



Orleans Citizens Forum Observer

Keeping You Informed

orleanscitizensforum.org

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Two Informative Forums are coming your way in January and February!

AGING IN PLACE

We've all heard the expression – Home Is Where The Heart Is – but, for Seniors, staying in their own home or, Aging in Place, requires some planning and resources. That's why the Orleans Citizens Forum is dedicating its next mini forum to a discussion on the community-based services, assistive technologies, and home modifications available to help Seniors remain independent and comfortable in their own home.

The forum, entitled "Aging in Place – Obstacles and Opportunities for Planning to Stay In Your Own Home," *will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2014, from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. in The Craine Room at Snow Library, 67 Main Street, Orleans.*

Judi Wilson, Director of the Orleans Council on Aging, and Pat Zeiss, Membership Director & Vice President of Outreach for Nauset Neighbors, will speak to the reality that, as we age, our homes can and often do present obstacles and what can be done to keep our homes the safe havens we love.

This very important forum is not just for residents of Orleans but for all on the Lower Cape looking for information on what is available in our area.

All forums are free of charge. Please join us and feel free to bring your neighbors and friends.

ADVANCED EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

The Orleans Citizens Forum will present a mini-forum on the depth of the care given by the Orleans Fire and Rescue Dept. to all requiring their assistance on the Lower Cape *on Wednesday, February 12th. The event will take place at the Orleans Council on Aging, 150 Rock Harbor Road, Orleans from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.* Deputy Chief Tony Pike and Captain Geoff Deering of the Orleans Fire and Rescue Department, Director of Cape and Islands EMS, William Flynn and Medical Director of the CC Hospital Emergency Room, Jason Kahn will present the latest technology available to all Emergency Medical Support groups on the Lower Cape. This event will also include an Expo of the latest equipment for all to actually see and learn about the life saving techniques in addition to having an Ambulance on site so you can see what is available within the Ambulance itself. There will be a question and answer period following the presentation. This event is for everyone living on the Lower Cape, not just for residents of Orleans. As the Lower Cape has a mutual aid system, when you call 911 for assistance you could receive help from any of the towns within this system. All EMS groups provide the same capable medical care. Therefore, if you want to know what is available, come to this mini-forum and bring your friends and neighbors.

OCF forums and programs are made possible by the commitment of our members who care about our community and region. As you may know, OCF has expanded its schedule of forums, making your membership even more important than ever!

Join, renew, or give the gift of membership today to help continue the work of the Orleans Citizens Forum. Contributions are also gratefully received. OCF is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable (501-c-3) organization so your dues are tax deductible.

**Please send your dues (\$15 Individual; \$25 Family) and any additional donation today to:
Orleans Citizens Forum, PO Box 142, East Orleans, MA 02643**



An independent non-partisan organization that provides public forums on issues important to quality of life.

President's Message

Our new initiative to incorporate mini-forums into our yearly programming was well received by those attending our first event and our plans are to continue with this format. Mini-forums present focused topics by a smaller panel, are held at smaller less costly venues and are not recorded for later viewing. By their introduction we hope to be able to present more topics of interest to our members and community.

Our first mini-forum was entitled "Frauds & Scams: Beware" and was presented by Lt. Kevin Higgins of the Orleans Police Department. Lt. Higgins shared his years of experience combating frauds and scams and provided guidance on how to respond if confronted with a suspicious situation. Our next two mini-forums are: "Aging in Place," and "Advanced Emergency Medical Support." Both are summarized in this Observer.

Looking ahead we are planning a "Candidates Night" in April for the upcoming town election for Selectmen and a forum on "Beach Closures" in May.

As we search for topics for future forums and reflect on those from the past we find that the great majority of topics are of interest and benefit not only to our Orleans community but to communities in nearby towns. This raises a question: "Should we consider changing our organization's name to something more reflective of our broader community and region?" Your views are very important to this discussion so we hope to hear from you. Also, we would like to hear any topic suggestions you might have for future forums. You may contact me or any member of our board to express your opinion. Alternately, you may email comments to orleanscitizensforum@gmail.com.

Joe Cardito, President

CCC Wastewater Plan

Governor Patrick has funded the Cape Cod Commission (CCC) to lead a new wastewater plan for the Cape called "208." The Commission's first goal is to obtain federal and state funding to help defray the cost to cities and towns for their wastewater infrastructure projects --which are estimated to total \$3- \$8 Billion. A second goal is to utilize new technologies that will drive down costs much lower than conventional systems now being proposed.

In recent months the CCC has organized stakeholders from each town to participate and help achieve these goals. The stakeholders are comprised of elected officials, scientists and engineers, business leaders and community action groups. The CCC approach is to stress cooperation between towns that share common watersheds ie; Orleans and Eastham that share Nauset Harbor and Town Cove. The 208 studies to date show that it is far more cost effective to have a shared watershed solution to clean up these waters rather than inefficiently having two separate costly wastewater systems.

The CCC is also employing an internationally recognized scientific group of wastewater experts including representatives from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI), the Falmouth-based Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), Boston University as well as private high technology wastewater companies to identify and provide data on these new technologies.

It is expected that wastewater plans for our towns will be affected by this new CCC 208 initiative.

The Orleans Citizens Forum....

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COMMENTARY FRAUDS AND SCAMS

Previous Forum held on 11/12/13

Do you know the "Thirteen Things Your Burglar Won't Tell You" or the "15 must-know tips for protecting your identity?" How about scams involving winning the lottery, making fast money, phishing e-mails or disaster relief? These are just some of the schemes Lieutenant Kevin Higgins and Chief Scott MacDonald of the Orleans Police Department discussed at the Frauds and Scams Forum held at the Orleans Snow Library on November 12th, sponsored by the Orleans Citizens Forum (OCF).

Lt. Higgins pointed out that the "bad guys" have much more experience at scamming the public than the public has at recognizing scams. For example, we have all heard of the "Snake Oil" salesmen who traveled from town to town in slow going wagons. This took time and its geographical expanse was very limited. Now, with the internet, the world is available in an instant.

Lt. Higgins correlated the growth in the number of money related frauds and scams occurring with the increasing use of computers and the internet. It is estimated that from 2000 yr. to 2010 yr. internet crimes increased by over 8000% to \$264 million with virtually none of the monies recovered. The number of communication satellites now cover the entire earth so that someone on the other side of the globe can find their way to your computer.

According to Lt. Higgins, Phishing is the most widespread internet and email scam today. Thieves try to lure unsuspecting web users to divulge their ID and passwords on web pages that appear to be legitimate sites like Citibank, eBay or Paypal. Their emails indicate that something is seriously wrong with your account and to correct the problem you must sign-in to your account. All you need to do is click on the link in their email and up pops the scammer's site inviting you to enter your personal information.

A popular scam for the demographics of Cape Cod, according to Lt. Higgins, is the "Grandparent Scam." An early morning or late evening call or email from someone who identifies himself as your grandson says that he has been arrested in another country. He is in desperate need of you wiring money to pay his bail but not to tell Mom or Dad because they would really get upset.

Typical of these scams is the sense of high urgency that the scammer expresses. Lt. Higgins says that the scam artist is playing to your emotions and advises resisting the pressure to act quickly. He suggests calling the named organization directly to determine the email's validity or in the case of a family member, like a grandson, call that person or his parents.

Chief MacDonald discussed the increasing role of internet crimes in law enforcement efforts. He indicated that his department is stepping up efforts to address these crimes but reminded everyone that prevention is much easier than recovery. To stop these crimes the police have to know about them at the outset; time is of the essence.

The many handouts that were provided are available on the Orleans Police Department's website at www.town.orleans.ma.us/Pages/OrleansMA_Police/tips. The department will post additional information and advisories as they are developed.



The Orleans Citizens Forum is an all-volunteer, independent, and nonpartisan organization whose mission is to inform residents about issues important to the quality of life in the greater Orleans area. All forums are free of charge. Please join us and feel free to bring your neighbors and friends. If you would like additional information visit our website at

www.orleanscitizensforum.org or

contact us at

orleanscitizensforum@gmail.com !



We have Four New Directors, and they are:



Eileen Bergquist is a graduate of Wheaton College where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Education. She worked as a VP of Human Resources in the software, manufacturing and healthcare industries. She has global experience in companies including Motorola, Banyan Systems and an IBM acquisition, Ascential Software.

She has served in community leadership roles including past President of Nauset Newcomers. She continues to consult for executives and Fortune 500 companies faced with organizational and leadership issues.

Jeff Roy was appointed as the Chief of Police in Orleans in 2003 where he served until his retirement in November 2012.

Jeff holds a Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from Westfield State College and Masters Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from American International College. He is also a graduate of the Command Training Institute, Law Enforcement Executive Development Command Training, Massachusetts Police Leadership Institute and in 1997, graduated from the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico Virginia.

Jeff continues to consult as an acting police chief for other towns in Massachusetts while they conduct searches for their own permanent chiefs.

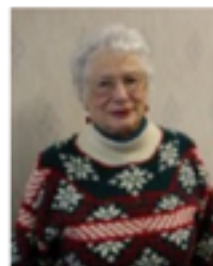
Jeff lives in Orleans with his wife Bonnie. They have two children, Carrie who currently lives in Ohio and Kate who lives in Connecticut.



Jane Chirgwin and husband Lee have lived in East Orleans for over 11 years after retiring from Easton, CT. For two years she owned and operated a fabric store in Fairfield, Connecticut followed by computer classes at Sacred Heart University, which led to a career as a

Photocomposition Editor for Bunker Ramo Corporation in Shelton, Connecticut. While in Connecticut, Jane served on their Church Council, in Bridgeport.

On Cape Cod Jane has been active with Nauset Newcomers as a co-chair of the Social Events Committee, Dining Out Committee for three years and Day Trippers. She and Lee have two sons and two grandchildren.



Andree Yager graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in Interior Architecture and Landscape Design. She and her husband Barry retired to South Orleans from Stamford Connecticut in 1986.

In the business world she worked for 16 years at GE as an accountant in their Credit Card operation.

She is recognized as an active community leader, having served on the Orleans Conservation Commission for 16 years and the Wastewater Committee for four years. She is currently actively involved with several organizations including the Cape Cod Auxiliary, the Orleans Improvement Association and the Snow Library.