

West Haven Voice

February 14, 2019

Vol. 23, Issue 6, 20 Pages

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

Voice Profile

A weekly in-depth interview

If you don't know where your past is, and what it's been like you're blind to what the future may hold, too

~ Jon Purmont

Page 9



Photo courtesy of WHCH

Visiting shelter

Students from West Haven Community House's after-school program at Seth Haley collected money and donated it to the West Haven Animal Shelter. They love visiting the shelter and petting the animals.

Grand List up by \$30m

By Josh LaBella
Voice Reporter

Mayor Nancy Rossi hailed news the city's city's grand list of taxable property has grown by nearly \$30 million from 2017 to 2018. She called the hike a sign the city's fiscal health is improving. Over the last decade the Grand List has either remained flat or fallen several times.

This puts the net value of the grand list at over \$2.683 billion. The grand list is an aggregate of all taxable property and is used to determine mill rates during budget-making.

City Tax Assessor Ann Marie Gradoia attributed nearly a quarter of the rise to the Yale University distribution center on Derby Avenue.

"They didn't even begin building the building yet," said Gradoia. "But we had to combine all their properties and value the land. So that is about eight million dollars added onto that. It will be even more next year when the building is completed."

Mayor Rossi pointed out that, when the buildings are finished, anything used to furnish them will also count as taxable property. She said Yale did not get any type of tax abatement for the development. Rossi said they asked for one once she got into office but she said no.

"Obviously we're going to have to take any additional buildings on a case by case basis," said Rossi. "Because they have a big parcel of land there and the intent is to build more around the distribution center."

Gradoia also said there were eight or nine new houses built which added to the growth. She said personal property audits have been another major contributor. The city hired the company Tax Management Associates to help do more audits.

"They've been pretty aggressive," said Rossi, "and it's great because this is all lost money."

Gradoia said the honor system is used regarding filing personal property taxes and the audits turned up more taxable property. She said some people genuinely do not know what to report on their taxes which can lead to assets going untaxed.

"Everything is taxable," said Gradoia. "Real estate or personal property. So if you have an empty box, it's either considered real estate or personal property. It's got to be one or the other."

According to a press release, growth occurred across all three taxation districts. In Center, West Shore, and Allingtown the increases were roughly \$8.9 million, \$10 million, and \$11 million, respectively. Mayor Rossi also spoke to the importance of the growth.

"The grand list increase signals economic growth that is critical to improving the long-term fiscal health of the city of West

See Grand List, page 5

Exposure

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...for your business = ~~GOOD!~~

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Government Meetings

Weather

Friday Feb. 15 Overcast with rain. High near 45F.



Sunrise: 6:47 am
Sunset: 5:25 pm
Wind: ESE 10-15 mph.

Saturday Feb. 16 Showers AM, then partly cloudy in the afternoon. High 48F.



Sunrise: 6:45 am
Sunset: 5:26 pm
Wind: SW 10-15 mph.

Sunday Feb. 17 Mix of clouds and sun in the AM. High 43F.



Sunrise: 6:44 am
Sunset: 5:27 pm
Wind: W 10-15 mph.

Monday Feb. 18 Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 42F.



Sunrise: 6:43 am
Sunset: 5:29 pm
Wind: WNW 10-15 mph.



Kids' Forecast

Charlie DiBenedetto, age 14 months, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. predicts warmer weather for Valentine's Day!

Things to Do

To have your event featured here email it to: info@westhavenvoice.com

The West Haven Historical Society is sponsoring a "Soups On!!" luncheon on Sunday Feb. 24 from noon-1:15. Cost is \$5 per person and will be held at the Poli House, 686 Savin Ave., opposite the Green. Various soups prepared by UNH Catering service will be served along with muffins and breads, coffee and tea. Immediately following the soup luncheon

there will be a Presidential and West Haven History Trivia contest). Call (203) 932-0088 for further information.

A Retirement Social for Bill "Slats" Slater will be hosted on Monday Feb. 25, from 5-8 p.m. at Duffy's Tavern 241 Campbell Ave. Cost is \$20 (cash only) and includes hors d'oeuvres & 1 drink ticket. Tickets may be purchased by calling (203) 937-3651.

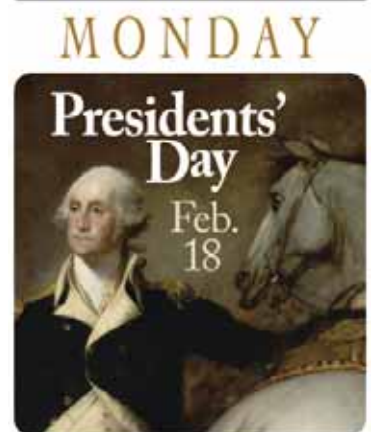
The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association will host a Valentine's Day Doo Wop Dance at 85 Chase Lane on Saturday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m... Free Beer, Wine or Soda. Cash Bar for mixed drinks. Tickets: \$20 per person. Call Lou at (203) 934-3339.

Monday, Feb. 11
City Council, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 12
Planning and Zoning, 7 p.m. City Hall; WHHS Building Committee, 7 p.m. City Hall.

Thursday Feb. 14
Charter Revision Commission, Harriet North Meeting Room, 6:30 p.m.

Don't forget...



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Taxes the major focus of Allingtown session

By Josh LaBella
Voice Reporter

In her second town hall meeting in as many weeks, Mayor Nancy Rossi answered tough questions from Allingtown residents. The district, which one resident previously described as West Haven's "red-headed stepchild," saw a 2.1 percent supplemental district tax increase this year.

Taxes and the cost of living in the city were a recurring topic during the meeting last week.

For more than two hours, the mayor answered questions that varied heavily in scope: from speeding, to complaints about light, noise and blight. Taxes, however, was a topic that kept returning.

Rossi said afterwards that she held the meeting after city council members representing Allingtown asked her to hold one for their district. She said a lot of the time Allingtown is forgotten.

"It's not fair," said Rossi. "A lot of the time they [the city] do things and they don't go to Allingtown. I wanted to make sure that we were available."

Many residents who spoke did have questions about the tax increase. One woman said she could no longer afford to live in the district and was selling her house. She said soon there would be no people left to tax.

"If you don't sit down and meet with the people that are here in West Haven," said the woman, "the families – and keep them here. You're not going to have anybody but college students running around, tearing up the road and not paying anything."

The woman said she was being run out of Allingtown [due to the taxes]. The mayor responded by saying the city is trying to develop the area to grow the tax base. She pointed out

that the city taxes are the same for all of the districts but each have their own taxes to pay for the fire districts.

"The fire district [tax] is high because we have a small district," said Rossi. "They have an unfunded pension liability – it's only been funded 22 percent. Now we have someone [the MARB] ordering us to do it [raise taxes on the fire districts] or they are going to take complete control – which is tier four."

The Municipal Accountability Review Board, or MARB, has ordered the city to do a fire study to see where money can be saved vis-à-vis the fire districts.

As the mayor has previously stated, they have control over the budget, the mill rate and any contract over \$50,000.

Another topic which residents honed in on was the fact that the University of New Haven is not taxed.

One resident called for a moratorium on all non-profits buying properties in the city. Another, Carla Hill, said she was second guessing buying her home and wanted to know what the residents of Allingtown could do to hold UNH accountable.

"UNH doesn't pay taxes," said Hill. "I see them continually encroaching from the Post Road, buying people's properties, and every time they buy someone's property it isn't getting taxed."

Mayor Rossi said UNH gives a voluntary payment to the Allingtown fire district.

She said the city also gets PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) money from the state – although that money is diminishing.

Mayor Rossi said they had sheets for people to fill out with questions or concerns that her staff would be following up on.

See Allingtown, page 11

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Dear Felicia

As I scribe this week's mis-sive, sweets, I see that we are to git some winter weather – it's about time, too. Everyone around Cobina is fightin' something nasal or chesty with a cold or flu. Momma used to say the cold weather is the best cure cuz it kills all the germs. Meanwhile, as the wag told us last week, "Pitchers and catchers next week means warm weather is coming." I guess he's talkin' about spring training or something.

Here in the Asylum by the Sea, the recent talk that demolition of the Haven projeck area is in the offing came to the fore. A two-alarm blaze on 22 Richards Place magnified the problems. Jest last week, Sammy Bluejay mentioned that though there are blockades along those side streets, and police watches are more common, residents over there are still seein' squatters go into buildings. Whilst no one knows what the cause of the blaze was as of this writ-

ing, it did seem like the fire was caused by external forces. Could that mean that some poor homeless person was trying to keep warm and things got outta control? Could be, or it could be that others with more nefarious plans or actions got in there. Dollars to doughnuts the watch over there increases.

Still I told yew last week that businesses around the area were notified that demolition might happen as soon as March 1. One would think – and might be permitted so – that with this lit'le incident everything will be done to make it as close to March 1 as is possible.

Meanwhile the development company is gonna secure the area, and (as herronner mentioned very quickly) do so at its own expense. It's gonna be an interesting run up to the demolition, honey bunch. Something to keep our eyes upon.

~~~

*Nelly Nuthatch came flutterin' by t'other afternoon and sez that a good thing might be resultin' from the exodus of one very popular guy to new digs. As yew remember, Nick's Luncheonette was caught between the rock and the hard place that is the Haven Project up to this pernt. He never knew when he was gonna e asked to close, and knew he could have been given paltry recompense for his eatery due to the threat of eminent domain.*

*Well, after months of rebuilding and construction woes, and a tape measure that got stuck in a drain stalling things, he was able to open up his place on Sawmill Road – it used to be a Pizza Hut. Well, the good news is for a change the good guys are winning. Since opening up a few weeks ago, Nick's parking lot has been fuller than full, and business seems to be booming. We hope him well in his new digs, and know that he was sufferin' the pains of Hades with the reconstruction projeck. Let's hope that he is able to recoop his investment sooner rather than later, and that the location and his loyal customers keep things booming over there.*

~~~

Josh LaBella's profile of Frank Ciepilski, the new wizard of the accounts on the thoid floor of the Actors Colony, did one thing if nothin' else: it focused the fack that city powers that be are now puttin' all their efforts in the new budget. That process began last month and now go full throttle until her-

ronner makes her second budget proposal next month.

Of course, with the strictures as set up by the Municipal Accountability Review Board, there is not a whole lotta surprises expected in this year's spending plan. Once again, the city is expected to git kopecks from the state after tellin' the MARB it would be good and do what it sez.

What needs to be determined is how much the mill rate is gonna go up, because that's all that anybody really cares about. Under the five-year plan that herronner agreed to with both arms twisted behind her back, the mill rate is supposed to incrementally go up to 40, not including fire taxes, which will put the average up to about 54. That's a lotta taxes.

This is gonna result in a lotta people leaving our city, and moving to other less taxed areas. Connecticut is already losing thousands a year as it is, and we know that many from here are looking south. Our revenue problems are gonna continue, and there's gonna be fewer people to pay.

We won't know the results until next month, but as we said, the only surprise will be how much, not whether taxes go up.

~~~

*Congrats to Dan Granfield, son of Ann and Ed Granfield (the chairman of the Charter Revision Commish) on bein' published*

*in "The Bulwark" a blog magazine discussing isshews from the "Swamp," otherwise known as Washington, DC. Granfield's lit'el opus is a good read and a fine piece of writing. It gives us hope for some of our young folks, most of whom have trouble putting more than 140 characters together.*

*Of course, being a chip off the old block, the youngest member of the Granfield Clan (he has two sisters) is a bit right of center, even though he works in the midst of the K Street politburo.*

~~~

Speakin' of young people, we see via Iva Lookey, that Roman Khondker has been sworn in as a member of the West Haven Community Development Administration's Citizen Advisory Committee – say that five times fast. Tennyrate, Khondker is 19 and became a US citizen two years ago. Unlike many of his confreres he wanted to git involved, and was appointed follying his mentioning of his interest in a letter.

The interesting part of this, too, is that the mayor appointed him though he is a GOP member. This seems to slough off practice that those who have R's after their names are immediately writ off lists. Tennyrate, good for him, and we hope he does well in his new post. And we congratulate herronner for going beyond party affiliation. It's a rare treat in these parts.

~~~

*Getting back to politics, it seems that Debbie Collins lookin' at a mayoral run is more truth than fiction, and, though a formal announcement hasn't been made, Demmies are gearin' up for an expected primary. What a surprise. No, I kid. It would have been a surprise effen there wasn't a primary this go-round. There are a lotta smarting politicians who didn't like the smack in the head they got in November of 2017.*

*So, people are planning on Collins making a move shortly – there is fund-raising t'do. Meanwhile, Edward O'Brien erstwhile Lord Mayor of our fair city has expressed interest in re-upping his tenure in the office after losing last time. He does not have the imprimatur of the powers that be in the factionalized Demmie establishment we are told and repeat. He is looking, therefore, to make a solo run as an independent, which will make this go-round very interesting, indeed. We've had third-party runs, but normally as a reaction to not getting a nomination. Should O'Brien go ahead with this caper it'll be the foist time the city has seen a three-way race since the IMPACT Party days of Save Our Shore.*

*Mitt luff und kizzez,*

*Cobina*

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# Arson ruled out in 'Haven' fire

A demolition crew removed what was left of 22 Richard Place following a two-alarm fire Friday night. The blaze gutted the building, prompting its demolition Monday.

Fire officials suspect an external cause on the building, which is owned by the Haven Group LLC, but ruled out arson as a cause, believing it to be accidental.

The fire was reported to West Haven Emergency Services at 10:28 p.m., and was brought under control at 11:44. Fire Safety personnel remained on scene throughout the night. A Public Works crew was dispatched to the scene, and applied salt to the roads and affected areas. No serious injuries were reported.

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi was kept apprised of the situation throughout the night, and inspected the site along with Chief James O'Brien of the Center District Fire Department to obtain an update on the cause of the fire.

"The cause is currently inconclusive, pending the outcome of the ongoing investi-

gation," said Saturday. "But, we don't think it was intentional. It looks like an accidental fire."

While at the scene Rossi spoke with Fire Marshall Keith Flood of the Center Fire District, who said preliminary evidence pointed to the fire being set.

"The fire remains under investigation at this time, and it is looking like an incendiary fire," he said at the time.

The West Haven Police Department assessed the remaining vacant properties to identify vulnerabilities. Matt Armstrong, from the Haven Group, LLC, took part in an on-site conference call, and said the developer will take steps to make sure the rest of the area is secure.

"We will cooperate with the City of West Haven throughout the weekend and on Monday to get the site safe and secure," he said. "Standard Builders, at the expense of the Haven Group, is out in the field with their professional carpenters, securing the remaining houses to a higher

standard. We continue to stay on top of the situation."

By Monday afternoon the building was down and the cleanup was underway.

Armstrong said the situation needed a quick response, which was taken by the company.

"As a local developer, we're on call 24/7", Armstrong said. "When something like this happens, we take it very seriously. We've responded very quickly, very thoroughly."

The fire comes on the heels of reports from businesses in the area that a letter went out saying demolition of the four-block area will begin sometime around March 1. Rossi has said plans call for demolition to begin in the next few weeks.

The Haven project entails construction of high-end specialty outlets that are expected to bring thousands of dollars in taxes, and hundreds of jobs to the area, not including the hundreds of construction jobs expected during the estimated two-plus years of construction.



Mayor Nancy Rossi talks with Fire Marsh Keith Flood, in the background are Executive Assistant Lou Esposito and a worker from Standard Builders.

The project has seen several delays since first announced in the fall of 2014. Among them were purchase of properties and lawsuits regarding the use of eminent domain as well as wading through the permit process with state agencies. The announcement last week by Rossi that demolition is set to begin signals that part of

the process is complete.

The belief it was unintentional give credence to the complaints of homeowners in the area that squatters or homeless people were using the vacant buildings. More than a year ago, city crews put concrete barriers up on the streets to prevent traffic and possible illegal activity.

## Grand List: *Grows*

Continued from page 1

Haven," Rossi said. "The grand list growth in 2018, although relatively small, is the largest increase in several years and will generate approximately \$1 million in new revenue for the fiscal year 2020 budget, which will begin on July 1, 2019."

The mayor also said the growth is good news for West Haven and their focus on "aggressively pursuing" economic development will result in continued increases this year and moving forward.

"The new construction on the Yale property on Route 34 and the expansion of the Allingtown revitalization are tangible evidence of our recovery," said Rossi. "We are making progress attracting new business to West Haven and encouraging current West Haven businesses to expand here. Though recovery is slow, we have a plan and are moving in the right direction."

Photo by Josh LaBella

Tax Assessor Ann Marie Gradoia and Mayor Nancy Rossi look over the new figures on the Grand List in the mayor's office last week.



## Problems with China go beyond economics

By Dan Granfield  
Special to the Voice

Ed. Note the following was written by West Haven native Dan Granfield and was published in *The Bulwark*, an on-line conservative journal. It is reprinted with permission.

America's foreign policy regarding China has focused on tariffs and trade wars for the last two years but China does more than practice unfair trade. It's also one of the world's worst perpetrators of religious-based discrimination and violence.

Like most centralized, communist governments, China views religion as a threat. Should citizens believe in a higher deity, they may no longer give their supreme faith and loyalty to the government. To counter such a perceived threat China has been regulating, oppressing, and Sinicizing reli-

gion.

Muslim Uighurs are the group most harshly targeted by the Chinese government. Uighur is a Turkic ethnicity and 11 million Uighurs live in the Western Xinjiang region of China. Millions of Muslim Uighurs are currently detained by the regime in "re-education camps," where there are reports of physical and psychological torture. Families are separated and taught anti-religious, pro-government propaganda.

Uighurs must renounce their religion and swear loyalty to China's Communist party to earn back their freedom. Outside of these camps, Chinese public schools condemn Muslim culture.

The government also takes down crescent symbols from mosques and punishes those who wear traditional Islamic attire or grow long beards.

China oppresses Christians, too. In December, the government arrested Wang Yi, a Christian pastor, and more than 100 of his congregants.

By practicing their faith, the government contended that they were "inciting subversion." The regime frequently closes underground churches and replaces murals of Jesus with pictures of China's president, Xi Jinping. Bibles are confiscated and believers and activists can face jail-time, or worse. ChinaAid, a human rights organization, documented 223,000 Christians persecuted and 1,265 church closings in 2016 alone. That's more than three churches shut down every day in China.

Our current trade-war with China is understandable, but ultimately shortsighted. Placing tariffs on China only gives the Chinese incentives to manipulate our economy. Congress should

consider sanctions instead of tariffs, and tie these penalties to China's regressive, anti-religious policies.

We should show the communist regime that America will always defend the defenseless.

As Sen. John McCain said in his final book, "It is a mistake to view foreign policy, as the Chinese would like us to view it, as simply transactional. Depriving the oppressed of a beacon of hope could lose us the world we have built and thrived in."

Throughout our history, America has been the voice for victims of tyranny and persecution across the globe. We should be so today.

~~~~~  
Dan Granfield is a 2012 Graduate of West Haven High School. He lives in Washington, D.C. where he is a Republican strategist and an adviser to [Freedom to Believe](#).

'Green Deal' is warmed-over socialist programs

Much was written last week concerning New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and her "Green New Deal," announced with a flourish, and followed up by a fact sheet that read something like a middle school term paper – with apologies to middle schoolers. AOC, as the press has dubbed her, came out with the proposal barely hours after the highly successful State of the Union message by President Donald J. Trump.

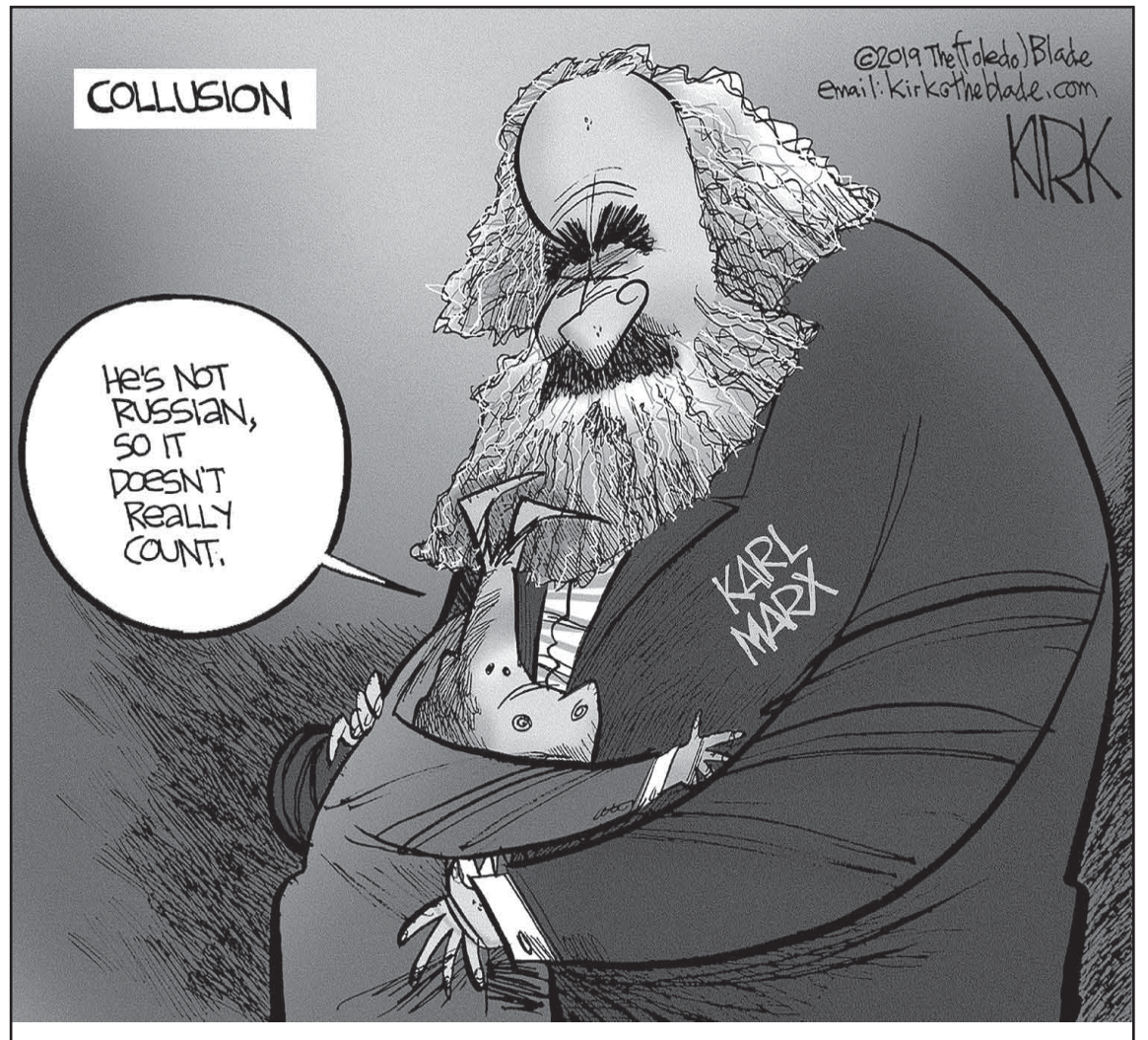
The two events are remarkable because in the SOTU, the President stunned and delighted many with his declaration that "The United States will never be a socialist country." In AOC's declaration later in the week, socialism was writ large all over the document.

Laying aside for a minute the dubious science (the discredited "hockey stick," the fact radiant heat in cities skews measurements, the current cooling stage the sun is experiencing, etc.) that has dictated the Global Warming issue for more than three decades, the document put forth by the congressman laid bare exactly what opponents have been saying for almost as long as the issue has been discussed: it is a pathway to government takeover of wealth and redistribution. In other words, it is a pathway to socialism and the Progressive nirvana its proponents so desire.

The fact sheet sent out by AOC's office, a fact sheet that talked of bovine flatulence, and the elimination of air travel, made such a stir that some of her supporters and consultants attempted to say it was a non-edited documents or a work document that was errantly published. Does anyone really believe that? The documents were up for many hours and only taken down after the ridicule got so bad, AOC's credibility as a serious legislator (such as it is) took a hit.

But within the document is a patchwork quilt of Progressive hobby horses: guaranteed incomes for even those who don't wish to work; federally guaranteed jobs for those who wish to work; high-speed rail projects to eliminate air travel; elimination of nuclear power plants – even though they are the cleanest of power producers; high quality food, electric cars for all with elimination of the internal combustion engine with powering stations "everywhere;" and other such redistributionist wishes. Of course, all jobs will be unionized and the government will take over healthcare and industries while mandating that every building be demolished or retrofitted for renewable energy. The goal is a ten-year window to make this happen, though those flatulent cows might take a bit longer to eradicate. The fact the technologies necessary for much of what the nation will need hasn't been invented yet does not stop the excitement, nor does the follow up as to where all this power for electric car stations is to be produced. We are told that given the political will to do this, the spirit of America will take over just as it did for the moon landing, or winning World War II.

What does this mean for cities like West Haven? If such a program were undertaken, the city's middle class, already burdened with taxes, would be decimated. The underclasses would be driven to even more poverty. In those nations where programs like this were attempted, Socialist Spain for example, statistics show 2.2 jobs were lost for every one "green job" created. But this isn't about the "green economy." This is about warmed-over socialist programs. Period.



Harris uttered a DC 'gaffe'

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

Sen. Kamala Harris committed a most unusual gaffe at her recent CNN town hall -- not by misspeaking about one of her central policy proposals, but by describing it accurately.

Asked if the "Medicare-for-all" plan she's co-sponsoring with Sen. Bernie Sanders eliminates private health insurance, she said that it most certainly does. Citing insurance company paperwork and delays, she waved her hand: "Let's eliminate all of that. Let's move on."

She met with approbation from the friendly audience in Des Moines, Iowa, but the reaction elsewhere was swift and negative.

"As the furor grew," CNN reported the following day, "a Harris adviser signaled that the candidate would also be open to the more moderate health reform plans, which would preserve the industry, being floated by other congressional Democrats."

This was a leading Democrat wobbling on one of her top priorities 48 hours after the kickoff of her presidential campaign.

It is sure to be the first of many unpleasant encounters between the new Democratic agenda and political reality.

Democrats are now moving from the hothouse phase of jockeying for the nomination, when all they had to do was get on board the party's orthodoxy as defined by Bernie Sanders, to defending these ideas in the context of possibly signing them into law as president of the United States.

The Harris flap shows that insufficient thought has been given to how these proposals will strike people not already favorably disposed to the new socialism.

It's one thing for Bernie Sanders to favor eliminating private health insurance; no one has ever believed that he is likely to become president. It's another for Harris, deemed a possible front-runner, to say it.

Her position is jaw-droppingly radical.

It flips the script of the (dishonest) Barack Obama pledge so essential to passing Obamacare: "If you like your health care plan, you'll be able to keep your health care plan, period. No one will take it away, no matter what."

Ten years later, Harris indeed wants to take away your health plan, not in a stealthy operation, not as an unfortunate byproduct of the rest of her plan, but as a defining plank of her agenda.

This is a far more disruptive

idea than Sen. Elizabeth Warren's wealth tax.

The affected population isn't a limited group of highly affluent people. It is half the population, roughly 180 million people who aren't eager for the government to swoop in and nullify their current health care arrangements. They may not like the current system, but they like their own health care -- about three-quarters tell Gallup that their own health care is excellent or good.

How is a President Harris going to overcome this kind of resistance absent Depression-era Democratic supermajorities in Congress?

Not to mention pay for a program that might well cost \$30 trillion over 10 years and beat back fierce opposition from key players in the health-care industry?

She obviously won't.

If it's uncomfortable for Kamala Harris to defend eliminating private health insurance now, imagine what it will be like when the entire apparatus of the Republican Party -- including the president's Twitter feed -- is aimed at her in a general election.

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

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Gripe Vine Readers:

If you have been following this column regularly, you will have seen the lack of cooperation from Mayor Nancy Rossi's reaction from my readers with many city-wide complaints. Fortunately, I have been able to obtain a complete list of West Haven's streets and their relationship to each of the city's councilmen districts.

Mayor Rossi has taken a no-hands-on, so, here is what I'm planning to do with your gripes and comments. Gripe Vine is going to publish your gripes and lead my readers to which councilman they can contact for assistance. I will list the councilmen's phone number (I am researching councilmen's email as well). You will have an excellent opportunity to speak to these individuals who represent you in West Haven. Of course, please continue to keep Gripe Vine in the loop as well. So, here we go!

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

A Ruden Street resident writes "Ruden Street meets the intersection at a very steep angle and at the bottom of the incline is a large pot hole. It's so large that it is unavoidable. There is a bad pothole + a steep incline = vehicle dam-

age. In such a common, trafficked area I'm surprised this hasn't been addressed earlier

Ruden Street Resident

Dear Ruden Street Resident:

You may contact your Councilman for either the 5th or 6th District. You can call Robbin Watt Hamilton

at (203) 641-6448 or call Peter V. Massaro 6th District at (203) 687-1201. If you don't receive their assistance, get back to me.

The same message applies to all my readers.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

Why was the American Flag flying at half-staff for such a long time? At first, I thought it was for Bush's funeral, but it stayed lowered until January first. Why?

RF

Dear RF:

Assuming you mean the flag on the Green and at City Hall, they are located in the First District. The First District is represented by Councilman Bridgette J. Hoskie. You can reach Councilman Hoskie by calling (203) 927-1537 to provide an answer to your question on American Flag etiquette.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There are three cars, not moved for weeks in a front yard on Savin Avenue, in the

long to these cars. It looks like a junk yard.

Savin Avenue Taxpayer

Dear Taxpayer:

Here is the contact for the Councilman for your area; Councilman Bridgette J. Hoskie. The phone number to call is (203) 927-1537.

Dear Councilmen:

If you will, take a moment after you investigate West Haven resident issues, please let me know the outcome so I can publish a fully completed report for my readers. Perhaps some of the complaints you hear may have been previously solved. If so, my readers and I appreciated your coop-

eration.

Mayor Rossi, I hope the town meetings you recently held with residents will be productive.

Gripe Vine Readers. "Let's get this show on the road." Keep sending your gripes to me. If you don't see your problems solved, drop me a note and we'll get back on it.

Readers send your gripes, comments and suggestions to gripegvine4wh@aol.com. Please include your name, address and phone number, kept in strict confidence with me. Mail your issues to me at Gripe Vine c/o The West Haven Voice, 666 Savin Ave.



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

400's neighborhood. Apparently, the cars are not working and not registered with plates which, I am sure, do not be-

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Fireworks slated for July 3

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

The Savin Rock Fireworks Spectacular is set for 9:15 p.m. July 3 off Bradley Point, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

The fireworks display, billed as "the region's largest Independence Day fireworks show," draws an estimated 100,000 people of all ages to West Haven's 3.5-mile shoreline each year. The rain date is July 5.

"The Savin Rock Fireworks Committee is once again very excited to raise the money for the cost of the fireworks show," co-chairmen Sandy McCauley and Marianne Drapeau said.

Before the patriotic display, partygoers can shake, rattle and roll to live music at the Savin Rock bandstand from 6:30-9 p.m.

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Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

The Old Post Road

Part III, The Stagecoaches

By 1825, the business of travel by stagecoach was coming into full flower. A traveler could cover the distance from Boston to New York in a mere week, traveling in the relative comfort of a stagecoach and spending each night in one of an assortment of roadside taverns.

The stagecoaches of which we speak were generally made by the firm of Abbot and Dowling, of Concord, New Hampshire. Over the years, this firm turned out over three

thousand of the stagecoaches, which we have seen featured on countless Western movies over the years.

For the stagecoach passenger, the day's travel would start at three o'clock in the morning, when the stagecoach would leave Boston, and ride westward or southward out of town over darkened country roads. The passenger would not know who was sitting next to him until after first light. Such were the elements of romance and intrigue for early travelers of the Post Road. Perhaps

one's first morning sight from his stagecoach window in the predawn darkness was that of a farmer, lantern in hand, moving from house to barn to milk his cows.

All through the day, the stagecoach would travel the dusty Post Road, stopping but briefly for lunch at whatever tavern was handy. At last, long after dark, perhaps after ten o'clock, the stagecoach would stop for the night and for a simple meal, and then a fitful sleep on a too-short bed stuffed with corn husks, and then a morning that came

much too soon, followed by another dusty, bouncing day down the Post Road.

At this time, there were three branches of the Post Road between Boston and New Haven: the Upper Route, which after leaving Boston passed through Worcester, Springfield and Hartford; the Middle Route, which passed through Thompson, Putnam and Pomfret before turning south at Hartford; the Lower Route more nearly approximated the course of today's Route 1—it went through Providence, Mystic, New Lon-

don and then onward to New Haven. The trip from Boston to New York at that time cost ten dollars, this in a time when a decent dinner could be had for less than a nickel.

The stagecoach's rapid rise in popularity was later matched by its decline and demise wherever tracks were laid for the new railroads. Somewhere around 1840, the tracks were installed for the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, and from that day the handwriting was on the wall. By the 1860s, the production of stagecoaches had ceased in New England. As passengers flocked to the smoother, faster rail transportation, the stagecoaches were shipped west, where they could now begin a second life. The Post Road had been largely displaced as a means of travel from New York to the cities of New England, and the evolution of the Post Road continued.

Stagecoaches were a steady means of transportation along the Boston Post Road prior to the advent of the railroads.



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Purmont teaches the city its history

By Josh LaBella
Voice Reporter

When questioned as to why he has remained in West Haven his entire life, Jon Purmont responds with a quote from the late Gov. Ella Grasso.

"Bloom where you are planted," said Purmont. "So, that has kept me anchored here I think. Not to say that I don't enjoy travelling and all the rest but my roots are here so I decided, 'This is it. This is the place.'"

Purmont, who is City Historian and president of the West Haven Historical Society, graduated from Georgetown University with a degree in history and was a professor at Southern Connecticut State University. Prior to his teaching career he was Executive Assistant to late Mayor Robert Johnson during his long tenure.

He has served as president of the historical society since 2010 and said he joined because he was interested in the history of West Haven and of Connecticut.

He has shown that interest by bringing the city's story to the public. Purmont started a yearly event where the historical society takes groups on tours to the cemeteries and share city history

by "resurrecting" the people buried there. He said they have students from UNH, as well as society members, portray the former residents. The event has become a popular one around Halloween.

Purmont said through events like that, walking tours and the groups' archives, they aim to educate people about West Haven's history. He said he enjoys studying the history of the city, especially its development.

"1648 is when we were founded," said Purmont. "[West Haven started out] as a farming community, we've gone through the manufacturing stage and we're now in what I call the service based economy - with UNH and the VA hospital being large employers."

Purmont was appointed City Historian by Mayor John Picard and said it is an interesting position. He said his role is to answer questions about the city's history.

"If people call or stop me on the street and want to know were certain things were," said Purmont, "I have to be knowledgeable in the sense that people... turn to me sometimes when they can't get answers."

The historian also said he

recently wrote a book for the city which detailed the developments of West Haven since the 1980s - when the last edition of the book was written. He said, in reference to their archives, that he finds photographs of the graduating classes, going back to the 18th Century, to be quite a treasure.

"It shows the makeup of the city," said Purmont. "It shows the evolving racial makeup of the city. It shows the city as it was."

Purmont said he is concerned about the future of the city and he hopes to see more development, such as the Haven shopping complex.

He said he thinks the future of the city's economy is service based - not manufacturing.

According to Purmont, studying the history of a community is important because it shows where it has been and where it is going.

"If you don't know where your past is, and what it's been like," said Purmont, "you're blind to what the future may hold too."

Photo by Josh LaBella

Jon Purmont with a picture of the old Town Hall.



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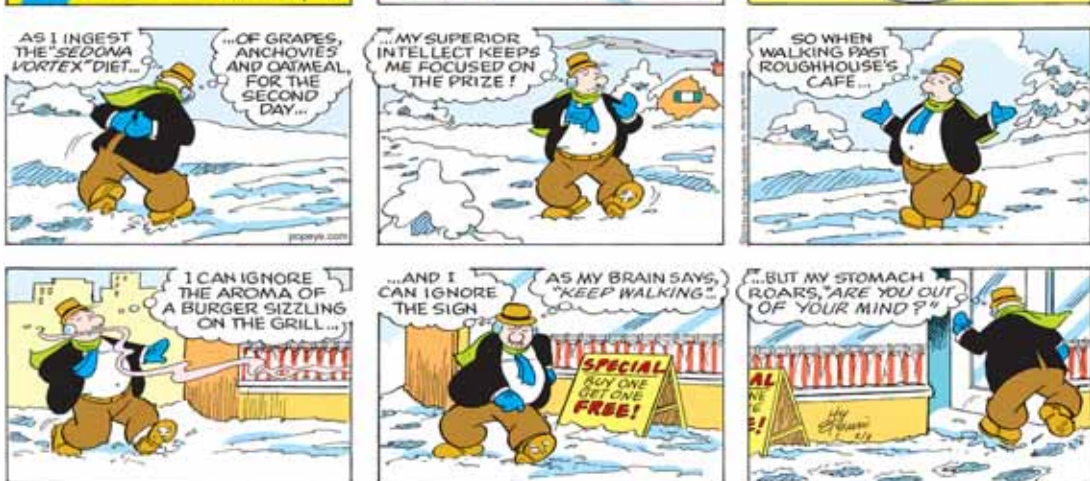
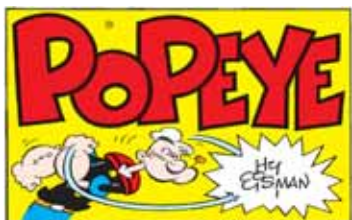
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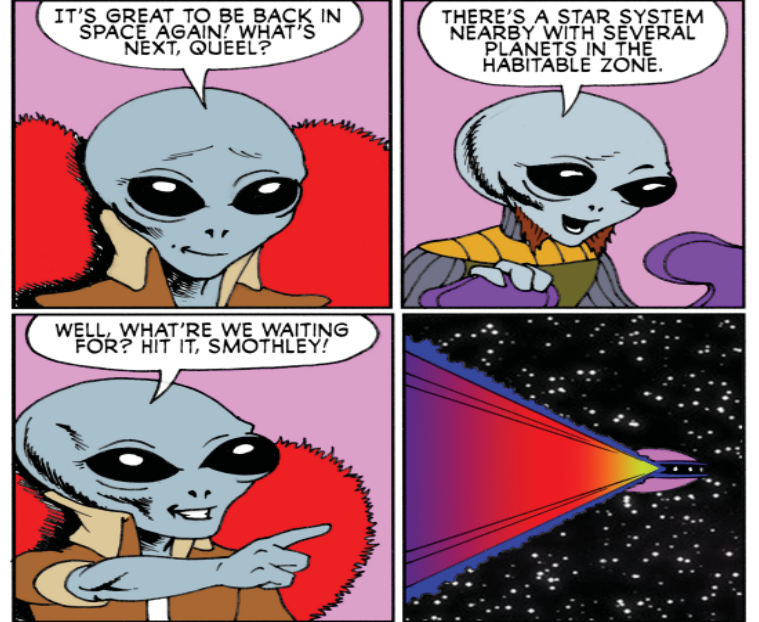


LAFF - A - DAY



UFO

BY TOM ASCHENBACH



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City Irish Club takes parade court honors



The 2019 Greater New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen and Honor Attendant were crowned at a competition at the Irish American Community Center Saturday.

Taylor Besciglia was chosen from a field of contestants to represent the Irish community in a variety of year-long events as Parade Queen. Her Honor Attendant, Claire Bohan, will accompany her to most of these functions throughout the year and appear with her in the New Haven St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 10.

Taylor Besciglia- 2019 Parade Queen -- Taylor is the daughter of Heidi Pierpont and Frank Besciglia, Jr. She lives in West Haven and her ancestors hail from Piltown, County Kilkenny.

She is currently a student at Southern Connecticut State University studying elemen-

tary education with concentrations in STEM and English. She will graduate this spring. Besciglia is employed by the Kumon Learning Center as a tutor, she is also a student teacher within the New Haven Public Schools.

Her interests include fitness, Gaelic football, hiking, reading mystery books, spending time at the beach, and arts and crafts. She also believes in raising mental health awareness. Taylor is a member of the West Haven Irish-American Club.

Claire Bohan -- 2019 Honor Attendant -- Claire is the daughter of Seamus and Dina Bohan. She lives in Orange and her ancestors hail from Mohill, County Leitrim. She is currently employed by The Clay Date and Duffy's Irish Pub. Claire's personal ambition is to travel the world helping underprivileged children.

Taylor Besciglia (left) was named Parade Queen for 2018. She hails from West Haven. Her Honor Attendant, Claire Bohan from Orange.

Allingtown: Taxes number 1 concern

Continued from page 3

She said hearing people's issues is the reason she holds the meetings.

"We don't know everybody's problem," said Rossi. "We don't know every street. We don't have time to send somebody down every street. However, when you come and tell us, now we're going to go look. I try very hard to put myself or my staff out there to try and correct problems -- because that, to me, is what you got elected to do."

Photo by Josh LaBella

Mayor Nancy Rossi fields a question from a resident during last week's Town Hall meeting for Allingtown residents at the May V. Carrigan auditorium. Many issues were aired, but taxes were the main concern.



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Photo by Russ McCreven

Oops!

West Haven Goaltender Jared Pliszka can't stop the puck at the goal line despite the help of teammate Sean Dupre (17). Nonetheless, Jared's Blue Devils battled back to top the New Fairfield-Immaculate squad, 5-4 in overtime.

Blue Devils' skaters to 10-6

The West Haven boys' hockey team improved to 10-6 with two, big wins last week. The Westies defeated the North Haven Indians, 7-2, on Wednesday evening at the Bennett Rink. Richie Greene picked up his first of two goals on the night just 1:42 into the game assisted by Robbie Forleo and Kaden Morgillo. After the Indians tied the game, the Blue Devils responded with

two, quick goals before the end of the first period. Morgillo made it 2-1, assisted by Ryan Smith with 1:56 left and then Niko Kyle increased the lead to 3-1, assisted by Kevin Moriarty and DJ Carfora with 28 seconds left.

Richie Greene got his second of the game when he was set up by Forleo 1:51 into the second period and after North Haven cut the lead to 4-2, Mo-

riarty made it 5-2 with an assist going to Carfora. The Westies extended their lead when Kyle netted his second goal of the game late in the second and the Mikey Alfano scored at 3:29 of the third period for the 7-2 final. Jared Pliszka made 16 saves and Dan Kelly came in during the third period to stop 6 shots between the pipes for West Haven.

On Saturday afternoon, the Blue Devils hosted the New Fairfield/Immaculate co-op team. The Westies spotted the Mustangs a 2-0 lead in the first period before Kaden Morgillo's point shot on the power play found the back of the net with 1:31 left in the first period to cut the lead to 2-1. Richie Greene and D.J. Carfora picked up assists on the goal. Just 2:49 into the second period, NFI reestablished a two-goal lead. Morgillo scored his second goal of the game, assisted by Greene with 11:42 left in the period to cut the lead to 3-2. In the third period with the Blue Devils on a power play, Kevin Moriarty tipped a Robbie Forleo shot to tie the game at 3-3 just 24 seconds in. NFI took the lead again with 12:51 left in the contest. It was then time for Niko Kyle to shine. Kyle scored with 6:18 left to knot the game and send the game to overtime and then after NFI took a penalty, Kyle gathered the puck behind the net, circled out front and sniped the game-winning goal over the NFI goaltender's shoulder

and under the crossbar for the 5-4 victory 1:32 into the extra session. Jared Pliszka made 21 saves in goal for West Haven.

This week, the Blue Devils hosted cross-town rival Notre Dame on Wednesday and will celebrate Niko Kyle and Noah Iversen's last regular season home game on Senior Day against Glastonbury at 1.

The West Haven/Sacred Heart girls' hockey team continued to impress, running its record on the season to 16-2. On Tuesday evening, the Westie Sharks faced rival Hamden at the Bennett Rink. The Green Dragons caught the girls napping when off the opening faceoff, the Dragons split the defense and scored just 16 seconds into the game to take a 1-0 lead. Meghan Dupre's point shot evened the game at 1-1 at 4:28. After Hamden took a 2-1 lead 1:30 later, it was all Westie Sharks. The girls scored five, unanswered goals started with a goal by Jianna Cohrs, assisted by Megan Froehlich with 1:36 left in the first period. Cohrs netted her second goal of the game, assisted by Dupre at 9:07 to give the girls their first lead. Forty-nine seconds later, Taylor Nowak made history when she scored to become the first member of the 100-point club in school history for the girls' team. CC Condon scored to increase the lead to 5-2, assisted by Jenna Hunt at 5:54 of the third period and then again 25 seconds later assisted by

Hunt and Francesca Criscuolo for the 6-2 final. Kyleen Crowe made 35 saves between the pipes.

On Saturday night, the Westie Sharks traveled to The Rinks at Shelton to take on Notre Dame of Fairfield/Law/Foran/Weston/Pomperaug Lancers. Jianna Cohrs provide the offense and Kyleen Crowe posted a shutout in a 2-0 victory. Cohrs scored her first goal just 3:31 into the game assisted by Veronica Lynn and then again with 41 seconds left in the first period, assisted by CC Condon and Megan Froehlich. Crowe did her part by shutting down the Lancers, making 31 saves to preserve the victory.

This week, the Westie Sharks wrap up their regular season. The girls hosted Branford/North Branford/Sheehan/Lyman Hall on Tuesday and then the Westie Sharks host the top ranked SCC North, Hall/Conard co-op team on Friday at 6:30.

The boys' basketball team hosted the Jonathan Law Eagles on Friday evening at the WHHS Gym. After handing the Lawmen their first loss of the season two weeks ago, Jonathan Law was seeking revenge. The Blue Devils made sure that would not be the case jumping out to a 15-2 first quarter lead and took a 30-11 lead into halftime, cruising to a 72-49 win. Quannel Straughter led West Haven with 24

See Westies, page 14



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Player of the Week

Jianna Cohrs (5) is the Vio's Sports Plus/Westie Blue Player of the Week. In two games this past week, Cohrs scored four goals, including two apiece in wins over Hamden and Notre Dame-Fairfield. 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.

ND places 4th

Matt Callahan steals the show at basketball senior night, Warren Murphy places second in three events at the Class L Meet, Alex Barbour takes third in his weight class at the SCC Wrestling Meet, hockey splits the week and Bill Hinckley and Sean McDermott fare well in swimming losses to Amity and Fairfield Prep.

Indoor Track -- Warren Murphy ran his heart out at Friday's CIAC Class L

Indoor Track Meet. As a result, he helped lead the Green Knights Indoor Track Team to a fourth-place finish, a huge leap from last year's 19th-place showing. Murphy had a trio of second-place finishes.

He ran second in his lone solo event, crossing the finish line in 36.02 seconds in the 300-meter dash.

He then was an integral part of both the 4x200 and 4x400 relay teams that both were runner-up efforts as well. Jason Sawicki added a pair of top three finishes to help account for the Green Knights fourth-place slot. He placed second in the high jump clearing six-feet while taking third in the 55-meter hurdles running in 8.29 seconds.

Wrestling -- Alex Barbour took home third place in the 182-pound division as the Notre Dame wrestling team placed 10th at the SCC Championship Meet.

The team improved four spots from their 14th-place showing in 2018.

The Green Knights also used a pair of fourth-place finishes from Chris Fillion and Jackson Paulishen. The team continues their season at the CIAC Class L Championship Meet this weekend!

Basketball -- The basketball team stayed unbeaten defeating Guilford on the road, 71-40, before disposing of career 88-55 on Senior Night.

In addition Callahan's three-pointer, Connor Raines paved the way with 26 points. He scored nine straight after Career jumped out to a 9-0 lead. Notre Dame (18-0) made 11 three-pointers for the game, including eight in the first half as they took a 49-21 lead into intermission.

Hockey -- Seven different Green Knights scored enroute to a 7-1 non-league win over St. Joseph's in a game played February 9, 2019 at the Shelton Rinks.

The win came on the heels of a tough 3-2 OT loss to Xavier earlier in the week. Rory Andriole, John Michael Childs, Chris Hughes, Mike Card, Joe D'Agostino, John D'Errico and Tom Hunt all scored in win over St. Joes. Childs and Zachary Schroeder lit the lamp against Xavier.

Swimming -- Bill Hinckley

won three events against Amity on Tuesday while Sean McDermott did the same against Fairfield Prep on Friday but the swim team suffered losses to both teams.

Hinckley captured both the 200 and 500 freestyle events and was part of the winning 4x400 freestyle relay team for the Green Knights against Amity. Meanwhile, McDermott won the 100 breaststroke in a time of 1:09.03 while being a part of the 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams that won their events.

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



Photo courtesy of NDWH

Notre Dame senior basketball manager Matt Callahan was rewarded for four years of service to program by dressing for the Senior Night game versus Career on Friday. Well, Matt took it a step further making a three-pointer that sent Alumni Hall into a frenzy. Matt was lifted onto shoulders of Green Machine after the game.

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Westie Blue In Touch

By Mike Madera

The last time the West Haven and Jonathan Law basketball teams squared off, the Westies got off to a quick start, only to see Law rebound to force a thriller in which West Haven handed Law its first defeat of the year.

Fast forward two weeks and the start was just the same.

The biggest difference came in the way the Westies followed up as West Haven never slowed down and raced to a 72-49 Southern Connecticut Conference Quinnipiac Division victory at West Haven High Friday evening.

"We learned from the last game," West Haven coach Tyrese Sullivan said. "We have been preaching all season we have to learn from one game to the next. We want to learn from our mistakes."

West Haven, which won its second straight contest and seventh game in its last eight decisions, improved to 11-6

on the year after getting off to a 15-2 first quarter lead and never looking back.

Quannel Straughter, who finished with a game-high 24 points, knocked down three 3-pointers in the opening quarter and finished with ten of his team's 15 first quarter points. The Westies pressured from the start and held Law to just a first quarter field goal by Jon Vitale.

Law, which opened the game without Diontae Eady as he missed practice due to illness, never seemed in sync in the first eight minutes with the Westies jumping out to a 13-point lead.

"Their guards are amazing," Law coach Jamie Anderson said of West Haven. "They are very, very good. It's not just (Mufee) Cooper and (Quannel) Straughter. They have other guys who do a lot for them. They have four or five guys who can hit 3's. We want-

ed to stop them from getting to the basket, but they hurt us from the outside. They do a lot of good things. They are a very good Division III team."

As was the case in the first meeting of the year, Law (14-3) made a run in the second quarter and got as close as 16-8 on a bucket by Zane Birks. The Westies then scored the next seven points on a 3-pointer by Mufee Cooper and two baskets by Tyrese Hargrove for a 23-8 lead.

"We just started the game attacking," Cooper said after finishing with 16 points. "When you are facing the number two team in the SCC,

you can't start slow. We got off to a good start. When they stopped us inside, we were able to go outside."

The Westies closed the first half on a 14-3 run, which saw perfect ball movement around the court, and seven second quarter points by Cooper, including his 3-pointer at the buzzer for a 30-11 halftime advantage.

"We are gaining confidence," Cooper said. "A lot of us are playing varsity for the first time. This is a new team and a new coach."

The Westies kept the pressure on in the third quarter and extended the lead to

21 points, 37-16, on another 3-pointer by Cooper. West Haven stretched the lead to 24 points on a bucket by Laron Holmes and Law never got back into the contest.

"We condition like it is pre-season," Sullivan said. "When everyone is tired, we are getting stronger. I like the tempo. You always need to keep a bench. That is very important."

Hargrove finished with 13 points for the Westies, including a pair of 3-pointers as the Westies connected 10 times from long range in the game.

Vitale led Law with 11 points.

Westies: *Wind down*

Continued from page 12

points, Mufee Cooper had 16 points and Tyrese Hargrove added 13 points in the victory.

This week, the boys wrapped up their home schedule when they hosted Guilford on Tuesday and will play two, final regular season games on the road at Weaver on Saturday at 3:30 and at Cheshire on Monday at 7.

The girls' basketball team dropped a 60-40 decision at home against Lyman Hall on Tuesday evening. Ny'Aire Serrano had 11 points to lead the Blue Devils while Keegan Riccio had eight points and Natalia Frazer contributed with seven points in the loss.

On Thursday evening, the Westies defeated the Sacred Heart Academy Sharks 48-47. The girls led 26-16 at halftime and hung on for the victory. Natalia Frazer led the girls with 18 points while Brianna Sebastian, Sarah Evangelista and Diamond Dixon all had eight points each.

The Westies postseason hopes came to an end with a 62-52 loss at Plainville on Saturday. The Blue Devils concluded their season with road games at Jonathan Law on Monday and at Harding on Tuesday evening.



Photo by Russ McCreven

Looking for a tip

Blue Devil Conner Fowler (24) muscled his way to the crease and a possible tip-in opportunity in last week's meeting with New Fairfield.

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LaFountain sharp in 3-1 Squirt win

The West Haven Squirt A travel hockey team won its only game of the weekend by posting a 3-1 victory over Ridgefield Lions AA on Saturday morning at Edward L. Bennett Rink. The Blue Devils are now 25-16-4 overall on the season.

Westies goaltender Maddex LaFountain was sharp in the first period as Ridgefield controlled most of the play. LaFountain made 17 saves in the period. The Lions did take a 1-0 lead with 36 seconds left before the break.

West Haven settled in and started creating more chances on offense in the second period. The Blue Devils finally tied it after applying sustained pressure in front of the Ridgefield net.

Cameron Lipford gathered in Sean Studley's pass and fired home a wrist shot with three minutes left to make it 1-1. Then, in the final minute of the period, Ethan Kelly carried the puck into the Lions' zone, slid it over to Studley, and Studley went bar down from inside the right circle to give West Haven a 2-1 lead. The Westies defense held the Lions to only a few chances in the third period and LaFountain turned aside each shot to finish with 25 total saves. The goalie even earned an assist when he passed to Jonathan Charbonneau who fed Ethan Kelly before Kelly weaved through the Ridgefield defense and scored through the five-hole with four minutes left in the game to finish off the 3-1 win.

The West Haven Peewee A team swept its weekend games this past week with victories over New Canaan and Watertown.

The Westies opened the weekend with an 8-4 victory over New Canaan in Shelton Saturday evening. Mickey Dowd led the offense with three goals and three assists, Michael Madera had two goals and two assists, and Zach Goetze added a pair of goals and an assist.

West Haven overcame a 2-0 deficit with four straight goals, then broke a 4-4 tie with the last four goals of the game. Trailing 2-0, Madera cut the deficit in half off an assist from Dowd with 6:05 left in the first, before Dowd scored an unassisted goal with 1:25 left in the opening period to even the contest.

Madera scored off an assist from Dowd with 7:53 left in the second, and Dowd scored 20 seconds later off assists from Goetze and Bruno Martone for a 4-2 lead.

After New Canaan evened the game at four, the Westies took the lead for good 49 seconds into the third when Dan-

ny Johnson scored off an assist from Jason Alling. Dowd increased the lead to 6-4 with 7:43 to go, and Goetze capped the scoring with two goals in the final 1:57, the first off assists from Madera and Dowd, and the second off an assist from Madera. Bryan Hong played well in goal for the Westies, while Haygen Axelrod and Ray Heenie played well defensively.

The Westies capped the weekend with a 7-3 victory over Watertown Sunday morning at the Edward L. Bennett Rink. West Haven never trailed in the contest and was led by Madera with two goals and two assists, Dowd with two goals and one assist, and Goetze with one goal and three assists.

Madera opened the scoring just 36 seconds into the game off assists from Dowd and Goetze, before Brady Price increased the lead to 2-0 off an assist from Martone. Leading 2-1, Dowd scored off assists from Goetze and Madera with 12 seconds left in the first for a 3-1 lead.

West Haven took a 4-1 lead six seconds into the second when Dowd scored off an assist from Madera, before Goetze scored off an assist from Madera 21 seconds into the third for a 5-1 lead. Leading 5-2, Alling went the length of the ice for a 6-2 advantage, before Madera scored off an assist from Goetze with 3:56 left for a 7-2 lead.

Jacob Silva was solid in goal for the Westies, Dylan Bosworth played well defensively, and Mike Page, Connor Moriarty, Chris Consorte, and Cody Rocchio all played well on the offensive side.



Photo by Russ McCreven

Using his size

Kevin Moriarty outsizes opponents in last week's 5-4 overtime win over NFI. The Blue Devils meet Notre Dame (WH) and Glastonbury this week in the last two regular season home games.



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Shore Haven Junior Baseball/Softball League 2019 Registration



Registration date for ALL players, new and returning:
Friday February 15, 6pm-8pm at Seth Haley School
or register online anytime at: www.shjrbl.com
Seth Haley is located at 146 South Street in West Haven

Senior Division: Boys ages 9-12

Softball Division: Girls ages 9-13

Minor Division: Boys and Girls ages 7-8

Tee Ball: Boys and Girls ages 5-6

Wee Ball: Boys and Girls ages 3-4

Registration Fees:

Senior and Softball players are \$90.00, Minor league players are \$70,

Tee Ball players are \$50, Wee Ball players are \$30.

New players need a copy of their birth certificate at registration; all players must be of age on or before May 1st.

Registration payments can now be made via PayPal to shbl2009@gmail.com

For More information contact us at: shbl2009@gmail.com

Tryouts for Girls Softball Division (ages 9 - 13) are Saturday March 30, at 8:00am in the gym at Haley

Tryouts for Boys Senior Division (ages 9 - 12) are Saturday March 30, at 9:00am in the gym at Haley



City plans to re-up sidewalk program

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice
The Department of Public Works is already setting its sights on spring and continuing its successful sidewalk repair and replacement program.

Ernie Chiarelli recently announced that 395 addresses were reported and inspected last year. Of the addresses, 254 sidewalks were replaced and 295 trip hazards were removed by a shaving process to meet guidelines under the federal Americans with Dis-

abilities Act for a total of 549 sidewalk hazards corrected, Chiarelli said.

The 2018 sidewalk list has been completed, Chiarelli said, except for seven addresses. The remaining addresses were reported too late in the season to finish because of

falling temperatures, he said, adding that the city will repair the rest this year.

"We are looking forward to spring and the continuation of this program to help make West Haven a better and safer place to live," Chiarelli said.

The Public Works Depart-

ment is able to repair sidewalks damaged by city trees because of funding found in a state grant that Chiarelli said was left behind in past budgets. The city can use the grant money only for sidewalk repair and replacement, he said.

City trees are defined as those located between the sidewalk and street curb. Otherwise, it is the homeowner's responsibility to repair the sidewalk fronting their property, according to Article 1, Section 1 of the "Streets and Sidewalks" ordinance under Chapter 206 of the West Haven Code.

Chiarelli said that anyone who has a sidewalk in need of repair due to a city tree can call (203) 937-3585.

Those who called in their sidewalk before 2018 should call again to ensure that they are on the 2019 list, he said.

Huskies take regular season title

West Haven Girls Basketball wrapped up the regular season with games Friday night at Seth Haley.

The Gunning Law Huskies took home the regular season crown with a 34-17 win over the Shoreline Dental Cardinals. Taryn Walker, Finley Gunning and Cashlin O'Neil exploded for a combined 20 points. Haleigh McCarthy, Sophie McFarland, Molly Gunning and Samira Huckaby also helped on the offensive end for the Huskies. Madden Evangeliste had 11 points for the Cardinals and Lily Granata and Dnavia Pittman also chipped in with points.

The Rings End Lumber Bruins wrapped up the second seed in the upcoming playoffs with a 27-8 win over the Napoli Parts Eagles. Noelle Lawrence finished with 12 points and Sara Went

and Jada Turner combined for eight points for the Bruins. The balanced Bruins' attack also was helped by scoring from Camilla Murphy, Abby Wynus and Neveah Stegall.

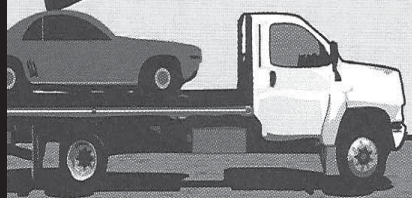
Ciara Harp netted 10 points and Jaecianna Mitchell added four to power the West Haven Drug and Alcohol Task Force Panthers to an 18-14 win over the Prospect Beach Fish and Game Blue Devils. The Panthers will be the third seed in the tournament. Hayden Holm and Bella Antonucci also starred for the Panthers. The Blue Devils received scoring from Micah Pullen, Savannah McGorty and Heaven McKinney.

League playoffs start Friday at Seth Haley School. Semifinal games will be Wednesday, with the championship game taking place on Feb. 22 at 7:15 p.m.

bsg

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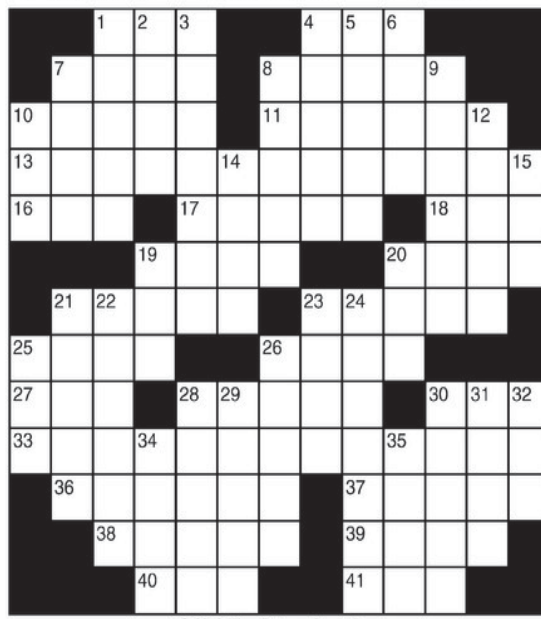
King Crossword

ACROSS

1	Sleuth, slangily	33	Navy, with "The"
4	Pod dweller	36	Seriously loyal
7	Crafty	37	Madagascar critter
8	Equilibrium	38	Surrounds
10	Overuse the mirror	39	Thing
11	Motor	40	CSA boss
13	Fee for work done	41	Affirmative action?
16	Officeholders		
17	Break a Com-mandment		
18	Sphere	DOWN	
19	Diminish	1	Layers
20	Small blister	2	Ht.
21	Milky stones	3	Sneeringly doubtful
23	Young turkey	4	- de Leon
25	Profess	5	Square dance quorum
26	Science work-shops	6	Europe's neighbor
27	Pooch	7	Small songbird
28	Paris river	8	Annoyance
30	Cleopatra's		

DOWN

9	Sign up
10	Greek letter
12	Heron's kin
14	Swindles
15	Recede
19	"This means -!"
20	Urban trans-port
21	Egg-shaped feature
22	Pirate costume
23	Sheet of glass
24	Ohio college
25	Billboards
26	Rosters
28	Sleep sound-ly?
29	Chopin piece
30	Picked a target
31	Pond gunk
32	Apiace
34	Satan's forte
35	Kill a bill



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QNNKHEENBYWTROL
J(SHOULDER)GEBYWL
URPNSKA EKIGDBEZ
XVSQONEUTMKIIGE
CAYWUAHSTCQKPLN
LJHFEPGOCIEKCAB
AYXVUSIQJZRNPEN
MKJHFEHHEWCINHN
BZYXVUTOOFJHPOT
RQPOMLKITHGSESC

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

Ankle	Foot	J.W. Johnson	Spiritual
Back	Head	Knee	Thigh
Connected	Heal	Neck	Toe
Ezekiel	Hip	Shoulder	

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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.

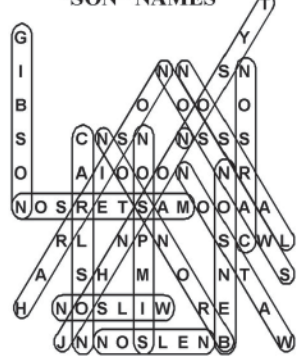
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆
◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

Answers to last week's puzzles

King Crossword — Answers
Solution time: 21 mins.

M	I	S	O	L	A	D	A	M	I	D
I	D	Y	L	I	C	E	R	E	D	O
R	E	N	D	V	A	C	C	I	N	E
V	A	C	A	T	E	D	L	O	U	S
				G	A	S	M	O	S	
A	N	N	E	X	R	A	Y	O	V	A
T	E	E		H	E	X		I	S	O
M	E	D	E	V	A	C	T	I	E	I
				S	A	Y	W	I	G	
A	M	A	S	S	V	A	C	U	U	M
V	A	C	A	T	I	O	N	A	S	I
E	M	M		D	I	E		N	E	T
R	E	E	S		O	D	D	A	D	E


"SON" NAMES



Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

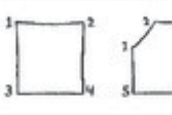
1	7	4	9	8	3	6	2	5
8	6	3	2	5	7	4	9	1
2	5	9	1	4	6	7	3	8
3	1	7	6	2	8	5	4	9
9	2	6	4	3	5	1	8	7
4	8	5	7	1	9	3	6	2
5	3	1	8	9	4	2	7	6
7	4	8	5	6	2	9	1	3
6	9	2	3	7	1	8	5	4

BILL **TIM** **DICK**



THE MAD HATTER! See if you can guess which lad knocked Mr. Martin's hat off. You only got one toss on this one.
Answer: Bill is the one with the perfect aim.

AN INTERESTING WAGER! Bet your friends that you can take one from four and have five left. When they give up, take a sheet of paper and tear off one corner. Then, instead of four corners, you now have five corners ... proving that 1 from 4 can leave you with 5.



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

1. IMP	6. OWED
2. OILS	7. LED
3. MAR	8. AIRS
4. HAND	9. HER
5. END	10. TINS
11. PANT	12. KIN

Answers: Impairs, oysters, oaks, matins, handed, endowed, partner.

Junior Whirl
by Charles Barry Townsend



LET'S GO SHOPPING! Below are items from our shopping list that you will need to complete the puzzle grid above. Use the trial-and-error method to solve. Start filling the cart with these items:

4-letter words:	5-letter words:
BEEF	BEANS
COLA	CAPON
CRAB	DATES
SALT	FLOUR
TOFU	PIZZA
TUNA	SPICE
	SQUAB

5. Squab, 6. Salt
7. Pizzas, 8. Tuna, 9. Dates, 11. Crab
(Clockwise from top left)

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Around Town

WHGC 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, Feb. 19 in the lower level of Ora Mason Library, 260 Benham Hill Road.

New members are always welcome. Call Marie at (203) 878-8428.

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 informa-

tion on this and other trips. Call Fred (203) 389-5808 or (203) 927-4249.

St. Patrick trip

Join the West Haven Senior Center for the following trip: Thursday, March 14 – The Log Cabin St. Patrick’s Day Celebration \$67 per person

Entertainment by Gerry Malone and The Lads playing Irish classics like “When Irish Eyes Are Smiling and “Danny Boy.” Menu includes welcome hors d’oeuvres, complimentary glass of wine or beer, rolls and butter, Irish soda bread, Irish stew, traditional corned beef dinner, Bailey’s Irish Crème cake, coffee and tea. Bus leaves Savin Rock Conference Center 9 a.m. Departs Log Cabin at 3:15 p.m.

A flyer with further details is available at the office at the West Haven Senior Center 201

Noble St. or you can call (203) 937-3507.

AI-Anon group

An AI-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



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At a Glance

Elderly, disabled offered tax relief

Assessor Ann Marie Gradoia is accepting applications for tax relief programs for elderly and disabled homeowners.

Residents can apply for the programs, based on their 2018 incomes, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, Feb. 15-May 15, in the assessor’s office on the first floor of City Hall, 355 Main St.

The state elderly and disabled homeowners program offers tax reduction benefits depending on income and marital status. To qualify, the applicant or spouse must be 65 or older by Dec. 31, 2018, or permanently and totally disabled as defined by Social Security.

Income limits, including Social Security, are \$43,900 for a married couple and \$36,000 for a single person.

To qualify for the West Haven senior tax freeze program, the applicant must be 70 by the end of 2018 and have lived in the city for at least 20 consecutive years.

Income limits, excluding Social Security, are \$50,000 for a married couple and \$35,000 for a single person. Those eligible for the program must reapply each year.

The assessor’s office is also accepting applications until Oct. 1 for additional veterans exemptions. The maximum income is \$43,900 for a married applicant and \$36,000 for a single applicant.

City recruiting parade marchers

The city is seeking veterans, civic groups, fraternal organizations, service clubs and marching bands to participate in the annual Memorial Day parade, which steps off at 10:30 a.m. May 27. There is no rain date.

Participants must register and list required special accommodations.

Transportation is provided for veterans who are unable to walk the 1.5-mile parade course, which follows Campbell Avenue from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Center

Street. To make arrangements, call the mayor’s office at (203) 937-3510.

The parade grand marshal is West Haven Vietnam Veterans member William Benson, an Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Download a participation form at <https://ct-westhaven.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/1730/Memorial-Day-Parade-Reservation-Form-2019-PDF>.

Forms are also available in the mayor’s office at City Hall, 355 Main St., where they are due April 8. Forms can also be emailed to parade organizer Kristen Teshoney at kteshoney@westhaven-ct.gov or faxed to (203) 937-3705.

Residents get trash reminder

The 2019 bulk trash pickup schedule is April 8-12 and Sept. 9-13. Residents are reminded to separate metals and recyclables from regular trash and to put out trash no more than 24 hours before pickup. Violations carry a \$100 fine per daily offense, Public Works

Commissioner Tom McCarthy said.

Bulk items include couches, chairs, tables, carpeting, padding, fencing and small amounts of bundled lumber, which may not exceed 6 feet in length. No building materials, tires, mattresses, propane tanks or hazardous waste are accepted. Options for disposing of building materials include renting a dumpster or bringing the materials to a disposal facility for a fee.

Tires can be brought to La-

kin Tire East Inc., 220 Frontage Road, for a fee. Mattresses can be disposed of for free in a container at the city’s highway maintenance garage, 1 Collis St. Mattresses must be dry.

Propane tanks can be brought to Taylor Rental, 304 Boston Post Road, Orange, for a fee of \$10 per tank. Hazardous waste can be dropped off for free at HazWaste Central, 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven. HazWaste is open Saturday mornings from mid-May through October.

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<p>BACARDI Silver 750 mL \$12⁹⁹</p> 	<p>PATRON Silver 750 mL \$40⁹⁹</p> 	<p>SMIRNOFF 1.75 L \$19⁹⁹</p> 	<p>COURVOISIER VS 750 mL \$27⁹⁹</p> 

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<p>HEINEKEN 24 Pack Bottles \$24⁹⁹</p> 	<p>GUINNESS 18 Pack 16oz Cans \$21⁹⁹</p> 	<p>NATURAL ICE 30 Pack Cans \$14⁹⁹</p> 	<p>COUNTER WEIGHT Headway 4 Pack \$9⁹⁹ DRINK LOCAL!</p> 

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