

The Orange Times

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

Vol. 3 / Issue 17

December 18, 2014

Help us honor one of Orange's many volunteers... See page 16

Season's Greetings



Top and Bottom Right Photos By Steve Cooper, All Others by Lexi Crocco

The annual town holiday festival took over the Orange Town Green on Dec. 7. Visitors were treated to carollers, ice carving and of course Santa Claus as festivities carried on throughout the day. The event was capped off with the lighting of the Town's Christmas Tree on the Green.



McMullin Leaves Orange

by Joseph Cole
editor@theorangetimes.com

When the holidays come to an end Orange students will filter back into the schools. One person won't be returning to town's halls of education: Superintendent of Schools Lynn McMullin.

McMullin has tendered her resignation, effective Dec. 31 and will be taking a position as the Superintendent of Schools in Litchfield. McMullin came to Orange three years ago in what was her first position as a superintendent.

"I've been a high school teacher most of my career and Litchfield is a school district with it's own high school," McMullin said, citing one of her reasons for McMullin continued on page 2

Staples Closes Orange Store

by Joseph Cole
editor@theorangetimes.com

As of Jan. 17, customers looking for Staples "Easy Button" marketing approach to home and office supplies may need to turn their eyes toward Milford. The Orange location will be no more.

"I can confirm the Orange location is closing on Jan. 17," Kaitlyn Reardon, public relations officer with the company said via email.

The Milford location will remain open and service the region. Customers are also encouraged to shop online.

Staples continued on page 14

Board Approves Pez Boulevard

by Joseph Cole
editor@theorangetimes.com

The newly opened Edison Road will soon be no more. In it's place will be something, a little sweeter.

The Board of Selectmen voted to rename the road Pez Boulevard in honor of the iconic candy company headquartered there.

The new signs will be blue and bear the Orange Town Seal along with Pez presented in the same blocky letters as the company logo.

Pez continued on page 11

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News & Events

Peck Place Teacher Honored For Excellence

by Joseph Cole

editor@theorangetimes.com

When Nicole Gilson teaches her fifth grade math students at Peck Place School, she approaches problems not with a lesson but with a conversation. It works.

It works so well in fact she is one of two teachers in the state awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. In the Spring she'll learn if she will be recognized at the national level at a conference in Washington D.C.

"I would do these mini lessons and then we would discuss the problems," Gilson said of her teaching method that won the recognition. "It wasn't my teaching that caught people's eye, it was the students' conversations."

Gilson's classes were taped and edited with help from the school. She prepared a 15-page paper to send to the state. When the committee reviewed her work, she came out on top and was recognized for her efforts.

"So many times as a teacher we go straight to the algorithm and sometimes the kids just don't get it," Gilson said. She saw the challenge as not just teaching the mechanics of math but an understanding of what concepts like division and multiplication actually mean.

Prior to a 17 year stint as a teacher, Gilson was a communication science and English major who worked in public relations. She eventually went back to school for a masters in education and worked 8 years in the New Haven school system before coming to Orange.

Superintendent Lynn McMullin congratulated Gilson's achievement and teaching methods, noting that it was proof that common core is not the end all be all of education.

"People need to remember that teachers will keep going out there with skills and methods of teaching that are their own," McMullin said.



Photo By Susan Lukianov
Peck Place School Principal Eric Carbone poses with teacher Nicole Gilson after she was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

McMullin continued from page 1

seeking to leave Orange. The opportunity in Litchfield will offer her a chance to work with students through their entire pre-college education.

The location is also closer to her home in Massachusetts. While she intends to maintain a weekday residence nearer the schools, McMullin looks forward to be closer to her primary residence. While serving Orange she maintained a residence in Milford, which suffered twice from storms and hurricanes.

Board of Education Co-Chair Jody Dietch praised McMullin and expressed remorse that Orange was losing her to Litchfield.

"Lynn has been a major asset to the town of Orange. I have never met anyone with a stronger work ethic," said Dietch. "She accomplished so much in her 3 short years, while having to handle many major issues such as a snow storm in October, security concerns following Sandy Hook and, of course, the flood and ensuing renovations to

Peck Place. It is a shame we are losing her to Litchfield and I hope the community realizes how much she did. Her decisions were always based on, to quote Lynn, "what's best for kids" and she did not let town politics affect her decisions keeping her goals intact. I wish her well. I know she will be successful."

McMullin called the restoration of Peck Place School the biggest challenge she has faced as a superintendent. It forced her to

become knowledgeable in areas she never expected, like construction.

McMullin's last day in Orange will be Dec. 31 and she is slated to start in Litchfield on Jan. 9. She expects to actually be in the office getting used to her new position on Jan. 1.

As far as advice for whoever replaces her, McMullin keeps it simple. "Orange is a ship heading in the right direction," she said.

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News & Events

Holy Hill Childcare Delivers Baskets



Photo By Debbie Manson Fedorko
Thanks to the generosity of the children and parents of Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center, several senior residents of Orange will be enjoying bountiful Thanksgiving baskets filled with everything needed for a wonderful holiday dinner, along with a grocery gift card. Debbie Manson Fedorko, assistant director said, "The Thanksgiving food drive is the perfect opportunity for our staff to teach our young people a very valuable lesson... the meaning of caring and giving."
Nicole DeAngelo and Danielle Seeley, (far left) and Emily Campagna and Shirley Klinger, (far right).

Turkey Trot Returns to High Plains



Photo By Lexi Crocco
For the second year in a row the Orange Rotary Club hosted the Turkey Trot at High Plains Community Center. The event consists of a 5K run and a two mile walk.

Slossberg Named As Education Committee Chair

State Senator Gayle S. Slossberg (D-Milford) has been appointed by Senate President Pro Tempore Martin M. Looney (D-New Haven) to serve as Senate Chair of the General Assembly's Education Committee.

Senator Slossberg received her Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University and her law degree from New York University Law School. She began her political career as an alderwoman in Milford, and before that was PTA president at Mathewson Elementary School.

fore that was PTA president at Mathewson Elementary School.

"I am honored and thrilled that Senator Looney has placed his trust in me to continue my passionate work in education," said Sen. Slossberg in a press release. "I look forward to working with all stakeholders, from teachers and parents to students and education advocates."

"I am delighted to hear Senator Slossberg

has been named chair of the education committee," said Dr. Charles Britton, Principal of Amity Regional Senior High School. "She has been a tireless advocate for public education and is certainly sharp-minded when it comes to understanding the impact of all the reform initiatives under way. She is a great listener and I look forward to working with her in the coming year and years to come."

Before Sen. Slossberg was elected to the

General Assembly in 2004 she got her start in public service advocating for full-day kindergarten in Milford as a member of the PTA.

Sen. Slossberg has received the Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents Distinguished Service Award as well as the Connecticut PTA Life Achievement Award for her dedication to improving Connecticut's education system.

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Opinion & Editorial

Looking Forward To The New Year

As the year winds to an end The Orange Times would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to the residents and businesses in our fine town. We have enjoyed sharing your stories and news with your neighbors, friends and family and look forward to continuing to do so in the new year.

Our list of contributing columnists will grow by one with

the addition of Attorney Allison DePaola on legal matters.

State Reps. Paul Davis and James Maroney will bid us goodbye and be replaced by State Reps. Elect Pam Staneski and Charles Ferraro. We look forward to their contributions to the Capitol View section.

We also are excited to see who the community chooses

as our honoree for Volunteer of the Year. The ballot can be found on page 16 of this edition.

Lastly, we would like to take a moment to remember our friend and former The Orange Times editor Bridget Albert who passed away earlier this year.

Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year to you all.

A New Chapter



STATE REP. PAUL
DAVIS

The 2015 legislative session will begin on Wednesday January 7th with the swearing in of all the legislators and Constitutional officers. While the challenges facing Connecticut are many, all must agree that the outlook is certainly better than it was four years ago or even two years ago. The economy is growing, unemployment is down, schools are performing better, the achievement gap has been reduced, bridges and

highways are being repaired, and new trains are transporting commuters. With all these good things happening, it seems there is little to do; but if you ask the average citizen, a plethora of ideas for legislative change would be proposed along with the required criticism of past performance.

While I am disappointed that I will not have the opportunity to address these issues as my term of office as a state representative ends with the swearing in of the newly elected officials, I will remain active in advocating for those concerns which I believe should have the highest priority. I would like at this time to thank our local residents for affording me the honor of serving for the last ten years. I have been overwhelmed and humbled by the number of phone calls, letters, and messages I have received expressing thanks and gratitude. Each day that I served was special. I will keep with me forever the sense of awe I experienced each time I entered the historic House Chamber at the Capitol to do the people's work. I was always keenly aware of my responsibilities to my constituents and the citizens of Connecticut and take pride in all we accomplished during my five terms.

I have received numerous inquires about my future plans. I have spent the greater part of my life in public service as a teacher for thirty four years and a legislator for ten. I have always believed that it is important for each of us to keep ourselves informed and speak out when necessary. This is something I will continue to do and strongly encourage my fellow citizens to join in the effort. I have yet to decide on any specific path, but look forward to many new challenges as I move forward into a new chapter in my life. Thank you again for your continued support. Please feel free to contact me at any time at paul.davis.ct@gmail.com.

Making A Difference



STATE REP. THEMIS
KLARIDES

By now, you may have grown weary of the familiar ding, ding, of the holiday bells outside your favorite mall or local grocery store and the ongoing pleas to contribute to charity. But it should be a reminder of how important it is to remember those less fortunate, those who really depend on charitable contributions, especially at this time of year.

I make it a point every Christmas to get out and ring the bells in Derby outside the Wal-Mart. It allows me to mix with friends, neighbors and strangers and to hear the latest news or simply converse with people and find out what is on their minds. It is an uplifting experience that we only get to do once a year.

All the money raised goes toward the Salvation Army's efforts to help clothe and feed people and families who need help.

It also allows me to take part in a team effort to make a difference in peoples' lives. Over the years I have been able to raise \$665.36 – not sure where that 36 cents came from, but it is all worthwhile. The House Republican caucus overall has raised \$76,643.28 ringing bells and getting passersby to put money in the Salvation Army kettle. It creates a warm feeling on a cold winter night in the dark.

As a nation we have a long history of charitable giving, whether it is a turkey drive at Thanksgiving, donating clothing to the Goodwill, writing a check to your favorite worthwhile organization or dropping a few dollars or change into the Salvation Army coffers. We must never forget how valuable these donations are, how critical these actions become.

We don't engage in this behavior to make ourselves feel better. We do it to make others more comfortable, even if it is just a little bit.

So thank you again for stopping by and spending a few moments and helping to make another successful Bell Ringing event this Christmas.

State Rep. Themis Klarides is the incoming House Republican Leader from Derby, representing the towns of the 114th District: Derby, Orange and Woodbridge.

Capitol View New Appointment



STATE SEN. GAYLE
SLOSSBERG

I'm thrilled to report that Senator Martin Looney, President Pro Tempore of the State Senate, has appointed me to serve as Senate Chair of the General Assembly's Education Committee for the upcoming legislative session.

This is an honor and an exciting opportunity to break new ground in Connecticut's effort to make our system of public education the best in the nation.

My passion for public education was my gateway into politics. I helped lead the push for full-day kindergarten in Milford and served as President of Mathewson Elementary School's PTA before I was elected to the Milford Board of Aldermen, and then the State Senate. In a sense, I've come full circle. I entered politics as a local education advocate, and am now a statewide leader on the issue that first ignited my passion for public service.

I will lead the committee with the same set of core values that have always set my political compass when it comes to education. Firstly, every child deserves the opportunity of a quality education. Secondly, our greatest educational resources and partners are our teachers. I'll work hand in hand with them in the weeks and months to come.

A hallmark of my time in office has been my willingness to work with anyone, regardless of their political affiliation, to help make Connecticut the best state it can be. I'm excited by the opportunity to work with all stakeholders, from teachers and parents to students and education advocates, to maintain the push for quality education. I'm delighted to take on this new challenge, and excited to advocate for our students and teachers in Orange and across our state.

I would love to hear your thoughts on education and the issues that matter most to you. Please don't hesitate to contact my office at 1-800-842-1420 or slossberg@senatedems.ct.gov

From Where I Sit:

Pre-Holiday Meeting Sparse

At December's meeting of the Board of Selectmen we started with a public hearing on an ordinance change that will reduce the Library Commission from 14 members to 11. No present member's term will be terminated, but as terms expire in 2016 fewer members will be re-appointed to that commission. This was at the request of its chairman, who believed it was advisable to reduce the commission as it had become difficult to get a quorum at meetings.

After a very brief public hearing, the Board unanimously approved the ordinance.

Under old business we corrected a prior motion to accept a donation of land to the town off of Hemlock Drive, as the title to the property had passed from an Estate to the heir before we voted the last time.

The Board also approved again this year a request by a teacher at Platt Tech. High School to offer Christmas Tree recycling at homeowners' houses for a suggested donation of \$15, with all proceeds to benefit the Platt student athletic pro-



SELECTMAN
KEN LENZ

grams. If you are interested in this service offered to Jan. 11th, contact Mr. Kuslis at (203) 783-5319.

We also approved a \$10 per permit fee increase for all the zoning applications, to offset the cost of new software that allows interdepartmental sharing of file-viewing.

The most interesting matter was a request by Pez Candy to rename Edison Road. Pez has been manufacturing in Orange since 1978,

and with its opening of its visitors center it attracts around 80,000 people per year. Pez will be paying for the new street signs. The Board approved the proposal, subject to the Zoning Commission's determination that the new signs do not also require zoning approval.

Two additional committees—the Regional Action Council and Police Citizens Relations Council of Greater New Haven—were disbanded.

A list of 41 tax refund requests totaling \$20,115 was approved. A large amount of the refund request, \$12,976 was for Chinmaya

Mission, and followed our acceptance in June of that Buddhist temple's application for tax exempt status.

Added to the agenda at the meeting was the town attorney's legal research memo that concluded the state statutes provide the Tax Assessor can at any time approve refunds of improperly assessed auto taxes but, not real property taxes. The CT General Statutes Section 12-129 clearly sets forth a 3-year limit on refunds. The Board then approved requests for refunds of taxes paid four years and seven years ago.

There were a couple of brief committee reports and since there was no other business the First Selectman asked us to take up, we adjourned an hour after we started. And that's how I see it from where I sit.

The Orange Times

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Vote
for *The Orange Times's*
Volunteer of the Year
• Page 16 •

Letters To The Editor

Voo Do: Volunteers of Orange Do

Volunteers Are Busy People

We all know the saying, if you want something done, give it to a busy person. Sabra Donovan is one of those very busy people. Sabra is currently serving in her second year as President of the Peck Place School PTA.



**JODY
DIETCH**

Volunteering was part of Sabra's life growing up. "My mother was a member of the Junior League of Northern Westchester and my father was a member of and served as President of the Lions Club," she explained. Sabra remembers the Armonk Lions Club holding a fair that her father was chairing. He recruited her to sell the cotton candy and thus began her life as a volunteer. Additionally, her family was active in the Episcopal church they attended and, eventually, Sabra also joined the Junior League. "I met new people and made new friends through the Junior League," she said.

Despite working full time outside the home, Sabra has always found time to continue to volunteer after moving to Orange. She was President of the Orange Community Nursery School which her children attended. Then, as her daughter entered Mary L Tracy for kindergarten, Michelle McNeil approached Sabra to be Co-President of the Mary L Tracy PTO. "Everyone there works so hard. I was excited to be involved."

As her children moved on to Peck, she said she was always involved in the PTA but only joined the board about five years ago. As president, Sabra said she is pleased

to see younger families getting involved. "It is nice because it always seemed that the same people were doing the work so having new people getting involved is refreshing. There seems to be a rebirth of involvement."

A large budget of \$78,000 requires many events and many people to chair them. Peck Place hosts a Father-Daughter Dance, Mother-Son Bowling, Golf Tournament, the Panther Pounce Road Race and they are having a family night at a Quinnipiac University Women's Basketball game where the chorus will sing the national anthem. All of these fundraisers help to pay for things that directly affect the students such as buses for the field trips, a new kiln, as well as grade events such as Civil War Day, the Butterfly Ball and Asia Day. Helping Sabra run the PTA are many wonderful volunteers including the executive board of Stacy Fontana, vice president, Mischelle Appleby, secretary, Jennifer Alfaro, treasurer, Mara Saccente, parliamentarian, and Susan Riccio, Board of Education representative.

PTAs and PTOs have been the bulk of Sabra's recent volunteering but she has managed her children's soccer teams. Sabra's boys are ages 11 & 13 and her daughter is a freshman in college. She also served on both the pool and swim committees at the Paugasset Pool Club.

Volunteering is many times based on the 80/20 rule, Sabra said. Meaning 20% of the

people do 80% of the work. "Not everyone can volunteer. I am fortunate that my time is somewhat flexible and I can give my time." (Note: Sabra took time out of her busy schedule to meet me after picking up her son at swim practice and having to bring her boys with her when we met.)

"I like to be involved and I like knowing what's going on especially in my sons' school," she said, adding "My kids love it. They like that I am in the school. I believe it is important for kids to see you volunteering and giving back."

"Volunteering gives me a sense of fulfillment and hopefully I am doing something



Submitted Photo

Despite a very busy life, Sabra Donovan finds time to volunteer.

good for my community", Sabra said. Jody Dietch is the co-chair for the Orange Board of a Education.



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Arts & Entertainment

Arts Matters

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by Patricia Miller

BROADWAY BOYS HOLIDAY CONCERT, sponsored by the Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation, will fill the night with pop, funk, gospel and jazz, in addition to their signature redefining arrangements of Broadway show tunes, on Saturday, December 20th at the Quick Center at Fairfield University (1073 North Benson Road, Fairfield, CT). This group thrilled the audience at their last appearance two years ago with their dynamic vocal prowess, pitch perfect six part harmony, and Broadway pizzazz. They have a newly released album, “Hark”, which contains holiday classics such as “The Little Drummer Boy” “All I Want for Christmas” and “The Lights” (“O Hanukah”), some of which will be included in the program as well as show stoppers as “Lullaby of Broadway,” “Aquarius” and “Seasons of Love.” The show begins at 7 p.m. To purchase tickets, (\$35 and \$45), call the Quick Centet Box Office at 203-254-4010 or order online at: quickcenterforthearts.secure.force.com/ticket The Jamie A. Hulley Foundation is a 501 © 3 organization created in memory of Jamie Alaine Hulley, dedicated to the enrichment and professional development of young artists and early career artists by providing grants, scholarships and educational programs to young people throughout the Amity-greater New Haven area, greatly impacting their lives. Support a good cause and enjoy yourself in an evening featuring a festive mix of holiday favorites and popular Broadway tunes performed with panache by The Broadway Boys.

NEW ENGLAND BALLET STARS CYNTHIA CELONE. Cynthia Celone, a senior at Amity High School has been selected to perform the Principal role of The Sugar Plum Fairy for New England Ballet Company’s, Sunday, December 21st, 2 p.m., “Nutcracker at the Klein Memorial Auditorium (910 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport). Cynthia has been dancing with the New England Ballet for 12 years and has been a company member since 2007. She has attended summer ballet intensives at The American Ballet Theater in NYC and Austin, Texas, the Joffrey Ballet in NYC and the Brooklyn Ballet in Vermont. She has competed in the Youth America Grand Prix Ballet Competition and in the CT Classic Ballet Competition. She is devoted to the arts. At Amity, she is Co-President of the National Art Society and an Amity Varsity Dance member. Cynthia received a Jamie A. Hulley Studio Art Award, and attended the 2013 Word Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. We’ll be hearing about her in the future!

HOLIDAY CONCERT AT ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH (505 Shelton Avenue, Huntington on Saturday, December 21st at 2:00 p.m., features three Orange Residents, vocalists Barbie and Gary Harger and violinist Kate O’Brien. Other featured performers include organist/pianist Jean Pierre Dumont, trumpet player Kathy Besub and the St Lawrence Choir. The guest artists have appeared in concerts and productions nationally and internationally. The performers are being led by Cantor/Music Director, Tenor soloist Gary Harger, who has appeared on Broadway, Regional and National Tour Theaters as well as at international opera houses and with international symphonies

FLORENCE GRISWOLD MUSEUM (96 Lyme Street, Old Lyme) sparkles this time of year with an array of exhibits and decorations to delight museum-goers. The Mu-

seum boasts a rich variety of exhibits and activities that run from the first week of December through early January. The Artist Tree, a decade-long tradition of intricately painted palettes donated by noted artists from across the country on the 12-foot tree, is a highlight. The decorations of the Griswold house evoke traditions of a 1910 Christmas. The “Skaters”, a 1943 painting by New Haven artist Miriam Barer, representing the Rockefeller Center Skating Rink will be displayed, and in one room, a phonograph (What’s that?)

will play early 20th Century holiday music. Sundays through January 4th holiday craft workshops will be held for all ages. Miss Florence’s Birthday Bash will be held on Sunday, December 28 from 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with birthday cake and activities to honor the woman who started it all. On December 31 from 1:00 -3:00 p.m., there will be Ode to the New Year - Harp Music by Faith Leitner, featuring selections played on Miss Florence’s favorite instrument. Now through January 25, “Life Stories in Art” highlighting the contributions of Connecticut women artists Mary Rogers Williams, a 19th Century painter, Mary Knollenberg, a 20th Century sculptor, and Kari Russell-Pool, a contemporary glass artist. For more information, go to florigris.org or call 860-434-5542. Remember, The Case Memorial

Friends of the Library sponsors a pass to the Griswold. Inquire at the Circulation Desk.

KIDS NIGHT ON BROADWAY runs the week of January 9-15, tickets are on sale now. Kids and teens see a show for free, since each adult purchasing a full-price ticket will receive one free ticket for a child aged 6-18. Many shows are participating in this annual event, designed to give young people a theatrical experience. Some include, “Aladdin”, “Beautiful”, “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time”,

“A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder”, “Kinky Boots”, “Wicked”, “Side Show”, “The Lion King” and many others. For tickets and information, including the complete list of participants, visit KidsNightOnBroadway.com.

HOP THE BUS to the New Haven Symphony Concert to hear the uplifting music of Handel’s masterpiece, “The Messiah” on Thursday, December 18, at Woolsey Hall

Nutcracker at Klein



Submitted Photo
Amity High School student Cynthia Celone will star as the Sugar Plum Fairy in the New England Ballet Company’s production of “Nutcracker” at the Klein Memorial Auditorium, 910 Fairfield Ave., Bridgeport, Dec. 21, 2 p.m.

(corner of College and Grove Streets, New Haven) The orchestra will be conducted by Jeffrey Duoma. In addition to the soaring voices of the Christ Church Choir -- Soprano Nicole Perchfield, Countertenor David Moody, Tenor Jorge Prego and Baritone Brian Vu will be soloists. The bus will leave High Plains Community Center at 6:45. To reserve a seat on the bus, please call 203-397-8915. The bus is sponsored for this concert by the Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation.

ODD VOLUMES, Book Art from the Allan Chasanoff Collection is on view through February 1, at the Yale University Art Gallery (1111 Chapel Street, New Haven). A companion exhibition is on view at Artspace (50 Orange Street, New Haven) features additional works from the Chasanoff Collection as well as responses from local artists. This is on display until January 31. The Yale Gallery also exhibits now through February 1 East of the Wallace Line: Monumental Art from Indonesian and New Guinea, Vida and Drama de Mexico: Prints from the Monroe E. Price and Aimee Brown Price Collection as well as Roman in the Provinces: Art on the Periphery of Empire through January 4.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MUSEUM (1 State Street, new haven) features “Buon Natale-Creches of Italy” through February 1.

The Museum is free and open to the public. For more information go

To: kofcmuseum.org

SILVERBELLS ART EXHIBITION at Miller Library (2901 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden) is an annual show that includes a variety of original art n oils, acrylics, watercolor, pastels, graphics, and mixed media by Hamden art League members with many works offered for sale. Exhibit is open Monday - Friday 8:30

a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through December 23. It is free and open to the public.

MUSIC HAVEN’S WINTER PERFORMANCE PARTY celebrates the accomplishments of their 75 promising students. Performances will be by Music Haven students and their teachers, the Haven String Quartet and pianist Miki Sawada, and are followed by a potluck feast. Come for the music, stay for the food and community spirit. Venue is the Charles Garner Recital Hall, Englemen C112, Southern Connecticut State University (501 Crescent Street, New Haven), time is 6:00 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 203-745-9030 or go to musichavenct.org

NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL (100 Audubon Street, New Haven) holiday play-in and sing-along will be on Saturday, December 20 at 10:00 a.m. There will be some sight-reading of familiar favorites from different cultures. Musicians and singers welcome. Sheet music will be provided The singers and musicians will be directed and coordinated by Julia Blue Raspe and Grace Feldman. The event is free and open to the public. For more information go to: neighborhoodmusicschool.org or call 203-624-5189

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY (120 Central Park West at 77th Street, new York City) establishes a new holiday tradition with Holiday Express, the world’s greatest train and toy collection from the Golden Age of Toy making. This exhibition, sponsored by Bloomberg Philanthropies, promises enchantment for all ages, and will be on view through February 22.

GUILFORD HANDCRAFTS CENTER (411 Church Street, Guilford) presents their annual show and sale featuring 250 artists and their works of ceramics, glass, jewelry, fiber, ornaments, accessories, toys and specialty foods. New works are added regularly. American Crafts for the Holidays runs through January 4th and is open Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Sunday 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

CREATIVE ARTS WORKSHOP (80 Audubon Street, New Haven) present Celebration of American Crafts through December 24. This annual show/sale feature 300 artists from across the country –fine contemporary crafts in ceramics, wood, fiber, metal, clothing, accessories, furniture, etc. etc. Hours are Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Additional information at creativeartsworkshop.org/celebration

ART IN THE LIBRARY presents Young Students of Audrey Galer, watercolorist/teacher and Art in the library chair and founder. The reception is Thursday, December 11 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

THE GALLERY AT TOWN HALL continues the showing of work of the Gill Family – Joanne Paone-Gill, Michael Gill, Terry Russo, and Lena Parker. Their works are in pencil, watercolor, acrylics, mixed media, photography. They will exhibit though the month of December.

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

Business News

Chamber of Commerce Events:

Jan. 6, 5:30 p.m.: Ribbon Cutting at Liberty Tax Service, 153 Boston Post Road, Orange;

Jan. 8, 5 p.m. : Meeting with Legislators, High Plains Community Center, 525 Orange Center Road, Orange; speakers include: State Representatives Charles Ferraro and Pam Staneski and Senator Gayle Slossberg;

Jan. 20, 6 p.m.: Business After Hours at Aleez Salon & Spa, 500 Boston Post Road, Orange

Jan. 27, 5 p.m. :Women’s Leadership Network meeting at Floman DePaola, 378 Boston Post Road, Orange.

New Members:

RR Donnelley & Sons, Nick Winsor, 200 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 4G, Norwalk, CT 06854

Riskin Advisory, LLC, Ross Riskin, 472 Boston Post Road, Suite 1, Orange, CT 06477

Lenz Law Firm, Ken Lenz, 236 Boston Post Road, 2nd floor, Orange, CT 06477

Chamber Hosts Forum

On Jan. 8, 2015, 5 p.m., all Orange Business Owners and their representatives are invited to attend a forum which will be attended by State Senator Gayle Slossberg, State Representatives Charles Ferraro, District 117, and Pam Staneski, District 119. Additionally, a representative from Ct. CBIA will be in attendance to answer any questions on their CTx17 program. The forum will be held at Orange Community Center, Orange Center Road, Orange.

Opportunities will be available for business members to tell their state representatives what they need the state to do in order for them to be more successful and productive, and ask questions of their representatives..

Call Anna at the Chamber office to tell her of your planned attendance. 203-795-3328.

Porch and Patio Expands

Porch and Patio is now offering a complete line of pool tables, ping pong tables, air hockey, foos ball, shuffleball, bars and bar stools in an additional 3800’ adjacent to their store at 363 Boston Post Rd.

Porch and Patio owner Jeff Heitmann said it’s just a natural expansion of the leisure concept his store has always featured. The store offers the largest selection of gas fireplace inserts in Orange.

Active Nutrition To Open

Orange residents Maria and Chris Small will be opening the doors of their new business, Active Nutrition Orange, on Jan. 3 at 9 a.m. at 537 Boston Post Road, Peck and Post, and invite the public to enjoy a smoothie or tea on the house. Maria is a Personal Wellness Coach and will help her clients, members of her “nutrition club,” to achieve a healthy and active lifestyle. She has teamed with Herbalife, the largest supplier of nutritional products in the world.

South Sea Grill

South Sea Grill, 200 Boston Post Road, has opened.

With a combined 90 years of experience in the food business, owners Charlie and Chong Dee Leroux are specializing in American cuisine with an emphasis on seafood.

As to meats, Charlie started out as a meat cutter and knows how to select the best cut to use for the recipe.

Chief Kurtwilliam said he will always say “yes” to a diner’s request if possible. South Sea Grill is offering a 20 percent discount off the entire check during its grand opening period. Open for lunch and dinner.

Hours are M-Th, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Fri and Sat 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. And for New Year’s Day, noon to 8 p.m.



Submitted Photo
Pictured left to right: Shelby Liberman, PrisCo team member, Kathy Alagno, Chamber CEO/President, Priscilla Lynn, owner/PrisCo Consulting LLC, Mayor Benjamin G. Blake, and Attorney Christopher Carveth, Carveth & Foley and Chamber Board of Directors member were present for the ribbon cutting at PrisCo Consulting LLC’s “world” headquarters in Milford.



Photo By Joseph Cole
First Selectman Jim Zeoli and Smoothie King franchisee Kevin Glazier along with The Orange Times publisher Steve Hechtman, Orange Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Anna Accetta, Gina Dorso and Michael Shiner prepare to cut the ribbon at the

Celebrating 25 Years



Children’s Series The Bijou Theatre

*The Adventures of
Little Red Riding Hood*
January 25 • 3 pm

Ballerina Princess Party
March 3 • 3 pm

*Benjamin Britten’s
Young Person’s Guide
to the Orchestra*
June 7 • 3pm

Principal Dancer
Gianna Forte

2014 Kenn Hopkins Photographer

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Saturday • December 20, 2014 • 8 pm

Champagne Reception 7 pm

Sunday • December 21, 2014 • 2 pm

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Home & Garden

Real Talk:

You Ask, A Pro Answers

Matching Services To Your Needs

There's an old saying that goes; "You shouldn't tell people that you are the answer to their prayers, until you know what they are praying for." If you are considering a move then sit down together and make your reasons, your wish list and your decision to interview realtors with experience in your area. Each agent can show you their own specific statistics and those of their organization. I will stop here on this subject!



**BARBARA
LEHRER**

home, as a finished basement or newer kitchen could be. So the search begins. Of course it starts with the value of your home, and a preapproval on what you can spend beyond the profit on your current home in order to sell and buy successfully.

Now comes the fun part! Share that wish list with your realtor. Look to the future and picture yourself lounging by the

pool, having the large family room you always wanted or that extra garage. The lists of upgrades desired are achievable and when you commit to your agent to find these items you can be the first one to hear about them.

Granted at that point your home has to be 'sale ready' and your energy level has to be up for the challenge! Ask your friends who have done this, stop envying their "chutzpa" and sit down as husband and wife to discuss the bigger, or the better or the smaller. Of course, stay in town, you know we all love it here in Orange but get the most out of living. This is what a realtor was designed for, to make your dream happen. It is no joke, every day we put together plans that are real, financially sound and mentally exciting. Don't wait until you say: "I should have moved when the kids were younger", etc. You can get the most out of your property equity when you compete with the times and stay current with the styles.

Fine homes are like a work of art. Each home is different and special and filled with the care that only a family can bring to a building! Love your home, sometimes say good bye to it, it is ok! These times can render so much satisfaction. We have developed lists on what it means to be sale ready, do those things now and enjoy them until you are ready to sell. You probably know what they are!

Have a happy holiday and while you are at it, check out the way you entertain, perhaps this is the one time of the year you could really use more space!!

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

The Garden Spot:

'Tis The Season

Whether you are celebrating Christmas or Hannukah please take the time to "smell the roses". Everywhere you look flowers and plants are bursting with color, just waiting to bring some holiday cheer to your home. My two amaryllis bulbs are growing rapidly and soon will reward me with luscious blooms – no matter how busy you get, a flower or plant can elevate your mood.



**MARION
RIZZO**

popular poinsettias come in all colors and will last throughout the season. Just remember they will need six to eight hours of indirect sunlight. Drafty windows and hot air vents are a no – no. Do not over water! When the soil is dry to the touch, add water and drain any excess water. You can add color to your green plants by cutting a few poinsettia blooms leaving a 3 – 4" stem. (These

blooms are actually leaves of the plant and are called bracts. Simply insert each bloom

in a floral pick and fill with water. These can then be placed in the soil of your green plant. Just remember to replenish the water in the pick. (*Picks are the green plastic tubes florists use to insert flower stems in an arrangement*).

There are many legends associated with the poinsettia, but one I particularly like dates back to the 16th century. It was Christmas Eve and two poor Mexican children, brother Pedro and sister Pepito, were sad because they didn't have a gift for the Christ child. Pedro encouraged his sister to bring even a humble gift. So she gathered some

weeds from the roadside. When they arrived at the church and approached the altar, a Christmas miracle occurred. The weeds suddenly turned into beautiful red and green flowers. The flowers were then called Flores de Noche Buena, meaning "flowers of the Holy Night". Some believe that the star-shaped leaf pattern on the poinsettia symbolizes the Star of Bethlehem.

It is truly a joyful time of year – Happy Holidays and many blessings for the New Year!

Marion Rizzo is Past President, Garden Club of Orange.



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News and Events

Amity Middle School Honors List Released

Criteria for First Honors

A- or better in four subjects which meet 5 times per week for at least one semester.

B or better in all other subjects which meet 5 times per week for at least one semester.

B- or better in subjects which meet fewer than 5 times per week or less than one semester.

Criteria for Second Honors

B or better in subjects which meet 5 times per week for at least one semester.

B- or better in subjects which meet fewer than 5 times per week or less than one semester.

Criteria for Citizenship

In order to achieve Citizenship Honors, student must receive five (5) fours; and the remainder of the citizenship ratings must not be below a three.

Grade 7 First Honors

Evan Arovas, Alexandria Barnes, Madison Barretta, Vera Belfonti, Cooper Blanchette, Ali Bobi, Grace Bretthauer, Sara Cable, Jason Chung, Ruth Cortright, Ciara Cox, Steven DalleAve, Dana Della-Giustina, Avery Dillon, Anthony DiStefano, Joshua Ford, Martin Gnidula, Mei Har, Lena Hildrich, Evan Hollander, Sam Kaoud, Aidan Ketchian, Akshat Kulkarni, Breana Lavallee, Michael Lebreck, Danielle Lee, Jacob Lee, Daniel Li, Jody Liu, Raymond Lu, Ningxin Luo, Ameya Menta, Keyana Miller, Nicole Mongillo, Nick Ricciardi, Mattea Salati, Ethan Selmon, Nico Semmonella, Mason Shepard, Sydney Sherrick, Tess Vocalina, Valeria Yanqui, and Basim Zafar

Grade 7 Second Honors

Katie Barretta, Haley Cable, Lauren Campos, Caitlin Carlson, Tess Csejka, Angela Duro, Maria Farace, Carsten Fielosh, Brett Hutchison, Ryan Ignatowski, Julia Lagoutis, Bryan Laskowski, Anna-Maria Marinescu, Jillian Martin, Caroline McNabola, Sai Neelam, Skyelar Poulimas, Louis Richetelli, Sophia Soldra, Halle Syrop, Kelly Thomas, Jenna Walsh, Nickolas Wawrzyniak, and Irene Zheng

Grade 7 Citizenship Recognition

Evan Arovas, Alexandria Barnes, Katie Barretta, Joseph Bierowski, Cooper Blanchette, Avery Dillon, Lena Hildrich, Rachel Holden, Danielle Lee, Jillian Martin, Keyana Miller, Nicole Mongillo, Mattea Salati, Nico Semmonella, and Henry Westgard

Grade 8 First Honors

Jenna Aconfora, Austin Agapiou, Mounisha Anumolu, Talia Barry, Lani Beaudette, Sophie Benjamin, Emily Berkeley, Katelyn

Blake, Alexandra Bonat, Emily Bretthauer, Jake Bronson, Angelina Carlino, Lindsay Carloni, Hyunwoo Cho, Marc Chodos, Amanda Coscia, Rachael Crow, Cailey Esposito, Marcelle Gagnon, Payton Grande, Alexis Halstead, Jessica Hatrick, Allison Hummel, Izabella Jones, Nicole Kisiel, Hyunbeen Lee, James Lee, Thomas Lee, Adam Leszczak, Erin McCormack, Diane Meng, Jay Moon, Kaitlyn O'Brien, Kenneth Page, Liam Palazzo, Arianna Pargen, Soojin Park, Dorothy Parniawski, Jay Patel, Madelyn Pickett, John Poland, Julia Potter, Sandrine Pyne, Lillian Querker, Jonathan Schachter, Kelly Shaw, Spencer Shepard, Julia Todeasa, Anthony Tom, Madison Tom, Colton Varholak, Tucker Wright, Kevin Zheng, and Xian-Zheng Zhong

Grade 8 Second Honors

Sara Basyouny, Adam Booth, Nelson Bordeleau, Cole Bova, Abigail Bowser, Emily Byun, Cameron Carre, Gabriella Caruso, Madelyn Ciskowski, Molly Cox, Paige DeGoursey, Stephen Delaney, Andrea DelVecchio, Brian DiGiovanni, Kayla Dixon, Gina Driscoll, Elaina Ferraro, Mary Foley, Lauryn Giuliano, Sebastian Gonzalez, Taylor Gourdier, Shiva Gowda, Christopher Greco, Nicole Gregory, Lien Har, Hannah Hayes, Zachary Hochman, Kaylee Huber, Julia Hurlburt, Robert Jaques, Khaled Jarad, Chloe Kehlenbeck, Cole Kuchachik, Gabriel Lipsitz, Clarens Lopez, Connor Marry, Nicholas Mastrangelo, Philip Mingione, Amanda Moran, Justin Moulder, Carlee Mulherin, Rakin Munim, Luke Nemecek, Brianna Oakley, Sana Patel, Jason Perrotti, Jack Pletter, Unaiza Rana, Madeline Rosenberg, Peter Spodnick, Jared Sullivan, Swetha Tadepalli, Luke Tassiello, Daria Torrenti, Connor Visnic, and Clare Zorena

Grade 8 Citizenship Recognition

Jenna Aconfora, Mounisha Anumolu, Alexandra Bonat, Abigail Bowser, Emily Bretthauer, Jake Bronson, Angelina Carlino, Lindsay Carloni, Carly Chervenak, Marc Chodos, Madelyn Ciskowski, Aman-

da Coscia, Molly Cox, Rachael Crow, Gina Driscoll, Cailey Esposito, Mary Foley, Marcelle Gagnon, Lauryn Giuliano, Taylor Gourdier, Payton Grande, Christopher Greco, Alexis Halstead, Nicole Kisiel, Victoria Krzysztolik, Hyunbeen Lee, James Lee, Adam Leszczak, Erin McCormack, Tara Mohseni, Jay Moon, Amanda Moran, Liam

Palazzo, Arianna Pargen, Dorothy Parniawski, Jay Patel, Madelyn Pickett, Jack Pletter, John Poland, Julia Potter, Sandrine Pyne, Charmaine Robichaud, Kelly Shaw, Peter Spodnick, Swetha Tadepalli, Daria Torrenti, Connor Visnic, and Clare Zorena

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Dr. Rocio Alicea, OD

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Health & Wellness

On Your Mind:

Learning To Deal With Toxic People

We have all heard the expression, "You can't choose your relatives." However, that also applies to in-laws, coworkers, and others around us.

Have you noticed that some people seem to be emotional vampires? They suck all the positive energy out of a room.

What can you do if they are your guest at a holiday meal or with someone you invited to your home? They are easy to spot because you immediately may begin to tense up or may become irritable in their presence. It's a sixth sense that alerts us when difficult people are around.

Here are some tips on dealing with them:

1. Check to be sure YOU are not someone else's toxic person. Do you always bring up old, sensitive topics that create an argument or

sound critical of someone?

2. Remember that you cannot control anyone but yourself. You *can* control the way you allow someone to affect you, and you have 100% control over the way you respond to them.

3. Remember that people only act badly when they feel bad. If someone is being rude, focus on the feelings and ignore the words. This may be difficult to do, but when you are aware that someone else is in emotional pain, it is easier to be patient and compassionate. Responding with a comment like, "you seem to have pretty strong feelings about that. I wonder where that comes from." Sometimes people are unaware of



FERN TAUSIG

their inappropriate behavior or comments.

4. Don't take it personally. Remember toxic people don't even like themselves! Their bad behavior has nothing to do with you. It often comes from a deep dissatisfaction with themselves or their lot in life.

They cannot hurt you without your permission. Never give away your power.

5. Most often when there is a debate, the reality is you are both right! It's easier to have a debate when you realize you don't need to win, just be willing to see each other's point of view. You will never change anyone but you can acknowledge that, "that is certainly one point of view."

6. Always take long slow deep

breaths to release stress and tension before it builds up.

Recently I had a client come to me for help with moving past a difficult break up with someone who was very toxic during their relationship. There was a constant whittling down of her self-esteem with comments about other women or past relationships.

She came to me to regain her confidence and "forget" about her "ex". She felt very sad when she arrived. By the time we finished, she was smiling.

When you change the way you look at something, the thing you look at changes.

I helped her to see that he was a 'snake' and that is the way snakes behave.

I helped her see that she actually learned some important lessons about herself and about relation-

ships and although the lessons were painful, they were valuable. Using the power of her mind, she was able to realize his rude comments were more about who he is and had nothing to do with her.

He is not the one who gave her her self-esteem and therefore he could not take it away. She knows now that she will never tolerate negative or demeaning comments from future partners.

When you come from a place of personal power, toxic people cannot affect you. They won't change but you can change the way you allow them to affect you and the toxicity becomes irrelevant.

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

Retired and Rejuvenated:

Not All Gifts Come In Shiny Paper

It seems to happen every year. First there is Halloween, then Thanksgiving, and all of the sudden Christmas and Hanukah. We start to hurry more, cook more, and make more plans for get togethers. We become more stressed no matter what our age. I do believe the older we get, the less emphasis we place on the

protection and preservation. For a good cause... generosity of time and treasure and ardent advocacy.



JOANNE BYRNE

For our military personnel, first responders and their loved ones...honor, appreciation and support to heal wounds.

For the ill and hurting...concern, healing, and comfort.

For the hungry and homeless... compassion, quality services and creative community solutions.

For the abused, neglected and abandoned...recognition, representation, security and hope.

For the addicted and troubled... open arms and a positive path to recovery.

For an infant and toddler...attention, attachment, safety and learning opportunities.

For a child or teen...patience, guidance, and a positive example.

For our parents...gratitude, a helping hand and dignified care.

For everyone you see, friends and strangers alike...a warm smile, acts of kindness and positive energy

For all peoples of the world... justice and peace.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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

buying of gifts for our spouses and our friends (by this time they have everything they need and are usually trying to downsize!), our children and our grandchildren. Most of us don't know what to buy, so we give gift cards, which make our children and grandchildren happier, since they really don't trust our taste in clothing.

Maybe we need to begin to think of gift giving in a different light. This holiday season let's remember that not all gifts are wrapped in shiny paper and decorated with ribbon and bows. There are many gifts of the heart we can share with those who deserve special recognition and appreciation for whom they are, what they do, and the important role they play in our lives. I recently came across this Emotional Gift Guide which I hope will be meaningful for you in this season of celebration.


For yourself...respect, confidence, faith and fortitude.

For a family member...communication and understanding, even if there have been relationship challenges.

For a friend...a caring spirit and heartfelt help in time of need.

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Food & Dining

Hello Foodies:

12 Days Of Cookie Making Tips

You know when you've bitten into a perfect cookie. It crunches, tastes buttery, sweet and salty all at the same time. Let the holiday cookie baking begin with 12 sweet secrets to perfect cookies.

First, pick your true love, your favorite cookie recipe, read it carefully to be sure you have all the ingredients before starting. Remember baking is a science and it requires accuracy.

Second, if you're using nuts in your cookies, add them to the batter last, they'll stay crunchier. And, if you're chopping the nuts in a food processor, toss in a little flour and sugar from the recipe to absorb the nuts' oil to avoid them clumping together.

Third, choose baking sheets wisely. Bake cookies on shiny, heavy aluminum baking

sheets. These sheets with no sides are designed for easily sliding cookies onto a cooling rack. Dark sheets may absorb heat, causing cookies to brown too much on the bottom; nonstick baking sheets work well if not too dark. Insulated baking sheets require a slightly longer baking time but ensure a golden bottom.

Fourth, split the dough in half. Work with half of the cookie dough at a time when rolling and cutting cookies. Keep the other half refrigerated, chilled dough is easier to handle. Use a Silicone Rolling Pin so you won't need to use as much flour when rolling out the dough, to prevent the cookie from being tough.

Fifth golden rule, use a cooking spray or solid shortening instead of butter or margarine

which will burn between the cookies during baking or the preferred choice of professional bakers, a reusable Silicone Baking Mat for an instant non-stick baking surface.

Sixth, laying one sheet of cookies at a time on the middle oven rack, don't overload the oven. If you need to bake more than one at a time, rotate the sheets from the top rack to the bottom rack halfway through baking to allow for even browning.

Seventh, cool those cookie sheets. Be sure to cool your baking sheets between baking batches of cookies. To cool your cookie pans quickly, run them under cold water and then wipe dry before using.

Eighth, cookies should be of a uniform thickness and size so they will bake in the same amount of time. Using a small cookie scoop will provide picture-perfect, uniform size cookies.

Ninth, be careful with over baking. Check cookies for doneness at the minimum baking time.

Tenth, leave room between cookies on the cookie sheet. Rule of thumb is 2 inches between cookies. If the cookies are extremely large cookies or the recipe calls for more space, adjust the space.

Eleventh, piping hot cookies need to be removed from cookie sheets to wire cooling rack immediately to prevent further baking.

Twelfth, always cool cookies completely before storing them in airtight containers.

From my kitchen to yours...Cucina Felice Michele DeMartino is the founder & owner of Chef's Equipment. She can be reached at michele@chefsequipmentemporium.com.



MICHELE DEMARTINO

Dining Out:

Carrabba's: Pasta Is Their Passion

On a chilly November day we decided to start our Christmas shopping early. After an exciting day of shopping we had the opportunity to dine at the newly opened Carrabba's Italian Grill, located at the Milford CT Post Mall.

We arrived about 5 p.m. and had to wait at least 15 minutes, which gave us a chance to relax and look over the menu's many old fashion and contemporary Italian favorites.

The bar area has large floor to ceiling windows, which were very bright in contrast to the dining area.

The hostess escorted us to a table right across from the kitchen, where a lot of activity was going on.

The kitchen is an open area with a large



TWO GUYS

stainless steel counter where each server picks up his or her orders. From our table you could see the large opened brick oven, flaming grills.

Our drinks were accompanied to the table with a basket of hot crusty bread and hot dipping oil sprinkle with basil, besides our salads one caesar, and one italian house salad, served with additional parmesan cheese.

Our appetizers were tomatoes caprese, made with fresh milk mozzarella, sliced tomatoes, red onions, fresh basil and a balsamic reduction.

We also ordered arancini, which is a rustic Italian favorite consisting of crispy bites of risotto, Italian fennel sausage, red bell peppers and Romano cheese; hand-breaded and served with their house made marinara sauce

for dipping. This had a unique flavor, amazing in taste.

Robert's main course was the tag pic pac, which is tagliarini pasta in their house made picchi pacchiu sauce of crushed tomatoes, garlic, olive oil, and basil, in addition to home style meat balls.

My dinner order was prosciutto-wrapped pork tenderloin, which was medallions wood-grilled and topped with their port wine fig sauce. The pork was richly flavored and sensational in taste, a sure winner.

We ended our dinner enjoying mini cannoli's and cappuccinos with biscotti.

Carrabba's Restaurant, was truly an experience in dining that we did not expect, from their extensive Italian Wine and beverages to their adventurous Italian menu. We will certainly keep this restaurant on our list to return.

Column by Two Guys.

Pez continued from page 1

"I've been trying to do something like this for 10 years," said company president Joe Vittoria, just before the board approved the measure.

The Pez facilities are at 35 Prindle Hill Road with Edison Road wrapping around.

Supporting the new Pez Boulevard signs will eventually be sign posts made out of materials to resemble iconic Pez imagery. Town officials were adamant that if the posts or signs were stolen it would be Pez's responsibility to replace them. Pez merchandise is considered highly collectible.

Edison Road will still be mentioned on the signs for some time. First Selectman James Zeoli noted it takes time for mapping and GPS systems to update their databases with new street names. Leaving the old name on the new signs should help alleviate confusion.

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Health & Wellness

The Color Orange:

Bullies And Bullying

Dear Everybody,
Why do I think children become bullies?

The opposite of love is indifference and so many children act out to get attention through bullying, aggression and violence.

By growing up without love they have a different nervous system and are far less sensitive to physical aggression. The messages children receive



BERNIE SIEGEL, M.D.

prior to the age of six affect them in the same way someone under hypnosis is affected by the words of a hypnotist.

So when they receive mottoes to die by and other negative messages they will act out in ways which are destructive for themselves and others, such as addictions and violence.

It is normal to have aggressive

tendencies but how we use them is what life is about. Just as fire can destroy or warm your home so the energy within a child must be directed to healthy endeavors. As a surgeon I cut people up to cure diseases and repair their physical defects. I am not attacking people with a knife. I am healing them.

We must help our children learn how to direct their energy and aggression into constructive activities. By harnessing the energy they become creative, not destructive.

Unhealthy rebellion is the crime. When their energy is directed into building or restoring something the world becomes a better place because of their activity and no one is threatened by it. We must provide the outlets and help them fulfill their needs.

If you don't want to raise a bully then set an example.

Give them a role model and if you do not have one or can't manage then just tell them when in doubt, WWLD; or What Would Lassie Do?

When I broke a neighbor's toy because I was jealous my father bought me that toy.

He didn't tell me to replace what I broke.

He just handed it to me and

walked away. Yes, I went over and gave it to my neighbor. My father knew what he was putting me through was worse than physical punishment.

We need to convey a reverence for life to them and it can be through making them responsible for the life and comfort of some living thing.

When you care for and about what you live with you respect the world and its inhabitants. Our home and yard were filled with rescued animals and our children even carried insects out of the house because they respected them as a living thing. So when they rebelled it was to improve the status quo and create a better world rather one filled with fear because of their behavior.

We have five children and at times they sat on each other in the yard and yelled, "Make 'em eat grass." But this was their way of showing appropriate anger when they weren't respected and no one was hurt by it and it became a family expression to let your siblings know how you felt.

A dying teenager I know of used a water gun in the hospital when the staff barged into his room for insignificant reasons. His anger hurt no one and taught many nurses and doctors to respect his behavior. The gun became a gift for other children to use after he died.

What do you do if your child is being picked on by a bully at school or in the street? It is appropriate to be angry when you are not treated with respect but to respond with violence only aggravates the situation.

Yes, I would make the authorities at school or in your neighborhood aware of what is happening but I prefer to kill with kindness and torment with tenderness. So tell your child to invite the bully over to your house for some fun and a good meal.

Call the bully's parents and chat with them about their child's behavior.

When you understand you will find it easier to forgive. What I mean is that if you learned the bully's mom had been diagnosed with cancer you'd be far more forgiving about his anger. I had a school gang leader, who hadn't spoken in a class in four years; raise his hand to participate in a class I was teaching. He knew I was there because I cared about him and the other students. Through our persistent love, even when we do not like what they are doing, we can repair the bullies too and help them to rebel against elements of our society which need change. I tell them I am ready to be their CD, or Chosen Dad. A title given to me by a suicidal young lady I helped.

I love to bring senior citizens and students together because everyone needs a loving grand parent who is filled with the wisdom of a lifetime. By doing this you establish guidance, which I like to think of as, "G'od, u and i dance."

They let the children know that troubles can be redirections from which something good will come.

To quote the laws of physics; cold and darkness do not exist; they are the absence of heat and light. So evil occurs when love is absent and people lose their way. My prescription is to use love as a weapon. Love is blind to faults in and helps us to heal and maintain healthy relationships.

*Peace, Love & Healing,
Bernie Siegel, MD*

We currently have 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 Ranciatolrancia-to2@yahoo.com 203 288 2839; or myself bugsysiegel@sbcglobal.net.

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Rescue Me

Given the time of year, you wouldn't think about kittens. After all, it's too cold. But sometimes things happen. Woodbridge Animal Control has six kittens from two litters all ready for new homes. Two males and one female are black and white in color (pictured) while the other litter consists of two grey, tabby females and one solid grey male. Add a little bit of fun to your life, or two. Kittens, dogs and cats are available for adoption at the Woodbridge Animal Control. The shelter is located at 135 Bradley Road and can be reached by phone at 203 389-5991.

Poet's Corner:

The Eyes of Cameras That Reflect a Town's Inner Soul

In the Academy building the Orange Historical Society's dedicated caretakers lovingly watch over a museum that is like a mirror of our history offering a display that is unique and fascinating. Various items and artifacts from Orange's past have carefully survived time's wrath and decay. The Society is the guardian of a fascinating array of us as well. We not only see the items but also somehow become embedded in them. When I was there a while back I can remember feeling a whole gamut of emotions: wonder, amazement, meditative and thankful. But also there was an inherent sadness of sorts – those whose remnants of lives gathered here lying at my fingertips are themselves no longer with us. We look at some photographs of their existence and imagine that their true identity was pilgrim- endowed with an indomitable spirit, true courage, faint smiles, the determination to survive in the face of a hard life. The display of cameras from age to age were the instruments that now lay openly before us that were used by those that knew well the fragility of an individual's lifespan and also the necessary importance of recording everything possible to pass down a piece of ourselves for generations to come.



**JOHN
ULATOWSKI**

of what is before us laid bare on tables and hung delicately on walls, even though they are no more. Cameras of empathy that open our souls of another time - seeing with our own eyes into barren landscapes and ladies of high society; into common humilities of plain folk; into the sweet comfort of family united through a faith that promises rapture to a far better place; in the fairs that provide a moment's respite from overbearing cares; of new technologies that help maintain a bare existence of sorts. We are really them. So many photos have been taken...of blue-blooded ladies in white-laced gowns, of hungry school children stiffened to attention, of desolate heart-breaking dried harvesting fields of earth that succumbed to drought... photos that document a town's existence.. photographers that allowed us to see the growth and development of a wild countryside made possible by the sweat of the brow and the ingenuities of the foresight of bold master planners, of the movers and shakers. We see clearly the pieces of their existences through the grace of worn cameras of all ages that were held with hands of sensitivity and minds of compulsion to keep the moment before us before it was lost forever leaving us in a state of limbo.

The fruit of these cameras whisper to us our gently. They lay hold of our very being providing portraits of a town that dares to show us its true character; of family ties that bonded tight as cement just to survive; pillars of community that took calculated risks fostered by a unwavering determination; virgin souls that kept the faith; farmers



tilling fertile lands that would make or break whole existences. Time has stopped here in this museum...preserved cameras and remnants that foster empathies unbounded toward those no more who, through photographs, show us iron fragility in the faces of despair and the determined eyes of children who beam with hope. We are in the presence of cameras that hold such life-stories, all preserved in large and little black boxes... begotten and passed down through a willed inheritance and unbridled passion just for us to see, to know. And in all of it ...bestow-

ing places of remembrance in our minds-eye of those put before us who still implore us silently whispering... *Look at me... I am... I am here...Remember Me...* Shall we go to visit them and listen to their stories of long ago? Shall we secretly assure them that they are not alone?

John Ulatowski has six photo books on Orange (some with poems) available at Case Library. His work also includes a town photo gallery of images of Orange at High Plains Community Center.



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News & Events

Insuring Your Future:

Wishing Everyone A Happy Healthy Year in 2015

Tis the Season for Renewals – no not subscriptions, but insurance. As anyone who can read, hear or see, knows this was the time to renew or change insurance coverage.

Folks who are on Medicare or individuals coverage must renew or change their plan. For those of us in the insurance industry, we call it marathon month!

Hopefully, everyone who is reading this will have made their



TRISH PEARSON

choices for 2015 – but if not, all is not lost. Open Enrollment for individual health insurance plans continues until Feb. 15.

This is the time when people can change insurance plans or enroll if not previously covered. Remember, there is a penalty assessed to those without insurance coverage. In 2014 the penalty was \$95 per person, in 2015 it will be higher - \$300 and up per person.

What are the Insurance gifts of the season?

- Annual well-health check aka physical exams;
- Annual screenings e.g. mammograms, colonoscopies, cholesterol, PSA, etc.;
- Flu Shots;
- Shingle Vaccines.

These are “included” in most health insurance plans for little or no copay. It not only makes good medical sense to take advantage of these built in benefits it makes good financial sense.

So here’s to lower premiums, lower de-

ductibles and lower copays in 2015!

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who reads my column and hope that it helps to unravel some of the insurance puzzle. Here’s to a happy and healthy year ahead. Remember, if you don’t understand insurance, you need an agent who does!

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

Room 911:

Don’t Touch That

Decorating a home for the holiday season seems to be the very mood lifting thing that is needed in the dark, gloomy days of December. While the television and radio are playing holiday songs (sometimes *ad nauseum*) and apple cider, and Christmas spices sit atop the stove sending out wonderful aromas, I get a nagging feeling.



TEDRA SCHNEIDER

Whether the home features Hannukah menorahs, warm potato latkes, and blue and white strands of stars, I get a nagging feeling.

Whether it be Kwanza, Three King’s Day or any other tradition, I know the impact this can have on one’s mood. You can

feel joyous, happy, stressed, distracted, and overwhelmed because

you may have lived through the scenario below.

Any home takes on a quality of feeling extra special this month. After all, these are the decorations that come out once a year. You have tried to remove any precious items from the coffee table since your grandchild, niece, a family friend’s child, _____ (fill in the blank) will be coming to visit.

Why invite trouble?

Put that precious Ming vase on

the top shelf of your bookcase

Remove the Cloisonne clock and put that on another shelf. Now you can relax because your home looks festive, you can enjoy your company, take pride in cooking and baking family favorites and take a well-deserved long sip from a very special family “secret” eggnog.

Until...

Until your Aunt Betty just spilled her red wine on your beige colored sofa, until your friend’s toddler has just grabbed at the blinking lights on the tree, until a portion of someone’s dinner may have landed on your carpeting, and continuous echoes of “don’t touch that, don’t touch that” reverberate in the room as a child of six, on a sugar high, feels the need to touch every object in your living room.

But wait, there’s more. “If I have to tell you again, not to _____ (fill in the blank), there will be a time out,” or “that’s it, no present

for you,” becomes a standard re-primed. If that happens you have to step back and say. “ I love my house,. I love the festive ,special look of my home at this special time of the year. How fortunate am I to have a home.

So when everyone goes home and you look at the stain on your sofa, the toppled blinking lights, the grease on the carpeting, not to mention the gallon size bottle of stain remover you’ll need for your tablecloth, just know there is a special decorating secret that I want to share with you,my dear readers.

Have yourself another very,very large cup of that “special secret eggnog.”

Wishing you all Happy Holidays and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

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

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Staples *continued from page 1*

“Staples, along with other businesses, is struggling with competition from online sales,” Paul Grimmer, executive director of the Orange Economic Development Commission, said. He said the struggles Staples is facing are not unique to the retail chain.

“We continually evaluate our store performance to ensure we’re operating the business in the best way. As customers shift online, we are taking aggressive action to right-size our retail footprint. We are committed to providing great service and every product businesses need whether it’s in-store, online or through mobile,” Reardon said.

Grimmer said it is too early to know what will happen with the store’s location at 100 Boston Post Road.

“We will be happy to work with developers to seek a quick resolution,” Grimmer said.

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Obituaries

CAROFANO, ALBERT C.

Albert C. Carofano, 81, of Orange, beloved husband of Clorinda "Corky" Guliano Carofano, passed away on Dec. 5, 2014 at his home. Memorial Contributions may be made to St. Anthony's Church 25 Gold St. New Haven, CT. 06519 or Smilow Cancer Hospital of YNHHC Closer to Free Fund P.O. Box 7611 New Haven, CT. 06519.

CHIRGWIN, OLGA HALCHAK

Olga Halchak Chirgwin of Orange, age 93, beloved wife of the late Harry J. Chirgwin, died peacefully on Dec. 2, 2014 at Yale New Haven Hospital with family by her side. Memorial Contributions may be made to Three Saints Church Maintenance Trust.

MARCUCCI, EVE

Eve Marcucci of Orange died Dec. 1, 2014

in Yale New Haven Hospital. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Francis Church 397 Ferry St. New Haven, CT 06512. Sign Eve's guest book online at www.iovanne.com.

McNABOLA, MARY KATE

Mary Kate McNabola, 95, of West Haven, kind, gentle, and caring wife of the late John T. McNabola, died Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2014, at Connecticut Hospice in Branford. She is survived by five children, Kathy (Michael) Wysoczanski, of Cheshire, Rosemary (Joseph) Mrazik, (with whom Mary made her home for the past seven years), of West Haven, Jack (Cheri) McNabola, of Orange, Sheila (James) Bertini, of Cheshire, and Kevin (Angela) McNabola, of Orange. Donations in Mary's memory should be directed to St. Lawrence Church, 207 Main Street, West

Haven, CT 06516. Condolences may be expressed online at www.keenanfuneralhome.com.

McGRATH, HAROLD F., SR.

Harold F. McGrath Sr. 88, of Orange beloved husband of Evelyn Daniel McGrath passed away on Dec. 3, 2014 in Yale New Haven Hospital. Memorial Contributions may be made to Holy Infant Church, 450 Racebrook Rd., Orange, CT 06477.

RIGGOTT, MARY BERNADETTE "BERNIE" CONFREY

Mary Bernadette "Bernie" (Confrey) Riggott, age 90, of Orange, passed away Monday, Nov. 10, 2014 in The Elim Park Healthcare Center, Cheshire. The family would appreciate donations in Bernie's memory to Masonic HCC Hospice, 22 Masonic Ave.,

Wallingford, CT 06492.

ROSSI, NATALIE LIVOLSI

Natalie Livolsi Rossi, 96, of Orange passed away peacefully, with her family by her side on Nov. 29, 2014. She was the beloved wife of Alfred Rossi, for 74 years. Should friends desire contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Disease Research Unit, 1 Church St., Suite 600, New Haven, CT, 06510.

SADICK, LUCILLE R.

Lucille R. Sadick, 52, of Springvale, died Nov. 30 at the Maine Medical Center in Portland after a long illness. She grew up in Orange, CT and was a graduate of Amity High School. She was employed for several years with Sikorsky Aircraft. Condolences can be expressed at www.blackfuneralhomes.com.

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Vote for Volunteer of the Year

There are more than 350 active volunteers working and living within Orange. Over the past two years, The Orange Times has profiled many of them through columnist Jody Dietch.

Now we would like your help in choosing one to honor as our Volunteer of the Year!

More than 20 Orange businesses have donated a prize to the winner as a token of their appreciation for everything these volunteers contribute to our community.

Below you'll find a ballot that can be deposited in boxes at Orange Town Clerks Office and the High Plains Community Center.

Just check off the name of the featured volunteer you think deserves the honor and get your ballot in by Dec. 27.

You may also vote by emailing your choice to editor@theorangetimes.com.

The winner will be announced in the Jan. 15 edition of The Orange Times.

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Volunteer of the Year

The Orange Times

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

Check the circle to the left of your choice for The Orange Times's Volunteer of the Year!

All ballots must be deposited in the collection boxes at Orange Town Clerk's Office or High Plains Community Center **no later than Dec. 27.**

No facsimiles will be accepted. Votes may also be cast via emailing the candidates name to editor@theorangetimes.com. Email votes also must be recieved by the end of the day, Dec. 27. Please, one vote per reader.

- Barbara Becal Ronald Ruotolo Nancy Becque Bob Shanley Baxter Walsh Karen Mc Causland Judy Wright Williams Maria Sandillo
- Jim Ronai Bill Kraut Karen deFur Maxwell Judy Smith Lisa Kaplan Jody Dayman Harold Cavallaro, Jr. Mitch Goldblatt
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