

West Haven Voice

July 11, 2019

Vol. 24, Issue 27, 20 Pages

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

Voice Profile

A weekly in-depth interview

"I feel it is important for my kids to see there is nothing wrong with seeing hard work and the rewards which come with it."

Mike Madera

--See page 12



DOT gives OK to developer traffic plans

Josh LaBella
Voice Reporter

In an important step for the Haven project, the Office of the State Traffic Administration has approved the traffic plan for the West Haven development. The approval comes after months of waiting, leaving demolition of the site up in the air.

West Haven Corporation Council Lee Tiernan said the plan to widen Elm Street has been approved pending the developer, the Simon Group, post a bond of \$5 million.

"They are now allowed to go forward with this development they envisioned seven years ago," said Tiernan, adding the developer now had legal authority to do it.

According to Tiernan, beginning construction of the mall would not have been legal without this state approval.

Tiernan said the Department of Economic and Community Development needs to provide \$5 million for the demolitions which need to occur along Elm Street and along the shoreline. He added the Simon Group has told him they have received bids for the demolition costing less than \$4 million.

See Traffic, page 11



Photo by Russ McCreven

Dog Days

Tiffany's Dog Grooming hosted an event at Savin Rock over the weekend, and many dog owners took advantage. The four-legged residents and their owners had a great time.

Rohna reunion adds city delegation

Ed. Note: The following is a recounting of a trip made by Joseph Weber and John Dolan regarding their recent research on the HMT Rohna's sinking in 1943, and the loss of three West Haven residents: Pasquale Longiodice, John T. Cox, and Pacifico Migliore.

By Joseph Weber
Special to the Voice

On a recent weekend, West Haven was honored, in of all places, Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA, by a very special national organization.

John Dolan and Joe Weber were invited to address the 2019 reunion gathering of the HMT Rohna Survivors Memorial Association (RSMA).

The officers, including, author Mike Walsh and videographer Jack Ballo,

had come to West Haven to help us in our Dec. 2, 2018 presentation at the West Haven Veterans Museum. These folks so appreciated our effort and pitched in like troupers.

The Norfolk reunion was organized and delightful; the attendees were a full range of ages; everybody took part and made it worth it.

In the fun of friends and relatives coming distances and gathering, there was a serious purpose to all the activities. All the attendees whether GGD (great-granddaughter), or SNH (son-in-law), or other, were aware that at an earlier time in the family's life a young man was lost forever – or maybe miraculously saved – and mom and dad were left without an explanation (in

the case of a loss); and these parents eventually died with their "unknowingness" – no Pacifico, no John T., no Pasquale, no answer.

During the reunion we were shepherded expertly by member officers Janice Pumelia and Deb Sanchez. As many readers know there is probably no other place in the world like Norfolk, where the Naval roadways meet at the rivers, the bays, and the Atlantic Ocean. The soils are drenched with history: just think Yorktown, pirates, Chincoteague, plantations, Langley Field, rebel calvary, Jamestown, indigenious peoples, privateers, early flight, top guns, peninsula campaign – the list is endless.

Momentous things occurred there as

a commonplace.

How many millions of service members said a word-less goodbye to home as they left these shores.

The days at Norfolk were busy with meetings and planning. The members are from all parts of the U.S. and organization is essential.

One day though we were all together touring the port city and took in the McArthur Museum and the naval base. There we parked in the shadow of the mammoth carrier USS Harry S. Truman (it is good that she is ours).

After lunch we went to a historic drive-in, Dourmar's (where our pictures were taken) the "Home of the first ice cream cone maker gadget."

See Rohna, page 5

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Weather

Friday July 12 Mix of clouds and thunderstorms. High 84F



Sunrise: 5:29 am
Sunset: 8:24 pm
Wind: SW 10-15
High Tide: 8:23 am; 8:43 pm

Saturday July 13 Beautiful day! High 88F



Sunrise: 5:30 am
Sunset: 8:24 pm
Wind: W 10-15
High Tide: 9:19 am; 9:36 pm

Sunday July 14 Repeat of Saturday High 88F

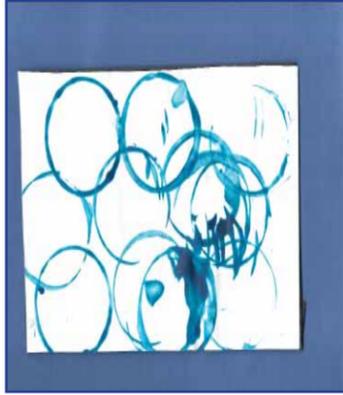


Sunrise: 5:31 am
Sunset: 8:23 pm
Wind: WNW 10-15
High Tide: 10:11 am; 10:25 pm

Monday July 15 Partly cloudy High 82F



Sunrise: 5:31 am
Sunset: 8:23 pm
Wind: W 5-10
High Tide: 11:00 am; 11:11 pm



Kids' Forecast

Mya Mercuriano, age 1, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., sees some rain in the forecast for this week.

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.

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.

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association will hold a Summer Day Doo Wop Dance at 85 Chase Lane on Saturday, July 27, at 7 p.m. Music by Charles the DJ till 12. Free beer, wine or soda. Tickets: \$20 per person. Call Lou at (203) 934-3339.

The West Haven Republican Town Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the third floor conference room of City Hall, 355 Main St. for the purpose of endorsing candidates for the 2019 municipal election.

This meeting replaces the July 18, 2019 meeting.

On this date:

1960 -- To Kill a Mockingbird is first published as Atticus Harper Lee's classic and Pulitzer Prize-winning book.

1914 -- Major League Baseball debut of Babe Ruth. George Herman "Babe" Ruth, Jr., started his career with the Boston Red Sox.

1804 -- A duel Vice-President Aaron Burr and former Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton ended a life-long feud with a duel. Hamilton was fatally wounded and died the next day.

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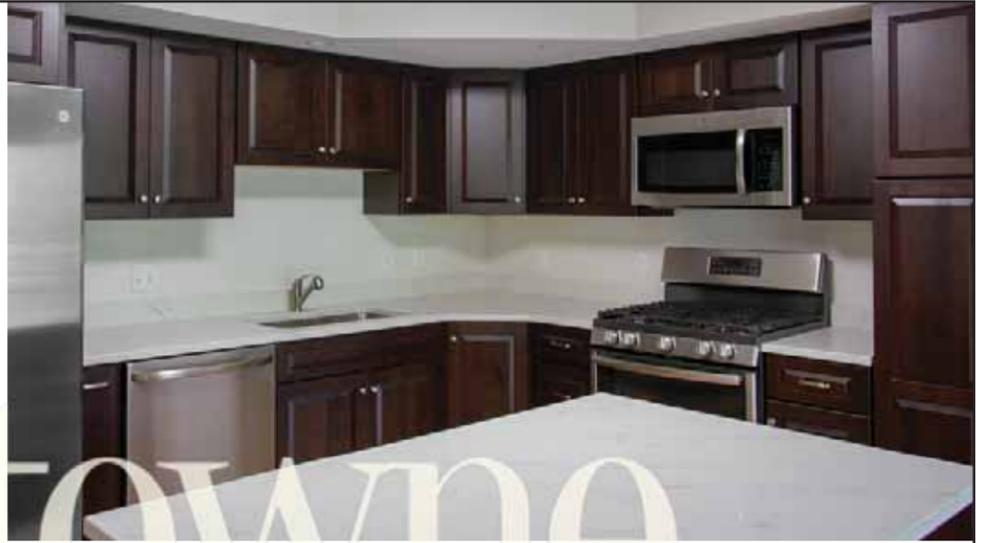
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Collins hopes to boost city morale

By Josh LaBella
Voice Reporter

Using her experience as City Clerk, her good relationships with people in West Haven and by surrounding herself with professionals, Debbie Collins says she wants to get the city back on track if elected mayor.

Collins, who announced her candidacy in February, said she decided to run because the city looks bad and has bad energy.

"Everybody is at each other's throat," said Collins. "It's very negative. It seems like there's no pride anymore. We're Westies. We are supposed to bleed blue. This is the best place in the world but it's like everyone feels defeated; like there's no pride anymore."

Collins said she feels like it is her time and has been considering running for the past several elections. While she said she likes Mayor Nancy Rossi as a person, she thinks she is hard to work with.

"I think I can do a better job," said Collins. "I think I can surround myself with different people – and I think I expect more from people. That's why I want to do it."

The City Clerk said she wants to bring her 20 years of municipal experience and "common



Collins made her formal announcement at the Savin Rock Conference Center in June.

sense" to the top spot in West Haven. One issue Collins said she wanted to tackle is how the city looks. She said public works needs to do more to keep the city looking clean while citizens also need to do their part.

Collins called herself a peo-

ple person and said she plans to utilize communication if she were to be elected mayor. She said she can take criticism and would be willing to hear people's complaints and suggestions.

"I think sometimes people
See Collins, page 15



I love this town.

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Dear Felicia

Well, sweets, the Fourth of July festivities are in the books for another year and it looks as if we had some interesting results.

The new traffic rules seemed to do the job, and we didn't seem to see the bad behavior that we saw last year. We look forward to hearing from the constabulary in a follow-up to see how things went. I know at the Cobina domicile things were as usual.

We kep' the gassamobuggy in storage until the next day. Traffic was what we expected and effen yew didn't hafta go out, it was a good idea to stay put.

The noise was OK, and, of course, the neighborhood sounded a bit like the third Battle of the Marne with the rockets' red glare and bombs burstin' in air.

And whilst all that was goin' on, yew knew that things were gonna heat up in the drive to the mayoralty, culminating in November's vote.

Well, it did heat up. As yew know, herronner sent a missive to the papyrus giving her take on the way things are on the rise here in the burg. Of course, once yew git one missive, yew know surer than little green apples that one or t'other of the two challengers lookin' for the nomination will answer, and we got that this week from Deb Collins.

I'll leave yew to read her words. Jest know that the way things work around here, don't expect it to be the last word on this or any other subjeck.

As yew know the two parties will caucus next week, and we will expect the flurry of activity that gen'rally presages a primary.

Way back in March 2018 the Rossi supporters took control of the Democratic Town Committee.

So, we expect that she will git the nod once all the votes on the 60-member committee are tallied.

That means that Collins and the former mayor Edward O'Brien will be on the stump lookin' for signatures by the Democratic electors - that means members - to put them on the primary ballot it should be an interesting affair. It always is.

Over on the GOP side, we're not sure what to expect, but we got this missive from A. Nony Mouse who had his own take on what we discussed. Y'see, we think a primary is good for the GOP to git back in the sights of the voters, the GOP has another take, and it's valid. Anyway, here's what A. Nony had to say:

"I was talking with Nelly Nuthatch and boy, some of us in the Asylum by the Sea have been respectfully scratchin' our bald heads as to your thinkin'!

'While Mullins might not be too happy with the fight, we think he should petition and run for the nomination in the primary. As we said, this is a good opportunity for the party to show its people and its ideas.'

"Hmmm...GOPers want to do more than just show ideas. These folks are serious and firmly believe they can win the general election. But to do so, Money talks....

"Sure, Mullins can force Gregorio to join him in a primary dog-and-pony show. One will certainly win the battle, but with limited bucks in either

bank account the winner of the primary will have a higher mountain to scale in what is believed to be a winnable war against three Demmies in the general election --- so is the current belief amongst the majority of the electorate, with or without Charter Revision.

In a four-way race, a GOP candidate is (finally) given an equal chance to win. But winning takes money. Primaries drain both financial and human resources. Compared with the Dem infrastructure, the GOPers need to be more strategic (and frugal) in their approach.

For those worried about the electorate putting the GOP nominee on the back shelf ---don't buy into it.

Gregorio or Mullins is not known to be shy and is rearin' to rumble in this election. Guaranteed: whomever the endorsed GOP candidate, she or he will be in the fray from July through November."

That's an interestin' analysis by A. Nony Mouse, and we will soon see whether this comes to pass or not.

Let's hope there is some truth in it.

With the public hearings no over, the Charter Revision Com-mish is going to take the next few weeks to introduce to the public the extent of the work it has produced. This papyrus has offered - and it was accepted - that Com-mish Chairman Ed Granfield will

give snippets of what has been done on a weekly basis. This will give John Q and Mary Q enuff to digest without making the information sooooo overpowerin' it can't be remembered.

As I told yew before, the com-mish is concerned that after months and months of work, and a good-faith effort to really promote some good changes, the politicos in the burg will do what they have done in the past - deep-six anything that will upset the status quo.

Effen that happens, look for some fireworks to come in the future as they group that was put together had no axes, or affiliations that could inhibit them from damning the torpedos effen they haf to. Stay tuned over the next few weeks, It'll be interesting.

Sammy Bluejay let it be known last week that it was gonna be announced that the Haven Project is gonna get the go-ahead and the state will allow things to move forward. The DOT has given it's OK to a traffic plan, and the City Council and other city departments will be isshewing the necessary paperwork.

Yew know what's gonna happen here.

With July rolling around and the election coming up, news that the Haven is going forward will be seen with a bit of skepticism.

We HAVE been to this movie before.

City officials and the local daily papyrus have announced the plan.

And we did hear last week that around August 1 the things will be in motion.

Of course, the local paper had a Christmas 2020 theme, but one would think it would take a bit more than that.

Look for a hue and cry from various quarters as to this being an election-year ploy that we've had before. Collins mentioned it in her own statement a couple o' weeks ago about "bulldozers" being stationed in the area.

We hear that the demolition will begin.

Sooooo, it is an interesting case study we have here. Will the beginning of the much-awaited project give a boost to the incumbent? Will it put a damper on any attempt to unseat the current office holder? Will either Collins or O'Brien, Gregorio or Mullins be able to leap-frog the wall of publicity the thing is gonna create?

For the answer to this and other big questions, stay tuned to the political soap opera that is the Asylum by the Sea.

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

Cobina

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The three West Haven "Buddies" lost in the HMT Rohna sinking shows their pictures as they appeared in the New Haven Evening Register in 1944, months after the sinking.

Rohna: *Two make trip to reunion*

Continued from page 1

At a Saturday night banquet, John Dolan and I spoke about our Three West Haven Buddies: Pasquale Logiodice, John T. Cox, and Pacifico Migliore, who were lost in the HMT Rohna sinking on Nov. 26, 1943. The attendees were very appreciative.

Sunday morning, departure time, rolled around and we got a warm surprise.

In a large room John and I started our good-byes to a small number of people; soon everybody in the room stood and warmly applauded us. It was spontaneous and unexpected and downright nice. It stopped us in our tracks.

We realized that the emotions were for the people and organizations back in West Haven that had helped us honor the Logiodice, Cox, and Migliore families of old West Haven.

Finally, in words of old, young Grandpa John Dolan was a "boon companion" on the delightful Route 13 Tidewater "honor" journey.

Discount drug cards are now available

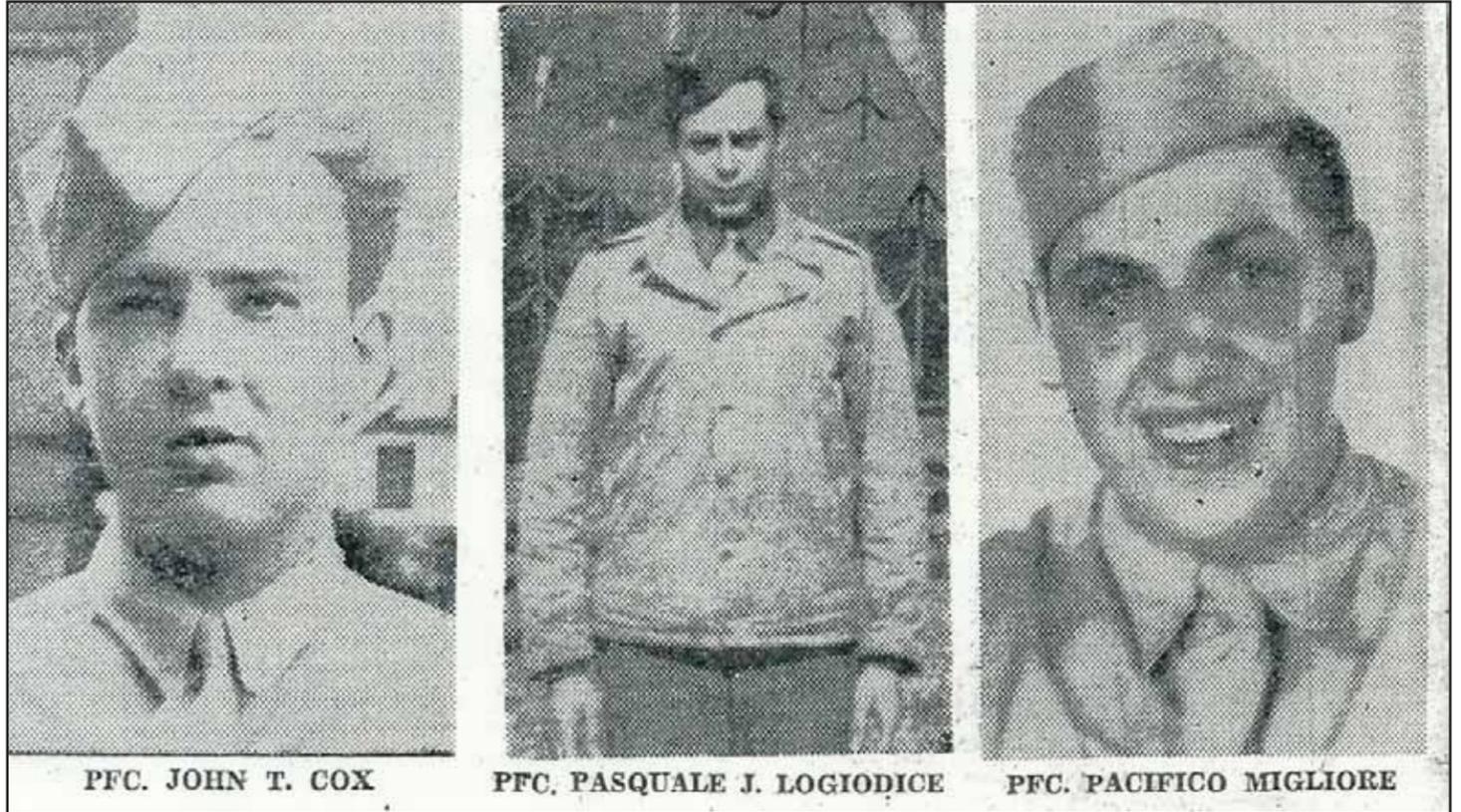
The City of West Haven Prescription Discount Card is available for residents and their pets, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

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.



MARK A. HEALEY

ATTORNEY AT LAW



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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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Public attention needed as parties make choices

Over the next week, the city's two political parties will begin the process of determining who will be sitting in the various seats of power in City Hall. Both the Democratic and Republican town committees will caucus and put up slates for November. In both cases, the chance of a primary is real, if not inevitable.

The city's ruling party, the Democrats, have controlled city politics for almost 30 years. The party has been factionalized for decades. Where once there was the Johnson, Allen and Roper factions, there are now the Picard, Morrissey and Borer factions. Usually, two of the three coalesce against the third in order to seize power by means of putting up a challenge candidate.

This year, the party will boast three candidates. Mayor Nancy Rossi is virtually assured of the party's nomination as her faction controls the 60-member town committee. It would be a political coup if this does not happen, and will really throw the party into a tailspin.

Following the caucus, announced challengers Deborah Collins, backed by at least the Morrissey faction, will begin petitioning to get on the ballot for a September primary. We expect the same will happen with former Mayor Edward M. O'Brien, who first announced he will run independently, and has chosen, instead, to go the party route.

This will result in a three-way primary for the Democratic nomination, which really puts the result into question. Traditionally, about 5,000-6,000 voters cast ballots, or about 30 percent. Spitting that pie could be a tricky bit of electoral surgery for any or all of the candidates.

The last Republican to hold the mayoralty was Clemente Evangeliste. That was just prior to the city going under state control for the first time after running up a \$17 million deficit. The GOP, once on par with the Democrats in having a shot at governing, was blamed for the situation, and soon fell into irrelevance. That may be changing.

Two candidates have emerged on the GOP side: Michele Gregorio and Steven Mullins. Early indications are Gregorio might have the backing of the party's leadership, while Mullins, who has been the party's standard-bearer before, is seen as old hat.

Party leaders are somewhat hoping a candidate with full backing of the party can come out of next week's caucus. The principle reason, of course, is funds. The party can point to only 3,000-plus voters as members, and has been working on a shoestring for years.

Putting together a primary and a general election – even in a small city – is an expensive task. It is felt if a united front can be mounted, voters in West Haven might be willing and ready to look in a direction other than the Democrats. This would allow the party to push forward its platform while the opposition infights, and then save its precious coffers for the general election. It remains to be seen if this will happen as Mullins has always had his eye on higher office.

Either way, the GOP showed some signs of a re-emergence two years ago, and we are hopeful that it can continue an upward move. The city would be much better off with two strong parties.

Voters, meanwhile, should begin paying attention to the process. It is difficult in the summer, but West Haven is in a somewhat unique point in its history, and the voters and taxpayers must be informed and aware well before next November's election.



Letters

Refutes Rossi

I would like to offer the following response to West Haven Mayor Rossi's editorial.

The mayor is correct when she indicated that it was the prior administration's bonding of West Haven's \$16 million deficit in 2017 that triggered state review by the Municipal Accountability Review Board, also known as MARB. But that is about the only thing in this regard that the Mayor and I agree on. We have a clear difference of opinion as to how she should have managed our City's finances. From that point on and, because of this type of short sightedness, that led me to my decision to run for Mayor.

The first thing the MARB asked for when they came to West Haven was a five-year financial plan from the mayor. After 10 months of trying, the mayor was not able to do her job and put together a comprehensive professional plan with structural changes and long term vision. Instead, West Haven's taxpayers had to foot the bill to the tune of \$125, 000 to pay an outside consultant to do the job for her. This plan called for a tax increase in every year for five years. This was a plan the

mayor agreed with, endorsed, and then submitted to the State of Connecticut.

Once the mayor submitted this five-year plan to the state, the City of West Haven received the first installment of the bailout in the amount of \$8 million. The mayor used the \$8 million to say she "turned the city around", and that we now have a surplus due to her management. However, the MARB has repeatedly pointed out the obvious to her, which is that West Haven would not have a surplus if it wasn't for the bailout. But because the mayor is more focused on the election year spin than a positive relationship with the state, she continues to attack the hand that feeds US! She has actually engaged in a public relations campaign against the MARB, stating that she is the one turning our city around. The result? The state has pulled back \$2 million in funding. And that's why supplemental bills went out in June.

Now as we look towards next year's budget, the mayor has now asked the state to allow her to rely on the funding from The Haven project. WHAT FUNDING? WHAT PROJECT? WHAT PROGRESS? You do not have

to be a CPA to see that this project is stalled, and that the State recognizing this, is hesitant to allow West Haven to rely on funding not yet in hand.

The bottom line is this: There is only one way out of this hole and that is through growing our City's grand list through economic development. The mayor to date has not introduced one new economic project and hasn't done much at all to move along the projects already in the queue. There are no new revenue drivers to the table. NONE. The only suggestion the mayor made is to increase the price of beach stickers.

We need someone who can get to the truth about The Haven; someone who can introduce new ideas; and someone who can manage a professional relationship with a State board giving us sixteen million dollars.

Deborah Collins
Mayoral Candidate

Poignant column

Just wanted to thank long-time contributor Dan Shine for the wonderful article he wrote as a tribute to his father. It brought tears to my eyes, and I'm sure I'm not alone in my

See Letters, page 16

Send letters to:
info@westhavenvoice.com



Dear Gripe Vine Readers:

Last week's Gripe Vine published a letter from a reader, Carl K, Canton Street, concerning heavy, bus, truck and noisy traffic on Canton Street. Here's an update from Councilwoman Robin Watt Hamilton following a request to look into your complaint.

Councilwoman Robin Watt Hamilton's first response:

"I have a call into both West Haven Police Department Traffic Division and Connecticut Transit. I am hoping to hear from them today (June 25). Thank you for asking for my input for it is a concerning matter that I hope to be a part of helping to solve."

Now, here's a follow up from

Councilwoman Hamilton dated June 26:

"I appreciate you contacting me regarding this issue. There is a history to this issue in my district.

"I am not the first Councilwoman to address it. I have spoken to an administrator at Connecticut Transit. Unfortunately, at this time, there are no plans to change the bus route, however, I will engage further conversation with both Connecticut Transit and the community. I've also reached out to the West Haven Police Department Traffic Division and will continue to work with them to address the heavy truck issue. I sympathize with this issue because I live in the



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

same neighborhood. I will work toward a resolution with the hopes of improving the situation."

Dear Carl K, Canton Street: Please keep me updated on

this traffic concern.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I have submitted a picture of a sinking hole in front of 7 Ricardo Street at the corner of Rudin Street. There was a main break in November which was fixed, and the hole was patched. Over The spring months, the patch began to sink. Thank you for bringing this to the attention of the city.

GCS, Ricardo Street

Dear GCS, Ricardo Street:

I have forwarded your complaint to Councilwoman Robin Watt Hamilton. Watch Gripe Vine for her solution to this problem.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I am writing in regard to my sidewalk. I have been trying to

get sidewalks for at least eleven years. The closest I've come was the city taking down the tree that's lifting the sidewalk and the street. The stump is still here and the sidewalk as well.

I feel bad for the high school kids; they all have to walk in the street. There is a kid down the street who is in a wheelchair. His dad also has to walk him in the street. Please can YOU help me; no one else has.

MG, Linden Street

Dear MG Linden Street:

I spoke to Councilwoman Tracy Morrissey who represents your district, concerning your sidewalk complaint. I have also forwarded the photo you submitted to her.

Good news! Councilwoman Morrissey responded, "I have spoken with the sidewalk inspector who has checked the sidewalk and spoke with the homeowner.

He explained to her the new procedures he put in place and how to report damaged sidewalks.

The sidewalk is slated for repair over the next few weeks."

Dear MG, Linden Street:

Has work begun here yet? Please let me know.

~~~

**Coming up...**pot hole on Burwell Place..trash on Morse Avenue and high grass...pot holes on Pine Street...Sorenson Road pot hole...speeding and wrong way traffic on 3rd Avenue by Wood Street...mal-functioning traffic light Campbell and Lamson..Meloy Road trucking violations...Aimes Drive patch work...potholes on Ardale, Tetlow, Dix and Eaton...pot hole Peck and Leete...Woody area at Platt Street poaching? And much more.

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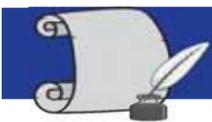
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# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine



DOMINIC ZUPPARDI

### Zuppardi's Apizza Part I

Do you remember your first pizza? The Boy does: It was on an evening in 1959 when the family had gone out to see a black-and-white "cops and robbers" movie in New Haven. On the way home, the family had stopped off at a place that father called "Zuppardi's ah-beetz."

The restaurant was located behind and to the right of the current location, and it was just a small building with maybe eight tables in all. And, oh!—the air was thick with wonderful aromas.

To the boy, this strange new food was both exotic and exciting. After what seemed like forever, his small hands finally gripped a hot, steaming

slice. He couldn't wait to try it, and in his haste he burned his mouth on the first bite. But nevertheless on that night, a lifelong love affair with pizza was born.

After that, he couldn't wait to return; and when the family finally did get back there in 1963, Zuppardi's had relocated next door, replacing a former laundromat on the ground floor of the family residence; and the new restaurant appeared pretty much the same as it does today...

Lori Zuppardi has her own Pizza Memories: she remembers growing up on the second floor, up above the restaurant. When she was five years old she went to work—as did all the Zuppardi children—helping out at the family business.

There, small hands folded mountainous stacks of pizza boxes to satisfy "to go" orders. As the children grew older, they would be given larger tasks and more responsibility. "Working together with our family gave us kids an early feeling of worthiness and responsibility," says Lori Zuppardi.

But how did the business begin, and why in such an improbable location? Well, it's like this:

Domenico "Domenic" Zuppardi was born in 1897 in Salerno, Italy.

Domenic and Angelina Zuppardi came to America in about 1920, and first settled in Fair Haven. From 1923-1934, young Domenic worked for a couple of New Haven's Italian bakeries, baking bread.

In 1934 the Zuppardis moved to Union Avenue, just down the street from the brand new St. Lawrence Church.

Domenic opened a Salerno's Bakery in a building on the back lot, and he and his wife eventually began dividing their time between baking bread and producing pizza. Their son Anthony "Tony" Zuppardi, born in 1925 worked in the restaurant from the time he was very small, and remained there until his Country called him to serve as a ship's baker in World War II.

When the war was over, Tony came home and enrolled in college to learn accounting; but in 1947, his father had a stroke, and Tony had to leave school to take over the running of the business.

At about the same time, he met and married Frances Fernino. And also at about that time, Salerno's Bakery became Zuppardi's Apizza, for Tony Zuppardi had chosen to concentrate on making great pizza, and leaving the baking to others.

Tony and Frances Zuppardi were the ultimate loving couple—their daughters call them Love Birds—together, they had four children and they worked side-by-side in the restaurant for many years.

They were inseparable—together day and night making pizza—and every night when the restaurant closed, they would sit and have coffee "and" before ending their day.

They never fought over anything, except for cards: "Mom cheated at cards," says daughter Cheryl with a smile.

Their togetherness included the good as well as the bad: when both were diagnosed with cancer, they would alternate their chemotherapy treatments into a staggered schedule, so that each could care for the other during their worst and the weakest of days.



## Adult Summer Challenge



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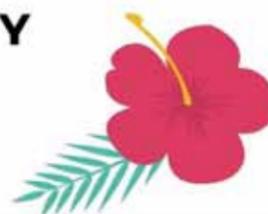
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\*Patrons with the most completed booklets wins gift basket



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# The case for a WH city manager

Ed. Note: This is the first in a series of explanations of recommendations made by the city's Charter Revision Commission. The City Council is reviewing the recommendations, and they will go to the voters in November.

By Edward Granfield  
Chairman

Twenty-something years ago, give or take, Mayor H. Richard Borer, Jr. offered an opinion on West Haven and other cities of similar size, demographics, geographics, etc. He described them as "The Lost Cities"!

His explanation was simple and accurate: "Cities like ours are too big to act small yet too small to be big", meaning we have big city problems with small city resources, and the margin for error is very thin! Mayor Borer's analysis was correct back then and holds true today.

The Charter Revision Commission did not start out with the professional city management concept on our agenda; in fact, it wasn't even on the radar! But as the process grew in scope, supported by the research of dozens of small cities like ours across the country, it became clear to us, given the history of our city, that a change of this magnitude was worthy of serious consideration. The success rates of similar communities such as ours was/is simply too strong to ignore.

Before I dive into the facts and figures I should remind everyone that West Haven already has a similar process in place in three vital areas of our city government: The Board of Education, The Police Commission, and The Independent Fire Districts.

In each case, an elected or appointed Board or Commission is responsible for the hiring, oversight, and removal if need be of a highly educated, trained experienced, and fully credentialed professional to run those departments. This is not a foreign concept. We do it all the time.

In a council/manager-style of governing, our elected City Council, led by an elected mayor would still be a key part of the process.

Let's review some key statistics: First Connecticut, of the 59 Cities with populations more than 37,000 people, 30 are mayor/ city council and 29 are council/manager, hardly uncommon! Each of the top five council/manager-led cities in Connecticut have an A Moody's bond rating or better.

By comparison West Haven has a BAA3 rating, the second-lowest ranking possible. Nationwide over 105,000,000 of your fellow American citizens

reside in communities with a council/manager form of governing.

In fact, 63% of cities over 50,000 people govern in this manner. 67% of Moody's AAA bond rated communities are run by professional city managers, and 75% of the cities recognized as "All American Cities" by the National Civil League are operating under council/manager style of government. One final note of interest, a recent IBM Global business service research report found that cities operating under the council/manager form of governing typically perform 10% more efficiently than mayor/council cities do.

As for our mayor, yes, the role would change, in fact some communities don't even

have one, while others reclassify the position as "Ceremonial."

The West Haven Charter Revision Commission disagrees with both of those scenarios and endorses different format. In our proposal the mayor is still elected city wide and would become the leader of the City Council. The position itself would be reduced to part-time status, however under a council/manager system, our elected officials are still in control of local legislation, city policy, budget approval, adoption and oversight of local law, regulation, and ordinances, as well as appointments to volunteer to boards and commissions.

As for our citizens, your role would not change at all. You

vote for and elect your local officials, speak out on issues and concerns, and hold them accountable for the decisions they make at the podium and on Election Day.

A city manager is a highly trained, educated professional administrator, who works for you the people. If the citizens of the community are not satisfied with the results, they can exercise their rights and lobby the city council for a change.

Legally you cannot fire or remove an elected mayor, But you do have the power to remove and replace a city manager at any time should the need arise. However nationwide research on this topic suggests the turnover rate in professional city management is very low, probably because

given the proper circumstances, resources, and support, it works.

## Senior Picnic set for July 24

The Allingtown/West Haven Senior Center is holding its annual picnic from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 24 at Cielo's, 85 Chase Lane, with music by Vinnie Carr.

Catered by Cusano By Maria Catering, the breakfast and lunch menu includes scrambled eggs, Danish pastry, fruit cocktail, roasted chicken, burgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob and watermelon, as well as coffee and tea. The cost is \$24 for members and \$26 for nonmembers. To register, call (203) 937-3507.



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by Dave T. Phipps



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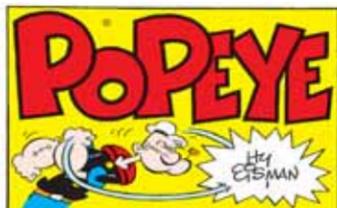
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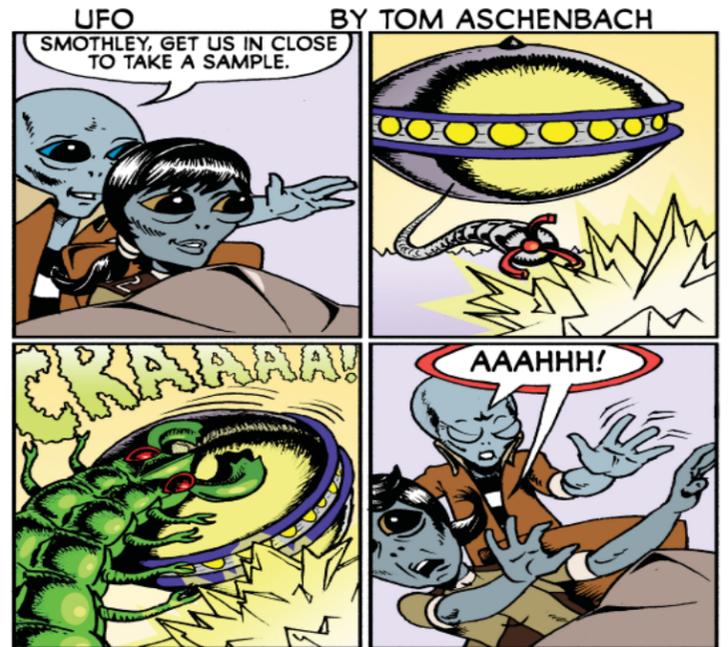


### Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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# Traffic: DOT gives final approval to Haven plans

Continued from page 1

"The DECD \$5 million contract will be submitted to the City Council for the July 22 meeting for its approval," said Tiernan.

The lawyer also spoke to concerns that malls are not fairing as well as they used to due to online shopping.

He said the malls built by the Simon group are destination and experience projects and represent the new era of mall development in the United States.

"This is a total different experience (than other malls) which is what gets you up and out instead of phoning it in through amazon," said Tiernan. "This is what the group does. They are the largest mall developer group in the country."

Tiernan said the project has potential to increase property value in the surrounding area because other developers may have interest in building commercial and residential projects around the mall.

According to Tiernan, it will offset the cost of increased traffic.

"If people are going to be going through West Haven to get there and through West Haven to leave - they shouldn't worry about the traffic," said

Tiernan, who added the Haven should help other businesses in the city.

Tiernan said all the information he has available to him points to the demolition, along

with the rest of the project, moving forward very soon.

"I have no information to the

contrary," said Tiernan. "I fully expect Christmas shopping at that site in 2020."

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## My two cents

By Bill Riccio, Jr.

It seems nothing, not anything, can happen today without it being politicized, exploited, and, frankly, tainted, by a cause. Invariably, there is victimization involved, and sports, like life, becomes one continuous political editorial espousing the ills of modern existence, the unfairness of life, and/or how blatantly unredeemable America is.

Where once we went to places like Yankee Stadium, Polo Grounds, or Ebbett's Field (in this area of the country) to be entertained, and to have a respite from the cares of everyday life, now it comes to invade our entertainment. Television shows have become vehicles for this or that social experiment, and late-night talk is nothing more than left-wing bully pulpits.

Take Yankee Stadium for example, in the last few weeks, the venerable recording of Kate Smith singing "God Bless America" was deep-sixed. In her career, Smith sang some lyrics that today might be considered out of bounds. But the Yankees are trying to be "woke."

So, they determined that in Monument Park – that sacrosanct baseball memory lane – a plaque went up memorializing the "Stonewall Riots," that watershed event that began the gay rights movement. Whatever you think of that movement, gays, or riots, what does it have to do with baseball? It's just pandering.

Then we have the most recent "victims" of oppression, the United States women's soccer team. Evidently, they have a suit against their oppressors, the United States Soccer Federation, to get the same money as their male counterparts. "Equal Pay!" was the chant of the crowd after their win last week.

As with most things, bumper sticker chants usually only tell part of the story. Columnist Rich Lowery this week put it into perspective. It's not as cut-and-dried as it seems:

"It is true that the American women, who sweat and practice as much as their male compatriots — perhaps more, given their superior results — don't make as much. But the women's game isn't as popular or profitable, which fundamentally drives pay.

"The total prize money for the women's 2019 World Cup was \$30 million, with the champion taking away about \$4 million. The total for the men's 2018 World Cup was \$400 million, with the champions winning \$38 million.

"This seems blatantly unfair, until you take into account the vastly different viewership and revenue from the two events. FIFA raked in more than \$6 billion from the 2018 men's World Cup. The women's 2019 World Cup has been projected, when all is said and done, to make about \$130 million."

So, in proportion to the amount of money taken in with television rights, ticket sales and other revenue streams, the amount seems commensurate.

Megan Rapinoe, the lesbian captain of the team, of course, knelt during the National Anthem to protest President Trump's stance against gays. When she was asked what policies exactly he supported that were anti-gay, she was less than forthcoming. She

**See My Two Cents, page 13**

# Sports is a constant for Michael Madera



MICHAEL MADERA

By Josh LaBella  
Voice Reporter

Sports have always played an integral part of Mike Madera's life. From running the Westie Blue website to being the former president of the Walter Camp Football foundation, Madera said sports play an active role in building a strong community.

Madera, who said works at Yale, said he has lived in West Haven for 43 years. He said he "ate and drank sports" when he was younger and still talks to the friends he made back then. According to Madera, with all the options the youth of the United States have when deciding how to spend their time, it's important they understand the difference sports can make in their lives.

"I just think that, today, with all the video games and their phones and all the options that these kids have," said Madera, "they don't play the sports like I did 30 or 40 years ago. Unfortunately, you don't see kids playing baseball, or hockey or football in their backyard — you just don't see a lot of it."

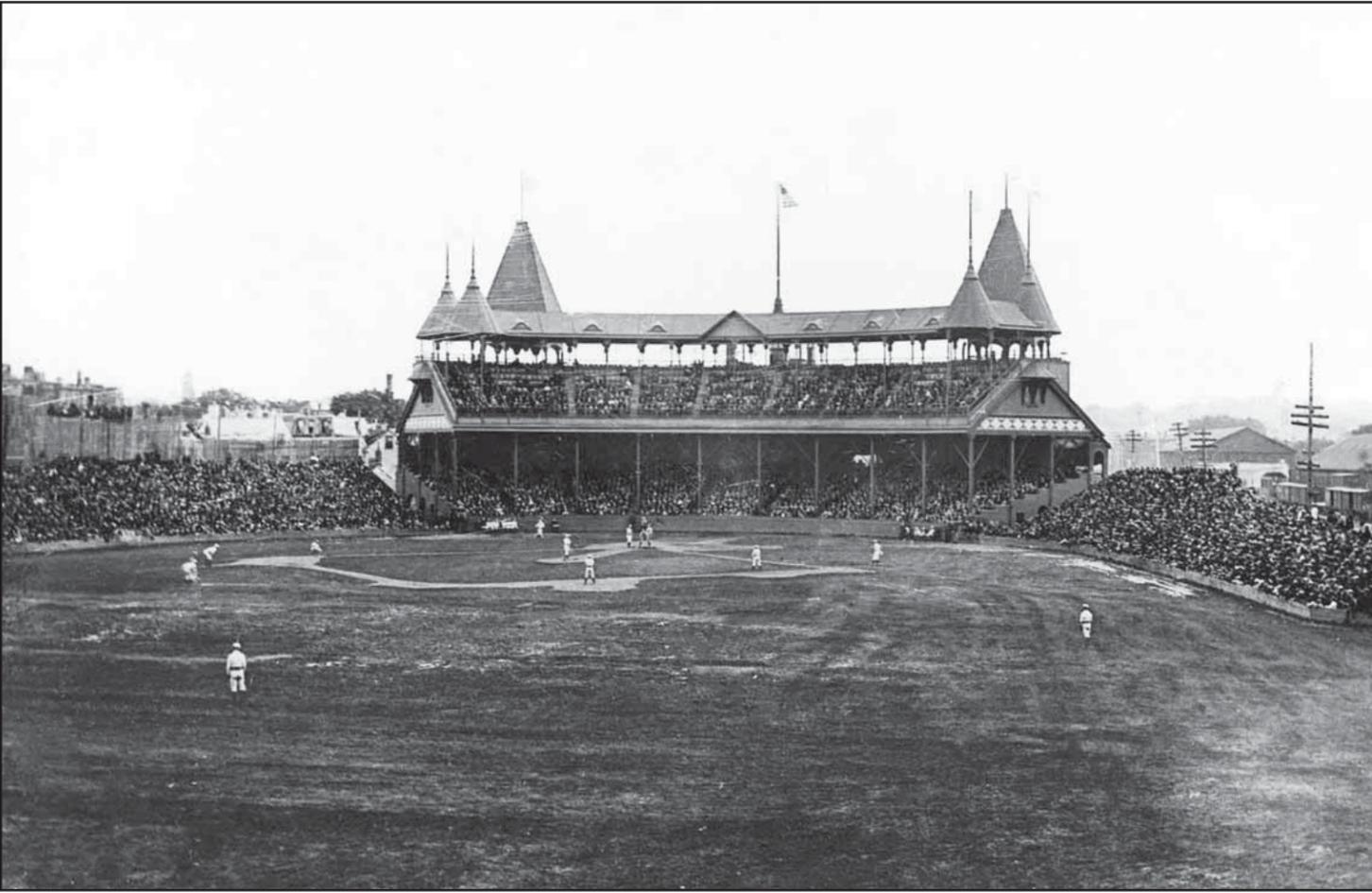
Madera said he started the  
**See Madera, page 13**



Submitted Photo

## 2019 SHJBL Scholars

The Shore Haven Junior Baseball League recently awarded its 2019 scholarships to alumni players. The seniors are moving onto college and other post-secondary studies. Those shown are: Rick Dini, assistant commissioner; Chris Cavallaro, Sal Arminio Scholarship, who will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute; TJ Hunt, Dave Terese, Sr., Scholarship, who will attend Roger Williams University; David Anania, winner of the Mario J. Argentino Scholarship, and attending Keene State University; Veronica Lynn, awarded the Joseph Morrell, Sr., Scholarship, attending SCSU; and Frank Dini, commissioner.



The second iteration of the South End Grounds, where the Boston Braves called home was one of the first iconic double-decker stadiums, and featured witch's cap turrets as part of the structure. It was home for the Braves until a lit cigarette caused the wooden edifice to burn to the ground. A new ground was built, but the insurance did not cover the entire cost, and it was scaled down. It is featured in a new book, "Ballpark," by Paul Goldberger.

## My two cents

Continued from page 12

hates President Donald Trump, and that's all that really matters. She is a hero to the left more for that than her sexual proclivities. The problem is that she, like many homosexuals, identifies primarily as a "homosexual." Instead of being an athlete first and homosexual second, she and many wrap their lives around orientation.

Most people don't care. When Mrs. Patrick Campbell, a stage star of Victorian London was asked about Oscar Wilde and allegations of behavior during his trial, she was quoted as saying, "I don't care what they do as long as they don't do it in the middle of the street and upset all the horses."

That is pretty much the attitude of most people, and most sports fans.

They won, that's unfortunate in my eyes. I was hoping a good loss would teach her and her teammates some humility. No, I am not celebrating the World Cup win.

Of course, this all started with Colin Kaepernick, the second-tier quarterback, formerly of the San Francisco 49ers. It was he who began the kneeling during the National Anthem to focus on what he sees as police brutality against people of color. The NFL, made up of mostly Ivy League or Wall Street types, who are overwhelmingly liberal, and overwhelmingly chicken, refused to do something about it, and politics came into the sports arena.

The NFL is still smarting from the drop in ratings and attendance because normal people don't see the country as the gulag that left-wing loons, like Kaepernick, do.

And his recent escapade, having Nike drop the Betsy Ross flag on a sneaker was proof positive that he's not for equality or civil liberties, he hates the country.

Sports, watching, playing, enjoying is a break from the day-to-day struggles life brings. It is supposed to be a break, not another foray into political positions.

When we watch professionals we want to be entertained by the people who are the best in their given endeavor. We don't want to be held hostage to their rants. They can have political positions, but paying customers shouldn't be captive to them. And, their celebrity doesn't give them license to hold us captive.

To paraphrase a book title by Laura Ingraham, we just want them to "Shut Up and Play."

## New book traces ballpark evolution

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

We live in an era of public ugliness, of architects who deliberately make their forms unsightly and inhuman, and of public art installations that are invariably ridiculous.

The most obvious exception is the ballpark, which has gotten more beautiful rather than less in a great example of renewal through a return to tradition.

Paul Goldberger, a former architecture writer for The New York Times, traces this journey in his wonderful new book "Ballpark."

He rightly calls the ballpark "one of the greatest of all American building types" and argues that "as much as the town square, the street, the park, and the plaza, the baseball park is a key

part of American public space."

Ballparks went from delightfully peculiar structures shoehorned into city streets, to monochromatic multiuse facilities with all the charm of public-works projects, before rediscovering the old forms.

The first ballpark was built in Brooklyn in 1862 and called "Union Grounds." Amazingly enough, "The Star-Spangled Banner," not yet the national anthem, was played before the first game. The wooden parks of the 19th century tended to burn down, sometimes spectacularly (a fire at the South End Grounds in Boston took out 200 buildings in Roxbury).

The 20th century brought the age of steel, brick and concrete, and "the Golden Age" of

See Lowry, page 14

## Madera: *Praises hard work*

Continued from page 12

Westie Blue website eight years ago. He writes, edits, and posts the stories himself and said the sole purpose he had in creating it was to shine a spotlight on the young athletes of West Haven.

"The reason I did that was because I was getting the feeling that these kids who play high school sports weren't getting enough recognition," said Madera. "This website is to give those kids positive recognition so when they look back 20 years from now they can read about all the great things they did in high school."

Whether a reserve player or a star player, Madera said they can find stories on the positive things they have done on the website.

A few weeks ago, Madera finished his term as president of the Walter Camp Football Foundation. The national organization oversees selection by the Football Bowl Subdivision coaches of the oldest All-American football team.

They also give out awards to college players who they feel have distinguished themselves and make donations to charities and youth-oriented organizations.

Madera said the group is about much more than just football.

"The Walter Camp Football Foundation is

more than about just college football. It is an all-volunteer organization which contributes to other organizations near and far," said Madera. "We are very involved nationally and locally, supporting Special Olympics and various charities, as well as working within the community at various events."

Madera said he is proud to say he has been a contributing member for close to 25 years and when he looks back, being President and leading such a prestigious Foundation will go down as one of the proudest things he has done.

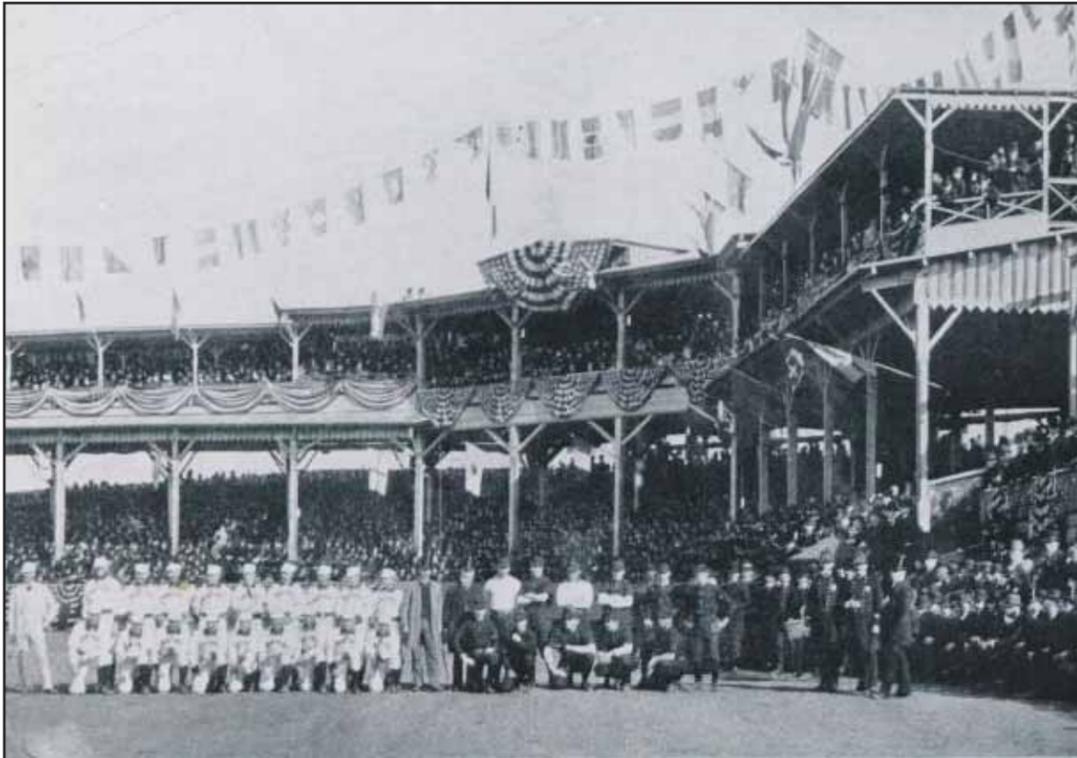
Madera said the WCFF hosts fundraisers in order to donate to charities and youth groups as well as make visits to youth hospitals with players, mascots and cheerleaders.

He said activities such as that are just some of the important work they do.

"When you can put a smile on someone's face who may be going through the fight of their life," said Madera, "it just verifies what you are doing is right."

Madera said he feels giving back is both important and the right thing to do.

"I feel it is important for my kids to see," said Madera. "There is nothing wrong with seeing hard work and the rewards which come with it."



The original Polo Grounds was in a more central part of Manhattan before city officials, unhappy with postseason tickets, put a street through the site. It then moved to Coogan's Bluff, where it became an iconic bathtub shape before demolition in 1964. This photo shows the Giants in the original ballpark circa 1890. Ebbets Field was built in 1912 and was expanded over the years to the look it had in the 1950s. All these and more are part of the new book, "Ballpark," by Paul Goldberger.

## Lowry: 'Ballpark'

Continued from page 13

1912-14. It gave us Crosley Field, where the Reds played until 1970, with an upward slope known as the "terrace" in left field; Tiger Stadium, quirky and cozy (a flagpole stood in the field of play in deep center); and especially the "jewel boxes" of Fenway, Wrigley and Ebbets.

Subsequent decades brought a flight from cities, and from idiosyncrasy. Cleveland previewed what was to come in the 1930s with its publicly funded, gargantuan, usually half-empty, symmetrical, multisport Municipal Stadium, or the "Mistake by the Lake."

The truly dreadful, indistinguishable concrete doughnuts, made for football and baseball but manifestly unsuited for the latter, arrived beginning in the 1960s.

The turning point was Camden Yards in Baltimore, opened in 1992. Originally conceived as another multisport suburban facility, it instead decisively moved baseball beyond such hybrids. Camden Yards has a red-brick exterior and exposed steel supports inside, eschewing the concrete of the doughnuts. It limits foul territory to bring ground-level seats closer. The stands are arranged asymmetrically to avoid a deadening sameness, and frame a view of the Baltimore skyline, anchoring the park in the city.

It was such a triumph that its retro style has become a design cliché. Its influence stamped the best of the new parks: PNC Park in Pittsburgh, which, outside of Fenway and Wrigley, might be the most charming place to watch a game in the country; Oracle Park in San Francisco, which is everything its execrable forebear, Candlestick, wasn't; T-Mobile Park in Seattle, which is enchanting despite a retractable roof.

Goldberger writes of how the ballpark, with its lush field at the center of an enclosure of concrete and steel, is the garden in the city, a sports combination of the Jeffersonian agrarian tradition and the Hamiltonian emphasis on cities and industry.

It's a wonder we managed to mess it up, but we did, before the current revival that shows there's always a way back.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.  
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# Collins: *Looks to bridge divisions*

**Continued from page 3**  
 get caught up in that whole mayor thing where 'It has to be my decision,'" said Collins. "Well it doesn't have to be your decision. That's why you have good people around you - good corporation council and economic development."  
 While Collins said she thinks municipal employees do a good job while getting a bad reputation, she said she could make City Hall more efficient. She said she wants to look at rewriting job descriptions, implementing employee evalu-

ations and hosting monthly public meeting with the mayor and public works to hear citizen complaints and concerns.  
 Collins said everybody in the city knows the only way to improve the city -- and lower taxes -- is to bring in economic development. She said West Haven is not business-friendly and referenced a conversation she had with a new business owner who told her it took a year and a half for the planning and zoning to approve her permits.  
 "I don't know all the paritu-

lars, but we need to streamline some things. That's why I said I'd have more professional-type people running these offices."  
 According to Collins, the city is not doing a good job at selling itself. She said West Haven needs to advertise at a larger level and that developers, mostly in the restaurant business, have called her and asked about working with her if she is elected.  
 Collins said she wants to see the Haven project finished but worries about the viability

of building a mall in the city when many malls are struggling to compete.  
 "When this was first presented it sounded good," said Collins. "But at that point malls were doing better. Now Trumbull mall has a little aquarium to bring people in. Milford mall has Dave and Busters. Clinton Mall just sold for \$13 million it was on the market for \$26 million - all built."  
 When the Democrats caucus in a couple weeks to pick a nominee Collins said she "definitely won't" get the nomina-

tion but is prepared to get the 800 signatures required to primary Mayor Rossi.  
 "Mike Last is Nancy's treasurer and is the chairman of the party," said Collins. "It's a safe bet. I don't even know if I'll go that night."  
 She said she is confident she will do well in the primary because she has been getting a lot of support from the public. She said if she loses she has yet to decide if she will run as an independent.  
 Either way, she said she is ready for the next phase.

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# Letters, we get letters!

Continued from page 6  
 reaction to Shine's words. I lost my own father much too early, but like Robert Shine, he, too, was a child of the Depression, a veteran of WWII, and a man of many talents who dearly loved his family.

When my dad passed away, I, too, like "the boy" in Shine's article was there, holding his hand, and telling him that he

was "my hero." Thanks to the eloquence and tender feeling in Shine's words, I was able to relive that moment as I read the article--a powerful, bittersweet reminder of how important and irreplaceable a good father can be in one's life.

Thank you, Dan, for writing such a wonderful piece, and thank you for publishing it.

Gary Carlson

### Letters policy

The West Haven Voice takes all letters from responsible parties. Deadline for letters is 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication. Letters are subject to the same editing as all other copy for clarity, grammar and space. Letters can be emailed to [info@westhavenvoice.com](mailto:info@westhavenvoice.com), or sent to West Haven Voice, 666 Savin Ave., West Haven 06516.

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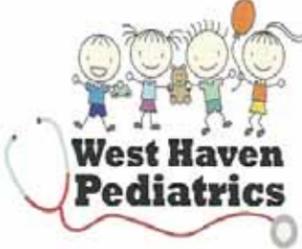
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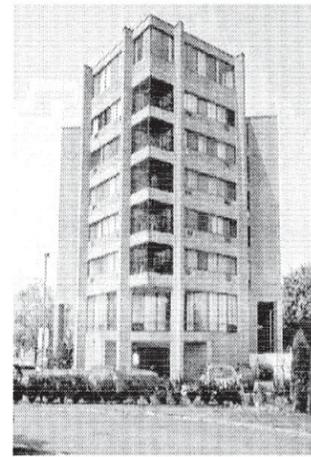
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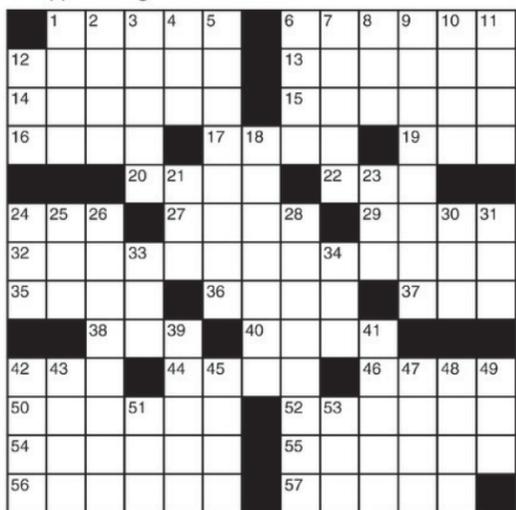
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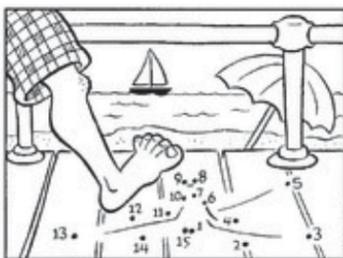
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**King Crossword**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Advertised heavily
  - 6 Bilateral
  - 12 South Dakota's capital
  - 13 Colored ring
  - 14 On the briny
  - 15 Funhouse item
  - 16 Use a sponge
  - 17 Author Wister
  - 19 D.C. fig.
  - 20 Long skirt
  - 22 Obtain
  - 24 Suitable
  - 27 Cacophonies
  - 29 — parmigiana
  - 32 5-ball desktop toy
  - 35 Exchange pre-mium
  - 36 Former veep
  - 37 Vast expanse
  - 38 San Francisco's — Hill
  - 40 One of the Three Bears
  - 42 Sort
  - 44 The same, in a bibliography
  - 46 Approaching
- DOWN**
- 50 Elegantly groomed
  - 52 "Shoo!"
  - 54 Mammoth occasion?
  - 55 Room to maneuver
  - 56 Nun
  - 57 Brilliance
  - 1 Stereo setup
  - 2 Shriek bark
  - 3 Opening comment
  - 4 Historic period
  - 5 Rehab goings-on
  - 6 Domesticate
  - 7 Squeeze
  - 8 "— the ram-parts ..."
  - 9 Carpeting fabrics
  - 10 Medicinal plant
  - 11 9-Down make-up
  - 12 Manhandle
  - 18 Endearing
  - 21 Big bother
  - 23 Mendes or
  - 24 Literary collec-tion
  - 25 Cribbage scorekeeper
  - 26 Longtime Hostess prod-uct
  - 28 Mix up
  - 30 Hearty brew
  - 31 Michele of "Glee"
  - 33 As well
  - 34 Sleep phenom
  - 39 Spree
  - 41 Broadway backer
  - 42 Cow-headed goddess
  - 43 Places
  - 45 Antelope's playmate
  - 47 "The Music Man" setting
  - 48 Buzzing pest
  - 49 Attention get-ter
  - 51 Roscoe
  - 53 Common Mkt., once



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**CONNECT THE DOTS** to find out what are the best (or worst) slippers for the boardwalk.

**HOW TO BECOME "TEACHER'S PET"**  
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**FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE!** In the word square at the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "TALKER." See if you can replace these letters in the square so that you will have four three-letter words across and three four-letter words down.

**THE PYRAMID OF WORD POWER**

Starting with the given word at the bot-tom of our word pyramid, try dropping one letter at a time as you work your way up, so that the remaining letters at each level spell out a new word. The following helpful hints are in ascending order, beginning with GABARDINE.

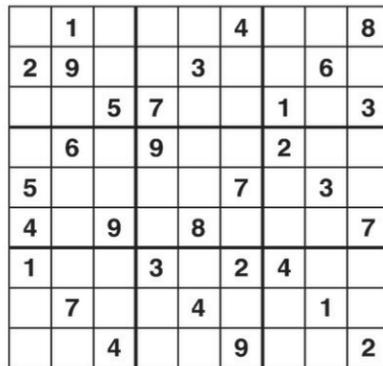
1. A cotton fabric (given).
2. Coating made with crumbs.
3. A recitation of written material.
4. Something won.
5. To condescend to give or grant.
6. To eat.
7. A deafening noise.
8. The best group.
9. Roman for one.

**TALKER**

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | A | K | E | R |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |

**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



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**



**Weekly SUDOKU — Answer**



File Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Mayor Nancy Rossi announced late last month she hopes to resurrect the popular Savin Rock Festival in July of next year. The Festival was put on hiatus after deficits were accrued in the last several years of the event. The mayor said the city's improving financial status could make the festival feasible again in 2020.



# Rossi hopes to re-up lost festival

By Josh LaBella  
Voice Reporter

Mayor Nancy Rossi recently announced the city was going to host the Savin Rock Festival after canceling it in 2018.

Rossi said her decision to bring back the festival was motivated by the fact that the city is "in the black" for the first time since 2006 when the audit was restated. She said she is going to request the Municipal Accountability Review Board allow the city to use its surplus to pay off some of the over \$51,000 deficit the Savin Rock Festival amassed since 2014.

"I evaluated all programs and events to see if there was a deficit and the Savin Rock Festival had a deficit that grew larger over the last 4 years," said Rossi. "So the City had to make the difficult decision to suspend the festival until West Haven was in a better financial position."

A 10-year account detail report given to the Voice by the Finance Department shows the Savin Rock Festival, which is usually held in July, had a consistent deficit starting in 2014 - when its account balance was negative \$804. The trend continued and, in 2018, it was canceled after losses of more than \$32,000.

"This was a financial decision and it was a difficult decision to suspend the festival," said Rossi, "but the city can no longer spend money that we don't have."

Rossi said, in order to avoid losing more money by hosting the festival, the city will appoint a committee to fundraise, plan ahead, and stick to its assigned budget.

Edward O'Brien, who was mayor during the time of the losses, said he does not trust that all revenues the finance department provided are included in the report.

See Festival, page 19

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## Around Town

### Doo Wop Dance

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association will hold a Summer Day Doo Wop Dance at 85 Chase Lane on Saturday, July 27, at 7 p.m. Music by Charles the DJ till 12. Free beer, wine or soda. Cash Bar for mixed drinks. BYO snacks, coffee at 11. Tickets: \$20 per person. Call Lou at (203) 934-3339 or (203) 464-1976 or Ben at (203) 933-4423.

### Used Book Sale

The First Congregational Church, 464 Campbell Ave., will host its monthly Used Book Sale and Clothes Closet on Saturday, July 13 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. As usual there will be a large selection of gently used books, included many children's books, mysteries and romances for sale at low prices and clothing bargains by the bagful. Call (203) 933-6291 for more details.

### WHHS '64

WHHS Class of 1964 will be holding its 55th year class reunion on Saturday, Oct. 5 at App's Restaurant, Captain Thomas Boulevard. More info to follow.

### I-A Seniors

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association Senior Center is seeking new members to join its Tuesday senior gathering. Join a group of friendly seniors in an afternoon of good company, with Bingo, cards, trips to casinos and conversations with like-minded people and more. We meet at the club, 85 Chase Lane, each Tuesday from noon to 3. The cost is just \$3 per week to cover expenses. We offer refreshments at no additional cost. Call

Sherri Torre, (203) 932-2893 for further information.

### 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 Aug. 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/>.

### 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.

### 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](mailto:chazbo40@aol.com) /203 494 7379 or [sandee110@aol.com](mailto:sandee110@aol.com) /203 494 7730.

### Senior Center trips

Join the West Haven Seniors on the following scheduled trip: All trips

leave from Savin Rock Conference Center:

Monday, Aug. 19 "Holiday Hill" -- statewide annual senior picnic 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person with unlimited buffet all day. This trip is in conjunction with The West Haven Housing Authority. Pick up times are: Morrissey Manor 8., Savin Rock Conference Center 8:15, Surfside 8:30, Union 8:45, and John Prete 9. If you are being picked up at Housing Authority sites please make reservation with Yolanda (203) 933-9449. If you are being picked up at Conference Center please register at the West Haven Senior Center or call (203) 937-3507. Payment is due no later than Aug. 1.

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, complimentary 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.

Wednesday, Sept. 25- The Big E "New England's Great State Fair" in Springfield Trip cost is \$45. Scooter rental available for \$50 and must be paid in advance of the trip by check or credit card along with reservation form available in the office. This trip is in conjunction with Savin Rock Communities. Pick up times are: Morrissey Manor 8 a.m., Savin Rock Conference Center 8:15, Surfside 8:30, Union 8:45, and John Prete 9. If you are being picked up at Housing Authority sites please make reservation with Yolanda

(203) 933-9449. If you are being picked up at Conference Center please register at the West Haven Senior Center or call (203) 937-3507. Payment is due no later than Sept. 1.

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

### Coin Show

The Liberty Coin Club of West Haven, organized in 1962, will host a Coin Show on Sunday, March 17, at the Elks Club, 265 Main St., from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free. Anyone with an interest in buying, selling or collecting coins, or with questions about coins, is welcome to attend. Expert dealers and collectors will be on hand.

### Al-Anon group

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

### Student Loans

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

Applicants must be West Haven residents who have completed two or more years of college or post-secondary work or be in their final two years of advanced work. Any West Haven resident attending college or a post high school professional, technical or trade school can be eligible for a loan. Repayments do not begin, and no interest will be charged until one year after graduation. If you are interested in making an application for a loan,

# Festival: Rossi hopes return in '20

Continued from page 18

"I also do not think she [Rossi] understands the value festivals bring to a community," said O'Brien. "In the spreadsheet... there were a lot of expenses that I didn't see included in years prior to me being mayor - and I know there were revenues that were not included in the years I was mayor."

The former mayor went on to say Rossi's decision to cancel and bring back the festival was politically driven.

"Her goal was to blame me with her

creative finances," said O'Brien. "It is also obvious that it has backfired on her and she is now trying to justify her bad decision because it's an election year."

O'Brien went on to say that Rossi has ruined the fabric of the community by cancelling its festivals, concerts and cultural events.

"This summer, as in last, our residents will be visiting surrounding towns for entertainment and thousands of people from around the state

will be passing by West Haven to visit and spend their money in surrounding towns," said O'Brien. "Where is that loss of revenue accounted for?"

O'Brien said he was confident Rossi's decision would not fool the citizens of West Haven.

"The people are smarter and on to her this time around," said O'Brien.

The Savin Rock Festival originated in the Chamber of Commerce office when it was at 666 Savin Ave. in 1981. It was billed as a celebration of life in a shore

community. The first year saw more than 50,000 attend a one-day event.

The first several years of the festival were housed at Ken Strong Stadium and the surrounding fields. The reconstruction and rehabing of the fields into the Frank Fitzgerald Athletic Complex in 1989 forced organizers to find a new venue.

Despite opposition, the festival was moved to the Old Grove Park at Savin Rock, where it continued until its suspension last year.

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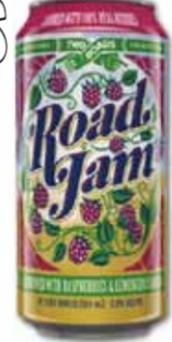
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| <p><b>BACARDI</b><br/>Rum<br/>1.75 L<br/><b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b></p>       | <p><b>SMIRNOFF</b><br/>Red, White &amp; Berry<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$12<sup>99</sup></b></p>  | <p><b>BOZAL</b><br/>Ensamble Mezcal<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$39<sup>99</sup></b></p>                                           | <p><b>CIROC</b><br/>Black Raspberry<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b></p>  |

### COME CHECK OUT OUR EXPANDED SELECTION!

|                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                   |
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|  <p><b>OYSTER BAY</b><br/>Sauvignon Blanc<br/><b>\$11<sup>99</sup></b></p> |  <p><b>EUFLORIA</b><br/>Rosé and White Blend<br/>12 oz. can<br/><b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b></p> |  <p><b>STELLA ROSA</b><br/>Grapefruit or Mango<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b></p> <p><b>NEW FLAVORS</b></p> |  <p><b>TWISTED</b><br/>Pinot Grigio<br/>1.5 L<br/><b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b></p> |  <p><b>SEGURA VIUDAS</b><br/>Brut<br/>750 mL<br/><b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b></p> |
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### MAKE YOUR OWN SIX PACKS - Everything we sell can be purchased as singles

|                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <p><b>TWO ROADS</b><br/>Road Jam<br/>6 Pack<br/><b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b></p>  <p><b>DRINK LOCAL!</b></p>       | <p><b>SMIRNOFF ICE</b><br/>Red, White &amp; Berry<br/>6 Pack<br/><b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b></p>  | <p><b>BUD &amp; BUD LIGHT</b><br/>30 Pack<br/><b>\$21<sup>99</sup></b></p>       | <p><b>CORONA</b><br/>24 Packs<br/><b>\$24<sup>99</sup></b></p>                        |
| <p><b>OH, SHMOOPIE!</b><br/>IPA<br/>16 oz. 4 Pack<br/><b>\$13<sup>99</sup></b></p>  <p><b>DRINK LOCAL!</b></p> | <p><b>TRULY TROPICAL</b><br/>Variety<br/>12 Pack<br/><b>\$15<sup>99</sup></b></p>             | <p><b>MILLER High Life</b><br/>18 Pack Bottles<br/><b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b></p>  | <p><b>WHITE CLAW</b><br/>All Flavors<br/>6 Pack Cans<br/><b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b></p>  |

**ICE-7 lb \$1<sup>99</sup>, 20 lb \$4<sup>99</sup>**

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