

West Haven Voice

June 27, 2019

Vol. 24, Issue 25, 20 Pages

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

Voice Profile

A weekly in-depth interview

"I always want better for this town. So you surround yourself with people who want the same."

-- Michael Mercuriano

See page 9



Photo courtesy of WHCDC

'Under the Sea'

Olivia Male, teacher at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., along with her students, welcome parents, alumni and classmates to a showing of the center's year-end art celebration. The teaching staff and children transformed the center into an "Under the Sea" world of exploration by making and displaying many creative art works.

Rossi assails intransigent MARB plans

After rejecting her attempts to keep the city's mill rate the same, and further rejecting counting as revenue the sale of two schools, Mayor Nancy Rossi came out swinging this week, saying she and the state panel overseeing city finances are far from an agreement as to how the city's five-year plan should be implemented. Rossi, who has been cautious in her comments regarding the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) since it was empaneled right after she took office, spared no criticism.

At issue was the .42-mill increase imposed by the MARB on taxpayers. That will put the mill rate at 36.68 mills before fire taxes.

Earlier this year, the MARB approved the five-year plan after many months of negotiations with the Rossi administration. The document took so long to finalize because the city and MARB could not agree on revenue projections and sources, according to the mayor.

"My administration and the City Council approved a budget with no tax increase. We cannot tax ourselves out of this situation—we are already taxed too high," she said.

MARB indicated during the negotiations and beyond that it expects the city mill rate to incrementally increase to 40 mills over the term of the five-year plan. The panel believes the increases are needed to allow the city the working capital it needs to operate. With the committee having all the cards, including funds that will keep the city afloat over the next two years, she was forced to agree.

The city came under the review of MARB in December 2017
See MARB, page 3

July 3 traffic undergoes major shift

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

An estimated 100,000 people of all ages are expected to flock to the city's 3.5-mile shoreline July 3 to watch the Savin Rock Fireworks Committee launch the region's largest Independence Day fireworks show at 9:15 p.m. off Bradley Point.

The rain date is July 5.

Before the patriotic display, partygo-

ers can dance the night away to rock 'n' roll hits performed by The Navels at the Savin Rock bandstand from 6:30-9 p.m.

The pre-event festivities will also include a smorgasbord of food trucks dishing up eats and sweets at designated locations on the south side of Captain Thomas Boulevard and Ocean Avenue.

In preparation for the annual event

the Police Department is rolling out a comprehensive traffic-management plan aimed at protecting the public.

The large-scale traffic plan will close many shoreline roads in the hours before the 9:15 p.m. display in an effort to protect pedestrians and allow for the safe passage of emergency vehicles.

Residents and nonresidents should take note that "No Parking" signs will be posted on both sides of Platt

Avenue from Ocean Avenue to Randall's Restaurant; Dyke Street from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Educational Way; Kelsey Avenue from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Graham Avenue; Ocean Avenue from South to Ivy streets; and the even side of all side streets off Ocean Avenue from South to Ivy streets.

Also, "No Parking" signs will be
See Traffic, page 18

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Government Meetings

No further meetings are scheduled for June.

As of press time the July schedule had not been finalized.

Monday, July 1 -- Charter Revision Commission public hearing on proposals to be sent to City Council. Harriett North Meeting Room, City Hall. 7 p.m.

Weather

Friday June 28 Sun and cloud mix. High 83F



Sunrise: 5:21 am
Sunset: 8:28 pm
Wind: SSW 5-10
High Tide: 8:24 am; 8:20 pm

Saturday June 29 Partly cloudy with thunderstorms. High 82F



Sunrise: 5:22 am
Sunset: 8:28 pm
Wind: W 5-10
High Tide: 9:15 am; 0:28 pm

Sunday June 30 Mix of showers & thunderstorms. High 79F



Sunrise: 5:22 am
Sunset: 8:28 pm
Wind: NW 5-10
High Tide: 10:03 am; 10:14 pm

Monday July 1 Sunshine! High 76F



Sunrise: 5:23 am
Sunset: 8:28 pm
Wind: N 5-10
High Tide: 10:51 am; 11:02 pm



Kids' Forecast

Nora Hinton, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., sees some fair skies and lots of puffy clouds in the days heading toward the Fourth of July.

Things to Do

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

West Haven High School Class of 1954 will be holding its class reunion on June 29, at App's Restaurant, West Haven at 1 p.m. The \$35 luncheon cost includes tax, tip, entrée with cash bar. Please call (203) 795-6619 to reserve.

West Haven High School Class of 1969 will hold its 50th reunion on Friday, Sept. 27, at Seasons located at 990 Foxon Road, East Haven, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. There will be mu-

sic provided by a DJ, a plentiful cocktail and hors d'oeuvre hour, buffet dinner along with open bar. Cost is \$75 per person. Checks should be made payable to Charlene Morgal and mailed to 18 Shumway St., West Haven, 06516, before Aug. 15.

THURSDAY



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Contact West Haven Voice

Published by West Haven Voice, LLC
666 Savin Ave., West Haven, CT 06516

203-934-NEWS (6397)
Fax: 203-937-7529
Website: westhavenvoice.com
Facebook: [whvoice](https://www.facebook.com/whvoice)
Twitter: [@whvoiceads](https://twitter.com/whvoiceads)

Editor Bill Riccio
info@westhavenvoice.com

Sales Director Alan olenick
sales@westhavenvoice.com

Staff Reporter
Josh.LaBella@westhavenvoice.com

Sales Associate
Molly Gianfredi

On this date:

1972 -- Nolan Bushnell and Ted Dabney found Atari, Inc. The pioneering video game and home computer company produced arcade classics like the tennis simulator Pong.

1956 -- The film *Moby Dick* is premiered. John Huston's adaptation of Herman Melville's homis today considered an outstanding work.

1954 -- The world's first nuclear power plant is activated. The reactor at Obninsk in present-day Russia remained in operation for 48 years.

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MARB: Rossi criticizes inflexibility

Continued from page 1
after the O'Brien administration bonded for the cumulative operating budget deficit of more than \$16 million. The bonding triggered the oversight of the state board under an act of the General Assembly that had been passed that year. Only two municipalities are under the agency, the other being Hartford.

The city suffered from the 2017 state budget, when after months of negotiations, money expected from Hartford never came through, putting an \$8 million hole in the last O'Brien budget. The city expects to get pro-rated funding over the next two years – this year \$4.1 million – in order to plug the gaps. The tax increases are to make those plugs permanent.

Whether the five-year plan should be a flexible document or set in stone is one point of contention between the panel and Rossi.

"The five-year plan should be a roadmap forward and the MARB did not want to include the full value of tax revenue for economic development projects that will begin and be completed within the next five years," Rossi said. "They took a conservative approach to planning revenue for those

out years—and I completely agree."

However she indicated tax increases should be tempered with the cuts and revenues the city is to gain over the term of the five-year plan.

"The city also reduced expenditures with the elimination of positions and programs and the freezing non-essential overtime and spending. More than \$2 million was cut from the annual operating budget so far. The five-year plan should be a 'fluid and living document' that is adjusted annually as the city grows its commercial base and grand list," she insisted.

"As the grand list grows the revenue that is derived should be included in the city budget and the five-year plan updated to reflect that revenue resulting in the elimination of any proposed tax increases," she said," she said.

While she admitted the annual variation in the grand list is not an exact science, she believes increases in the grand list should be reflected in whether the city imposes new taxes.

"Yes, the 5-year plan does include tax increases because we don't know the exact value and increases in the grand list. As the development projects

begin and progress, the five-year plan must be adjusted and the proposed tax increases removed," she said.

She said the administration is working hard to push development projects forward and to market the city.

"Our community is growing we have been successful in advancing projects and attracting new business, but we cannot continue to raise taxes and expect to be competitive with other communities in the region," she said..

The MARB included in the approved five-year plan state restructuring funds because of the hole left by the 2017 budget difficulties.. The first year grant was \$8 million and the upcoming year that begins on July 1, the grant has been reduced to \$4.1 million. The five-year plan included \$6 million but it was reduced to \$4.1 million after the city ran two consecutive budget surpluses and the MARB recognized the city was ahead of the recovery plan. The restructuring grant funding will phase out after fiscal year 2022.

"My administration will continue to work with developers to move projects forward and market the city for new business. As the city's grand list grows and generates addition-

al revenue, the MARB needs to allow adjustments in the five-year plan to provide relief to our taxpayers," Rossi said.

She said while she wants to work with MARB in putting the city back on its feet, she cannot agree with the rigidity of the plan as it is set down.

"We want to work with the MARB and I respect and appreciate their efforts on behalf of the city, but we need to work together and they should better grasp the impact of their actions on our community. West Haven residents cannot afford any new tax increases."



I love this town.

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Dear Felicia

The month of June jest flew by, honeybunch. Next week is beginning of July with the July 4 festivities, not only with the city but with the Mystick Maidens of the Marsh. The MMMs have determined they are gonna encamp at the Sandy Point area for the fireworks. Just near enuff to see 'em, jest far enuff away to keep the noise at a tolerable level. Of course, we may hafta change our plans efen the piping plovers haven't hatched as the DEEP keeps the area sequestered until hatching time. But, we remain hopeful. We can always get on the little green area there efen we need to do.

The constabulary announced two weeks ago that it was gonna change the traffic patterns for the July 3 fireworks. People weren't quite sure why, but now it makes a bit more sense. Last year, efen yew remember there was a bit of a fracas along the shore. Many homeowners in the area were feeling a bit unsafe in the situation, and, efen

mem'ry serves, there were some arrests.

Soooo, taking a running bull by the horns, the constables determined that for the foist time certain streets were gonna be cordoned off about three hours before the fireworks to keep things a bit more controlled.

It's still anybody's guess efen the thing will work, but it's worth a try. Sammy Blluejay said that those in the Actors Colony believe that while there will be outsiders coming in - after all there are usually upwards of 100,000 on that night - the new restrictions as to what can go on the beach and the closure of streets around the area will help. We hope so.

Cobina, meanwhile, will make sure that she has done everything she needs to before noon, parks her gassamobuggy and stays put. The only other things she needs to do is make sure the cat is in for the night cuz the noise around her

neighborhood is rather loud. It hurts the critter's ears. Other than that, it should be an interesting couple o' days.

The Wag came in follying the announcement from the mayor's office that she is gonna try to get the Savin Rock Festival reinstated next summer - that is the summer o' 2020. The wag, known for being a big of curmudgeon - is rather jaded about the announcement.

We all know that this summer there is gonna be a three-way primary for the Democratic nomination - more on that later. What he seems to think is this is a unilateral shot across the bow so that herrnonner's opponents don't have an issheew with which to pummel the incumbent.

Remember, the festival was canceled last year cuz of the fiscal situation. The city couldn't afford the kopecks for the overtime fer both the constables that would be needed and the Dept. of Public Works' employees that would be on the clock.

Sooooo, seeing that it could be a point of consternation in this election year, this is a bit of a way to take it off the table. He also hopes this ain't an election year promise that will be forgot once the votes are cast and counted. We shall see.

The wag, as we say, is a bit of a Gloomy Gus, his glass ain't ever half-filled or half-empty. He says he don't have a glass!

Let's git back to that three-

way primary. Way back when Ed O'Brien announced he gave every indication that he would run as an independent and not as a Demmie in the primary. That indication was reinforced not only by his statements, but by those of people who supported them.

Lo and behold, on one o' the social media sites, we were pummeled for telling it as we understood it. And we have for weeks. Nary a body from O'Brien's camp has attempted to tell us different. We don't care how he runs. In fack, we thought it political genius to stay outta the intramural fracas that is the city's majority party. It would have saved him money, and been a three-way threat come November, when anything can happen.

Well, efen he's running in the primary, the fun will begin earlier. The three candidates will knock each other's brains out and we'll see who comes out the winner.

We know that O'Brien and Deborah Collins, the other announced candidate, hate Ros-si. That's the one thing they have in common.

It's gonna be very interesting to see how this all cuts across the party. About 5,000-6,000 votes are cast in a usual primary. With three candidates, who can figger. It might be up a bit.

Still, we don't mind getting criticized fer things we're responsible for, but we were operating on good faith that

he was running as an I, not a D. We don't really care. All we know is we have great opportunities fer stories with five candidates, no matter when they run.

Nelly Nuthatch took exception, meanwhile, to our characterization that all is well on the GOP side o' things. As yew know, the Republicans for the foist time since maybe the 1970s are having a primary. Steve Mullins announced three or so weeks ago, and two weeks ago, Michele Gregorio announced she will be seeking the nomination.

Whilst we said things were hunky-dorey, it seems that there might be a bit o' pique thrown one way or t'other, and that there was some upset individuals at the Gregorio announcement.

Mullins, we're told ain't too happy about the competition, but officially, he has said he looks forward to the fight.

He should. This is a good opportunity for the party to show its people and its ideas. The GOP has been moribund for far too long and a primary is jest whot the doctor ordered.

The Demmies in this burg are too fat and happy, and it's high time that their stranglehold on things got loosed a bit.

We shall see what happens, but efen Mullins is unhappy, or if Gregorio is unhappy, it makes for a good campaign one way or t'other. It also creates public interest, and that's what the GOP needs right now.

And like it was on cue, we mentioned we ain't seen the tax bills, and jest as we came to press last week, what should appear in the mail but this year's version of rendering unto Caesar. Yew couldn't have planned it any better. So, before you know it, those lines at the City Hall lobby will be perty long.

The Charter Revision Commish has set its public hearing, and we hope that the boys and gurls of the community pay attention. There are many things the panel has put forward, and it'll be very interesting to parse out the way the public feels about these ideas.

There is still some skepticism betwixt the commish members that the whole thing will be played straight.

Remember, the politicos in the past have deep-sixed many a charter revision attempt.




This time, it is hoped things will be different, and that the public will be able to really weigh-in on the proposals. We shall see, but there is a lack of trust so thick, you can cut it.

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

Cobina

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Charter revision hearing Monday

The West Haven Charter Revision Commission has scheduled its second public hearing for Monday July, 1 at 7 p.m. at Harriet North Room in City Hall. The panel, which had its recommendation vetted by city attorneys, now goes through the hearings process.

Chairman Edward Granfield said this week those attending the program can expect a certain format. The first 75 minutes will consist of a power point presentation that will highlight all of the proposed changes recommended by the commission. At the conclusion of the presentation a public input session will be held.

The deadline for submission of the draft report to the City Council is Saturday July 6. It then goes into review by the council before the recommendations are brought to the public for a vote in November's election.

Granfield acknowledges that the hearing date is less than ideal due to the tightness of the schedule.

"We expected the legal review to take 30 to 40 days, it took over 100," he said. "By the time we received the legal report back the deadline was coming and our options were limited."

Despite the delay, he said the commission was pleased with the overall efforts of the legal team.

"Better to get it right the first time," said Granfield.

The commission has undertaken a meticulous review of all facets of the charter, including departments, leadership and elected and unelected officers. He said the review was delayed because the recommendations depend on one another.

"This is a complex proposal, so much of it is integrated together with the other sections of the charter, it will be difficult to cherry pick ideas," he said.

He said the primary message the commissioners have heard around town above and beyond all other topics is the desire for real change. They took the message into their first meetings in 2017 and have continued in the vein since. The results have been unique.

"In our opinion this comprehensive proposal goes well beyond any effort brought forth in the past," he said.

In addition Granfield is inviting local social media outlets to participate by broadcasting the hearing live so the people at home can watch at their leisure. He hopes by further exposure, the ideas recommended by the panel will get more discussion.

He said people have to understand this is part of a process that is not legislative, but

one of consultation and recommendation.

"An important reminder, the Charter Revision Commission is not a legislative body we are the research and development team. After the public hearing, the commission will discuss the proposal one more time, then submit the draft report and supportive documentation to the city council who will conduct its own review," Granfield said.

Granfield said the public hearing will be the last offered by the Charter Revision Commission prior to its send the report to the City Council, but it will not be the last time the public will have a chance to comment on the recommendations.

"Citizens who wish to partic-

ipate but cannot attend Monday night's public hearing will get a second chance through the City Council when they schedule its own public hearing on the matter later this summer," he said.

These are some of the highlights of the 140 plus suggestions that have been legally vetted for the public hearing Monday.

~~ Professional city management;

~~ Professional credential requirements for all department heads put in through attrition;

~~ Four-year teams for all elected officials;

~~ Re-structuring the City Council, Board of Education, and the voting districts to better serve and represent the three (3) distinct areas of the

city equally: The East Side, the West Side, and the North End;

~~ Change the City Clerk, Tax Collector, and City Treasurer to appointed positions with professional credential requirements;

~~ Legally empower a permanent Independent Commission of City Ethics and Charter Compliance;

~~ Add E.R.S. to the City Charter.

Granfield said the process has been centered around one idea: altering a system that has not worked. He said the current operation of the city needs new ideas and a new impetus to get us out of the rut we've been in for decades.

"The underlying goal of these suggested changes is to "Raise the Bar" in West

Haven," Granfield said. "This city has been stuck in the political and economic mud for decades while we all wait and hope for a savior to arrive and fix all that is broken. The Commission feels that it is not the people who are broken it is the system itself in which we all live."

What:
Charter Revision

When:
Monday, 7 p.m.

Where:
Harriett North Meeting Room City Hall.

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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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www.markahealey.com



New plan offers safety

Designing a plan that will inhibit rowdy elements to disturb the fun, the West Haven Police Department in cooperation with other city agencies has come up with a traffic plan that will make for a safer environment on July 3. The city's annual fireworks display brings many thousands of people into the shore, with some estimates topping 100,000.

The need for a newer and more comprehensive plan came after gangs of young people caused many problems and resulted in several arrests. This news comes as a relief for many who live in and around the city's beach areas. Many complained that for the first time they felt unsafe during the fireworks display.

In coming up with the plan, city officials have taken the extraordinary step of closing main arteries in order to inhibit clusters of people, particularly out-of-towners, who made up the bulk of troublemakers last year. The plan calls for the closure of the following after 6 p.m., July 3, and for the following regulations:

Ocean Avenue from South Street to Platt Avenue; Platt Avenue from Ocean Avenue to Educational Way; and Captain Thomas Boulevard from Platt Avenue to Rock Street.

Those who park in the South Street, Dawson Avenue or Sea Bluff beach lots during the day can stay for the fireworks, but they will have to keep their vehicles in the lots until the road is reopened at 11 p.m. Otherwise, they will have to leave the lots before 6 p.m. because of the road closure.

The following regulations will be enforced:

- All bags will be subject to search before entering the beach area.
- No coolers or alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the beach.
- No disorderly or obscene conduct will be tolerated.
- No open fires or cooking will be allowed on the beach.

For many decades the city has played host to many thousands of people looking to enjoy the beach and the fireworks. Unfortunately, there are individuals and groups that seem to be unable to comport themselves in the manner of a guest.

This new plan seems very well suited to the needs of the area residents. It will allow for a safe, fun time for those looking to celebrate the nation's founding. It should, likewise, inhibit those elements that desire to make trouble rather than have fun.

Savin Rock Fest in '20

We note that Mayor Nancy Rossi has announced tentative plans to recommit to the Savin Rock Festival in the summer of 2020. The announcement came this week, she hopes the festival, which was canceled last year, and will not reappear this year, will get the necessary approvals, and once again grace the shorefront's Old Grove Park.

The city's financial situation prompted the cancellation last year, and the current situation seems to preclude it as well. The city is in the midst of registering its first two budget surpluses in many years, and its restoration under the Five-Year Plan seems to be going along as planned.

The Savin Rock Festival was and is a great way for this city to celebrate the many components that make it what it is ethnically, culturally and organizationally. We hope the festival will be able to return next summer.



Politics and Climate issue

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

The more the climate debate changes, the more it stays the same.

Polls show that the public is worried about climate change, but that doesn't mean it is ready to bear any burden or pay any price to combat it.

If President Donald Trump claws his way to victory again in Pennsylvania and the Upper Midwest, his path will likely go through abortion and climate change, two issues on which the Democrats are most confident in their righteousness and willing to embrace radical policies that appeal to their own voters much more than anyone else.

Joe Biden, the relative moderate, is subject to these forces. He dumped his longtime support for the Hyde Amendment prohibiting federal funding of abortion and released a climate plan that, even if more modest than the "Green New Deal" (a low bar), is clearly derived from it.

There's no doubt that climate is a top-tier issue for Democrats.

In a CNN poll, 96 percent of Democrats say it's very important that candidates support "taking aggressive action to slow the effects of climate change." It's doubtful that

mom, baseball and apple pie would poll any higher.

Among the broader public, according to a survey by climate change programs at Yale and George Mason universities, 70 percent believe that climate change is happening, and 57 percent believe that humans are causing it.

It's easy to over interpret these numbers, though. An Associated Press/University of Chicago poll asked people how much they were actually willing to pay to fight climate change, and 57 percent said at least \$1 a month, or not even the cost of a cup of coffee at Starbucks.

The political experience of other advanced democracies is a flashing red light. In Australia last month, the liberal opposition lost what was supposed to be "the climate change" election, against all expectations. Polling showed that about 60 percent of Australians thought the government should address climate change "even if this involves significant costs." It turned out that it was one thing to tell that to pollsters and another to vote to make it happen.

In France, gas and diesel hikes as part of a government plan to reduce carbon emissions by 75 percent sparked the yellow vest movement in

car-dependent suburbs and towns, and had to be ignominiously reversed.

The politics of climate change will be problematic for the duration, for several reasons. The voters most opposed to the costs of climate action tend to be "deplorables" most easily dismissed by center-left parties at their own peril: voters in rural Queensland in Australia, economically distressed residents of unfashionable rural and semiurban areas of France, working-class voters in the Rust Belt in the U.S.

Bearing real costs for the sake of the climate will always be a sucker's game for any one country so long as there isn't a global mandate for emission reductions.

Finally, whatever the costs, no one is going to feel any climate benefits anytime soon, or likely ever. The supposed upside of plausible policies adopted by the U.S. would be minuscule changes in the global temperature decades from now.

All this should counsel caution rather than apocalyptic rhetoric and policies, although Trump has every reason to hope it doesn't.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Dear Gripe Vine Readers:

Over the past few months, I have been notifying your district's councilwomen and councilmen of your complaints. These complaints are usually reported to the Mayor's office, but since there have been little or no replies, I have decided to resend them to your council representatives.

So far, Gripe Vine has been pleased with their responses, however, they have occasionally run into stumbling blocks and this leaves my readers "in the dark" relating to completion of their complaints.

Before I begin today's column, I am going to list your gripes that may have not been resolved yet through the efforts of council delegates. If, after reading your complaint and they either have or have not been completed, PLEASE send me an email or drop a line in the mail to Gripe Vine so I can update my records or recontact your councilwomen or men. If there are others, let me know. So, here they are....

Beach Street repaving, awaiting response from Councilman Nick Ruickoldt; potholes on Peck and Leete went to Councilman Aaron Charney and Councilwoman Bridgette Hoskey; potholes on Ardale, Tetlow, Dix and Eaton, your Councilwoman Bridge Hoskie has forwarded this complaint to Public Works. Has the road work been done? Let me know

-- Aimes Drive -- uncompleted road work by utility company forwarded to Councilman Sean Ronan; no response yet. Pothole on Burwell Place forwarded to Councilman Peter Massaro who is presently investigating this complaint. Apparently, there are trucking violations on Meloy Road; Councilwoman Portia Bias is following up on this complaint and hopefully will provide my readers with a solution soon. A traffic light complaint on Campbell and Lamson was forwarded to Councilman Mitchell Galignano and no reply was received yet after three contacts. A complaint of trash and blight at a location on Riverview Terrace was forwarded to Councilman Nick Ruickoldt and at this date, Gripe Vine has not received a reply.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I am reading your latest and notice an issue that has surfaced again: the No Parking sign that goes missing near the mailbox off Seaview. The policeman must be blind as the sign is missing and cars were parked illegally again this weekend.

As someone else has stated the summer No Parking signs went all the way up Seaview to Overlook when I moved to an area 20 years ago and as trees were removed and poles were replaced, the signs were not replaced. Councilwoman Tra-



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

cy Morrissey needs to check city records as this was done

because of the same parking issues we are having these days. Just thought I would enlighten you on this subject.

Peter Wankowicz

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

Six months ago I complained about the speeding and wrong way traffic on Third Avenue by Wood. Finally, they put a machine that checks your speed. What a joke! They see it as soon as they pull onto the street and slow up. Now that it's gone, they are back to doing the same thing. Also, the grass is three feet high on the railroad overpass on First

Avenue. I don't know who is responsible, but this should be taken care of.

MG, Third Ave. Resident

Dear MG:

I have notified Councilmen Aaron Charney and Mitchell Galignano of your complaints. Please let me know when you see a change.

Gripe Vine Readers, you can send your gripes, comments and issues to me at gripevine4wh@aol.com or write to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 666 Savin Ave. Please be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

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

WHEAT to offer food to kids

The WHEAT food pantry will distribute food twice a month to West Haven school-age children under 18. The increased distribution is set for June, July and August, said Rose Majestic, executive director of the West Haven Emergency Assistance Task Force. Families must bring a valid photo ID and two current pieces of mail with their correct name and address on them. WHEAT, 674 Washington Ave., is open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 2-4:30 p.m. and the third Saturday.

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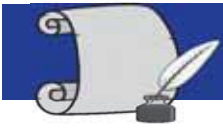
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Historian's corner

By Dan Shine



A Flag, A Declaration, and an Anthem

The months of June and July, 1776 were an exciting time for American Patriots. A Quaker lady from the city of Philadelphia, named Elizabeth Claypoole Ross, or Betsy Ross as we know her, would ultimately give two of her three husbands to our newborn nation, as precious sacrifices laid upon the altar of Freedom. She would also give our nation its first flag—one that has inspired citizens and Patriots for over two hundred years now. And just how was that flag born? Well, it's like this:

In January of that year, George Washington's troops carried as their standard the Continental Colors: a flag bearing the thirteen colonial

stripes with which we are so familiar, and in the canton—the corner of the flag where we now see 50 stars in a blue field—there was a British Union Jack. But clearly, by now the colonies were at war with England, and four major and costly battles had already taken place.

The Union Jack—and all that it represented—had no place on this flag. It was time for those Patriots to adopt a standard that better represented the emergence of an American nation. As tradition holds, Betsy Ross created that new flag with a circular pattern of thirteen five-pointed stars, which were easier for her to cut than the six pointed stars that had been requested.

Meanwhile, as Betsy Ross was finishing that new flag on or about June 14, 1776, and just across town in Philadelphia, a document was being drafted that would be signed on July 4, and immediately read to all of General Washington's troops and printed in all of the newspapers. It read in part:

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any form of government becomes destructive to these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness...

These were powerful words! We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of

See Historian, page 11



A Citizens Action Coalition

P R E S E N T S

"Big Screen on the Green"

Summer Movie Schedule on West Haven Green

Entertainment, Vendors, Food Trucks, Crafts for Kids starts at 6:00.

Movie will start at sunset.

- 7/12 ET
- 7/19 Mrs. Doubtfire
- 7/26 Mary Poppins
- 8/2 Dirty Dancing
- 8/9 The Goonies
- 8/16 Cars
- 8/23 Bye Bye Birdie
- 8/30 Grease

* Raintates will be 9/6, 9/13, 9/20

Mercuriano works to better city

By Josh LaBella
Voice Reporter

Michael Mercuriano has been an advocate for various projects and events in West Haven for decades. Mercuriano, who works in real-estate, was instrumental in getting the West Haven train station built.

Mercuriano moved to West Haven with his family when he was seven years old. He went through the public school system and got his start working in the offices of a rail road company. He eventually got his real-estate license and took classes at the University of New Haven, Yale and UConn to further his education.

Mercuriano has been involved in a number of non-profits during his time in West Haven. He said this started several decades ago.

"I was a member of the Lions Club for years back then," said Mercuriano. "I put a few Dog license renewals due

Residents who own dogs must renew their licenses from June 1-30 or face a \$1 monthly fine, City Clerk Deborah Collins said.

State law requires dog owners to submit a current rabies vaccination certificate when applying for the new dog tags. Expired certificates are not accepted. The fee for the two licenses, which are available in the city clerk's office at City Hall, 355 Main St., is \$8 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$19 for other dogs. Failure to renew a license can result in a \$75 fine. Residents can also send vaccination records and checks in a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the city clerk's office, P.O. Box 526, West Haven 06516.

In conjunction with Dog Licensing Month, the city clerk's office will hold its second annual Dog Contest for residents who license their dogs before June 30. The office will draw a winner in early July, and the winning dog will receive a gift basket and a "No. 1" dog tag and have its photo published in local newspapers.

WHCH registration open for program

West Haven Community House Head Start has openings for preschool children. Part day and full day options are available for West Haven income eligible families. Head Start provides family resources, free monthly activities, food and diaper distribution, health and wellness screenings, and services for children with special needs. Visit www.whcommunityhouse.org or call (203) 934-5221.

things together for them when I was president – a handicap area down by the beach."

In the mid to late 70s Mercuriano began getting involved in municipal leadership. He served on the Redevelopment Committee for 12 years and the Economic Development Commission for six.

"In redevelopment down by the shoreline we dealt with erosion problems or different complaints," said Mercuriano. "We also looked for what could possibly better the city."

During his time on the Economic Development Commission, Mercuriano said he and the commission tried to find ways to bring businesses to the city – including a shopping center on Water Street, where the Haven Project is planned.

Mercuriano said the commission also worked on a plan to get a US Navy ship permanently based in West Haven during Sal Guerrera's term but when he lost the next election the plan fell through.

Two of the organizations he was in, the Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce, hosted the first Savin Rock Festival. He said this was before the city was involved with planning the event.

"The Chamber of Commerce ran the first festival and it had nothing to do with the city," said Mercuriano. "The Lions Club gave the first check. That was way back in the 80s."

Over his decades of being involved, Mercuriano said he has learned that it is hard to get plans to come to fruition in

West Haven.

"It's like a town that doesn't seem to want to better itself sometimes," said Mercuriano. "It's frustrating."

He referenced the train station, a project he and the train

station committee collected thousands of signatures to bring back to West Haven. He said the city has done nothing to develop the over 1 million square feet in the surrounding area.

Mercuriano continues to push the city into developing the area. West Haven does have a plan to attempt to develop the places around the train station – they have turned it into a Transit-Oriented Development zone – but nothing has come of it yet.

Now Mercuriano is focusing his energy on bringing a carousel back to the city. He said he and other member of the Carousel Committee, a non-profit, have been in talks with different people and organizations around the country that could complete the project.

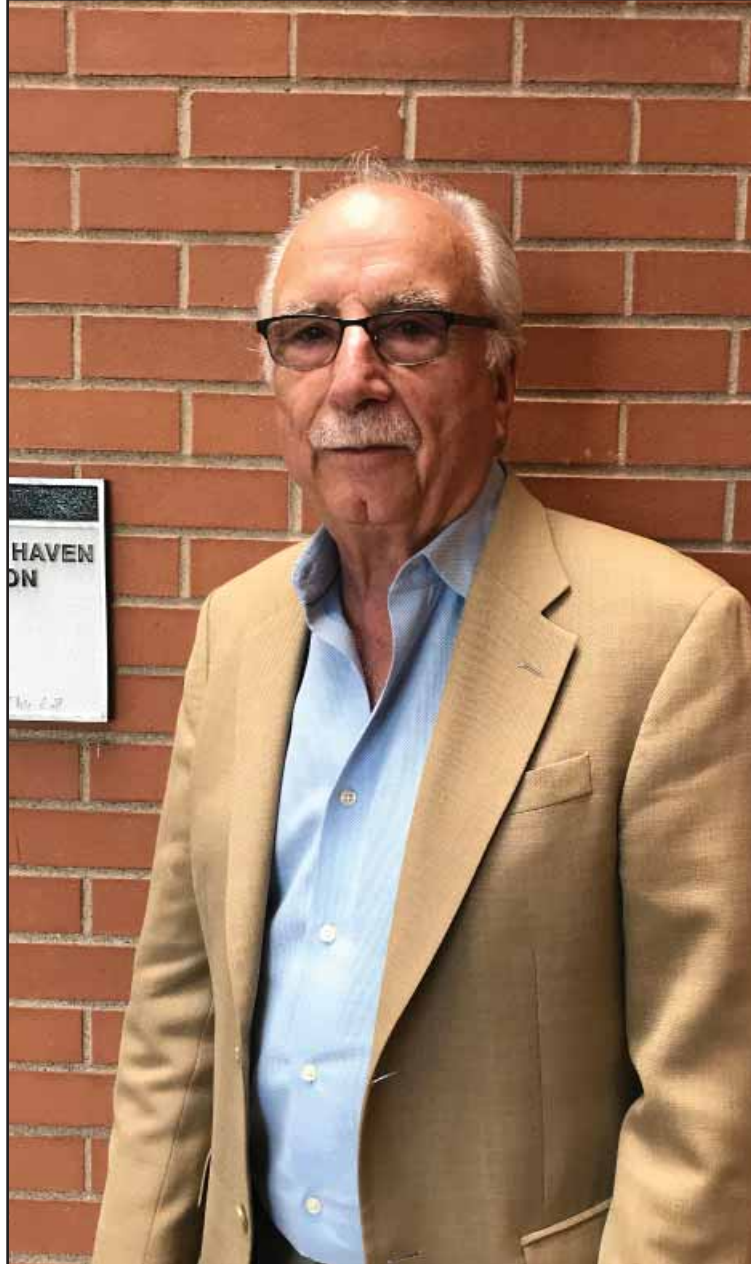
"Twice we've had success with vendors wanting to put up a carousel here," said Mercuriano. "Even the city had spent \$3,000 on a design for it to be put right in front of the Savin Rock Center. Then the fight stirred up about what size the carousel should be. It's nonsense."

Mercuriano said he grew up in the city and will continue to try and make it better.

"I always want better for this town," said Mercuriano. "So you surround yourself with people who want the same. But you can only go so far when all the administrations are really fighting against you."

Correction

In last week's profile of Russ McCreven, one daughter, Sharon, was inadvertently left out of the story. She is the eldest daughter. We apologize for the error.



MICHAEL MERCURIANO

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Prescription card offered through a CCM program

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

The City of West Haven Prescription Discount Card is available for residents and their pets, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

Rossi said the free card, which reduces prescription medication costs, is provided by the city through its membership with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, the statewide association of towns and cities.

West Haven has participated in the CCM Discount Prescription Drug Card Program, which is free to CCM-member municipalities, since November 2013.

During that time, CCM said, the program has saved city residents more than \$180,000 in prescription costs, a 61% savings over what they would have paid for the 3,336 prescriptions filled so far.

The card can be used by residents to obtain discounts and savings on prescriptions not covered by insurance, including pet prescriptions

that can be filled at retail pharmacies. There are no costs to the city or its residents, and the program is completely anonymous, according to CCM.

The card is accepted at all national chain pharmacies and most local independent pharmacies and can be used by all residents regardless of age, income or existing health coverage. There are no enrollment forms, membership fees, restrictions or limits on the frequency of use, CCM said.

Cards can be printed by visiting www.CTRx-DiscountCard.com and selecting City of West Haven from the drop-down menu. Cards can also be picked up in the mayor's office on the third floor of City Hall, 355 Main St.

The above website also contains a "Learn the Perks of the Card" section where residents can locate a participating pharmacy, comparison shop their medication, and find information on discounts for vision, hearing and LASIK services.



Photo courtesy of WHCH

Completes terms

Paul Bauer recently completed two three-year terms on the West Haven Community House's Board of Directors. Under the agency's charter, he rotates off the panel for at least one year. He is shown with current board President Bill Heffernan.

Historian: *Flag, Declaration, and an anthem*

Continued from page 8

right ought to be free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce,

and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

Signed for Connecticut by: Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott.

These words, written by men long dead, have protected and sustained countless generations of American citizens down through the ages. And that new flag that those men did behold on July 4, 1776, was the flag that survived shot and shell throughout the American Revolution. And during that span of years it also inspired those defenders of our city, then just a little village

known as West Farms, on July 4, 1779, when it was attacked and overrun by 2000 Redcoats as they headed toward New Haven with a young officer named Campbell.

Francis Scott Key concludes our National Anthem with these lines:

O, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,
Between their lov'd homes and the war's desolation;

Blest with vict'ry and peace,
may the heav'n-rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!

Then conquer we must,
when our cause is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust"

And the star-spangled banner
in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

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My two cents

By Bill Riccio, Jr.

This past weekend I was traveling home and heard a radio spot on becoming a high school sports official, sponsored by the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). The recruitment and retaining of sports officials for amateur-level games, particularly interscholastic games, is getting to the critical stage.

Many states have so few officials, game schedules have to be crafted in such a way that those officials are able to work the games as they are available. This means coordinating schedule nights, the number of games played vs. the number of officials available on any given night.

For some state associations that do scheduling of not only games but officials, this has become more and more difficult.

Last year, this writer, who has worked baseball for 47 years and worked football for 44 before becoming the local assigning commissioner, attended the NFHS Football Interpreters' meeting in Indianapolis. It was a national meeting that brought officials from all over the country. The focus was the new football rules for 2018, but the entire first day was discussed training and maintaining officials. It is a national problem, and one that is threatening high school and amateur sports.

At one time the bulk of officials came from school systems. Coaches, athletic directors and teachers looked to supplement their income doing something they enjoyed, so they became officials.

Over the last two or three decades, the need to supplement a teacher's salaries is less than it was. That reservoir of potential officials is not providing the same numbers.

The emphasis has been on former athletes in various professions. The recruitment of officials is not the real problem. The retention of those officials is, however. Whether we want to admit it or not, today's society does not handle authority figures very well. Sports officials are authority figures. Where once there was deference to officials by coaches and fans, there is less now. That is particularly true of fans.

Fans are rowdier, more vocal, more vulgar and more violent than they used to be. And that vitriol is not confined to the professional ranks. It has seeped down through the collegiate ranks, high school and even youth sports.

Two weeks ago a video went viral showing a T-ball game that broke into a riot – among the parents – after a 13-year-old umpire made a call someone didn't like. Last month in a nearby town during a 12-year-old baseball game, police had to be called to restore order. Again, it was due to a call made by an official.

Many men and women become officials, looking to have some fun and stay in shape.

Any high school official will tell you when it's all tallied up the money they get barely pays for the travel, time and expense of uniforms and equipment. In other words, officials aren't in it for the money.

These officials get their training and are put into

See My Two Cents, page 13



Photo by Russ McCreven

Gettin' loose

Seth Noble warms up during the Post 71 Junior Legion (17-U game against Meriden on Saturday at Piurek Field. The West Haven entry lost this one, 4-3, but came back with a win the next day, 6-2. The team is sporting a 6-5 at press time.



Submitted Photo

First journey winners

West Haven United hosted its first annual "Dick Allspaugh Memorial" Horseshoe Tournament, played at the Old Grove Park. Pictured are Gary Donovan (Tournament Director), winners Tom Mancini and Mark Barone.

Cubs win WHLL title over Brewers

The Full Circle Cubs won the 2019 West Haven Little League championship this week, defeating the Brewers, 9-4, in the title game.

The championship was the second in a row for the Cubs.

In the championship game, the Cubs jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first inning with singles by Evan Jones and Jeremiah Kavanah.

The Cubs added three more runs on in the third with Hudson Axelrod and Kavanah lacing singles. Axelrod was solid on the mound, keeping the Brewers scoreless until the 4th.

The Brewers scored two runs when Thomas Rolfe tripled, followed by the Brewers taking advantage of a pair of miscues by the Cubs to get within 5-2.

In the top of the fifth, the Brewers started to rally. They got within 5-3 with one out and runners on the corners, but Kavanah came on to pitch and induced a double play turned by Jones.

The Cubs then tacked on four more runs in the bottom of the fifth. Axelrod walked,

Jones tripled, Connor Hume and Christian Rivera-Bavaro singled to make it 9-3.

Cameron Cruz led off the top of the sixth with a double for the Brewers, and Logan Trunccone and Owen Fletcher singled, loading the bases with one out and the score 9-4.

Kavanah then took a come backer to the mound, tossed to Jones at second, who then fired to Axelrod at first to end the game.

The Cubs opened the post-season with an 11-1 victory over the White Sox.

Kavanah earned the win and had two hits.

Aydan Vizcaya and Lucas Forgette had hits for the White Sox.

After the Brewers beat the A's in a tight game to advance to the winner's bracket final, the Cubs beat the Brewers, 3-2, to advance to the championship game.

Jones and Cruz battled each other on the mound for their respective teams. Cruz struck out 10 in five innings, while Jones struck out 13 in six innings.



Photo courtesy of WHLL

The Full Circle Cubs show off their first-place trophies after capturing the West Haven Little League championship, 9-4 over the Brewers.

Kavanah added two hits for the Cubs. Rolfe and Cruz lead the Brewers with two hits apiece

The A's beat the White Sox in the losers' bracket final again play the Brewers. In a nine inning game, which took

more than three hours, Brady Price singled home the winning run to send the Brewers to the championship game.

Sox cop top seed in SHJBL playoff

The Duffy's Tavern Red Sox clinched the number-one seed beating the Augliera Movers Pirates, 14-13, in 7 innings.

CJ Stratton had the game winning hit with two RBI in the top of the seventh. Sean Studley and Zach Goetze combined for seven hits, seven RBI, and five runs.

Paul Lynch and Andrew Grillo had two hits apiece for the Pirates.

The Gunning Law Firm Mets defeated the Leslie

Jewelers Dodgers, 9-8. Ray Listorti and Jonathan Jackson had key hits for the Mets. Michael Luziotti scored the winning run. Lamont Belle, Mike Luth, and Rui Dasilva had the Dodgers hits.

Devin Bernier and Matt Cavallaro combined on a four-hitter as the Pirates beat the Dodgers, 4-3. Matt Cavallaro had a home run for the Pirates. Jorge Vargas and Chase Golde had the Dodgers hits.

Zach Goetze pitched a complete game two-hitter, and had three hits with five RBI to lead the Red Sox

to an 8-1 win over the Mets.

Bobby Severino had two hits and three RBI, and Tyler Bernardi scored two runs. Maurizio Urriola had a home run, and Tommy Vets had a double for the Mets.

Marcus Vitolo pitched a five-hitter with 11 strikeouts as the Pirates defeated the Mets, 14-6. Bank Tighe had three hits, Paul Lynch scored three runs, and Alex Werle starred on defense for the Pirates. Brian Oliver had a home run for the Mets.

My two cents

By Bill Riccio, Jr.

Continued from page 12

low-level youth games to cut their officiating teeth. They are also given JV and freshman games in whatever sport they choose to officiate. The axiom is, if they stay for three years, they are hooked. But many don't. A vast number leave within three years.

A big reason is the lack of civility among fans. Parents can be brutal. And the criticism isn't just vocal, it's personal. That is the line for many. Criticize the call all you want, but don't get personal.

Unfortunately, much of the shouts we hear now are personal – and sometimes are threatening. In a youth football championship two years ago, officials had to be escorted out because a group of fans followed them to the parking lot following the game.

Admittedly, a good number of younger officials leave because of job changes and life changes, such as marriage or children, but the bulk of those who leave list fan behavior as one of the major reasons for making the decision. "I could do something else, and not have the headaches," is what many say.

As we said, the problem is a national one. The average age of officials is getting older, not younger.

Officials are being asked to stay on well past their best years. Newer officials are not there to pick up the slack, and many are put into games they may not be ready to handle.

High school and youth sports are the purist form of sport because they are played for the love of the game. Officials are trained to work their chosen sports according to the level played. That means some more technical violations are ignored so the game can progress.

Sometimes fans don't get that. One does not officiate a varsity game the same way he officiates a bunch of 10-year-old – nor should he.

Most fans are there to watch their kids, have some fun and enjoy the day. Others, however, seem to believe that every call, every play, and every decision is the difference between life and death. It IS only a game, after all.

Officiating in amateur sports is reaching a critical stage. Fans can help by keeping the criticism low-key, and staying away from personal and threatening comments.

If you have the desire to become an official, check with the CIAC (203) 250-1111.

This and that...

A shoutout goes to Ray Guarnieri, popular assistant Yale baseball coach, and former West Haven High assistant, who has been having a bout with cancer. The disease was discovered quite by accident, and necessitated surgery at the Yale Smilow Center.

Ray, who has coached the Hamden Post 88 American Legion team for the last two years is on hiatus, of course, and is recovering from his surgery. Many people in the West Haven community know Ray and his wife, and we, of course, wish him the best in his recovery....High school football fans are going to see something different this year, but probably won't realize it. The high school game has gone to a 25/40-second play clock similar to the one used in the NFL and NCAA games. Teams will have 40 second between plays to get the next snap off, except in administrative situations like penalties, timeouts or measurements. It is hoped the game will be a bit smoother and quicker under the new rule, which was adopted in January by the National Federation of State High School Associations... Congratulations to the Cubs of the WHLL who captured their second city title.

Youth Soccer teams end season

In the closing weekend of the West Haven Youth Soccer League, a few of the travel teams took part in the annual Guilford Soccer Tournament. The Gunning Law Firm West Haven girls played North Branford to a 0-0 tie in a hard-fought, well played defensive battle on both sides of the ball. It was a total team effort for the Westies, Shelby Gagne, Julia Tsakonas and Sophie Gagliotti played well at forward. The midfield was controlled by Selena Izzo and Maddie Lentine, who sent several balls through the North Branford defense.

West Haven's goalkeeper duties were handled by Savannah Lopez, who made several key saves to preserve the shut-out.

Defense was handled by Grace Nowak, Riley Collins, Tomalyn Williams and Melissa Tsakonas.

In the later afternoon game on Saturday, the Westies faced a good Guilford team, losing, 4-0.

Maddy Molster, Micaela Owen, Hannah Davey, and Jalen Chandler played well. On Sunday morning, the Westies looked to bounce back against East Hudson, and tied, 1-1, on a great last-second goal from Julia Tsakonas. Good play from the defense from Amanda Tsakonas.

In the last game of the tournament, West Haven played a tough Killingly team, losing, 3-1. Shelby Gagne scored the lone goal for West Haven.

The Milano & Wanat West

Haven U-11 boys also played in the tournament, advancing to the championship game on Sunday afternoon, but lost to Guilford, 5-1, in the season finale.

West Haven went 1-1-1 in pool play to capture the No. 2 seed. The Westies opened play with a 7-3 loss to Guilford on Saturday afternoon before bouncing back to earn a 2-2 tie against Naugatuck later in the day. West Haven then defeated RHAM, 6-1, on Sunday morning to advance to the championship match.

In the first game on Saturday Guilford jumped out to a 2-0 lead before West Haven rallied. Sean Studley scored twice to get the Westies even before halftime. Pedro Furtado scored in the second half but Guilford pulled away late in the game.

Rafi Treat was solid in goal and earned Man of the Match honors as determined by the opponent.

In game two versus Naugatuck on Saturday, West Haven scored first when Pacey Larka found the back of the net. Naugatuck scored twice and had a 2-1 lead at halftime.

Studley's clutch goal late in the second half helped the Westies earn the tie and a chance to play for the title on Sunday. Miacon Miguel was solid in goal for the Westies. Furtado earned Man of the Match honors.

The Blue Devils knew they had to beat RHAM for a chance at a rematch versus Guilford. And the boys played their best

game of the season. Furtado drilled a long free kick to open the scoring. After RHAM tied it, Studley redirected one in to regain the lead. Furtado then scored directly off a corner kick by curling it in and over the keeper. Studley ripped in another goal and the Westies led 4-1 at halftime.

In the second half West Haven dominated play. Furtado notched a hat trick with a goal before Jonathan Forbes-Wolfe capped the scoring when he converted a Furtado corner kick.

Treat notched the win in goal and Efrain Brown earned Man of the Match.

The back line of Brown, Jovan Lakaj and Matthew Pantan controlled the game and did not allow RHAM any chances in the second half.

In the championship game Guilford and West Haven played an even first half, but Guilford pulled away in the second half.

West Haven's lone tally was an own goal. Treat was amazing in goal, making several saves, including stopping two breakaways.

Panton earned Man of the Match honors.

Studley led the team in goals with five in the tournament and also added a pair of assists. Furtado had four goals and three assists.

Miguel had two assists. Panton and Brown each had an assist. Larka and Forbes-Wolfe scored a goal apiece. Throughout the tournament Panton, Lakaj and Brown anchored the defense. Treat and Miguel patrolled the goal.

Nate Charron and Lucas Iversen were excellent, both offensively and defensively, on the wings. Isaac Irizarry played valuable minutes at striker.

The Keenan Funeral Home Yellow Jackets played their last game of the season Saturday

with a win against the Shoreline Wellness Green Leafs, 8-1. Two goals were scored each by Ava Pellino and Lexi Lucas. Additional goals were scored by Madison Garguilo, Kayci Gayle, Camilla Murphy and Kaylee Pellino.

Nylah Beah scored the lone goal for the Leafs. The girls played tough despite missing several players.

The Elite Soccer Camps Sharks finished their season with a 5-5 tie against the Jason Ranelli Gray Ghosts. Luca Decresenzo and Matteo D'Elia led the scoring for the Sharks, with Jax Guarino making some key passes.

Andrew Hulse showed a lot of hustle, while Seth Empiric and Ben Trenchard tried to do moves as they dribbled down the field. Emmett Hemming made a few key defensive stops to help keep the Sharks in the game.

The Gunning Law Firm Grey Wolves lost to Cappetta's Italian Imports, 3-1. Kylie Gibbon scored off of a nice corner kick by Arianna Throm. Sophia Empiric displayed excellent foot work and dribbling skills while Hailey Dargon and Daniela Bazar played tough defense.

Lulu Sebas and Linnie Cheson showed speed and determination throughout the game.

Nick's Luncheonette Dragons played the University of New Haven Knights Saturday, with the Dragons taking the win, 10-5.

All the kids played well, but Holden Napoletano, Dylan Narvaez Ramos, and Jaden Prates playing great to earn the win.

The West Haven Youth Soccer League would like to thank its sponsors, fans, coaches and players for another successful season.

Registration for the fall season is open at whys.org.

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Photo by Russ McCreven

Effort and a steal

Jake Lentine lets loose with a pitch during Saturday's 4-3 loss to Meriden in an American Legion 17-U game. Above right -- Tyler Jones swipes second at Piurek Field. The West Haven team is 6-5 in zone play.



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Chamber of Commerce
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Agency plans 'Christmas in July event for families

The Department of Parks and Recreation is participating in a "Christmas in July" toy drive with the Connecticut Recreation & Parks Association and Christmas Wish CT, a charity committed to sharing the spirit of Christmas year-round.

Throughout July, the department aims to collect 1,200 new, unwrapped toys at its Painter Park office, 190 Kelsey Ave., as well as at its camp and playground programs and swimming pool venues.

Park-Rec will donate a portion of the collected toys to Christmas toy drives held by West Haven Professional Fire Fighters Local

1198 and the West Haven High School Peer Advocacy Program for residents in need. It is one of the biggest toy drives run in the city during the holidays.

The rest of the toys will benefit Christmas Wish's Annual Christmas Party.

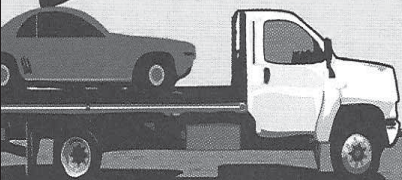
The volunteer charitable organization will distribute the toys to local children and families.

Those seeking more information should contact the Park-Rec office during regular business hours, (203) 937-3541, or go to the park-rec website.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF WEST HAVEN CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

MONDAY, JULY 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

The city of West Haven Charter Revision Commission will hold the second of two public hearings that are required pursuant to the provisions of Connecticut Statutes Section 7-191 (a). The public hearing will be held on July 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Harriet North Courtroom, 2nd Floor in the City of West Haven City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut for the purpose of receiving input from the general public regarding proposed amendments to the Charter of the City of West Haven. A Power Point presentation (approximately 75 minutes) of the proposed changes will take place first, at 7:00 p.m. followed by a public input session. Hard copies of the power point along with the proposed amended charter will be available at the City Clerk's Office and the hearing.

Dated at West Haven, Connecticut, this 17th day of June 2019.

BY ORDER OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Edward Granfield, Chairman

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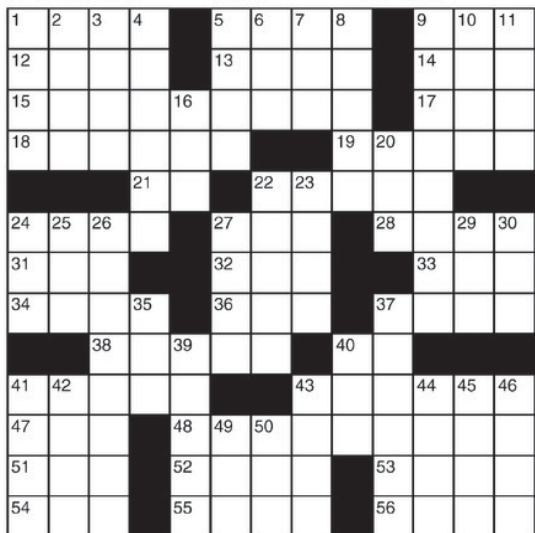
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Church section
 - 5 Gangster's girlfriend
 - 9 GPS forerunner?
 - 12 Contemptible
 - 13 Met melody
 - 14 Expert
 - 15 Grand
 - 17 Scooted
 - 18 Baltimore athlete
 - 19 Luxurious fabric
 - 21 Rocky Balboa's greeting
 - 22 Native New Zealander
 - 24 Lowers the lights
 - 27 Proscription
 - 28 Make a sweater
 - 31 Historic time
 - 32 Table scrap
 - 33 Id counterpart
 - 34 Zinger
 - 36 Anat. or biol.
 - 37 Fermi's bit
- DOWN**
- 11 Teller's partner
 - 16 "Xanadu" band, for short
 - 20 Clumsy craft
 - 22 Parade
 - 23 Opposed
 - 24 Society newbie
 - 25 401(k) alternative
 - 26 Almond confection
 - 27 Variety of 2-Down
 - 29 "Where did - wrong?"
 - 30 Huck's pal
 - 35 Baby's cover-up
 - 37 Off
 - 39 Lousy car
 - 40 "Born in the -"
 - 41 Raised
 - 42 Assess
 - 43 Census statistics
 - 44 Anger
 - 45 Unsigned (Abbr.)
 - 46 Dregs
 - 49 Lawyers' org.
 - 50 Burple

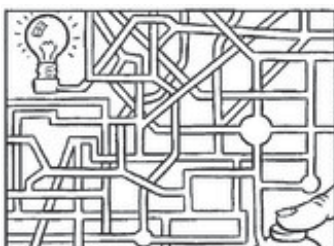


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 R T T T Q O T M M T M O N K E
 I H H A A S F A M D R E R B E
 Z R Y W I G H R L U M A V B T
 T E R H Q C I O J A S N P L E
 K N W I H F O T T N E I L C K
 F C O N F E S S I O N P D C C
 A Z X W V A E U S L S R P Q A
 O N M K L T R E K A M N I A R

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

- Appeal
- Associate
- Brethren
- Broker
- Chamber
- Confession
- Firm
- Last Juror
- Litigators
- Partner
- Racketeer
- Rainmaker
- Summons
- Testament
- Whistler



LET THERE BE LIGHT! See if you can turn on the light by finding the correct electrical route through this circuit board from the switch to the bulb.

A PRESIDENTIAL STUMPER! Four requirements must be met before a person can become president of the United States. He, or she, must be at least 35, born a citizen, and have lived in the U.S.A. for at least 14 years. Can you tell us what the fourth requirement is?

'PAR' FOR THIS ONE IS 8! Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid B contain the same letters as the corresponding words in Grid A.

- 1. To put away.
- 2. Shakespeare was one.
- 3. An outer-space drink.
- 4. To goad into action.



Junior Whirl by Charles Barry Townsend

D A L A S O T A T O P C C S
 F E E B T S A O R E A O H E
 S E H C I W D N A S E L I L
 N O L E M R E T A W T E C K
 S G G E B R O W N I E S K C
 S E O T A M O T H T C L E I
 S E I K O O C A K E I A N P
 E S E E H C M P I E O W E K

LET'S HAVE A PICNIC!

Hidden in the diagram above are 16 items we can take on our picnic. 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 items that you're looking for:

- Brownies
- Cake
- Cheese
- Chicken
- Coie slaw
- Cookies
- Eggs
- Ham
- Ice tea
- Pickles
- Pie
- Potato salad
- Roast beef
- Sandwiches
- Tomatoes
- Watermelon

Answers to last week's puzzles

King Crossword

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

FIND THE COMPOSER FROM JUST THE CONSONANTS

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Traffic: *Streets closing for safety*

Continued from page 1

posted on the north side of Connecticut Avenue; the even side of all side streets off Ocean

Avenue to Highland Avenue; the even side of Highland Avenue from Arlington to Linden streets; and the even side of all

side streets off Beach Street to Thomas Street.

Police can tag and tow vehicles violating the traffic plan at

the owner's expense. Violators are also subject to a \$100 fine.

All municipal beach parking lots will open at 9:15 a.m. July 3. Both residents and non-residents will be charged for parking per entrance. The fee is \$5 for vehicles with a valid beach sticker that is adhered to the windshield and \$10 for vehicles without a valid beach sticker.

Metered parking in all beach lots will be suspended July 3. However, metered parking will be offered on Palace Street, a pay-for-parking site for both residents and non-residents. Beach stickers are not valid on Palace Street.

Please be advised that at 6 p.m. July 3, the following road closures will be in effect: Ocean Avenue from South Street to Platt Avenue; Platt Avenue from Ocean Avenue to Educational Way; and Captain Thomas Boulevard from Platt

Avenue to Rock Street.

Those who park in the South Street, Dawson Avenue or Sea Bluff beach lots during the day can stay for the fireworks, but they will have to keep their vehicles in the lots until the road is reopened at 11 p.m. Otherwise, they will have to leave the lots before 6 p.m. because of the road closure.

Residents and nonresidents should also take note that police will strictly enforce all beach regulations, which are posted at each access point along the shoreline, as well as the following restrictions:

- All bags will be subject to search before entering the beach area.
- No coolers or alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the beach.
- No disorderly or obscene conduct will be tolerated.
- No open fires or cooking will be allowed on the beach.

Savin Rock Museum open

The Savin Rock Museum, which chronicles West Haven's 371-year history, has opened for the season.

The museum, based in the lower level of the Savin Rock Conference Center at 6 Rock St., is open from 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays through Aug. 29. In September, the museum is open from 1-4 p.m. Saturdays. Admission costs \$4, or \$2 for adults 60 and older and children under 12. Group tours for 10 or more cost \$25. The gift shop sells official Savin Rock memorabilia; call museum volunteer Norma Kahl at (203) 934-7234 to arrange a group tour.

Everyone Is Invited To Access A

PUBLIC INFORMATION WEBPAGE

State Project No. 156-181

REHABILITATION OF BRIDGE NO. 00162
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WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

The Public Information Webpage
will be active beginning

July 17, 2019

at

www.ct.gov/dot/I95overMNRR

Comment Period Opens July 17, 2019

Comment Period Closes August 7, 2019

Send Comments To: **DOT.Project.0156.0181@ct.gov**

Residents, commuters, business owners, and other interested individuals are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn about the proposed project.

Questions or comments may also be directed to:

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Newington, Connecticut 06131-7546

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Submitted Photo

Scholarship winners

Village Improvement Association awarded its annual scholarships during a ceremony at the West Haven Library's main branch. Award winners are: David Anania (Pauline Smith Scholarship), Emily Cummings (Connie Sacco Scholarship), Connie Sacco (former library director), Colleen Bailie (current library director), Megan Mendoza (Pam Gardner Scholarship), and Skylar Serson (Poli Scholarship).



Around Town

Nutmeg concert

The Nutmeg Symphonic Orchestra, soloists and chorale will pay tribute to our veterans, our country, our freedoms and our flag in a concert on June 30 at Gateway Community College in North Haven at 2 p.m. It will feature bass/baritone Dr. Eugene Ciccone, mezzo-soprano Wendy Gerbier and soprano Kristen Gionfriddo, along with singers from the orchestra's chorale, all performing many well-loved musical selections.

Other features of this concert will be a tribute to local veterans of World War II by Joseph Weber of the Ward-Heitman House Museum in addition to an orchestral remembrance of the American Civil War with a reading of the Gettysburg Address. The concert is free, along with free parking and a handicap accessible ramp into the auditorium. The orchestra is in residence at Gateway Community College and is under the artistic direction of Dr. Dino F. Ciaburri.

1st Church VBS

Join the First Congregational Church of West Haven for a week of fun and learning with its annual Vacation Bible School (VBS). This year features a journey to Athens on August 5-9. Kids will learn all about the Apostle Paul and God's immeasurable love. Visit our website for more information and registration: <http://fccwesthaven.org/vbs/>.

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

WHHS '69

West Haven High School Class of 1969 will hold its 50th reunion on Friday, Sept. 27, at Seasons located at 990 Foxon Road, East Haven, from 6:30 to

10:30 p.m. There will be music provided by a DJ, a plentiful cocktail and hors d'oeuvre hour, buffet dinner along with open bar. The cost is \$75 per person. Checks should be made payable to Charlene Morgal and mailed to 18 Shumway St., West Haven, 06516, before August 15. More information can be found on our Facebook page: WHHS Class of 1969- 50th reunion, or by emailing chazbo40@aol.com /203 494 7379 or sandee110@aol.com /203 494 7730.

Senior Center Trips

Join the senior center on the the following scheduled trip: All trips leave from Savin Rock Conference Center:

Tuesday, Sept. 17, Aqua Turf - Rob Zappulla Celebrates the Music of Frank Sinatra \$67 per person Rob has performed to sold out audiences of all ages across the country and headlined performances at the Lincoln Center in NYC and Foxwoods Casino to name a few. Menu includes coffee and donuts upon arrival, door prizes, complimen-

tary glass of wine or beer.

Family-style luncheon: salad, penne bolognese, chicken florentine, baked scrod, vegetable, potato and dessert. Bus leaves Savin Rock Conference Center 10 a.m. Payment is due by Friday, Aug. 30.

A flyer with further details is available at the office at the West Haven Senior Center 201 Noble St. or call (203) 937-3507.

WHHS'54

West Haven High School Class of 1954 will be holding its class reunion on June 29, at App's Restaurant, West Haven at 1 p.m. The \$35 luncheon cost includes tax, tip, entrée with cash bar. Please call (203) 795-6619 to reserve.

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<p>JIM BEAM 1.75 L \$29⁹⁹</p> 	<p>TANQUERAY 1.75 L You Pay \$29⁹⁹ - \$10⁰⁰ Mail-In Rebate \$19⁹⁹ Final Cost</p> 	<p>SMIRNOFF Infusions 750 mL \$13⁹⁹ ZERO SUGAR</p> 	<p>CIROC Summer Colada 750 mL \$19⁹⁹</p> 

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 <p>HEINEKEN 24 Pack Bottles \$24⁹⁹</p>	 <p>BLACK HOG S.W.A.G. 6 Pack \$9⁹⁹ DRINK LOCAL!</p>	 <p>BUD LIGHT Lemon Tea 12 Packs \$12⁹⁹</p>	 <p>CORONA Refresca 6 Pack \$9⁹⁹</p>

ICE-7 lb \$1⁹⁹, 20 lb \$4⁹⁹ **ALL CIGARETTES AT STATE MINIMUMS**

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