

The Orange Times

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

Vol. 3 / Issue 10

June 26, 2014

Class of '14 Graduates



Photos Top by Joseph Cole Bottom by Steve Cooper

Above: The Amity Regional High School Class of 2014 celebrated their commencement ceremony on June 20. Below: Senior Class President Kristin Zakoworothy delivers her speech and encourages her classmates to hold on to some foolishness.



by Joseph Cole

editorinchief@theorangetimes.com

You could say the Amity Regional High School Class of 2014 was having a ball on the athletic field during their graduation ceremony, June 20. Dozens of beach balls bounced between rows of robe-clad seniors as speeches were given and names were called for diplomas.

Among the 416 graduates at the Friday ceremony, more than a fifth were members of the national honor society. They had spent somewhere in the range of 5,040 hours of high school education reaching this moment.

And the numbers didn't mean a thing. With beach balls airborne they were being young and foolish, and loving it.

Senior Class President Kristin Zakoworothy pointed out the correlation between the perceptions of youth and foolishness to her classmates. However she chose a different

Amity continued on page 9

Yale Honors Peck Place



Photo by Joseph Cole

Peck Place Sixth Grader Jayson Hutchinson read to the assembled faculty, parents and friends an essay about his time at the school

by Joseph Cole

editorinchief@theorangetimes.com

Rain pattered off the plastic covering of a white tent on Yale's West Campus lawn in Orange on June 19. Inside the tent, 71 sixth graders had the distinction of being the first sixth-grade class to graduate from a Yale campus.

"We began with water, we'll end with water," declared Peck Place Principal Eric Carbone to a mass of family and friends huddled together. The presentation stage was flanked with town officials and Yale representatives.

They were gathered for the moving up ceremony for the displaced sixth grade students at Peck Place School. Their school was flooded in February when a water main burst, forcing the students to find a new home to complete their school year. Turkey Hill School and Racebrook School made space as best they could, but the Peck Place students needed a space of their own.

A chain of people starting with Board of Education member Jody Dietch and ending with Rebecca Brandriff,

Peck continued on page 6

Police Get New Radios

by Joseph Cole

editorinchief@theorangetimes.com

Emergency services in Orange are upgrading their communications system following approval for a bid waiver from the Board of

Selectmen on June 11. The use of old copper lines to carry the police department's radio signals to transmission towers will be discontinued in favor of a wireless microwave communications system.

The new system will cost just under the pre-approved bond amount of \$125,000. According to Orange Chief of Police Robert Gagne the new system will pay for itself in just over 8 years.

"We budget \$15,000 a year for the copper lines we are using now," Gagne said. Those dedicated lines are rented from AT&T.

Radios continued on page 2

SmartLiving Center Leaving Orange For North Haven

by Joseph Cole

editor@theorangetimes.com

For the past decade, electric ratepayers interested in energy savings advice could visit the SmartLiving Center at 297 Boston Post Road, Orange. That changes at the end of June.

The center is relocating to a larger facility in North Haven, ending a 10-year occupancy in Orange.

The given reason for the move? Fairness.

"We really felt we needed to be more central for all of our ratepayers to better benefit from our resources," United Illuminating Manager of Residential Energy Services Marissa Westbrook said.

Officials for United Illuminating said the center's job is to provide information for all ratepayers in the state and so they wanted to find a more central location.

Funding for the center comes from charges on every ratepayer's bill in the state paid into the Energy Efficiency Fund. That includes customers of Connecticut Light and Power, which does not service Orange.

The new location will be larger and more centrally located. Officials could not comment if staff levels would remain the same.

The SmartLiving Center has

Smart continued on page 9

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News & Events

Two New K-9s Join Orange Police Force

Grants and seized drug funds and cover K-9 costs

Just as Orange Police K-9 Maximus heads off to lounge in the sun and enjoy his retirement, two new four-legged rookies and their human handlers join the force.

“The department’s efforts to protect and serve the community will be greatly enhanced by the continuation and enhancement of the K-9 program,” Orange Police Chief Robert Gagne said in a release announcing the new K-9 units.

Purebred German Shepherd “Major” graduated from the State Police K-9 Academy on June 5, with handler Officer Chris Brown. They completed a 15-week course covering tracking, evidence recovery and apprehension. Brown’s primary assignment will be the evening shift.

Major was purchased with the help of an American Kennel Club matching grant from Connecticut K-9 Services of Bethany. That is the same kennel which raised the now retired Max.



“The department is extremely grateful to the American Kennel Club for their generous donation,” Gagne said.

Purebred Labrador “Trent” and handler Mary Bernegger will join Major and Brown when they graduate from the same academy on June 12. Trent will be the first narcotics detection K-9 in the Orange Police Department. His training will make him a valuable asset in locating suspected marijuana, heroin, ecstasy, opiates, bath salts and more.

Trent was purchased using funds acquired through asset forfeiture the police department received as a result of past

narcotics investigations. He came from Guiding Eyes in New York through a Connecticut State Police Program.

Guiding Eyes trains dogs not quite suited for guide work to instead serve with police departments as bomb, arson and narcotics dogs.

Maximus retired after roughly 8 years of service to the town. His handler, Officer Michael Kosh, became Orange’s School Resource Officer in January.

Submitted Photos

Top: Trent will join the force as a drug sniffing dog. Right: Officer Chris Brown and Major graduated from the Police K-9 Academy on June 5.



Radios *continued from page 1*

The copper lines themselves are prone to weather conditions. Water leakage can impact signal strength and call quality. The microwave system is a secure wireless design that will not be impacted by inclement weather.

Furthermore, Gagne said the microwave system is less prone to damage and easier to reboot and repair if needed. He noted a pole fire across from the police station that once took out the department’s ability to communicate easily. Officers enacted a temporary solution by parking a squad car in the middle of town to act as a signal relay to keep communications open.

The microwave system will be installed by Utility Communications of Hamden, who the department selected for their familiarity with surrounding communities’ systems. Utility Communications has installed similar systems in Hamden, New Haven, West Haven and other communities.

The fact that so many surrounding towns also use the system, opens up opportunity for better inter-connectivity with those police departments according to Gagne. That is on top of sharing access to the new microwave system with the fire department and schools.

Ashram Center Holds Inaugural

The grand inaugural of The Chinmaya Saraswati Ashram - a center for learning and spirituality at 393 Derby Ave., Orange, will take place from Thursday, July 3 to Sunday, July 6, 2014.

The Ashram building, formerly the Legion of Christ Seminary, was renovated and is surrounded by five acres of woodlands, including the view of a sparkling stream. First Selectman James Zeoli will be a guest of honor, along with other town officials and community volunteers who worked on the establishment of the Ashram.

They will be felicitated at the center during a ceremony at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, July 6. The Chinmaya Saraswati Ashram named after Saraswati, the Hindu Goddess of Learning is one of more than 300 centers around the world, and works to inspire per-

sonal growth, heightened efficiency, contentment, and the ability to live with all in peace and harmony.

The center will offer a variety of cultural, spiritual and charitable activities. Meditation and yoga classes; Indian classical dance and music classes, Hindi language classes; Hindu Sunday School; Bhagavad Gita lecture series and seminars are some of the activities to be offered.

Anyone interested is invited to visit the Chinmaya Saraswati Ashram on any of the four inaugural days. Timings are as follows: Thursday, July 3, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. ; Friday, July 4, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to :30 p.m.; Saturday, July 5, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, July 6, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. .

Amity High Class Of 1984 Reunion

Amity High School Class of 1984 will hold their 30th reunion, Saturday, July 12, at Seasons at Oak Lane in Woodbridge from 7 to 11 p.m..

Alumni and friends of the Class of 1984 are welcome. Tickets are \$50 per person

and checks should be made out to “Amity Class of 1984 Reunion” and mailed to Laurye Koseski Natale, 764 Hill Road, Harwinton, Conn., 06791. Deadline is June 30. Email any questions to 1984Amity@gmail.com.

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Police Investigate First Fatal Crash In Months

Orange police identified Wayne Davis, 60, of Orange, as the first motor vehicle fatality to occur in town since Sept. 20, 2013. Davis was declared deceased on the scene following a collision on Derby Avenue at the intersection of Dogwood and Dogburn Roads on June 16.

Emergency services discovered that two vehicles had collided and come to rest on the grassy median. Davis was declared deceased and extricated from his vehicle by the

Orange Volunteer Fire Department and sent to the state medical examiner for an autopsy.

Lyn Hien Le, 41, was identified as the driver of the other vehicle and sustained minor injuries.

The reconstruction team alleges that Davis's vehicle was struck by Le. The cause is still under investigation and witnesses are asked to contact Officer John Reshotnik at 203-891-2130.

Volunteers Needed For Firemen's Carnival

The Orange Volunteer Firemen's Carnival will be held again this year from on Thursday, July 31 through Sunday, Aug. 3.

Help is sought for in the main food tent.

Organizers are looking for people interested in volunteering for a few hours, especially on Saturday, beginning at 11 a.m. for the day shift, or the evening time, beginning at 4 p.m.

Help is also needed on Sunday, beginning at noon. The carnival does not go into the evening on Sunday.

They will also need some assistance on Thursday and on Friday beginning at 4:30

p.m.

Companies whose employees would like to volunteer together, as a group, are welcome as and encouraged.

Two companies already participating are Coldwell Banker-Orange on Thursday night and Weichert Realtors Orange comes in on Friday night.

Organizers remind residents that a volunteer department in place of a professional one help keep taxes lower.

If interested in volunteering, call or email Denise Mirto to add your name. 203-795-1080 or denise.mirto@gmail.com.

Strawberries And Heroes



Photo By Lexi Crocco
Nathan and Hannah Pawlos of Hamden unleashed their inner super herose at the Orange Congregational Church's 5th Annual Strawnerry Festival.

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Sean fulfilled his dream last December when he took the plunge and became the new owner of iSpa & Nail in the Trader Joe's Shopping Center.

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Opinion & Editorial

Capitol View

The Financial Challenge Of College



STATE SEN. GAYLE
SLOSSBERG

As a parent who has navigated the financial aid process with my college-aged children, I know how challenging a task it can be. That is why I've joined my colleagues in the legislature to make small improvements to the process that will hopefully make it a little clearer for all involved. On July 1, legislation goes into effect in Connecticut requiring public and private higher education institutions,

including for-profit institutions licensed to operate in the state, to provide uniform financial aid information to each admitted prospective student.

The schools are required to provide the information using the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet developed by the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and U.S. Department of Education. Financial Aid Shopping Sheets simplify the cost of attendance for prospective and current students, and provide information so students and their families can make informed decisions about their college choices.

The Financial Aid Shopping Sheet is a protection for consumers. The standardized form simplifies the information that prospective students receive about costs and financial aid so that they can easily compare institutions and what they have to offer.

Information provided on the form includes the estimated cost of attendance, total grants and scholarships, work and loan options, the family contribution, and graduation and loan default rates for students who have attended the institution.

This essential information is all provided on a single, digestible sheet for students and families. As schools across the country adopt this standardized form, we will all be better informed and empowered by the simplified disclosure of this information.

This is a good step toward providing better protections for those navigating the financial aid process, and I'm happy all of Connecticut's institutions of higher learning are required to use this.

Milk Debacle And The Other Laws



STATE REP. PAUL
DAVIS

Very often when talking with friends, neighbors, and constituents about some unusual legislative issue reported by the media that, to the casual observer, seems unimportant or at least not very significant, I get comments like "don't you have something more important to worry about" or "can't you guys do anything right?"

The answer is usually an explanation that the reporting was not accurate or that we were just responding to an issue brought to us by some agency, other branch of government, or constituent.

The fact is, the media does not report on 90 percent of the work that is accomplished. The recent chocolate milk ban was one such case.

In reality, there was no ban passed. We were asked by the Department of Education to update nutritional requirements for schools which would eliminate some of the non-nutritional additives in milk and reduce the fat content in flavored milk. It was only after this passed that the dairy industry said they could not produce chocolate milk meeting the new guidelines.

As a result the Governor had to veto the bill or we could no longer serve chocolate milk. The discussion of the "milk issue" did, however, take away from reporting on many of the more than 200 other bills passed in the 2014 session. Over the next few months, I will try to highlight some of these new laws many which will go into effect in the near future.

SB 229 An Act Concerning Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention addresses concerns related to this problem which is one of the leading causes of death in otherwise healthy children.

SB24 An Act Concerning The Governor's Recommendations Regarding Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems And Youth Smoking Prevention deals with the expansion of smoking of e-cigarettes. Provisions of this law will make it illegal for minors to buy or possess e-cigarettes.

If you have any question or concerns about these new laws, please feel free to contact me at paul.davis@caga.

Protecting Veterans' Ability To Work



STATE REP. JAMES
MARONEY

As I write about the different approaches to keep Connecticut on the road to economic recovery, I am reminded about those individuals and families who sacrifice day in and day out serving in the military. Service members often find it difficult to find gainful employment when they return and try to enter the workforce – helping them in their transition is a key component to a healthy state.

During the course of discussions and deliberations on the high unemployment rate among veterans, legislators learned that skills gained while serving could not be used when applying for jobs at home. Veterans often found their skills in many different trades were not recognized and that posed hardships for them when attempting to convey their areas of expertise to prospective employers.

As a result, the legislature put together a Military Occupational Specialty Task Force last year to address barriers to employment for Connecticut veterans and active duty members in the armed forces. Based on the Task Force's report, legislation was crafted last session to implement the recommendations.

Public Act 14-131 requires state licensing authorities to accept military training and experience as a substitute for additional training to allow streamlined occupational certifications. The measure includes a number of trades and occupations including electrical, plumbing, security and more. In addition, higher education institutions are required to award college credit for military training and experience.

This law will help open doors and facilitate employment for veterans, which in turn will help boost our state's economy and keep us moving toward recovery. We must continue to support laws that facilitate employment opportunities for everyone and especially for those who serve in our nation's military - the skills they acquire while serving are many times second to none and it is time we recognized that fact.

The Orange Times

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From Where I Sit:

Tax Abatements, Capital Projects And Wage Reviews

The June Selectmen's meeting began with a double public hearing to rescind the tax exemption for the Legion of Christ and to adopt a tax exemption for Chinmaya Mission (Hindu) group, which is the occupant of part of the same property on Route 34. A spokesman for the group made a fine presentation on the basics of Hinduism.

In America, every religion may be practiced freely, and the government does not impose restrictions (including taxes) on any of them. The ordinance granting tax exemption for the group passed unanimously without much discussion.

During public participation a homeowner from Old Silo Road had a grievance about the proposed AT&T cell tower, which would be built only a quarter mile away from the Verizon cell tower proposed off Derby Milford Road. Another homeowner on Garden Road had a similar complaint. For the time being the AT&T project is on hold,



SELECTMAN
KEN LENZ

and we were promised a public presentation would be made by AT&T at the Planning & Zoning Commission before the project would proceed further. More on this issue is expected.

Police Chief Gagne next presented a capital project for a new tele-

communications system to replace the old "copper wire" system. It will greatly improve field communications between headquarters and the patrols, and also with the security systems with the schools, with the fire department, and with adjoining town's emergency responders, costing around \$128,000.

The Selectmen also quickly approved lighting upgrades for the Fire Station on Boston Post Rd. and Town Hall, which, with incentives and savings, will pay for themselves in only a couple of years.

We next faced the issue of the bids for Peck Place School's roof repairs, which at \$1,390,000 for the lowest of bidders came in nearly

\$500,000 more than our consultant had estimated. This was due in part to the asbestos fittings and pipe insulation found. After considerable discussion, the Board reluctantly approved it. Bid advertisements for two other schools' roof repairs will be posted shortly. Mr. Luzzi, the School buildings maintenance manager, reported that the Peck Place project was proceeding on schedule.

As anyone who drives in town has observed, a lot of road work is going on. The good news is that it's mostly done, and the cost has been right on estimate. Acting Town Engineer Robert Hiza, called back out of retirement, has directed the projects with consummate skill which only comes from decades of experience. Way to go, Bob!

The Independence Day concert and fireworks celebration will take place on Saturday, July 5, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with fireworks starting at 9:30 p.m. The Selectmen approved a \$3,000 contribution from the cellular tower lease account (not taxpayer money).

Finally, the Board went into executive session to review the wages

and salaries of each of the non-union town employees (of which there are many). The Board voted that most will receive a fair 2 percent wage increase beginning July 1. And that's how I see it from where I sit.

Ken Lenz is a member of the Orange Board of Selectmen.

Recycling Tips



Used motor oil can be disposed of properly and recycled at the transfer station. See the attendant at the hopper.

Paint can now be recycled at any paint store due to a new law passed by the state legislature (paint stores only, not Lowe's or Home Depot).

If you have any questions or suggestions, please attend a meeting or e-mail orangerecycles@gmail.com.

News & Events

Voo Do: Volunteers of Orange Do

Love Of The Game Keeps Bringing Mirto Back

Amity High School's baseball team has a long reputation for winning but where do many of the players go for the summer?

Orange Legion Post 127 has been sponsoring the tri-town baseball team in the Legion program for more than 50 years. At the helm of the program for the last 17 is Bob Mirto. Bob began as an assistant coach with his high school and college friend, Dave Ryan.

They played baseball together at both Hopkins and as freshman at Yale. When Dave decided to step aside, Bob took over and has been there ever since. Legion Baseball nationwide has been in existence for 89 years.

It began as a means to help young men not only develop athletically but to "teach courage and respect for others, fostering their growth into active citizens," according to the American Legion website.

"There is nothing like playing 30 games in 40 days," Bob explained. The love of the game and interacting with the kids is what brings him back each year. The heated rivalries help, too.

Bob explained the games against Milford and Branford can get intense especially because most are series games and not just one or two games, here or there.

"It is good for the kids to develop the



JODY
DIETCH

intensity of a pennant race and learn it is not about them but about the team," he said of Legion baseball.

Bob spoke of how he doesn't just coach the kids about baseball but he gets to know them on a personal level and becomes a significant contributor with their lives.

He explained how he has stepped in to help some kids when they may have gotten into a bit of trouble.

Mostly, he enjoys helping out when a player wants to move to the next level in college.

"I like it when college coaches call and ask about players. I love that part." The bonds they form are long lasting and it is evident in the number of players who come back and visit Bob at the field or even at his home to hang out and watch sports.

After 17 years, Bob said it is the love of the game that brings him back each year.

"Aside from my family, this is the thing I love the most. I like the Legion atmosphere and format, dealing with the kids who are just starting to form their lives."

Of course, it is easier having a baseball oriented school like Amity, he noted, adding that Legion baseball is a high level of baseball.

"We have had about 6 kids draft-

ed (into the Major League) who have played for us," Bob said. When Bob isn't on the ball field or working on Legion baseball, he is an attorney who also uses his skills to represent people who may not be able to afford counsel. He is part of the Center for Justice and Accountability Council.

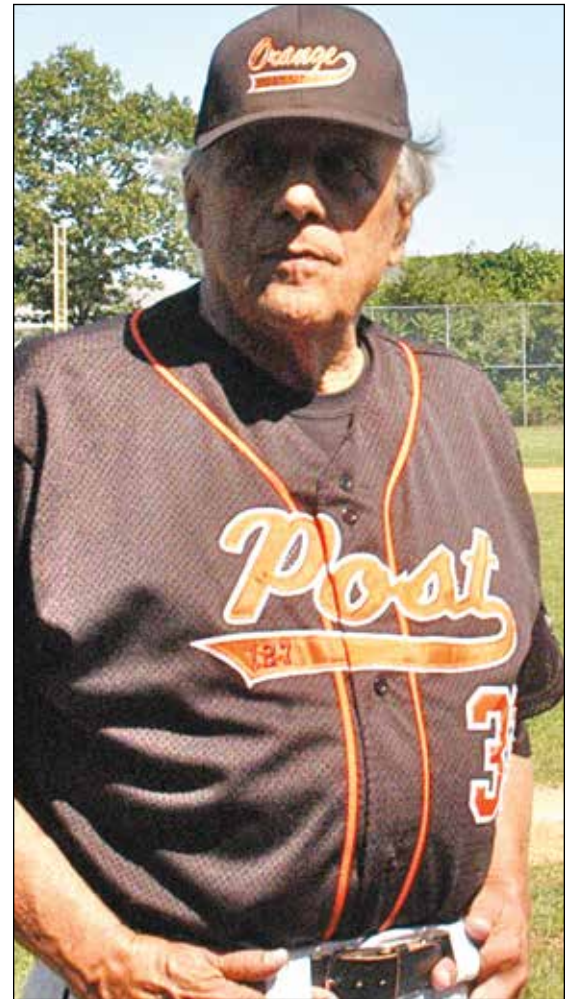
"It is sad what some peoples kids get involved in. I try to help straighten them out. I like trying to help people. We jail too many people. That's not the answer. The system needs to rethink how they handle certain cases. We need to be more proactive with treatment versus incarceration," he said.

Another place many Orange residents may recognize Bob, he is the Town Moderator. Part of his duties in that capacity is to emcee the Memorial Day Parade.

One year he brought the Legion baseball team to meet the veterans. "The Legion members are very interested in the players.

It was a great day watching the interaction of the players and veterans." When asked how much longer he expects to coach, Bob commented that he will probably do this a few more years and then hand it over. "I get so much more out of it than I put in. It's a wonderful experience," he said.

Jody Dietch is the Vice Chair of the Orange Board of Education.



Submitted Photo
A love of the game has kept Bob Mirto volunteering for the last 17 years.

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	<p>MILFORD 29 BROOKLAWN DRIVE NEW LISTING! \$379,900 Well maintained Raised Ranch. 3 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath. Updated Kitchen, Hdwd flrs thruout! French doors to deck & screened in porch. Master Bedroom w/Bath! Lower Level Family & Media Rm w/fpl. CAROL CANGIANO ~ 203.605.4480</p>		<p>WEST HAVEN 96 JONES HILL ROAD C1 PRICED TO SELL! \$239,900 Walk to Water! Freshly Painted. Fabulous contemporary style 2BR, 2.1BA, 1801 sf end unit/cathedral ceilings. 2 Master Bdrms w/full baths. Beautiful stone fpl & skylites in Liv Rm/Kit, Separate Loft area. WAYNE HUGENDUBEL ~ 203.605.2946</p>
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Youth & Education

Superintendent's Corner:

We Must Remember The Peace Within Us



LYNN
MCMULLIN

Unfortunately, with all three Sixth-Grade classes graduating at the same time on the same day, I am unable to speak to the kids that morning.

Fortunately, I can carve out a time for myself to talk to them at their rehearsals, and I did that right before the big day.

The plus to this is it gives me a quiet, more intimate setting. This year, I told them the following story and accompanied it with four paintings. I'm going out on a limb by sharing it here, but it seems relevant to our times, as well as theirs. So, here goes:

"Long ago there was a king who was growing more and more sad and dissatisfied with life as every day passed. He was weighed down by the responsibilities of his kingdom, and there were days when he felt like nothing went as planned. The people in the kingdom were unhappy and complained bitterly about farming, taxes, and the ever-present threat of war. The king tossed and turned at night, getting very little sleep for all his worrying about his kingdom's troubles. During the day, he went from one problem to the next, asking his four ministers for advice, but getting very little help.

One day he cried out in desperation, 'All I need is a little peace!' He decided to send his four ministers out into the world and he charged them with one responsibility: to find a place in the world where there is perfect peace! He ordered them, 'You have one year to scour the kingdom and find me the perfect picture of peace, and when you return, I will look at your pictures and select the most perfect place and that is where I will rest and recover from my sorrows.'

Finally, a year later, the great day had arrived. The king called forward a large audience among his people. The four ministers had all returned and were set to appear before him, each one ready to uncover the place in the world where there was perfect peace.

The first minister revealed his painting and said, 'You can't find peace unless you find solitude.' His painting showed a tiny cottage nestled at the base of a mountain on the edge of a protected ocean inlet. A babbling brook ran through a green meadow near the small stone cabin, but there was no other evidence of human life to be found. Clearly anyone who lived here would wake up every morning in the most beautiful place on earth. 'This is perfect peace,' the minister said and everyone in the court agreed, but the King said nothing.

The second minister pulled the drape off of his painting, and he declared that the king could find peace if he was in perfect harmony with nature. His painting was of a still, quiet pond with a still smooth surface being visited by a deer who he described as the most peaceful creature on earth. The scene was made even more beautiful by the sun filtering through the orange and red leaves of a balmy autumn day. 'This is perfect peace,' the minister said, 'Build your house in this meadow and you will be happy for the rest of your life.' The people in the court ooh-ed and aw-ed, but the King said nothing.

The third minister stepped forward and confidently placed his painting on the easel. A large mirror-smooth lake, as clear as glass, reflected a small outcropping of leafy green trees. Along the rocky shore, there was neither a single footprint nor a piece of debris to disturb the absolute perfection of the place. 'If you were to make your home here, on the edge of these gentle waters, no human sound would ever disturb you,' the minister said. The crowd waited. Surely this was the win-

ner! But, the King said nothing.

The tension grew as only one painting remained; and so far, the King did not seem happy. The king walked up to the easel of the last artist and uncovered the one remaining painting himself. The crowd gasped. 'Could THIS be peace?'

In the painting, a thundering waterfall cascaded down a rocky cliff; the crowd could almost feel its fierce cold spray. Stormy-gray clouds threatened to explode with lightning, wind, and rain. The king stepped closer and looked intently. In the midst of the noise and on-coming storm, a single spindly tree clung to the rocks at the edge of the forest. A little bird had built her nest in the elbow of that branch. Content and undisturbed despite her stormy surroundings, she nested on her eggs with her eyes closed and her wings gently covering her little ones.

'I see!' said the King to the last minister, and the minister nodded. 'Peace is not finding the most perfect place on earth. It is to be in the midst of the storm and still find peace in your heart.'

I acknowledged to the sixth graders that they live in difficult times and that everyone around them knows that. They have to deal with Facebook gossip, the constant bombardment of unrealistic body images, homework stress, soccer or baseball stress, stress of all kinds, family arguments, managing their media, television heroes that are hard to look up to, and on and on. Their world is far from perfect. There are few places left on earth like the ones in the King's paintings; and when they find such a spot, there is either the litter of someone else having already been there or the likelihood that someone else is about to arrive.

It is more important than ever for us to remember that peace is within us. Like the little bird on the nest, we find our own peace in our own heart.

I think of some of the things these kids have done this year that are the very stuff of peace. They reached out to veterans in the Orange community and said thank you to them; they walked at recess raising money for cancer research; they sat next to a friend in the classroom who needed help with math and pitched in; they said 'Hi' to a classmate in the cafeteria or at recess who needed a friend.

The Peck Place sixth graders gracefully responded to a significantly difficult crisis when they lost their building, moved into Race Brook or Turkey Hill, and then moved again to a completely new and foreign home. The Race Brook or Turkey Hill sixth graders opened their classrooms and hearts when our Peck students lost their school, becoming a little more crowded but being very good neighbors.

THOSE are our paintings of peace. When we forget about our own heaviness and do something kind for someone else, we find a little happiness of our own. Just like the little bird in the painting of peace the King chose, when we ignore the storm's thunder and all the things that scare us or cause us stress, we can remember that real peace is something carried in the heart. I know it's probably a little sappy

I closed by telling them I was immensely proud to be sending them off to Middle School next year. They have proven to their family, their teachers, and their principal that they are ready for this next step. I hope they go confidence and, of course, all of our fond wishes for their success.

Lynn McMullin is the Superintendent of Schools for the Orange Elementary School System.

Peck *continued from page 1*

the director of finance and administration at the Yale West Campus leaped into action to find the students an adequate space. Unused space was converted and the students were invited in.

"When we first arrived all we saw was cubicles," said Orange Superintendent of Schools Lynn McMullin. "But they turned it into an open space we could use for classrooms. It all came together."

Over the next few months the students were invited to take advantage of the resources at the Yale campus. That included science classes with the Yale nursing students, where the sixth-graders could study with eyes and lungs.

Yale President Peter Salovey offered remarks to the students, declaring them the first sixth-grade class to graduate from Yale. He and other representatives from the university attended in their academic robes.

"These robes go all the way back to the middle ages," he told the students. "Today we wear them for you, to celebrate what you have accomplished today."

Students were recognized with awards for their efforts while at Peck Place. Two read essays prepared for the event.

Jayson Hutchinson read his essay to the crowd, noting the lessons learned during his time at Peck Place. He said, "Although we, the 6th Grade Graduating Class of 2014 are leaving Peck Place School, it will never leave us. It will remain in our hearts forever. And in years to come, we will look back on these days in elementary school and remember all the fun times had and the friendships



Peck Place students serenade friends and family during their moving up ceremony held at their temporary home on the Yale West Campus on June 18.

Photo by Joseph Cole

we made. Believe me, it will be a year I will never forget. There's no doubt, I will always remember Mr. Carbone's words of wisdom and I hope all of you will too. "Make it a great day or not, the choice is yours!"

Earlier in the ceremony, Emma McC Carson offered her own memories and what she will take away from her time at Peck Place. "I have to say that when I think of the six years I have spent at Peck Place School, there are a lot of emotions I feel, but I think the most important is thankfulness," she said.

Carbone closed the ceremony with his

own notes on thankfulness, imploring the students to remember this chapter in the story of their lives and to carry the lessons learned forward.

"Boys and girls, we walked the halls of an office building, ate in a place where people sat in cubicles to work, and played kickball and jumped rope where people park cars. After six months, it actually seems normal - like we have been doing this for years. The reality is that our comfort and our good fortune came about because of the generosity of the characters in your story. As you move

through the chapters of your life, please remember these characters and remember to return that generosity to someone else when the time is right," he said.

According to McMullin, repairs will be complete and students will return to Peck Place school at the beginning of the next academic year. She believes Yale wants to continue a relationship with the school, and opportunities for field trips and work with the other schools in Orange may open up.

Youth & Education

College's Announce Orange Graduates

Veronica Amaya, of Orange, graduated from Saint Anselm College with a bachelor of science on April 26.

Kiley Anne Baird, of Orange, daughter of Rose Baird, received a B.S. Degree in public health and tropical medicine from Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, on May 17, 2014. She was a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority where she served as Chapter Historian. Kiley plans on attending an accelerated program to pursue a BS/RN in nursing.

Christina Cahill, of Orange, CT received a Bachelor of Professional Studies degree in Fashion Merchandising from Marist College, on May 23.

Steven Todd Bishop, of Orange, graduated from Bryant University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Finance Cum Laude, on May 17.

Matthew Ari Borsuk, of Orange, graduated from Bryant University with a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Psychology Cum Laude, on May 17.

Amanda DeGennaro, of Orange, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, on May 13.

Madeline DePetto, of Orange, daughter of Orange Board of Education member Ann Marie DePetto, received a B.A. degree *cum laude* in Journalism from Columbia College Chicago. She is a 2010 graduate of Amity High School.

Kayla Dorey, of Orange, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies within the College of Arts & Sciences during commencement ceremonies on May 18, 2014 at the University of Vermont.

Brian Foley, of Orange, earned a bachelor's of science degree in Athletic Training

from Springfield College for studies completed in 2014.

Joseph E. Fredericksen, of Orange, earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree with a major in physical therapy from the University of Scranton, Scranton, Penn., on May 31.

Deanna L. Goldner, of Orange, received a degree from Clark University on Sunday, May 18. Goldner graduated with a Master of Arts in International Development and Social Change.

Elizabeth Granata, a graduate of Hopkins School from Orange, is a member of the Colgate University graduating Class of 2014. Granata majored in History.

Christopher Joseph Granata, of Orange, a member of the Bowdoin College Class of 2014 graduated with a major in Economics and a minor in Italian. The College's 209th Commencement exercises were held Saturday, May 24, 2014.

Sean-Michael Green, of Orange, CT received a Master's degree in Business Administration from Marist College, on May 23.

Lauren Gray, of Orange, graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, on May 13.

Alexandra Lagoutis, of Orange, graduated Cum Laude from Saint Anselm College with a bachelor of science on April 26.

Erica Massimino, of Orange, Conn. graduated from Widener University recently with a Master of Social Work degree and a Master of Education degree in Human Sexuality Education.

Yevgenia Mikhailovna Pogorelova, of Orange, graduated from Bryant University

with a Bachelor of Science in International Business in Marketing, on May 17.

Chelsea O'Connor, of Orange, was awarded a Bachelor's Degree at Assumption College's 97th Commencement, graduating with a major in Accounting.

Andrew Prince, of Orange, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and Economics from Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, on May 13.

Samantha L. Rimler, of Orange, graduated from Bryant University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in

Marketing Cum Laude, on May 17.

Ashley Smith, of Orange, received a BA degree from Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on May 17.

Peter Tamaro, of Orange, graduated from Western Connecticut State University, Danbury.

Amy Williams, Orange, was awarded a bachelor of arts degree from Connecticut College at the 96th commencement ceremony on May 18.

Turkey Hill Celebrates Year's End



On May 28, more than 500 Turkey Hill School students, parents and teachers celebrated the end of another school year in true family style...a picnic! There were hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill, dancing, a dunk tank, games and raffles.

"We want to thank the community of businesses that came together to make our picnic such a great occasion," said Tiffany Beesley, Picnic Chairperson. "Texas Roadhouse staffed the grill and cooked all the hotdogs and hamburgers. For desert Sugar Bakery provided cupcakes and Rita's provided Italian Ice." The following businesses lent their support to the annual raffle basket fundraiser including: Baybrook Remodelers, the Brangi family, the Bridgeport Bluefish, Brownstone Park, Barbara Lehrer at Coldwell Banker, Janet Sender at Coldwell Banker, Rockin' Jump of Trumbull, and Sundae Spa of Milford! Music was provided by D.J. Jenny.

Orange Students Make Dean's Lists

Hofstra University

Beth Backer of Orange, a junior majoring in Psychology, excelled during the Spring 2014 semester, earning a spot on the Dean's List at Hofstra University.

The Citadel

The Citadel has announced that Cadet Coby Moran of Orange is among the academically outstanding members of the South Carolina Corps of Cadets being honored for academic achievement during the spring 2014 semester.

University of Vermont

Emma Feldmann has been named to the dean's list for the Spring 2014 semester at the University of Vermont. Feldmann, from Orange, is a Communication Science & Disorders major in the College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

University of New Haven

The following students from Orange were named to the Dean's List at the University of New Haven for the spring 2014 semester: Osama Marshad Alawwad, Turki Aljohani, Rebecca Altschuler, Jennifer Defonzo, Peter Didonato, Caryl Fisher, Ryan Geonzon, Ostap Lisowitch, Justin Morgan, Pavlo Sapsa and Pasquale Villano.

University of Delaware

Sarah Shanley from Orange, CT has been named to the University of Delaware's Dean's List for the 2014 spring semester.

Springfield College

Springfield College named the following students from Orange to the Dean's List for the 2014 Spring Semester: Stephanie Antonellis, Brian Foley and Allison Koshes.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Worcester Polytechnic Institute named the following students from Orange to the Dean's List for academic excellence for the Spring 2014 semester: Peter Satonick and Thomas Meehan.

Eastern Connecticut State University

Eastern Connecticut State University announced the following full-time students from Orange who were named to the Dean's List for the spring 2014 semester:

Brian DeFeo, Amanda DeGennaro, Lauren Gray, Joseph Mortali, Kyle Mullins, Julie Pinciario, Hanna Sokoloski, and Tyler Vallie '17 of Orange.

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Health & Wellness

Rescue Me



Ten weeks ago, Molly gave birth to five lovely kittens. She was a good Mom and the litter grew up healthy and happy. The kids have since been adopted and now it's Molly's turn for a new life. Molly is a small, very young adult, domestic short hair cat in grey/black stripes with a white chest and neck. She is friendly, inquisitive, and exhibits some kitten behavior. Ms. M is good with people and other cats but dogs are an unknown. She likes to explore the cattery so look around for her when you enter. Molly and other cats and dogs are available for adoption at Woodbridge Animal Control in Woodbridge. The shelter is located at 135 Bradley Road and can be reached by phone at 203 389-5991.

The Color Orange:

The Necessity Of Relationships

Many months ago I wrote about relationships and don't want to repeat things but instead take it to a new perspective.

I believe we are all here to relate to life and all living things. It is obvious how relationships to people affect the survival rates, but how about a plant?

In one nursing home they put plants in every resident's room. On one side of the hall they

were told that they were responsible for the plants and were to see it was watered, fertilized and exposed to the sun as needed.

The residents on the other side of the hall were told the plant was a room decoration and the nursing home would take care of it. The residents given responsibility lived on average five years longer than those who had their room decorated.

I have written about how I and Albert Schweitzer pick up earth worms we see on the pavement and return them to the soil. Why? Because they are living things I feel a relationship to. I can't walk away and leave then to die when a simple act would save their lives. Our family lives this way. Why?

As The Bible relates: The son of man comes not to be served but to serve and to ransom his life for the good of the many. A Hindu myth states: Let me be born again and again on the wheel of rebirth so that I may offer this body for the benefit of others. The latter line comes from a myth and is stated by a child who is willing to give



BERNIE
SIEGEL, M.D.

his life to save the lives of others who are threatened by a demon they have offended.

What he tells his parents, who must agree he can do this, is: Consider this, sooner or later my body will perish at any rate, but if it perishes without love which the wise declare is the only thing of permanence of what use will it have been and what greater merit can my

body reap than the love of this act. When they raise the sword to kill him he bursts into joyful laughter and they all fall to their knees in an attitude of prayer.

You can be that child or the next messiah too. Choose to "liove." Liove, as you know, is one of my manufactured words and combines living and loving. When you create a life which creates more loving world coincidences, which I call miracles, start happening. What you need appears be it material needs or personal resources.

The more I stop thinking and focus on living in my heart and letting it make up my mind the more I am impressed that this really works. Give it a chance and watch how you meet people when you are walking the dogs, mailing a letter, or performing other daily so-called meaningless activities. But what you learn is that nothing is meaningless.

Every action by a living things affects our planet and all its residents. The potential, one of my favorite words, resides within all of us. So give it a shot and see what

happens.

In the movie *Harold and Maude* Ruth Gordon, who plays an eighty year old meets a suicidal college student, who converts his car into a hearse, and is teaching him about life says, "Reach out, take a chance, get hurt even, play as well as you can. Go team go. Give me an L, give an I, give me a V, give me an E. LIVE otherwise you've got nothing to talk about in the locker room."

She ultimately decides to end her life at what is for her the right time. The movie closes showing his hearse going over a cliff and you assume he is in it, but we see him walking away playing his guitar and smiling.

He has symbolically eliminated death and what is killing him from his life because of her and can now choose life and make music.

Get the message and follow his example. Eliminate what is killing you and live your authentic, joyful life and play your guitar, whatever instrument it may be.

Peace, Love & Healing,
Bernie Siegel, MD

We currently have a mind, heart & health matters support group for those in need and for caregivers who need support the first Wednesday evening of every month and a cancer support group the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of the month at Coachman's Square at 21 Bradley Road, Woodbridge. If interested contact Lucille Ranciato at lranciato1@yahoo.com 203 288 2839; or myself bugsyssiegel@sbcglobal.net for details.

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Health & Wellness

On Your Mind:

Skip The Yips

Many golfers who come to me for help improving their game have a similar issue: they can't shut off their mind at the crucial time to swing. Regardless of how skillful you are, to play at your highest level you must have confidence.



FERN TAUSIG

The key to playing your best golf game is to combine physical skill with the feeling of confidence that comes from the inner workings of your mind. Because of the nature of the mind, every thought creates a physical response in the body.

Try it yourself. Think about a time in the past that you were scolded or caught doing something wrong. Notice how that thought makes you feel. The old feeling may come right back to you even though it is not happening now.

Now, think about something you did that gave you a special recognition for an accomplishment and notice how that feels. Although they are just thoughts, feelings immediately occur.

The thought is conscious and the feelings are from the unconscious mind. This unwanted feeling and negative thoughts are often called

the "Yips." This must be what Yogi Berra meant when he said, "90 percent of the game is 50 percent mental."

These thoughts are called "self-talk." Practice positive thinking. Monitoring and changing your self-talk is the first step in improving your golf game.

The second step is to completely eliminate four words from your self-talk:

No. 1 – Try: When you tell yourself you are going to try something, your unconscious mind knows you have already decided to fail. Otherwise, you wouldn't be trying, you'd be doing! For example you may tell yourself, "Try to keep your head down." Nike says it best, "Just do it!"

No. 2 – Don't: You should never say "don't" during any of your shots. The unconscious mind cannot process that command and only registers the part you are trying to stop. "Don't bend your elbow" is heard as, "bend your elbow."

No. 3 -- Hope: Hope means that you don't believe it will happen but you "wish" it will. How would you like it if your babysitter said, "I hope the kids will be ok when you leave." Does that inspire con-

fidence? Change hope to faith that "Instead of, I hope I putt well," "I putt well!"

No. – 4 If: How many times have you told yourself that if this, then that? "If" is a word that sets you up for failure. It puts the conditions of your success dependent on some event. "If I can relax and shut off my mind, I can hit well." Again, just do it!

Practice, is the best way to acquire skill but many of my clients report that they do better during practice than in a competition. Remember, a competition is really just practice for the next competition. They are all practice!

I've read that the average person has more than 50,000 thoughts a day and that 60 percent of them are negative. Because of the strong mind-body connection your thoughts definitely affect your performance. Tiger Woods did not forget how to play golf when his game tanked a few years ago, he lost control over his thoughts.

Hypnosis is the fastest, most effective way to control those unwanted thoughts and create the positive thoughts and habits you desire.

Fern is a certified hypnotist, life coach and health educator. She can be reached at 203-283-4567, www.healinghypnosis.com.

Amity *continued from page 1*

connotation of fool, veering away from idiotic toward lighthearted.

"We can continue to be fools as we learn to pay bills, fold our own laundry and eat ramen noodles," Zakoworothy said. "We can only be young once, but we can be fools forever."

Senior Madeline Molot, recognized for her outstanding achievement in academics, spoke of their time in high school, tallying the 5,040 hours spent in Amity Regional High School's halls. But it wasn't the tests, worksheets and trials of youth that will endure according to Molot.

"We will be remembered by the people we touched, we loved and made happy" she said.

In his remarks to the students, Principal Dr. Charles Britton expressed his joy in watching them grow over the years. He recalled meeting the incoming students' first group of advisory members, 11 young freshmen he would watch change over the years.

"It is hard to imagine now but you all looked so young back then," he reminisced. But each year they returned with slightly broader shoulders, a little more facial hair and growing confidence in who they were.

"The march of time has changed you from those freshmen to the confident young adults here today," he said.

By 6 p.m. the tassels were turned and a slew of graduation caps took to the air before settling on the ground next to the more colorful beach balls. The Class of 2014 was dismissed to greet friends and family and prepare to leave youth behind, even if they chose to hold on to a little playful foolishness for the rest of their lives.

Smart *continued from page 1*

provided residents with services and education to help with residential energy consumption for 10 years. Seminars and tours were a key part of the center's success.

There will still be no fee to visit the center at its new location, which they expect to open to the public in the late Fall. In the meantime, people with questions about energy and efficiency can call the center at 203-799-0460.

If Orange schools still want to utilize the SmartLiving Center as an educational resource, Westbrook said they are certainly welcome. She noted that reimbursements are available through the Energize CT program, of which the facility is a part, to schools to help defray transportation costs related to busing students for field trips.

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Amity Softball Team Almost State Champions

by Brian McCready

ORANGE – Amity head softball coach Loren Purcell knew from day one her team had the ability to be special.

And Purcell's team certainly didn't disappoint. They came up one run short against Southington in their quest to become state champions.

It was the team's "work ethic and devotion to the team" that set Amity apart from others, Purcell said.

"I saw this team come together before we had the opportunity to pick up a ball or bat. That was the beginning of our success," Purcell said. "I knew we could achieve our goal if the focus was there."

"I have never been so proud of a team," added Purcell. "Their drive and determination are the reasons we made it to the state finals. The game itself showed the fight this team has. To go 15 innings and play one game for over three hours and forty minutes is amazing. They never gave up. That to me is success."

The team was led by Krista Reynolds, her coach said. Her bat and aggressive play at third base was always consistent. As a team captain, Krista was the voice heard on the field, Purcell said.

"She's always positive and encouraging to her peers," Purcell said.

Amity's other two captains, Heather Watt and Heather Ferranti, also played key roles in the team's success, Purcell said.

"Heather Watt may be quiet but she doesn't show that side of her on the field. Heather is aggressive and when she got on base I was confident we would score a run. Ferranti came back strong and helped us in the lineup," Purcell said.

Purcell said Ferranti's bat was a nice addition for the state tournament. Amity's senior second baseman, Mary Kozan, also played well, the coach said.

She played the entire state tournament with an injured hand. She was unable to stay in the lineup due to the injury, but played solid defense for us each game, Purcell said. Noelle Bencivengo, was a positive asset to the team.



Amity's Kate Koshes excelled on the mound for the Amity Softball Team according to her coach.

Photo by Steve Cooper

"Her positive attitude throughout the season and ability to step to the plate at the drop of a hat, helped advance this team," Purcell said.

Kate Koshes was outstanding on the mound this season, her coach said.

"I am very proud of this young lady. I could see her getting stronger and more confident each game," Purcell said. "Jenna DiLorenzo also had a fantastic season. Her stats alone show her offensive power, but her defensive plays in centerfield go unrecognized. She made some running catches this season that saved us on numerous occasions. She is our fastest runner and each time she got on base she made the defense work."

Amity Superintendent of Schools Charles Dumais said the softball team had a great season and should be proud of their accom-

plishments. He said it was unique that both the Amity baseball and softball teams played against Southington in the state championships. The Amity baseball team defeated Southington for the title.

"I was at the girls' game, which went 15 innings and it was more than two games worth of action," Dumais said. "It was amazing to watch."

Purcell said there isn't more she could have asked from her team.

"I'm very pleased with the team success we achieved this season. These girls worked hard for each game and I respect each one of them for that. This team is the reason I love coaching," Purcell said.

2014 end of year summary

Amity 16-4 record regular season, overall record 22-6, state ranking 7 class LL

Southern Connecticut Conference Housatonic champions

Runner up SCC finals against Mercy
Runner up Class LL State Championship

Individual honors

Heather Watt - All SCC, Senior all-star game selection

Krista Reynolds - Scholar athlete classic all-star game selection, SCC scholar athlete

Jenna DiLorenzo - All State, All SCC, New Haven Register All Area Team, junior all-star game selection

Kate Koshes - All State, All SCC, player of the week New Haven Register, Register All Area Team

Teresa Marchitto - All SCC

Amity Baseball Team Wins Second Straight Championship

by Brian McCready



Amity's Ross Weiner delivers a pitch in a recent home game.

Photo by Steve Cooper

ORANGE – For the second straight year Head Coach Sal Coppola's Amity baseball team are state champions.

"They have a lot to be proud about," said Charles Dumais, who is the Amity superintendent of schools.

Amity defeated Southington for the title earlier this month. The superintendent said it's quite an accomplishment to win back-to-back championships.

"You know you've got quality athletes, coaches and a support system," Dumais said.

He said because it's the end of

the season the Amity baseball team will be honored by the Board of Education at its January meeting. He said the board waits until January to ensure that all of the seniors, who will be in college, return and can attend.

Dumais said Amity athletics had a banner season.

"If you take a look at the year as a whole, it's one of the strengths of the Amity school system," Dumais said. "We have a school of distinction, a wonderful faculty and academics, several teams were in the state finals and we had a theater program win three awards. Amity is exemplary in arts, academics and athletics. It's just amazing."



Lacrosse Has A Historic Season

by Brian McCready

ORANGE – The Amity lacrosse team did something no Amity team has done since 2003, as Coach Brandon Pepe's squad made it to the semifinals of the state championships.

The team compiled an overall 15-5 record and finished 13-3 in the Southern Connecticut Conference.

"I'm really proud of all the players," said Pepe, who completed his second season as head coach. "They all worked together and bought into the belief that we could make a run at a championship."

Amity also had its best regular season record in 15 years.

"Obviously, that is an accomplishment itself," Pepe said.

Pepe's squad was extra special to him because it included 17 seniors and just 14 underclassmen.

"They are a large senior class and we had a lot of senior leadership," Pepe said.

Pepe said coaching 17 seniors was a challenge at times because only 10 people play at one time.

"You want everyone to play," Pepe said. "I had to find playing time for everyone."

"They were such a great group of kids," added Pepe. "They took a lot off my shoulders and were so coachable."

He said the leadership begins with Joseph Choiniere, a senior midfield captain.

"Joe is a special player, one of the best Amity has ever had," Pepe said. "He set the tone early and made sure everyone got into shape."



#22 Jesse Cala and #33 Matt DeLizio compete in a recent game. Photo by Lexi Crocco

Some of Choiniere's accolades include two-time team MVP. He led the team in points with 55 and also had 79 ground balls.

He was first team All-SCC midfield, first team All-State midfield and awarded to the academic All-State Team. Choiniere was awarded the Amity Athlete of the Year for the 2013-2014 school year, his coach said. He is also a tri-captain of football, indoor track, and lacrosse. Choiniere also earned a scholarship to play lacrosse at Sacred Heart.

Another key contributor was Johnny Uscilla, a senior. He led Amity in groundballs with 89, and had 4 goals. He also defended Amity's opponent's best player, and has been the "best player on the field for Amity lacrosse in 2014," Pepe said.

"He was a sub on the all-conference team, but is extremely deserving. He was an All-SCC and All-State Hockey defenseman for

the Amity Hockey team, which made the state championship. He will play lacrosse at Merrimack," Pepe said.

Jake Milner, a junior, was Second Team All-SCC attackman. He missed the first 8 games in the beginning of the season with a broken ankle, but came back to lead the team in points per game. This includes his 5 goal performance against New Milford in the state quarterfinals according to Pepe.

Tyler Burns, a junior, was Second Team All-SCC midfield. He had 11 goals and led the team with 32 assists.

"He is huge in transition, has Division 1 speed," Pepe said.

Next year, the Amity lacrosse team will still be good as its goalie and defense return.

"We'll be really good," Pepe said. "We have a lot of quality kids in our program."

Orange Resident Honored For Lacrosse Skills



Joseph Biondi, Jr., son of Maria and Joseph Biondi, currently a junior at Notre Dame High School in West Haven, has been named as a 2014 Brine National High School All-American and has been selected to represent the regional team from New Canaan, Connecticut at the 2014 Brine National Lacrosse Classic to be held in Boyds, Maryland June 30-July 3, 2014.

The Brine National Lacrosse Classic brings the top high school lacrosse players in the country to one venue, where regional teams will compete to become the 2014 National Champion.

Amity Volleyball Not Defined By Wins And Losses

by Brian McCready

ORANGE – At a glance the Amity boys' volleyball team had a disappointing season from a wins and losses standpoint, but head coach Michael Cofrancesco says that is far from fair.

While the squad compiled a 5-13 overall record, the team was a feisty 3-5 in its own division in the Southern Connecticut Conference.

Cofrancesco said the team definitely improved during the season. His squad battled against one of the top programs in the state, Cheshire.

Amity took Cheshire to five sets at their home gym, the coach said. Cheshire finished the season 15-3.

Amity also played powerhouse Oxford competitively taking that squad to four sets at their own gym. Oxford went 17-1 this season

and competed in the state championships.

"Those two teams gave us 4 losses," Cofrancesco said.

Amity also lost twice to Barlow, which had a 14-4 record, twice to Masuk, 12-6, and twice more to Shelton, 13-7.

"We had a nail biting five set win at home over Xavier who was the Southern Connecticut Conference second seed as well," Cofrancesco said. "So needless to say we played many talented teams."

He said his team was at a disadvantage early in the season because Amity had a lot of underclassmen.

"Our lack of varsity experience made the early part of the season very difficult. The good news is we will return six players that got varsity time this year while only graduating two starters," Cofrancesco said.

But he said the bad news is the two starters Amity is losing are Tyler Barwise, who is 6'8" and was a first team all-SCC selection and 6'4" outside hitter Nick Bottone, who was second team all-SCC.

Next year's team will be captained by three returning seniors. Ethan Smith (right side hitter), Brett Southworth (outside hitter) and Joe Ferraiolo (libero).

Other notable performances this season included: Ethan Smith, right side hitter, has improved tremendously offensively and blocking, his coach said. Ferraiolo helped improve Amity's defense.

Southworth, became more aggressive going for digs, which has been a spark to the energy of the whole team, Cofrancesco said. Bottone and Barwise were Amity's main hitting forces, the coach said.



#21 Matt Sacco goes for a hit during a recent Amity volleyball game. Photo by Lexi Crocco

Home & Garden

Real Talk: You Ask, A Pro Answers

What Drives Insurance Costs?

Many homeowners research the market for the right homeowner's insurance. To complete this process the customer must fill out a standard form for the underwriter to determine the cost of the policy.



BARBARA LEHRER

The prices for each policy seem to fluctuate substantially, this difference in companies is based on their individual investigative structure to insure. For example, some companies put more importance on your credit rating, and others on your history of past claims and/or replacement costs.

This is where it is important that the homeowner makes sure what the policy will cover and what are the specific cost of the company you are interviewing.

You can speak "one on one" with an insurance representative, who will know the right questions to ask, and therefore the coverage needed for your specific property. This representative will become your advocate in the event of a catastrophe, a point where you will want someone you have developed a relationship with. You do not want to ever say, "I should have purchased more or different benefits, etc."

When you inquire about a new

company you will be rated on a "tier", which is; the better the tier, the better the rate. At that point you must disclose past claims, and the condition, etc. of your property.

This brings up the one thing a homeowner can do to insure that his or her insurance is accurate: check your field card in the town hall to see that it is correct.

Don't worry about the finished basement, or additional bathroom making your taxes go up, this is a minimal amount. All homeowners should go to the town hall and get a copy of this card, write any discrepancies on it, sign it, and give it to the assessor. It will be changed in the months to come.

When you do this you are giving accurate information to the town. The insurance company will use this card as its primary resource in which to calculate what to charge you. Honesty and accuracy with the form for application of insurance and the field card will get you the best information on quotes.

Any change in the condition of your property; removing a shed, a pool, finishing an addition, should all be noted and revised when necessary. As for claims, the insurance company will research your past

history through the "Accord", a general fact finding form. They will give you an initial quote, until they further review a "Clue" report which reviews your past claims and history.

Finally, I want to bring to your attention another insurance "fine print" that can be of great importance. If you are vacating your home, for example; it is sold and you are moving before the closing, you must tell your insurance company. They should tack on additional temporary liability costs and allow you to stay with their company.

However, some companies are canceling policies when they are informed that a home is not supervised. Be sure to check with your interviewer on their policy on this when shopping around.

The insurance companies do not send out their own assessors to review each property, that cost would increase everyone's insurance policy, so we need to advocate for ourselves.

Of course always reading the fine print and disclosing our complete history and home square footage, etc. to the town and anyone insuring the property.

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

Keeping Orange Green



Photo by Violet Nastri

Members of Garden Club of Orange recently planted orange marigolds and impatiens at the Town Green under the supervision of Nancy Becque, Civic -Conservation Chairman. This is an ongoing beautification project of the Garden Club. New this year will be a sprinkler system that the Parks and Recreation Department will install with contributions from the gargen club. Garden Club of Orange is a member of NGC, NER, and FGCTT.

Garden Club Grows

Photo by Lana Ho
Pictured: New Garden Club member Debbie Antoon and Maryellen Bospuda, President of Garden Club of Orange stand side-by-side. The Garden Club of Orange Annual Luncheon was held at Race Brook Country Club, with a buffet. The President gave a report on the progress and happenings during Garden Club's calendar year from September 2013 to June 2014. Two new members were welcomed: Debbie Antoon and Sharon Vas. For more information about the Garden Club, visit www.orange-ct.gov/gardenclub.html or call membership Chairperson Teresa Evangeliste at 203-795-3195. Garden Club of Orange is a member of NGC, NER, and FGCTT.



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Home & Garden

The Garden Spot:

Celebrate, Fly The Flag... It's July!

What better way to begin the month than with a celebration of the country's birthday on the Fourth of July! The red, white and blue will be on display everywhere and hopefully your garden will be dressed for the occasion as well.

Bright red geraniums, blue salvia and white petunias planted in containers on the front steps or in the garden will make a festive statement.

A special member of our family was born on the Fourth, so the day always includes a flag-decorated cake and red white and blue everywhere.



MARION RIZZO

The holiday provides a great opportunity for children to learn about their country's history and decorate the garden with American flags. Remember when kids draped their bikes with red, white and blue crepe paper streamers?

July is also a good time to plant a container garden that will add color and interest to a deck patio and of course, the front entry. There are several things to

keep in mind when you plant your pots or baskets. Your choice of pot or container, its size, color and how it will enhance the landscape of your home are important. Purchase plants in four inch pots, rather the plants sold

in cell packs.

The larger plants have better developed root systems and can tolerate the crowded conditions of a container more easily. A good quality potting soil is always recommended. Fertilization is important – a slow release fertilizer like Osmocote is very effective.

Add a layer of mulch when you're done planting. The mulch will help keep the soil cool and moist and it's a great finishing touch.

Deadheading (removing wilted and faded blooms) and regular watering will insure the continued beauty of your container. If one of the plants gets wilted it's easy enough to replace and give the unit a fresh look.

If you choose to hang your basket or pot, a swivel hook is an easy way to turn the basket 90 degrees. Do this every few days to keep the plant growing evenly. Be sure the hook is secure.

To add interest and height to a grouping, arrange a large container with smaller ones surrounding it. You also can use bricks or stones to raise one planter higher than its neighbors.

At this point we don't know what July weather will be – hot, humid, rainy or maybe just perfect. Let's hope the latter! So happy planting and a Happy Fourth of July!

Marion Rizzo is a past president of the Garden Club of Orange.

Just Floored:

Looking At Kitchen Design Trends

Designing trends in cabinets involve more than selecting cabinets and countertops. You must think outside the box on how the kitchen fits and functions within the entire home. Home kitchen design options have evolved to include different color islands, two separate countertop choices, hardware and most importantly functionality.



ANNAMARIE MASTRANGELO

To start your thinking regarding the options ask yourself a few questions.

Most families feel the kitchen is the hub of the home, so it is important to ask: How the space impacts the adjacent rooms and traffic flow? New kitchen cabinets feature designs to help to customize your space including

the ability to accommodate varying levels of mobility.

Current cabinet design trends indicate that by 2015 new homes will be smaller, greener and offer more casual living space. Open floor plans satisfy a desire for gathering and connecting and these spaces transition easily for multi-purpose uses integrating the foyer, kitchen, dining room

and living functions.

Today's cabinetry styling trends favor "less is more" aesthetics, emphasizing clean lines and simpler moldings with carefully selected accents offering personalization. Common ways to accomplish this include flat panels or shaker style doors which help

create a theme and are easy to maintain.

Granite countertops continue to be in demand; backsplashes are generally comprised of glossy glass tile, porcelain, and bold color choices. Natural flooring materials for the floor such as hardwood, porcelain tile and upscale vinyl planking.

My favorite design choices are the two-colored cabinets, black being a main-

stay with a traditional and contemporary feel. Two separate granite selections for countertops and amazing hardware selections. Always remember in any design process take your time and rethink your options to fit your space needs and desires.

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

Room 911:

Don't Open That Front Hall Closet

The adage "You can never be too rich or too thin," has been supplemented with the knowledge that all of us can never have enough closet or storage space.

I'm sure we can all identify with unexpected friends dropping in or you're about to have a dinner party and wonder where will you put their coats.

Why?

Because the front hall closet is stuffed with, hats, coats, tennis rackets, cans of tennis balls, the shredder, the extra fan, the umbrellas (most of them broken, but you won't throw them out because you know you can fix it, someday), a child's school project, a flashlight, bug spray and boots for inclement weather and last, but not least ski gloves, a ski mask and sunscreen.

So, we come full circle as to where to put our things.

Last installment, we discussed under a staircase, window seats, kitchen islands, and shelving.

What if you have or can create a mud room? It can serve as a catchall area (but organized) with many uses.

It might be possible, near a back door, to have a bench seat made with drawers or cabinets underneath it. Boots, ski gloves, ski mask and other outer gear could be stored in it. The bench itself would serve as a place to sit down and put on shoes, and slip on waterproof clogs.



TEDRA SCHNEIDER

If it would be too costly to create a bench with closed storage underneath, than you could simply have a finished plank of wood attached to the sides of the wall and put crates or tubs underneath, maybe color coded, to indicate what is in each bin. High above the bench, pegs or hooks could be put in for baseball caps, jackets, backpacks or a dog's leash.

While we're at it, why not create a small pet cabinet or shelves to hold the dog's grooming paraphernalia, and be sure to include a lint brush for those of us who don't want to "wear" our pets.

The laundry area also offers many storage possibilities. While having shelves or cabinets above the washer and dryer for detergents and the like, you can also create space to fold your clothes if you have a front loading washer and dryer. This can be accomplished by putting a granite slab over the machines or some other wipeable board.

A stacking washer and dryer will give you more room to put in an ironing board, or folding dryer rack.

Your mission, dear reader, is to free your front closet from clutter. Find and create other storage areas in your home and let your confidence shine as you say, when answering the doorbell, "Why Edith, how nice of you to drop by, let me take your coat."

Tedra Schneider can be reached through her website at www.restagebytedra.com.

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Arts & Entertainment

ARTS MATTERS

"Fantasy, united with reason, is the mother of all arts and the maker of miracles." - Francisco da Go

by Patricia Miller

THE GALLERY AT TOWN HALL features the work of local watercolorist Lindsay Marieb, a student of Audrey Galer for seven years. Lindsay has a B.A. in Psychology, and a B.S. in Nursing. After a successful career in the Newborn Special Care Unit at Yale New Haven Hospital, she decided to become a stay at home Mom. She and her husband Mark live in Orange and are the proud parents of three boys. One is matriculated at the University of Michigan, the second will join his brother there in the fall, and the third, a student at Amity, is finishing his requirements for becoming an Eagle Scout. Lindsay's work reflects her interest in and deep affection for nature, people and travel. She is a member of the Art In the Library Hanging Committee and is instrumental in the hanging and display of the monthly art shows in the Library.

AUDREY GALER, local teacher and watercolorist of note, has an exhibition at the Pirelli Building (450 Sargent Drive-next to IKEA, New Haven) through the month of July. She has exhibited throughout New England and has a very extensive student base in the area. She has served as mentor and teacher to countless Orange and area residents for many years.

SAVE THE DATE for the Holy Infant Women's Guild trip on November 5th to the Westchester Broadway Theater production of "South Pacific." The cost is \$99.00 and includes transportation, dinner, the show and gratuities. To reserve a place—call early—at 203-799-2379 Monday-Thursday from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

CONNER DEANE, an Amity Creative Theatre veteran and a recent graduate of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music with a B.A. in Musical Theatre, announces the founding of The Broadway Method Academy. There will be a summer program where young people with a passion for musical theatre can study for three weeks. Broadway guest artists participating in the program, include: Telly Leung, who was in "Godspell" and "Rent"; Lindsay Mendez, Elpatha in "Wicked"; and Tony-nominated Rod McClure for Chaplin in "Chaplin." The program will be held at the Performing Arts Center in Trumbull. More information can be obtained at <http://www.broadwaymethod>

ART IN THE LIBRARY features two artists for the month of June- Benjamin Cassiano and Ginny Schmidt. Cassiano works in mixed media and Schmidt works in watercolor. Both have exhibited before and Ginny Schmidt's day job is at Orange Center Dentistry as a dental technician. The July

show will be the work of Art in the Library Committee members. The Art in the Library committee recently held a jurying session to select the work of artists for exhibitions in the 2015-2016 season.

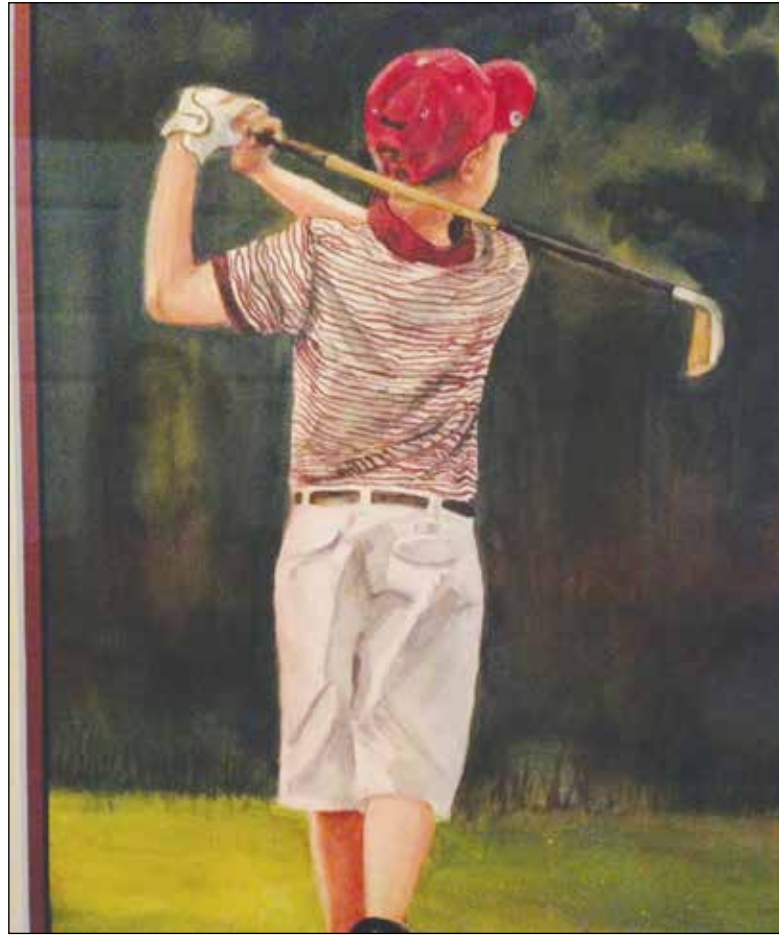
SQUARE ONE THEATRE presents "Motherhood Out Loud", a Reader's Theatre showcase production on Monday, August 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Case Memorial Library (176 Tyler City Road, Orange). The piece is composed of comic vignettes based on motherhood and parenting. It is billed as a hilarious, moving, thoroughly enjoyable theatrical experience.

THE ORANGE SENIOR CENTER CHORUS will make their debut performance on Friday, June 27th at the High Plains Community Center (525 Orange Center Road, Orange) at 2:00 p.m. The program will be a mixture of classic and patriotic music. The director is Tamara Witkin Marcus, who holds a M.A. in Vocal and Piano Performance from Indiana University. Coffee and dessert will be served after the program. The chorus has been meeting on Friday afternoons since March. Join the Seniors in song!

GOODSPEED OPERA HOUSE (6 Main street, East Haddam, CT) presents the time honored classic "Fiddler on the Roof" from June 27th to September 7th.

This international smash hit, with music by Jerry Boch, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick and book by Joseph Stein, is based on stories written by Sholem Aleicham. The universal longings of the villagers of Antevka—love, wealth, freedom. God, and home are explored. Well known songs from the score include "Matchmaker," "L'Chaim—To Life!," "Sunrise Sunset," "If I Were a Rich Man" and more. "Tradition", another melody, explores the embrace and challenge of tradition resulting from Tevya's daughters falling in love in a time both dangerous and extraordinary. For tickets call 860-873-8668 Or go to goodspeed.org.

PREPARATION FOR MUSICAL THEATRE COLLEGE PROGRAMS by Goodspeed The-



Artwork on display at Orange Town Hall.

Submitted Photo

atre in "Auditions", a comprehensive program that offers invaluable training and insider tips for aspiring college students. It prepares high school students for college musical theatre auditions. Students will receive individual monologue and song coaching, will participate in group exercises, will learn about Goodspeed musicals and engage in discussions of all aspects of the college audition process. They will also participate in discussions with renowned professors and professionals the field. The program runs from July 1st to August 3rd. For more information, call Kate at 860-873-8664, X 373.

DANCE INTENSIVE AUDITION WORKSHOP at Goodspeed (July 9th is the deadline for applications). There will be Ballet, Jazz, Tap for Musical Theatre, featuring choreography from Broadway, as well as Specialty Classes. The program is designed to give participants the ultimate New York audition experience with a creative team including a casting director, a producer, a director, a choreographer and a musical director to take them through the paces. There will be personal feedback—including who got cast and why. For more information, call Kate at 860-873-8664, X 373.

THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND IDEAS has roared into New Haven again this year. Running until June 28th, it offers a plethora of performances, tours and workshops throughout the city. Many of the events are free, others require purchased tickets. The Grammy-Award winning Latin music group Santa Cecilia performs a free concert with opening act Nation Beat on Saturday, June 28th at 7:00 p.m. Their music is Latin rock and dance music that

draws from Brazil and Mexico. For a complete schedule of events, go to artidea.org

AUDUBON ARTS CRAWL takes place rain or shine on Saturday, June 26th from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. There will be artist receptions, performances, tastings and more at participating arts venues, restaurants and shops. A complete guide can be found at newhavenarts.org.

ARTSPACE (50 Orange Street) opens an exhibition that pairs twelve artists with wildly different practices in six collaborations. The artists are strangers to each other, selected by the curator, Jacob Rhodes. Each was asked to exchange a finished work with another artist and to re-create that work by forcing themselves on it in any way they pleased. No preconceptions impinge on their attempts. On view through June 28th. Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

AMITY THEATRE SUMMER CAMP runs from July 7th- August 1st at Amity Senior High School (25 Newton Road, Woodbridge). The camp will be headed by Rob and Andrea Kennedy of the Amity Theater Department. This year's project is "Broadway Classics" Attendees will focus on dance, voice and acting. Attendees will gain performance experience that will ignite their creative spirit and build their sense of accomplishment. Open to students in Grades 2 through 12, the program is designed so that fun is part of the equation. All skill levels are welcome. The culminating performance is one in which all attendees participate. For more information go to amityadulted.myprogramplus.com

AMITY HIGH SCHOOL won three awards this year from the Connecticut Musical Theater Awards Association. Kahari Blue won the award for the best supporting actor in a play ("In the Heights"), Tom Ivanovich won for the Best Sound Design and Parent Barbie Harger won for Amity's Best Lobby Display.

The Amity Creative Theater continues to do well in these annual competitions. In the past seven years, they have won two New England Theater Association Moss Hart Awards and fourteen Connecticut High School Musical The-

ater Awards. Theater is alive and well in the BOW region!

LONG WHARF THEATRE presents "The Bikinis", a 60's musical beach party, created by Roy Roderick and James Hindman with additional music contributed by Joseph Baker and Roy Roderick. The production was also directed by Ron Roderick. Shades of the Jersey Shore and the Boardwalk!—reliving the heyday with songs like "It's in His Kiss" "Yellow Polka Dot Bikini", "Under the Boardwalk". "Heat Wave" and more. For tickets, go to longwharf.org or call 203-77-4282.

TERRA TRACTUS, a spectacular, thought-provoking program will be held at Stony Creek Quarry on June, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th. Produced by Project 2K, celebrating its 20th year, Terra Tractus explores the geological and man-made history of the Stony Creek Quarry through projections, laser light, dance, pyrotechnics and music. Off-site parking will be provided at Walsh Intermediate School Parking Lot (185 Damascus Road, Branford), with shuttle service to the quarry. Guides, food, and pre-show experience available from 6:00 p.m. on. Show begins at dusk. For tickets, go to www.project2.org

NEW ENGLAND BALLET will be one of two organizations to benefit from the Connecticut Walk, by Roller Girl Meredith Zolty, who plans to walk Connecticut from border to border on U.S. Route 1 to support New England Ballet's inclusive dance program for children with special needs. For the past four years, New England Ballet has included young dancers with autism, Downs Syndrome, and various physical challenges in special performances.

Dozens of children and young adults have been given the opportunity to express themselves through movement and dance, to learn the discipline necessary for rehearsing for a program and to gain self-confidence from the culminating performance. They shine on stage and bask in the glow of well-earned applause.

Meredith Zolty has a son in the program, from which he has derived much benefit. She will begin her walk at the New York Border on Monday, June 23. She plans to be at the New England Ballet Studio (200 Boston Post Road, Orange) on Wednesday, June 25th to kick off the day's walk after a big send-off from the studio. Members of the company will join her for part of the walk. To support this effort, go to gofundme.com/7arObO. The other organization that will benefit from the walk will be Roller Girls, and organization that Meredith says creates an environment that is both inclusive and competitive.

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

Senior Living

Poet's Corner:

The Night The Shooting Stars Came Out



JOHN
ULATOWSKI

Every year the town offers a multitude of activities that are diverse and family-oriented.

One of the most attended events is the annual July fireworks spectacular and concert.

Several hundred of all ages attend the show and are amazed at its display and everyone seems to know someone else there. Whether it is a concert, competition, tag sale, fair...it is a fun event for all. Orange really knows how to throw a party.

They all came early, Streams of families rolling over the soft, green oasis that covers the expanse like a welcoming mat. Caravans of folk weighted down with armfuls of blankets, entangled with bags filled to the brim with sustenance, with shoulders bearing the brunt of wicker chairs: all preparations for the great night to come. The children beam with anticipation knowing and not knowing what to expect. Trustingly they hold dear to their mother's hand and settle themselves on a spot that's just right. Mirrored reflections now begin to show the fading blur of a twilight sky with soft hints of the coming sunset. The wide-open field begins to fill with people looking like streams of water-paths flowing downhill in irregular patterns, looking like the rush of a manifest destiny of sorts. Spaces of great worth to be possessed are sought as an adventure that rivals the opening of the

Great West. They sit basking in the summer heat that covers them like a blanket of wool. They are squatters just out for a good time, the lifeblood of a community.

Shades of twilight succumb at the insistence of night's fall. An air of strange, muted silence resonates. The countdown begins. The night falls harder and faster, like a silence passing as a whisper from ear to ear; like gentle wind songs that murmur...*Hush, be still.* It is now a community of one through a telepathy like an osmosis that knows the countdown is over. Suddenly... the black of the night becomes an explosion of a thousand stars whose great bursts ring out like echoes of Jupiter's trump, calls to attention, and heralds of arrival. Resounding thunder explodes like remnants of the Big Bang multiplied many times over; colors of blinding vibrancy like a metamorphosis before your eyes. One after another night-rockets spew as a great Vesuvius with stardust falling back to earth as nothing but a memory. Over and over and over... until the powder has run out, having exhausted itself honorably.

What do we see before us? What do we feel? What becomes of us who peer wide-eyed into the smoky night sky? Do we exalt the birth of a nation in the rocket's red glare? Feel strengthened in the foundation of law and order in bombs bursting in air? Relish a new genesis of unalienable rights giving proof through the night? Perhaps glow in the surety of a better life for our children that our flag was still there? Speak odes of joy and embrace beacons of great promise that our banner yet waves? Come to discovery in our hearts a birth of new creations within living



Photo by John Ulatowski

in the land of the free, the home of the brave? Yes, it's all the above...and more.

John Ulatowski is the Youth Services Coordinator for the Town of Orange.

Retired and Rejuvenated:

Older Workers: A Valued Asset

At a time when digital skills are prized and businesses place a premium on youth, there are still employers who go the extra mile to assure that experienced older workers are valued and management is eager for them to stay.

The *New York Times* cited several companies for exerting unusual efforts to encourage older workers to stay.

For example, CVS offers a "snowbird" program in which several hundred pharmacists from Northern states are transferred each winter at the individuals own expense to pharmacies in Florida and other warmer states. These older employees help CVS with the surge in business during the colder months.

This employment is often part-time so the older employees still have time for leisure activities. Many CVS pharmacy customers are older, so CVS wants a work force that reflects this customer base.



JOANNE
BYRNE

Michelin, the tire maker, lets experienced white-collar workers stretch out their careers by transitioning them from often-stressful 50 and 60 hour-a-week jobs to less demanding part-time jobs. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) boasts that 48 percent of their 20,000 employees are over the age of 50. NIH offers emergency care for employee's parents, a perk that helps to retain workers who may be tempted to quit to care for parents with recurring health crisis.

Pitney Bowes has programs that help older employees focus on keeping healthy. They offer a six-week course on "How to Save Your Back" as well as other programs on losing weight, reducing stress, and smoking cessation, among others.

Home Depot is known for hiring older workers, many retired plumbers and construction workers who have life skills that

benefit customers and who are willing to work flexible hours so it makes it easier to put together weekly store schedules.

Today's older workers are healthier and more technologically savvy than older workers of previous generations. They bring a lot to the workplace. Employers know that recruiting and retaining older workers is good for their business. Older workers are dependable, committed, and bring wisdom to the job.

Efforts to retain older workers coincide with two important trends.

First, the nation's over-65 population is growing rapidly which means that many companies like CVS want mature workers to serve their aging customers.

Second, more Americans are working later in life, either by necessity because they cannot afford to retire or because they stay healthy longer and enjoy their jobs. The percentage of older workers in the labor force has climbed, even as the percentage of younger workers has fallen. An oft sight-

ed dilemma is that older workers are taking jobs from younger people.

Some experts on aging say that baby boomers have changed the definition of retirement. They say the new word for retirement is 'work.' For many boomers, their definition of retirement is cutting down to part time or doing something on a project basis.

Some employers resist hiring or retaining older workers because they often have higher health insurance costs and higher salaries. Many companies are uncomfortable in saying they have special programs aimed at older workers for fear of putting off younger workers and customers. Instead they use a more current term and talk about their "intergenerational strategies."

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.

DENARDIS, EDWARD

Edward DeNardis, 88, husband of Gloria Adante DeNardis of Orange, passed away June 4, 2014, at his home. Father of Diane (Blase) Picone of Madison; Shirley Flesher (Mike Baldwin) of Milford; Edward (Janet) DeNardis of Hamden; James (Francine) DeNardis and Michael DeNardis, both of Orange; Carol (Steven) Renchy of Guilford; and Daniel (Jennifer) DeNardis of West

Haven. Son of the late Peter and Anna DeNardis. Brother of Raymond DeNardis of North Haven and the late Frank DeNardis.

Also survived by 11 grandchildren and a great-grandchild. Prior to his retirement, Ed was a foreman with the former Velleca Construction Co. for many years. He was a WWII Army veteran.

Memorial Contributions may be made to CT Hospice, 100 Double Beach Rd., Branford, CT 06405. Sign Ed's guestbook online

at www.portofuneralhomes.net.

MOULTON, EVELYN SHAW

Evelyn Shaw Moulton, 90, passed away on April 28. Moulton and her husband, Arthur, moved to Orange in 1955 with their son, David. Evelyn volunteered for many organizations in the New Haven area.

In addition to her husband Arthur, Evelyn was predeceased by her brother Albert Joseph Shaw. She is survived by her son, Da-

vid Walker Moulton of New Haven.

Those who desire may make a donation in her memory to Loaves and Fishes, 57 Olive St. New Haven, Conn., 06511, CT Food Bank, P.O. Box 8686, New Haven, Conn., 06531, or a cause of your choosing. Arrangements in care of Beecher & Bennett Funeral Home. For more information or to send a condolence, please see obituary at www.beecherandbennett.com.

Obituaries

Business

Insuring Your Future:

Affordable Care Act II – What You Need To Know

It seems like only yesterday people were trying to figure out how the Affordable Care Act (aka ObamaCare) would affect them and their business. Here we are almost seven months later, and more than 195,000 people in Connecticut have enrolled in health coverage, and we are already looking toward next year.



TRISH
PEARSON

For the most part, 2015 will be an extension of 2014 in terms of who must provide and have coverage and penalties. The biggest impact will be to companies with more than 100 employees.

Large Employers

What is the requirement?

Employers with 50 or more full-time employees plus full-time equivalent employees, must offer affordable, minimum essential coverage of minimum value or potentially be subject to tax penalties.

To ensure a gradual phase-in and assist the employers to whom the policy does apply, the final rules provide, for 2015, that:

The employer responsibility provision will generally apply to larger firms with 100 or more full-time employees starting in 2015 and employers with 50 or more full-time employees starting in 2016.

To avoid a penalty, employers need to offer coverage to 70 percent of their full-time employees in 2015 and 95 percent in 2016 and beyond, helping employers that, for example, may offer coverage to employees who work 35 or more hours, but not yet to that fraction of their employees who work 30 to 34 hours.

Definition of Full-time

Perhaps the most important calculation for businesses is the definition of a full time employee. The two main determining factors are: number of continuous months worked in a year and number of hours worked each week.

Landscaping, agricultural and other “seasonal” businesses need to take a careful look at the requirements to determine whether those employees are covered under the act.

Employers who have multiple locations and franchises, i.e. fast food restaurants and service stations, need to look at the average number of hours the employee works in a year.

If the total number of hours worked by all employees divided by 365 is more than 100 then that is the employee number used for purposes of determining into which category the business fits.

Small Employers

Approximately 96 percent of employers are small businesses and have fewer than 50 employees and are exempt from the employer responsibility provisions. However, that does not mean that the individual employees are exempt from having health insurance.

Employers have the option of continuing the small group coverage and contributing to the employee premium or employees

can purchase insurance individually either through the Health Exchange and perhaps qualify for a subsidy or a plan offered by the various carriers. The employer in some cases has the option of contributing to the employee premium in this case.

Individuals

Nationally, 4 million people are expected to pay the penalty for failing to purchase insurance in 2014. The penalty of \$95 per person, is minor compared to the potential cost of trying to “self insure” medical expenses. A three hour visit to the ER can result in a \$2,500 bill or a session at a walk-in clinic could easily cost \$500 or more. Why risk this liability?

A large variety of plans are available on and off the Exchange, and while we don’t yet know how the plans will change for 2015, we anticipate more carriers will offer plans through the Exchange in addition to the current companies who participate (ConnectiCare, Anthem, and HealthyCT).

What to do if you missed the deadline

Wait ‘til next year - the period when folks can sign up for health insurance for 2015 will begin sometime in mid - November and last for four to six weeks.

You might qualify for a “Special Election period” now if:

- You lose employer coverage;
- You get divorced;
- You have a baby;
- Or the coverage offered by your employer becomes “unaffordable.”

If one of these situations apply to you then it is worth contacting an insurance agent to see if you can apply **now**. When in doubt, make the call, it could be well worth your time and save you thousands and many sleepless nights.

Trish Pearson is a licensed independent insurance agent and certified Long Term Care Specialist. Contact her at 203-640-5969 or trishpearson281@gmail.com.

Orange Business Expo



Photos By Steve Cooper
Top Photo: The High Plains Community Center played host to the annual Business Expo organized by Paul Grimmer, president of the Orange Economic Development Corporation, on Wednesday, June 18. Visitors were treated to booths for fitness, treats, community security and other products and services. Bottom: Jared Krinsky of Anytime Fitness talks with an expo visitor while his father, Murray Krinsky manages their booth.

Ashley Furniture Grand Opening



Photo By Joseph Cole

Selectman Ralph Oakenquist and Ashley’s Furniture owner Khalid Qudar cut the ribbon at the store’s new Orange location on Boston Post Road on June 20.

Cathy Bradley Honored For Her Role In Telecom

The blog *Hello Operator*, honored Orange resident and businesswoman Cathy Bradley in a post titled, “4 Top Women of Telecom: How They Got Where They Are Today” by Marshal Jones on May 7. The article notes that Bradley is one of the top executives in an industry dominated by men.

Jones noted Bradley’s more than 30 years of senior management in the telecom industry, working with companies including AT&T and SNET. Currently she serves as president of Spoken Communications, Inc.

Jones’s article notes that Bradley feels women still face a considerable challenge

in the market. She told him that women are often marginalized, with a belief they do not understand technical and financial complexities.

Bradley is a long-time Orange resident and owner of the Prindle Hill Construction Company along with her two sons. She holds a bachelor of science in economics from the University of Connecticut an MBA from the University of New Haven. Bradley also is a member of the board of directors for the Orange Chamber of Commerce.

She is also a marathon runner and a contributing writer to The Orange Times.

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Letters

Article Biased and Misleading

To the Editor:

I'm writing this letter in response to an article by Brian McCready in the 6/5/14 issue of *The Orange Times* that failed to portray the Audubon Society's report regarding the THP Property in a balanced manner. The tone of Mr. McCready's article suggests a bias toward using the property no further than the current access allows (which is very limited), which does NOT reflect the breadth of information contained in the report.

Mr. McCready's article immediately points to an *opinion* by the Audubon society on page 38 that recommends passive recreation, yes, but in no way suggests prohibition of trail-building. In fact, on that same page 38, *before* the stated opinion, the report clearly describes methods of trail management AND responsible trail-building.

Mr. McCready failed to mention one of the report's more impactful conclusions, again stated in the report *before* the "outdoor classroom" reference: Suggestions for responsible timber-harvesting.

Yes, timber harvesting, right there on page 46 and earlier pages in the report. Any way you slice it, a timber harvest would surely impact the "sensitive environmental receptors" Mr. McCready made sure to mention.

I am as enamored with this jewel of a piece of property as anyone here in town, but the Audubon report clearly delineates the THP as being no different than any other un-managed Northeast forest, and has no state protected plants, birds, animals, or fish. In my opinion, the taxpayers paid \$7-plus million for 370-plus acres of otherwise un-remarkable land that should be made accessible to

the owners (us). The Audubon report is truly comprehensive, and serves as a great catalogue of the diversity and condition of the property, but should be regarded as a reference document only.

What most Orange residents are not aware of, is that the New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA) has presented a proposal to the Board of Selectmen AND the Conservation Commission to build *and* maintain shared-use trails (hikers, dog-walkers, equestrian, etc) on the THP *at no cost to the town* (the Audubon report *does* acknowledge trail use by mt. bikers). You read that right, NO cost to the town of Orange. The NEMBA charter encourages trail-building that is:

A) Sustainable, relatively maintenance free, environmentally friendly

B) Shared use, hiker, dog walker, bird watcher, jogger, mt biker, etc.

C) Designed primarily for the safety of the hiker. The person on foot has the right of way. Trails are constructed so that there is a clear sight line so that all users can use the area safely and in a shared manner.

I strongly urge residents to read the Audubon report on the Town website and form their own conclusions, not just those portrayed in Mr. McCready's article. And I further urge the Board of Selectment to consider the NEMBA offer, or explain to the taxpayers why they WON'T consider a cost-free offer to provide additional access to property we all paid a pretty penny for.

**Ted Bordeleau
Orange**

Thanks For The Memorial Day Parade

To the Editor:

The Town of Orange Memorial Day Ceremonies and Parade were held on Sunday, May 25, 2014. Laurence P. Czajkowski, U. S. Army 1968 to 1998, Vietnam, Cold & Gulf War era veteran, was the Grand Marshal.

Peter J. MacDonald, U.S. Army, 1956 to 1978, a Vietnam War veteran, was the chief of staff. Joseph F. Blake, U.S. Army 1953 to 1955, a Korean War era veteran, was this year's Honored Veteran. Philip Grande, Sr., U.S. Army, Vietnam era veteran, was the Keynote Speaker.

Diane Raikis sang the National Anthem. Robert Mirto, Esq. was the master of ceremonies and Fred O'Brien, Esq. was the parade announcer.

Memorial Day was coordinated by Mr. Kevin Gilbert. The services at the Veteran's Memorial Monument at the Orange Center Cemetery were led by Lewis Merritt, Commander, American Legion Post #127. Wreaths were laid at the monument by the American Legion Auxiliary and the Jewish War Veterans.

We would like to acknowledge those who made the day successful including the Highway Department, the Police Department, the Police Benevolent Association (PBA), the American Legion and its Auxiliary, and the Fire Department for the use of their commu-

nication radios.

A special "Thank You" to the Park & Recreation grounds crew for preparing the grounds for Memorial Day, the Orange Cemetery Association in memory of Marjorie Case who bequest funds each year to help defray parade costs, The Orange Foundation for the plaques given to the honorees, Lou Eagle of Eagle Leasing for the use of a flat bed trailer that was used as our reviewing stand, Chris Winkle and the Winkle Bus Company for the use of a bus and driver to shuttle people to and from the cemetery and back to the parade grounds, Tom Hill for the use of two outdoor conveniences, Pinpoint Pro Motions & Printing of Milford for their poster boards, Bob Fantarella for his audio system, and Ron Davis, OGAT Coordinator, for the DVD's of the parade and ceremonies. Lastly, we thank the school readers, the boys and girls who handed out all the flags and programs during the ceremonies and Eli Baum for playing taps both at the opening and closing ceremonies.

Generous contributions from private parties and organizations were received to honor our fallen veterans and to support the soldiers who are presently serving our country.

**Kevin Gilbert,
Memorial Day Parade Coordinator**

Democrats Praised For Office Hours

To The Editor:

I had the distinct pleasure of attending the first of what I hope will be a regular event on the evening of Thursday, June 5, when two elected Democratic officials held "office hours" at the public library.

Selectman Ken Lenz and Orange Board of Education member Jody Deitch made themselves available for two hours of open discussion, answering questions from the audience.

Topics included responsible use of town-owned open space, concerns about United

Illuminating tree cutting in residential neighborhoods, paving of town roads, and an update on the Peck Place School renovation project.

In the 39 years that I have resided in Orange, I can't remember another time that the public had such an opportunity with their elected officials. I look forward to meeting and talking with two other elected officials the next time the Democrats hold office hours.

**William M. Sherman
Orange**

News & Events

Conventions Nominate Candidates For November Showdown

Hynes Accepts Democratic Nomination

Aldon Hynes, of Woodbridge, accepted the Democratic nomination for State Representative in the 114th Assembly District serving Woodbridge and parts of Orange and Derby.

Hynes spoke about the importance of civic engagement, giving voters a choice, and about issues like health, education, the environment and transportation.

Hynes' focused his speech on what he feels are the underlying issues for freedom and responsibility. "Our freedom should be the freedom to help the downtrodden and vulnerable amongst us," he said during his acceptance speech.

Hynes serves in local government as an alternate to the Woodbridge Zoning Board of Appeals and a member of the Government Access Television Commission. He also is a member of the Vestry at Grace at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Hamden. He lives in Woodbridge with his wife and youngest daughter.

Davis Endorsed in the 117th House District

Incumbent State Representative Paul Davis, of Orange, received the Democratic endorsement to run for a sixth term at a Democratic convention held at the High Plains Community Center in Orange, Tuesday, May 20.

The 117th District includes parts of Milford, Orange, and West Haven.

Davis, a retired West Haven teacher, and Hall of Fame swim coach said he was "honored and humbled by the support he has received."

In nominating Davis, Orange resident Kevin McNabola, former Orange Schools Finance Director and recently appointed West Haven Director of Finance, said that Paul is responsive to the needs of our communities and works tirelessly on behalf of his constituents. He mentioned that on numerous occasions when issues involving the state arose, Paul was always there to help.

For More Information contact State Representative Paul Davis.

Republicans Nominate Ferraro In 117th

Republicans nominated Charles Ferraro to run for State Representative in the 117th District, encompassing parts of Milford, Orange, and West Haven, at the Convention, on May 14, in West Haven.

Ferraro is a lifelong West Haven resident and business owner of The West Haven Academy of Karate. Established in 1975, it is the oldest full-time martial arts institution serving Southern Connecticut. Ferraro is also the co-founder of "Worldwide Tang Soo Do Family" an international martial arts organization. Ferraro resides in West Haven with his wife Geralyn. They have two sons, Christopher and Brandon.

Maroney Receives Unanimous Support

State Representative James Maroney (D-119, Milford and Orange) received unanimous support from the Milford and Orange Democratic Town Committees to run for a second term.

Having completed his fundraising and qualified for a Citizens Election Program grant, Maroney is ready to hit the ground running and continue walking door-to-door and meeting with constituents.

Republicans Rally Behind Staneski

Pam Staneski was unanimously endorsed to run as the Republican candidate for the 119th State Representative District.

"I am honored by the unanimous support of the Milford and Orange delegates tonight. It's time we change course and give people more efficient state government," said Staneski in a press release.

Staneski served four terms on the Milford school board, and one term as an alderman. Pam has served Milford over the years through her work with various non-profits including Milford's Promise and United Way of Milford.

Co-founder of the Milford Prevention Council, Pam has been active the last two years in fighting the rollback of drug-free zones at schools and daycare centers, as well as stopping a proposed marijuana distribution center from opening near a school.

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