

# West Haven Voice

February 28, 2019

Vol. 23, Issue 8, 20 Pages

West Haven's only independent news source  
By and For West Haven

## Voice Profile

A weekly in-depth interview

"I couldn't be happier to be in this role and get to lead the largest school in this community."

~Dana Paredes



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Photo courtesy of WHCH

## Igloo-building

Preschoolers from West Haven Community House's Head Start program built a milk jug igloo after collecting and cleaning milk cartons for about a month. The children love playing inside the igloo, which they named "Titanic."

## Black Heritage takes center stage

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

The city honored the extraordinary legacy of African-Americans and the incalculable contributions they have made to shaping the greatness of America at the 23rd annual Black Heritage Celebration Feb. 20 at City Hall.

During the cultural event in observance of Black History Month, the city's Black Heritage Committee honored West Haven High School senior Brandie James for academic excellence and recognized Millicent Huff Corbett and Patricia Donaldson Turner as African-American Citizens of the Year.

Huff Corbett and Donaldson Turner received a citation from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi recognizing their "pioneering good works."

Reading the citations, Rossi said, "Diversity is the heartbeat of our nation, and your indomitable spirit and inspiring contributions are a testament to the promise of America."

Huff Corbett is a woman of firsts. A Democrat, she was the first African-American elected to serve on the City Council, representing the 5th District from 1989 to 1991. She was also the first woman to serve in the New Haven Police Department's motorcycle unit, having been an officer in the Elm City for 16 years.

Huff Corbett is a paraprofessional at Bailey Middle School.

Donaldson Turner, a Republican, served on the Board of Education from 1989 to 1993. She was an assistant teacher at St. Thomas's Day School in New Haven for 15 years and served as a substitute teacher in West Haven for many years.

Donaldson Turner is a lifetime member of the Greater New



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

African-American Citizens of the Year Millicent Huff Corbett, second from left, and Patricia Donaldson Turner receive citations from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi and West Haven Black Heritage Committee Chairman Steven R. Mullins during the 23rd annual Black Heritage Celebration Feb. 20 at City Hall. The cultural event, in honor of Black History Month, is presented by the Black Heritage Committee.

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### Weather

**Friday**  
March 1



A few clouds early, otherwise mostly sunny. High 39F.

Sunrise: 6:26 am  
Sunset: 5:42 pm  
Wind: WNW 5-10 mph.

**Saturday**  
March 2



Rain/snow in AM. Changing to rain showers in PM. High 42F.

Sunrise: 6:25 am  
Sunset: 5:43 pm  
Wind: E 5-10 mph.

**Sunday**  
March 3



Mostly cloudy skies transitioning to snow in the PM

Sunrise: 6:23 am  
Sunset: 5:44 pm  
Wind: NW 5-10 mph.

**Monday**  
March 4



Snow showers early turning to mix rain/snow showers in the PM. High 36F.

Sunrise: 6:33 am  
Sunset: 5:37 pm  
Wind: WNW at 10-15 mph.



### Kids' Forecast

Ononna Alam, age 3, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. is looking for more cold weather to go ice skating!

## Things to Do

To have your event featured here email it to: [info@westhavenvoice.com](mailto:info@westhavenvoice.com)

The West Haven Italian-American Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting *Pizza Wars*, to crown the best pizzeria in West Haven. All proceeds will be to benefit the Italian Studies Scholarship. The date is March 9 at the I-A Club from 11-3. Minimum donation is \$5.

The annual St. Patrick's Day parade is set to set off in New Haven on March 10 at noon.

One of the oldest such parades in the nation, it will include representatives of West Haven Irish groups, and resident Taylor Biscelgia as Parade Queen for 2019.

Bradley Point Garden Club of West Haven will hold its monthly luncheon, followed by a workshop on pressed flower arranging, at noon on Tuesday, March 19 in the lower level of Ora Mason Library, 260 Benham Hill Road. New members are always welcome. Call Marie at (203) 878-8428.

The West Haven Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 14, at St. Louis Church on Bull Hill Road at 11:30 a.m. A luncheon will then follow.

**Feb. 28** -- Charter Revision Commission. Harriet North Meeting Room. 6:30 p.m.

The March schedule of meetings had not been published as of press time.

### On this date:

**1066** -- Westminster Abbey opens its doors.

**1610** -- Thomas West is appointed governor of Virginia.

**1704** -- Indians attack Deerfield, Mass. killing 40 and kidnapping 100.

**1847** -- Colonel Alexander Doniphan and his Missouri Mounted Volunteers ride to victory at the Battle of Sacramento, during the Mexican War.

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# Collins tosses her hat; Dems head to primary

By Josh LaBella  
Voice Reporter

City Clerk Debbie Collins announced Monday that she was throwing her hat in the ring for the mayoral race this year, and forming an exploratory committee. In a press release she called herself and her team a "diamond in the rough."

The announcement ends weeks of speculation as to her plans. Her decision all but assures a primary in September between incumbent Mayor Nancy Rossi and Collins. Former Mayor Edward M. O'Brien is leaning toward an independent run, avoiding a three-way primary.

Collins, who has Rick Fontana and Brent Cossia co-managing her campaign, said she had served in the city government under four administrations during her 19-year tenure, and believes she can bring people together. She said she has a lot of friends "on both sides" and has a different vision for West Haven.

When asked about her vision, Collins said she had parts of it put together and would be unveiling a plan soon.

"Right now I don't really want to put too much out there because I don't want anybody stealing my ideas," said Collins. "I do have a different plan. Let's put it that way."

Collins said she wants to serve as mayor for a few years, not make it a career. When questioned about her leadership style, she referenced the way she ran her office, saying it was one of the better in the city.

"I bring a lot of people together," said Collins. "People come into my office and say it's a great office. It's friendly office. If we can't help you,

we try to get the answers. You have to remember, the public is paying our salary and we have to treat them much better than we have been."

In terms of economic development, Collins said she had a few good ideas and is working on others. She brought up the train station and also said she wanted to get better answers about the Haven.

"If we can get a couple of clear answers on that it would be helpful," said Collins. "I mean I don't think anybody can give a clear plan on what's going on [with the Haven] because I don't think most people in West Haven know what's going on."

Collins said the current and previous administrations are at fault for the lack of understanding the community has vis-à-vis the Haven project. The Haven Group, LLC has been working on the plan since it was announced in October 2014.

Former Mayor Ed O'Brien, who has also formed an exploratory committee and said he is leaning toward running, said the \$200 million project had nondisclosure agreements preventing his administration from sharing details with the public. So, any misunderstanding concerning the transparency of the project is misguided.

"The developers spent \$200 million on the city of West Haven," said O'Brien. "They wanted to keep things quiet and they were going through negotiations. During my administration they had to assemble 57 individual pieces of property. Because they were negotiating we had to keep a lot of that information quiet. Legally we

**See Collins, page 5**

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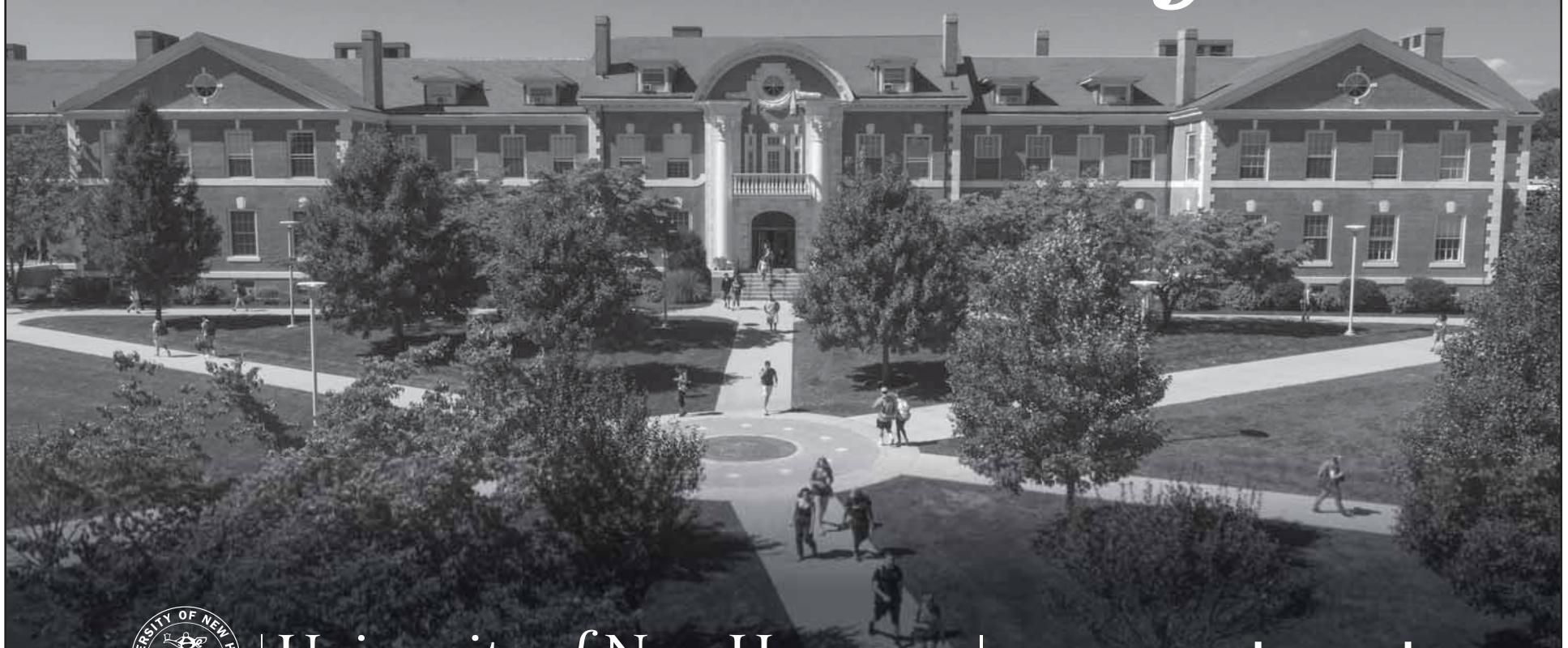
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# Dear Felicia

Last week of February and ole March is set to come in like a Lion, honeybunch. Woid is that this week we're gonna see a bit of a white snow coating for a couple o' days, and then move into yet another rain storm. I gotta say, when it comes to wet weather, we've had more than our share over the last year or so. Hard to believe that at one pernt they were sayin' we were in a drought.

Around these parts, there is no drought when it concerns the enmity betwixt herreror Nancy Rossi and the former hizzoner, Ed O'Brien. The two had a verbal jousting match as I mentioned in my last missive, and from what Sammy Bluejay told me this week, it ain't gonna the one and only time. As yew remember the two o' them had battles almost every week during the run up to the 2017 primary, with each tryin' to outdo the other in vitriol and sarcasm. It looks like it's gonna be the

same this go-round.

O'Brien, though, is perty much settled on goin' the independent route toward this year's election. As I have been tellin' yew, he's kind o' fallen outta favor with the Morrissey faction, we are told, and they are probably gonna put their eggs in the Deborah Collins basket this time 'round. More on that later.

So, O'Brien is startin' early, makin' sure that he stakes out some isshews and some territory before the campaign gets crowded with other candidates. Still to be determined is the Republican standard-bearer, but that is months away.

Still, there were some who were surprised by herreror's challenge for any and all to get their back sides up to Hartford and let the Municipal Accountability Review Board know what they have in mind to make the city more solvent. Some thought that was a tactical error on her part, as maybe that ain't the time or the place

for political maneuvering. Sammy Bluejay sez that nobody really expects anyone to trek up to Hartford to take her up on her challenge, it's just a bit o' posturing.

Y'see, she is trying to make solvency THE issue of the coming campaign. Meanwhile, O'Brien seems to be sayin' that DEVELOPMENT is the way to go. As one person put it, the city don't have a tax problem it's got a revenue problem. That seems to be the tack that O'Brien is homing in on.

~~~

*Whilst all that is going on, Nelly Nuthatch is expectin' that Deb Collins, who has been mentioned as a possible challenger for the Demmie nod, has made the announcement that everyone was perty much expecting in Demmie circles. Collins had been lookin' into a run, and talking with all and sundry about the possibility.*

*The woid was that she was gonna come out with an announcement that an exploratory committee is gonna be set up to see effen a run is possible. That is political-speak for she's gonna run -- and she is based on the press release and story in this week's papyrus. Yew don't set up an exploratory committee to explore, you set one up to start fundraising. The chess game has begun.*

*Like we said, the Morrissey faction is said to be supportin' her, and it's jest a matter o' how the thoid faction of the party -- the so-called Borer faction -- determines*

*it wants to lean. Then the battle lines'll be drawn, and the road to the primary perty much set.*

~~~

Whilst all that is goin' on, we see that the Haven Group, LLC has determined it better station some security personnel around the four-block site that is the Haven Projek.

As yew know, the local fire brigade has been kep' rather busy of late cuz fires have erupted in the area, the last one being at the old Bilco Door factory.

The first one, at 22 Richards Place, was thought to be accidental -- by vagrants or squatters lookin' to keep warm. The last one at Bilco was thought to be deliberate and put city officials, fire officials, homeowners and the developers on edge. We don't wanna have a fire a week over there.

Of course, there was a joke runnin' around town that maybe the quickest way to git rid o' all those structures is a "controlled burn" or inviting the NHFD Academy over for a few training runs. It was all gallows humor, of course.

Things are gonna be on edge until they start takin' those structures down, and clearing the way for construction. It's been a long time -- almost two years for many of those properties -- since they were boarded up, and besides the eyesore, it jest gets more attractive to those who wanna do mischief.

As we reported to yew a couple weeks back, business owners have got letters sayin' that the demolition of the property is near at hand, but until there is a backhoe or big claw taking down those structures, people are gonna be edgy.

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*Before we go too much farther, we see that longtime Park-Rec Director Bill Slater has put in for his retirement. It seems like only yesterday that he was fresh outta college and workin' for the department, moving his way up the chain until he got the big job. Needless to say he worked with our late pal and scribe Bob Tingley at one pernt. Seems like only yesterday.*

*Well, Willy. We hope you have a great retirement. He was feted at a party this week. Iyam sure he enjoyed himself. It's gonna be interesting. Marge, his long-sufferin' wife, has been retired for a couple o' years, and now he's on the shelf. Wonder how long it's gonna be before one or both find a way to stay outta the house for a bit. Retirees do get under each other's feet, it seems.*

~~~

Iva Lootee was in t'other afternoon and inquired about the sale of the Thompson and Stiles school buildings. It was announced more than a month ago that the two properties had been put up for sale an the deadline for submission of bids had passed.

Thompson was gonna go to the Housing Authority, but funding couldn't be secured and it had to go back out to bid.

One wonders effen this is gonna be a long process or if the city is gonna have a buyer or buyers for both places sooner rather than later. The schools have been closed for quite some time -- Stiles for almost a decade. The area around it, particularly, is rather seedy looking, and with the choo-choo station near there, one would hope some economic development could take place.

Let's face it, the promise of that end of Elm Street becomin' an economic Mecca has kind of gone the way of all flesh. People thought it was gonna replace downtown as a mercantile area, but excep' for the fack the Stop&Shop went in, not much has happened over there -- at least not like it was promised.

Some are hopin' that the sale of Stiles will spur the development that has been hoped for over there, whilst as far as Thompson is concerned, they hope the neighborhood is OK.

~~~

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

Cobina

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# Heritage: *Black contributions cited*

See Heritage, page 5

Continued from page 1

Haven chapter of the NAACP.

The hourlong ceremony, held in the Harriet C. North Community Room, featured an awards presentation by Rossi and committee Chairman Steven R. Mullins, the master of ceremonies whose daughter, West Haven High sophomore Nora E. Mullins, sang a spirited rendition of the black national anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing." She was accompanied on the performance by the near-capacity assembly of dignitaries, family, friends and residents.

James, who plans to study law at Temple University next fall, received a Black Heritage Committee certificate of achievement from Mullins, who was joined by Rossi, Superintendent of Schools Neil C. Cavallaro and West Haven High Assistant Principal John DellaCamera.

James serves as treasurer of the class of 2019 and is co-captain of the mock trial team. She also serves as treasurer of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society and is a member of the math club, Theatre Workshop and the international club.

Mullins' son, Carrigan Intermediate School sixth-grader Steven Christian Mullins, received an award for youth achievement. He is an actor starring in the Broadway musical "Kinky Boots."

The program included remarks from Rossi, Cavallaro and New Haven Mayor Toni N. Harp, the keynote speaker, as well as committee founder Beulah "Bea" Johnson, committee President Emerita Ernestine Jackson and Councilwoman Robbin Watt Hamilton, D-5.

Rossi thanked the committee for its commitment to keeping the Black Heritage Celebration event "relevant and vibrant," saying: "I know the decorations subcommittee took care in making sure everything was just right. Your volunteerism is truly appreciated."

Harp focused her remarks on African-American women in public office, asking the crowd of mostly women, "Who better to serve the public interest than women?"

"This latest wave of women in public service could not have come at a better time," she said, referencing the surge of women in positions of influence at the local, state and national levels of government.

In honor of the monthlong black history celebration, organizers have decorated the walls of City Hall with banners and posters depicting important black leaders and role models worldwide.

The committee has worked since 1996 to promote racial harmony across West Haven, transforming City Hall into an exhibition of African-American art and literature throughout



Photos by Michael P. Walsh

Above -- West Haven High School senior Brandie James is presented with a Black Heritage Committee award for academic excellence from Chairman Steven R. Mullins as, from left, Superintendent of Schools Neil C. Cavallaro, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi and Assistant Principal John DellaCamera look on. Carrigan Intermediate School sixth-grader Steven Christian Mullins receives a Black Heritage Committee award for youth achievement from his father, Chairman Steven R. Mullins, as Cavallaro and Rossi look on.

## Collins: Clerk announces run in fall

**Continued from page 3**  
could not talk about it."

The current City Clerk indicated she understands the city's financial situation, and would do what had to be done. If elected she said she would work hand-in-hand with the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) to figure out city finances. She also hoped for some guidance as far as personnel as well.

She said she wanted to see whom they would recommend for finance director, saying if elected she would most likely replace current Finance Director Frank Cieplinski. Her reason: experience.

"Frank doesn't seem to have the experience," said Collins. "I think that's important working in a municipality like ours. You need to have that experience."

Mayor Rossi, who has expected Collins to announce, defended her new Finance Director, saying Cieplinski has been a "breath of fresh air" for the city.

Questioned as to Collins' announcement and some of her positions, Rossi said it is un-

fortunate that Collins wants to replace him given that she has only just met him and called it "hypocritical" that Collins criticized his lack of municipal experience.

"She backed Ed O'Brien and he had a Finance Director that hardly had any municipal experience," said Rossi. "He took care of one school in Orange that he was the business agent for. Let me tell you, because I am an accountant. Yes there is a learning curve. But if you know how to budget, and you understand an audit and you understand all of the stuff – the municipal experience will come."

Collins said being transparent was an important issue for her and that the current administration has not lived up to its campaign promise of transparency. When asked about the town hall meetings the mayor had held, she called them reelection ploy.

Rossi took issue with that characterization, saying she has had a number of events, starting early in her term, for the public as a part of her administration's effort to be

transparent. She questioned why Collins had not hosted her own meetings.

"If it's an election thing then why doesn't she do it? Why doesn't everyone do it?" said Rossi. "She can do it too. She can have a town hall meeting. She can go and answer questions. The problem will be, she will have a really tough time answering a lot of those questions."

The current City Clerk indicated that one of her strong at-

tributes was bringing unity to the city, implying it has been lacking in the past.

Collins said as mayor she could bring people together. She also said she has friends at the local and state level as well as in the MARB.

"I think I bring a lot to the table," said Collins. "I think that I'll be able to get a lot of helpful information from my friends that are working in bigger cities that have a lot of the same financial problems

we have. I have different resources."

The announcement means the city's majority party will pit two candidates in a September primary. Over the last two decades, the Democrats have had primaries in nearly all municipal election years. Rossi, herself, gained the city's top spot after defeating O'Brien in the 2017 primary, thus virtually assuring a November win in a city that hasn't gone GOP since 1989.



## Early Voting Public Forum

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Thursday, February 28, 2019

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Established  
1997Editor  
Bill Riccio, JrSales Director  
Alan Olenick

## Real cure is progress

After the area experienced two fires in within a two-week span, the Haven Group, LLC has engaged the services of a security company in order to make sure more blazes do not erupt. Earlier this month a fire began at 22 Richards Place, and though officials are calling it of "undetermined" origin, officials believe the fire was accidentally set by homeless people or squatters, who were trying to keep warm in sub-freezing temperatures.

Within a week a fire began at the former Bilco Door factory. This time, officials believed the fire was deliberately set. The Haven Group, which is planning to put a high-end outlet complex at the site, secured the services of a security firm in order to provide some piece of mind to city officials and nearby homeowners. It was a necessary move.

The fires, though unexpected, were not surprising to many who have watched the four-block area languish for the past two years. Most of the properties extending from Elm Street west to Main Street, and including Bayview Park were bought by the development corporation early on. The final properties were not secured until last year. Still, properties were boarded up and left until the red tape that accompanies such projects was got through. At the time of the fires paperwork with the state Dept. of Transportation was still awaited.

It is no secret that the Haven Project has been slower than expected in gaining the necessary permits and approvals. The administration of former Mayor Edward M. O'Brien had put much of its own budgetary hopes in the permit process, several times including expected revenues from permits to help balance out the books. Unfortunately, the process was slower than anyone could imagine. Add to that the fact that properties were not fully secured, and we have the situation we are now experiencing.

The good news is that business owners around the area report that a letter was received from the developers saying demolition of the homes would begin sometime around March 1. Even if it is another few weeks before that happens, the fact there is a timeline is encouraging. The decaying homes are an attractive nuisance to drug dealing, squatting and the like. The sooner they are gone the better.

Demolition also presages the construction of the multi-million dollar development, and the needed tax revenue and jobs the project promises. The Haven has been 22 years in coming. A project of its kind was announced in the fall of 1997, and has seen fits and starts ever since.

We hope the demolition process begins sooner rather than later. That will mean no more fires and no more problems for homeowners in that section of the city.

## Vitriol is back

We expect last week's kerfuffle between Mayor Nancy Rossi and former Mayor Edward O'Brien will be the first shot in what will be a long war of attrition between the two. Rossi and O'Brien had a tough and acrimonious campaign two years ago, with Rossi pulling out a surprising primary victory and eventual win of the mayoralty.

O'Brien is seeking return to City Hall, and is thinking seriously of an independent run, especially since it is expected City Clerk Deborah Collins will announce her candidacy.

Last week's back-and-forth between the two promises to be the first shots in a long campaign.



## Brown considered moderate

By Rich Lowry

Syndicated Columnist

The day has arrived in the Democratic Party when Sherrod Brown is a kind of moderate.

The impeccably progressive Ohio senator who has long occupied a spot on the left flank of the Democratic caucus is declining to sign up for the fashionable radical causes of the hour.

Brown has not endorsed the Bernie Sanders "Medicare-for-all" plan that contemplates the end of private insurance in America, nor for the outlandishly expensive and eminently mockable Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez "Green New Deal."

This marks Brown out from other Democratic senators running for president, who aren't letting practicality or future worries about a general election keep them from putting their names to legislation that will never pass and opens them up to obvious attacks.

A variety of forces tether Brown to reality more than his colleagues. He's been in elected politics his entire adult life, and although he's been willing to go his own way -- he voted against the Defense of Marriage Act in the 1990s when that wasn't popular -- he's pragmatic enough not to get carried away with wild en-

thusiasms.

He's managed to thrive in an increasingly red state. In 2016, Donald Trump handily won Ohio. The state is not Alabama, but it's not New York or California either, where a Democrat can discount any need to appeal to culturally conservative voters.

Finally, Brown's base is unions that have no patience for pie-in-the-sky environmental schemes that threaten their jobs, or radical schemes to overturn current health care arrangements when many of them have gold-plated plans they want to protect.

All of this means that Brown has the sense to steer clear of proposals that will almost certainly diminish a Democrat's chances of beating Trump.

On paper, Brown looks like a strong general election candidate, and not just because he's avoiding ridiculous excesses.

The natural play for Democrats in 2020 would be to nominate someone, like Brown, who has a good chance of winning back the Blue Wall states and therefore putting away the election (barring some unforeseen event that opens up Hillary states to Trump).

There's little doubt that Brown would have won against Trump in 2016. He has a much stronger connection

to working-class voters than Hillary Clinton, and never would have dismissed them or the Upper Midwest. He came up in politics hanging out in union halls, and warns against coastal condescension toward the Midwest.

Brown can claim some measure of vindication with the rise of Trump. It has moved the center of gravity of American politics in his direction. Brown's economic populism is no longer an outlier.

The question is whether the Democratic Party is leaving behind Brown's style of politics. The left's disdain for working-class whites has, if anything, grown over the first two years of the Trump presidency. And like Bernie Sanders, Brown will have the disadvantage of being a white male more interested in class rather than racial politics.

Part of Brown's calculation has to be that he can leave the crowded left-most lane in the primary to others.

And, so, yes, it has come to this: In the inflamed, #resistance-driven contemporary Democratic Party, Sherrod Brown is a voice of relative moderation.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.  
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**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

I live on Lester Street. According to the snow parking ban, there is no parking on the even numbered side of the street, which is what I live on.

I have a job where I need to get out of my driveway at any time of the day or night. Yet people consistently park on the even side of my street during the parking ban therefore the city plow cannot adequately do the job. I believe according to the ban the cars are to be towed yet nothing is done. I even notified the police of this issue during the storm and ban and was told the plow driver goes home at 10:30 p.m so, there is nothing that can be done. Really??? I pay taxes for this?? Or, should I say, the ticket, when it is convenient for them? So, sometimes people get away with breaking the law. And, by the way, obviously there must not be a law for parking near a fire hydrant because people in my neighborhood do it all the time.

What are the rules and do they only apply to certain people? Please help me answer this. I even have a picture of a car parked on the wrong side of the street during the snow parking ban but I'm sure the plow driver was home by then. I applaud the snow plow drivers for having to deal with this aggravation.

I am disgusted with the city and its lack of enforcing the rules. Please help me to answer this.

ZP Lester Street

**Dear ZP Lester Street:**

As I have explained in recent columns, I am asking my readers to follow a procedure that I hope will ensure satisfaction for their gripes. Since Mayor Nancy Rossi has refused to provide my readers with solutions to their issues, Gripe Vine has introduced a procedure that I feel sure will provide answers to their complaints.

Here is how it goes: Residents send me a letter or email attempting to find answers to their gripes. With no cooperation from city hall, Gripe Vine will publish councilman's contact information.

So, you live on Lester Street. Lester Street is in the First District. I will provide you now, with your councilman's name, phone number and email address.

You can contact this individual and ask for a remedy to your gripe.

You reside on Lester Street, your councilman's name for the First District is Bridgette Hoskie. The phone number is (203) 927-1537 and email is bhoskie@westhaven-ct.gov

Gripe Vine will be looking for your response and the solution to your problem.

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

What is the official city ordinance on the cut-off time on music during the late night?

If the police department has to come back a second time to a loud party, who gets ticketed, the offender or the landlord?

RZ Westfield Street

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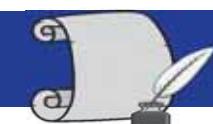
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## Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

### Winter Recess February, 1959

The boy leaned over the back of the sofa and steamed up the living room window with his breath; then he traced a big "D" on the glass with his finger. Outside the window, the cars crept along Kelsey Avenue, which was beginning to freeze up. The bitter cold outside couldn't keep the boy inside of the house for long, because he had a serious case of cabin fever.

Winter recess hadn't come a moment too soon for him, but not for the usual reason. Just a few days ago, it had been his last day of school before vacation was to begin; the boy's parents hadn't believed him

that morning when he told them he didn't feel well, and so they sent him off to Stiles School anyway. And so it was about an hour later that it had happened: Miss Englehart had sounded so shrill and intense when she had squealed out, "Oh, DANNY!" as he was throwing up on the folders in her open desk drawer. He wasn't proud of that moment, but it did get him sent home and put to bed. Next time, perhaps his parents would believe him when he told them that he was sick. And hopefully when he got back to school next week, everyone would have long since forgotten the whole nasty incident, and his teacher's desk and sweater

would be all nice and clean again.

He couldn't think of a more pointless time of year to waste a valuable school vacation—why couldn't they save those days and give them to him when the weather was nice outside? For the boy, the days of a February vacation were boring, monotonous, and painfully predictable: each day after breakfast, he would watch Captain Kangaroo, and then there would be no children's programs on their black-and-white television until later in the afternoon when Ranger Andy came on. The boy didn't watch Romper Room at lunchtime; that was for babies--and after all—he was almost seven

now. Stuck there in the house, there was only so much time that he could spend playing with his baby brother, and he was already starting to get bored with the toys that Santa had brought to him just a few weeks before, so he must go out soon, and find a worthy diversion.

Finally, he couldn't stand the confinement any longer, so the boy asked his mother if he could go outside and play. She said alright, but reminded him that he had to be back before dusk—and pointed out that he still couldn't go exploring in the marsh, because of last summer's incident. Would she never forget?

The next few minutes were

spent struggling with layers of clothing, along with a snowsuit and his arctics (rubber overshoes with rows of metal fasteners which would mystify any child of today as to their purpose or application). Finally, the boy set forth into the February cold. Yesterday's snow laid the ground, and now some more fluffy light snow was beginning to fall.

In 1959, every house on their street had children in it; however, today nobody was outside, so the boy walked down Kelsey Avenue toward Savin Rock, and turned up Richmond Avenue, the south-end of which had been a dirt road until the year before. Lower Richmond Avenue ran through a wooded hillside, which was about to be bulldozed and prepared for new homes. However, on this day it was still a fine place for a restless boy to find adventure.

The boy paused, and looked to the south, where West Haven Speedway and the grandstands lay silent under a grey sky and a blanket of snow. At the foot of Rock Street, a couple of hot dog stands were open for business, waiting to serve the needs of those who wanted a summertime snack to break up their wintertime blues. Right at the foot of Kelsey Avenue were the Tel-Rad Appliance store, A&W Root Beer and a Laundromat where he could duck in and warm up if needed. Off to the left a couple of blue-and-white Connecticut Company buses were parked between the roller coaster and the Old Grove. Everything he saw was silent and motionless, and it appeared to the boy as if the whole world had gone to sleep for the winter.

The woods extended from Savin Avenue to Richmond Avenue and Kelsey Avenue, and now the boy began to walk along the wooded hillside, here and there picking up the tracks of different animals, in the way that his grandfather had taught him. First, he found the trails of squirrels and rabbits, but that was to be expected. He saw no human footprints, but suddenly he spotted the tracks of a deer, and this excited him—he couldn't wait to tell grandpa!

Moment later, while the boy was "testing" the ice on a vernal pool about the size of a bathtub, he heard a crackling sound and suddenly found himself standing in frigid water up to his knees; now he could feel it oozing over the tops of his arctics and making its way through his socks, and down to his toes.

This seemed like an excellent  
See Recess, page 9

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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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The Artics were the boot of choice in 1959.

## Recess: '59 mischief

Continued from page 8

time to turn around and head for home, which is exactly what he did. Only now did he realize that it was getting pretty dark, and he was very late. A few minutes later, the boy slouched into the house with cold feet that left wet circles behind him. The lecture went as expected: his mother started by calling him "Daniel," which was always a sign of bad things to come. As she went on and on, he was vaguely aware of something being said about rules and punishments and being responsible, whatever that word meant. He hadn't meant to be bad, he thought to himself--it had just happened--didn't she understand? After the incident in the marsh last summer, he had told her, "Mom, if you were ever a little boy, you'd know why I went there—I just wanted to see the hobo camp." He never was much good at talking his way out of things. Suddenly, the boy was aware that the lecture had ended. Through it all, he had been watching his mother with keen interest, and perhaps she thought it was a sign that the recalcitrant lad was finally thinking about mending his ways.

"Well, young man, what do you have to say for yourself?" To this, his response was solemn and thoughtful, and when he spoke, it truly came from the heart, "Mom, did you know that when you talk, only your lower jaw moves?"

Mother seemed to explode. He wasn't sure what he had done wrong now, but a minute later the boy found himself in his room, wishing--like he'd never wished before-- that vacation was over and he was back in Miss Englehart's class.

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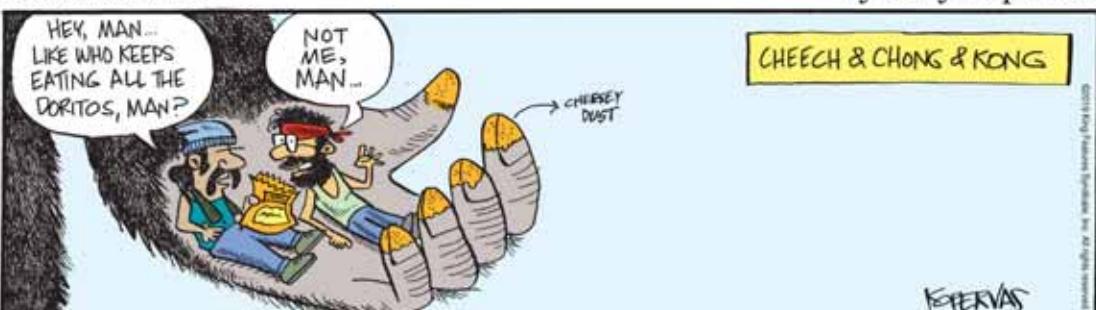
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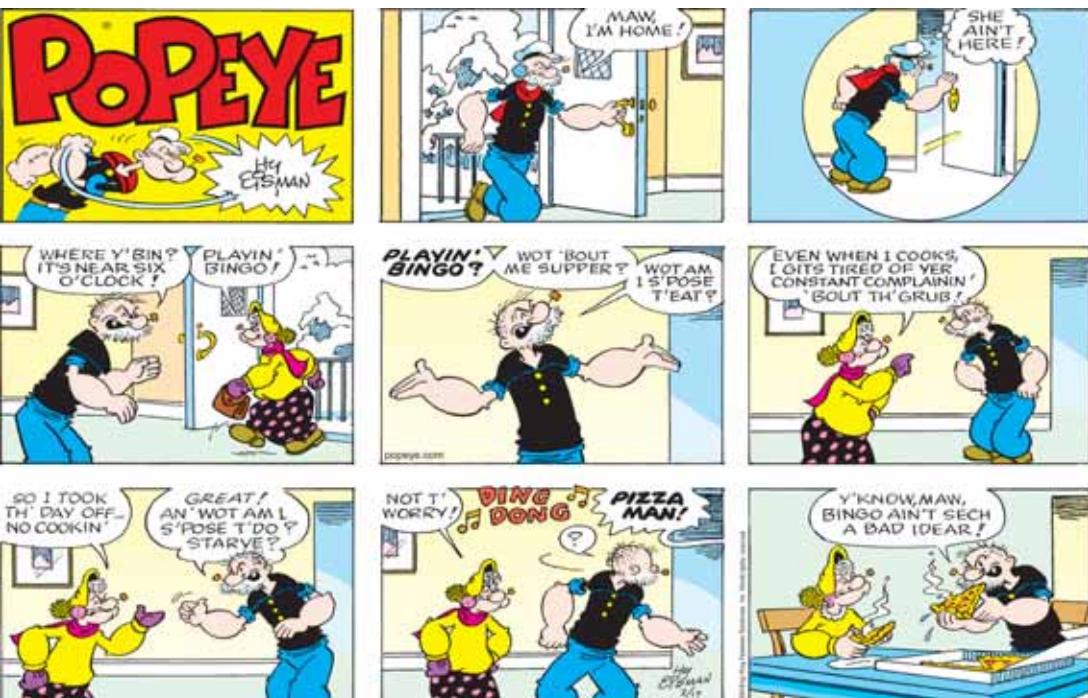
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DANA PAREDES

## Happy at WHHS

By Josh LaBella

*Voice Reporter*

West Haven High School Principal Dana Parades knew she wanted to teach by the age of five and started by setting up her stuffed animals and dolls to teach class. She still remembers how cool it was when her grandfather bought her a school desk from Gianotti School when it closed.

The Fairfield University graduate, who was getting calls and visits all throughout the interview, started as an English teacher but later transitioned to teaching Spanish and English as a second language classes. She said in 2007 she became ESL department head but in 2009 she took the opportunity to become acting assistant principal – a year later officially entering the position.

Parades said she loved teaching because she got to take something she was passionate about, in her case literature, and share it with students. She said she enjoyed coming up with ways to get students engaged with topics such as Shakespeare and the Canterbury Tales.

"I went out of the way, as much as I could, to do things that were out of the box and interactive," said Parades, "and make those lessons fun for kids. I absolutely loved teaching."

Parades said getting students engaged could be a challenge but it is important to find ways and give them a new opportunity every day. According to Parades, the difference between being a teacher and being an administrator is that administrators have to look at the big picture.

"Your classroom is very easy to control," said Parades. "You have your rules. You have your policies. That's what you do every day. Being an administrator, especially being principal, there's almost 200 employees in the building, almost 1600 kids in the building, plus all the parents. So there's so many moving pieces all the time. So you really have so many balls in the air that you need to be able to juggle and make sure nothing gets missed."

She said if something gets missed it means a student who is not getting something done for them. The principal said the job is a lot faster paced and higher pressure but there is a greater ability to impact things on a larger scale. She said the transition can be a challenge.

"It is a hard transition because [as a teacher] you have all of your colleagues you talk with and when you're a teacher you kind of commiserate about things, [and say] 'If you were an administrator you'd do it this way or that way,'" said Parades. "And then you become an administrator and realize it's not that simple."

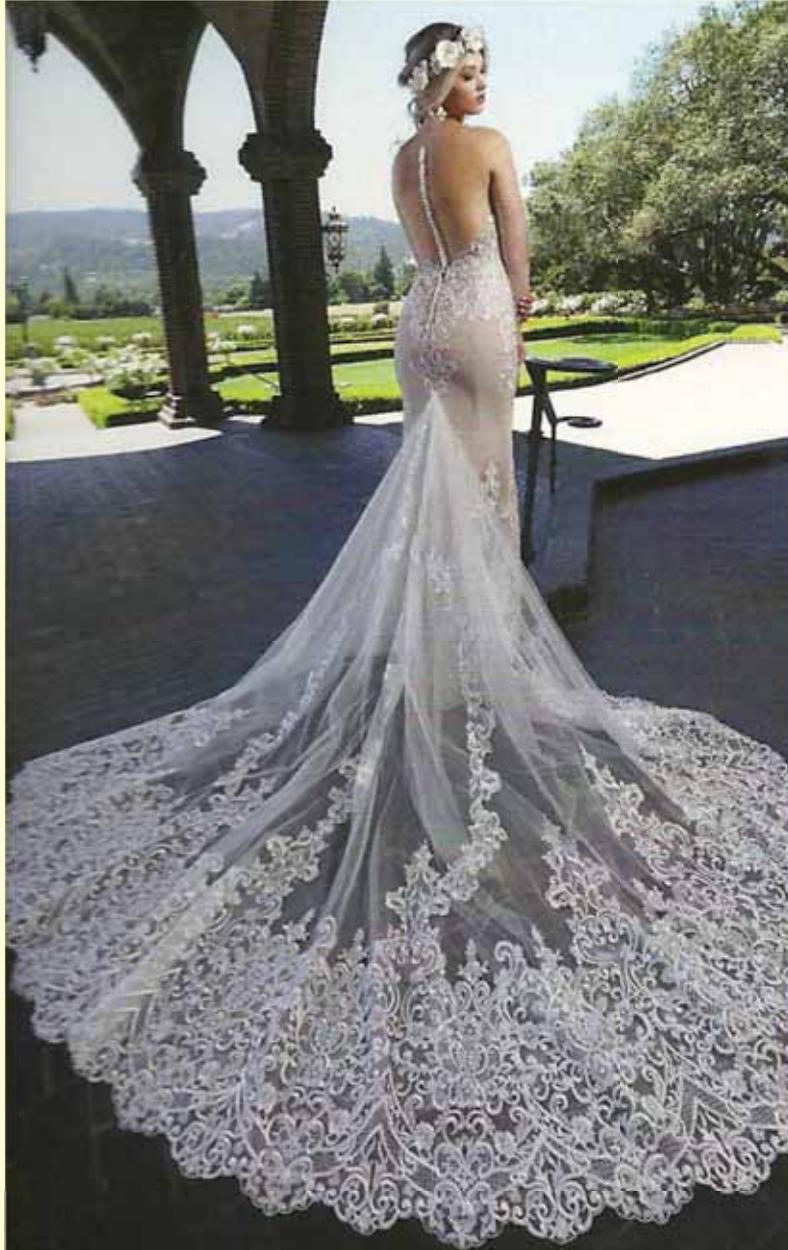
As a lifelong West Haven resident who graduated from the high school in 1997, she said the city school system has been her life for most of her life. Parades said when her father passed away she decided to go for an open administrative position because the pay raise that came with it would be helpful to her family.

"Looking back, that was a good decision because jobs open when they open," said Parades. "And if I hadn't put in for that job another job didn't open for quite a while."

Parades said anyone who knows her would know that she is a Westie through and through. She said everyone in her family went through the school system going back to her grandfather who graduated in 1929.

"I couldn't be happier to be in this role and get to lead the largest school in this community," said Parades. "I hope I can do everyone proud."

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# Sports

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Page 12

Photo by Russ McCreven

## Revving the jets

Matteo Petruzzello of the Celtics begins a break up court in his Youth Basketball game last weekend at the Kelley Camp gym.



## Devils dropped in OT by Falcons

The West Haven boys' hockey team traveled to Middletown on Saturday morning to face the Xavier Falcons with playoff positioning on the line. Needing a victory to secure a home game in the postseason the Westies battled with the Falcons for 45 minutes and needed overtime to get a decision. After a scoreless first period, the Falcons

struck for three goals over a span of 2:47 to grab a 3-0 lead. Xavier scored with 12:12 left in the second period, again 39 seconds later and once more with 9:25 left in the period to put the Blue Devils in a tough spot. The Westies got one back when Niko Kyle ripped a shot from the slot with 6:07 left in the period on the power play, assisted by Kevin Moriarty

and Richie Greene to cut the lead to 3-1. With time winding down in the second period, Moriarty's shot from the slot was denied but a diving Kyle directed the puck home to narrow the lead to 3-2 with 11 seconds left.

West Haven had momentum entering the third period and took advantage just 1:43 into the period to tie the game 3-3. Niko Kyle gathered in a rebound of a Moriarty shot, made a nice move to freeze the Xavier goaltender and put the puck into the empty net to knot things up and complete his hat trick. The teams continued to battle with both teams having opportunities but both goalies were equal to the task forcing overtime. The Blue Devils had a golden opportunity in the OT when Kyle was hit in stride with a beautiful pass at center ice, sending him in on a breakaway. Kyle was pulled down with no call made. The Westies had another chance when a Xavier turnover gave Moriarty a chance but his rising shot caught the Falcon goaltender in the shoulder to keep the game tied. After West Haven was whistled for an intentional offside, the Falcons took advantage off the faceoff, intercepting a clearing pass and beating goaltender Jared Pliszka for the victory with

1:14 left in overtime. Pliszka finished with 27 saves between the pipes for the Westies.

The Blue Devils finished the regular season with a trip to Hamden on Monday and needed a victory to avoid the annual trip to face the Xavier Falcons in the first round of the CIAC playoffs.

The West Haven/Sacred Heart girls' hockey team faced the Notre Dame of Fairfield Lancers on Thursday evening in the SCC South Division semifinals at the Bennett Rink. The girls dominated the game from the start and when Mackenzie Gardner fired a point shot past the Lancers' goaltender it would be all the Westie Sharks would need in a 3-0 victory. Gardner's goal came just 2:42 into the game and then Taylor Nowak took a pass from Jenna Hunt and made it 2-0 just 2:12 later. CC Condon made it 3-0 with six minutes left in the second period, assisted by Hunt. The Westie Shark defense and Kylene Crowe did the rest. Crowe made 25 saves between the pipes for the shutout, sending the girls to the SCC Championship game.

Taylor Nowak was named Player of the Year for the SCC and along with Veronica Lynn and Kylene Crowe, was named to the SCC South Division First Team. Jianna Cohrs was named to the SCC South Second Team.

See Westies, page 13



Photo by Todd Dandelske

## Player of the Week

Jenna Hunt (7) is the Vio's Sports Plus/Westie Blue Player of the Week. In two games this past week, Hunt had a goal and two assists to lead the Westie Sharks to the SCC championship game. To read about the Player of the Week and learn about all of your West Haven sports, including game stories, photos, videos and more, visit [www.westieblue.com](http://www.westieblue.com).

# Knights top NFI for seniors

Hockey beats NFI on Senior Day, basketball beats Hillhouse in SCC quarterfinal round, Alex Barbour competed in CIAC State Open Wrestling Meet, and swimmers hosted Xavier on Senior Day.

**Hockey --** Following the always bittersweet and emotional senior day festivities, the goal was simple for the 2018-19 hockey team - send off its eight seniors with a win in their final regular sea-

son game at the Bennett Rink. Three third-period goals, a few huge saves by David Anania, and a penalty kill to start the final period all led to a 5-1 SCC/SWC Division I win over visiting New Fairfield-Immaculate on Saturday.

Tom Ashmore, John Michael Childs, Rory Andriole, Michael Card, and Connor Faughnan all scored for the Green Knights. Notre Dame fell to Darien 7-3 earlier in

the week, despite goals from Jack Luzzi, Card, and John D'Errico. They entered Tuesday's regular season finale at ND Fairfield with a 9-9-1 record.

**Basketball --** Staring down the barrel of a four-point half-time deficit and possible early exit from the SCC Tournament, the Notre Dame basketball team turned its defense up a notch and became downright stingy as the top-ranked

Green Knights rallied to beat Hillhouse, 56-44, in a quarter-final game at Branford HS on Saturday.

Notre Dame (20-1) held the ninth-seeded Academics to four points over the first 10 minutes of the second half to flip the score. Notre Dame used a 15-4 third-quarter scoring advantage to take the lead, resulting in their third win over Hillhouse this season. Connor Raines then broke out of a slow scoring day with a nine-point fourth quarter as the Green Knights stayed comfortably ahead and made enough free throws to cruise to a 12-point win. Raines led Notre Dame with 14 points. The Green Knights had two other figure scorers as Trevor Setzer-Smith and Zach Laput added 12 and 10 points respectively.

**Wrestling --** As a result of his fourth-place showing at the CIAC Class L Meet, Alex Barbour qualified for the CIAC State Open Meet. He was seeded 13th in his 182-pound weight class for the competition that started on Friday at the New Haven Athletic Center.

Unfortunately, Barbour lost his first two matches in the double-elimination bracket, albeit both incredibly close

matches. Barbour lost, 12-10, to Bacon Academy's Leonardo Amoro, who was the Class M fifth-place finisher.

Barbour would look to keep his tournament and season alive in the consolation round, but would lose another close battle. This time, he lost a 13-12 decision to New Britain's Izaiah Medina. Barbour will return next season, along with a slew of other wrestlers for head coach Richard Anderson.

**Swimming --** Notre Dame swim coach Mike O'Brien let his seniors hand in what events they would like to compete in for their final dual meet of the regular season. As a result, co-captains Bill Hinckley and Jonathan Farricelli both won their event and set personal best times as well. However, the Green Knights fell, 100-71, in their meet with Xavier.

Hinckley and Farricelli were part of four winning events for the Green Knights. Farricelli won the 50 freestyle in 24.81. Hinckley won the 100 freestyle in 51.64. The other Notre Dame wins came from Sean McDermott, who won the 100 breaststroke in 1:09.72. The 400 freestyle relay team also won the final event as Malachi Blatchley, Gavin Kanlong, Colton Varholak, and Michael Iasalvatore in 4:15.42.



Photo courtesy of NDWH

**David Anania leaps into the boards following ND hockey's 5-1 Senior Day win over NFI on Saturday.**

# Wizards crowned league champs

To top off the Wizards' undefeated season, they were crowned Yankee League Champions after scoring more than 1000 total points during trials and championships. The final meet of the season will be the All-Star Pentathlon.

From championships, the top three swimmers in each event qualify for the pentathlon. The pentathlon is a unique meet, in that all the swimmers compete in the same five events: butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke, freestyle and a 100-yard individual medley. The times from all events are added up and the swimmer

from each age group with the fastest cumulative time wins.

This year 45 Wizards advanced to All-Stars, and five others qualified as alternates:

Katherine Ayala, Lauren Blake, Carli Cassone, Anya Celmer, Collin Charron, Nathan Charron, Eliezer Chulco, Jacob Collete, Sophia DeLauri, Madysen Elias, Emily Eschweiler, Leonakis Espronceda, Kaelyn Falanga, Morgan Falanga, Sean Fitzpatrick, Sophie Fonck, Jillian Goldbeck, Aryanna Gorske, Gabriel Gyurkovics, Madison Hobart, Lauren Hoeppner, Raymond Listori, Andrew McLarty,

Leahn Mendoza, Linnette Mendoza, Erin Morton, Kaleigh Morton, Aarya Mulmi, Cam Nash, Anna Piskura, Evan Piskura, Camila Prochno, Hannah Rascoll, Jaxson Ryan, London Ryan, Sophia Shubin, Ella Sutton, Kaylee Taulty, Emma Tirollo, Winter Valdivieso, Kaya Vital, Lucas Vital, Carly Weber, Molly Wilson and Lucas Yavagnilio. The alternates are: Christian Ayala,

Aubrey Holthaus, Jacob Ilama, Dylan Morrissey and CJ Sutton.

During Championships, three team records were broken. Collin Charron set a new record for the boys' 11/12 50-yard backstroke record, and Anya Celmer set the mark for the girls' 15 and over record for the 100-yard butterfly and 100-yard backstroke.

For more information on the

West Haven Wizards, visit [www.westhavenwizards.org](http://www.westhavenwizards.org). The spring season is just around the corner. Registration will be opening in March 2019 through the West Haven Parks and Recreation. The spring team is an eight-week stroke clinic, it is a great opportunity for new swimmers to learn all four strokes and the fundamentals of swimming, or to refine their skills.



Submitted Photo

**The West Haven Wizards' finalists pose for a group photo during the weekend meet at the WHHS pool.**

## Westies: Ranked 2

**Continued from page 12**

The Westie Sharks, ranked No. 2 received a bye for the first round of the CHSGHA tournament and will play the winner of the Hamden vs East Catholic game in the quarterfinals on Saturday at 1 at the Bennett Rink.

The boys' basketball team faced the Hillhouse Academics in the opening round of the SCC tournament on Thursday evening at the WHHS Gym. The Blue Devils battled with the Academics and trailed by just one 11-10 at the end of the first quarter. After the Academics went on a 17-4 run to open the second quarter, the Westies battled back to get it to 32-24 at halftime. The Blue Devils continued to battle and got within six points at 63-57 with half a minute left but fell short in the 65-58 final. Malcolm Duncanson led West Haven with 19 points while Mufee Cooper had 16 points in the loss.

The Westies will now prepare for the CIAC tournament. Tournament pairings were announced on Wednesday.

## Westie Blue In Touch

**By Mike Madera**

The first time Hamden and West Haven met this season, Hamden put on an offensive display and cruised past the Westies. Knowing West Haven was not going to let that happen again, the Green Dragons used an offense which saw 12 different players gather points in a 6-4 Division I victory over the Westies at Lou Astorino Rink Monday evening.

Sophomore Conor Gethings was the only Hamden player with multiple points as he had a goal and an assist, while 11 other players recorded one point. Hamden goaltender Donald Moorcroft made 19 saves, including several key stops in the third period with the Westies looking to rally.

"It is important for us to get the secondary scoring," Hamden's Eddy Fracasso said after finishing with an assist. "We had several guys come up big tonight. That is good for the team. It gets the whole team rolling."

The Green Dragons, ranked fifth in the GameTimeCT/Register Top 10 poll, were rolling from the start, outshooting West Haven 15-5 in the opening period, and using a pair of 5-on-3 advantages to build momentum, before scoring twice in 50 seconds for a 2-0 advantage.

Up two men, and after West Haven (10-10) had already killed a two-man down situation, A.J. Luedee found himself alone in front and beat West Haven goaltender Jared Pliszka where he made no mistake off assists from Fracasso and Gethings.

Just 50 seconds later, the lead was a pair of goals as Jack Shane scored off assists from Tyler Routh and Alex Hernan-

dez.

"We got off to the quick start with the two goals," Fracasso said. "We knew West Haven was not going to let us run away with it. We knew they were going to come back. We knew we had to pick it up."

The Westies cut the deficit in half with 4.8 seconds left in the opening period.

Richie Greene's point shot was deflected in front by Kevin Moriarty, before Moriarty put in the loose puck to get the Westies within 2-1.

"We fell behind early," West Haven coach Joe Morrell said. "We have shown we can come back and we will need that in the playoffs. We had some opportunities, but we didn't cash in."

Hamden (11-8) scored the only goal of the second period when Alan Cozzolino scored off a scramble in front with an assist going to Alex Ponzio, before the Green Dragons opened up the contest in the third period.

Craig Cesare gave Hamden a 4-1 lead 3:46 in and Michael Gethings added to the mix 38 seconds later for a 5-1 advantage, before West Haven stormed back.

"Playing teams like West Haven helps us for the postseason," Fracasso said. "It gives us an extra boost. When we play the big teams like West Haven, we know we have to play together and be ready."

Led by Kaden Morgillo, the Westies rallied back. Morgillo got West Haven within 5-2 off assists from Nico Bruneau and Colin Hines 1:04 later, before Niko Kyle scored off assists from Nick Boanno and Moriarty with 2:52 remaining.

Trailing by two, Morgillo

again tallied off an assist from Sean Dupre with 35.5 seconds to go to get West Haven within 5-4, but the Westies could not get the equalizer.

"At 5-1, we got some life,"

Morrell said. "We are going to need that. We know we can come back. It has happened a few times this year where we came back.

"Now, we have to rest up

and get ready for the postseason."

Conor Gethings sealed the win for Hamden as he scored into an empty net as time expired.



Photo by Russ McCreven

### *There it is!*

HOT NUMBER -- Everyone seems to shy away from the ball in Fundamental circuit action.

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# Huskies roll to WHGBL crown

The Gunning Law Huskies captured the West Haven Girls Basketball tournament championship with a 21-10 win over the Rings End Bruins Friday night at Seth Haley.

The Huskies finished the year with a record of 16-1.

The Huskies jumped out to an early lead in the first quarter as Finley Gunning hit for 10 points in the quarter and Cashlin O'Neill added two points. Samira Huckaby raced in with a layup off the tip in the second quarter to extend the lead.

The Bruins battled back in the second quarter as Noelle Lawrence scored five points, including a three-pointer as time expired.

The third quarter saw both teams turn up the defensive pressure.

Finley Gunning added another hoop while Sara Went and Samantha Boyd answered with baskets for the Bruins. Emma McFarland and Sophie McFarland put the game away for the Huskies with hoops in the fourth quarter.

The ball handling of Molly Gunning and defense of Elena Cortes held the Bruins without

a basket for the quarter. Neveah Stegall hit a free throw for the Bruins.

Members of the Huskies: Molly Gunning, Taryn Walker, Katie Mondo, Elena Cortes, Samira Huckaby, Haleigh McCarthy, Finley Gunning, Sophie McFarland, Emma McFarland, Sophie Emprie and Cashlin O'Neill.

Member of the Bruins: Samantha Boyd, Sara Went, Emily Hartshorn, Trinity Campbell, Jada Turner, Abby Wynus, Neveah Stegall, Camilla Murphy, Noelle Lawrence, Gillian Wynus and Diajah Taylor.

In the semifinals, the Huskies rode 15 points from Cashlin O'Neill to lead them to a 23-11 win over the fourth seeded Shoreline Dental Cardinals.

Elena Cortes, Finley Gunning and Taryn Walker also scored for the Huskies. Madden Evangeliste, Cristel Miguel and Parish Rutledge all scored key baskets as the Cardinals.

The Bruins got to the finals by revenging an earlier loss to the third-seeded West Haven Drug & Alcohol Panthers with a 23-10 win.

Sara Went exploded for 14



Submitted Photo

**The Gunning Law Firm Huskies show off their championship trophies following their win Saturday in the finale of the West Haven Girls Basketball League season.**

points in the win for the Bruins.

The Bruins also got scoring

from Camilla Murphy, Noelle Lawrence, Jada Turner and Neveah Stegall. Ciara Harp,

Jocelyn Silber and Jaecianna Mitchell accounted for all the Panthers scoring.

## Bantam A team falls in State Tournament

The West Haven Bantam A travel hockey team played in its Connecticut Hockey Conference Tier 3 State Tournament this weekend at the Northford Ice Pavilion.

In their first game of the tournament on Thursday, the Blue Devils took on the CT Riverhawks and skated to a 3-2 loss. The game went back and forth, with both teams having multiple scoring opportunities.

After a scoreless first period, the Riverhawks got on the board in the first minute and a half of the second period, taking the first lead of the game. The score would stay 1-0 until the beginning of the third, when David Brown scored the first goal of the tournament for the Westies with a short-handed goal after going top shelf from the circle.

Matt Morgan scored a break-away goal for the first Blue Devil lead of the game after Colin Deane gave Morgan a beautiful feed on the goal. After going up 2-1, the Riverhawks scored two unanswered goals, with the game winner being scored with less than a minute left.

Brendan Smith made some unbelievable saves to keep the Westies in the game, with one phenomenal save on a 2-on-1 going post to post and snagging the puck in his glove late in the third.

Dante Hardt, Joey Honcz and Carl Murgo player well in the loss.

On Friday night, the Blue Devils took on the Stamford Sharks and came away with a needed 5-2 win.

After a sluggish start, West Haven was finally able to get on the board midway thru the first period off an unassisted breakaway goal from Morgan. After getting their first goal of the night, the Blue Devils were able to keep the momentum on their side.

Morgan scored his second unassisted goal of the game with 5:32 remaining in the second. Brown then went to score two of his own goals back to back within two minutes of each other, one of them being a nice tip in in front. Murgo then scored a great goal within the last six minutes of the contest, skating end to end and shooting at his target with his head up.

The Sharks scored two quick goals in the last five minutes of the third after gaining momentum back late, but it was not enough to overcome the Westies.

Smith played spectacular in goal, making some great saves and doing a good job deflecting pucks into the corners. Honcz, Kevin Gardner and Jayden Spreyer all played well in the win.

Saturday brought two games

for the Westies at the Northford Ice Pavilion.

The first game was the final contest in round-robin play and had the Blue Devils losing a tough game, 4-2 to the Southeastern Seahawks.

After going down 2-0, the Westies got on the board after an unassisted Morgan goal midway through the second period.

The Seahawks would go on to score two more, but Justin Pniewski was able to get West Haven on the board for their second goal, with an assist coming from Matt Wezenski. After applying pressure the

remainder of the game, West Haven was not able to get the score evened up.

Smith did everything he could to keep the Seahawks off the board in goal, giving a valiant effort. Brown, Wezenski and Cade Simone player well in the loss.

After making it into the quarterfinal round by winning a tie-breaker, the Blue Devils took on a gritty Greater New Haven Warriors team, coming out with a 4-1 victory in the Warriors home rink, with all four Westie goals coming in the first period.

Pniewski scored the game's

first goal off a rebound in front of the net, with the assist coming from Sean Bosworth off a shot from the point. Dante Hardt then scored the game's second goal, with Spreyer getting the assist.

Pniewski scored his second of the contest off an unassisted goal. Brown scored a goal off a rip from the top of the circles, with Cole getting an assist. The Warriors were able to get one in the second, but could not get back in the game.

Smith made some great saves while getting pressured in the crease.

See Hockey, page 16



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# Hockey: Westies fall in semifinal

Continued from page 15

Pniewski, Morgan, Honcz and Murgo all played well in the game.

With the win against the Warriors, the Blue Devils advanced to the tournament semifinals, where they lost a nail-biter in overtime by a 3-2 score to the Yale Bulldogs.

Cole scored their first goal of the game off a shot in front, and got the Blue Devils the all important first goal lead of the game. After a back and forth second period, the Bulldogs went to score back to back goals within a minute of each other with five minutes remaining in the game.

After pulling Smith for the extra attacker, Brown scored the game-tying goal off a slap shot from the top of the circles with a minute remaining in regulation, sending the game into overtime.

After the Westies pressured the Bulldogs in their end for the first four minutes of overtime, Yale was able to score the game-winning goal to end the Blue Devils CHC Season.

Smith played his best game of the tournament, keeping his team in the lead for the majority of the game.

Wezenski, Deane and Murgo all played well in the loss.



Photo by Russ McCreven

## Cutting off at the pass

Tyler Yates and teammate Ezra Vereen try to block the path of Hoosier Matt Suchay in Bailey Fundamental League last week.

# bsg

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# classified

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Page 17

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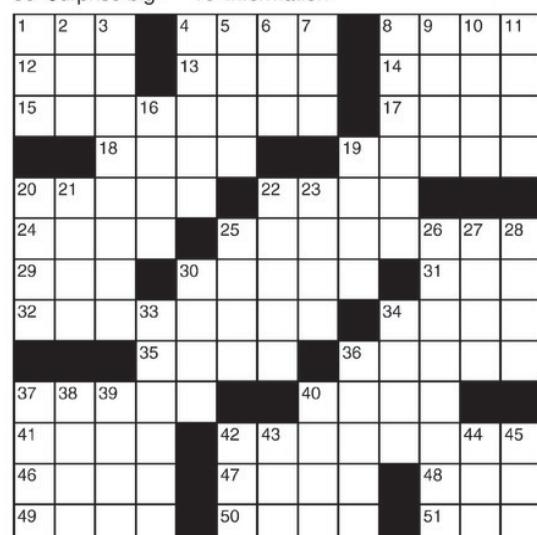
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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**  
1 Beavers' struc- time  
ture 40 Unwanted  
4 Second letter email  
8 Wild and crazy 41 On in years  
12 Indivisible 42 Morning garb  
13 Mideast airline 46 Entreaty  
14 Sheltered 47 "Super-food"  
15 Gin, e.g. berry  
17 Grad rags? 48 Grecian vessel  
18 First murderer 49 Transmit  
19 Iron 50 Group of cattle  
20 Suitor 51 Despondent

**DOWN**  
1 "What's up,  
—?"  
2 Literary collec-  
tion 3 16th-century  
cartographer  
4 Start 5 Verve  
6 Highland hat 7 Brewery prod-  
uct 8 Capital of  
Croatia 9 Shaving cream  
additive 10 Information

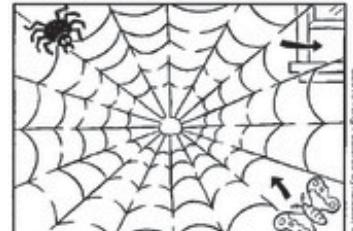


## MAGIC MAZE • THOSE WHO PLAY

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

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

Bassist Fiddler Oboist Trumpeter  
Cellist Flutist Organist Tubist  
Cymbalist Harpist Pianist Violinist  
Drummer Lutenist Piper



**THE SILKEN MAZE!** See if you can help this  
fly get through the silken maze, and out the  
window, before Spidey pounces on him.

**LUNCH BREAK TROUBLE!** Henry was supposed to  
buy 4 hamburgers and 3 sodas for \$14.50. Instead, he  
bought 3 hamburgers and 4 sodas for \$13.50. What  
was the price of a single hamburger? A single soda?

**A HAT OF MANY SIZES!** In this puzzle, all of the words  
we are searching for contain the word "HAT." The follow-  
ing hints should help "crown" you with success:  
1. HAT (given). 2. To greatly dislike.  
3. A ship opening. 4. Old type of roofing.  
5. A French castle. 6. Casual conversation  
7. Broken into many pieces.

Answers: 1. HAT; 2. HAT; 3. HAT; 4. HAT; 5. HAT; 6. HAT; 7. HAT

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

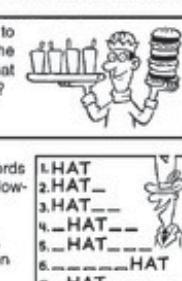
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way  
that each row across, each column down and  
each small 9-box square contains all of  
the numbers from one to nine.

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

**Junior Whiz**  
by Charles Barry Townsend

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



### LOOKING FOR LINCOLN!

Hidden in the diagram above are 17 words  
associated with the 16th president of the  
United States, Abraham Lincoln. They can  
be found by reading up or down, or side to  
side. You'll even find them diagonally  
going up or down. Letters can be used  
more than once. Listed below are the  
words you're looking for:

Able Douglas Lincoln  
Booth Gettysburg Memorial  
Cabin Holiday President  
Civil War Ideas Slender  
Command Lawyer Theatre  
Debate Leader

Answers  
to last week's  
puzzles

### — King Crossword —

Answers

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

### — LINCOLN —

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

### — Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

6	4	8	2	7	3	9	1	5				


<tbl\_r cells

# Blumenthal calls for 9/11 funding



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., calls on Congress to fully finance the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund during a news conference Feb. 21 at West Haven Fire Department headquarters. Joining Blumenthal are, from left, City Council Minority Leader Richard DePalma, R-at large; mayoral Executive Assistant Lou Esposito; Mayor Nancy R. Rossi; District Vice Presidents Steve Michalovic and Bob Smith of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut; UPFFA member Mike Spoldi; and West Haven Fire Department Lt. William Heffernan and Chief James P. O'Brien.

**By Michael P. Walsh**

*Special to the Voice*

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., called on Congress to fully finance the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund during a news conference Feb. 21 at West Haven Fire Department headquarters.

After alarming news that the fund is running out of money and will cut future payments to 9/11 victims by up to 70 percent, Blumenthal also called on Congress to make the VCF permanent.

Joining Blumenthal for the announcement were Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, mayoral Executive Assistant Lou Esposito and City Council Minority Leader Richard DePalma, R-at large, along with West Haven

Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien and Lt. William Heffernan, District Vice Presidents Steve Michalovic and Bob Smith of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut, and UPFFA member Mike Spoldi.

The VCF has already approved 22,323 claims for survivors and their families for physical injuries as a result of their involvement at New York's ground zero, including exposure to toxins.

According to the most recent VCF report, there have been 366 claims filed by individuals living in Connecticut, with 136 individuals living in the state already receiving funds.

With cancer rates for 9/11 responders on the rise and the fund set to expire in 2020, the VCF is more important than ever, said Blumenthal, who was also joined at the midday news conference by more than a dozen firefighters from the Elm Street department, which serves the First Fire Taxation District, also known as the Center District.

Blumenthal fought for the passage of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act in 2015, which made the World Trade Center Health Program permanent and reauthorized the VCF through 2020.

Because of an increase in claims, however, the VCF is close to running out of money, Blumenthal said, forcing benefits to be cut by 50 to 70 percent to ensure that all eligible individuals receive an award.

O'Brien and Heffernan are among 35 West Haven firefighters who served at ground zero after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack and now participate in the WTC program, which ensures proper medical treatment and monitoring of more than 33,000 first responders and survivors who have 9/11-related illnesses.

Of the 35 firefighters, 23 are from the West Haven Fire Department, seven are from the West Shore Fire Department, and five are from the City of West Haven Fire Department Allington, O'Brien said.

Last Congress, Blumenthal was an original co-sponsor of the Never Forget the Heroes: Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act, which would permanently reauthorize and finance the VCF as well as provide benefits to those who saw them reduced as a result of the current funding shortfall.

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*No fee for Students*

**PURCHASE TICKETS: <http://bit.ly/WLC-2019>**

*Must pre-register, no tickets will be sold at the door*

**OR MAIL PAYMENT & NAMES OF GUESTS:**

*Orange Chamber of Commerce  
605 Orange Center Rd, Orange, CT 06477*

**QUESTIONS:**

*Orange Chamber of Commerce  
director@orangechamber.com  
(203) 795-3328*

**OR**

*West Haven Chamber of Commerce  
info@westhavenchamber.com  
(203) 933-1500*

**SPONSORSHIPS AND PROGRAM AD SALES ARE AVAILABLE**



## Senior trips slated

F. Senior and Friends has planned a trip to Atlantic City May 22-24 at Resorts Casino. The package includes two dinners, a show and \$25 coupon for slot play.

Price is \$279 for a double, \$269 for a triple and \$389 for a single.

A trip to Niagara Falls is set for Aug. 5-8. Call for information on this and other trips. Call Fred (203) 389-5808 or (203) 927-4249.

## St. Patrick trip

Join the West Haven Senior

## Black Balloon Day slated

By Michael P. Walsh

*Special to the Voice*

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi is calling on all residents who have been affected by the opioid epidemic to hang a black balloon in front of their homes in observance of Black Balloon Day on Wednesday.

For the second year, Rossi has pledged West Haven's commitment to recognizing the special day after its co-founder, Diane Hurley, of Peabody, Massachusetts, reached out to the mayor seeking the city's participation. Hurley's daughter, Lauren Hurley, is the other co-founder.

Lauren Hurley's mission began March 6, 2016, after her brother-in-law, Greg Tremblay, a father of four, died of a drug overdose a year earlier. Hurley's brother, Sean Hurley, was also a drug addict but has been clean for more than a year. In the wake of the family's tragedy, she and her mother have joined forces in the war on drugs. On Wednesday, all West Haveners who have been impacted by drug addiction, are asked hang a black balloon outside their homes.

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## Around Town

West Haven Senior Center 201 Noble St. or you can call (203) 937-3507.

### Al-Anon group

An Al-Anon meeting group invites new members to attend its weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the First Lutheran Church, 52 George St. For information and details, call (203) 506-1464.

### Student Loans

The Seth Haley Memorial Loan Fund of West Haven provides eligible college students with loans of up to \$2500 to help students finish their post high school education.

Applicants must be West Haven residents who have completed two or more years of college or post-secondary work or be in their final two years of advanced work. Any West Haven resident attending college or a post high

school professional, technical or trade school can be eligible for a loan. Repayments do not begin, and no interest will be charged until one year after graduation. If you are interested in making an application for a loan, please Gert Beckwith at (203) 934-6921, or Ralph Lawson, (203) 934-6442

### WHGC meeting

The West Haven Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 14, at St. Louis Church on Bull Hill Road at 11:30 a.m. A luncheon will then follow and the program will be Master Judge Trish Manfredi who will be doing a design workshop.

### Vendors sought

Vendors Wanted for Saturday, April 6, from 9-2:30 for the Easter Festival and Craft

Fair at the church on the West Haven Green, 464 Campbell Ave. Lunch will include New England Clam Chowder and Chicken Noodle soups. Along with vendors, this year's festival includes a raffles, a bake sale, kids' corner and crafts, a multi-room book sale, the White Elephant sale, and pictures with Easter Bunny. To join the excitement, contact the First Congregational Church of West Haven for an application, call (203) 933-6291 or [kirstenvargo@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenvargo@gmail.com).

### Bradley Pt. confab

Bradley Point Garden Club of West Haven will hold its monthly luncheon, followed by a workshop on pressed flower arranging, at noon on Tuesday, March 19 in the lower level of Ora Mason Library, 260 Benham Hill Road. New members are always welcome.

  
**Congratulations  
Parade Queen  
Taylor Besciglia!**



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