-cigarettes. Would you be able to identify them? The devices have many names; vape pens, tanks, electronic nicotine delivery devices or ENDS, pod-mods and e-cigarettes. The device liquid also has many different names: e-liquid, e-juice, cartridges, pods or

oil. Most vape liquids contain a combination of propylene glycol or glycerol – also called glycerin – as a base, and nicotine, THC or flavoring chemicals.

Due to the number of lung illnesses in Connecticut, the state Commissioner of Public Health recommends not using e-cigarette and vaping devices pending the outcome of the national investigation into severe lung disease. Many towns are now offering free educational events for parents and caregivers. Contact your local health department or drug task force agency to find out what is offered in your town.

Maureen Lillis is the Director of Health for the City of West Haven. She is also a resident of the town of Orange and the parent of a teenager. She closely works with Dr. Amir Mohammad in improving the health of the residents of town of Orange and city of West Haven.

Always Best Care™
senior services

Compassionate Senior Care in Your Community

- In Home Care
- Assisted Living Referrals
- Transportation Services

Services can include: assistance with showers, personal care, meal preparation, medication reminders, Alzheimer’s and dementia care, and housekeeping.

Call Today! (203) 877-1377
www.ABCFairfieldCounty.com

Locations independently owned and operated throughout the United States. License # HCA.0000831

Orange Police Invite Public Comment On State Accreditation

A team of assessors from the Police Officer Standards and Training Council will arrive on Jan. 8 to examine Orange Police Department policies and procedures as they relate to Tier I Liability of the state accreditation standards. As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments.

The assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from the Connecticut law enforcement community. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals and visit offices and other places where compliance can be witnessed.

Verification by the team that the Orange Police Department meets the POST Council’s state-of-the-art accreditation standards is part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation – a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.

Comments can be mailed to William Tanner, POSTC Accreditation Division, at 285 Preston Ave., Meriden, Connecticut 06450, by telephone at 203-427-2602, by fax at 203-238-6643 or by email to Accreditation.Compliance@po.state.ct.us. Enter the name of the agency in the subject line.

A copy of the standards is available at the Orange Police Department, located at 314 Lambert Rd. The local contact is Accreditation Manager Frank Koshes, who can be reached at 203-891-2130.

Once the POST Council accreditation assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to the POST Council Accreditation Committee, which will recommend to the council if the agency is to be accredited or reaccredited. Accreditation is for four years, during which time the agency must submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance with those standards under which they were initially accredited or reaccredited.

For more information regarding the POST Council accreditation program, visit the Police Officer Standards and Training Council website at <http://www.ct.gov/post>.

The Milford Chamber of Commerce

Milford Chamber Poised To Grow In 2020

2019 was a year full of success and change for the Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce, and we are looking forward to everything 2020 promises in terms of opportunity for our business and community.



PAM STANESKI

I would like to extend our thank you to our valued members for their continued engagement; we know that the success of the organization hinges on their support. The year ends with our chamber family growing with an additional 60 new members in 2019.

We started and continue to enhance the efficiency of the office with administrative improvements to help us serve our members better. We held the chamber's first-ever Chamber Week and tested the waters on "topics of interest" to our members via lunch 'n learns. I am excited to announce that the feedback from the events of the week have initiated a 2020 monthly lunch 'n learn program designed with input from our members (stay tuned).

This is just one of many things we are planning for the new year. If you haven't

liked the chamber's Facebook page, head on over and click that "like" button to see updates.

As the new year approaches and brings thoughts of annual resolutions, we offer a few to help you make the most of your chamber investment in 2020:

- Look to do business with fellow chamber members.
- Attend at least one chamber event.
- Take advantage of chamber marketing and media opportunities.

- Use the chamber team as your primary business support resource.

Not a chamber member? Call us at 203-878-0681 to join us as we continue to build our community and create programs with a focus on quality and breadth.

Wishing you and yours a successful and healthy New Year!



The Orange Chamber of Commerce

Orange Chamber Will Be Busy In The New Year

Happy and healthy holidays to all! Great things are happening at the Orange Chamber of Commerce. There are so many opportunities for members to network and connect, to contribute to the well-being of the community, grow your business and bottom line, learn something new, have a voice, save time and money and get noticed.



CAROL SMULLEN

The first available opportunity is the 2020 Health & Wellness EXPO at Planet Fitness in Orange. Participating businesses will have a table and be in front of hundreds of people trying to get fit and healthy after the holidays. Planet Fitness offers the perfect venue to promote your business; the state-of-the-art fitness center is a huge space for chamber members to promote their business.

The chamber is planning a State of the Town Breakfast in March along with a joint after hour's event with the Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce at the Orange Ale House.

On April 7, the Women in Business networking group of the Orange and West Haven chambers will hold their Annual Women's Leadership Conference at the Italian American Club in West Haven. Last year over 200 students and businesswomen

attended this motivating event and listened to the career stories of three successful businesswomen. We are looking for both speakers and sponsors for this event, which enables this group to hand out four scholarships to area female high school seniors.

On May 2, the Orange Chamber will hold the eighth Cohen and Wolf Cinco de Mayo 5K Run and one-mile walk. Sign up at RunSignUp.com . We are seeking vendors for the event as well as t-shirt sponsors.

The Orange Chamber is always looking to promote and help grow local business and encourages area businesses and professionals to join our great chamber. Did you know that 80 percent of customers prefer to do business with chamber members?

If you are currently a chamber member and would like to be on the Board of Directors or a chamber committee contact executive director Carol Smullen at 203-795-3328 or director@orangetchamber.com. For a full list of all activities go to the website at orangetchamber.com.



SCORE ONE FOR SAVING MONEY

GEICO Local Office

geico.com/bridgeport | (203) 799-2886 | nfeigl@geico.com
525 Boston Post Road | Orange

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states or all GEICO companies. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, D.C. 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. GEICO Gecko image © 1999-2019. © 2019 GEICO



Floman ^{FD} DePaola

Attorneys & Counselors At Law

Protecting What's Important to You

**Estate Planning | Estate Administration/Probate
Medicaid Planning | Real Estate Closings
Special Needs Planning**

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

Orange Professional Building (Upper Level)
P.O. Drawer 966 | 378 Boston Post Road | Orange, CT 06477
P: (203) 795-1211 | F: (203) 795-1215
office@flomandepaola.com
www.flomandepaola.com

Milford-Orange Times

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

Fair And Balanced With An Unfettered Voice For All.

Insuring Your Future

Is Health Coverage Season Really Over?

The TV ads aren't stopping, the phones keep on ringing, the mail keeps on coming and those ads keep popping up on your computer... and then there is silence. Open enrollment for Medicare and individual health insurance ended Dec. 15.

However, it's not really over if you are on Medicare. The period from Jan. 1 to March 31 is a time when people can make one change either to another Medicare Advantage plan or back to original Medicare with a supplement and prescription drug plan. So if you have a change in medical needs or you were hibernating during the annual enrollment period, you will have another opportunity to consider options. Contact a broker who specializes in senior insurance who can assist you.

For all others, there are certain circumstances such as loss of group insurance, change in residence, marriage, pregnancy or loss of a

spouse that will allow you to enroll in a new plan.

There are some year-end issues to consider. Pay attention to the explanation of benefits that comes monthly from your insurance company. It contains valuable information regarding how much your medical care and prescriptions cost during the year. This information is helpful when trying to estimate future costs and for tax purposes. The December report should provide you with a summary of the year's expenses. While keeping all the preceding month's paperwork could be helpful, it is also available online so perhaps could go in the recycling bin.

Does your plan include benefits such as over-the-counter medications, dental, eyewear or



TRISH PEARSON

hearing credit or reimbursement? In most cases those benefits expire on Dec. 31, so make sure to use them or file the paperwork for any reimbursement due to you.

Looking ahead to 2020, the issue of health insurance is certainly among the top three in next year's political campaign cycle. It will impact everyone no matter what kind of health insurance you have. It is important that we consider all the proposals and register opinions. This issue will impact everyone in many ways. Candidates and elected officials need to hear from all of us regarding our experiences, challenges and concerns.

Are you turning 65 in 2020? Please join me for an educational seminar to discuss the "Medicare Alphabet Soup." It is important to

understand options even if you are currently working and receiving benefits through an employer. The sessions will be held in February, June and October at the Milford Public Library in the evening. Watch for specific dates in upcoming issues.

Finally, thank you to my loyal readers. It is a pleasure to write the column and rewarding to know that so many find it helpful. If there are specific topics you would like me to cover, please email me at trishpearson281@gmail.com or trish@insurewithtrish.com and I will be sure to address them in upcoming columns.

Here's to a happy, healthy and a well-covered year ahead.

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

Your Finances

Build A Solid Financial Foundation

How solid is your financial foundation? You may feel secure in your career, but that doesn't mean you're on track toward a worry-free retirement. More important than a steady paycheck is your debt-to-income ratio: if your money is going out the back door faster than it comes in the front, you may need to adjust your lifestyle to secure your financial future.

Jobs can disappear and health issues can sidetrack the best of plans. Financial security is the peace of mind that comes with knowing you've built up a base of assets to handle setbacks and economic downturns. Here are some ways to get there.

Adjust your mindset. Perhaps you are a highly paid corporate executive and you want to drive a luxury vehicle, take expensive vacations and nestle your family within a

suburban McMansion. Consider this: research shows that most millionaires lived below their means and saved their money. It's pretty simple – if you spend it all now you won't have enough later. Rather than take pride in possessions, begin to take pride in planning for the future.

Tackle debt. Paying off debt is destructive in numerous ways, starting with the stress that comes from worrying about it. Debt, especially credit card debt, eats away at your financial future because the interest makes everything more expensive than it had to be (and keeps on rising higher), and because every dollar you spend today to pay for previous purchases could instead be invested.



ERIC TASHLEIN

In other words, the money you spend to pay for your past should be earning more money for your future. Make your money work for you as hard as you work for it.

Take control. Take the time to write down everything you spend money on and compare the total with your monthly income. Then craft a detailed budget designed to produce significant savings every month. This is just one of many steps on the journey toward creating a solid financial plan that should include retirement planning, tax planning and investment planning, something a financial planner can help with.

Create an emergency fund first. Your initial bursts of savings should be set aside in

a special account marked as your emergency fund, containing enough money to pay your bills for three to six months. That will give you the secure feeling of knowing that you can handle unforeseen problems such as major home repairs or the loss of a job. With that foundation you can start saving some serious cash for your future self.

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.

Wine Talk

Wines With Turkey

The holidays once again are sneaking upon us and the usual questions abound: what wine should I serve with my holiday turkey? Holiday turkey is a meal that matches wonderfully with big reds and rich balanced whites. It is easy, flexible and individual.

My favorite is chardonnay. No matter what region, style or type, chardonnay always works with holiday turkey. My favorite is Wente. The Wente family brought chardonnay into California in the early 1930s when no one was sure chardonnay would grow in California. They proved it could, and today 90 percent of all the chardonnay grown in California is grown from the Wente clone.

Both single-fermentation, cold-weather chardonnays and double-fermentation oakey, buttery chardonnays will work with a holiday turkey. Wines from California,

Chile, Australia and South Africa all work. Those from the south of France are wonderful.

My favorite red wine with a holiday turkey is pinot noir. It is bright and spicy with high acid. Pinot noir has a great degree of versatility in that it works well with traditional holiday sides. When choosing a pinot noir, note that the Old World wines are more tart with mushroom and cherry flavors. New World wines and the Aussies are much more fruit-forward and once again an individual choice.

One of the least well-known turkey matches is a grape varietal called Viognier. If you have not tried it, this holiday season would be a great time. It has honey undertones with a



RAYMOND SPAZIANI

floral nose and a stone fruit finish. It embellishes turkey to a great degree and would be a wonderful choice.

Gamay Beaujolais is a big turkey wine, according to all of the great wine experts. I humbly disagree. Perhaps I have not had a bottle that has been sufficiently upscale. I would stay away from this one and instead try some dry Riesling.

I am sure your guests are not aware of the wonderful attributes of dry Rieslings. Great dry Rieslings are high in acid and loaded with minerals. It works great with turkey. Everyone thinks of these wines as ugly, sweet, nasty wines, but nothing can be further from the truth.

The final great turkey holiday wine is

Zinfandel. It goes well with everything but especially with turkey. It is spicy, juicy and of course has notes of jam. I think it goes great with anything. Prosecco is a great way to start a holiday dinner also. During the upcoming holiday season, I hope you enjoy the company of your family and friends and bless God for all the wonderful things he has given to us.

Ray Spaziani is chapter director of the New Haven Chapter of the American Wine Society. He has taught wine appreciation classes at Gateway Community College, the Milford Board of Education, at Maltose wine and beer making suppliers and is a member of the International Tasting Panel of Amenti del Vino and Wine Maker magazine. He is an award-winning home wine maker. Email ray with your questions and wine events at realestatepro1000@gmail.com.



After the Stork comes the...
Stork Club inc
 CHILD-CARE & DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

Stop in for a Visit Today!

Excellent Quality Care at Affordable Prices

Now Enrolling All Age Groups

Pre-K Classes Available







For more information, please call 203.891.0599 or visit www.StorkClubs.com | 801 Baldwin Rd at RT 34

Youth & Education

AMSO Tops In Governor's Reading Challenge



Amity Middle School in Orange was recognized for having the highest number of books read by participating students in middle school in the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge. Aiden Graham and David Ke, the top readers from Amity, traveled to Hartford to receive recognition certificates on behalf of Amity. From left, back row: Gov. Ned Lamont; Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Commissioner of Education; and Dr. Marie McPadden, Amity Regional School District No. 5 Director of Curriculum and Staff Development. From left, front row: Aiden Graham and David Ke. Photo by Marie McPadden.

Orange Girls Win In Milford Basketball Tourney



The Holy Infant Lady Orange grade six girls' basketball team captured the championship in their grade Nov. 24 at the preseason Milford HoopFest Tourney. The Lady O defeated Monroe in the championship 25-21. Players on the team include Fiona Curis, Mackenzie Smith, Lily Simons, Addy Pivovar, Ava Storz, Sarah Donegan, Sienna Murphy, Nina Nardecchia, Marlee Lyons and JJ Kirck. Photo by Laurie Kirck.

Turkey Hill School Supports Orange Food Bank



The Turkey Hill School Student Council organized a food drive to support the Orange Food Bank, which accepted donations from students and community members from Nov. 11 through 22. The school community collected items such as toiletries, paper goods, cereal, snacks and other canned and jarred food. Over 700 items were delivered to the Orange Food Bank on Nov. 22. Photo courtesy of Turkey Hill School.

Orange Eagle Scout Builds Hygiene Kits For Needy



Orange resident Adam Glassman created and distributed 200 hygiene kits at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen in New Haven for his Eagle Scout project. From left: Glassman and Scouts from Troop 41 who assisted him with the distribution Stephen Pedenski, Ben Martin, Seth Glassman and Eli Burns. Photo by Jonathan Glassman.

Orange resident and member of Scout Troop 41 Adam Glassman completed his Eagle Scout Community Service Project on Oct. 17 by distributing 200 hygiene kits at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen in New Haven.

Glassman and organized fellow Scouts and supervised them in putting the kits together. Each kit contained soap, shampoo, a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss and razors. Men's kits contained shaving cream

and women's kits contained feminine hygiene products.

Glassman came up with the project concept, researched it and got approval to proceed. He partnered with the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen to raise \$2,600 and solicited donations for products needed to build the kits. He managed the process from start to finish. His team worked 115 person hours.

Wizards Swim Team Beats Watertown



The West Haven Wizards swim team, which includes members from Milford and Orange, won its second competition Dec. 7 against the Watertown Warriors. Photo courtesy of the West Haven Wizards.

The West Haven Wizards swim team, which includes members from Milford and Orange, won their second meet of the season on Dec. 7 in West Haven against the Watertown Warriors convincingly by a score of 471-201, placing them 2-0 for the season so far.

The Wizards are a co-educational, multi-age swim team that is one of 11 teams in the Yankee League. There are about 150 swimmers on the team and approximately one third of the swimmers live in Milford and Orange.

The Wizards started out strong by winning first place in nearly all age groups in the Medley relays. However, it was in the individual events that the Wizard swimmers showed their strength. They swept first, second and third place in 11 events: For the 9/10 boys 100-yard freestyle, CJ Sutton, Daniel Orozco of Milford and Ethan Burgard of Milford took the top three spots.

In the very next event, the 11/12 boys trio of Lucas Vital, Marco Ayala of Milford and AJ Meglio of Milford beat out the Warriors for the top spots in their 100-yard freestyle.

Next, the 15 and over girls took the top spots in two consecutive events: the 100-yard butterfly and the 200-yard freestyle, which was led by Kaelyn Falanga, Jillian Goldbeck of Milford and Hannah Rascoll

of Milford. The 9/10 boys came back to the blocks for the 50-yard backstroke where CJ Sutton, Aiden Giannettino of Milford and Xander Wight of Milford won the event, followed by the 13/14 girl's trio of Kaleigh Morton of Milford, Lauren Blake and Adriana Giachino of Milford doing the same in the 100-yard backstroke.

Next up were the individual medley events. For the 9/10 boys, Daniel Orozco of Milford, Ray Listorti and Xander Wight of Milford led the field in the 100-yard individual medley, while the 13/14 girls Kaleigh Morton of Milford, Christina Ayala and Adriana Giachino of Milford finished as the top three in their 200-yard individual medley. The 15 and over girls finished strong, taking all three top spots.

Closing out the individual events, the 9/10 boy's trio of CJ Sutton, Ethan Burgard of Milford and Sean Fitzpatrick of Milford finished on top in the 50 yard-freestyle followed by Arya Mulmi of Orange, Carli Cassone of Milford and Lia Hey sprinting to finish on top in the 11/12 girls 50-yard freestyle.

For more information on the West Haven Wizards swim team, visit westhavenwizards.org.

Holidays Celebrated At Case Memorial



The Case Memorial Library in Orange held holiday festivities Dec. 1 as part of the town's annual holiday festival and tree lighting. Photos by Lexi Crocco.

Turkey Trot Takes Off In Orange



The Rotary Club of Orange held its seventh annual Turkey Trot 5K run/walk on Nov. 28. The 7th Annual Thanksgiving Day 5K and 1-mile walk are in the books. There was a record crowd of 698 participants: 659 runners and 39 walkers. Rotary volunteers, overwhelmed by the participation, ran out of shirts, bibs and safety pins. The event also raised a record profit for Rotary of nearly \$19,000. First place in the race was Jake Mattei of Bethany with a finish time of 16:02. Second was Tim Cannata of Orange with a finish time of 16:35. Third was Andrew Burford of Woodbridge, who clocked in at 16:57. Photos by Lexi Crocco.

Full List Of Milford/Orange Runners, Courtesy Of Northeast Sports Timing

- | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Tim Cannata | 44 Peter Naumann | 87 Matt Carter | 130 Aimee Iacomacci | 173 Jillian Ball | 216 Grace Butler | 259 Keara Courtney |
| 2 Michael Cannata | 45 Eryn Mackin | 88 Rebekah Melville | 131 Daniel Nichols | 174 Ellie McFadden | 217 Anne Jasorkowski | 260 Lisa Courtney |
| 3 Colby Oconnor | 46 Jamie Hall | 89 Scott Cavanagh | 132 John-Eric Nelson | 175 Bill Morrison | 218 Nicole Rios | 261 Christy Lindsay |
| 4 Megan Foley | 47 Thomas Corderman | 90 Kimberly Seifert | 133 Keira Droney | 176 Elizabeth Ewen | 219 Alex Bove | 262 Paul Cannata |
| 5 Rob Justo | 48 Audrey Dellert | 91 Daniel Rabinovitz | 134 Lisa Huber | 177 Andrew Weng | 220 Michelle Bove | 263 Kevin G Cornell |
| 6 Sean Pivovar | 49 Andrea Rodriguez | 92 Andrew Breault | 135 Natalie Huber | 178 James Reilly | 221 Anushka Sidhartha | 264 Geoffrey Turey |
| 7 Damon Downs | 50 Kimberly Day | 93 Steven Santos | 136 Gina Pratt | 179 Elizabeth Territo | 222 Sidhartha Sridharan | 265 Kimberly Turey |
| 8 Scott Kaplanka | 51 Grace Launder | 94 Andrew Litowitz | 137 Mike Nadeau | 180 Ashley Butler | 223 Catherine Welch | 266 Logan Turey |
| 9 Robert Backhaus | 52 Jack Greenspan | 95 Amelia Launder | 138 Elizabeth Gonzalez | 181 Michael Bindner | 224 Norah Bove | 267 Michael Jodon |
| 10 Chris Parkin | 53 Vijay Kumar | 96 Dillon Courtney | 139 Karen McDermott | 182 Isobel Browe | 225 Bruce Butler | 268 Wendy Jodon |
| 11 Julia Provenzano | 54 Sydney Formica | 97 Jake Reher | 140 Barbara Prince | 183 Max Case | 226 Brittney Baker | 269 Skylar Ramey |
| 12 Nolan Smith | 55 Michael Latella Jr. | 98 Taavi Neklesa | 141 Katherine Watts | 184 Marco Lopez | 227 Luke Richard | 270 Jill Gaglione |
| 13 Colleen Beirne | 56 Erik Soto | 99 Kaia Melville | 142 Richard Watts | 185 Lucy Hamilton | 228 Todd Richard | 271 Calleigh Parkin |
| 14 Nelson Rios | 57 Kevin Ryan | 100 Nancy Medici | 143 Karen Antonino | 186 Rachel Bradeen | 229 Kerri Bouchard | 272 Tessa Coyne |
| 15 Greg Jazwinski | 58 Logan Fuehrlein | 101 Frank Bradley | 144 Nancy Aliev | 187 Silveras Sboui | 230 Jared Gabriele | 273 Dawn Ramic |
| 16 Brian Fuehrlein | 59 Aneta Coulombe | 102 Jonathan Close | 145 Kristen Peloso | 188 Domenick Siano | 231 Monica Lonardo | 274 Jonathan Sutton |
| 17 Shaan Patel | 60 Andrew Cohen | 103 Colby Viesselman | 146 Steve Hudak | 189 August Tullo | 232 Scott Zakos | 275 Rebecca Simone |
| 18 Christopher Cesare | 61 Dianna Fuehrlein | 104 Gregg Theiss | 147 Ines Licata | 190 Jeannine Minort-Kal | 233 Debra Dykun | 276 Elizabeth Lyon |
| 19 Chris Territo | 62 Laura Rosenberg | 105 Jerry Meshell | 148 Sherri Cesare | 191 Mark Joseph Wezensk | 234 Erika Wezenski | 277 Jessica Simone |
| 20 Esther Roger | 63 Mark Mitche Wezensk | 106 Steven Weng | 149 Susanne Monschein | 192 Kent Tullo | 235 Shaylyn Sullivan | 278 Robin Correll |
| 21 Christina Zakos | 64 Robert Maloof | 107 Denise Stein | 150 Leah Monschein | 193 Michael Palmer | 236 Noelle Bencivengo | 279 Judy Cannata |
| 22 Carolin Hart Maloof | 65 Demery Ormrod | 108 Nate Monschein | 151 Sarah Rainey | 194 Kristi McCarthy | 237 McKenzie Sullivan | 280 Harlow Miller |
| 23 Mark Reher | 66 Kent Lyman | 109 Danielle Napoli | 152 Kathleen Mrazik | 195 Elizabeth Watts | 238 Paige Launder | 281 Jonah Holcombe |
| 24 Jaan Melville | 67 Theodore Novicki | 110 Brian Monschein | 153 Angela Provenzano | 196 Joanna Watts | 239 Cathy Bradley | 282 Sylvie Napoli |
| 25 Robert Bove | 68 Addyson Pivovar | 111 Anita Fernandez | 154 Skip Bradbury | 197 Mariah Provenzano | 240 Melvin Lopez | 283 Ann Foley |
| 26 Jeff Kovar | 69 John Pivovar | 112 Megan Smith | 155 Elizabeth Buckholz | 198 Ann Anderson | 241 Christopher Courtne | 284 Geraldine Foley |
| 27 Aiden Courtney | 70 Thadeus Gnidula | 113 Cherry Navas | 156 Mufu Weng | 199 Dawn Bordeleau | 242 Chrissy Pivovar | 285 Kasey Smith |
| 28 Ryan Palmer | 71 Marissa Lopez | 114 Allison Diraffaele | 157 Renu Bazaz-Kapoor | 200 Joyce Zahariades | 243 Molly Kehoe | 286 Lilly Bordeleau |
| 29 James Ormrod | 72 Colleen Kapoor | 115 Scott Weatherbee | 158 Kathryn Marchitto | 201 Erin Hughe-Spence | 244 Remmy Ciambriello | 287 Janine May |
| 30 Vishal Kapoor | 73 Luis Rodriguez | 116 Timothy Reinholz | 159 Mary Shaw | 202 Ryan Howard | 245 Roo Powell | 288 Stuart McManus |
| 31 Collin Day | 74 Brittany Mayzler | 117 Steve Satonick | 160 Karen Dellert | 203 Lauren Cesare | 246 Ted Bordeleau | 289 Cheryl Cape |
| 32 Nina Waskiewicz | 75 Leo Dottori | 118 Sebastian Formica | 161 Steven Csejka | 204 Louis Giancola | 247 Ryan Blair | 290 Brock Dubin |
| 33 Martin Gnidula | 76 Wayne Buckmir | 119 Daria Torrenti | 162 Amy Lopez | 205 Kelly Thompson | 248 Gerald Bretthauer | 291 Susan Gabriele |
| 34 Amy Mooney | 77 Christine Novicki | 120 Anthony Criscuolo | 163 Erin Kowalewski | 206 Shannon Murphy | 249 Mark Seifert | 292 Richard Gabriele |
| 35 Teri Alves | 78 Robert Briggs | 121 Jay Turiano | 164 Finn MacDaniel | 207 Kayla Abreu | 250 Lawrence Welch | 293 Regina Gibbs |
| 36 Tony Molina | 79 Maureen Devlin | 122 Kieran Kapoor | 165 Maclaren Tobin | 208 Taylor Martin | 251 Bowen Tullo | 294 John Gibbs |
| 37 Kelly Molina | 80 Claire Theiss | 123 Mia Lopez 246 | 166 Robert Testo | 209 Christina Tamagni | 252 Sarah Tullo | 295 Gabriella Dejesus |
| 38 Jeff Silverman | 81 Angela Nilsson | 124 Dylan Mark | 167 Robert Testo | 210 Carisa Caruso | 253 Molly Giancola | |
| 39 Neal Delaurentis | 82 Wesley Nilsson | 125 Pavan Kapoor | 168 Aileen Sokol | 211 Casey Viesselman | 254 Duncan Theiss | |
| 40 Lucci Dottori | 83 Ann Marie Provenzan | 126 Louis Landman | 169 Patrick Williams | 212 Kristen Viesselman | 255 Laura Shum | |
| 41 Derek Esposito | 84 Avery Palmucci | 127 Daniela Gordon | 170 Denise Smith | 213 Janaya Young | 256 Jacob Fox | |
| 42 Diana Sarro | 85 Brooke Derosa | 128 Katie Fairty | 171 Skylar Cascante | 214 S. Sullo | 257 Christine Theiss | |
| 43 Luis Galli | 86 Douglas Langley | 129 Anthony Karr | 172 Kersti Melchior | 215 Susan Judge | 258 Patricia O'Neill | |

Getting To Know You

The Most Important Holiday List

It's the holiday season, and in appreciation of all the readers who spend your valuable time to read my periodic passes at pontification, I'd first like to say "thank you." In that spirit, I'd like to share a thought with those who feel stretched a bit thin by this season.

I don't know when it happened, but sometime during my lifetime the end of the year "holiday season" expanded. Unofficially it expanded to fill the time from Halloween to Superbowl Sunday. Officially, meaning that it is time to hit the mall and go shopping, it goes from Thanksgiving until Jan. 1.

So here we sit in the middle of the holiday season, about halfway between being thankful and being reflective. We're moving from eating turkey and watching football toward drinking booze and watching football. That little commentary on the content of our collective holiday celebrations should give us all a little pause, but is beside the main point.

The main point is that this season always seems a stressful time because of lists.

At the start of the holiday season we're supposed to think up a list of people in our lives for which we're thankful. Then we have to think up more lists: a list of people to send holiday cards to, a list of people to buy presents for, a list of people to invite to various celebrations as well as a list of the various other celebrations we will attend, and finally a list of things we resolve to attempt in the coming year.

That's a heap of lists to add to our pile of work-a-day lists of things to do, places to go, people to see, honey-dos, things to clean and wash, things to fix, grocery shopping, books to read, websites to visit, a long and growing list of people, places and things we never quite seem to get around to and a list of things to do before we go to bed. Then as deadlines for completing the holiday season lists get shorter so do our tempers, while the lines and drives get longer. Seems



DAVID CROW

a small wonder that the holiday season can leave even the most cheerful and organized soul feeling a bit ornery and bowed up with ill humor.

I'm not pointing out a problem of which any of us is unaware, but the question becomes "what to do?" Should we resign ourselves to feeling fit to be tied by our blizzard of lists, or is there a way to put the "holiday" back in the "holiday season"?

Fortunately, there is an answer, and it isn't to get into bed and pull the covers over our collective heads until Jan. 2, although right about now amid the crush between being thankful and being reflective that sounds mighty appealing. The answer is if we lay those lists next to one another the people on them are identical. The people that make us thankful are the same people on which we should spend our time, talent and treasure and resolve to reflect

on in the coming year.

In this holiday season the best gift we can give to those people on our lists is to take a minute and let them know exactly how they add meaning to our lives, exactly how they make us a better version of ourselves. We don't have to stand in line at the mall or pull out our credit card to give that gift. All it costs is a quiet minute and, if you're so inclined, a firm handshake or hug.

So to my family, friends and readers, whether you are present or absent, whether you are gone or yet to come, I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season and I look forward to chatting in the coming year.

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.

Diplomacy And Trump, Canadian-Style (from pg 5)

were aware of a quiet but effective lobbying campaign carried out by Canada in favor of NAFTA. This campaign was not directed at the general public; rather it was focused on elected officials in state governments in which exports to Canada make up a significant

portion of the local economy. We warned our friends what could be coming if trade were to be restricted. The new treaty that has been concluded (known as the USMCA) is not much different than the old one, but – and this is a serious point – it has not yet been passed

by Congress and the text could still be subject to alteration as a result of a tantrum from a president who has difficulty distinguishing his own needs from that of the country.

Which brings us back to the London gaffe. What will be the fallout in Washington and in Ottawa?

It is easy to predict how this will play out in the US. Trump will descend the steps of Air Force 1 and find himself in an ever-roiling stew of impeachment-related issues. Trudeau will be forgotten. But not so in Canada. The Parliamentary opposition has already attacked him for being unprofessional and undisciplined. "What useful purpose did his

remarks serve?" they ask. As for being two-faced, some Canadian voters in this year's election have already reached that conclusion. In the 2015 election Trudeau sold himself as an idealistic young man who would do politics differently. Many voters have concluded that this was a ruse, but not enough to deny him the formation of a new government.

But these are internal matters. When it comes to dealing with Trump, most Canadians have concluded that having two faces is, in fact, essential to professional diplomacy. One face to suck up and, when the President leaves the room, another face in which the eyes roll upward.

Milford Performance Center Boosts Charity, Economy (from pg 1)

musical and other acts to Milford and treating the events as fundraisers for area nonprofits.

The MPC is not just a cultural centerpiece, says Cooper. "Every performance has a charitable aspect attached such as collecting food for Food2Kids, Toys for the Chaz & AJ Toy Drive or a major fundraiser like the Arlo Guthrie concert."

While Cooper may spend his energy focused on helping charities, his project has also fed the local economy, according to area businesses.

"The Milford Performance Center has been a fantastic anchor to gather patrons for our restaurants in Milford and beyond," said Frank Basile, owner of Bridge House and Bonfire Grille restaurants. "We have seen increases in our business when events have been held. With success of the center comes success to all local business."

Kevin Gosling, who has partnered with Cooper in the past by providing rooms at the Hampton Inn in Milford when he was general manager there, said the MPC has been a boon for the local hospitality industry.

"Our partnership has proven to be a win-win for everyone involved. Whether it's taking care of performers or performance attendees it has been a real pleasure. Over the years, Steve has really put together a wide range of shows and I look forward to what he has in store for the future," he said.

Cooper said the hotel had knowingly booked 28 rooms for the MPC's past two performances.

Although Cooper's primary profession is photography, he has long been involved in the world of theater and music. In his teen years, he played with both nationally acclaimed high school and college bands. He soloed at the Lincoln Center, the Canadian Arts Center, MSG, Disney World and pro and college football game halftimes.

In college he started out as a music major and theater minor but switched to art education and photography in his freshman year. Nevertheless, he retained and cultivated the relationships he had built in the music world.

The MPC started out by bootstrapping for

funding, Cooper said. "Right now we count on a few sponsors and ads in the playbill and restaurant guide as well as well-attended shows. Since we have been a volunteer operation this has worked for the first three years."

Cooper would like to grow his operation, though, to make the MPC the "crown jewel" of Milford. This summer, he tried to expand by adopting the model of the Ridgefield Playhouse in Ridgefield. The agreement grants a 20-year lease for the auditorium and basement of the Richard E. Venus Municipal Building for \$1 a year in exchange for the events the Ridgefield Playhouse organization brings.

Though the city ultimately turned Cooper's proposal down, he remains undeterred.

"I know tourism has been discussed as an economic driver for Milford," he said. "This year, our third, what started out as a concept is proving to be and one of the largest year-round influencers for people to come to Milford, enjoy a show and help fill the restaurants and shops."

Rich Conine, owner of Stonebridge Restaurant in downtown Milford, is on board with Cooper's expansion plans.

"Stonebridge has definitely felt the impact of increased business to the restaurant on those evenings when Milford Performance Center was open, and the Arlo sold-out show was the best," he said. "I'd give my wholehearted support to an effort to turn the venue into one similar to Ridgefield Playhouse to allow Steve to present an even greater variety of entertainment events."

Regardless of whether that comes to fruition, the MPC already has several shows lined up for 2020, including doo-wop group The Corvettes, a Sinatra & Martin show with a seven-piece, big-band style orchestra, the Eagles Experience and No Quarter, the internationally acclaimed Led Zeppelin tribute band.

Cooper likely won't stop giving back to those in need, either. He recently launched the Charitable Hands Foundation, which is devoted to assisting other nonprofit organizations devoted to children with physical, mental, medical and social needs.

LOCATED AT

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

PARSON'S CENTER
53 W. MAIN ST., MILFORD CT

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR & ONLINE
WWW.MILFORDPERFORMANCECENTER.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday January 18th



DOO WAP REVUE

With Opening set...Roy Orbison Tribute!

January 25th - Frank Sinatra & Dean Martin Show
With 7 Piece Orchestra

February 8th - "DizzyFish" Sounds of the 70's

February 15th - "Dirty Deeds" Tribute to AC/DC

February 21st - "Gold Rush" Ultimate Neil Young

February 29th - "The Eagles Experience"

March 28th - "Motley 2"

April 3rd - "Lords of 52nd Street"
The Original Billy Joel Band!

May 16th - "No Quarter"
The Ultimate LED ZEPPELIN Band Returns!

MilfordPerformanceCenter.org

News & Events

Milford Holds Tree Lighting



The City of Milford and the Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce held its annual Festival of Lights and Tree Lighting Nov. 27 at the Milford Green. Photos by G. Gregory Geiger.

Milford Chamber Holds Holiday Event



The Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce held a "Holiday Business After Hours" event on Dec. 4 at The Milford Bank. More photos are available on the *Milford-Orange Times* website. Photos by G. Gregory Geiger.

Extended Transfer Station Hours In Milford Ending

The last full day for extended Saturday hours at the Milford Transfer Station will be on Jan. 4, when the station will be open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Transfer Station will resume

regular Saturday hours from 7 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Jan. 11. Extended Saturday hours will resume in the spring.

Orange Police Invite Public Comment On State Accreditation

A team of assessors from the Police Officer Standards and Training Council will arrive on Jan. 8 to examine Orange Police Department policies and procedures as they relate to Tier I Liability of the state accreditation standards. As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments.

The assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from the Connecticut law enforcement community. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals and visit offices and other places where compliance can be witnessed.

Verification by the team that the Orange Police Department meets the POST Council's state-of-the-art accreditation standards is part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation—a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.

Comments can be mailed to William Tanner, POSTC Accreditation Division, at 285 Preston Ave., Meriden, Connecticut

06450, by telephone at 203-427-2602, by fax at 203-238-6643 or by email to Accreditation.Compliance@po.state.ct.us. Enter the name of the agency in the subject line.

A copy of the standards is available at the Orange Police Department, located at 314 Lambert Rd. The local contact is Accreditation Manager Frank Koshes, who can be reached at 203-891-2130.

Once the POST Council accreditation assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to the POST Council Accreditation Committee, which will recommend to the council if the agency is to be accredited or reaccredited. Accreditation is for four years, during which time the agency must submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance with those standards under which they were initially accredited or reaccredited.

For more information regarding the POST Council accreditation program, visit the Police Officer Standards and Training Council website at <http://www.ct.gov/post>.

Transportation Runs Through Milford And Orange (From pg 1)

says. "The combination of technology upgrades with service improvements means the cities and everywhere in between are better connected, providing yet another option to take cars off the road, and move more Connecticut residents around."

The sticking point with all of these projects has been funding—especially the prospect of tolling. That piece of the plan has evolved over time. Lamont campaigned on a platform of only tolling trucks, but changed his position shortly after being elected, claiming that car tolls would be needed to generate enough revenue.

His administration released an early plan that placed more than 50 toll gantries across the state and was quickly shot down by state legislators. Over the autumn, Lamont was able to identify some low-interest federal loans the state could tap into. He reduced the number of toll gantries to 14, targeted at specific bridge projects.

His fellow Democrats, who control the state legislature, still couldn't be brought on board, though. So Lamont once again shifted to tolling only trucks.

State Republicans have consistently come out against tolls in any form. And all the fluctuating toll plans have eroded any trust Lamont might have built on the issue.

"Truck only tolling will only be the beginning and I think we all know that eventually this will lead to trucks and cars both having to pay a toll," said Republican state Rep. Charles Ferraro, whose district includes Milford and Orange. "Connecticut residents and businesses need a break from all the taxes they have to pay, as a state it's time to start prioritizing how we spend our money."

"The residents of Milford and Orange want transparency and accountability from its lawmakers, not false hope and broken promises," said fellow Republican state Rep. Kathy Kennedy, whose district also includes both municipalities.

"Earlier this year, the majority party and

the governor diverted \$171 million from the Special Transportation Fund lockbox. That doesn't instill confidence that future toll money would be wisely spent," she pointed out.

Kennedy agrees that projects like those in CT2030 for Milford and Orange need to be addressed. She is optimistic that the legislature and governor can find common ground on funding and spending priorities, but doesn't see tolls as a worthwhile endeavor.

"Funding highways and rail can and should be a non-partisan issue, which is why we need a full audit of the Special Transportation Fund and get a real handle on state construction costs before we push forward with plans to toll trucks; the taxpayers and state commuters deserve that accountability. More funding (truck tolling) will not solve the problem if the funds are wrongly or wastefully spent," she said.

Republicans came out with their own funding strategy that avoids tolls entirely by drawing down \$1.5 billion from the state's rainy day fund. Lamont has expressed skepticism at that tactic, though, for potentially leaving the state bereft should another recession occur.

Meanwhile, many Democrats remain noncommittal about tolls. State Rep. Kim Rose, whose district covers Milford, said it is critical to find stable funding that will generate the necessary resources to pay for transportation maintenance and upgrades—including those proposed for her home city.

"I'm appreciative of the hard work the governor has put in these months as well as that of our caucus and Senate Republicans, and will need to see formal legislative language before offering support for any proposal," she said.

Lamont and legislative Democrats have agreed to schedule a special session to consider the transportation plans in early January.

BEECHER WALK
at orange

Beautiful
NEW CONSTRUCTION
condo community
for **ADULTS 55+** bordering
Indian Lake in Orange.

2 BR | 2.1 BATH TOWNHOMES
PRICED FROM \$249,900*

To arrange a private appointment call...
203-234-1821
or visit
BeecherWalk.com

GPS use 100 South Orange Center Rd., Orange

Calcagni
REAL ESTATE

f /BeecherWalk

The Law Office of David Crow, LLC

Got a legal question?
Ask your hometown lawyer at your
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION.

ENGAGED IN THE GENERAL PRACTICE OF LAW INCLUDING:

- Accidents And Personal Injury
- Business Formation & Representation
- Collections
- Criminal, DUI/DWI Defense
- Family Law
- Foreclosure Litigation
- General Litigation
- Landlord/Tenant Law
- Local Administrative Board Practice
- Real Estate Transactions
- Wills And Estates
- Workers' Compensation

Evening, weekend and home visit appointments
available upon request. **203.799.CROW (2769)**
378 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT 06477

Orange Senior Center Events

Classes are canceled when the Orange school system closes due to weather. If there is a school delay, then only those classes during the delay are canceled. WTNH 8 is the official station for weather cancelations. If you have any questions contact the Senior Center at 203-891-4784.

The senior center currently has its doors decorated for the holidays as part of the annual Holiday Door Decorations.

Living Treasure Nominations

Nominations are being accepted through March 2 for the 2020 Living Treasure Awards. The three individuals chosen will be honored at Pasta Festa in May 2020 at the High Plains Community Center.

Documentary and Discussion

The Senior Center will feature Michael Jackson's "This Is It" on Dec. 27 at 1 p.m. It is a documentary of footage as Jackson prepares for sold-out shows in London. Call for a seat.

Griffin Hospital/Parish Nurse Van

Come on the RV and have Griffin Hospital registered nurses take your blood pressure. High blood pressure may have no symptoms at all. They will teach you what the blood pressure normally should be and what your reading means. Have an apple too. They will be at the Orange Senior Center on Monday, Dec. 23.

Afternoon Fun

The Senior Center hosts arts and crafts on Monday, Name 5 or Scattergories on Tuesdays, Mexican Train dominos on Wednesdays, bingo on Thursdays and Scrabble on Fridays, all at 1 p.m. in the cafe.

Movie Club

The Orange Senior Center Movie Club discusses a current movie playing locally, meeting to critique the film, including the script, acting, cinematography and directing. Meetings are held on the second Friday of the month at 3 p.m. in the town conference room at HPCC.

Hot Lunch

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

Mohegan Sun Trip

This trip takes place on Wednesday, Jan. 29-30. Mohegan Sun boasts an indoor seven-story waterfall, the world's largest planetarium dome and the Wombi Rock. The cost is \$169 per person for a double room, \$234 for a single room, and \$159 per person for a triple room. This no-minimum trip includes round-trip transportation, hotel accommodations and more. Full payment is due at registration. There is considerable walking.

Registration Open At OCC Nursery School

The Orange Congregational Church Nursery School is now accepting applications for fall 2020. The nursery school has served the community for more than 50 years and is open to all faiths. School days run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with 3-year-olds attending twice a week and 4-year-olds three days a week. There is also a five-day program for

returning students.

The nursery school will be holding an open house on Sunday, Feb. 9 from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. The snow date will be Feb. 23.

For more information about the school or to schedule a visit with your child, email occns@yahoo.com.

OCC To Host Christmas Eve Services

Orange Congregational Church will hold two Christmas Eve services in its sanctuary on Dec. 24.

At 5 p.m. there will be a family service where children, youth and families gather to hear the story of Jesus' birth and sing carols. At 10 p.m. there will be a traditional candlelit Festival of Lessons and Carols.

The church, located at 205 Meeting House

Ln. in Orange, also hosts regular services on Sundays at 8 a.m. in the chapel and at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. It is an open and affirming congregation, meaning all people are welcome regardless of race, class, ability, gender identity, sexual orientation or family type. For more information, visit orangecongregationalchurch.org.

St. Mary Accepting Applications

St. Mary School in Milford is now accepting applications for their preschool for the 2020-2021 school year. The preschool offers a variety of enrollment options for 3 and 4-year-olds. The application can be

found at saintmaryschoolmilford.org or can be picked up in the school office at 72 Gulf St. in Milford. Classes fill up fast. Call 203-878-6539 with any questions or to schedule a personal tour.

Recycling Tip

Have you finished reading the Sunday comics? Instead of recycling them with your other newspapers, set them aside for wrapping gifts. They are colorful and save you the hassle and money of buying wrapping paper. In 2017, Americans spent \$12.7 billion on gift wrapping. The comics also save the environment: this time of year, the earth suffers a little more with over 25 percent more trash than usual because most wrapping paper cannot be recycled.

Another option is to package your gifts in colorful reusable bags. You can buy bags at dollar stores and they can be used over and over for various occasions. Though Amazon

charges more for its gift wrapping, the bags it uses are durable and attractive. Ask the recipient to reuse the gift bags.

For your travelling friends, use old road maps. For card tags, cut the front covers of old Christmas cards and write on the back.

A good ecological gift is a gift card, preferably to a local store, so delivery trucks don't have to drive miles to bring your gift. Gift cards also mean the recipient gets just what they want.

For more on what can be recycled, visit orangerecycles.com.

Milford-Orange Times

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

Highest Circulation Newspaper in Milford and Orange
When there's better writing, there's better reading.

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
Postnet 988
USPS Retailer
Permit #729
Shelton, CT

Milford-Orange Times
November 25, 2019
www.TheOrangeTimes.com
Vol. 8 / Issue 14

Experts Cite Concerns With Turkey Hill Development
By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Experts brought in by the Town of Orange to review a controversial housing development off Turkey Hill Road laid out their concerns during a Nov. 12 special meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The development was proposed by a team representing town resident Richard Maccione, who wants to build 10 multifamily residential buildings and a single community building on a compilation of parcels on the 22.5-acre property that he owns. It has faced withering scrutiny from neighbors, who have argued the proposal is too dense for the area.

A different proposal for the same property was the subject of vociferous opposition in 2018. That first plan was eventually denied by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The public hearings have been held in the cafeteria at High Plains Community Center to accommodate the large crowds that have been attending. Even First Selectman Jim Zeoli has spoken in opposition during the hearings, saying there are better locations in town for a high-density project of this nature that would be less detrimental to the environment.

Steve Beahm, an engineer with Guilford-based Triton Environmental, was first to take to the stand. He has been hired by the commission to review the site plan to make sure it adheres to state and local regulations.

Beahm said he had submitted a ten-page report to the commission citing items of concern and points on which they would request clarification from the applicant.

"Overall," Beahm said, "I would say the applicant has provided a comprehensive application that does attempt to limit disturbance to the site's natural resources." He added that most of the items flagged in his review were related to "minor

Maren Sanchez Home Foundation Expanding Empowerment Efforts
By Brandon T. Bisceglia

Mixed martial arts champion "Neonator" Nick Nowell stood pointed against the wall of his recently opened gym in Milford on Nov. 17, surrounded by a crowd of nearly 30 girls. Nowell had invited them into his Fighting Arts Academy on Quarry Road to help them learn self-defense techniques and build self-confidence as part of an event organized by the Maren Sanchez Home Foundation, a Milford-based nonprofit.

"What I want to do is turn sideways here, like this," Nowell told his audience as he demonstrated how to take control from his opponent. "Then I'm going to take these two fingers and shove against-the-wall predicament." Then I'm going to take these two fingers and shove them in - there's a little spot right here in the throat - and I'm going to clamp down."

Nowell has offered lessons of this type before for MSHF, which is dedicated to educating and empowering girls and young women to defend themselves against emotional, psychological and verbal

Orange Rotarians Feed Vets

Orange Rotarians served dinner to veteran Nov. 20 at the American Legion Post 127 in Orange. Harry Quaffa, owner of the Milford ShopRite, cooked and delivered the food. The Post holds a dinner every Wednesday that is open to the public. Photo by Steve Cooper.

Zeoli Sworn In

Orange First Selectman Jim Zeoli was sworn in to his eighth term by Superior Court Judge Richard Arnold Nov. 18 at High Plains Community Center after winning reelection Nov. 8. Photo by Lex Crocco.

Milford/Orange Election Results Inside Page 15

SCSU Gymnastics Student From Milford Dies In Accident
By Brandon T. Bisceglia

A Southern Connecticut State University student gymnast from Milford died Nov. 10 during a training accident, according to the university and news reports.

Real Estate is Busy! Considering a Move? Call Your Home Town Expert!
NEW LISTING! NEW LISTING! NEW LISTING! ELEGANT 4 BDRM!

WE HAVE THE MARKET
COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BANKING

317 Chaucer Court, Milford \$333,000
674 S Greenbrier Dr, Orange \$333,000
217 Broadway, Milford \$499,000
27 Hedgefield Court, Orange \$799,000

- The Largest Circulation Of Any Milford/Orange Newspaper
- Featuring Local News, Entertainment And More Than 28 Citizen Columnists Offering Insight And Opinion In Their Fields Of Expertise!
- Mailed Directly To Homes And Businesses

To share a news item or for advertising information, please contact us at www.theorangetimes.com, publisher@theorangetimes.com or 203.799.7500.

Obituaries

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

Antoinette M. Pavia Adams, of Milford passed away on Sunday, November 17, 2019

Beatrice (Bea) McMillen Balentine of Milford, Connecticut passed away on December 8, 2019

Beatrice B. Bishop, 92, of Milford, passed away on December 13, 2019.

Sharon Bombardier, age 76, of Milford passed away on November 29, 2019.

Thomas E. Boyhan passed away at 92 years of age on November 19.

Katherine "Kathy" Marie Florentino Carroll passed away on November 20, 2019.

Joanne Lanese Choiniere, 81, of Orange, December 11, 2019.

Thomas F. Doyle, 88, died on Dec. 12, 2019.

Charlotte M. Frey, 73, of Milford passed away December 2, 2019.

David W. Griffin, Jr., 88, of Milford, passed away on November 20, 2019.

John C. Healey, 92, passed away peacefully on December 2, 2019.

Rose M. Hurlihe, 80 of Milford, passed away on November 28, 2019.

Rima Jalaf, 86 of Milford, passed away on Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

John T. Jaser, age 97, passed away on Friday, November 15, 2019.

J. Peter Jaynes, age 73 of Milford, passed away November 12, 2019.

Jacob (Jack) Kanell, 92, of Orange, passed away on December 11, 2019.

Judith Lee Mullen Kraft, 78 of Milford, passed away Friday, December 6, 2019.

Betty Jean Kass passed away on November 27, 2019, at the age of 72.

(Tony)Anthony Bartholomew Laudano, 84, passed peacefully on November 23, 2019.

Marjorie (Missy) Lehman passed on Sunday, December 8th.

Arthur W. Linsley, 84, of Orange, passed away on November 30, 2019.

Anthony Peter Maratea II, 65, passed away on November 28, 2019.

Geraldine "Gerry" Mason, age 80, passed away on Thursday, November 28, 2019.

Angela June McCann, 86, of Milford, passed away peacefully on December 12, 2019.

Eleanor Mullaney, 81, of Milford, passed away on December 7, 2019.

Suzanne Noel, 89, passed away.

Kevin Norman, 68, passed away November 8.

Morna M. Kirkland Parelli, 75, of Milford, passed away Wednesday, December 4, 2019.

Mary O. Payne, 91, of Milford, passed away on November 21, 2019.

Russell Ross Rosecrans, age 56 of Milford passed away on Tuesday, November 19, 2019.

Marilyn Grace Rusanowsky, 90, of Milford CT, passed away on December 1st, 2019.

Donald T. Ryan, 75, of Milford, passed away on November 21.

Stephen Paul Salvatore, 50, of Milford passed away on Thursday, December 5, 2019.

Lee Sekas, 70, of Wethersfield and Orange, CT entered into eternal rest on Wednesday, November 27, 2019.


Mary Lou Morrissey Wagner, age 83 of Milford, passed away, Monday, November 25, 2019.




- Meet a Diverse Group of Professionals
- Expand Your Network
- Get Plugged Into Milford

QUESTIONS? WANT TO JOIN?
203.878.0681 | MilfordCT.com
chamber@milfordct.com





Celebrating Life in Milford for over 95 years



"Show me the manner in which a nation cares for its dead and I will measure with mathematical exactness the tender mercies of its people, their respect for the laws of the land and their loyalty to high ideals." – *William Ewart Gladstone, Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom*

ALL FAMILY BUDGETS ACCOMMODATED WITHOUT COMPROMISING OUR QUALITY OF SERVICES

David J. DeRubeis – Managing Partner

Thomas J. Cody Jr. - Funeral Director Kyle Duke - Funeral Director Rachel Cimbak - Funeral Director
Kevin W. Cody - Funeral Director Amanda Veccharelli - Funeral Director Carly Ericson - Funeral Director
Renate Eastman - Office Manager

CODY-WHITE FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE
107 Broad Street on the Green, Milford
(203) 874-0268 • www.codywhitefuneralservice.com



UPLIFTING ELDERLY HOMECARE
CARE FROM THE HEART

233 Boston Post Road
Orange, CT 06477
203-909-1455
www.upliftingelderlyhomecare.com

Gladly Serving All That Need Us In Connecticut!



What sets us apart?

- Quality Individual Attention to each Client!
- Highest Quality Caregivers!
 - Competitive Rates!
- Thoughtful and Empathetic!
- Licensed, Insured, and Bonded!



DCP License # HCA.0001554

IT'S COLD. Who's Keeping You WARM?

- We only deliver *clean-burning Bioheat® Heating Oil*: Renewable, American-made and excellent for the environment and your heating system.
- Family-owned and operated business, serving local homeowners, businesses and our community for 85+ years.
- Award-winning 24/7 service: A+ BBB rating, Angie's List Super Service Award Winner, and 5-star ratings on Facebook and Yelp.



**Save up to \$325
this winter with our
New Customer offers!**

**TraceyEnergy.com/
NewCustomerOrange
203.777.5747**

License #0392441 | HOD #242

Clean, Renewable **BIOHEAT** Heating Oil for Today's Family