

MARB has final say on budget

While the City Council looks over the mayor's proposed \$162.86 million budget, its work is under the final scrutiny of the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB), which has the power to veto the work the council completes on May 3. Empaneled when the city bonded to liquidate its \$16.8 million operating deficit, MARB is making sure the city

makes "structural changes" to the way it budgets, and the way it gauges revenue.

At issue is an \$8 million grant that would plug a gap that was caused when the General Assembly failed to pass a budget until the fall of 2017. An expected combination of revenue never materialized, putting the city further into the red. The problem can

be eliminated with the state grant this year and next, but there are strings attached.

"The challenge for the City Council is to make significant changes to a budget that is lean to begin with. The MARB's expectations is that we need to bring our structural deficit (approximately \$9.3 million) into balance over the next 3-5 years," said City

Council chairman Ron Quagliani (D-atlarge) this week. "(That) would require us to start closing the hole this year by \$2-\$3 million, all while continuing to provide appropriate services to our community."

Time is not on the side of the council. By charter it must pass a budget ordinance by the first Thursday in May, this year May 3. But the charter also requires a nine-vote supermajority of the 13 members to pass any revision of the budget as proposed by Mayor Nancy Rossi.

Currently, the council is in the strict review process, according to Quagliani.

"We are currently meeting with department heads to review their individual budgets. The council has set aside May 2 and May 3 for deliberations. Nine votes are required for each change to the mayor's budget," he said.

Another dictum by the MARB is that the city not structure its new package so that the entire state grant be expected, according to Quagliani.

"The MARB has been very clear that it wants to see significant structural changes to the Mayor's Recommended Budget that will reduce the reliance on restructuring funds," Quagliani said. "The MARB stated in its April 19 letter that 'the FY2019 budget should contain actions as are

necessary to limit the need for restructuring funds to \$6.0 million, or \$7.0 million provided that the budget makes adequate accommodation of the anticipated deficit for FY2017.' That would require the Council to fill a \$2 - \$3 million gap in the Mayor's Recommended Budget."

The council and the city are not acting blindly, according to the council chairman.

"The MARB has sent guidance and a list of expectations and action items to the mayor, superintendent, and me as chairman of the council that I disseminated to all Council members," he said.

Getting the nine votes necessary to make a revision to the budget has been a tough road for past councils. If the changes are not made, MARB has the final word.

"The MARB has authority to reject the budget and has stated that they would if substantial changes are not made. I am talking with the MARB liaison on how this would be handled on a procedural basis should the MARB reject our adopted budget and require additional changes," Quagliani said.

There has been talk of alterations after the budget is authorized, and even of a supplemental tax by the MARB itself. Quagliani said it's too early in the process to even contem-

See Budget, page 9



Photo by Russ McCreven

Thanks, UNH

Students from the University of New Haven chip-in and help with the annual clean-up drive along the shore line Sunday morning. This was the second weekend in the last month where students from the school helped in cleaning up the city.

Photo by Diane Dietman

Little Picassos

Participants of the Department of Parks and Recreation's "painting party" program create works of art during school vacation April 18 at Park-Rec's Painter Park office. Painting supplies were provided for the budding artists — 20 in all, ages 5 and older — by Picasso Parties, 944 Ocean Ave.



Ava Leonard a first grader at Pagels sees some great mid-spring weather coming our way today.



INDEX

Around Town.....	8,14	Sports.....	11-13
City News.....	2-5, 7	Classified.....	14,15
Editorial.....	6	Puzzles.....	15
Dear Felicia.....	4	Gripe Vine.....	5

The Day the Flying Horses came
See page 10

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Stewart's opens state's first

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi cuts the ribbon Monday with Stewart's All American President Jim LaGanke, third from right, to celebrate the ceremonial opening of Stewart's All-American Grill at 340 Sawmill Road. Joining them are, from front left, Ben LeFebvre, Stewart's manager of technological operations; property owner Lorraine Tartaglia of Tartaglia Commercial Properties; state Rep. Charles J. Ferraro; city Planning and Development Commissioner Fred A. Messor; property owner Isabel Tartaglia; Bill Rose, director of business development; Councilwoman Tracy A. Morrissey; and Gerry Pelissier, Stewart's vice president of franchise development and marketing.

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This year, we're incredibly excited to have a paddle raise that will benefit the Forest Elementary School playground project. Forest Elementary is in desperate need of a new playground system. Students currently play on an asphalt area during recess. Donations made during the paddle raise will immediately impact the playground project. Proceeds from this auction help fund a number of service projects the club oversees: winter coat project, student-of-the-month awards, scholarships, grammar school dictionary project, and veteran support to name a few.

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To purchase tickets,
please contact: **Abby Goldblatt**
(abby.goldblatt@yale.edu).



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Dear Felicia

The cherry and apple blossoms – and whatever else blossoms there might be around here – are sprouting despite the cold we’ve had in these parts, honey bunch. That means that despite our lying eyes and cold hands, spring is actually here! The trees on the Green are blossoming as are the trees on the Avenue, and it looks like leave shoots will be seen any day now. If only the warm weather will come permanently....

Around these parts, things are percolating as usual. We hear-tell that Vin Landisio the former New Haven and North Haven fire chieftain, who came to our fair city after his retirement has left the friendly confines of Allingtown to go back as fire marshal in West Shore. This has a few people in a fluster as the West Haven Fire Dept. – Allingtown has been a problem of sorts over the last year or so, and not cuz of Landisio’s doings.

Sammy Bluejay was over

when the announcement was made, and whilst he didn’t have any definite info regarding Landisio’s departure other than the “personal reasons” that were given, the atmosphere around the way the department has been politicized may be part o’ the scenario. Once yew git the politicos in this town involved in anything, and given the way the ruling party is divided, one gits the sensation that politics in some form or t’other might have something to do with it.

Landisio ain’t from here, but he probably got a good dose of the behind-the-scenes stuff that has turned the stomachs of many a persona when they come into town. We’ll have more info as we git it.

Interesting. As we talked about last week, Ed Granfield got the chairmanship of the Charter Revision Commish mostly cuz of the factionalism in the Democratic Party and the fact they couldn’t agree on which way to go down

a one-way street. Well, effen the party thinks it’ll be able to have undue influence on the panel, Iva Lookey sez that Granfield has politely told the politicos to keep their distance.

That was clear in his statements to the press follying his election as chairman. Sweetie pie, he knows that their gonna wanna git their oars in as far as ideas, but he’s gonna stop any pressure that the local yokels might wanna put on the members.

Effen yew remember the last two charter revision attempts – the last being ten years ago – were rife with the powers that be trying to influence things. It got to the point that a lotta good stuff that was gonna be proposed never even got outta committee cuz the politicos didn’t wanna upset their apple cart.

Granfield has served fair warning that he’s intent on naming names effen anyone tries to peddle their political wares before the committee’s members and attempt to pressure votes. Let’s hope that happens. There are some good ideas being passed around for charter revisions, but ideas hafta make it to the floor and be discussed and voted on. Too often in the past, these things were never even brought out.

Cobina is glad to see that Nick’s Luncheonette, a popular eatery around these parts, is able to git into the old Pizza Hut location on Sawmill Road. That’s good for Nick and his customers and good for the

fact it occupies a building on a major thoroughfare. He’s leaving his famous locations, of course, because of the Haven project, which is looking to demolish the block of houses on First Avenue.

We’re being told the proejck is alive and well and ready to go. There are people who still have their doubts, and goodness knows whilst they want the thing to be true, until the construction starts, doubters are gonna be doubting. It’s jest the way things are, given the history of our fair city.

Effen Nick’s is going, one would expeck that the gas stations along El-em Street will be the next to be seeing the wrecking ball, though the legal status of that situation is still a bit unknown. We’ll see when it happens, I guess.

Nelly Nuthatch was over t’other afternoon, and she’s hoping some major queries are gonna be answered concerning the budget, the Municipal Accountability Review Board, the City Council, and herroner. To say that there are mixed signals is not to tetch on the problems.

The budget was presented to the council. The MARB supposedly saw the thing before it was presented, the council is now reviewing it, but herroner wants to make more cuts or have the council make more cuts. Add to this the MARB statements concerning “sup-

plemental” taxes, “structural changes” and it dangling \$8 million on a stick effen it don’t git its way, we’re all wondering howinell this is all gonna work.

Does the council hafta pass the budget then make changes? Does the mayor hafta make changes? Is the budget process all in limbo regardless cuz the MARB supercedes the charter? There are a lotta questions surrounding how all this is gonna take place, and some of the queries are coming from the council itself. Effen the MARB is gonna do its own changes on the budget in the form of forcing a supplemental levy or changes to what can be spent, why go through this six-week review?

The logistics of the situation we’re in have some people confused, including yores truly. Effen somebody has an explanation, we wish they would let us in on it.

Whilst all that is going on, the wag came in and pernted out that the General Assembly seems to be repeating the mistakes of last year, and can’t come to terms on how to put together the state’s budget. Effen yew’ve got the feeling we’ve all been here before, you ain’t wrong.

Last year, cuz the General Assembly bickered over money we didn’t have for more than six months, the budget wasn’t finalized until late summer. Cities and town didn’t git the money they were told – including our little corner of the universe, and budgets were overhauled – at least in those bergs where they had the money to do the overhauling.

It looks like we’re gonna be in that merry-go-round again, and these aren’t the types of circles that most people want to be in. We shall see.

Meanwhile, the wag pernted out that the State Bonding Commish met recently, and, once again, approved every request for bond with no discussion. I don’t wanna seem crude, but in a state that don’t have a pot nor a window, how in blazes do we bond for all these millions and millions. We’re gonna be in debt until Dooms Day, it seems and nobody seems to care.

It’s all Monopoly money to these people, sweetie. That’s the only thing that makes any sense.

Over at the high school, Iva Lookey tells me that the courtyard is being ripped up cuz that’s where the new entrance to the building is gonna be located once finished. The parking lot is gonna be a nightmare over the next few months.

With that bit o’ chatter, I’ll close this time till next, mitt luff und kizzez,

Cobina

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Gripevine

By Eleanore Turkington

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I've kept track of the trucks traveling on Voss Road for a while now. I wish I had a picture of at least one truck. But, they are traveling too fast for me to capture them. Mostly, the same white truck has been going through the "No trucks allowed" street sign.

Rather annoying when it's rumbling up or down the street. I'm sure the damage is small to the homes but, over time, I bet there's damage to our foundations. It was worse before the city paved the street. I know, it's not easy to stop this as the times vary so much. I just hope this could stop. I understand, an occasional truck gets misdirected or has some problem navigating the streets, but, I've seen the same trucks keep cutting through. As always, thank you for being there for the people of West Haven.

RD

Dear RD:

I have submitted your numerous truck gripe to Lewis Esposito, Mayoral Executive Assistant. I also received your detailed records of identified trucks and will be ready to submit this report to the city if requested.

Please be sure to let me know if you see police surveillance on Voss Road within the next week or two or not and I will follow a second request with this list of offenders.

Gripe Vine Readers:

I received a request to look into a situation on Savin Rock Avenue relating to maps, walks, etc. I need more details. Please email gripevine4w@aol.com or drop me a more detailed request to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 666 Savin Ave.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There is a tree planted on



TURKINGTON

the corner of Laurel Street and Soundview that obstructs the view of oncoming cars. Has this tree been removed or cut back in order to alleviate a potential danger?

Wondering

Dear Wondering:

The city's Executive Mayoral Assistant, Lewis Esposito had received your complaint and has informed Gripe Vine he is investigating this gripe. Watch for his complete response on this issue in my next column.

Coming up: broken vehicle parked on Winslow Drive... No Parking sign to be replaced near Seaview Avenue...pot-holes on Dee Street...leaf truck pickups too early for reader.. loose rubbish left on Mix Avenue..readers seeking uniform trash and recycle bins for West Haven...Dogwood Road pot holes and city's stand on snow blowing from private property onto city streets and much more.

If you have a gripe, comment or suggestion, write to gripevine4wh@aol.com or drop me a note at Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 666 Savin Ave. Please include your name, address and phone number. This information is kept in the strictest confidence with me.

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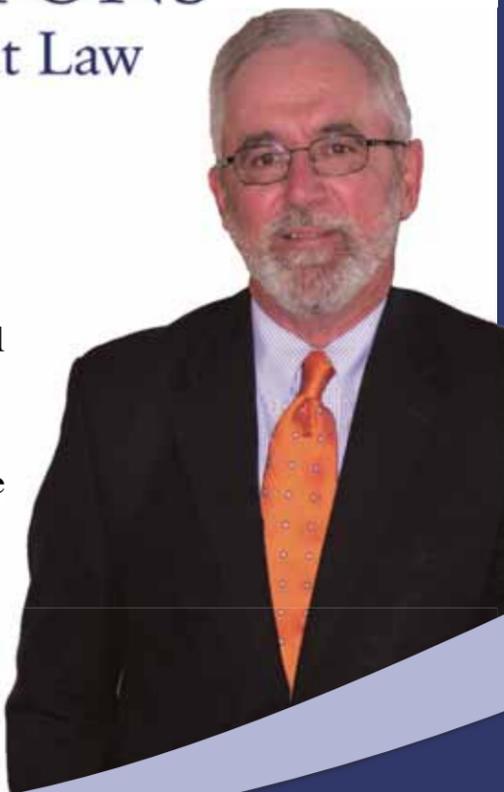
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If you need more writing space, complete your gripe on a separate piece of paper and submit with this form. Your identity will be kept confidential with Eleanore Turkington, Gripe Vine Columnist. You can also email your gripe to gripevine4wh@aol.com



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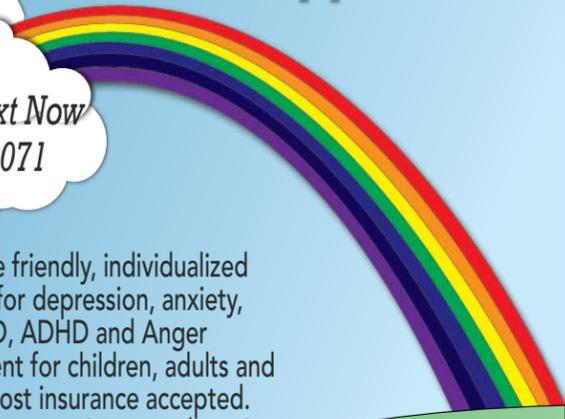


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With no good solutions, taxpayers will feel pain

In her recent meeting with the Municipal Accountability Review Board, Mayor Nancy Rossi sat in front of a panel that was neither sympathetic nor interested in nuance. If the city administration wants the \$8 million in state aid that was not forthcoming after last year's state budget it is looking for one of two things: broader cuts to eliminate the need for the \$8 million, and/or "new revenue" to offset the aid. In other words, MARB is expecting the mayor and her administration to raise taxes.

The city included the \$8 million in its current budget, passed in May of 2017 and in effect on July 1, 2017. This budget is effective until June 30. The shortfall occurred when the General Assembly spent most of the spring and all of the summer attempting to come up with a state budget.

Each year the state alerts the 169 towns and cities the amount of money it could expect in various state aid packages. West Haven was told prior to the proposed budget of Mayor Edward M O'Brien in 2017 to expect \$12. O'Brien thought it prudent to only include two-thirds of that amount, thus the \$8 million.

As it turned out, the state was in no shape to hand out even that amount of money, and the budget has a built in shortfall because of it.

In a separate track, the city had a 12-year-old operating deficit that was increased over the four-year term of O'Brien as estimated revenues never equaled real expenditures. The \$10 million-plus deficit that had contracted and increased over the years ballooned to more than \$16 million.

O'Brien had always planned to pay off the deficit by means of bonding, but was unable to do that until his final year in office. In the meantime, the General Assembly passed a statute that put cities that bond for deficit reduction under the newly-constructed MARB.

The General Assembly's imposing into West Haven's finances was unknown - or unclear - until the ink was dry on the bonds that brought \$25 million into the coffers for deficit reduction and some infrastructure repairs.

Rossi had her first meeting with MARB within 48 hours of her inauguration, and has since met with it each month. She put the \$162.86 million package before MARB before she presented it to the City Council in March. MARB controls the \$8 million infusion of cash the city can receive—and is expecting -- but wants to see "structural changes" both to the expenditures and the revenue.

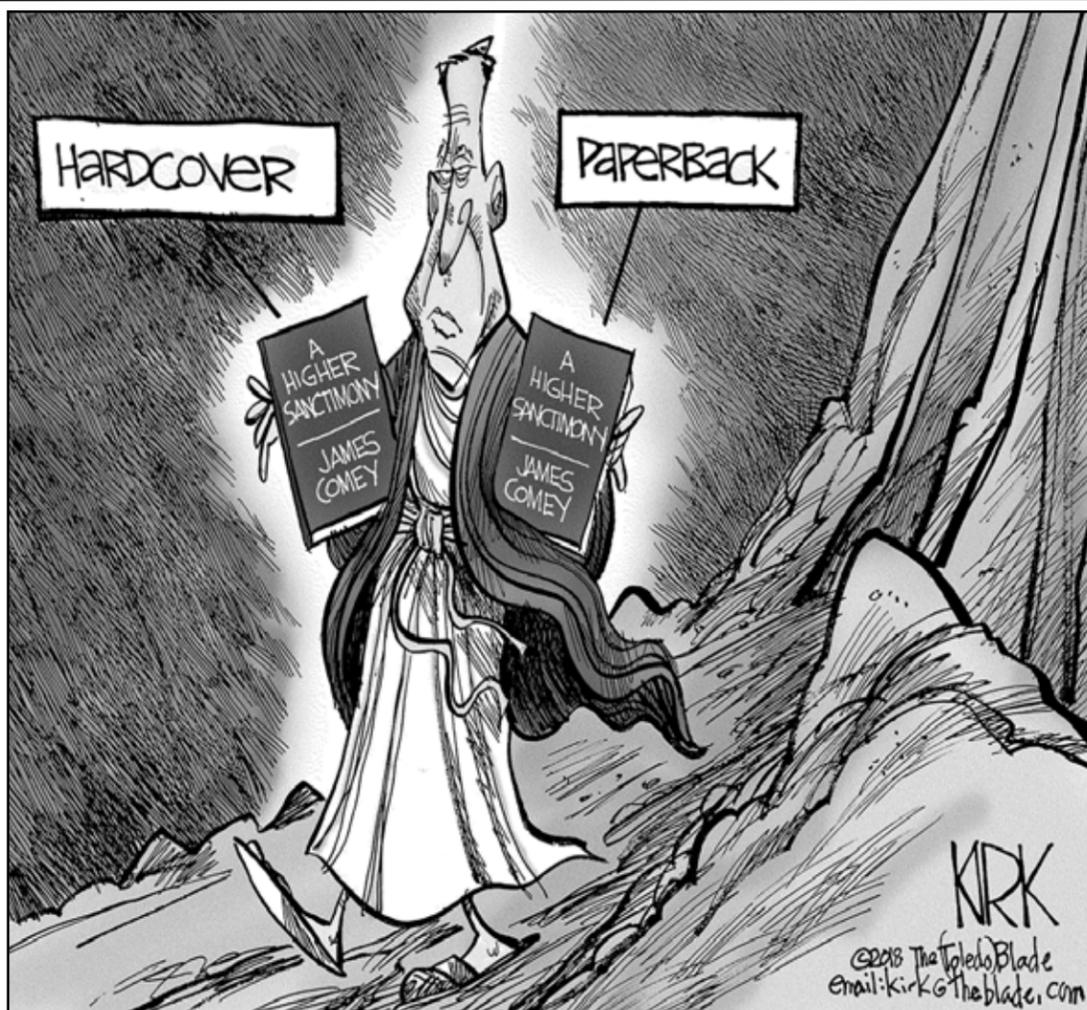
In brief terms, the panel wants the city to cut expenses and raise taxes.

The mayor is looking to make broader cuts to comply with the diktat, but the budget is now in the hands of the City Council for its six-week review. Any cuts would have to be made under charter, which requires a nine-vote supermajority for alterations on line-items on the 13-member council. This has been a hurdle too high for various councils over the years. This supermajority is also needed to raise the mill rate, which currently is the same as currently, 37.

The panel dangled the \$8 million before the mayor at its recent meeting, saying if it didn't get the "structural changes" it desired, the city would not get the money. The problem is simple, the \$8 million for FY 2019 and possibility for FY 2020, will only fill a gap. The city must find a way to replace the money, or be faced with a similar shortfall two years hence.

The members of the state panel have given no real options. The city must either find a way to replace the \$8 million or make newer cuts. The only way to replace the \$8 million would be a tax hike either by the City Council or in the form of a supplemental tax increase. That increase would then be included in the next budget cycle for FY 2020.

Making further cuts will be painful, and raising taxes will be devastating. West Haven is bleeding residents now, and further increases will turn that flow into a deluge. The council and the mayor have a problem with no good solutions. The residents and taxpayers are in for more pain.



Comey did it for the children

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

James Comey did it, naturally, for the children.

Why does anyone in Washington take advantage of the most opportune moment to make a mint off publishing a tell-all book? It's never for the profits or the sheer satisfaction of sticking it to your enemies and putting yourself in the best possible light. No, there's always some ostensible higher cause. For the former FBI director, it's demonstrating, through his own sterling example, what ethical leadership is, "especially to young people."

That the nation's youth will be riveted to their TV screens in coming weeks, watching Comey's exquisitely thoughtful gymnastics of self-justification, and conclude that this is how to conduct themselves when they inherit the baton of the country's leadership seems extremely unlikely.

James Comey has managed the seemingly impossible. The former FBI director is locked in a death struggle with an unpopular president who makes even his allies cringe with his belittling nicknames, foolish threats and strange view of the presidency -- and somehow it is Comey who is coming away as the unlikable one.

That's because no one likes a prig, especially when he has an ax to grind. Comey has good reason to disdain Donald Trump, who fired him in humiliating circumstances and whose warped view of the Justice Department as an institution for the protection of the president is rightly anathema

to him. Comey is just the latest of Trump's adversaries, though, who are diminished by the president dragging them down to his level and exposing their weaknesses.

Every Washington memoir portrays its author as the smartest guy in the room; Comey is the most ethical guy in the room, and he lets us know it. Underneath the high-mindedness is a thirst for petty revenge. He says he took note of the size of Trump's hand when they first met -- smaller than his. He goes out of his way to say Trump looks like he wears tanning goggles.

Is all fair in a struggle with a president who calls you a "slime ball"? Maybe. But this is another instance of the country not being well-served by the president or his oppo-

nents violating norms.

It's not a healthy precedent for former FBI directors to attack presidents they served, even if briefly in terrible circumstances. It doesn't do the standing of our law enforcement and intelligence institutions any good to have the men recently entrusted with leading them, like James Comey and John Brennan, brand themselves as committed partisans almost immediately upon leaving government.

It's understandable that Comey wants to get his side out. But he's already done that in his extensive memos that he made sure to leak upon his firing and in his congressional testimony.

He'll probably have his moment in the sun again

See Lowry, page 7

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Community House sets 'Night at Races'

West Haven Community House's 14th annual fundraising event, A Night at the Races, will be held on Friday, May 18th at the University of New Haven Beckerman Center in West Haven.

"A Night at the Races" has become a popular annual event for area residents, community leaders and business owners who come together for an entertaining evening of videotaped horse races, raffles and prizes, all while supporting the vital work of the Com-

munity House in West Haven.

The evening features six videotaped horse races shown on large screens. Attendees are issued play money to bet on the pre-recorded horse races, with odds being set at the beginning of each race based on actual play money wagered. At the end of the evening, the two tables with the most play money win prizes.

The event also features numerous door prizes, raffle prizes and silent auction items including NY Yankees and NY

Giants tickets concert tickets, sports memorabilia, spa and get away packages as well as themed baskets.

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University of New Haven is the Host Sponsor. If anyone is interested in becoming a sponsor or taking an ad out in the event's program book, please visit www.whcommunityhouse.org/NAR.html.

All proceeds from the event benefit the programs and services offered by the West Haven Community House, including Head Start school readiness program for children

from income eligible families, before and after-school program for school aged children and residential and day programs for adults with intellectual disabilities.

For more information, visit www.whcommunityhouse.org, or contact Kathy Hart-Jones at (203) 934-5221, ext. 131, or by email at: kathyhart-jones@whcommunityhouse.org.



Submitted Photo

'Hooo,' you say!

West Haven Voice reader and director of West Haven Funeral Home Celia Pinzi Healey captured this white owl enjoying

Comey: For the kids!

Continued from page 6

as a key witness in the Robert Mueller matter, depending on how it shakes out.

Yet none of that is as remunerative as cashing in as a hero of the resistance when the Mueller investigation is perhaps at peak intensity. Nothing is better than being the most righteous guy in the room -- while still getting a huge payday. Children, take note.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST SHORE FIRE DISTRICT

Annual Meeting of the West Shore Fire District will be held at Bailey Middle School, 106 Morgan Lane, West Haven, CT. on Friday May 4, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Agenda Below:

- First: Call of Meeting
- Second: Election for a Moderator who is an elector and resident of the District
- Third: Fire Chief's Report
- Forth: Fire Board Chairman's Report
- Fifth: Consideration of the Budget
- Sixth: Resolution for borrowing of monies
- Seventh: Nominations for Commissioner for three years

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



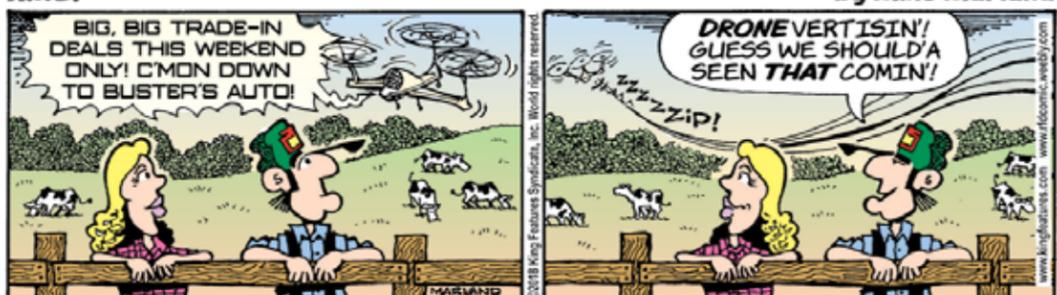
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



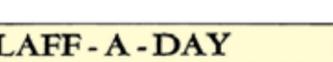
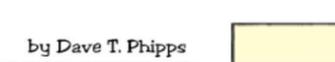
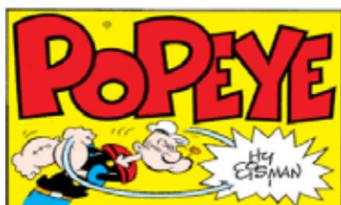
R.F.D.

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The Spats

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Continued from page 1
plate such measures.

One way or other, the MARB is indicating the city has to rely less on state funds and more "revenue streams." When asked what new "revenue streams" can be tapped Quagliani said the options are limited.

"Municipal revenue is typically in the form of grants, fees, and taxes. Increased revenue by taxes occurs either by growing the grand list and/or raising the mill rate. The council has not taken any action to

increase the mill rate thus far," he said.

Mayor Rossi, meanwhile, said she too is working on revisions to present to the council

"Currently I am working on an amended budget to present to the City Council which will include additional cuts. The budget will provide structural changes that are necessary to reduce current expenditures and provide a sustainable plan for future budgets," Rossi said.

A major component of that

City seeks parade marchers; applications are due Monday

The city is seeking veterans, civic groups, fraternal organizations, service clubs and marching bands to participate in the annual Memorial Day parade, which steps off at 10:30 a.m. May 28. There is no rain date.

Participants must register and list required special accommodations.

Transportation is provided for veterans who are unable to walk the 1.5-mile parade course, which follows Campbell Avenue from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Center Street. To make arrangements, call the mayor's office at 203-937-3510.

The parade grand marshal is Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9422 Cmdr. Freddy Jackson, an Army veteran who served in Colorado and Korea in 1963-66 during the Vietnam War era.

Jackson was originally selected by the West Haven Veterans Council to lead the 2016 and 2017 parades, but they were canceled by rain.

Participation forms are available in the mayor's office at City Hall, 355 Main St., where they are due Monday. Forms can also be emailed to Marcin Stankevitch at mayorintern2@westhaven-ct.gov or faxed to (203) 937-3705.

amended spending recommendations include renegotiations of current and new collective bargaining agreements with city unions.

"Part of my plan is renegotiation all of the union contracts that I inherited and look for real changes that will reduce our short- and long-term labor costs," Rossi said.

Union contracts have been the target of MARB veto power recently as a settlement with the city's emergency dispatchers was nixed by the panel and is now in renegotiations.

Rossi's desire to open up old contracts as well as negotiate newer ones will seemingly have the blessing of the MARB.

Meanwhile, Rossi is trying to remain upbeat about the work tht has to be done over the next few weeks leading up to the final budget..

"I look forward to working with the City Council members to produce a budget that will put the city on a path to fiscal responsibility and accountability," she said.



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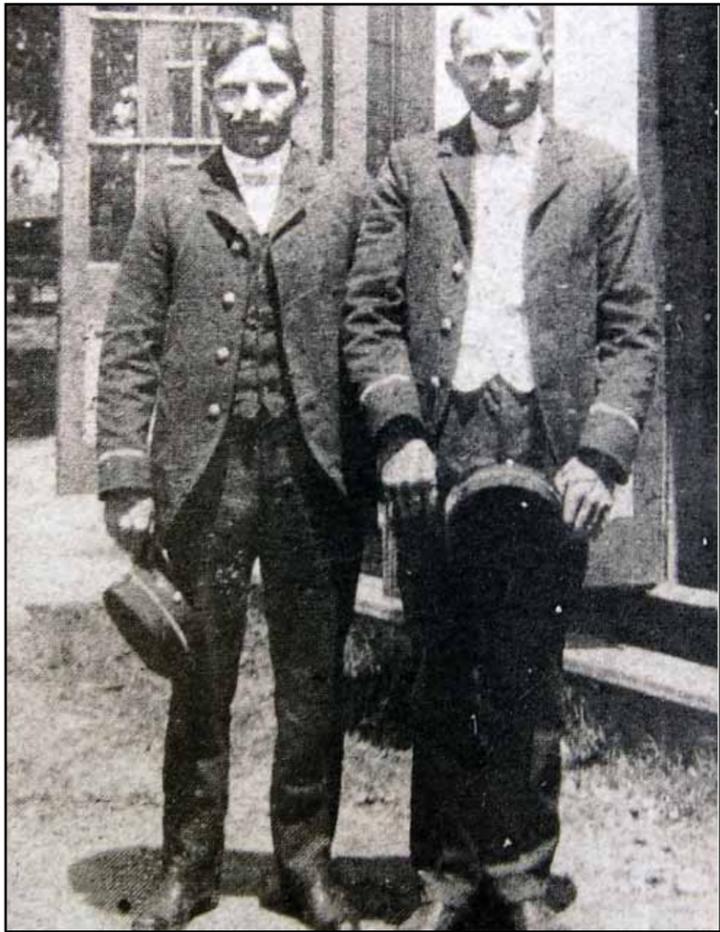
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Historian's corner By Dan Shlino



PTC President Henry B. Auchy (far right) came to West Haven to dedicate the PTC No. 21 carousel in 1912.

The Day the Flying Horses Came to Town

Guest Historian: Peter J. Malia
Author of Visible Saints: The Colonial History of West Haven, available from Barnes & Noble and www.connecticutpress.com

When most people mention Savin Rock -- Giuliano's Savin Rock Arcade on Beach Street comes to mind. That's where THE carousel lived, which everyone simply called the Flying Horses. Its official name was PTC No. 21, short for Philadelphia Toboggan Company No. 21, and it first arrived at Savin Rock in 1912 as part of Fred Wilcox's Long Pier. It might come as a surprise to learn that PTC No. 21 was only one of at least a dozen major carousels that once called Savin Rock home through the years.

Beginning as early as the 1870's the first carousel at Savin Rock was a human-powered affair built by George Kelsey, owner of the West Haven Buckle Company,

the New Haven & West Haven Horse Railroad that connected New Haven to Savin Rock, and a luxury hotel located on the corners of Beach and Grove streets called the Seaview. That carousel was soon replaced with a horse-powered version that became famous for two reasons. First, the horse had a fondness for chewing tobacco and it drew big crowds as both riders and spectators. The second reason was more chilling, since the flying horses played a role in the famous Jennie Cramer murder of 1881. That affair involved the boys of New Haven (yes, those Malleys, of the famed department store), who were accused of drugging a young lady with arsenic after taking her for countless rides on the carousel only to then panic when she overdosed. They threw her body into the LI Sound to make it look like she drowned. But that's a story for another day.

In addition to the carousel and hotel, Kelsey oversaw the construction of the the Long

Pier, which offered ferry service to Lighthouse Point and New Haven, as well as the Grove, complete with a large fountain and bandstand, where John Philip Sousa once performed. While some viewed the Grove as pleasant open space amid the bustling resort, others saw it as an opportunity knocking.

Two of those opportunists were young brothers from Brooklyn, NY, Timothy and Bartholomew Murphy. For these young entrepreneurs, Savin Rock was the perfect incubator for their fledgling carousel manufacturing and amusement concession Timothy and Bart Murphy sporting their carousel businesses. If the Murphy boys had their way, they planned on transforming Savin Rock into another Coney Island. It didn't take long for them to find a local supporter. His name was George Cameron, who bought the Sea View Hotel, where the two young Irishmen took rooms in season beginning in 1906. The Golden Age of Savin Rock was about to unfold.

To be continu

Presidents Ball

The West Haven IA will hold its Presidents Ball Dinner Dance on Saturday, May 12, at the club on 85 Chase Lane. A full-course sit-down dinner with dessert and coffee will begin with cocktails at 5:30, followed by the dance music of Sound Alternative until 12:30. The open bar affair is \$45 per person. Reservations, along with full payment required by May 8, may be made by calling Ellen Marazzi (203)-933-7740 or Paul Froslone (203) 887-6089.

WH Garden Club

The West Haven Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 3, at St. Louis Church on 89 Bull Hill Road at 11:30 a.m. After the meeting, a luncheon will follow and our program will be a floral design workshop conducted by Trish Manfredi. Call Iris at (203) 937-1674.



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Westie netters victorious in pair

The West Haven boys tennis team was looking to bounce back last week after opening the season with three losses. On Monday, the Westies swept the Platt Tech Panthers, 7-0. The boys only lost a total of three games in the entire match. In singles action, James Delgado won, 6-1, 6-0, Joseph Delgado won, 6-0, 6-0, Kent Dimaisip was, 6-0, 6-0 and Corey Smith won, 6-0, 6-0. In doubles, Julian Thomas/Jeremy Tamaro won, 6-0, 6-1, Ehsan Sumra/Corey Smith won, 6-1, 6-0 and Riyad Al-Bakri/Zach Kerzner won, 6-0, 6-0.

On Wednesday afternoon, the Blue Devils were just as dominant in a 7-0 defeat of the Career Panthers.

The girls tennis team dropped matches against Sacred Heart Academy, Hamden and North Haven last week to drop to 3-4 on the season. On Tuesday afternoon, the Westies were defeated by the Sharks, 6-1. The Westies only victory came from top-seeded Jovanna Gaetano.

The Blue Devils suffered a similar fate on Wednesday afternoon with Jovanna Gaetano's 6-0, 6-0 victory being the only one again in a 6-1 loss to the Hamden Green Dragons.

The girls finished the week when they hosted the North Haven Indians. The Indians proved to be too much for the Westies sweeping singles and doubles matches without losing a set.

The softball team still recovering from a tough, walk-off loss the previous week to Hamden, needed a feel good game and it got what it needed in the first home game of the season against the O'Brien Tech Condors. The Westies batted around in the first inning putting up nine runs on their way to a 17-1 mercy-rule shortened victory. Makenna

White led the Blue Devils with three hits and five RBIs, Ivy Santos had two hits and three RBIs while Cassandra Thibodeau had two hits and two RBIs. Kasey Marron, Kailey Carrano and Brianna Sebastian all contributed with two hits each. Marron also picked up the victory in the circle, pitching three innings allowing no runs on only one hit while striking out five Condors.

On Wednesday afternoon, the Westies traveled to North Haven to take on the Indians. North Haven scored two runs in the second, two more in the fourth and another two in the fifth inning to build a 6-0 lead while the Westies threatened in several innings but could not pick up a clutch hit until the seventh inning. The Blue Devils got two runners on when both Ashlynn O'Keefe and Kasey Marron both reached on errors. O'Keefe came in to score on Veronica Lynn's fielder's choice grounder and then Kailey Carrano homered to narrow the gap to 6-3 but that's all West Haven could muster in the loss.

On Friday afternoon, the girls traveled to East Haven to take on the Yellow Jackets. The girls couldn't get the offense going and dropped the game 2-0 to the Yellow Jackets.

The baseball team has been struggling as of late and couldn't find the answers with a trip to Cheshire on Wednesday afternoon. The Westies only managed to get two hits, both coming in the fourth inning when Brett Gradoia and Dennis Gamester singled but were left stranded. The Rams responded with six runs in the bottom of the inning and then another, four runs to end the game after five innings in a 10-0 final. Juan Contreras pitched the first 3 1/3 innings, allowing six runs before giv-

ing away to Ty Reeves, who gave up the final, four runs.

The Blue Devils hosted the Lyman Hall Trojans on Friday afternoon. The Westies took a 1-0 lead in the first inning when Dom Cambino came around to score after getting on with a single. The Trojans built a 3-1 lead until the bottom of the seventh inning, when the Westies rallied. After Chris Cavallaro and Mike Vitolo walked, Mike Tonucci bunted to load the bases. Dom Cambino drove in Cavallaro with a fielder's choice and Vitolo scored on an error to tie the game, 3-3.

In extra innings, the game took a bizarre twist. Nick Flammia, who had pitched a great game going nine innings, allowing one earned run on four hits was in need on relief. The Westies had warmed up Ty Reeves to enter the game but Reeves was injured legging out his single in the seventh and had to leave the game. Mike Vitolo

relieved Flammia in the tenth inning and with two outs and a runner on second was ejected from the game after hitting a batter. Lorenzo Espinal was called on to try to get the Blue Devils out of trouble but Lyman Hall was able to plate three runs in the inning to take a 6-3 lead and grab the victory.

The Westies finished the week hosting cross-town rival Notre Dame on Saturday. The Green Knights built a 5-0 lead after two innings on their way to an 18-3 win.

The boys' lacrosse team suffered a 16-2 loss at the hands of the Notre Dame Green Knights on Wednesday afternoon. The Westies hosted Bristol Central on Saturday afternoon at Ken Strong Stadium and after a hard-fought first quarter in which the Blue Devils held a 4-3 lead, the boys outscored the Rams, 9-1, the rest of the way for a 13-4 victory. Bristol Central had taken a 1-0 lead before Matt Dowd scored 3:58 into the game to

pull the Westies even at 1-1. Two minutes and 46 seconds later, Tyler Moscato gave the boys a 2-1 lead and Nick Massaro increased the lead to 3-1 49 seconds later. The Rams battled back to tie the game at 3-3. Niko Kyle gave the Blue Devils a 4-3 lead with 1:01 left in the first quarter and the Westies never looked back.

Kyle got his second and third goals of the game in the second quarter to increase the West Haven lead to 6-3 at half-time. The Blue Devils pulled away in the second half for the 13-4 final.

The girls lacrosse got its first win, 11-5 over Lyman Hall. After Lyman Hall cut the lead to 3-2, Madisyn Crotta and CC Condon scored to increase the lead to 5-2. Emily Mendes, Annalise DePino, McKenzie Holy, Mendes again, Keegan Riccio, and Holy again to make it an 11-3 lead. The Trojans scored two goal in the final 18 seconds to make it a 11-5 final.



Photo by Russ McCreven

Legging it out

West Haven's James Weber and Simon Romeo head into the last lap of the 1600 meter run in last week's meet with Hillhouse.

Coach South knotches 250th career win

Head coach Al South wins his 250th match as head tennis coach, track takes road trip to Maryland, baseball has crazy two-game stretch, golf wins two of three and lacrosse beats crosstown rival West Haven.

Tennis -- Tennis team swept the week to run their record to 6-0 with wins over Sheehan (6-1), Lyman Hall (5-2), and sweep of Cross (7-0). The win over Sheehan gave head coach Al South his 250th of his ND tenure. The tennis team did not lose a singles match in the three matches.

Track -- ND track ran and jumped its way to a 5-1 record winning two of three in a quad-meet at Lyman Hall on April 18. The 4x400 relay team won its event in a time of 3:37 to help the Notre

Dame track team to wins over Foran 113-50 and East Haven 56.5-49.5 while Lyman Hall beat Notre Dame 98-52. The 4x400 relay team was comprised of Andrew Marinelli, Daniel Range, Neel Agir, and Christian Panagrossi. The team then took its talents to Maryland to compete against fellow Brothers of Holy Cross High School Bishop McNamara on Saturday, April 21.

Baseball -- It was a wild week for the Notre Dame nine. They had everything from a classic pitcher's duel to almost being no hit to pounding out 20 hits in first meeting with crosstown rival West Haven.

They started the week with a 1-0 win over Lyman Hall where Mike Sansone allowed three hits striking out eight on

the mound. Two days later they didn't record a hit until the seventh inning as Hamden came to Quigley Stadium and left with a comfortable 7-2 win. Less than 24 hours later, Notre Dame scored 18 runs on 20 hits in a win over West Haven (18-3).

Lacrosse -- The lacrosse team beat West Haven, 16-1, sandwiched between a pair of close defeats at Guilford (12-10) and Weston (13-10) as they ended the week with a 3-4 record.

Zach Hochman had a big week tallying four goals against both West Haven and Weston. Alex Hird also had four, including a first-half hat trick, against West Haven while Cam Ellis added a hat trick against Weston.

Golf -- The golf team had a winning

week as it beat Cheshire and Hamden in close matches while falling to SCC favorite Xavier in a three-match week. In its second match of the season, Jake Ivan-Pal holed out for eagle on the first hole which helped ND beat Cheshire by three strokes on April 17.

On Friday, Joe D'Agostino carded a 43 in the last group to rally Notre Dame to a six-shot win over Hamden on April 20. The Green Knights trailed by a shot. Ivan Pal's 42 was the low score for Notre Dame in a loss at Xavier on April 18.

You can get all the latest athletic news, scores, and more by following @NDWHAthletics on Twitter, Instagram, and Periscope while friENDING the @NDWHAthletics Facebook group.

Westie Blue In Touch

By Mike Madera

The West Haven softball team needed to wait three days since suffering a gut-wrenching defeat against Hamden. The wait was worth it.

Scoring nine times in the first inning, West Haven rolled to a 17-1 victory over O'Brien Tech last Tuesday afternoon at Biondi Field in West Haven. With the win, West Haven improved to 3-2 on the year.

Makenna White led the Westies' 17-hit attack with three hits, five runs batted in, and a run scored. Kasey Marron, Brianna Sebastian, Kailey Carrano, Ivy Santos, and Cassandra Thibodeau each added a pair of hits. Santos drove

in three runs and Thibodeau knocked in a pair.

After a thorough thumping for a win on Tuesday, the Westies had to like their chances a day later. Held to just six hits in the game, West Haven fell to North Haven, 6-3, in North Haven. The Westies (3-3) scored all three of their runs in the seventh.

Ashlynn O'Keefe reached on an error and Marron also reached on a one-out error. With two outs, and Lynn reaching on a fielder's choice to score O'Keefe, West Haven had life. Carrano followed with a homer, but West Haven could not get closer.

North Haven scored twice in the second, and two more times in each of the fourth and fifth innings for a 6-0 lead.

The Westies had an opportunity to score in the second when Peryer singled with one out to put a pair of runners on, and Rodriguez walked one batter later to load the bases. All were left stranded as a pair of strikeouts ended the inning.

Marron led off the third with a single, but was left stranded, and Rodriguez had a two-out single in the fourth but could not advance as well. West Haven put a pair of runners on in the sixth with two outs, but again could not get the clutch

hit.

The Westies lost their second straight contest with a 2-0 decision at East Haven Friday afternoon. With the loss, West Haven fell to 3-4 on the year.

Despite getting nine hits, the Westies could not get on the scoreboard. White led the Westies with three hits, while Santos and Peryer each had two hits.

Marron went the distance for West Haven, allowing nine hits and one earned run.

West Haven snapped a two-game losing streak with a 17-0 victory over Branford Monday afternoon in a game stopped after five innings due to the

mercy rule. The road victory improved West Haven's record to 4-4 on the season.

Lynn, Carrano, White, Peryer, and O'Keefe led a 12-hit attack with two hits apiece. Marron and O'Keefe each scored four times, while Carrano drove in five runs, Lynn knocked in three, and White and Peryer each drove in a pair.

Santos went the distance for West Haven, allowing three hits, walking one and striking out six.

For all of your West Haven sporting news, including game articles, photos, videos, statistics and more, visit



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Player of the Week, April 19

West Haven girls softball player Ashlynn O'Keefe was the Vio's Sports Plus/Westie Blue Athlete of the Week for April 19. O'Keefe had nine hits, scored four runs, and drove in one run as West Haven won two of three games that week.

Submitted Photo

Scholarship recipient

Kyle Bensen owner of Whitie Bensen's Sport Shop presenting this year's hockey scholarship to WHHS goalie Logan Cole. Logan was a first team Division 1 SCC All-Selection and 2nd team All-State selection for the Connecticut Coaches Association.



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Westies top Southington at Duffy, 3-1

On Saturday, the U-12 boys travel team played host to Southington. The teams played at The Paul Duffy Soccer Complex, named in honor of Duffy after his passing in 2011. What made this game special was Duffy's grandson Aidan Burns, son of Diane Duffy Burns, plays for Southington.

West Haven took an early lead on a penalty kick that was scored by Munib Kassim. Maurizio Urriola netted the second goal and Southington scored shortly after to narrow the lead to 2-1. Kassim scored his second goal to pull West Haven ahead to a final score of 3-1. Both teams exhibited positive sportsmanship that the friendly rivalry has come to expect.

The Elite Soccer Camps U-12 girls travel team traveled to Madison Saturday afternoon and came away with a 3-0 win. Ava Murphy held the shut out in goal, and Ariana Izzo had an assist on a Brooke Flaherty goal and added two goals of her own. Camryn Flaherty, Isabelle Nagle, and Camryn Beauvais anchored the defense, while Alyvia Ginsberg, Brooke Throm and Josephina Lakaj did well in the midfield in the win for the Westies.

The Top Hat Dance Academy girls U-10 team played to a 1-1 tie in Shelton on Saturday. Shelton had won the Fall division so this was a big game for the girls and a 1-1 draw was a good result for the team. Madden Evangeliste and Marcy Funke held down the midfield playing valuable minutes for the team, while Cristel Miguel led the charge forward with intense energy. Kayci Gayle scored the goal with a nice shot into the back corner of the net.

The Elite Soccer Camps U-11 girls travel Thunder lost a close game to Branford on Sunday, 4-3. Alexandria Nunes and Amyah Kelly each scored, while Ciara Harp had an assist. Sydni Gayle did a good job in goal for the Elite Soccer Thunder.

The Porto Funeral Home U-14 girls travel team beat Orange on Sunday. Cecilia Yanez scored the winning goal on a time shot off an Elena Petrie throw-in. Madison Lentine scored a looping shot over the goalie on Saturday for the Westies in their game against New Haven.

The Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center U-11 boys traveled to Shelton on Saturday. West Haven struggled to match Shelton's speed and positioning, but fought hard and held a lead almost the whole game. Shelton landed a couple of tough shots to pull ahead, 5-4, late in game. West Haven goals were scored by

Ethan Masoperth and Matt Hunter.

On Sunday the U-11 boys took on Wallingford. The Westies had to play with only eight players, but that proved to be all they needed as they won, 7-1. Dylan Petrie played great in net using every piece of his body to save any shot that came his way. Bobby Severino and Tom Williams played great controlling the defense. Goals were scored by Ethan Masoperth, Matt Hunter, Christian Reyes, Malik Ouri-Adei, Angel Magana.

The CT Pest Elimination Green Beans played Eli's Orange Bumblebees Saturday morning, winning, 6-3. Enoch Kehinde led the way with a hat trick.

Seth Empric and Jillian Crudo contributed with great play overall for the CT Pest Elimination Green Beans.

The Elite Soccer Camps Red Dragons played Watson Foods Company, LLC, and came out on top, 7-4. Marco Antonucci and Salvatore Castagnetto showed a lot of hustle for the Elite Soccer Red Dragons, while Alessia Coletta, Nour El Mouki, Aiden Slater and Tori Smith all worked hard in the win against Watson Foods.

The Lacistrong Polar Bears played a very fun game against Dillman & Dillman Adjusters, LLC, coming away with a 5-3 win.

Scoring for the Polar Bears were Jacob Radar, Peyton-Rose Reid and Phoebe Dinuzzo. Mason Pantone and Brooklyn O'Mara assisted on helping their teammates on the field.

The Oyster River Energy Soccer Rockers played against CDG2, with the final score being 1-0. Joyce Delgado of the Rockers scored the only goal of the game, while Sarah Davy had an excellent first game as Oyster River Energy's new goalkeeper, coming up with several saves. Eveleen Jiang played strong defense on the back line.

The CDG1 Rock House Rockers won, 4-2, against Stars Ice Cream. Akilatu Ayinla did amazing in goal during the second half and Nadia Piroli scored a hat trick. Abbegail Walker played a great defensive game for Rock House.

The Baybrook Remodelers Blue Hawks played an exciting game that ended against Cappetta's Italian Imports. Madden Evangeliste, Katarina Oliveira, and Sarahi Cruz-Cruz, peppered the goal with 10 shots. Adriana Fabian and Melissa Valtierra provided strong defense that supported with Jada Fowler's stellar goaltending. The Stowe's Seafood Blue Eels lost a hard fought back and forth battle against Seacrest Retirement

Center, 6-4. Conner Hummel, Jair Saucedo and Adrian Bello all scored, and Shawn Tarpeh added some great field play.

The WH Professional Firefighters Green Machine dropped, 2-1, decision to the WH Italian-American Civic Association. The Green Machine's loan goal was scored by Charles Sutton, while Matthew Pascreta played great defense. York Business Center Orange Crush lost a tough one to Bohemian Body Art, 5-0.

Lia Powers and Jocelyn Sliber played great defense for York Business Center. The Apple Rehab of West Haven Blue Dragons had a big win over the Lion's Club of West Haven, 4-0. Jayden Abekah, Holden Napoletano, Diego Ocegueda, Mateo Santillan-Briceno were the big scorers.

Cappetta's Italian Imports had a hard fought game on Saturday against and older and bigger Gunning Law Firm team. They fell to a score of 9-3 but had fun and showed improvement.

Scoring for the Blue Birds was Charissa Ashong, Luciana Cappetta, and Leila Lancaster. Also playing well was Kai Ruotolo and Giada Jimenez. In other action, the Mulkerin School of Irish Dancing Lep-erchauns won a close game

against Milano & Wanat Warriors, 2-1. Also, Elsie Encarnacion-State Farm Insurance came up short against West Haven Family Dental in a 5-3 game.

The WH Italian-American Civic Association Golden Phoenixes played their second game this week and the Golden Phoenixes rose from the ashes after last week's tough opening season loss.

They were led in goal by Samir Stitou. Mekayan Hernandez-Tlamintzi and Jordan White provided many great passes.

Joey Sperry took advantage

of one of those passes and put the ball in the back of the net to give his team a 1-0 lead at the half. Victor Magana Preciado played the second half in net. He had two stunning saves, and only allowed one goal as

The WH Professional Firefighters tied the game midway through the second half. Nick Medina Rosero, Kenneth Peralta, and Hasan Alrawashdeh provided a solid defensive effort.

Rafael Treat dribbled through the middle past two defenders to score the game winning goal for the Golden Phoenixes.

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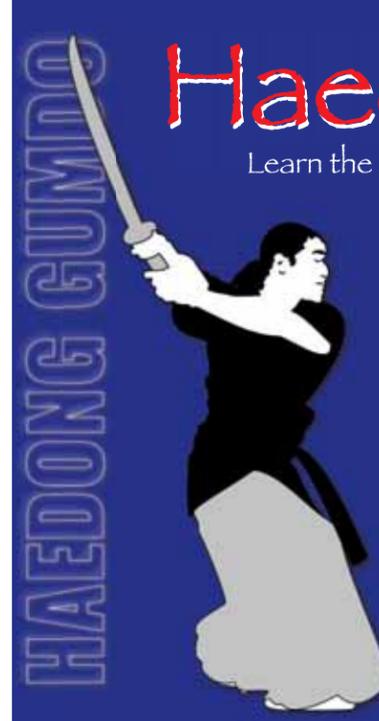
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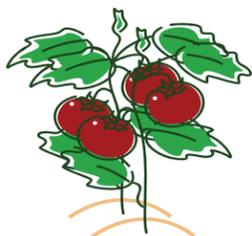


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Photo by Todd Dandelske

Player of the Week, April 26

West Haven boys lacrosse player Kevin Moriarty is the Vio's Sports Plus/Westie Blue Player of the Week. In three games last week, Moriarty made 67 saves and saved 77 percent of the shots he faced. Read about Kevin Moriarty on the Player of the Week page at www.westieblue.com.



Classfleds

BABYSITTER WANTED

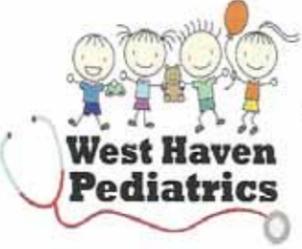
West Haven area, \$300 per week, Five days a week, 6:30-8:30 a.m. Must have vehicle, one child, aged 7. Call (203) 257-0248 ask for James.

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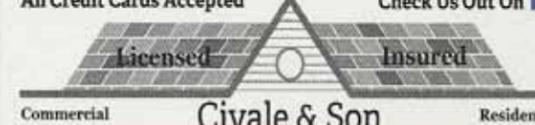


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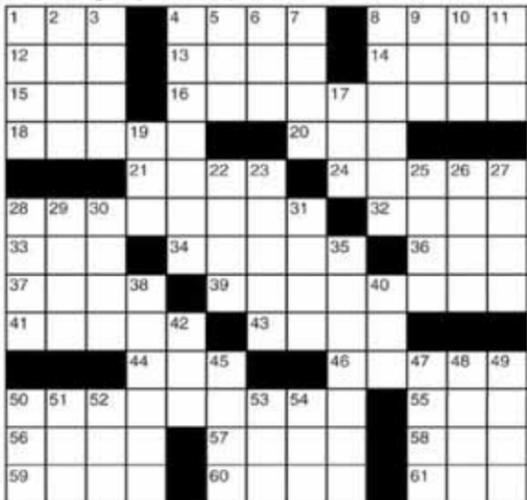
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bandleader Kyser
 - 4 Equitable
 - 8 Frizzy haired
 - 12 Hockey surface
 - 13 Andy's pal
 - 14 Circulate
 - 15 Historic time
 - 16 Twist
 - 18 "Aida" composer
 - 20 Expert
 - 21 Food
 - 24 Poolroom supply
 - 28 Bring together
 - 32 Hammer or sickle
 - 33 Inseparable
 - 34 Casino machines
 - 36 "Kitchy- -!"
 - 37 Young female
 - 39 Remorseful
 - 41 Milkmaid's place
 - 43 Analgesic target
 - 44 - long way
- DOWN**
- 1 Ukraine's capital
 - 2 Farm measure
 - 3 Once around the sun
 - 4 Salon treatments
 - 5 I love, to Livy
 - 6 Charged bit
 - 7 Answer an invite
 - 8 Showing buoyancy
 - 9 Winter bug
 - 10 Deteriorate
 - 11 Have bills
 - 17 Sphere
 - 19 Dict. info
 - 22 Body powder
 - 23 Urban hangout
 - 25 Mischievous Norse god
 - 26 Swag
 - 27 - gin fizz
 - 28 Gear teeth
 - 29 Not procrastinating
 - 30 Pianist Peter
 - 31 Sicilian spouter
 - 35 Grad student's income
 - 38 Blockage of a sort
 - 40 Genetic letters
 - 42 "Skip to My -"
 - 45 Quite some time
 - 47 Muse's instrument
 - 48 Intend
 - 49 Cutting implements
 - 50 "El -"
 - 51 Praise in verse
 - 52 Born
 - 53 Exist
 - 54 Can matter



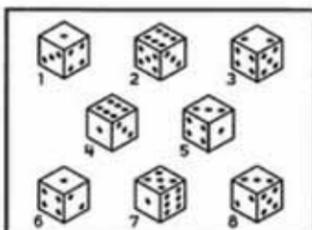
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I F D B A Y W L G K U E S Q O
M K I N F D N A I L R N R B Z
X W A U I S E I B A R A S U Q
O N L J N A H T A I N P D O P
F D C I A Y H Y W R V D S T S
Q P A N L K I C H E F L E E C
B P Z Y W V U S R S A O Q R P

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

Also: Dark men, Old pan, Rabies, Analog, Englander, Pains, Red nail, Big mule, Gray men, Panel, Serial, Chain, Laly, Pure



FIND THE FAIR PAIR! Only two of the above dice have been made correctly. Which are the true cubes?

A SHAKY BET! Bet anyone that if they stand on a chair you can make them come down by saying two words. How's it done? Just say, "Step down." You'll win because they'll have to get down sooner or later.

LINK-UPS! Here's a list of 12 one-syllable words, divided into two columns. Turn them into six longer words by linking them together. To do this, draw a line from one word in the left column to one word in the right.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



A GIRLS' NAMES PUZZLE

Below are 14 girls' names you'll need to complete the puzzle grid above. Use the trial-and-error method.

- 4-Letter Names: CORA, EDNA, NELL
- 5-Letter Names: APRIL, CATHY, DELLA, EDREA, ELENA, GILDA
- 5-Letter Names: GLENN, GRACE, LILAH, NELLY, RENEE

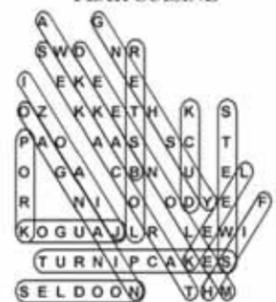
Answers: (Across) 1. Glenn, 5. Cora, 8. Edna, 9. April, 10. Lilah, 11. Grace, 12. Renee, 13. Edna, 14. Nell. (Down) 1. Edna, 2. Grace, 3. April, 4. Nell, 5. Lilah, 6. Renee, 7. Glenn, 8. Edna, 9. April, 10. Lilah, 11. Grace, 12. Renee, 13. Edna, 14. Nell.

Answers to last week's puzzles

— King Crossword —
Answers



CHINESE NEW YEAR CUISINE



— Weekly SUDOKU —
Answer

4	8	5	1	2	7	6	3	9
9	1	7	3	6	5	2	4	8
6	2	3	9	8	4	5	7	1
5	9	2	8	3	1	4	6	7
1	7	6	5	4	9	8	2	3
8	3	4	2	7	6	1	9	5
2	5	1	6	9	3	7	8	4
3	4	8	7	1	2	9	5	6
7	6	9	4	5	8	3	1	2



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