



Photo by Dena Frawley

Dreams do come true!

Genesis Mateo-D'Oleo is shown with mother Bielca, father, John, and baby sister. The fourth grader got an early Christmas gift last week, and was feted at a party in the Pagels cafeteria with her classmates. See page 3 for all the details.

Photo by Michael P. Walsh

The Festival of Lights

State Sen. Gayle Slossberg (D-14) leads, from left, state Rep. Charles J. Ferraro (R-117), Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, state Rep. Michael A. DiMassa (D-116) and Rossi's executive assistant, Louis P. Esposito, Jr., in a Jewish blessing at the sundown celebration of the first day of Hanukkah during the annual lighting of the menorah Dec. 12 on the Green. The ceremonial lighting, also attended by Rossi transition team member Thomas J. McCarthy and city Human Resources Commissioner Beth A. Sabo, marks the Jewish Festival of Lights, an eight-day commemoration of rededication of the Temple by the Maccabees after their victory over the Syrians.



2nd-half taxes due January 1

City tax bills are due Jan. 1.

The second installment of real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle tax and sewer bills are due Jan. 1.

The 2016 supplemental motor vehicle bill is for vehicles registered after Oct. 1, 2016.

Additionally, at the time the bills were mailed in July, a yellow notice was sent with the bills that stated: "The enclosed motor vehicle tax bill is being calculated at 32 mills for the assessment year commencing Oct. 1, 2016, payable July 1, 2017, and Jan. 1, 2018, based on the Connecticut Taxation Statute 12-71e. Due to the unsettled situation regarding the state budget for 2017/2018, a supplemental motor vehicle tax bill may be issued and will be sent to you when and if it becomes necessary."

Taxpayers will receive a yellow motor vehicle bill that represents the 5 mills — the difference between the approved budget and the amount previous billed — and in the case of the West Shore and Center fire districts, an additional 2 mills, Tax Collector Dorothy Chambrelli said.

Payments after Feb. 1 are considered delinquent and subject to interest, Chambrelli said.

The tax office is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays on the first floor of City Hall, 355 Main St.

For the convenience of taxpayers, the city has an ATM outside the office.

Taxpayers can see their tax bills, make a payment, and print their payment history for income tax purposes at www.cityof-westhaven.com and clicking on Tax Collector under the Government heading.

Sewer bills are on the same page but under a separate heading.

In January, current taxes can be paid by mail to a tax office lockbox, P.O. Box 150461, Hartford 06115-0461. When paying by lockbox or the drop box outside the tax office in City Hall, the canceled check is the receipt.

After Feb. 1, taxes with interest can be paid by mail to the Office of the Tax Collector, P.O. Box 401, West Haven 06516. Payments can also be made in person.

Anyone needing a motor vehicle clearance must pay in person with cash, credit card, bank check or money order.

Finn McLaughlin, age 2 1/2, is a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., and says it all!



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Merry Christmas!!

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4th grader has 'Dream come true'

By Dena Frawley
Special to the Voice

Dream Come True is back in West Haven, and it did it again. Genesis Mateo-D'Oleo, a fourth-grade student at Alma E. Pagels School, travels to Disney World with her family for Christmas vacation, sponsored by Dream Come True of Western Connecticut, and, as usual with Dream Come True volunteer Joe Belbusti, a proper sendoff was in order. To celebrate and cheer Genesis on for her trip to Disney, Belbusti and volunteer partner John McKeon arranged for the entire fourth grade of Pagels School to surprise Genesis with a huge dessert party that rivals Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory.

Principal Gary Palermo brought all of the fourth-graders into the cafeteria, as they sat in complete silence, awaiting the chance to surprise Genesis. OK, maybe a few giggles and gasps escaped from Genesis' classmates when they saw tables full of giant buckets of ice cream and toppings, party favors, cookies, cake, juice, balloons and Minnie Mouse cupcakes that were all donated, made and personally catered by Louise Martone of Louise's Bakery. The frosting on the cupcakes was pink in honor of Genesis because it is one of her favorite colors. When local artist Ernie Conte heard about Genesis' enjoyment of painting, he created her very own caricature painting for the centerpiece of the sweet feast.

As Genesis walked closer to the cafeteria, she saw her name on a banner with balloons hanging from the entrance. At this point, Genesis' classmates, former and current teachers, friends and family couldn't contain their excitement anymore, as a huge "Surprise!" shouts across the room with cheers and applause. With Genesis by his side in the center of the cafeteria, Palermo spoke to everyone about how amazing of a student Genesis is and ways in which the Dream Come True organization is involved in our community, all while graciously thanking the people who have helped put this special event together.

Bielca, Genesis' mother, sums it up with how Pagels School and Dream Come True show their compassion for children through love, support and once-in-a-lifetime experiences. "All of the teachers love her. They're a family here. Genesis is surrounded by so many people that love her, and I pray every day that she always has people like the teachers at Pagels with her for the rest of her life," said Bielca, smiling across the cafeteria at

her daughter.

Genesis is a fun-loving, happy kid with a very magnetic personality. Throughout her party, classmates saved seats for Genesis, putting their legs and hands on stools so no one would sit there except in hopes that Genesis would. Word spread wide about the sendoff party for Genesis, and as more people heard about it, former teachers, including her kindergarten teacher and teachers that now work at other schools, came to celebrate with her -- a testament among these special guests that shows how much Genesis positively impacts the lives of so many.

Genesis has hydrocephalus, a condition of having excess cerebrospinal fluid in the brain, which has caused

her balance problems and ultimately surgery on her legs. However, that does not stop Genesis from laughing with friends and enjoying her favorite desserts. The planning for Genesis' trip started when she was in third grade, just dreaming about her favorite Disney characters like Cinderella and Beauty and the Beast. Now, thanks to Dream Come True, she can dream about what to pack.

Special thanks go to Genesis, her parents Bielca and John, Joe Belbusti, John McKeon, Louise Martone, Ernie Conte, Principal Gary Palermo, faculty and staff of Pagels School for making this special sendoff possible.

Dream Come True of Western Connecticut is dedicated to granting the dreams of chil-

dren who experience or have experienced chronic or life-threatening illnesses. Dream Come True's mission is to promote and enrich the lives of children who are seriously, chronically or terminally ill, offering children the chance to hope, dream and live their fantasies. Since 1984, Dream Come True of Western Connecticut has granted over 250 dreams in Fairfield, Litchfield and New Haven counties. For more information please contact Joe Belbusti at (203) 887-6156 (JosephBelbusti@gmail.com), visit www.dreamcometruect.org, or keep reading to find out when another West Haven dream will come true.



Photo by Dena Frawley
Genesis with Joe Belbusti of Dream Come True.

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Profile of Attorney Mark A. Healey

Attorney Mark A. Healey has been practicing law in West Haven, CT for more than 25 years.



Mark received his education at Hopkins School in New Haven graduating with the Class of 1979. He went on to study Economics at Hamilton College where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree. He then attended Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio and received his Law Degree in 1986.

Mark began his career in law working with a small, general practice firm that specialized in plaintiff's personal injury cases. In 1992, he opened his own law practice on Savin Avenue, on the West Haven Green, and has been there ever since.

Attorney Healey has represented hundreds of clients with regard to plaintiff's personal injury matters and has secured millions of dollars in recoveries for accident victims. He also devotes a substantial part of his practice to Worker's Compensation claims, Real Estate Closings, and Probate, Wills, and Estates.

Currently, Attorney Healey is the President of the West Haven Bar Association, a member of the New Haven Bar Association, the Connecticut Bar Association, Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association, and the American Association for Justice. He has been accredited by the Better Business Bureau and is rated as "Highly Ethical and Highly Professional" by Martindale Hubbell.

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Dear Felicia

As we head into the final days before Christmas, yew and I are gonna do what we always do at this time o' year, honey bunch, name the gifts we'd like to see under the trees of the political classes here in God's Li'l Acre, a sort of Christmas comuppence as it were. Tennyrate, it's become something of a look-to event around these parts, with those left off the list not happy, whilst those on the list like to say we're pickin' on them, and we are. For yore enjoyment, here is the list we came up with for 2017:

Mayor Nancy Rossi - A tank car full of red ink. Judging from the headlines of the last few days, we think a gift from the Jolly Ole Elf giving her the means to record our financial failings might be a good thing. In her stocking is gonna be a strong pain reliever. She's gonna need it once all the bad news gets digested and she starts askin' herself why she wanted the job in the

foist place.

First Husband Arthur Rossi - Arty likes to film or video things (yeah, I know there's a difference), and he should have a charger for his camera cuz he's gonna be plenty busy.

Executive Assistant to the Mayor Lou Esposito - A copy of Emily Post for his desk to be positioned near the phone. He's gonna need to review the etiquette of putting people off politely once he's firmly ensconced in that chair. The way things are, some o' those people might be bill collectors.

Chairman of the City Council Ron Quagliani - That whip and chair Yew and I thought he'd need. He'll find it under the Douglas fir. With the make-up on the council betwixt the members of the Democratic Party and the grinding of teeth that's gone on, he's gonna need sooner rather than later. Oh, and Iyam told he likes to have his coffee in the El-em Diner on Thursday mornings. Let's get him some free Java

too.

The members of the City Council - Small shields, a quiver, some arrows and slingshots. These guys and gals like to throw "slings and arrows" at each other, they might as well do it for real. Maybe they'll get tired and start to work together. That'd be something different.

The leadership of the AF-SCME Local and the CWA Local - 2018 is probably not going to be an easy year. Santa is gonna give you guys and gals a supply of antacid tablets. It might make the day go a bit easier...and lay off the spicy food.

Superintendent of Schools Neil Cavallaro - A scale model of the Hindenburg, and we'll write "G Wing" on it. Effen yew've looked at the wing over at WHHS lately, it looks like a dirigible. Something tells me that, like the Hindenburg, there are gonna be some flames and a crash in the very near future and they might hafta do with a plan or three... but, heck. He finally got rid of that pesty G Wing!

The various assistant, coordinators and hangers-on that infest the school system - Your retirement, termination or resignation to free up some money so the teachers can really teach and you can stop with the educational fads.

Board of Education Chairman Rosemary Russo - Foist off, yes, it's chairman, not

chair. Last I looked Rosemary was not a stick of furniture. Tennyrate, under her tree is gonna be a sampler that's gonna have the dictum, "Don't take things at face value" emblazoned on it. She's gonna learn effen she don't already know that a lotta what goes on in that department is sleight of hand and is not as it seems.

The Board of Education - Their Christmas fruit cakes with a dash of skepticism and a pinch of courage to not believe everything they are told and have the gumption to ask the tough questions.

The city's teachers' union - Santa will put under the leadership's trees some school schedules from all the buildings in the system. They might need a reminder of what it is like to actually *teach* since most of them have been out of the classroom for years - in some cases more years than they had in the classroom.

The Board of Finance - Their favorite brand of hooch will be under their trees. After the holidays are through this panel of residents will hafta cull through the first-flush requests of the various departments and try to cobble together the first draft of a budget. Money is a scarce thing around these parts, and they are gonna need some comfort when they look at all the figgers.

The Planning and Zoning Commission - The mem-

bers will have a glossary of dubious terms to translate the legalese, obfuscation and downright double-talk they hafta deal with, and handle it. This will be especially needed when developers and their attorneys show up.

The Haven Developers - A timeline so that we can know, yay or nay, whether this things is going through as proposed or whether there are gonna be some alterations in the plan to deal with the new economic realities. By the way, did anyone hear that a high-end shopping mall is already being built off of Exit 15 in Norwalk?

City resident Patrick Morrissey - More of whatever that guy does to be so pleasant all the time. Oh, and a new pair of sneakers for those walks he takes along the water at a break-neck pace.

City of West Haven-Allingtown Fire Chief Vin Landisio - Santa will give the chief some forceps to extract the large handicap the last administration put him under with that 11th-hour announcement of his appointment. They didn't exactly give him an opportunity to get in good with the staff or residents.

The city's General Assembly Delegation - Santa is gonna leave you guys some stay-awake pills. Effen the word we're hearing is true, you guys might be spending another "special session" in the confines of the state house under the direction of everyone's least-favorite person, Dannel Malloy.

Chamber of Commerce head and Voice co-owner Alan Olenick - Big accounts for both organizations that bring in lotsa business. Alan's been able to bring the Chamber outta the "kaffe klaetch" rut it's been in, and a few big accounts wouldn't hurt the ole papyrus, either.

City publicist Michael Walsh - Santa will give Mike 500 postcards with a line drawn through them. When politicos try to git him to do a job that is more political and less "city," he can give 'em a card to show him where the line is drawn.

Columnist Dan Shine - A dartboard with his favorite city official superimposed thereon and a dozen of the sharpest projectiles known to man. I think he knows exactly what is expected.

Columnist Eleanore Turkington - Tea with the new city Complaints Officer. She needs a get-acquainted with whom-ever takes the job, and Santa will provide the financing.

To all our readers - The hope for a Merry Christmas .

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Gripe Vine

Well, it's that time of year once again, a Gripe Vine wrap-up of 2017.

Snow removal regulations and odd and even size parking during snow storms became a popular question to Gripe Vine. Broken unrepaired sidewalks came into view in my column with the city indicating home owners were responsible for repairs.

High brush and grass at Shingle Hill irritated motorists who found views of oncoming cars were prohibited here. Phone calls seeking payment of income taxes prompted fear from many of my readers. Gripe Vine published recommendations on how to handle these callers. It is important to remember that the IRS will not initiate calls to taxpayers by phone.

Readers' letters also complained of residents who place their garbage into large, black plastic bags indicated the crows poked holes in the bags and carried off and left pieces of garbage in the street and on the sidewalk. Readers were reminded to use the proper containers with lids to prevent such occurrences.

Many inquiries arrived on when the West Haven Center for the Arts would open and become active. Also, a large number of my readers wrote and complained of graffiti found on public buildings. Some research provided the West Haven ordinance 129-7 that described the penalties for breaking this ordinance. What offenders fail to realize, police departments throughout the state are well informed on the various types of "penmanship" of so called graffiti arts and have been able to use this information in locating the offenders. Not a good idea to use this form of art.

Many, many complaints of broken sidewalks, pot holes, uncollected trash barrels, abandoned buildings and beach cleanups on Beach Street where plans for new buildings were awaited. Bicycle riders griped about pedestrians walking on their bike paths and receiving irritating remarks from the walkers. We were able to get Walk and Bike signs painted in the area, eliminating this annoyance for both the riders and walkers.

Storm drains on South Forest Road were in need of repair and reported by my readers as well as drain pipes from private property leaking onto the street. Manhole covers, broken and improperly placed also came to my attention.

Availability to mailboxes was brought to my attention with residents complaining of the inability to reach them to collect their mail because of

automobiles parked too close the mail receptacle.

Readers also complained of damage to their mailboxes from the city's plow blades during snow removal. There was also a visual problem at Morgan Lane and Shingle Hill Road with high uncut shrubbery. There was a Pine Beetle infestation complaint and gripes relating to roaming rats.

The uneven pavement across from Forest School was griped about and repaired as well as problems of the Savin Rock Playground. Cracked sliding shoot and other complaints were addressed by the city.

The traffic light at Capt. Thomas Boulevard and Kelsey Avenue irritated motorists because of the slowness to green



TURKINGTON

passage. Speaking of Captain Thomas Boulevard, so many gripes came in about the lack

of lighting on Captain Thomas Boulevard. Hurray! They are lit and functioning now!

The crosswalk at the VA Hospital on Campbell Avenue was noted for its lack of view to motorists because of overgrown shrubbery. Speeders on Ocean Avenue and heavy motorcycle use as well. The traffic light at Campbell Avenue and Route 1 and broken children's swings at Morse Park were also reported.

A drive up mailbox in front of the post office on Campbell Avenue was requested, truck depot complaint, traffic issues and North Forest Circle pot holes and unkempt property.

Blight on Anderson Avenue, dead end signs requested in various areas, crosswalk on Ocean Avenue ignored by

motorists and water bottle dispenser usage at City Hall.

Also April Street flooding, cars illegally parked on private property, Florida license plates questioned, deep pot holes on Washington Avenue, deer signs requested on Blohm Street, abandoned cars on Leete Street and a curb complaint on Peck and William Street.

Many house and business without identifying building numbers, flooding on First Avenue, retired trucks and snow equipment inquiries and a broken bench at 378 Campbell Ave.

Readers, this column today only provides a fraction of your complaints. I still have a number of gripes waiting for presentation to the city.

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A visit from St. Nicholas

By Clement Clarke Moore

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
 The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
 In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
 The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
 While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;
 And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
 Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,
 When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
 I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
 Away to the window I flew like a flash,
 Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
 The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
 Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,
 When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
 But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,
 With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
 I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
 More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
 And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;

"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!
 On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donder and Blitzen!
 To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
 Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"
 As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
 When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky;
 So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
 With the sleigh full of Toys, and St. Nicholas too.
 And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
 The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
 As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
 Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
 He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
 And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
 A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back,
 And he looked like a pedler just opening his pack.
 His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
 His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
 His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow
 And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow;
 The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
 And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath;
 He had a broad face and a little round belly,
 That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly.
 He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
 And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;
 A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
 Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;
 He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
 And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
 And laying his finger aside of his nose,
 And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;
 He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
 And away they all flew like the down of a thistle,
 But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
 "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."



The media discrediting itself

By Rich Lowry
 Syndicated Columnist

It's a wonder that President Donald Trump devotes so much time to discrediting the press, when the press does so much to discredit itself.

The media's errors in recent weeks haven't been marginal or coincidental, but involved blockbuster reports on one of the most dominating stories of the past year, Robert Mueller's Russia investigation. They all slanted one way -- namely, toward lurid conclusions about the Trump campaign's alleged collusion with the Russians.

Every media outlet makes mistakes. It's easier than ever to run with fragmentary or dubious information in a frenzied news cycle that never stops. But underlying the media blunders was an assumption -- not based on any evidence we've yet seen -- of Trump guilt in the Russia matter. This was news, in other words, too anti-Trump to check.

On the day it broke that Michael Flynn had pled guilty to lying to the FBI, Brian Ross of ABC News had a seemingly epic scoop. He reported that Flynn would testify that Donald Trump directed him to make contacts with Russian officials prior to the election. This was the collusion equivalent of a four-alarm fire. A New York Times columnist tweeted, "President Mike Pence, here we come." The stock market dropped several hundred points.

Then Ross "clarified" the story to say that Trump instructed Flynn to reach out to the Russians after the election.

This wasn't a minor detail of chronology; it ripped the heart out of the story. Ross' blockbuster went from a suggestion of collusion to a suggestion of the normal course of business during a presidential transition. ABC suspended Ross for a month.

CNN followed this up with its own botched report on how Don Trump, Jr. allegedly got a heads-up email prior to the release of a batch of WikiLeaks emails during the campaign. The item rocketed around the internet -- accompanied by explosive imagery -- and was repeated by other major news organizations. The only problem is CNN flubbed the date. The email came after the release of the documents, not before.

Once again, supposed evi-

dence of collusion evaporated upon contact with better-informed, follow-up reporting. CNN corrected its dispatch, and one of its correspondents called the episode "a black eye."

Needless to say, the errors in Russian reporting are a bonanza for President Trump. The worse the reporting is, the better for his campaign to brand the mainstream media "Fake News." He'd be happy if an outlet of the mainstream media tanked the markets with a flagrantly wrong dispatch every day.

It must be galling for journalists that every mistake they make is amplified into a national scandal by the president, while Trump is willfully careless about facts himself. It

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This is the last issue of 2017. The West Haven Voice will be shutdown for the next two weeks, closing its office Friday, Dec. 22 and reopening on Monday, Jan 8. Our next issue is Thursday, Jan. 11. We wish all a Merry Christmas!

West Haven Voice

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Photo courtesy of WHCDC

Holiday visit

The children at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. recently visited the Ward-Heitmann House Museum. Do-cent Connie Sacco read a story to the children and gave them a tour of the house decorated for the holidays!

Lowry: Big errors

Continued from page 6

must be infuriating to be berated as “Fake News,” when the White House tried to obfuscate the truth about a Don Jr. meeting with Russians during the campaign, uncovered by good, dogged reporting.

But none of this is going to change. The press can work even harder to exhibit fairness and accuracy under Trump’s withering fire. Or it can play to type. The past week is more evidence that it prefers the latter option, to its own institutional detriment.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF WEST HAVEN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission will hold the following public hearing on the noted application to change the City's Zoning Regulations:

Proposed Amendments to the Zoning Regulations in the Waterfront Design (WD) District.

1. Application for approval of amendments to Section 2.2, Definitions – Open Space to change the definition of Open Space. The current Open Space definition excludes walkways and paved areas dedicated to gathering or public parks. The proposed change in the Open Space definition would allow such walkways to be calculated into the Open Space requirement when such areas are part of a comprehensive development (or redevelopment) plan. Paved walkways and paved areas are important to allow for handicap accessibility to open spaces, especially public access to the waterfront.
2. Application for changes to Table 36.1 Area and Bulk Requirements for the WD Zone. The current regulations for maximum building coverage, maximum impervious surface coverage, maximum lot coverage and minimum open space are 40%, 20%, 60%, and 40% respectively. The proposed change would set these values at 35%, 60%, 80% and 30%. These proposed changes would allow for more flexibility in the design of future development in the WD District.
3. Application for changes to Section 36.2, Description and Intent of the WD District to delete the third bullet point, which is inconsistent with the permitted regional shopping center use. Language to be deleted: “As much of the area is in the flood plain, use of at grade parking with structures above, or garages accessed from a service alley is encouraged. Large expanses of surface parking and garages with individual street access are discouraged.”
4. Application for changes to Table 62.1 Summary Table of Parking and Loading Requirements referenced in Section 60.13 Number of Parking Spaces. The current requirement under Use Category E., Commercial, Regional Shopping Center is 1 required parking space per 200 S.F. (square feet) of floor area. The proposed change would revise that value to 1 required parking space per 250 S.F. of floor area.

Applicant: The Haven Group, LLC. File #ZR 17-076.

PUBLIC HEARING: Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Harriet North Room, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven.

A Complete copy of this application and supporting documents available for review in the office of Planning & Development, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT.
(Notice provided per Section 86 of the Zoning Regulations)

Kathleen Hendricks, Chairperson



Submitted Photo

Good deed

For the fifth year in a row West Haven High School Student Government members, headed by advisor Trish Thompson, raked leaves for elderly resident Helen Leone. The resident was able to offer some refreshment after the hard work.

'Icy Plunge' has an added event in '18

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice
Get ready for a doubleheader of arctic proportions. If it were not already epic enough with its Icy Plunge for the Cure, the city's Breast Cancer Awareness Committee is presenting an additional goodwill contest on the same January morning for those looking to challenge themselves while raising money for a good cause.

The first winter beach volleyball tournament, appropriately called the Spike for the Cure and organized by the Department of Parks and Recreation, will complement the 18th annual Icy Plunge for the Cure on Jan. 13. Both events will benefit breast cancer research and education, said city Human Resources Commissioner Beth A. Sabo, a founding member of the committee, established

in 2001. Participants in the plunge can break out the polar swimwear at 9 a.m. at Savin Rock Beach, off Captain Thomas Boulevard. Then, at 11 a.m., participants in the volleyball tourney can bust out the cold weather sportswear on the frozen tundra of Sea Bluff Beach, just down the way off Ocean Avenue. Registration for the plunge

starts at 7:30 a.m. in the Savin Rock Conference Center, 6 Rock St. The first 100 people to register will receive "plungewear." The top fundraiser will receive a prize. Participants will wait on the beach for the signal to charge into the frigid surf of Long Island Sound. Wetsuits are not allowed. More than 200 people took part in last year's frosty dip,

which netted about \$30,000, said Sabo, who supervises Park-Rec. And organizers anticipate another hearty turnout this year, with several city, police and fire departments forming teams and issuing challenges to one another to help raise the stakes and more money. After the plunge, organizers will hold a raffle with prizes donated by area businesses. Sabo said the plunge is a celebration of survivors and a remembrance of loved ones who have died of the disease. Registration forms are available in the Department of Human Resources on the second floor of City Hall, 355 Main St. Pledges for the plunge must be handed in the day of the event, Sabo said. Checks are payable to the West Haven Breast Cancer Awareness Program. For information or to sponsor the plunge, call Sabo at (203) 937-3558. For the Spike for the Cure, Park-Rec is registering six-person teams for the single-elimination tournament. The team entry fee is \$100. Register at the department's Painter Park office, 190 Kelsey Ave. Checks are payable to the West Haven Breast Cancer Awareness Program. For information or to sponsor the tournament, call Park-Rec at (203) 937-3651.



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Historian's corner By Dan Shine

We Three Kings
 The waters of the Red Sea have never been red; a dipper of water drawn from that sea comes up just as clear as it would from anywhere else. But according to the local lore, the red clay of the surrounding land gives that sea the appearance of red wine.
 More than 2,000 years ago, King Melchior reigned over



the lands near the Red Sea; on one special day however, he was a traveler on an important mission. The footpaths in his region were nameless and unmarked, but Melchior knew exactly where he was going, for he had the Star to guide him. This was like no other star anyone had ever seen--it glowed as brightly as the sun, both in the day and in the night--and from it, the light flowed across the sky in bright streaks and beams. And that Star led him onward.

The star and its special significance had been long foretold. Thus, Melchior carried with him a gift of gold, for his kingdom was renowned for the finest gold. His special gift was to be presented to an extraordinary child.

By some act of fate, Melchior met King Balthazar, from Sheba, who was on the selfsame mission. Balthazar had brought his own special

gift—frankincense—which dripped from the trees in his own country more than in any other place in the world. These two kings were next met by King Gaspar, an Ethiopian from a mysterious land called Tharsis. Gaspar was the tallest and carried from his region a substance called myrrh, which was well-known for its healing qualities. Together they traveled, led ever onward by the Star.

This little group—the Magi or Wise Men as they would become known--followed the Star to the Christ Child, in a lowly stable in Bethlehem, and their visit has been recalled throughout the centuries on Epiphany, the twelfth day of Christmas.

But after that, what happened to the Three Kings? They are briefly mentioned in Matthew 2:1-8, but then they disappear back into the mists of the centuries. Like many tales from that era, their story is part history, part legend.

They were depicted in artwork as wandering travelers, and it should come as no surprise that they became the patrons of travelers the world over. In Bethlehem, the Church of the Nativity once displayed a mosaic of them approaching Jesus. They were eventually buried together, and according to legend, they were moved several times over the years. Today, and for centuries, the bones of the Magi reside at the Cathedral of Cologne, Germany, an ancient outpost of the Roman Empire.

The poet Dean Trench told their story thus in part:

From that region of the morn
*Are ye come, thus travel-worn,
 With those boxes pearl-embossed,
 Caskets rare, and gifts of cost.
 While your swarth attendants wait*
*At the stable's outer gate,
 And camels slowly lift their head*
*High above the lowly shed...
 ...Dearer for the mystery
 That is round you-on what skies*
*Gazing, saw you first arise,
 Thro' the darkness, that clear star.*
 Warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas

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Sports Sports Sports Sports Sports



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Cheering the home team

Members of the West Haven Seahawks cheerleading squad lead a spirited pep rally Friday afternoon in the Bailey Middle School auditorium for the Ray Tellier Midget Football League's West Haven Seahawks junior varsity team. An enthusiastic assembly of students, teachers, faculty and staff, joined by Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, watched the Seahawks live on ESPN3 as they competed for the national title against the Westchase Colts of Tampa Bay, Fla., in the Pop Warner Division II Junior Varsity Championship in Orlando, Fla. The Seahawks, ages 11-13, lost 28-0. However, in addition to finishing No. 2 in the nation, the Seahawks are the New England Region Pop Warner Division II Junior Varsity champions and the champs of the Southern Connecticut Pop Warner Football Conference.

Sharks rebound after opening loss

The West Haven/Sacred Heart girls hockey team started its season hosting powerhouse Darien on Monday evening at the Bennett Rink. The Blue Wave jumped out to an early 1-0 lead just 1:17 into the game and then extended the lead at 11:43 to make it 2-0. The Westie Sharks were able to cut the lead in half when Mia Celentano hit Taylor Nowak with a pass and Nowak found the back of the net at 6:39 of the second period to make it 2-1.

That would be as close as the girls would get as the Blue Wave had an answer 42 seconds later and then iced the game with a goal in the third period for the 4-1 victory. Tatum Courtmanche made 23 saves between the pipes for the Westie Sharks.

The girls had a chance to bounce back and get in the win column with a trip to the DiLungo Rink in East Haven and a matchup with the Guilford Indians on Wednesday. The Westie Sharks left no doubt

in this one, shutting down the Indians in a 5-0 shutout win. The girls took the lead on Taylor Nowak's second goal of the season with two minutes left in the first period, assisted by Francesca Criscuolo and Shannon Siclari. Criscuolo then added a goal in the second period assisted by Nowak and Mackenzie Gardner to make it 2-0. C.C. Condon and Megan Froehlich each added second period goals, assisted by Veronica Lynn to increase the lead to 4-0 and then Lynn put the game away with a tally with 2:39 left in the game, assisted by Jenna Hunt for the 5-0 final. Kyleen Crowe made eight saves to record the shutout for the Westie Sharks.

On Saturday evening the Westie Sharks were locked in a scoreless tie with the Hand Tigers until Taylor Nowak took a pass from Megan Froehlich, streaked down the right side of the rink past the Tigers' defense and picked the top corner just 1:45 into the third period to lift the girls to a 1-0 shut-

out victory. The Westie Sharks dominated the play during most of the game, outshooting Hand 36-15 but were kept off the board until Nowak's tally. Tatum Courtmanche turned aside all 15 shots she faced to record her first shutout of the season and the Westie Sharks second, consecutive shutout.

This week, the girls hosted Branford/East Haven/North Branford on Wednesday and travel to take on the Lauralton Hall Crusaders on Saturday at 4:45 in Bridgeport.

The West Haven girls' basketball team opened its season with a trip to New Haven to

face the Career Panthers on Monday night. The Panthers set the tone early grabbing a 30-19 first half lead on the way to a 72-34 defeat of the Blue Devils. Amanda Carr led the Westies with ten points while Ebonie Jones had seven points and Ny'Aire Serrano and Diamond Dixon added five points each in the loss.

On Saturday evening, the Westies hosted the Wilbur Cross Governors and after a 65-26 loss, the girls are still in search of their first victory of the season.

This week, the Blue Devils traveled to Bridgeport to take

on the Harding Presidents on Tuesday and will travel to North Haven on Friday for a battle with the Indians at 7.

The boys winter sports teams all got under way this week when the boys hockey team hosted the Greenwich Cardinals on Wednesday and host the Fairfield Warde/Ludlowe Mustangs on Saturday at 1 at the Bennett Rink. The boys' basketball team hosted the Cheshire Rams on Monday and host the Xavier Falcons on Friday at 7 while the swim team hosted the Shelton Gaels on Tuesday and host the Hand Tigers on Friday at 4.



Photo courtesy of Todd Dandelske

Player of the Week

West Haven sophomore girls hockey player Taylor Nowak (11) is the Vio's Sports Plus/Westie Blue Player of the Week. Nowak scored in each of West Haven's three games to start the season. In three games, Nowak has three goals and an assist for four points. Read about Taylor Nowak on the Player of the Week page at www.westieblue.com.

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Squirt A loses, tops Greenies

The West Haven Squirt A travel hockey team split a pair of road games over the weekend. On Saturday, the Westies were overmatched by Greater New Haven A and lost 13-1. The team bounced back on Sunday to defeat Hamden A, 9-5. The Blue Devils are now 22-6-2 overall.

On Saturday at the Northford Ice Pavilion, the Squirt A's ran into a powerful Greater New Haven Warriors team. Zach Goetze scored the lone goal for the Westies when he converted a breakaway in the third period.

The Blue Devils then traveled to Louis Astorino Rink in Hamden Sunday morning to face the Green Dragons as part of the "Winter Classic" weekend series between the Hamden and West Haven hockey programs.

The Green Dragons took a 1-0 lead 1:45 into the game when the puck squirted through Westies goaltender Jacob Silva. Sean Studley evened it at one at 8:27 when he redirected Ethan Kelly's pass inside the near post.

Goetze deked and scored on a break just 34 seconds later, and Thomas Porto backhanded in a feed from Brady Price and Goetze another 34 seconds after that to give West Haven a 3-1 advantage after one period.

Porto to Goetze, back to Porto made it 4-1 in the first minute of the second period. Three minutes later, Dylan Bo-

sworth found Goetze behind the net and he fed Porto in the slot to make it 5-1. Hamden scored two goals within seven seconds to cut it to 5-3, but Porto again scored from the slot from Price and Goetze for a 6-3 advantage after two periods.

Matthew Kelly sent a pass to Dylan Link who fired in from the right point to open the third period. After a Hamden tally, Bosworth went end-to-end while shorthanded for an 8-4 lead. Price, finished the scoring for the 9-5 win. Silva had 14 saves in net for the Westies.

The West Haven Squirt B travel hockey team split the weekend with a 6-5 loss against Avon and a 6-1 win against Hamden.

The Westies lost a well-played game on Saturday against Avon. Cameren Lipford had four goals and J.J. Hall found the back of the net once as well. Adding in with assists were Jack Frances, Chris Consorte, Rafi Treat and Lucas Iversen.

The Westies then followed up a tough loss with a big win against rival Hamden. Six Westies found the back of the net which included Jack Frances, Tyler McColgan, Treat, Hall, Gavin Coady and Lipford. Maddex Lafountain as solid in goal with 23 saves.

The West Haven Peeewe A travel hockey team improved to 20-8-4 with a sweep of two games this weekend. The Wes-

ties opened with a 10-2 victory over ECHO in Bolton on Saturday.

Dave Brown led the way with three goals, Colin Deane scored twice, Nolan Cole had a goal and an assist, and Dante Hardt had two assists. The West Haven defense accounted for six goals in the game.

West Haven put the game away quickly, taking a 5-0 lead in the opening period. Brown scored off an assist from Hardt 3:53 into the game, Sean Bosworth scored from the point with 6:37 left in the period, and Jack Sellman scored off an assist from Cade Simone 36 seconds later. Deane and Brown capped the first period scoring with unassisted goals.

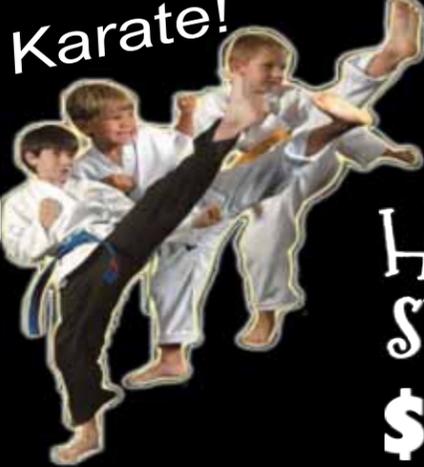
The Westies increased the lead to 8-0 with three more goals in the second. Hardt set up Brown 2:19 into the period, Deane scored unassisted with 6:30 to go, and Michael Madera redirected a shot by Mickey Dowd home for an 8-0 advantage. Jason Alling scored off an assist from Cole 2:25 into the third, and Cole added an unassisted tally less than four minutes later.

The Westies swept the weekend with a 3-1 victory over Hamden at Hamden Sunday morning. Jayden Spreyer led the Westies with two goals, while Deane added a pair of assists.

Brendan Smith was sensational in goal, making several key saves early and a handful more late in the game.

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 - 13 Neighborhood
 - 14 Expert
 - 15 Shipwreck site
 - 16 Ancient Briton
 - 17 Say it's OK
 - 18 It's right on the map
 - 19 Shell game need
 - 20 Took the bus
 - 21 - canto
 - 23 Mainlander's memento
 - 25 Flower cluster
 - 28 Heckle or Jeckle
 - 32 Baking potato
 - 33 Any of four that chase
 - 34 Aberration
 - 36 Last syllable of a word
- DOWN**
- 1 Tragic
 - 2 Concept
 - 3 Hearty quaffs
 - 4 Forgotten, maybe
 - 5 Spotted horse
 - 6 Huron neighbor
 - 7 Soothe
 - 8 Body art, for short
 - 9 Good ring?
 - 10 On the rocks
 - 11 Apportion (out)
 - 20 90 degrees
 - 22 Overact
 - 24 American emblem
 - 25 Carnival city
 - 26 Throw in
 - 27 Scoundrel
 - 29 Luau bowlful
 - 30 Doctrine
 - 31 Greek H
 - 35 Dairy-section item
 - 36 Overcoat named for a region of Ireland
 - 39 Talon
 - 40 Whip
 - 41 Sore
 - 43 Bocelli show-stopper
 - 45 Eastern bigwig
 - 46 Pealed
 - 47 Aware of
 - 49 Letterman's employer

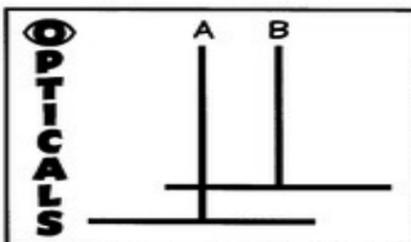
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18				19			20				
		21	22			23	24				
25	26	27				28		29	30	31	
32						33					
34				35		36					
		37				38					
39	40	41		42	43			44	45	46	47
48				49				50			
51				52				53			
54				55				56			

MAGIC MAZE • WINTER

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

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

Berry Blahs	Months Olympics	Squash Storm	Wheat Winds
Carnival Coat	Park Sports	Time Vacation	Wonderland



OF THE TWO figures above, A and B, which one's height and width are equal?

A CHEERFUL ADDITION! To solve this problem, you must replace the letters in the AlphaMath puzzle with the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. See if you can get a higher total than we did.

IT'S MAGIC! Use the numbers 1 through 10 to fill in our Magic Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and vertical column should total 37. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you.



	11	17
16		12
19		
		18

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each, plus plenty of hints.

- Commercial announcements.
- To criticize harshly.
- Superman and Batman have them.
- A small dent or nick.
- A female sheep.
- To strike out (baseball).
- To erode away gradually.
- Disorder or chaos.
- Mischievous children.
- Type of bird.

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&
New Year's Eve
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LA MARGA

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