

# Orange Town News



Orange's Exclusive Newspaper  
Mailed Free To Every Home & Business in Orange

VOL. 18 – ISSUE 8      CIRCULATION 6070      FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023



## Election Season Enters Its Final Stretch

By **BETTINA THIEL**  
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

In less than six weeks, on Tuesday, November 7, Orange residents will be heading to the polls to cast their votes for town government. While the Republican ticket lists the well-known, experienced crew, local Democrats are fielding a number of newcomers to municipal governance, many of them with impressive credentials.

At the head of the Republican ticket is long-time First Selectman Jim Zeoli who is seeking his 10<sup>th</sup> term, and with him on the ballot for the Board of Selectmen are incumbents John Carangelo, Ralph Okenquist and Judy Williams.

Challenging Zeoli is Democrat Mark Moyher, who has a professional background in the financial industry, and running alongside him for the Board of Selectmen are incumbents PJ Shanley and Mitch Goldblatt, as well as newcomer Melissa Johnston, a marketing

manager at a company called Defibtech.

Town Clerk Mary Shaw and Tax Collector Thomas Hurley, both Republicans, are on the ballot for re-election. They are both unopposed.

It's for the Board of Finance that things become interesting. The Republican incumbents are Kevin Houlihan and James Leahy, current chairman and vice chairman of that board, respectively, who have served in their position for many years. The Democrats are fielding Anna Mahon, who comes with a lot of name recognition as the former Amity High School principal; and Jen Alfaro, a business owner.

For the local Board of Education, incumbents Bill Kraut and Ken Ziman are running on the Republican ticket, along with newcomer Anthony Scarinzi, a computer programmer with Aquarion Water Company.

See "Election Season" On Page 15



## Boy Scout Troop 41 Kicks Off New Season

Boy Scout Troop 41 is gearing up for a new season of camping, hiking, and other outdoor adventures. The troop is open to boys ages 11 and up from all surrounding towns.

"We're looking forward to a great year of Scouting," said Scoutmaster Brian. "We have a lot of great events planned, and we're always looking for new Scouts to join us."

Troop 41 meets Monday nights at the Congregation B'nai Jacob. Meetings typically include a variety of activities, such as games, scout skills instruction, and planning for upcoming events.

The troop also goes on a number of campouts throughout the year. These campouts provide Scouts with the opportunity to learn new skills, such as camping, cooking, and orienteering.

In addition to camping, Troop 41 also participates in a number of other activities, such as hiking, and community service projects.

Scouting is a great way for boys to learn new skills, make new friends, and have fun. We encourage all who are interested in Scouting to come check us out. For more information about Troop 41, visit [troop41woodbridge.org](http://troop41woodbridge.org).

### Upcoming Troop 41 events:

- › September: Beginner Backpacker;
- › October: Top Shot Camporee;
- › November: Shooting Sports and Orienteering Trip;
- › December: The Freedom Trail in Boston.

### How to join Troop 41:

- › Visit [troop41woodbridge.org](http://troop41woodbridge.org);
- › Contact Scoutmaster Brian Cleveland at (203) 314-1329.

Election Coverage – Page 7

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HEALTH & FITNESS

# Management of Acute Sports Injuries

BY KYLE BRANDAY, MSPT, CDN

There are few things more gut wrenching than lying on the court or field of play, writhing in pain from an injury just sustained during practice or a game. The swelling, the pain, an inability to get yourself off the field. Most athletes, whether professional, collegiate, or recreational have been in this position at one point or another. Oftentimes we are able to bounce right back up, take a quick rest, and get right back to playing. However, what happens when we can't get right back in the game?

The conventional approach has always been RICE: Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation. The reason for this is that in most acute injuries, the damage to soft tissue (ligaments, tendons, and muscles) as well as involved joints can create swelling and inflammation. By resting, we reduce the further strain put on the injured area. Icing assists with reducing the inflammatory response and creating vasoconstriction (narrowing of the blood vessels) to reduce swelling. Compression also reduces swelling by preventing the fluid in the affected area to pool and expand. Elevation allows for a natural flow of the fluid in the injured area to work its way back to the heart passively. Contraction of our muscles prevents pooling of fluid normally, however in injured areas, our muscles often are too painful to contraction and creating that normal pumping effect to drive fluid out of the injured area.

Research has shown that acute treatment of injuries sustained on the field will lead to significantly less time on the sidelines. Take one of the most common on field injuries, an ankle sprain. Generally speaking, a sprain of the ankle involves injury to both ligaments and tendons and can create significant swelling, pain, and difficulty with walking and certainly

Kyle Branday

in performing sports related activities. Treatment of an acute ankle sprain to manage swelling and pain within the first 24-48 hours can lead to potential rehab time of 2-4 visits, whereas chronic treatment viewed at treatment began 72 hours or later post injury can lead to treatment time up to 3-5 weeks.

The results speak for themselves. While younger athletes always tend to rebound faster than those of us who still try and be weekend warriors, we all need acute treatment of our injuries in order to get back on that playing field quickly. Don't let a simple sprain keep you off the field.

Kyle Branday, MSPT is a licensed physical therapist and partner at Amity Physical Therapy. Kyle is a graduate of Quinnipiac University with years of experience treating a wide variety of injuries including orthopedics, sports related injuries, and neurological rehabilitation while working with patients of all ages and ability levels. Amity Physical Therapy is in its 19<sup>th</sup> year as a practice and now maintains 5 offices in Woodbridge, Hamden, Branford, Milford and Wallingford. Kyle can be seen at his Woodbridge location at 1 Bradley Road and can be reached at (203) 389-4593 or visit amitypt.com.

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Orange Town News

Orange's Exclusive Newspaper

Mailed Free to Every Home & Business in Orange

Circulation of 6,070.

Mailing Address: PO Box 132, Uncasville, CT 06382

Phone: 203-298-4399

Publisher Rocky Salperto

Editor Marlene Silverstein

Production & Design J. Michael Kriz

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Orange Town News

Below are the next three issue dates & deadlines of the Orange Town News.

Thank you for your submissions to Your Home Town Newspaper.

Upcoming Issue Date

Issue Deadline

October 27 | Election Issue.....October 20

November 17 | Thanksgiving Issue.....November 10

December 15 | Holiday Issue .....December 8

Note: Copy due by 4:00p.m. Thank you.

FROM OUR READERS

The Failing Acronyms of CRT, DEI, and SEL

We need to be very careful when selecting candidates for election to the Board of Education on November 7<sup>th</sup>. In particular, what curriculum they approve to be taught at Amity is critical. Amity was ranked first in the state of Connecticut in 2014, but its rank has been dropping over the years and now stands at 39<sup>th</sup>. It is clear that we need to elect Board of Education members who will put the emphasis back on academics. We need to support our educators who want to teach reading, writing and arithmetic.

During the last four years, the toxic, racist ideology of Critical Race Theory (CRT), has evolved into a Social and Emotional Learning curriculum (SEL) known as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). This has crept into our public-school systems through its school curricula via teacher training programs. Words like “equity,” “social justice,” “diversity and inclusion,” and “culturally responsive teaching” sound harmless and pleasing, but their actual definitions are different than what they commonly mean. For example, Equity sounds non-threatening and is easily confused with the American principle of equality. But the distinction is vast and important. Equity is guaranteeing that the outcome is the same for everyone. In order to achieve equity, you have to give more to those who aren’t “equal” by taking from those with “more” until they equal the lowest common denominator. When you treat classes of people differently in order to achieve equity, that clearly sounds like other words we know—racism and discrimination. Equality of opportunity on the other hand, means that everyone is given the opportunity to excel and that those who need the extra help are given it, without taking opportunity away from others to do so and there is no limit to what you can

achieve. The Amity Board of Education, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved eliminating honors classes in the name of Equity. When they reject equality, they are rejecting the principle proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence, defended in the Civil War, and codified into law with the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Equity translates into aspiring for mediocrity. As a result, our children are being dragged down when in fact, they need to be lifted up. They deserve better.

Karen Kerames

Decide To Ride

There’s nothing like football season in our area to bring people together. As students, alumni, and fans aged 21+ pack the stadiums this year, a reminder to plan ahead for a safe ride home if your game day plans include a beer or two.

Whether you’re at a tailgate, seated on the 50-yard line or cheering on your team from a local bar, Anheuser-Busch, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Uber, and Dichello Distributors, Inc. have an important message for the entire community: Decide to Ride.

Drunk driving is 100% preventable. By opting for an Uber or other sober ride home at the end of the day, we can keep everyone safe and ensure the good times continue all season long.

Anheuser-Busch, MADD, and Uber joined forces and launched the Decide to Ride campaign in September 2021 as part of a first-of-its-kind industry coalition aimed at bringing an end to drunk driving. This season, Dichello Distributors, Inc. is proud to help promote responsible drinking behavior and keep our community safe.

Tony Lota  
Alcohol Awareness Coordinator  
Dichello Distributors, Inc.

Orange Town News

OTN LETTERS POLICY

Submit your letters for our "From Our Readers" section to:  
Orange Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477  
or email: [letters@orangetownnews.com](mailto:letters@orangetownnews.com).

Please limit letters to 500 words and include a daytime phone number in case we have any questions. Letters must be exclusive to the Orange Town News for publication. We reserve the right to reject any letter.

LOCAL BUSINESS

# Holly Hill Childcare Forms Partnership

Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center is pleased to announce its partnering with Ally Soule of Heart and Soule Speech Therapy. This exciting partnership is the first of its kind!

Ally Soule is a resident of Orange, mom to a two-year old little girl, and a pediatric speech language pathologist with over six years of experience. Ally received her undergraduate degree from Southern CT State University and her Master's degree from University of MA Amherst. Ally and her family moved back to the area last summer after living in Massachusetts for several years.

Throughout her career, Ally has worked in the school, inpatient hospital, outpatient clinic, and the birth-to-three settings. In each setting, Ally found herself working hard to support parent and teacher education, advocacy, and involvement. However, in each setting, Ally found it difficult to find the time to effectively communicate and connect with families in the way that she wanted.

Now back "home", she decided it was time to open her own private speech therapy practice, Heart and Soule Speech Therapy, LLC. The biggest goal for Ally in opening her practice has been to empower parents, families, and caregivers and to help others better understand child development. Research on development, past and present, supports the effectiveness of collaboration and parent/teacher education in order to facilitate learning and increased success for our children.

Having a toddler at home, while simultaneously serving the young children in her practice, generated an idea for Ally that she presented to Holly Hill Childcare and Learning Center. This proposed plan would allow Ally to provide hands-on coaching and consultation with directors and teachers, to answer questions about development, and to be available to support families as needed. After the idea was proposed, director Debbie Fedorko and educational liaison Margaret Dana-Conway were in agreement-this could be something great! From there, Ally and Debbie began working collaboratively

with Holly Hill staff to develop the program to include the opportunity to share strategies to better understand and support communication, behavior, play skills, and overall development for the children at Holly Hill.

"A partnership of this kind, with our childcare center and speech language pathologist working proactively to best serve children and teachers, is one of a kind, unique, and innovative", stated director Fedorko. Most often, a child is identified as significantly delayed and a speech language pathologist (or another professional/clinician) begins working with the child and family. Although this is an

effective and important model, the current need of our youngest learners is calling for creativity from clinicians and a change in the traditional way of meeting the needs of our children.

With this proactive model, the teachers at Holly Hill are learning strategies to support language development, play skills, and behavior. They are given the opportunity to problem-solve with Ally by asking questions, sharing concerns, and trying different strategies with hands-on support available. Childcare providers are feeling more confident and empowered when interacting with children of different ages and skill levels. Additionally, with this model, the childcare providers are gaining knowledge related to identifying delays more quickly in order to facilitate earlier intervention as needed. Soule stated, "We must remember, our dedicated staff spends more time with our children than most of us are able to. By educating and empowering childcare staff and teachers, we are able to give our children skilled, intentional support throughout the majority of their days."

Both Ally and Debbie hope that, with Heart and Soule Speech Therapy, LLC, Ally will be able to reach as many children, providers, and families as possible and to empower them with knowledge related to speech language development. When we can all come together in collaboration and with shared knowledge, the community becomes a powerful place.



Debbie Fedorko & Ally Soule

EDUCATION

# Yana Patel Receives Elmira College Key Award

Yana Patel, of Orange, CT, received the Elmira College Key Award for academic and community leadership. A tradition that goes back to 1935, the EC Key Award is presented to outstanding students in their junior year of high school or preparatory school.

This year, the award was given to 783 students in 16 states. Recipients receive an \$80,000 scholarship over a four-year period, \$20,000 per year, upon enrolling at Elmira College. "This

award is given to students with the potential to excel academically, serve as leaders, and go on to enjoy success in life," said Charles Lindsay, president of Elmira College. "We hope they will choose to make Elmira College their place."

Sponsored by the EC Alumni Association, the Key Award recognizes students for high scholastic achievement, leadership, citizenship, and participation in extracurricular activities.

STUDENT NEWS

## Dean's List Ithaca College

Ithaca, NY - Claudia Homiski of Orange, 06477 has been named to Ithaca College's Spring 2023 Dean's List.

## Seton Hall University

South Orange, NJ - Seton Hall Uni-

versity is pleased to announce Andrew Gnidula of Orange has qualified for the Spring 2023 Dean's List.

After the close of every semester, undergraduate students completing all courses with a GPA of 3.4, with no grades lower than "C", qualify for the Dean's List.

## Attention Teachers!

We want to know what's going on in your classroom!  
Let us know about any fun activities or holiday projects.  
You can also send us your pictures.  
(Parental consent required)

**Orange Town News**  
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SENIOR CENTER

# Hop The BUS

Orange Senior Center will resume Hop the Bus transportation for the 2023-2024 New Haven Symphony Season at Woolsey Hall. Leave your car behind and ride in comfort to and from the Symphony for free!

Opening night performance Saint-Saëns & Tchaikovsky scheduled for Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm. The bus will depart from the front of High Plains Community Center, 525

Orange Center Road at 6:45pm sharp! Hop the Bus transportation is made possible through a generous grant from the Orange Foundation.

Riders are responsible for purchasing their symphony tickets and making reservations for the bus 1 week prior by calling (203) 891-4784.

For the season schedule, visit [www.newhavensymphony.org](http://www.newhavensymphony.org) or call (203) 865-0831.



ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP

# Amity's Ranks on State Assessments Went Up... Yet Why Did Its Ranking on U.S. News Drop?

**BY SUDHIR KARUNAKARAN**  
AMITY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

Amity High School's drop in the 2023 U.S. News ranking is puzzling, especially after the strong improvement in ranks on state-wide assessment tests last year. At the last BOE meeting, some parents raised concerns about the ranking drop. As a BOE member and Woodbridge parent myself, I delved into the data, to understand and diagnose the issues, so that the board and school can take any necessary remedial actions.

## Amity's Impressive State Assessment Rankings in 2021-22

Despite the educational challenges posed by the COVID pandemic, Amity had maintained stable scores in 2021-22 compared to the pre-COVID scores in 2018-19. Hence, I first looked at Amity's performance, relative to other schools. There is good news here. Amity's rank among CT schools improved substantially in all three subjects:

- › Math: Improved from 28<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>;
- › English and Language Arts (ELA): Improved from 27<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>;
- › Science: Improved from 28<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>.

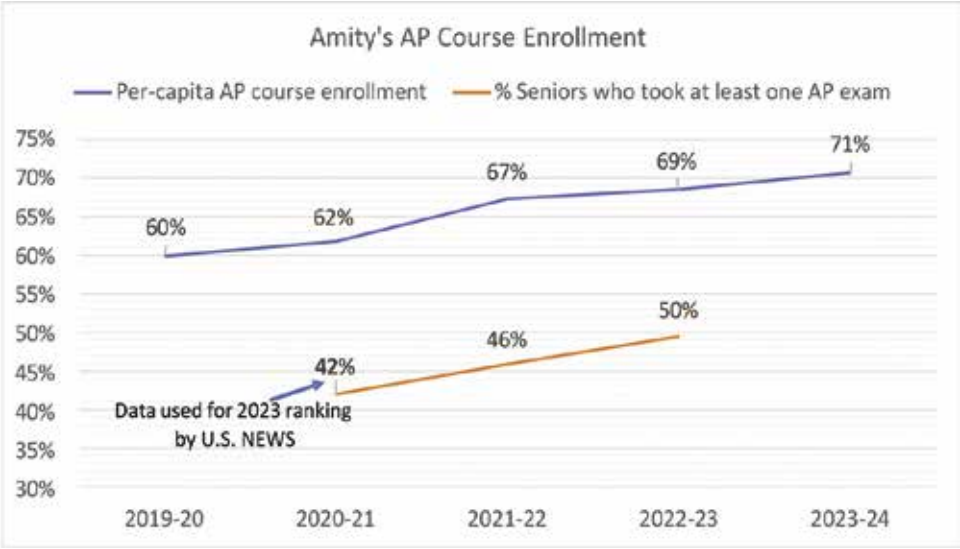
The rise in ranks is a testament to the resilience and hard work of our students, teachers, and administrators, who persevered through the pandemic without falling behind in academics.

But if Amity's ranks on state assessments went up, why did U.S. News rank drop?

## The Discrepancy with U.S. News Rankings: Older Data and COVID-disrupted AP test rates

Since Connecticut didn't publish state assessment data for 2020-21 (due to COVID disruptions), U.S. News used older 2018-19 data-data that was also used for last year's ranking. Thus, this 40% component of the ranking, did not reflect Amity's recent performance improvements. The good news is that the impressive 2021-22 performance will help Amity's ranking next year.

The other major 40% component of the ranking is Ged to Advanced Placement (AP) test taking and scores, which U.S. News considers as a proxy for college readiness. For this year, U.S. News used data from the COVID-disrupted 2020-21 year, where Amity had a historic low AP test taking rate



Source: Data provided by Amity High School and from Superintendent Reports

of 42%, and this COVID-related drop was sharper than at peer schools. As the graph shows, these numbers are recovering and should have less impact on Amity's future rankings.

## Assessing Amity Priorities

The recent student performance in state assessments shows that on average our students are performing among the very best. And there are other strong signs of excellence during the last year. Our students continue to do us proud by winning various national and state-level competitions. In particular, a record 27 students out of a class of 315 (8.6%) achieved "Commended Scholar/Semi-Finalist" status at the National Merit Scholar competition last year. This is about three times higher than the national average of 3% who achieve this status. Overall, Amity's academic performance is on the rise, not on the decline.

I see one persistent challenge for Amity. As the graph suggests, a significant share of Amity students taking AP classes choose not to take the exams. The exams cost \$98-\$148, and as colleges increasingly do not give college credit for AP exams, many Amity students find these exams not worth their stress or money. Some districts pay for their students' exams. There are some who require or "expect" students to take the exams. Since Amity "encourages," but does not require students to take the exams, it has been a drag on our US News rank in recent years.

But it is not clear how Amity should address this challenge. A school should prepare students for college by encouraging them to learn advanced material. Taking AP courses and doing well on them does that, but taking expensive AP exams that students don't see value in does not. While Amity can encourage students to voluntarily take AP tests to improve their chances of ad-

mission to a preferred college, it would be misguided to push them to take AP exams just to boost Amity's ranking.

## Looking Ahead

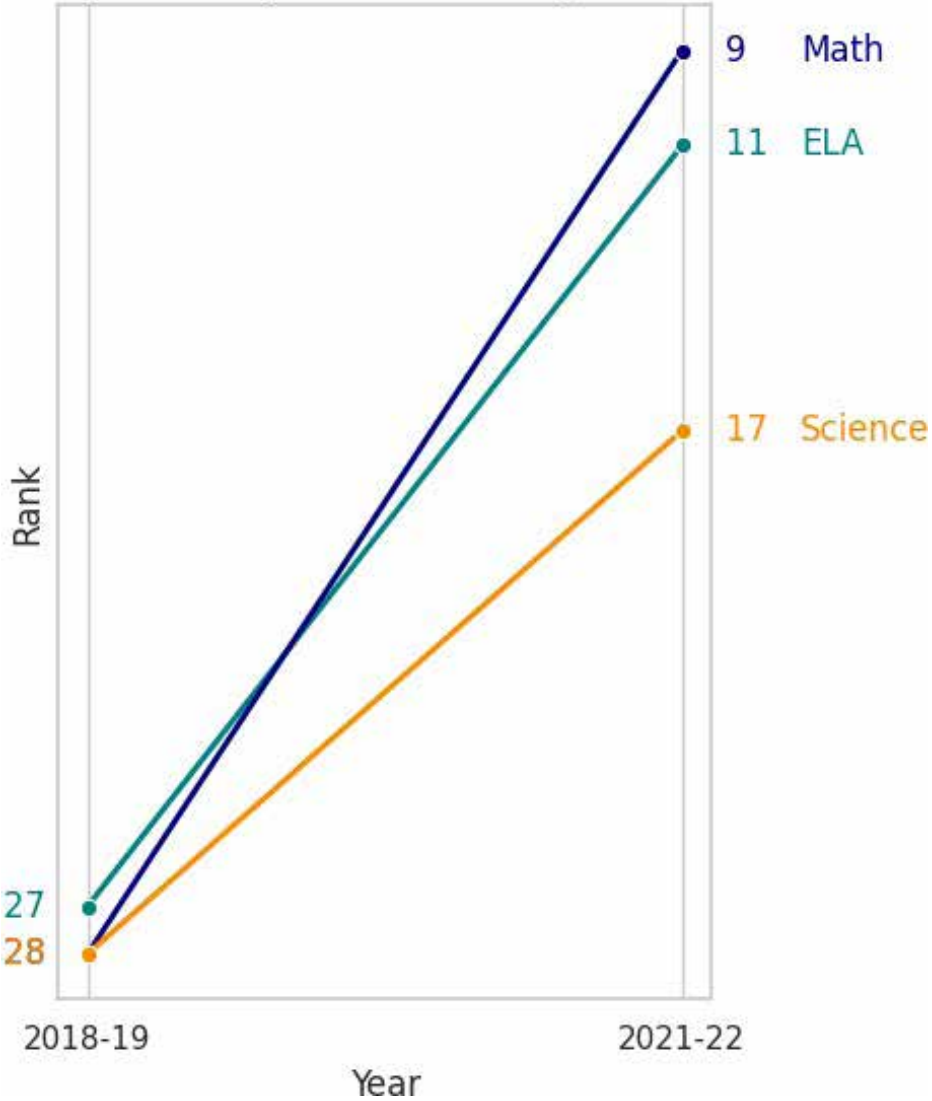
Magazine rankings, especially when based on outdated data or questionable metrics such as AP test taking, don't define our excellence. The state assessment ranks show that Amity students on average performed very well in academics last year. Their AP course participation continues to rise after the steep drop caused by COVID. The National Merit Scholarship performance shows that our top students also do exceptionally well. Overall, this suggests that Amity is pursuing excellence in an inclusive way-at the top, and across the board.

Given the evidence, I concluded that any narrative that Amity is underperforming or declining on academic performance is inconsistent with the facts. Such narratives demonstrate our hardworking students and educators. And by hurting the school's reputation, it harms our community's attractiveness. I hope my analysis reassures concerned parents and the broader community that Amity's U.S. News rank this year is an idiosyncratic blip and does not reflect either current student performance or a systematic decline. The evidence instead suggests improving performance.

And if one simply wants to see good news in a recent ranking, here is one. In 2023, Niche ranked the Amity School District as #10 in the state with an overall A+ and specifically an A+ for College Preparation.

Let's applaud Amity's achievements, even as we strive for continuous improvement. Amity's mission should be clear: to remain a hub of excellence that allows every student in our community to achieve their potential. Let the rankings follow the excellence.

Amity's rank improvement among CT schools



Source: Data provided by EdSight, CT's official portal for schools. Ranks calculated by author.



ELECTION 2023



Republican's Select Slate for November Election

Orange Republican Caucus 2023

The Orange Republicans held its caucus on Wednesday, July 20, endorsing incumbent James Zeoli for First Selectman, along with a full slate of candidates who will share the Republican ticket.

In his remarks, Zeoli cited his own observations on his opponent's platform. "My opponent complains about our focus on industrial and commercial development rather than retail. How many of you have shopped online this week, this month, or this year?" Jim asked. "Brick-and-mortar retail is in a very difficult position now because you can go on your phone or laptop and order products that come right to your door. Retail is great, but the industrial and commercial development that has come here during my tenure has greatly benefited taxpayers," said Zeoli.

"They (opponents) have complained about building a playground. The playground is a good thing for Orange, and in fact, 98% of the cost of the playground was funded by the state. That's your tax dollars paid to Hartford coming back to you," said Jim.

In Maggie Lasto's nominating speech she remarked, "For those of you who don't know me, my name is Maggie Lasto. I am a 24-year-old lifelong resident of Orange. It takes a leader who is fiscally responsible—someone who considers the best interest of their constituents when spending tax money, supporting education, investing in property, or welcoming new businesses. It takes a leader who is willing to speak their mind honestly, yet able to work with others; someone who is always there with an open ear."

Seconding the nomination was Dominic Lombardi. "Though his (Jim Zeoli's) hair may be a bit grayer than when he first started, his passion and commitment to this town are still exactly the same. I always appreciate a

leader who takes the next generation seriously and invests in our future.

"Jim finds a way to encourage residents in all stages of life, from our children, our students, our seniors, and everyone in between. He is the reason why people like me make the choice to stay, to get involved, and encourage the next generation to do the same," Lombardi said.

Republican Slate First Selectman

- › James Zeoli

Selectmen

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- › Judy Williams
- › John Carangelo

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- › Kevin Houlihan
- › James Leahy

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Amity Board of Education

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- › Gary Palermo
- › Glen Papelo

Challenger to First Selectman Calls for Economic Development

Democratic nominee for Orange First Selectman Mark Moyher calls for more creative development. "For far too long, the current leadership has let the crown jewel of Orange's business district, The Boston Post Road, remain in neutral and lose its shine. It is time we work with developers and real estate professionals to attract new businesses and new developments, which will create new jobs, bring new attractions, and build a bigger tax base in town", said Moyher.

The closure of the Christmas Tree Shop has left an empty space and created an opportunity for economic development, that could also improve the quality of life for Orange residents. Moyher stated, "We have an opportunity to capitalize on the latest recreation craze that has hit this country, pickleball. The former Christmas Tree Shop location is a great spot for indoor Pickleball Courts. This location is perfect to create an adult recreation complex. There is already an indoor golf facility and axe-throwing center in that location. This is the type of development that will be popular as an adult recreation complex with not only

recreation facilities but restaurants as well. It will improve quality of life for all, but especially our seniors who have found new fun and physical activity with this exciting sport. This is just one example of the many opportunities for creative economic development.

The role of the town and its leadership is to attract and develop businesses that will improve our tax base as well as expand opportunities for shopping, dining, and gathering. Every successful town CEO knows it is not enough to sit there with a catcher's mitt waiting for the business to approach you. "Our current First Selectman is running this town like the head coach of a sports team that is satisfied with having a .500 record, but never making the playoffs. Fine isn't good enough. We should be striving for more. The people of Orange deserve more." said Moyher.

Mark Moyher has been vigorously campaigning and speaking to voters in Orange, and will continue to spread the message to all residents through the Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> Election.

Learn more about Mark Moyher at [MoreWithMoyher.com](http://MoreWithMoyher.com).

League of Women Voters of Amity Participates in Vote411.org

Like planets lining up for a grand conjunction, Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge are holding municipal elections on the same day for the first time in recent memory. This gives the League of Women Voters of Amity an opportunity to make efficient use of the national League's online voter guide, Vote411.org, ahead of Election Day, November 7, 2023. Voter education is central to the League's mission, and a nonpartisan Voters Guide is a key tool in that mission.

Vote411.org was launched by the national LWV Education Fund in 2006 as a "one-stop-shop" for election related information, including rules specific to each state. In its first operation of the Vote411 system, LWV Amity is posing questions to the candidates for

First Selectman, Board of Selectmen, and Amity Board of Education. Invitations to participate were recently sent to those candidates, with each person's own code for submitting the information they want to present to their voters.

Voters should be able to read candidate views by mid-October and may be able to follow up when a candidate's campaign social media and contact information are also provided.

The League of Women Voters is strictly nonpartisan; it neither supports nor opposes candidates for office at any level of government. For more information on making democracy work at the local level, contact Pua Ford, [pua4d@yahoo.com](mailto:pua4d@yahoo.com), 203-305-4068.



# CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Visit our website [casememoriallibrary.org](http://casememoriallibrary.org) and sign up for our weekly email newsletter for updates on events at the library.

### Hours

The Library's hours are as follows:

- Monday, Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Holiday Closings

The Library will be closed on Monday, October 9 in observance of Columbus Day.

### Program Fees

Programs at the Case Memorial Library are free, except as noted for materials charges, and open to the public.

### Registration

Registration is required for all library programs, unless otherwise noted. Register for events at [casememoriallibrary.org/events](http://casememoriallibrary.org/events).

### Friends Of The Library Book Sale

Saturday, October 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

### Storytimes

#### Preschool Storytime

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.

Music, movement, and literacy for our preschool friends! Join us as we get ready for the school years. There will be a craft after the storytime session. Registration is required. No storytime on October 9.

#### Lapsit Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Little ones and their caregivers are invited to explore books, sing songs, and practice interactive nursery rhymes with Ms. Angela! Registration is required.

#### Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Get the wiggles out with Ms. Angela! Stories, music, dancing, and more fill this high-energy storytime for toddlers and their grownups. Registration is required.

### Events For Children

#### Preschool Playtime

Saturday, October 7, 10:30 a.m.  
For children ages 2-5

Come enjoy our mini obstacle course for a morning of fun and peer socialization! Registration is required.

#### Family Take and Make: Oreo Mummies

Pick up dates: October 9-14  
For children and families

Make a tasty and spooky treat using Oreos and white chocolate! Take and makes are available while supplies last; no registration required.



176 Tyler City Road, Orange, CT 06477  
203-891-2170 • [www.casememoriallibrary.org](http://www.casememoriallibrary.org)

#### Spooky Slime

Thursday, October 12, 4 p.m.  
For children in grades 1-6

Make spooky slime that glows in the dark! Registration is required.

#### Tween D&D: Tournament of Champions

Monday, October 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
For children in grades 3-6

Players will come together to test their wit and might as they battle foes and solve puzzles! Registration is required.

#### Makerspace: Spooky 3D Doodler Art

Thursday, October 19, 4 p.m.  
For children in grades 1-6

Make some haunting accessories with our 3D doodlers! Registration is required.

#### Chess Club

Saturday, October 21, 11 a.m.  
For children in grades 1-6

Come play chess with Paul Nunez, a member of the Chess Federation for over 30 years! All skill levels are welcome. Registration is required.

#### Halloween Storytime

Thursday, October 26, 6:30 p.m.  
For children and families

Put on your costume and come down to the library for a special nighttime edition of storytime! Registration is required.

### Events For Teens & Adults

#### Block Printing Workshop

Monday, October 2, 7 p.m.  
For adults and students in grades 9-12

Learn to make a basic lino print on paper in this small, hands-on workshop led by Librarian Rebecca Harlow. We'll come up with a design, carve a lino block, and print our designs on paper. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits. Space is limited.

#### 2023 Fall Film: The Woman King

Wednesday, October 4, 1 p.m.

A historical epic inspired by true events that took place in the Kingdom of Dahomey, one of the most powerful states of Africa in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. 2 hr. 15 min. PG-13. Registration is recommended, drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

#### Quilting Club

Wednesdays, October 4,  
November 1, 10 a.m.

The Quilting Club is a monthly meetup of quilters from the CT Piece-makers Guild who work on their quilting projects. Please bring your own supplies. No registration is necessary.

#### Mystery Book Discussion Group

Thursday, October 5, 1 p.m.

Join Librarian Samantha Jasulavic for a discussion of *Velvet Was the Night* by Silvia Morena-Garcia.

#### Teen Craft: Halloween Spell Books

Thursday, October 5, 5:30 p.m.  
For students in grades 7-12

Get spooky with us in October and make a creepy Halloween spell tome craft out of an old book! All materials will be provided. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

#### Crochet Club

Saturdays, October 7, November 4, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
For adults and teens

The Hooked on the Sound Crochet Guild meets monthly to share stitch successes, assist with pattern problems, education, and generally have a great time crocheting. All skill levels are welcome. Bring any crochet project you are working on or one you may need help with. Please bring your own supplies. No registration is necessary.

#### Dungeons & Dragons

Saturday, October 7, 2:30 p.m.  
Thursday, October 12, 5:30 p.m.  
For students in grades 7-12

Dungeons & Dragons is a cooperative, storytelling tabletop roleplaying game where you and other players take

on the roles of different characters within a fantasy story. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits. Please register for only one session per month. This program is generously funded by the Friends of the Library.

#### Cybersafety: Tips for Seniors

Wednesday, October 11, 1 p.m.

Ever dream of moonlighting as a cyber sleuth? Cybercrime affects millions of Americans each year, but all it takes is a keen eye and a bit of know-how to spot an attack. Join Robert Lim, a cybersecurity professional with 20+ years of experience, for an engaging conversation about common scams targeting our elders and basic tips to keep yourself protected. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits. Snacks will be provided.

#### 2023 Fall Film: The Quiet Girl

Wednesday, October 18, 1 p.m.

Rural Ireland 1981. A quiet, neglected girl is sent away from her dysfunctional family to live with foster parents for the summer. She blossoms in their care, but in this house where there are meant to be no secrets, she discovers one. 1 hr. 38 min. PG-13. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

#### Book Boxes

October pickup dates: October 23-28  
For adults and students in grades 7-12

Our free book box service! Each month that you register you will pick up a box containing two books selected by our librarians based on your reading preferences for you to borrow as well as some treats and others surprises for you to keep. Space is limited. Registration is required and begins on the first of each month. Please remember to register and complete a form each month you wish to participate.

#### Adult Murder Mystery Party

Monday, October 23, 7 p.m.

There's been a murder at the roller rink! Who could have done such a terrible thing to a guy who just wanted to dance...or is that really all he wanted? Who knows? Maybe YOU killed him! Light refreshments will be served. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

#### Teen Murder Mystery and Pizza Party

Saturday, October 28, 12 p.m.  
For rising 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders

There's been a murder at the roller rink! Who could have done such a terrible thing to a guy who just wanted to dance...or is that really all he wanted? Who knows? Maybe YOU killed him!

See "Library" On Page 9



“Library” From Page 8

Pizza will be served. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

2023 Fall Film: Glass Onion

Wednesday, November 1, 1 p.m.

Tech billionaire Miles Bron invites his friends for a getaway on his private Greek island. When someone turns up dead, Detective Benoit Blanc is put on the case. 2 hr. 19 min. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

Bookcase Discussion

Thursday, November 9, 7 p.m.

Join Bookcase discussion leader Toby Zabinski for a discussion of Crow Mary by Kathleen Grissom. This discussion will be held on Zoom. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

10 Tips to Manage Stress

Monday, November 13, 7 p.m.

Stress happens to all of us. Up to 90% of all visits to the doctor’s office are stress-related, according to Harvard. Stress can be considered as much a risk factor for disease as smoking. Why can two people be in the same situation and respond to stress differently? Can going through stressful times without stress be a learned skill? Whatever your age or situation, this

presentation will provide 10 tips to manage stress. Everyone will learn a technique to minimize stress and maximize vitality. Registration is recommended, drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

2023 Fall Film: Good Luck to You Leo Grande

Wednesday, November 15, 1 p.m.

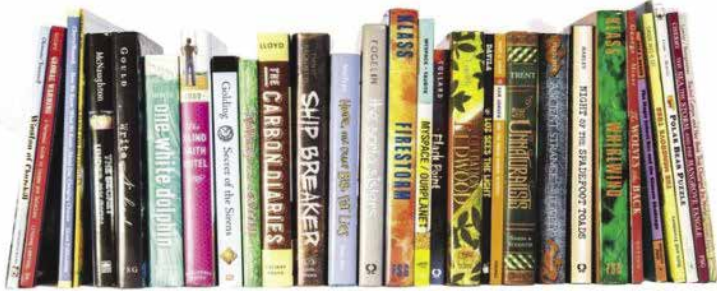
Nancy Stokes, a retired school teacher, is yearning for some adventure, and some sex. And she has a plan, which involves hiring a young sex worker named Leo Grande. 1 hr. 37 min. R. Registration is recommended; drop-ins are welcome if space permits.

Ban This Book! Club

Monday, November 27, 7 p.m.

This month we’re discussing two books! Let’s Talk About It is a graphic nonfiction book that has been formally challenged in at least three public libraries in the LION consortium (of which Case Memorial Library is a member). When Aidan Became a Brother is a picture book that received attention in a letter to the editor that appeared in the Labor Day issue of Orange Town News. Join Librarian Rebecca Harlow and co-leader Elizabeth Ewen as we discuss these books as works of literature as well as an object of censorship. Copies are available at the Circulation Desk. Registration is required.

Friends of the Library  
BOOK SALE



Bargain Basement Book Sale

The Friends of the Case Memorial Library is hosting a Community Book Sale on Saturday, October 14 from 10am-3pm in the Library Basement “bookstore.” This sale is a bargain shoppers’ delight. There are “nearly new” used books, hardcover and paperbacks, CDs and DVDs available for all age groups and interests. Most hardcover books are \$3.00 and softcover books are \$2.00. Some books may be priced slightly higher. CDs and DVDs are priced at 25¢ each. “Last Call” books have been restocked and are available for 25-50¢ each. This sale also features a large selection of ART books. Mark your calendar for the Bargain Basement Book Sale. Come browse the stacks and tables and fill your tote bags with books and other finds. Payment is cash or check, no

credit cards. Book Sales are the Friends’ major fundraiser. Proceeds are used for community programs, featuring musical entertainment, presentations by impersonators and talks on art and historical topics. Funds are also allocated to the Library for special projects and materials. For those interested in donating items, please note: Donated materials should be gently used books, both fiction and non-fiction, hardcover and paperback, books for all ages, puzzles, music CDs and DVDs, are always welcomed and may be left in the crates adjacent to the Copy Machine. The Board of the Friends thanks all of you for your donations since the money we earn allows us to enhance the offerings of the Library.

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# TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES

## Youth Services

BY JESSICA SIMONE, MSW, ORANGE  
YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR



**Drug Take Back Day**

National Drug Take Back Day will be held on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-2:00pm at High Plains Community Center. All unwanted/expired medications will be taken (including liquids and sharps). Volunteers from the National Pharmacy Association will be on site to answer any questions, along with the Orange Police Department, BOWDAAC, and CERT.

**Annual Regional Prevention Meeting**

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Regional Prevention Meeting was held with BOWDAAC, Milford Prevention Council, and the West Haven Prevention Council. A year-in-review was presented, as well as the upcoming goals for this year. In addition, each prevention council honored a volunteer that has gone above and beyond for their council. BOWDAAC selected Ben Aviad, a senior at Amity High School, who serves on the joint BOW/Milford Youth Committee. Ben has shown great passion for the work we do and always has ideas of what projects we could work on next. He was an integral part of our Youth Problem Gambling Video project, helping to create the storyline and understanding how gambling affects youth. He is eager to work on new projects for this school year and we can't thank him enough for volunteering so much of his time. Thank you, Ben!

**Funtober at the Fairgrounds**

FUNTOBER IS BACK!!! It will be held on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00-3:00pm (rain date 10/22 1-3pm). Pre-registered cars will receive a free bag of candy and a raffle ticket to be entered in to win a raffle prize. \*Let's see your decorated car!!!!\* To pre-register type in link or call 203-891-4785: <https://forms.gle/6x8auSrmeARabhKr7>.

Just like last year, we will have Magic by Christopher, DJ entertainment by Hughes Production, Hayrides by Kriz Farm, games/crafts, food/refreshments for sale, and RAFFLE PRIZES for best decorated cars! We hope to see you there!!!

## CLASSIC 16 FOOT HOBIECAT FOR SALE \$1000

**Classic 16 foot Hobiecat & Traylor + Hand Dolly**

Hulls, mast & rudder assembly are sound and in good condition. Sale Includes multi-color mainsale and jib, both of which are crisp and new looking. The hulls could use a fresh coat of lacquer.

The best and most fun beach boat ever made!

Call for photos, Ron 203-799-7017

## From the Fire Marshal



# Fire Prevention Week

The week of October 8-14, 2023 is Fire Prevention Week. Since 1922, this event has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls. It is an opportunity to alert and educate the public on the importance of fire safety and each citizen's role in fire prevention. Originally, it was a one-day event celebrated on October 9, 1911 on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire by the group known today as the International Fire Marshals Association. It is held to commemorate firefighters and to advance fire prevention awareness. The observance was extended to a week in a proclamation by President Calvin Coolidge in 1922 and is the longest-running public health and safety event on record. Every President of the United States, since 1925, has signed a proclamation declaring a national observance during this week. The National Fire Prevention Association, NFPA, is the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week. The 2023 theme is "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention." Almost half of home fires involved cooking equipment. The NFPA suggests the following steps for safe cooking at home. Do not leave cooking equipment unattended as it is the leading cause of home fire injuries and deaths. Clear the cooking area of combustible items, dish towels, oven mitts, paper towels, food packaging or anything that could burn. Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove. In case of a grease fire, keep a pot lid nearby to cover the pan or use salt or baking soda to extinguish the flame. Never pour water onto a grease fire and be sure to turn off the heat. Provide a three-foot "kid and pet free zone" around the stove or any place hot food or beverages are prepared. Avoid falling asleep while cooking. Install a smoke alarm and routinely check the batteries to be sure it is working properly. Plan an escape route that has two ways out in the event of a fire.

In conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, Orange Fire Marshal James Vincent has announced that the 2023 Connecticut Fire Prevention Poster Contest, a statewide competition for fourth and fifth graders has begun. The contest is a cooperative effort of elementary school teachers and the sponsors: Connecticut Fire Marshals Association, Office of The State Fire Marshal, Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association, Connecticut Board of Education, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, and Connecticut FAIR Plan (which represents the insurance industry). The theme is "FIRE PREVENTION- EVERYONE/EVERYDAY". A winning poster will be chosen from each county and that student will receive a cash award of \$150.00. Posters will be exhibited in locations throughout Connecticut, including the State Capitol. From these, one poster will be chosen to be reproduced and distributed as Connecticut's 2023 Fire Prevention Poster. The statewide winner will be awarded an additional \$750.00 and his or her school will receive \$500.00. A luncheon, where the state winner is announced, will be held for county winners, parents, teachers, principals, local fire marshals and other guests. Fire safety education is important as a means of preventing injuries, death and economic loss. The contest brings awareness to children, who are a valuable link in the chain of communication, by taking information home to the family and suggesting ways to reduce damage and prevent fires. The Orange Fire Marshal's Office would like to thank the students, administrators, and teachers from the Peck Place, Race Brook, and Turkey Hill schools for their support and participation.

If you have questions regarding fire safety, please contact The Orange Fire Marshal's Office at (203) 891-4711, Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM or visit the website at [www.orangefiremarshal.com](http://www.orangefiremarshal.com).



### DOLLS, DOLLS AND MORE DOLLS

Doll Sale at the Academy Sept 30  
from 10-3 at 605 Orange Center Road

Highlighting the Madame Alexander  
President's Wives Collection



# Shredding Day and Recycling Event

On Saturday, October 7, 2023, the Orange Recycling Committee will hold another “Shredding Day” which will include Document Shredding AND Clothing, and Household Goods Collection, ALL at High Plains Community Center.

Paper and personal document shredding will be conducted by Orange business Affordable Solutions, LLC, and is for residential files only and is not intended for businesses. This service is generously funded by the Rotary Club of Orange. Residents may show their appreciation by donating to the Orange Rotary Scholarship Fund, where Rotarians will be on hand to collect donations. Paper will be accepted from 9AM-12PM.

The Orange Community Women will be collecting clothing and household goods under the upper pavilion. Soft items, including clothing, shoes, accessories, stuffed animals, pocket-books, sheets, blankets, curtains, towels and other household textiles should be bagged in kitchen-size garbage bags.

Hard items, including toys, dishes, small appliances, sporting goods, household décor, DVDs, CDs, VHS tapes and knick-knacks should be boxed with books boxed separately. The Orange Community Women will accept items from 9AM-11AM only.

Finally, the Buy Nothing Orange group will be under the pavilion, as well, where anyone can bring and/or take items. This is an excellent way to release household items that may make it to a new home, or find some items that you can use at no cost. This wonderful “re-use” event will be held from 9AM-11AM only.


Unfortunately, due to a scheduling conflict, mattresses and box springs WILL NOT be collected at this event, though it is hoped that they will be included again during the spring.

**WHEN and WHERE:** Saturday, October 7, 2023, at High Plains Community Center on Orange Center Road.

**BRING:**

- › Personal tax papers, bills, receipts, statements, and documents that contain personal, financial and/or medical information;
- › Clothing, shoes, accessories, sheets, blankets, towels, stuffed animals, and other household textiles should be bagged, Toys, dishes, small appliances, sporting goods, household décor, DVDs.

*For more information, visit [orangerecycles.com](http://orangerecycles.com) or follow [facebook.com/ORCinCT](https://facebook.com/ORCinCT).*



The Orange Visiting Nurse Association  
(203) 891-4752

## Flu Vaccine Clinics

SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2023  
OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2023  
OCTOBER 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2023  
NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>. 2023

11 AM – 1 PM

### HIGH PLAINS COMMUNITY CENTER – PROBATE COURT OFFICE

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# HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

## Document Shredding Event at Temple Beth Sholom

**Date:** October 29, 2023  
**Time:** 9am-12pm  
**Location:** Temple Beth Sholom, 1809 Whitney Avenue, Hamden (in the parking lot)  
**Cost:**  
› Small Copy Boxes (18 x 12 x 12 inches or smaller) - \$10 per box  
› Large Banker Boxes (18 x 18 x 24 inches or larger) - \$20 per box  
**Also Available:**  
› Hard Drive Destruction & Computer Recycling - \$20 each  
› CRT Computer Monitors - \$20 each  
› Hard Drive Only - \$10 each

All items should be in a box that can easily be picked up. Paper items only. No trash bags, paper bags, etc. No trash or non-paper items. No CDs, X-Rays, etc. Paper clips and staples CAN be shredded. On-site shredding truck provided by Affordable Solutions, LLC. Questions? Email fundraising@tbshamden.com.  
Come early! Once the truck is full the event is over!

*Temple Beth Sholom is an egalitarian conservative synagogue with over 350 member families and singles from the Greater New Haven community.*

## Outdoor Rosary

The Holy Infant Women's Guild is having an outdoor rosary on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am. It will be held in front of the statue of Mary on the church's front lawn. This is in honor of the anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima and for all the intentions Our Lady asked us to pray for. Please bring a lawn chair and park in the lot on the side of the church. If it rains, we will still hold the rosary in the lower level of the school and you can park in the lot by the school.

The Women's Guild is having a family Pizza Truck night on Sunday, October 15 from 6pm until 8pm. The pizza truck will be outside the school and the gymnasium will be set up for dining. The cost is \$30 per adult, \$20 per child (6-15 years old) and free for children



Holy Infant Church

under 5. Price includes all you can eat stuffed bread, pasta, pizza, tossed salad, dessert, and beverages. Reservations can be made with payment by calling the Rectory Office, (203)799-2379, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 to 1:30. All reservations must be received by October 9<sup>th</sup>. No walk-ins will be allowed the day of the event.

## Congregation Or Shalom Happenings

**Staying Connected**  
Attend religious services and most other events in person or by Zoom.  
To register for a Zoom link, please see the information below.

**Join Us For Weekly Services Morning Minyan**  
› Sunday 9:00 AM – In person and Zoom'd  
› Monday 8:30 AM – Zoom'd  
› Thursday 8:30 AM – Zoom'd

**Shabbat Services**  
› Friday 7:30 PM – In person and Zoom'd  
› Saturday 9:30 AM – In person and Zoom'd  
Please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 or email coshalom@sbcglobal.net for more information).

**Sukkot Services**  
› Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, Erev Sukkot 7:00 pm  
› Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Sukkot 9:30 am & 7:00 pm  
› Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, Second Day of Sukkot 9:30 am  
› Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, Erev Shemini Atzeret, 7:00 pm  
› Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Shemini Atzeret, 9:30 am (Yizkor @approx 10:30 am)  
› Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Simchat Torah, 7:00 pm  
› Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, Simchat Torah, 9:30 am

**Virtual Learning This Month**  
**Congregations of Orange Collaborative Book Club**  
Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm on Zoom  
**The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew**  
**Three Women Search for Understanding.**  
By Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, Priscilla Warner

Books are chosen on a rotating basis by the congregations in our collaborative. Open your hearts and minds join our discussion. Please contact Stephanie at stephaniellarson@gmail.com to register.



Congregation Or Shalom

**Congregation Or Shalom Book Discussion**  
Thursday October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
**Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano**  
Discussion led by Caryl Winter  
**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**  
• **OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB PICK**

From the author of Dear Edward comes a "powerfully affecting" (People) family story that asks: Can love make a broken person whole? William Waters grew up in a house silenced by tragedy, where his parents could hardly bear to look at him, much less love him—so when he meets the spirited and ambitious Julia Padavano in his freshman year of college, it's as if the world has lit up around him. With Julia comes her family, as she and her three sisters are inseparable: Sylvie, the family's dreamer, is happiest with her nose in a book; Cecelia is a free-spirited artist; and Emeline patiently takes care of them all. With the Padavanos, William experiences a newfound contentment; every moment in their house is filled with loving chaos.

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# HISTORY CORNER

BY GINNY REINHARD

# Are They Still Important...?



Yes, they are. Dolls have been a source of “play” and ceremony from very early history. The earliest doll was a spirit being used in magic and religious rituals throughout the world. The earliest “doll” goes back to ancient civilizations of Egypt, Greece and Rome. The earliest use of a doll as a toy can be traced to Greece around 100 AD. They were crude in some cases and elaborate in others. Dolls were made from available materials such as clay, stone, wood, bone, ivory, leather and wax being documented as the oldest known toy.

Like children today, dolls were dressed according to what was seen around them, their parents, grandparents and leaders of their village or town. Dolls have been used for education, carriers of cultural heritage, laden with magical powers, entertainment and of course the voodoo doll that held special powers. Voodoo in America is still actively practiced and its capital in New Orleans, Louisiana, known as Mississippi Valley Voodoo. Its spiritual beliefs and practices developed from the traditions of the early African people brought to Louisiana. It's the spirits that enter into the lives of its believers through dances, music and chanting.

There was, at one time, the craze for the kitchen witch doll, dressed in the stereotypical outfit and hung in the kitchen for the 20<sup>th</sup> century housewife...hmm. I wonder where mine is. Closer to home is the Hopi Kachina doll made of cottonwood that embodied the characteristics of the ceremonial Kachina, the masked spirits of the Hopi Native American tribes in north-west America. For the Inuit peoples, the “dolls” were dressed in clothing that would take them through the cold winters while those of the Incas were dressed in maize. Cornhusk dolls are a traditional Native American doll made of dried corn husks. These dolls did not have faces as they represented nature and spirits of the Native Americans’ beliefs. The making of cornhusk dolls was adopted by the early European settlers in the colonies.

Wood was the predominant material for dolls until the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> cen-




tury when it was combined with other materials such as leather with the bodies made more articulate. It is unknown when glass eyes first appeared but brown was the color of choice until the Victorian era when blue eyes became popular, inspired by Queen Victoria. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century dolls' heads were often made of porcelain and combined with a composite material known as composition, a mix of wood pulp, sawdust and glue. These were then painted with a light pink color. They were dressed in appropriate dresses, wigs, underwear and a hat...gotta have that hat.

Doll collectors of today are quick to correct the terms bisque, porcelain and china for as they are not the same. A china doll has a glazed porcelain head and a bisque doll is made of unglazed bisque porcelain. A true china doll has a white head with molded hair which is painted with the appropriate hair color and a body of cloth or leather being popular between 1840 and 1890. A Parian doll's head is made of white porcelain but not dipped in glaze but left with a matte finish having their popularity between 1860 and 1880. Bisque doll's faces are characterized by their realistic skin-like matte finish with their peak popularity between 1850 and 1900.

The dolls most often collected are those from France and Germany with some doll maker's dolls commanding very high prices. The makers would mark the back of the neck with their signature or lettering noting the type of doll, its size and, of course, the mak-



er himself. Initially dolls were made to resemble adults and you can see that in the French dolls but by the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the dolls took on more childlike features. I explained to one little girl, at our Stone-Otis house, that dolls were made for little girls to be like a friend and to look like them. Yes, there are dolls whose eyes wander after many years of play but they should still be enjoyed regardless of their imperfections.



No one can forget the lovable Raggedy Ann and her brother Andy, a soft, huggable doll pair first introduced by Johnny Gruelle in 1918. The stories were geared to loving, caring and responsibility to each other and others as their adventures, in the many, many books he wrote, that took them on adventures far and wide. Each story had a message of kindness. These dolls were reproduced by several manufacturers with only one being sued for infringement of his copyright. Not many dolls have had stories written about them but these two have adventures in The Deep, Deep Woods, with The Camel with the Wrinkled Knees, The Golden Ring, The Wonderful Witch and a host of others. Gruelle and his family lived in Norwalk where his books were written and his creation of Raggedy Ann that some say came out of a rag doll he found in his attic.

The American Girl doll, created in 1986 is still going strong with its October 4<sup>th</sup> reveal of next year's girl. This doll portrays girls between the ages of 8 and 11 with a variety of ethnic back-



grounds starting with Kaya, a Native American girl. Each historical character brings their past to life with lessons of love, friendship and courage. Pleasant Rowland, the creator of the American Girl, felt that there was a gap in the doll market in the 1980s. Dolls were newborns which young girls could nurture as its “parent” and the Barbie was geared to the older girl aspiring to celebrity.

The history of each of the American line gives the girls an opportunity to learn more about them, related to their time period and seek to go further into history. The marketplace offers books for each doll and craft books as well. For me, I like the 19<sup>th</sup> century girls, the already loved dolls, some with crossed eyes, flaking paint, sun-drenched clothes and very, untidy wigs.

In 1923, Madame Bertha Alexander, then 28, founded the Alexander Doll Company with the dolls originally made of cloth and then in the composite material. After WW II, hard plastic entered the Alexander doll world with her series of President's wives coming out in 1976 starting with Martha Washington. There are 38 in all, having been ended upon the death of Madame Alexander. Each of the dolls is a replica as closely as could be with replica inaugural gowns. This doll is so special that the entire collection was on display at the LBJ Library in Texas.

Needless to say, we can't leave out the Cabbage Patch doll. By the end of 1983 almost 3 million of these dolls were "adopted" and it has been said that this doll was the most successful doll introduction in doll history. Wow... that says something about the entrepreneur, Xavier Roberts. In 1985, one red-headed little guy went into outer space on a shuttle and in 2000 a little girl was depicted on a 33-cent stamp! The doll company is still in business as I checked out its website. So, did I make a good case for dolls and doll collecting? I hope so.

If you read this article after September 30<sup>th</sup> you have missed our doll sale at the Academy, 605 Orange Center Road, but come any Saturday from 10-3 and we will have a portion of the collection available for sale through the holidays.



“Election Season” From Page 1

Running for re-election on the Democratic ticket are Susan Riccio and Betty Hadlock, and newcomer Ralph Marguy, a fire inspector at Yale University.

As for the Orange delegation to the Amity Board of Education, it looks like it will see a large turnover, as neither Christopher Browe nor Amy Tirollo or Shannan Carlson are seeking re-election. The Republican candidates include Cathy Bradley, who comes with a long list of public service positions, including the Orange Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors; Michael McDonough, a property management business owner; and Dana Lombardi, a Yale University financial assistant.

On the Democratic ticket is incumbent and board Chairman Paul Davis, along with Social Studies teacher Josh Orlinsky, writer Ken Briodagh and Jennifer Jacquet, director of Operations at Safe from Online Sex Abuse, a non-profit.

Running for constables are Republicans Gary Palermo, Jody Daymon, Glen Pappleo and Michael Donadeo. For the Democrats, it’s Jody Dietch, Santo Galatioto, Jr and Randy Thomas.

For the Zoning Board, Republicans Tom Torrenti and Judy Smith are seeking re-election. They are being challenged by two attorneys, Scott Rogalski and Ken Lenz. In addition, incumbent Paul Kaplan is running for re-election, but his term is offset from that of the other candidates, with his current term not up for re-election until next year.

Running on the Record

Zeoli and his Republican team can point to a long list of accomplishments, first and foremost the preservation of open space. “Prudent open space acquisition...like Ewen Farm, Orange Fairground, and the Hubbell property have helped to maintain Orange’s rural climate that we all love and helps to keep Orange green,” it states on the Republican Town Committee website. Add to that the Racebrook Country Club property, which the town decided to purchase about two years ago in order to prevent large-scale development.

Most recently, construction wrapped up at the inclusive playground at Fred Wolfe Park. Grand opening or soft opening, the kids couldn’t wait to take possession of their newest play-space, and, according to Zeoli, it has been enthusiastically embraced. Some aspects of the playground project are yet to be added, such as shade trees, picnic tables, benches and such.

Hand in hand with open space preservation, Zeoli also likes to point out commercial successes that were negotiated, such as the FedEx Freight Distribution Center, Hilton Homewood Suites, and the V.A. Care Center that moved into Orange. Most recently,

the Firelite Shopping Plaza was turned into a mixed-use apartment complex with retail at the ground floor. It is developments such as these that will revitalize the commercial area.

Zeoli is proud of the business-friendly reputation the town has built. “Orange’s light is shining bright at the moment,” he is quoted on the party website. “We have put in a lot of hard work and effort over the last several years to prepare the industrial zone for this level of development. With continued support from our team, which includes the Orange Economic Development Corporation and our local commercial Realtors we expect to maintain this momentum through the long term.”

The housing market has also expanded considerably in recent years, adding more housing opportunities for area residents. Several housing projects have come to fruition, all in close proximity to the Boston Post Road, for different target audiences. In addition to the Firelite Plaza project, another development with affordable units is going up just up the road; and the Beecher Walk condos for those 55 and older are now fully built out. On the other side of the Indian River Road, The Vero recently opened its doors, and is offering senior living solutions and assisted living facilities.

On the Republican website, the Town Committee also expresses support for the public schools – both the elementary and the Amity system. However, the relationship between the Amity leadership and the Orange Board of Finance has been fraught with tension in recent years. In fact, the Amity budget failed to pass at referendum after the vice chairman of the Orange Board of Finance published a series of articles criticizing the Amity surplus.

It is notable that long-time Amity High School Principal Anna Mahon — who is now assistant superintendent in Brookfield — is running, not for the Board of Education, but for a spot on the Orange Board of Finance. If elected, she could presumably help build bridges between the schools and Town Hall.

Challenger Mark Moyher

Zeoli’s challenger, Democrat Mark Moyher, meanwhile has been busy introducing himself to the voters of the town. He has gone door-to-door, talking to nearly 1,200 residents, he said. “I am getting feedback through these conversations, I hear what people want,” he said in a phone conversation. The number one concern is taxes, he said.

Mark Moyher’s background is in the financial industry, where he currently is head of trading at Wright’s Investors Service, and has lived in Orange for over 25 years. Both he and his wife Ilene serve on the town’s Recycling

Committee. At the time of our conversation, he had just come from a weekend spent at the Orange Country Fair, splitting his time at the Recycling booth and the Democratic Town Committee booth. He is also planning to help out at the upcoming Shredding Day event on Saturday, October 7.

If elected, he would make an effort to provide more transparency in government, which he finds sorely lacking under the current leadership. (Moyher mentioned Fred Wolfe Park playground as being a prime example for that lack of communication and openness. People were confused about whether the playground was open.)

As first selectman, he would make himself “as available as necessary,” even after hours, for people who are looking for information. When elected, he would leave his current job at Wright’s Investor Service, he said, to be able to devote himself full-time to the town’s business.

He talked about the need for more attention to infrastructure improvements, in particular the roads, but also High Plains Community Center, and the school buildings. He expressed dismay that Orange kids were sent home early in September due to the heat, while their counterparts in Bethany and Woodbridge had air conditioned schools.

He thinks that monies for such projects may be available through grants, which would allow the town to do things without raising taxes. Besides

which, the town’s fund balance of some 19% is too high in his opinion. “We are overtaxing people,” he said. Even with a fund balance of 8-10% of its budget, the town would keep its triple A bond rating. His campaign slogan for this election, “More with Moyher” is reflective of his intention of doing more without raising taxes, he said.

Absentee Voting

Eligible voters who are either out of town on November 7 or can’t vote in person for any reason need to apply for an absentee ballot ahead of time, said Town Clerk Mary Shaw. Her office will start sending out ballots to voters who requested one on October 6. The clerk’s office will be communicating with the Registrars of Voters to make sure that the names of those who received a ballot will be checked off.

Those who vote absentee can return their ballot either by mail (if received by 8 p.m. on Election Day), by dropping them in the ballot box outside Town Hall; or by delivering them to the clerk’s office. For questions, call the clerk’s office at Town Hall, (203) 891-4730.

In-person Voting

In-person voting will take place at High Plains Community Center, for all three voting districts. Even though the ballot is the same for all, voters will be directed to their specific district, based on their address. Hours are from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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