



Santa gets ready

City remembers 'Day of Infamy'

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

The West Haven Veterans Council observed the 77th anniversary of the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor during its annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremony Friday at the William A. Soderman Memorial on the Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park.

Amid a bitter cold, late autumn breeze, Lou Esposito, the master of ceremonies and Mayor Nancy R. Rossi's executive assistant, delivered poignant remarks on her behalf to the huddled crowd of about 75 veterans, residents, and city and state officials, honoring the patriotic sons and daughters who made the ultimate sacrifice nearly eight decades ago on the eve of America's entry into World War II.

On the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, 353 Imperial Japanese aircraft, launched from six aircraft carriers, bombed the U.S. Navy base on Oahu, Hawaii, killing 2,335 service members and 68 civilians.

"I think it's important during the busy month of December to stop and think about the people who died at Pearl Harbor 77 years ago and all the families who were affected that day — the date that does live on in infamy," Esposito said.

"As members of the greatest generation continue to pass away, events such as the horrific attack on Pearl Harbor seem to drift into the historic domain," he said. "If we do not take the time to remember, we risk a sense of disconnection that dishonors the memory of those who died."

Esposito continued: "West Haven is fortunate to have this place — Bradley Point, the Soderman Memorial Flagpole and our Veterans Walk of Honor — where we can gather to remember our military, honor our veterans, and assemble on special occasions such as this. Let us reflect on the lives lost on Dec. 7, 1941, and always appreciate the sacrifices borne by our veterans."

The 35-minute event included remarks from Ben Florsheim, an aide to U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn.; state Reps. Charles J. Ferraro, R-117, and Dorinda Borer, D-115; Steve Carney, vice president and treasurer of the Veterans Council; and Freddy

See Pearl Harbor, page 7



Photo by Russ McCreven

West Haven Veterans Council President Dave Ricci salutes after laying a wreath at the base of the granite William A. Soderman Memorial on the Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park during the council's annual observance of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on Friday.



Photo courtesy of Rohna Committee

Fitting tribute

Sen. Richard Blumenthal speaks to the large crowd that gathered Dec. 2 to pay tribute to three city residents who died in the sinking of the HMT Rohna, in November 1943. The story of the three West Haven High School buddies, all assigned to the same unit was found accidentally, when a cache of memorabilia was being catalogued. The find has since brought to light a story that was kept hidden by the federal government for more than half a century. See page 3 for more details on the event, and on a new chapter in the saga.

Linnea Hildenbrandt, age 1 1/2, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., is waiting for snow!



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Photo courtesy of Carolyn Sires

Holiday party

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, fourth from back left, joins members of the West Haven Silver Sneakers, a group of fitness enthusiasts 55 and older, at their holiday party Dec. 4 at the Physicians Physical Therapy & Sports Complex, 544 Campbell Ave. Carolyn Sires, owner of the complex, thanked the workout group for spending two weekends helping her decorate her business's windows for the holidays.



City tax bills set for mail; due Jan. 1

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

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

Taxpayers of the Allingtown Fire District will receive a revised bill for both real estate and personal property because the current levy is insufficient to pay expenses for the current fiscal year, Tax Collector Dorothy Chambrelli said.

Pursuant to statutory requirements and as required in the five-year plan adopted by the state Municipal Accountability Review Board, the City Council approved an increase of .94 mill to the current Allingtown mill rate, resulting in an increase from 13.06 to 14 mills.

The revised bill will be mailed in the second week of December and replaces the second half of the 2017 grand list bill, which is due Jan. 1. The motor vehicle bill remains the same, Chambrelli said.

The 2017 supplemental motor vehicle bill will also be mailed in December and is for vehicles registered after Oct. 1, 2017.

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

The tax office is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays on the first floor of City Hall, 355 Main St. The city has an ATM outside the office.

Please note that City Hall is closed for business Dec. 24, a furlough day for city employees.

Taxpayers can see their tax bills, make a payment, and print their payment history for income tax purposes at www.cityofwesthaven.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.

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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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'3 Buddies' honored at Military Museum

By the Rohna Committee
Special to the Voice

A classic story/movie was The Greatest Story Ever Told. Next week's *West Haven Voice* will carry what the Walter F. Stankiewicz family would call one of the most beautiful stories ever told, and it's a Christmas story you will never forget.

On a cold, rainy Sunday, Dec. 2, a presentation was made at West Haven's Veterans Museum and Learning Center. The subject was the story of the three soldiers lost in the Nov. 26, 1943, sinking of the troop ship, HMT Rohna, off the North African coast. Details are here, taken from the account on the Museum's Wall of Honor:

Pacifico A. Migliore, Jr., John T. Cox and Pasquale J. Logiodice grew up in West

Haven, and all attended West Haven High School. Together they entered the Army Air Corp on January 18, 1943.

They were assigned together in the 853rd Engineer Battalion. They were three of the 1,015 U.S. casualties in the sinking of the transport ship, HMT Rohna on Nov. 26, 1943.

The ship was hit by a new weapon—a rocket-propelled, remote-controlled, glide bomb. The details were kept classified for 50 years. The three soldiers and buddies are named on the Tablets of the Missing, North Africa American Cemetery, Carthage, Tunisia. The men, all Private First Class, were awarded the Purple Heart, Good Conduct, WWII Victory Medal and the American Campaign Medal.

If you were at the loving presentation by students of

WHHS, two active duty servicemen, Staff Sgt. Philip Lee, U.S. Army, and Seaman Mason Couch, U.S.C.G., and individuals reading actual letters (1943) from loved ones, you might have noticed a technician assembling the sound system.

Our technician on that Sunday was Michael Walsh, an author of two amazing books, *Rohna Memories: Eyewitness to Tragedy* and *Rohna Memories II*. Walsh went on later to show examples of his sound/visual recordings of survivors' and relatives' memories of the harrowing tales.

Walsh has graciously allowed the Voice to bring you Walter Stankiewicz' account as told by Frank, a nephew. This will appear in next week's Voice.

Michael, his wife, Danette,

Photo courtesy of John Dolan

The "Three Buddies" were honored at a ceremony, Dec. 2, at the West Haven Military Museum and Learning Center with a large crowd attending. Part of the ceremony was the placing of the three on the facility's "Wall of Honor."

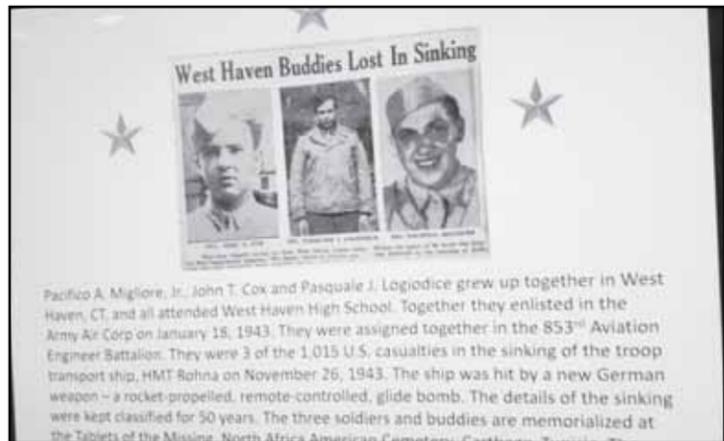
and a half dozen other survivor association members traveled a distance to come to join us in our endeavors. They pitched right in to help us all succeed.

Participants then enjoyed pizza "and" at Zuppardi's Restaurant. It seemed that we were all relatives joined hap-

pily together.

More details and "thanks" will follow next week.

A little note: Cathy St. Clair (who helped us, along with her husband, Ray St. Clair, U.S. Navy, Ret.), wanting to point out something important, said at one point, "Don't call them men; they were only boys!"



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Dear Felicia

Yew know it's the end o' the year honey bunch when we git the annual "Tax bills go out" story or somethin' like it. Yup, Christmastime also means tax bill time, and our local tax collector – the always lovely Dorothy Chambrelli – sends out her missive and her bills. Jest once we'd like to see a Christmas card from the tax collector, but it'll probably include the bill, so the mood would be missed.

Needless to say, Iyam also giving yew our penultimate (ain't that a great woid?) reminder that come the Dec. 20 issheew of this papyrus, we will be shutting down for a couple o' weeks so that our overworked and underpaid staff can have the holidays off. We've done it each year since we opened this place more than 20 years ago, but each year the public forgets, and there are wonders why they ain't seeing the publication on the streets during Christmas and New Year's. We'll remind

ye again, and next week will be the "ultimate" time. I guess yew can now figger what "penultimate" means!

Sammy Bluejay was in t'other afternoon and sez that we can expeck that the new campaign for mayor – which is supposed to happen in the fall 2019 – will probably begin after the foist of the year. As yew remember, about three weeks ago the former hizzoner, Ed O'Brien, spake of running for his ole office and doing "exploration" to that end.

Well, we have since found out that fundraisers have been planned and that he will probably announce that he is, in fact, running for the job. Now Sammy sez he's got a perty good gig that pays quite well, and there are some who're wondering why he would be looking to git back into the environs of the Actors Colony. Good query!

What they don't understand is that there is something about believing you can

wield some type of power that drives many politicians. The prestige ain't bad either. Once they have it, it's like a drug. They like the way it makes 'em feel. So, in many ways it ain't surprising he will be seeking office again.

The question to be answered is how he is gonna justify his four years and four deficits. Effen he can git by that hurdle, O'Brien may have a chance. But, I'm told that some o' the people who used to support him are planning on sitting this one out. Effen that happens, the chances of him running might go up, but the chances of him winning take a bit of a tumble.

We shall see how this all shakes out. Political fortunes and political alliances have a way of getting boosts where they might not have. It's a long time betwixt now and November. A lot can happen, and a lotta minds can be made up – or changed. We shall see.

~~~~~  
 Nelly Nuthatch pernted out the current controversy wherein the members of the constabulary are looking to get a traditional form of pension back. It's been quite a while since the city stopped giving constables pensions and, instead, gave 'em 401k plans. One of the criticisms at the time was the city would lose or train and lose members of the force, who will go to other departments.

That is happening we are told as we spend the \$70k to train con-

stables and then they move onto greener pastures. But they were doing that before. The salaries here are not the greatest and the mobility of the force was being determined by market forces. Also, the contractual promise could be made to stay with the force for X number of years to realize the benefits of the training. In other words, they have to sign a multi-year contract 3 or 5 years, and then they can move on.

The city ain't in a position to pay for pensions, and more and more cities are seeing that pensions are a big expense that never seems to be work out finance-wise – that is, unless the municipality involved is along the Gold Coast. Our constabulary, like it or not, is a training or stepping stone operation. People will naturally move to other departments just because the pay or benefits will be better. It's the market as much as anything else. It'll be interesting to see how this plays out. I wouldn't put my money on the city opting to go back to pensions, however.

~~~~~  
 Our esteemed editor told me that Board of Ed chairman Rose Russo has issheewed a "state of the schools" missive to the papyrus and that it's gonna be published this week as an op-ed. This is a foist, and maybe a new tradition in these parts. We don't git to hear much from the B of E unless there is some type of controversy going on – and in this burg there is always a con-

troversy going on.
 While it's a bit of a newsletter like yew git from a pesky relative at the end of the year, rather than a nice Christmas card, it will give some people around here, especially those who don't pay much attention to things school-wise, some info they might not otherwise git. So, in case yore interested, check it out.

~~~~~  
 Also, last week's missive concerning parental angst over the removal of asbestos in the rebuild of the high school roiled a few in and around the Actors Colony. I hear-tell that an answer is being banged out as we speak, and is planned for publication this week.

Those in charge of the school rebuild are rankled cuz they say every precaution is being taken regarding the asbestos removal, and no matter what they say or do, there are those who jest don't wanna believe it. I don't know effen that's true, but I do know that it has been an issheew that sticks in people's craw over two administrations, not just one.

I'll let them speak for themselves, but there are some issheews that no matter what you do, there are gonna be people who're dissatisfied. They think it should be handled one way and one way only, and any deviation from that is a sort of heresy. That may or may not be what's happening in this case. It's an emotional topic, and most times when emotion comes in, there is a lotta talking across each other, rather than listening.

~~~~~  
 Iva Lootey was out and about and mentioned that he's seeing a lotta "tree trimming" going on, and it ain't the kind that has tinsel and lights. Crews are seen here and there in the burg working on trimming branches. No less than two were seen within about a half-mile of each other one afternoon.

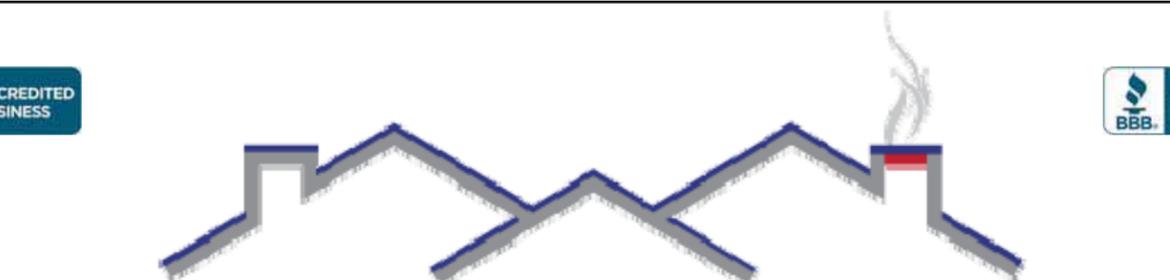
I read somewhere that tree trimmers are out to get the branches away from the wires. The UI was doing that work. There seems to be other tree-trimming as well. With the weather patterns we could git into, that's not a bad idea cutting back the branches. But let's not git too cut happy. We don't wanna see good trees cut down just for convenience. Trees do add something to a neighborhood – and the look of that neighborhood.

~~~~~  
 The Mystick Maidens of the Marsh are planning their annual holiday bash, and there is hope that High Exalted Mystick Maiden Merlie Mae can make this year's festivities. She's still recouping from her injuries from an early summer fire.

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# Gripevine

By Eleanore Turkington

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

Cars are driving entirely too fast down Union Avenue. It is a one-way residential road and cars are doing 50 miles per hour. I can feel the house shake when they go so fast that its absolutely ridiculous!! We need speed bumps big time!

*CF Union Avenue*

**Dear CF Union Avenue:**

According to Aaron Charney, third district councilman who became aware of your complaint and this to say, "That is my district and I live on that block of Union Avenue, too. I agree, speeding is a problem. It gets very bad at night or when the street isn't packed with cars.

I am personally a fan of speed bumps and have seen them used in New Haven and several communities in Fairfield County.

There are several streets in this part of town with the same issue, and speed bumps could be effective at curbing speeding. I have brought these speeding concerns to the police department before and will reach out again this week"

Councilman Charney can be reached at (203) 479-0424 .

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

Several weeks ago, I complained to Gripe Vine about the condition of the sidewalk on Linden Street. You said you would try to help, and you asked me to get back to you if there was any change. I wrote soon after and told you no one has been around to even look at the sidewalk or tree stump. (Gripe Vine published a photo of the broken sidewalk to facilitate repair as soon as possible.)

Today's email from the griper stated that the city's sidewalk inspector, Ernie Chiarelli stopped by because he saw the



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Gripe Vine article in the paper. He said we would be getting new sidewalks in the spring because it is too cold now. Continuing, the letter writer indicated that the inspector said that if they don't come in the spring to do the job than we are to call Mr. Chiarelli and he will take care of it.

**Dear Gripe Vine Readers:**

As I had noted in previous columns, the lack of the city's attention to reader's Gripe Vine complaints, led me to publish these unsolved gripes every week. Reader's will then become aware of these unsolved, unanswered issues when they appear in Gripe Vine.

A reader complained of an "unsightly" old gas station at the corner of Savin Avenue and Graham Manor Road "used as some type of repair shop. It is way overgrown with weeds everywhere around the building and growing through what is left of an asphalt parking lot. The reader also complained of a boat that has been there rotting for many years and property that is overgrown with weeds. The letter writer indicated that the property owner should be fined for blight."

There has been no response from the city.

Readers you can send your

complaints, comments and issues to gripevine4wh@aol.com or mail them to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice 666 Savin Ave. Please include your name, address and phone number. This information will be kept in strict confidence with me.

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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



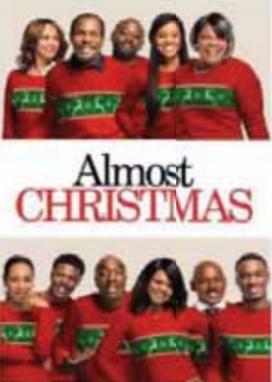
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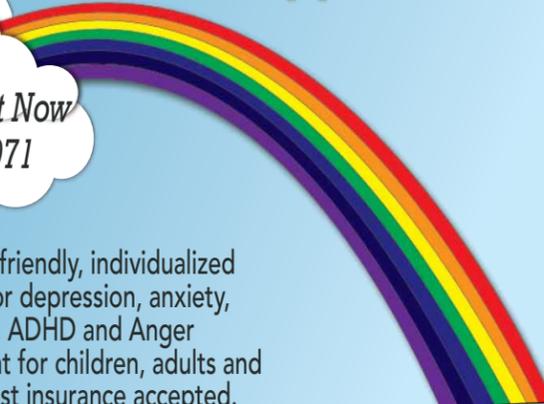
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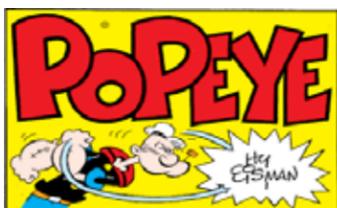
### R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



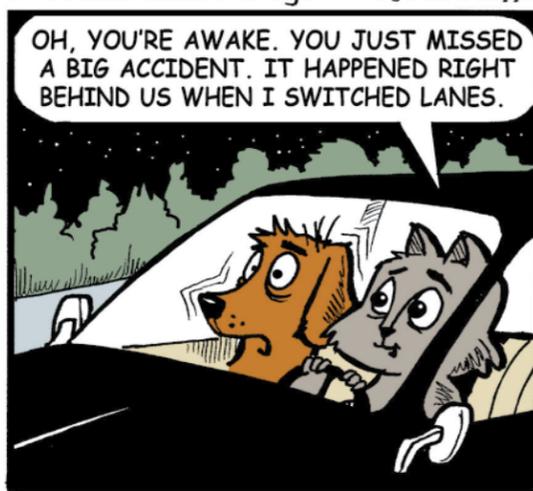
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# Pearl Harbor: *City continues to remember*

Continued from page 1

Jackson, commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9422.

It was attended by City Clerk Deborah Collins and Councilman Peter V. Massaro, D-6.

Representing the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Florence Stoeber, wife of the late Jack Stoeber, a Navy veteran of Pearl Harbor and Iwo Jima, read the names of the 18 Connecticut servicemen who died at Pearl Harbor. West Haven Fire Department Lt. William Heffernan tolled the department's chrome bell each instant a name was called.

Stoeber, whose ashes were scattered in Pearl Harbor after he died Jan. 16, 2016, at age 97, was a .50-caliber machine-gunner aboard the destroyer tender USS Whitney in the Pacific theater of World War II. Decades later, he was a regular at West Haven's Pearl Harbor rites for many years.

Florence Stoeber was accompanied by her 5-year-old grandson, Matthew McCann, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The solemn service commenced with a presentation of the colors by the West Haven Police Color Guard and a flag-raising by the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard, which comprises members of the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown, the West Haven Fire Department and the West Shore Fire Department.

It featured opening and closing prayers by Victor M. Borrás of Gateway Christian Fellowship and a rendition of the national anthem by West Haven High School sophomore Nora E. Mullins.

The tribute also included a wreath-laying by Veterans Council President Dave Ricci and taps played by former West Shore fire Lt. Kevin McKeon.

Photo by Michael P. Walsh and Russ McCreven

**Left -- Representing the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Florence Stoeber, wife of the late Jack Stoeber, a Navy veteran of Pearl Harbor and Iwo Jima, reads the names of the 18 Connecticut servicemen who died during the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Right -- Two members of the VFW salute during the ceremony. Several dozen people braved the cold temperatures and whipping wind to attend the annual event.**



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

**Mayoral Executive Assistant Lou Esposito holds the microphone for Matthew McCann, 5, as he recites the Pledge of Allegiance. Looking on are Matthew's grandmother, Florence Stoeber, and state Rep. Charles J. Ferraro, R-117.**



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# Mueller, FBI using tactics more in line with criminals

Over the last two years – well before Donald J. Trump was elected President – the nation was subjected to what is now seen as a spurious charge that the Trump Campaign “colluded” with the Russians to subvert the election of 2016. In fact, we now know any “collusion” whatever that means was perpetrated not by the Trump Campaign or any of its surrogates but by the Democratic National Committee and the Hillary Clinton Campaign through Fusion GPS and the infamous “Steele Dossier.”

Despite the spit-speckled bloviating of the Main Stream Media and the Democrats (we are redundant), the recent sentencing agreements of Attorney Michael Cohen do not amount to much, and certainly is thin gruel compared to the international hooliganism we were told happened between Trump and Russia. But we do not intend to rehash all the particulars of the events that continue to roil certain quarters of the Democratic Party, CNN and MSNBC. The entire investigation by former FBI Director Robert Mueller in our mind is tainted and illegitimate, and the people caught up in this illegitimacy are to be in a sense pitied rather than pilloried. We say this stipulating that Cohen might be a sleaze, he and Paul Manafort may have done all that is alleged – but without this illegitimate investigation those charges may never have been filed, and in the case of Manafort, the charges he was convicted upon were passed over by the Dept. of Justice more than a decade ago.

We say illegitimate because it was the illegal sending of classified information to a friend at Columbia by disgraced FBI Director James Comey that brought the special counsel into existence. In fact, that was the intention of making the contact and putting the story in the *New York Times* – to force a special counsel.

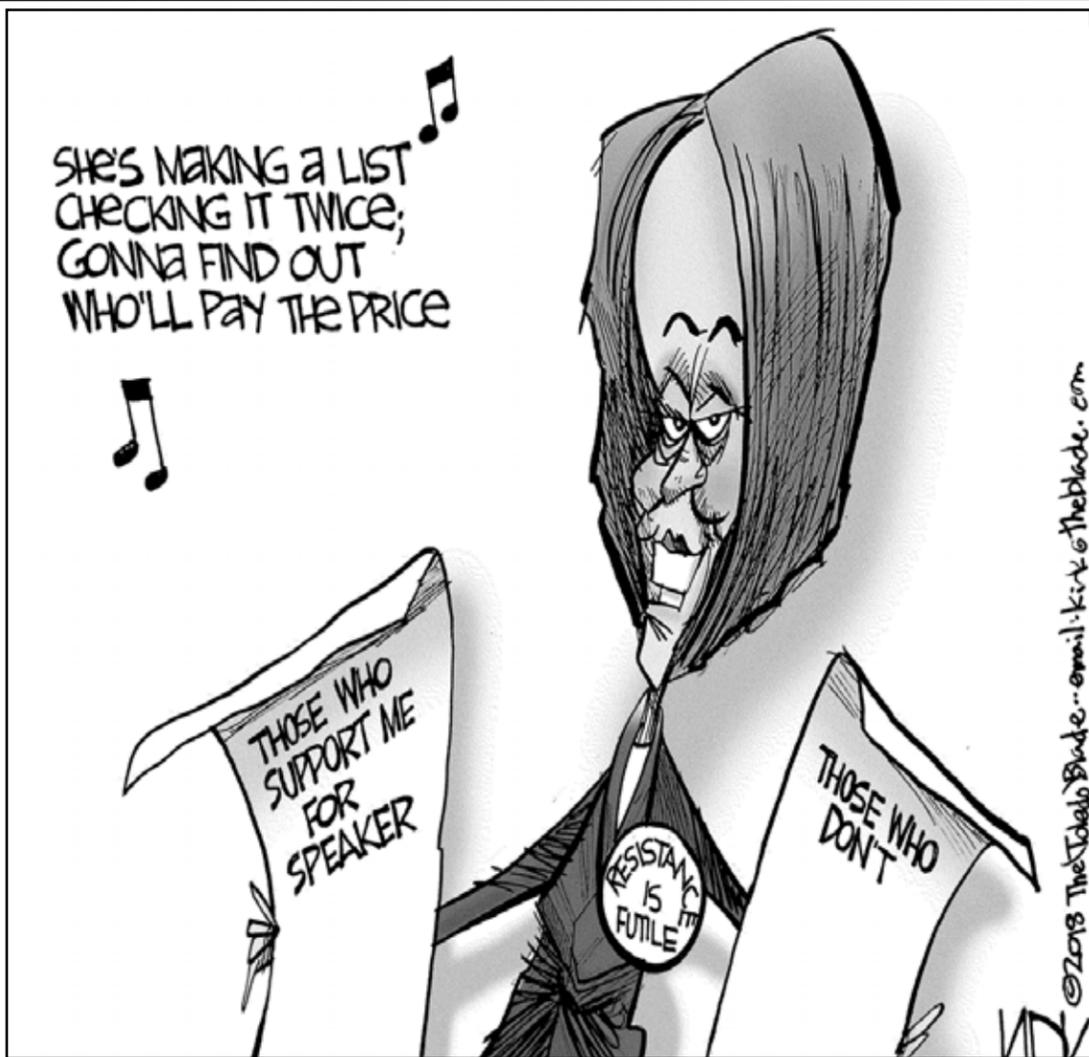
The special counsel was empaneled and what we saw after that smacks of a political takedown. All but one of the attorneys hired by Mueller are well-placed Democrats, many worked in Democratic administrations. The actions of the infamous couple and their friends in the FBI – Strzok, his par-amour Lisa Page, and the coterie of high-level officials looking to feather their nests in a Clinton administration (foiled by the voters), leading up to the delegitimizing of the Trump administration. – all gives the impression the wrong crew of people are being prosecuted.

We stipulated Cohen might be sleazy, and Manafort is a typical high-roller type, using his influence. But none of the crimes they were convicted of has anything to do with Trump’s alleged collusion with Russia. But there were others who were set up and targeted by the FBI and Justice Department: George Papadopoulos and Gen. Michael Flynn among others. Their crimes were what are known as “process crimes.” They were asked several questions and a determination was made as to whether they lied. In Flynn’s case his investigators believed him, but Mueller charged him with lying anyway. Why? To squeeze or to make him “sing or compose.” Same with Papadopoulos. The famous Soviet dictum comes to mind: find me the man and I will find the crime.

In Flynn’s case, they threatened to bring charges to his son and – only after the man was forced to sell his house – he decided to cop a plea. Papadopoulos was set up by a CIA operative, and it looks as if he was seen as a conduit to spy on the Trump campaign. This is not how the FBI, the Justice Department or American jurisprudence is supposed to operate. These organs of government were weaponized against a candidate and its supporters in order to facilitate an “Obama third term.” And, it is Barack Hussein Obama, Eric Holder and other operatives of the Obama administration who used eight years of power to politicize these governmental operations.

Process crimes are used to force people to submit to a narrative, rather than to find out the truth. The truth protectors become the truth usurpers in the FBI and DOJ. It is corruption at its highest level to use tactics more in line with organized crime and Joseph Stalin.

This whole two-year ordeal was promoted because a certain terrible candidate lost an election and her supporters couldn’t accept the outcome – including those in high position of authority. It is a disgrace and a terrible blow against our criminal justice system. It is indictment of our current politics, and certainly an indictment of the Democratic Party.



# McConnell restores order

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

Mitch McConnell just did our constitutional order an enormous favor by burying the so-called Robert Mueller protection bill, hopefully never to rise again.

There’s been much harumphing about how Republicans are in the tank for President Donald Trump by not getting on board the bipartisan bill, but it is a singularly misbegotten piece of legislation.

Plan A, i.e., passing the thing, would have been hard enough. But its supporters apparently didn’t think through a need for a Plan B or C: Trump would have vetoed the bill if it passed Congress, and if it somehow passed Congress with a veto-proof majority, the Supreme Court likely would have struck it down.

The push for the bill again shows how, to this point, Trump’s main threat to our constitutional system has been catalyzing a hysterical opposition. That opposition is willing to throw overboard legal and constitutional niceties to thwart Trump.

Hence, much of the #resistance judging regarding Trump measures. And hence the astonishing spectacle of U.S. senators, sworn to uphold the Constitution, advancing a blatantly unconstitutional bill.

The president is the chief executive, and like it or not, Trump is president. “I conceive that if any power whatsoever is in its nature executive,” James Madison declared, “it is the power of appointing, over-

seeing and controlling those who execute the laws.”

If the president can fire the attorney general (the ill-used Jeff Sessions attests that he can), he certainly can fire Mueller. The attorney general is a much more important position.

In compelling Senate testimony, Yale law professor Akhil Amar explained the constitutional problems with the Mueller protection bill. One is that to be constitutional, the special counsel must be an inferior officer. Otherwise, he has to be confirmed by the Senate, which Mueller wasn’t. And if he’s an inferior officer, he can be fired.

The problem with the protection bill in terms of constitutional architecture also gets

at the problem with the special counsel.

Yes, there’s lots of criminal action in the Mueller probe -- the Paul Manafort trial, the various plea deals -- but current Justice Department guidance says that the president himself can’t be indicted. That means that all Mueller can do regarding the president directly is produce a report that may well instigate congressional action, up to and including an impeachment probe. This preliminary investigative work should be the work of Congress alone, without the help of someone nominally working for the president he’s targeting.

Indeed, if you want investigations of the president

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# Open Letter: *Asbestos alarm unfounded*

Dear West Haven Community:

The West Haven High School building committee, along with all boards and commissions in the City of West Haven, recognizes the importance of being transparent and providing information when it is requested in a timely manner.

For the Building Committee's part, we hold regular monthly meetings that we publicize a year in advance, our agenda is posted with the City Clerk's office, and our minutes filed upon completion and in accordance with the law.

In addition, we have always answered questions from the public when requested to do so. The new West Haven High School Building Project is 20% complete, and has been nothing but a huge success. The management team has done a spectacular job keeping this project safe, under budget, and

on schedule.

This open letter is in response to concerns that are being raised again by a mother of two high school students, Christine Barrington, about the management of the High School Renovation Project, and the high school in general.

Mrs. Barrington, a layman when it comes to projects of this nature, does not understand the process and has been making wild and inaccurate claims over the past two years. Thousands of dollars are included in the budget that allow for safely remediating and disposing of hazardous materials. We now realize that no matter how many times experts in the field of construction, asbestos monitoring, and abatement explain the process and law; she continues to claim she knows more than they do.

This project, from the very begin-

ning has put the safety of all first and foremost. All industry standards have been followed, and those State agencies charged with overseeing the demolition and construction of the new building including the Department of Health, have approved plans prior to any work taking place and monitored the implementation.

Here is what the entire community should know about the renovation project taking place on the West Haven High School campus:

~~ Hundreds of air samples have been taken throughout the course of the project, and all have concluded the building is safe for occupancy.

~~ Prior to the opening of school in the late summer of 2016, new security cameras were installed. Once concerns were raised, state agencies as well as local officials investigated

the matter, and the building was deemed safe.

~~ All custodial staff are trained according to laws and standards when it comes to cleaning and following remediation protocols.

~~ Expert licensed asbestos professionals test according to DEP and EPA regulations.

In addition, more asbestos testing has been done than that of which is required, and in each case, all samples have come back negative. The bottom line is that there is no dangerous asbestos situation at West Haven High School and my niece and nephew, all other students, staff, and visitors are safe.

*Ken Carney*

**Chairman, Building Committee**

# 2018's end is time to reflect on city schools

**By Rosemary Russo**  
*Chairman BOE*

As the end of the year quickly approaches I wanted to take a moment to reflect on some accomplishments of the West Haven Public Schools. All of our students and staff should be proud of the events that occurred in 2018.

The year began with the construction of the new high school becoming a reality. By early spring the G wing was demolished, mid-summer you could begin to see construction taking shape and by October a Topping Off Ceremony was held.

The Shops moved into their «Swing Space» in January so students were able to continue with hands on experiences in Wood, and Automotive.

February brought exciting academic news for our schools. State Report Cards were released and West Haven Public Schools growth was outstanding.

Forest Elementary school achieved a ranking of «1» and all other elementary schools, the intermediate school and the middle school all achieved a ranking of 2. Forest would later be named a Blue Ribbon School by the Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. A huge honor for Mr. Thomas

Hunt and all of his teachers and staff. Congratulations to the students at Forest Elementary School for working so diligently.

The spring months brought the regular struggles of the budget. As we all know this was a difficult year for West Haven. Once again employees of the BOE made sacrifices to insure our kids would still have everything they needed. Services or staffing would not be effected because of these sacrifices. Employees from the top down took pay freezes. The assistant superintendent took a pay cut. Teachers agreed to a 0 step movement and no raise. The Nurses followed with the same deal.

In June we celebrated student achievements and graduations. Bailey, Adult Ed, and of course West Haven High School students moved on to the next level of their education. Many of these students graduated with Honors.

August came and the new school year began. The record-high heat was a challenge but we made it through. Academics and sports were back in full swing.

October brought overwhelming sorrow in the passing of Mrs. Pam Gardner,

Principal of West Haven High School. Hundreds of mourners paid their respect to this courageous woman who made such a difference in so many lives.

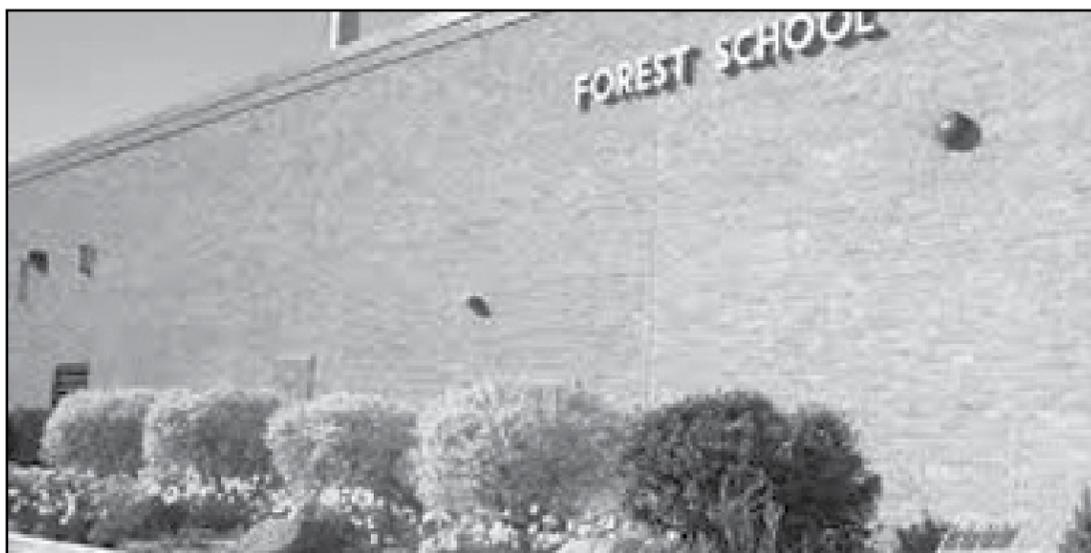
In November, Mrs. Dana

Paredes was named Assistant High School Principal of the year. A well-deserved honor to a very hard working woman who wore many hats the past year at the High School.

Each of these achievements

are noteworthy but achieving so many in one school year is spectacular.

Thank you to our teachers, paras and administrators for all that you do for our children.



Forest School was named a Blue Ribbon School by the Dept. of Education in 2018.



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# Lowry: *Order saved*

**Continued from page 8**

that the president can't stop or have influence over, you have to run them out of Congress. With the Democratic takeover of the House, such congressional probes are on their way.

Trump has huffed and puffed about Mueller, yet cooperated -- in some instances, quite fulsomely -- with his investigation. That could change at any time. But firing Mueller would lead to dire political consequences, and now fail to achieve its end of truly shutting him down. If cashiered, Mueller would presumably show up in January as the first witness before Rep. Jerry Nadler's Judiciary Committee and spill all he knows.

That's probably all the protection Mueller needs, and certainly all the protection he can legitimately be afforded.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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## Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

### Milton Cochran, USMC Part III

*It takes a special kind of woman to choose a man as broken in body and spirit as Milt Cochran: She must accept that the road ahead will be very hard, the days will be long and tiresome, and frustrations will be many. She must look beneath the deep scars and skin grafts and see someone with exceptional needs, and a special spark that makes him completely irresistible. And then she must choose to make him her partner for life.*

*She will be his caretaker, and he will be her hero.*

The year was 1970: As her graduation from West Haven High School approached, Marguerite "Peggy" Mursko's mother began urging her to apply at the Veterans Administration hospital to become an X-Ray Technician. Soon thereafter, she was a VA Hospital trainee.

One day while she was in the hospital library studying medical textbooks, a dark-haired young man in a wheelchair approached her.

He stopped and asked her what she was reading about; "anatomy" was her answer. "That's my favorite subject," he replied. They spoke for a couple of minutes, exchanged first names and pleasantries, and he went off to check out his books. Peggy wouldn't see him again for several weeks, but she waited and watched for his return.

Finally, by chance they met again. They began to spend time together on the fourth floor of the VA Hospital in the orthopedic ward where Milt was quartered. Milt had a transistor radio, and they'd listen to music on it while they looked out of the high window at the lighthouse across

the harbor and talked about life and love.

And the other guys in the ward would whistle and kid Milt about how the pretty girls always went to him.

Later on, Peggy would say, "It was in that ward that I fell in love with him, wheelchair and all."

What followed didn't take long: the young couple were married in 1972, and lived for a while in Seymour before moving to Arizona where the climate was more agreeable to Milt and his wounds.

And the years and the decades passed: Milt and Peggy became parents, and later, grandparents. And Peggy dutifully tended Milt's wounds and gave her support as Milt struggled with the nightmares and the PTSD that would haunt him forever. Milt called her his Angel.

In his final years, Milt Cochran contracted a rare form of liver cancer which would take his life in 2015; finally, he was moved to hospice care.

As the end neared, Milt told Peggy that he was ready to go, but he wished that he could have just one more year. Through tears she asked him why he would want to suffer for another year.

His answer was that it would be worth all that suffering, if he could just be with her for a little bit more.

Shortly thereafter Milt Cochran slipped away, escaped the suffering, and was at peace.

Decorated Combat Corpsman Milton C. Cochran died Sept. 11, 2015 and later was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



Milt Cochran and Peggy Mursko Cochran as a young couple.



## Around Town

### Center plans trip

Join the West Haven Senior Center for the following scheduled trip: All trips leave from Savin Rock Conference

Center.

MGM Springfield Casino Tuesday, Jan. 15, cost is \$25 per person. Bus leaves Savin Rock Conference Center at 8:30 a.m.

Trip includes \$10 free slot play. Payment is due by Jan. 4. Registration information for rewards card to be completed at time of registration.

Flyers with details for this trip are available at the office West Haven Senior Center 201 Noble St., or call (203) 937-3507 for more information.

### 'F. Seniors' trip

F Seniors and Friends has a trip planned for the new year: A trip to Atlantic City is planned for Jan. 2-4 at Resorts Casino.

Package includes four meals, \$20 in slot play and two shows. Price is \$229 per person.

For booking, call Fred at (203) 389-5808 or (203) 927-4249.

### Support offered

Balancing the care of a family member, a household and a job is overwhelming.

Meet with a representative from VNA Community Healthcare's Family Caregiver Support Network for a FREE consultation to discuss your personal care-giving issues, receive tips, guidance and explore solutions. Call VNA Community Healthcare's Helpline at 1 (866) 474-5230 (toll free) to schedule a private in-person or phone session with one of our family caregiver experts.

### Eve breakfast

First Congregational Church is having a breakfast on Christmas Eve, Monday, Dec.

24, from 9-11. The menu consists of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, fruit platter, coffee, tea and juice will be served. All are welcome.

### New Year Dance

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association, Inc., will hold its annual New Year's Eve party on Monday, Dec. 31, at the Cielo/WHIA club facility, located at 85 Chase Lane. A full-course sit-down dinner with dessert and coffee will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed with music for dancing by Sound Alternative from until 12:30. The open bar affair is \$65 per person. Reservations along, with full payment required by Dec. 28, may be made by calling Frank Consorte (203) 676-6379.

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# IRS tips to protect against identity theft, cybercriminals

The IRS, the states and the tax industry are committed to protecting you from identity theft. We've strengthened our partnership to fight a common enemy – the criminals – and to devote ourselves to a common goal – serving you.

Working together, we've made many changes to combat identity theft, and we are making progress. However, cybercriminals are constantly evolving, and so must we. The IRS is working hand-in-hand with your state revenue officials, your tax software provider and your tax preparer. By taking a few simple steps, you can better protect your personal and financial data online and at home.

Please consider these steps to protect yourselves from identity thieves:

- Keep Your Computer Se-

cure;

Use security software and make sure it updates automatically; essential tools include:

- Firewall;
- Virus/malware protection;
- File encryption for sensitive data;
- Treat your personal information like cash, don't leave it lying around;
- Check out companies to find out who you're really dealing with;
- Give personal information only over encrypted websites – look for "https" addresses;
- Use strong passwords and protect them;
- Back up your files;
- Avoid Phishing and Malware and phishing emails, texts or calls that appear to be from the IRS and companies you know and trust, go directly to their websites instead;



- Don't open attachments in emails unless you know who sent it and what it is;
- Download and install software only from websites you know and trust;
- Use a pop-up blocker;
- Talk to your family about safe computing;

### Protect Personal Information

Don't routinely carry your or any dependents' Social Security card or documents with SSN. Do not overshare personal information on social

media. Information about past addresses, a new car, a new home and your children help identity thieves pose as you. Keep old tax returns and tax records under lock and key or encrypted if electronic. Shred tax documents before trashing.

### Avoid IRS Impersonators

The IRS will not call you with threats of jail or lawsuits. The IRS will not send you an unsolicited email suggesting you have a refund or that you need to update your account. The IRS will not request any sensitive information online.

These are all scams, and they are persistent. Don't fall for them. Forward IRS-related scam emails to phishing@irs.gov. Report IRS-impersonation telephone calls at www.tigta.gov.

Additional steps:

- Check your credit report annually; check your bank and credit card statements often;
- Review your Social Security Administration records annually at www.ssa.gov;
- If you are an identity theft victim whose tax account is affected, review www.irs.gov/identitytheft for details.

## Strong passwords help protect your accounts

The IRS urges everyone with any type of online account to review new, stronger stan-

dards to protect their passwords. Doing so will help protect against savvy cybercriminals who want to access people's accounts and steal their identities.

Here are three steps people can follow to build a better password:

Step 1: Leverage powers of association. People can identify associated items that have personal meaning and use them in their passwords.

Step 2: Make unique associations. Passphrases should be words that can go together in your head, but no one else would ever suspect.

*Good example:* Items in a living room such as BlueCouch-FlowerBamboo.

*Bad example:* Names of children or pets.

Step 3: Create a passphrase that you can picture in your head. The key is to create a passphrase that is hard for a cybercriminal to guess, but easy for the user to remember.

In addition to creating strong passwords, people can:

Use a different password or passphrase for each account. People can consider using a password manager if necessary for multiple accounts.

Use multi-factor authentication whenever possible. They should not rely on the passphrase alone to protect sensitive data. Multi-factor authentication means returning account holders need more than just their username and password to access an account. They also need, for example, a security code sent as text to a mobile phone.

Change all factory-set passwords. They should do this for wireless devices such as printers and routers.

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We provide the support our residents need. Our clients' needs range from those who can live independently and choose to even bring their own cars with them to those requiring various levels of support, including medical, social, and assisted care services. Our primary goal is to provide the support residents need to live full and satisfying lives, while helping them maintain their independence and dignity.

Located in West Haven, Connecticut with a breathtaking view of Long Island Sound, Seacrest is a luxury assisted living Connecticut facility providing a variety of affordable, safe and comforting retirement care with services & amenities that range from independent living to 24-hour care. Seacrest offers diversified activities and entertainment programs, and is uniquely qualified to accommodate the varied needs and interests of each resident. Tour our facility.

Seacrest offers the flexibility of day care and short-term 'Stay-cation' packages for your loved one whenever you need a rest from care giving.

### Our facility

Seacrest is a secure building where you can feel safe that your loved one will be protected. Our qualified personnel are on the premises 24 hours a day, seven days a week to meet residents' medical needs. An emergency call station is in each unit. There is always a medication certified administrator on each shift available.

Our warm and caring Seacrest staff is dedicated to providing personalized, exemplary assisted living services to meet our residents' needs. Residents enjoy the security of knowing that we value their privacy and care about their well-being.

Seacrest Luxury Retirement Center provides of a wide range of senior-living services — social, custodial, and medical — including independent, assisted living and specialized services for clients with memory impairment. Clients' abilities range from those with an independent lifestyle and their own vehicles who enjoy a high degree of mobility and independence to those requiring more assistance.

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# Sports Sports Sports Sports Sports

## Sharks have something to prove

Coming off one of its best seasons in recent memory, the West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy girls hockey team has plenty to prove in 2018-2019. Fresh off a campaign which saw the Westie Sharks post 18 victories, but fall to New Canaan in the state quarterfinals, the team is ready to again make some noise.

Led by senior captains Veronica Lynn and Francesca Criscuolo, and assistant captains in seniors Celina Condon and Kyleen Crowe, the team has a solid nucleus. Add to the mix juniors Brooke McNabola, Taylor Nowak and Megan Froehlich, and sophomores Jianna Cohrs, and Mia Celentano, and the Westie Sharks have a strong nucleus of talented players.

"Our girls have been working hard and are motivated to win after a tough loss to New Canaan in the state quarterfinals last season," coach Erin Blake said. "We are ready to come back and prove ourselves. We take each game, win, loss, or tie, and learn from it. They have learned a lot over the course of the past year, and have set goals that they are ready to achieve. I am proud of their growth as a team and excited to see what this season holds. Their teamwork, dedication, and heart is any coach's dream."

Blake is well aware any good team starts with solid goaltending and even better defense. For the Westie Sharks, senior Crowe and freshman Grace Nowak will see time between the pipes, while Lynn, McNabola, sophomore Mackenzie Gardner and freshman Meghan Dupre will anchor the defense.

Offensively, the Westie Sharks will rely on seniors Criscuolo, Condon, Zoe DeFalco and Grace Plunkett, juniors Nowak and Froehlich, and sophomores Cohrs, Jenna Hunt, Celentano and Hailey Alfano.

Freshmen Maya Boyhen, Caitlin Welch and Mae Iverson will also be counted on to provide offensive punch.

Criscuolo looks to center a line with a rotation of Condon, Celentano, and Hunt, while Nowak will center Froehlich and Cohrs.

See Sharks, page 16



Photo by Todd Dandelske

The West Haven/Sacred Heart Sharks came to play last season, recording the best record in the history of the program. Last year the team knotted 18 wins before being ousted from the state tournament by New Canaan in the quarterfinals of the state tournament. The team is looking to prove it was no fluke in 2017-2018, and is looking forward to the beginning of the new hockey season.



Photo by Russ McCreven

### Scramble

Isabelle Fiorillo and Camryn Gibson chase the ball in last Saturday's contest at Edith Mackrille Gym. The winter sports season is in full swing with youth basketball leagues in the midst of the regular season.

# Squirt A squad splits pair of games

The West Haven Squirt A travel hockey team split a pair of games this weekend and now stands at 16-11-2 overall on the season. The Blue Devils lost 5-2 to Pawling A and shut out Wallingford A, 5-0.

On Saturday morning at the Edward L. Bennett Rink, the Westies hosted Pawling in a battle of two evenly matched teams. Pawling jumped on top midway through the opening period, but West Haven tied the game two minutes later when Sean Studley redirected Ryan Pniewski's shot through the five hole and it was 1-1 after one.

In a back-and-forth second period, the Westies outshot Pawling but the visitors got a goal with a minute to go for a 2-1 lead.

Pawling scored twice more for a 4-1 lead in the third, before Cameren Lipford tipped another Pniewski shot over the goalie and in. West Haven pulled its goalie and had a few opportunities, but Pawling converted an empty net goal for the final margin of victory. The Westies outshot Pawling, 19-15, for the game with Maddex LaFountain making 10 saves for West Haven.

On Sunday morning at Remsen Arena on Choate's campus in Wallingford, the Westies bounced back in a big way with a 5-0 win over the Wallingford Hawks. LaFountain posted a shutout and made 20 saves to lead the way.

Zach Melchioro got West Haven on top 2:32 into the game when Gavin Coady dumped

the puck in and Melchioro took possession behind the net. Melchioro turned and jammed the puck in to make it 1-0.

The score remained 1-0 with both teams unable to capitalize until a West Haven penalty in the final minute of the second period. Studley corralled the puck in his own end, burst through a pair of defenders, and drilled home a short-handed, breakaway wrist shot with only :13 on the clock.

The Westies rode the momentum through the third period and pulled away. They executed perfectly on the power play when Ethan Kelly won the draw to Lipford, who quickly passed to Matthew Kelly at the blue line. Studley screened the goalie and

Kelly's laser went five-hole. Melchioro's second goal of the game made it 4-0 when he one-timed Ethan Kelly's feed to convert a two-on-one rush. Matthew Kelly capped the scoring with a long-range, empty net tally from his own defensive zone.

The West Haven Peewee A travel hockey team split a pair of games this weekend, falling to Greater New Haven A, before rebounding to top Central A.

The Westies opened the weekend by falling to Greater New Haven, 9-1, at the Northford Ice Pavilion Saturday morning. In what was a close game, Greater New Haven broke the contest open with five goals in a span of 2:50 in the second period.

West Haven's lone goal came in the third period when Michael Madera set up Ray Heenie for a power play goal.

The Westies rebounded to defeat Central, 4-1, at the Bennett Rink in West Haven Sunday morning.

Mickey Dowd led the way with two goals, Madera added a pair of assists, and Zach Goetze had a goal and an assist.

West Haven jumped out to a 2-0 lead after one period and never looked back. Mike Page gave the Westies a 1-0 lead just 2:56 into the game off an assist from Brady Price, and Goetze scored with 3:52 to go in the period for a 2-0 lead.

Leading 2-1, the Westies increased the advantage to a pair of goals once again when Madera found Dowd in front with 4:18 remaining in the second.

West Haven capped the scoring in the third when the passing of Madera to Goetze to Dowd in front gave the team a 4-1 lead with 6:37 left in the game.

Jacob Silva and Brian Hong were stellar in goal as Silva made several big saves early and Hong kept Central at bay with some solid stops. Heenie, Bruno Martone, Jason Alling, and Haygen Axelrod all played well defensively.

The West Haven Bantam A travel hockey team suffered two heartbreaking losses over the past weekend.

On Saturday, the Westies welcomed the Greater New Haven Warriors to the Bennett and fell, 5-4. After going down 4-0 to start, the Blue Devils came back to even the score 4-4.

Justin Pniewski scored the first goal for the Westies with just 11 seconds left in the second period, with Matt Morgan getting the assist. After GNH took a five-minute major penalty for boarding, West Haven capitalized on the power play.

Matt Wezenski scored at the beginning of the third period for the first goal on the power play as Carl Murgo was credited with the helper. Morgan scored the second goal on the Warriors major penalty, with Pniewski getting the assist.

Pniewski then got his second goal of the day to even the score after being down four goals, Cade Simone made the pass to Pniewski who buried the tying goal. The Warriors scored the game-winning goal with five minutes left in the game, with the Westies unable to answer.

Kevin Gardner, Joey Honcz, Jayden Spreyer and Wezenski had valiant efforts in the loss.

On Sunday, the Westies traveled up I-91 to take on the West Hartford Wolves, where

**See Youth Hockey, page 15**



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Winter 2019

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**Jim Lafo (Coordinator), Erin Blake, Amy Jalowiec, Callan McKeon and Jocy Morrell**

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Follow us and like West Haven Learn to Skate on Facebook!

For important announcements text @wlts to 81010

### Registration and Fees

**CLASSES FILL QUICKLY**

**\$125.00 per child \$25.00 discount for each additional sibling**

**\*NO REFUNDS\***

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Please mail or drop off **completed signed application** below & check to:

Edward L. Bennett Rink

Attn: James Lafo

1 McDonough Plaza

West Haven CT 06516

Please make out checks to Edward L. Bennett Rink

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Name of additional child/children \_\_\_\_\_ Age(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Skaters Experience    None    Snowplow 1 2 3    Basic 1 2 3 4    Hockey/Power

I assume any risks to my minor child that may arise from participating in this activity. I specifically accept full responsibility for any injuries that might arise by reason of my minor child's participation in this activity and that are the result of, among other things, the NEGLIGENCE of the Released Parties (defined below). By signing this form, I hereby release the West Haven Public Schools, and the City of West Haven, their Board members, administrators, employees, and agents, as well as the children involved in this activity ("Released Parties") from and against all claims, demands, actions, complaints, suits or other forms of liability that my child may incur arising out of the above described activity. I confirm that I have carefully read this Waiver and Release, that I have received adequate legal consideration therefore, and agree to its terms knowingly and voluntarily.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Photo by Russ McCreven

### Ya need the ball!

It was everyone toward the ball during Fundamental League Action last week. The winter sports season is in full swing with teams setting into the regular schedule.



## Bruins edge Eagles in Girls Basketball

The West Haven Girls Basketball continued with its second week of games Friday night at Haley.

The Rings End Bruins used nine points from Noelle Lawrence and four points from Neveah Stegall as they downed the Napoli Parts Eagles, 21-17. Jada Turner, Gillian Wynus Trinity Campbell and Samantha Boyd scored for the Bruins. The Eagles were led on the offensive end by the offense of Madyson Ortiz, Amalia Ortiz and Amarae Rosario.

Sophie McFarlane, Molly Gunning and Taryn Walker combined for 15 points to lead the Gunning Law Firm Huskies to a 21-11 win over the Shoreline Dental Cardinals. Samira Huckaby and Cashlin O'Neil also scored for the Huskies. The Cardinals were led on the offensive end by the scoring of Madden Evangeliste and Parish Rutledge.

Ciara Harp and Jacianna Mitchell exploded for 36 points as the West Haven Drug and Alcohol Task Force Panthers outlasted Prospect Fish and Game Blue Devils, 42-24. The Panthers also were helped on the offensive end by Kylie Gibbons and Jasmine Smith. The Blue Devils used four three-pointers from Micah Pullen, and scoring from Terrianna Rodgers, Madison McGuire and Heaven McKinney.

## Youth Hockey

Continued from page 14

they left with a 3-1 loss. Pniewski scored the only goal for the Blue Devils on the day.

The entire game was a back and forth battle, but the Westies were unable to capitalize on the chances they had. David Brown, Nolan Cole, Colin Deane and Dante Hardt all played well in the loss.

Brendan Smith played well in goal the entire weekend for the Westies.

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**6-7:30PM**  
**Forest School - 95 Burwell RD**

# Sharks: *Squad hopes to build on success*

Continued from page 13

"We are excited for our talented freshman class this season," Blake said. "They work hard, are eager to learn, and will be a great asset to our team. (Caitlin) Welch, (Maya) Boyhen, and (Mae) Iverson will see time in our rotation of forwards. (Meghan) Dupre and (Grace) Nowak will contribute immensely to our defense, Dupre as our fourth defenseman, and Nowak in the net."

While there are plenty of team and individual goals. There is also a team goal for a group which has become a family.

With the passing of Pam Gardner, the Westie Sharks lost more than just one of its biggest fans.

"The team has heavy, but full hearts and a lot to play for this season," Blake said. "With the recent passing of one of our number one fans, West Haven High School principal, and team mom, Pam Gardner, we want to honor her memory this season."

The Westie Sharks opened the season with a split of their first two games. In the opener Saturday night, West Haven / Sacred Heart Academy fell to Suffield co-op 3-2 in overtime,

before rebounding to blank Hand 6-0 in the home opener Monday evening.

In the road contest to open the season, the Westie Sharks watched as Sophie Lupone scored twice in regulation, before Tori Geaglone scored the winner in overtime.

WH/SHA poured 38 shots on goal, but were only able to score twice as McNabola tallied each time. McNabola evened the game at one in the second period off an assist from Condon, then scored an unassisted goal with 5:28 to go to force overtime.

Crowe made 32 saves in the loss, including twelve in the third period and three in overtime.

"I was extremely proud of how the girls played," Blake said. "Suffield is a good team. We knew that going into the game. Our girls showed up ready to play. I was proud of the way they fought hard the entire game. Moving forward, we know what we need to improve on."

WH/SHA rebounded with a 6-0 victory over Hand Monday evening at the Edward L. Bennett Rink in West Haven. Seven different players picked up points, including freshmen Dupre and Welch.

Cohrs and Nowak led the way for the Westie Sharks with two goals and an assist apiece, while Froehlich had one goal and one assist.

WH/SHA took a commanding lead in the opening period, scoring five times. Cohrs scored off an assist from

Froehlich 1:57 in for a 1-0 lead before Taylor Nowak scored off an assist from Cohrs, then set up Froehlich 13 seconds later 7:31 in for a 3-0 lead.

The Westie Sharks extended the lead to 4-0 1:22 later when Welch and Gardner assisted on Nowak's second of the

game, before Dupre scored off an assist from Criscuolo 10:19 in. Cohrs capped the scoring at the 2:07 mark of the third period with her second goal of the game.

Crowe made 14 saves and Grace Nowak four in the combined shutout.



Photo by Russ McCreven

### *Take-away attempt*

Nathan Charron of the Hoyas tries to pry the ball loose during action at the Bailey Gym last week.

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## Wizards top Madison in swimming

The West Haven Wizards beat the Madison Marlins by a score of 423-230 this past Saturday. With the speedy Marlin team coming to West Haven, the Wizards knew they really needed to buckle down and put the work in to be ready for this tough meet.

Their hard work paid off with some very strong swim times. The Wizards were especially impressive in the 100-yard freestyle events, winning that event across all age groups: Aarya Mulmi and C.J. Sutton won the 9/10-year-old, Lauren Blake and Ean Annatone won the 11/12-year-old, Kaelyn Falanga and John Barrington topped the 13/14-year-old 100-yard freestyle and Emma Tirollo came in first for the 15-and-over.

The Wizards are hoping for their first win on the road against league rival, Watertown on Saturday.

For more information on the West Haven Wizards visit [www.westhavenwizards.org](http://www.westhavenwizards.org).



Submitted Photo

### Students of the Month

St. Lawrence School recently celebrated its Students of the Month for November, 2018 in a ceremony held at the school. The students were honored for their academics and achievements in the classroom. Each student was awarded a pin and certificate, and they, along with their parents, were invited to have breakfast with the Pastor, the Rev. Jose Mercado and Principal Paul DeFonzo. Pictured from left to right: Front row -- Jeffrey Pamplona, grade 4; Sophia Clini, kindergarten. Middle row -- Demari Foster, grade 1; Laurelyn Chesson, grade 3; and Mia Miraldi, grade 2. Back row -- DeFonzo; Jovan Lakaj, grade 5; Olivia Antoine, grade 6; and Gabriella Vitale, grade 7, Fr. Mercado. Missing from photo is Ralph Touissant, grade 8.

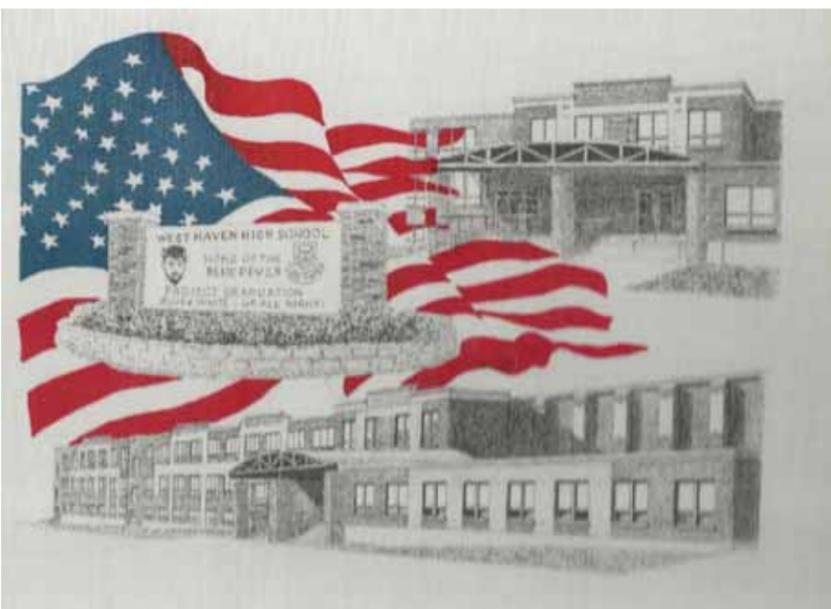
**Every game  
Every week  
Every sport  
The Voice**

### VFW Post 9442 slates Kids' party

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9422 is holding a children's Christmas party from 1-3 p.m. Dec. 22 at 233 Spring St.

The holiday event, free to the public, includes toys for all kids and refreshments.

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January 2 and 3

**Returning Students Registration**  
January 7-10

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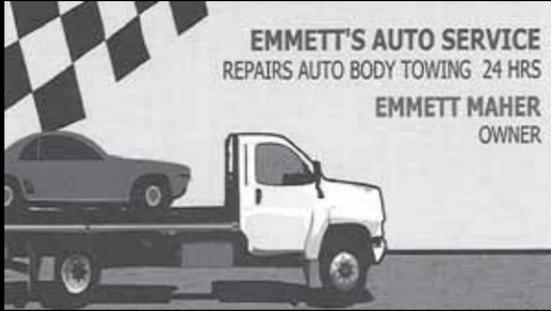
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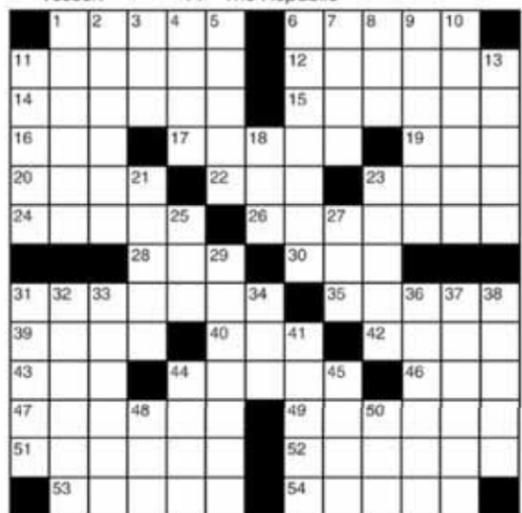
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## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Yard activities
  - 6 Measuring device
  - 11 Wig
  - 12 Show up
  - 14 Hang around
  - 15 Vocalist
  - 16 Big bother
  - 17 Formal pronouncements
  - 19 Yoko of music
  - 20 Spill the beans
  - 22 Bear hair
  - 23 Coaster
  - 24 Black-and-white movie, e.g.
  - 26 90210, for one
  - 28 Always, in verse
  - 30 Mongrel
  - 31 Sways from side to side
  - 35 "Gone With the Wind" star
  - 39 Look lasciviously
  - 40 Three-man vessel?
- DOWN**
- 42 Intend
  - 43 Grazing area
  - 44 Filleted
  - 46 Suitable
  - 47 Identify
  - 49 Sarcastic remark
  - 51 Stag's lack
  - 52 With malice
  - 53 Butcher's wares
  - 54 Keglers' venue
  - 1 man
  - 13 Wear away
  - 18 Since, slangily
  - 21 Belgian city
  - 23 "Get lost!"
  - 25 Conger or moray
  - 27 Boxer
  - 29 Cutting responses
  - 31 "Look Homeward, Angel" author
  - 32 Anti-elderly bias
  - 33 Quick look
  - 34 Baltimore newspaper
  - 36 Snoopy, e.g.
  - 37 Boutonnieres' sites
  - 38 Access
  - 41 Watch-crystal holder
  - 44 Ernie's pal
  - 45 Prima donna
  - 48 -- long way (last)
  - 50 Diarist Anais
  - 10 Tied
  - 11 "The Republic"



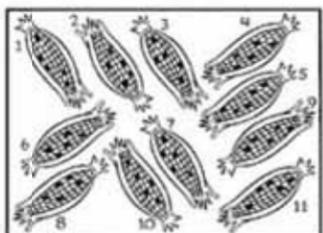
DECEMBER 20, 2018

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

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

- |          |         |         |         |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Behavior | Company | Excuse  | Humor   |
| Book     | Day     | Food    | Luck    |
| Breeding | Deal    | Fortune | Morning |
| Cheer    | Evening | Friday  |         |



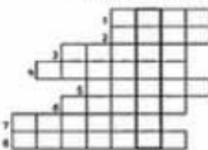
**IT'S HARVEST TIME!** Two of the above ears of decorative corn are exactly alike. Can you "pop" up with the answer in 30 seconds?

**A WISE OBSERVATION!** All right, students, you have two minutes to solve Professor Flunkum's rebus complaint.

**CHAIN REACTION!** Take the seven letters printed below the diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.

## Junior Whirl

### FALL IN THE COUNTRY!



It's time for you to do your chores. In our grid there is room for eight words pertaining to this time of year. The following hints should help you celebrate the season.

- Often seen with just one horse.
- This is enjoyed by man or beast.
- This is what apples turn into.
- Large, colorful squash-like fruits.
- You see your breath when he arrives.
- Field robbers.
- Type of leaves.
- What the time on the farm is. There is a dark frame around one of the columns in the grid. If you correctly solve the puzzles, the letters in the frame, top to bottom, will spell out how farmers celebrate when work is done.



## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

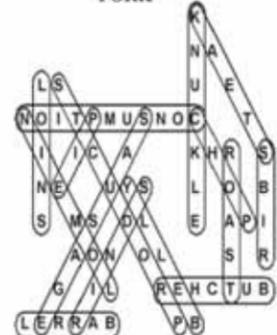
## Answers to last week's puzzles

### King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

### PORK —



### Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

# YE OLD LIQUOR SHOPPE

## GT'S LOWEST LIQUOR PRICES

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p><b>CIROC</b><br/>VS<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$29<sup>99</sup></b></p>                                                                  |  <p><b>THREE OLIVES</b><br/>Eggnog Vodka<br/><b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b></p>         |  <p><b>JACK DANIELS</b><br/>Winter Jack<br/><b>\$16<sup>99</sup></b></p>         |  <p><b>JOHNNIE WALKER</b><br/>Blue<br/>50 mL Mini Bottle<br/><b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b><br/><b>NEW ITEM! GREAT STOCKING STUFFER!</b></p> |
| <p><b>MAKER'S MARK</b><br/>Private Select<br/><b>\$69<sup>99</sup></b><br/><b>COLLABORATION with OAK HAVEN TABLE &amp; BAR</b></p>  | <p><b>JAMESON</b><br/>Irish Whiskey<br/>1.75 L<br/><b>\$49<sup>99</sup></b></p>  | <p><b>PINNACLE</b><br/>Candy Cane<br/>Gift Set<br/><b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b></p>  | <p><b>PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH</b><br/>Eggnog<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b></p>                                                  |

### LARGE SELECTION OF GIFT PACKS AVAILABLE!

|                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p><b>JOSH</b><br/>Cabernet<br/><b>\$11<sup>69</sup></b><br/><b>10% BELOW COST!</b></p> |  <p><b>STERLING</b><br/>Prosecco<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$12<sup>99</sup></b></p> |  <p><b>KENDALL JACKSON</b><br/>Chardonnay<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$11<sup>99</sup></b></p> |  <p><b>APOTHIC</b><br/>Inferno<br/><b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b></p> |  <p><b>LA MARCA</b><br/>Prosecco<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b></p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### MAKE YOUR OWN SIX PACKS - Everything we sell can be purchased as singles

|                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>MICHELOB ULTRA</b><br/>30 Pack<br/><b>\$23<sup>99</sup></b><br/><b>LOWEST PRICE IN THE STATE!</b></p>  | <p><b>CORONA FAMILY</b><br/>12 Pack<br/><b>\$13<sup>99</sup></b></p>                        | <p><b>TWO ROADS</b><br/>Holiday Ale<br/>4 Pack<br/><b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b></p>                | <p><b>NATURAL ICE</b><br/>30 Pack Cans<br/><b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b></p>              |
| <p><b>SAM ADAMS</b><br/>White Christmas<br/>6 Pack<br/><b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b></p>                           | <p><b>CITIZEN CIDER</b><br/>Unified Press<br/>22 oz Bottle<br/><b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b></p>  | <p><b>NEW ENGLAND BREWING CO.</b><br/>Sea Hag IPA<br/>6 Pack<br/><b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b></p>  | <p><b>SIERRA NEVADA</b><br/>Celebration<br/>6 Pack<br/><b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b></p>  |

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# At a Glance



\* If you are serving hot rolls on a buffet, line the basket with aluminum foil before you line it with a towel. The foil will help reflect heat, keeping the rolls warmer longer.

\* Metal skewers are great for a barbecue, but the tip also can be used to create fancy designs on an iced cake, just like a pencil.

\* "If you get stuck in the snow, try using your car mats to get a little traction. Keep some kitty litter or sand in the trunk too just in case you run into trouble." -- D.C. in Michigan

\* "Running the heater is expensive, especially when there's only one person in a house. I find that I can get by with a much cooler overall temperature by using my space heater for about 15 minutes in the bathroom and lounging on the couch and in bed with my electric blanket. Those two things cut down on the need to have the house toasty warm, and truly keep my heating bill in check." -- B.J. in Pennsylvania

\* A pot of mulling spices on the stovetop will both fill your house with a lovely holiday smell and add a respectable amount of humidity. Simply keep a watch on the kettle or pot, and add water as necessary.

\* "Here's a clothing tip on a very cold day: Today's running tights are fantastic under pants as a liner. They are warm, wicking and cut a flattering silhouette as well. Much better than old-fashioned thermals." -- M.E. in Montana

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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# HOLLYWOOD

by Tony Rizzo

**HOLLYWOOD** -- After Matt Damon's last two films did poorly -- "Downsizing" (\$76 million cost/\$55 million gross) and "Suburbicon" (\$25 million/\$12 million) -- he had a small role in Steven Soderbergh's psychological horror film "Unsane," and then literally lit a fire under his career. For his latest film, "Ford v. Ferrari," with Christian Bale, he plays auto designer and race driver Carroll Shelby, associated with Ford's AC Cobra and Mustang, and allowed them to set his back on fire during the re-creation of a racing accident, filmed at a private Los Angeles airport. After that, we owe it to him to support this one. It arrives June 28.



Mamie Gummer  
Depositphotos

Godfather" (1972), from 1976-1978, when he died of lung cancer. She then wed sculptor Don Gummer, and they have four children. Their daughter Mamie Gummer, now 35, is successfully following in her legendary mother's footsteps as an actress.

Her first film was the 1986 supernatural thriller "Separation," with Meryl, when she was 3 years old. Mamie also appeared with her dynamic mother in "Ricki & The Flash" (2015) and in the current release of "An Actor Prepares," with Jeremy Irons and Jack Huston. She's also appeared in "Evening" (2007), "Side Effects" (2013) and "Cake" (2014), as well as in a recurring role on the TV series "The Good Wife," "Robot Chicken" and HBO's "True Detective."

\*\*\*

Sandra Bullock, who won an Oscar for "The Blind Side" (2009), experiences the post-apocalyptic horrors we all fear in Netflix's "The Bird Box," with Sarah Paulson, Tom Hollander and John Malkovich, due Dec. 21. Bullock opened her heart and donated \$100,000 to help save animals that were affected by the recent California fires. You might say it was post-apocalyptic fire money.

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# KOVELS' Antiques & Collecting

By Terry and Kim Kovel

## Footrest Chair

Footstools, also called footrests, are not a new idea, but there are many different types, shapes and sizes. The most popular style today is the small, short, four-legged rectangular stool, often padded and upholstered, which is placed in front of a chair. The footstool raises the legs of the person in the chair to help blood circulation and add comfort. A child might want to use a footstool because his or her feet do not hit the floor.



This chair with a retractable footrest was made in the 1950s by Vladimir Kagan. It was in good condition and had the manufacturer's marks. Price: \$6,875.

Early footstools also were used in ancient Egypt as a ladder to reach chairs on high platforms. Each century had a new shape for the footstool. During the 18th century, there were long and low footstools to put in front of the fireplace to be used by the family. Small round footstools upholstered with fabric or needlepoint to match the sofa were popular with short women in Victorian times. There also were many chairs that came with footstools that looked like exten-

sions of the seat, or even some that could be pulled from under the seat where it was stored.

Modern designers liked seats made long enough to form a lounge chair with space for raised feet. And by the 1980s, there were long seating pieces that had hidden pullout pieces as footrests.

Vladimir Kagan (1927-2016), a talented designer, made a famous chair in the 1950s that had a sloping back, arms and a retractable footrest that was partially hidden. One of Kagan's walnut adjustable lounge chairs, 39 by 27 by 40 inches with a retractable footrest, was sold by Rago auctions for \$6,875. It was manufactured by Kagan-Dreyfuss.

\*\*\*

Q: I used to save beer coasters from bars. They've been in a box for years. Most are made of cardboard or thick paperboard. Are they worth anything?

A: Cardboard beer coasters were first made in Germany, a country known for its beer, in the 1880s. Beer coasters also are called beer mats, and the collecting hobby is called "tegestology," from the Latin word for mat. Collectors specialize in coasters advertising brands or picturing interesting subjects. There is a website, beercoast.com, where members keep an inventory of their collections and trade with other collectors. Most beer coasters sell online for 50 cents to less than \$5. A few sell for more.

TIP: Clean a silver chain with a mixture of white vinegar and water. Rub the mixture on the chain with a toothbrush or a towel. Rinse.

Have a collector on your holiday shopping list? The 51st edition of "Kovels' Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide 2019" makes a great gift. The 528-page softcover book features 16,000 listings and more than 2,500 full-color photographs.

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1. HISTORY: In which war was the Battle of Midway fought?

2. GEOGRAPHY: Which country has the most natural lakes?

3. ART: What famous sculpture in Washington, D.C., was created by Daniel Chester French?

4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What plant is also known as the windflower?

5. LITERATURE: In which of Stephen King's novels does the Overlook Hotel appear?

6. INVENTIONS: What item was invented in 1845 to hold papers together?

7. HISTORY: What did the Lateran Treaty of 1929 establish?

8. BIBLE: What was the first of the plagues of Egypt mentioned in the Book of Exodus?

9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first U.S. president to be impeached?

10. MOVIES: Which movie carries the tagline "The most beautiful love story ever told"?

Answers

1. World War II
2. Canada
3. Abraham Lincoln statue at the Lincoln Memorial
4. Anemone
5. "The Shining"
6. The rubber band
7. Vatican City as an independent state
8. Water turns to blood
9. Andrew Johnson
10. "Beauty and the Beast"

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## 2018 HOLIDAY SHIPPING DEADLINES

| Coast to Coast             | Cutting It Close                                                                                                                                             | Where To Take It                                                                                                                          | Contact                       |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>U.S. Postal Service</b> | Drop first-class letters and cards in your mailbox by Dec. 18; Dec. 14 for parcel post. Priority (1-3 day) service by Dec. 20. Express Overnight by Dec. 22. | Your local post office or arrange for carrier pickup. Use usps.com to order supplies, print postage and access a host of other services.. | www.usps.com                  |
| <b>UPS</b>                 | Ship 2-Day Air by Dec. 20 or Next-Day Air as late as Dec. 21 for delivery by Dec. 24. (Saturday delivery is not available in all areas)                      | UPS Stores nationwide. Go to ups.com or call 800-789-4623 to find a location or schedule pickup.                                          | www.ups.com; 1-800-PICK-UPS   |
| <b>Fed Ex</b>              | Overnight by Dec. 21; 2-Day Air by Dec. 20 for delivery Dec. 22; big spenders can get same-day Christmas Day delivery in some areas.                         | Any FedEx Office location or FedEx authorized shipper.                                                                                    | www.fedex.com; 1-800-GO-FEDEX |

## New tax credit benefits employers who provide paid family and medical leave

Tax reform legislation enacted in December 2017 offers a new tax credit for employers who provide paid family and medical leave. Here are several facts about how this credit works and which employers are eligible to claim it:

- The credit is available for wages paid in taxable years

### CONN-OSHA workshop focuses on safer driving

Employees in the Connecticut Department of Labor's Division of Occupational Safety and Health are sponsoring a Safe Driving – Get There Safely EVERY Time workshop on from 10 a.m. to noon December 12. The free session will be held in the agency's Wethersfield office located at 200 Folly Brook Blvd.

"Statistics compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor show that work-related vehicle crashes are the leading cause of occupational fatalities," explains CONN-OSHA Occupational Safety Training Specialist Catherine Zinsser. "Small changes in behavior behind the wheel, however, can decrease the likelihood of getting in a motor vehicle accident, and increase chances of survival in the event of collision or other serious event."

The training will "present safe driving techniques and behaviors in an interesting format designed to motivate attendees to immediately assess their own actions and behaviors," she said, and will focus on four main strategies:

Hazard Recognition – anti-



beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1,

pating, recognizing and reacting appropriately to hazards.

Speed Management – managing speed so it is right for conditions.

Space Management – maintaining a safe spacing with other traffic.

Vehicle Handling – safe vehicle handling skills under a range of road circumstances.

Contact Zinsser at Catherine.zinsser@ct.gov to pre-register.

2020.

- Some employers can claim the credit retroactively to the beginning of their first taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, if they meet the terms of a transition rule on or before December 31, 2018.

- To be eligible for the credit, an employer must have a written policy in place that includes:

- At least two weeks of paid family and medical leave annually to full-time employees, prorated for part-time employees.

- Pay for family and medical leave that's at least 50 percent of the wages normally paid to the employee.

- Generally, for tax year 2018, the employee's 2017 compensation from the employer must be \$72,000 or less.

The credit ranges from 12.5 percent to 25 percent of wages paid during an employee's leave.

For purposes of this credit, family and medical leave includes leave for one or more of the following reasons:

- Birth of an employee's child and to care for the child.

Placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care.

- Care for the employee's spouse, child or parent who has a serious health condition.

- A serious health condition that makes the employee unable to do the functions of their position.

tion that makes the employee unable to do the functions of their position.

- Any qualifying need due to an employee's spouse, child or parent being on covered active duty in the Armed Forces. This includes notification of an impending call or order to covered active duty.

- To care for a service member who's the employee's spouse, child, parent or next of kin.

*IRS Tax Reform Tax Tip 2018-183, November 28, 2018*

**This page is provided by the West Haven Chamber of Commerce**

**Call to join today!**

## SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

The official start of winter is just weeks away, and if the two popular almanacs are accurate, much of the country is going to have a brutal winter with lots of snow, cold and ice.

Sometimes circulation isn't the best because blood vessels aren't as elastic as they once were. Seniors also lose a fat layer under the skin.

Head -- Heat also rises out of the top of the head. Even when you're indoors, a cap can help you stay warm. For outdoors, look for an insulated one that also covers your ears.

Neck -- Heat rises, and all that saved-up core heat can escape unless you use a scarf.

Hands -- Double up on the layers of your gloves. Here's a hint: Use a pair of thin gloves as the first layer and then add an insulated mitten over that.

Legs -- Consider flannel-lined pants or jeans.

Feet -- A double layer of wool socks can help keep toes warm, as can insulated boots.

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### West Haven Chamber of Commerce

355 Main Street, West Haven, CT 06516  
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email – [info@westhavenchamber.com](mailto:info@westhavenchamber.com)  
Alan Olenick, Director



## Business Spotlight

### New England Collision – 465 Derby Ave, West Haven - 203-389-6400



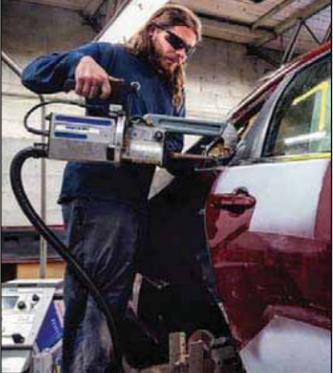
**Relax... it was an accident**  
[newenglandcollision.com](http://newenglandcollision.com)

At New England Collision, providing exceptional customer service is what separates us from the competition. From the time we pick up the phone to receive your initial call, until the time we deliver your repaired vehicle back to you, your satisfaction and safety is our number one priority.

You Can Expect Concierge Level Service from New England Collision, Including:

- Expert Insurance Claim Assistance
- Financial Advice as You Weigh Your Options
- A Ride to and from your Home or Office
- Convenient Door-to-Door Pickup and Drop Off
- Delivery and Pickup of a Rental Car (some exceptions apply)
- Mobile Estimating Service
- Same Day Service for Some Repairs
- Access to 24-hour Towing

New England Collision is a proud member of the West Haven Chamber of Commerce and is represented by Board member John Kraemer, Director of Operations. John brings 30 years of experience in leading teams in operations and sales, with an emphasis placed on providing exceptional customer service and exceeding customer expectations. Ask about special services for Chamber members and 1<sup>st</sup> Responders.



*Connecticut's Most Highly Rated Auto Body Shop*

New England Collision is a full-service auto body and collision repair shop that has been serving clients throughout West Haven and the entire New Haven County area, since 1996. Our trained technicians use the latest in computerized frame measuring, state-of-the-art welding equipment, and computerized paint matching and mixing systems to repair your vehicle to its original condition. From the smallest ding or scratch on your car to a major collision, we can repair it

At New England Collision, we provide exceptional customer service that is second to none, which is what separates us from the competition. From the time we pick up the phone to receive your initial call, until the time we deliver your repaired vehicle back to you, your satisfaction and safety is our number one priority.

If you are in an accident, just one call to us is all that's needed. We take care of the rest so you can go back to what you were doing before your life was interrupted.

*About New England Collision*

New England Collision started life back in 1996. Owners Mike Farquhar and Joe Perrone began their careers in auto body repair as teenagers. Moving up the ladder in the company, they learned all aspects of the business including body repair, frame straightening, welding, painting, estimating, auto detailing, customer and insurance relations, bookkeeping, and more. Acquiring all these skills proved to come in handy when in 2008, they took over the company's day to day operations from the previous owner. Up from 4 employees in 2008 to 8 employees today, New England Collision has grown into a preferred body shop for local dealerships, national insurance carriers, and neighborhood customers.

Our mission is simple: To provide our customers with the best service at the most competitive prices. From a small scratch to a major collision, we hope that you will choose New England Collision for all your auto body repair needs. With our concierge-level service, we treat our customers like family.

