

NEWS



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04-27-11 THIS WEEK IN ORANGE COUNTY BY EDWARD A. DIANA

With the cost of gasoline sky rocketing, many people are turning to stay-cations for their family entertainment these days. Orange County residents are fortunate to have an abundance of options for fun family outings right here at home.

To plan your stay-cation, make Orange County Tourism's website, www.orangetourism.org, your first stop. Here you'll find everything you need to know about what to see and do in Orange County. I'm willing to bet that many County residents will discover that there are places, events, and outings that they never knew existed in their own back yard. We've got history and culture, farm markets and wineries, antiques and world-class shopping, outstanding restaurants, and, of course, the great outdoors.

If you enjoy spending time outdoors, get away from it all and connect with nature at Orange County's Winding Hills Park in Montgomery. Here you'll find plenty of opportunities for boating (car-top boats only), fishing, hiking, picnicking, and even camping. The park is open year-round and opens for camping on May 6. To reserve your campsite, call 457-4919.

The County's two golf courses, Stony Ford in Hamptonburgh and Hickory Hill in Warwick, are now open for the season. To check out the amenities available at these two fine courses and to make your reservations online, visit the Parks Department website at www.orangecountynyparks.com.

Orange County's museums are a well-kept secret that we're working hard to let out. Brick House Museum and the Farmer's Museum, both in Montgomery, and Hill-Hold in Campbell Hall, all open for the season on Saturday, May 14. Each offers visitors the opportunity to experience what life was like at an earlier time in Orange County's history.

History buffs should be sure to stop by the Orange County Historian's office at the 1841 Court House in Goshen. Here you'll find a wealth of information about the long and treasured history of our County from Colonial times to modern day. And, if you're interested in learning more about your personal Orange County history, get to know the Orange County Genealogical Society and see what you can discover about your family tree. To learn more about the Historian's office, visit their Department page on the County website at www.orangecountygov.com

Until next week, wishing you good health and happiness.

Edward A. Diana
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