

# West Haven Voice

November 28, 2019

Vol. 24, Issue 46, 20 Pages

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

## Voice Profile

*A weekly in-depth interview*

"I thank God every day, because this could have been worse. A spinal cord is a very serious injury. But I don't know, since this happened, I've just had this feeling in my heart that she's going to overcome this"

Amanda Murillo ~  
-- See page 9



# Happy Thanksgiving



Photos courtesy of WHHS/NDWH

## *A continuing tradition*

Continuing a tradition that goes back to the 1970s, the Voice highlights the West Haven and Notre Dame football teams as they mark Thanksgiving with traditional season-ending games. The Westies visit the campus of Fair-

field University to play the Jesuits of Fairfield Prep, while the Knights travel to Hamden to play the Dragons in the annual "Green Bowl." Warriors of the gridiron have layed on Thanksgiving since the 1920s.

## Public Meetings

**Monday, Dec. 2-** Board of Education, City Hall 6 p.m.; Park-Rec, 7 p.m.

**Tuesday, Dec. 3 --** Allingtown Fire District, 6 p.m.; WHHS Building Commission, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, Dec. 3 --** Water Pollution Control, 6:30 p.m.; Finance Commission, 7 p.m.

## On this date:

**1991 --** South Ossetia declares independence. The disputed region of the country of Georgia calls itself the Republic of South Ossetia. The declaration of independence was not recognized by Georgia and was followed by the South Ossetia War.

**1975 --** East Timor independence. East Timor declared its independence from Portugal.

**1967 --** First pulsar observed. Graduate student Jocelyn Bell and her advisor Antony Hewish at Cambridge University were the first people to observe and discover pulsars.

**1964 --** NASA launches Mariner 4. The first spacecraft to make a flyby of Mars, the spacecraft was the first one to send images of a planet back to Earth.

**1943 --** Tehran Conference begins.

## Weather

**Friday Nov 29** Mostly cloudy then sunshine. High 42F



Sunrise: 6:55 am  
Sunset: 4:24 pm  
Wind: NNW 10-20  
High Tide: 7:01 am; 7:27 pm

**Saturday Nov 30** Partly sunny with a few clouds. High 40F



Sunrise: 6:57 am  
Sunset: 4:24 pm  
Wind: NNW 10-15

High Tide: 7:56 am; 8:23 pm

**Sunday Dec 1** Cloudy with chance of snow. High 41F



Sunrise: 6:58 am  
Sunset: 4:24 pm  
Wind: E 10-15

High Tide: 8:48 am; 9:17 pm

**Monday Dec 2** Overcast with showers.



High 42F  
Sunrise: 6:59 am  
Sunset: 4:23 pm  
Wind: N 10-15

High Tide:



**Jimmy Louis, age 4, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., is predicting unsettled weather this week, but you can still enjoy time with family.**

## Things to Do!

First Lutheran Church, 52 George St., will hold its annual Harvest Fair on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9-2. There will be vendors, baked goods, white elephant sale, raffles and refreshments.

First Congregational Church is hosting its annual Christmas Fest on the Green on Saturday, Dec 7, from 9 to 2:30. The festival will have exciting craft and candy vendors, lunch, bake sale, and a kids' activity table and surprise tree. Our Book Sale, Clothes Closet, and White Elephant sale will all be open as well. We'll have decorated trees, wreaths, and other items being raffled off. Have your picture taken with Santa

between 11:30 and 2. There is a collection of food for WHEAT. Questions? Contact First Congregational Church at (203) 933-6291.



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# GOP assesses goals; points fingers

By Josh LaBella  
Voice Reporter

While Republicans did pick up the tenth district council seat in this past election, they did not complete the Hail Mary it would have taken to win the mayoralty and many of the down ballot positions.

In light of the continuation of this decades-old trend of losses, the question must be asked: what will it take for Republicans to start winning big in Connecticut's youngest city?

Republican Town Committee Chairman Patricia Libro said the party is "starting to lay the foundation" for its future. She said the party has been working on registering more voters as well as recently starting the process of rewriting the bylaws of the committee.

She also said they have been trying to bring young people into the fold. This comes in the form of the RTC starting to work with the West Haven High School chapter of Turning Point USA, a conservative non-profit nationally famous for some controversial demonstrations and speakers it has had on college campuses.

Libro said Turning Point students from the high school helped with RTC campaign

work this election as the University of New Haven College Republicans.

"We're trying to bring more and more young people into the party," said Libro. "We did have a few young people running this time. It was really great."

According to Libro, young people "infuse a great energy" into the party. She said because of the "mass exodus" of young people from the city and state, it is important to show young people they can make a difference.

The chairman also said the fact that there was a Republican mayoral primary was exciting, adding it has not happened in her life. She said it gave the RTC energy heading into the general election.

She said candidates Michele Gregorio and Steven Mullins both had a lot of enthusiasm for the city. Libro added that Gregorio got a "considerable" number of votes given the four-to-one advantage Democrats have in registered voters.

"I think that she did really well," said Libro. "I hope she continues on and chooses to run again in two years."

According to Gregorio, that is not likely.

Gregorio said the main issue

the party needs to work on is unity. She stated that the Mullins faction of the RTC did not come back into the fold after the primary and said she had little support from the party leadership.

"Steve never came back on board," said Gregorio. "People say they are going to do a lot of things [after the primary] – but that never happened. I was the one getting blamed for the lack of party unity when, in fact, Steve was basically staying away from the party, running his own tomb."

Gregorio said the people who "spoke the loudest" about unity after the RTC caucus were the people that "worked the hardest" against her. She said many of the republicans not in her camp are compromised by their relationship with the city government and "didn't lift a finger" to help her or other republican candidates in the general.

"The future of the Republican Party?" said Gregorio. "Those people need to walk away from the town committee. Because they are so compromised that it clouds their judgement when it comes to opportunities to get people nominated. It doesn't matter if it was me or not."

The former mayoral candidate said the party cannot rebuild until there is a "whole new gamut" of people on the RTC. She said "nothing" will change until that happens.

"I told my team, unless I raised a boatload of money,

had a professional campaign manager and had a group of people in the party working towards the same goal with a full ticket... I don't see [herself running again]," said Gregorio.

See GOP, page 15



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# Dear Felicia

Here we are in the last week o' November, and all thoughts are starting to turn toward the big holidays, with Thanksgiving being the beginnin' in some ways. Here at the papyrus, we've noticed that the usual hullabaloo around the political scene has begun to do what it always does around this time - go into a lull.

Especially cuz we have the inaugural coming up where-in the new administration is sworn in - that being this Sunday, oddly enuff, there's been a bit of an hiatus in matters politic around the berg. Those who were not re-elected for whatever reason are emptying out their desks, getting together whatever mementos they've collected and are going off to greener pastures.

One o' those is Deb Collins. Collins has been a big part o' the political scene in the berg for the better part o' two decades. Ensclosed in her office as City Clerk, she was able to pull a lotta weight when it

came to politics, sometimes for one side, sometimes for t'other. She was always linked with a faction in the tripartite organization that is the Democratic Party here in town; so, gettin' into fracasas concerning the interplay betwixt those factions sometimes got dicey.

It was surprising to many when she determined to thrust herself into the mayoral race, going against a one-term mayor. She had the support of at least one o' the factions, and possibly the bulk of one other, but she didn't pull off the tight race we all thought the September primary would be. Instead, she was handily defeated, and she couldn't even claim that former Mayor Ed O'Brien's entry into the primary was the source of the plurality that defeated her. Nope. The margin was so big, even that was no excuse.

Still, she has served the city for more than 20 years, and there is always a bit of nostalgia when someone that long

serving leaves office. We wish her well, and somehow figger than she will be courting political issues sooner rather than later.

~~~~  
*The Mystick Maidens of the Marsh are ready to celebrate the holiday and have had a general meeting scheduled for the Cove River marshes on Thanksgiving Morning. Tina Peckingham will preside, and the gals are all waiting to see her. The MMMs, one of the longest running organizations in town - and also one of the most disrespected - plan to have a great time before we all trundle back to our homes for dinner.*

~~~~  
 As is usual for Thanksgiving, Cobina is ready to give her annual turkeys to the many politicos around town who for one reason or t'other have made life interesting in the place we call the Asylum by the Sea:

**Mayor Nancy Rossi** - Heronner has certainly deserved this year's turkey if for no other reason than surviving the slings and arrows that is politics in our little corner of the universe. Still, it's interesting how the use of phrases can be interpreted. She did have a surplus in the last budget cycle, but, truth to tell, it was enhanced by the Municipal Accountability Review Board's gift of state dollars. So, her turkey gets a thesaurus attached to a wing. There are many ways to say the same thing, and she's seemed to master it.

**The MARB** - The members of the state review panel get their birds plain and without any garnish. The members don't seem to have any "garnish" when it comes to dealing with the city's financial problems. They just plow ahead, not thinking about how some of their decisions might affect real people. The "just the facts" attitude means they get their dinners bland, and without anything to make them tasty.

**City Council Chairman Ron Quagliani** - Foist off, let's just say that there is no way we're gonna call him a "chair." He's a chairman. Tennyrate, Quags is gonna get his turkey with a set of knives. Try as he might he still can't figger out how to slice and dice the new charter revisions into several questions. Maybe the cutlery will help.

The outgoing members of the City Council - These guys and gals have only days left in their terms and the new council will come in on Sunday. There turkeys will be dressed according to their willingness to serve the public. Some will get bitter kale to go along with their turkey, whilst others will get apple stuffing to sweeten it.

**The Democratic Town Committee** - The members of this august body will get their birds with earplugs attached. It seems that whether one is a member of the "right" fac-

tion or the "wrong" faction is a big decider of whether one gets heard - same thing when it comes to party. Tennyrate, seein' as they don't listen to each other for the betterment of the city, the earplugs might come in handy.

**The Republican Town Committee** - The recent estrangement on the 60-member committee will mean that their birds are gonna be sent with boxing gloves. It's amazing how a party that hasn't seen the mayor's office since George HW Bush can get itself entangled in setch a squabble. Fight it out and then get to work. The city needs a vibrant second party.

**Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro Greenburg** - Our little lady of the halls of Congress seems a bit silent lately - not something we're used to around here. We are especially interested since the Demmies are working their impeachment nonsense. Rosa has been almost silent. Soooo, her bird gets a gag. Let's hope she continues to use it after the holiday.

**Congressman Jim Himes** - This guy is getting like Dick Blumenthal, our senior senator, he can't stay off the TV. He needs a bird with running shoes, so he can dash to the TV cameras quicker, not that he has anything interesting to say.

**Rose Majestic and Bill Ewry** - These people aren't political, but they do more good than most politicos. Rose is the director of WHEAT, and Bill runs the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Their birds will come with a little adult something or other to enjoy later in the day.

**Charter Revision Chairman Ed Granfield, Asst. Chairman John Carranno and the Comish** -- Yore turkeys will have a pain pill attached thereon. Once the politicos in this town figger out what to do with the charter revision document they passed, then the real fun begins and you guys will probably be in the middle of it all. what a thought!

**Reporter Josh LaBella** - Of course in Italian "la bella" is "the pretty one." Nope. We're not making a judgment as to his comeliness. His bird gits a visor to look like an old-time reporter. He's been around most of the year, and has really become part o' the scene.

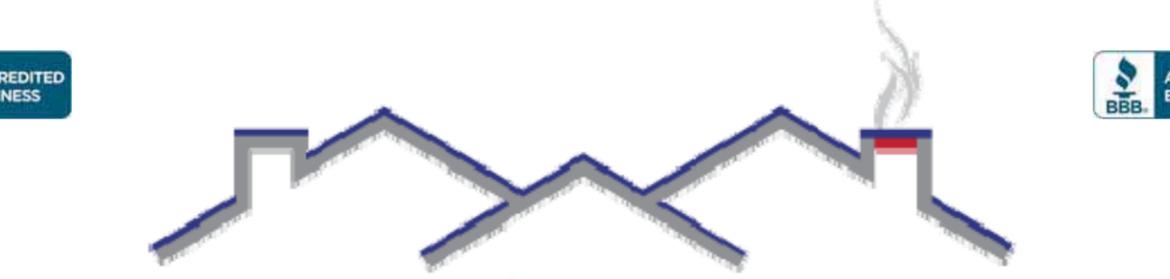
**Mike Walsh** - The city's PR maven gets a turkey with a bypass over the city's quirky email system. If that doesn't work, there's a bottle of aspirin with the package.

**The Voice owners, staff, columnists** - The best for a Happy Thanksgiving.

*Cobina*

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# Administration's inaugural Sunday

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Democratic Mayor Nancy R. Rossi will serve as West Haven's chief elected official for another two years when she and the rest of the city's elected officials are administered the oath of office at noon Sunday.

Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz will swear in Rossi for a second term during a ceremony at West Haven High School, 1 McDonough Plaza.

The public is invited to the inauguration, which is being held in the school auditorium.

City Planning and Zoning Commissioner Christopher M. Suggs will serve as the master of ceremonies, and Bysiewicz will serve as the keynote speaker.

Rossi defeated City Clerk Deborah Collins and former Mayor Edward M. O'Brien in the Sept. 10 Democratic primary and Republican challenger Michele P. Gregorio in the Nov. 5 general election.

Rossi, 61, is the 12th and first female mayor of West Haven since it was incorporated as a city by the General Assembly in 1961.

Retired Probate Judge E. Michael Heffernan will swear in incumbent Democratic Treasurer Michael P. Last, and Superior Court Judge Trial Referee Edward J. Dolan will administer the oath of office to incumbent Democratic Tax Collector Dorothy Chambrelli. Bysiewicz will swear in elected Democratic City Clerk Patricia C. Horvath.

Heffernan will also swear in the five incumbents and eight newcomers on the City Council.

Returning council members are Bridgette J. Hoskie, D-1; Mitchell L. Galignano, D-4; Robbin Watt Hamilton, D-5; Peter V. Massaro, D-6; and Ronald M. Quagliani, D-at large.

New to the council are William X. Conlon, D-2; Elizabeth Johnston, D-3; Treené McGee, D-7; Chrystal Fanelli, D-8; Robert Bruneau, D-9; Barry Lee Cohen, R-10; Gary Donovan, D-at large; and Colleen O'Connor, R-at large.

Probate Judge Mark J. DeGennaro will swear in members of the Board of Education, including incumbent Republicans Robert J. Guthrie and Patricia B. Libero and elected Democrats Anne Heffernan, Andrea Talamelli and Caryll "Cebi" Waterfield.

DeGennaro will also swear in incumbent Republican Ralph P. Biondi and elected Democrats Joseph W. Harvey III and Mark P. Palmieri to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

The West Haven Charter mandates that all elected offi-

cial take the oath of office on the first Sunday in December.

The inauguration will commence with a procession led by the West Haven Police Color Guard and a mayoral honor guard composed of fire and police chiefs from the city and the University of New Haven.

The ceremony will feature Rossi's inaugural address and include musical selections performed by the West Haven High School Band under the direction of Cassandra K. Marcella.

Vietnam veteran William "Bill" Benson, grand marshal of the city's 2019 Memorial Day parade, will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Jaclyn Chiarelli will sing "The Star-Spangled Banner," and West Haven High junior Nora E. Mullins will sing "America the Beautiful."

The event will also include a special cheer routine performed by West Haven Seahawks cheerleaders.

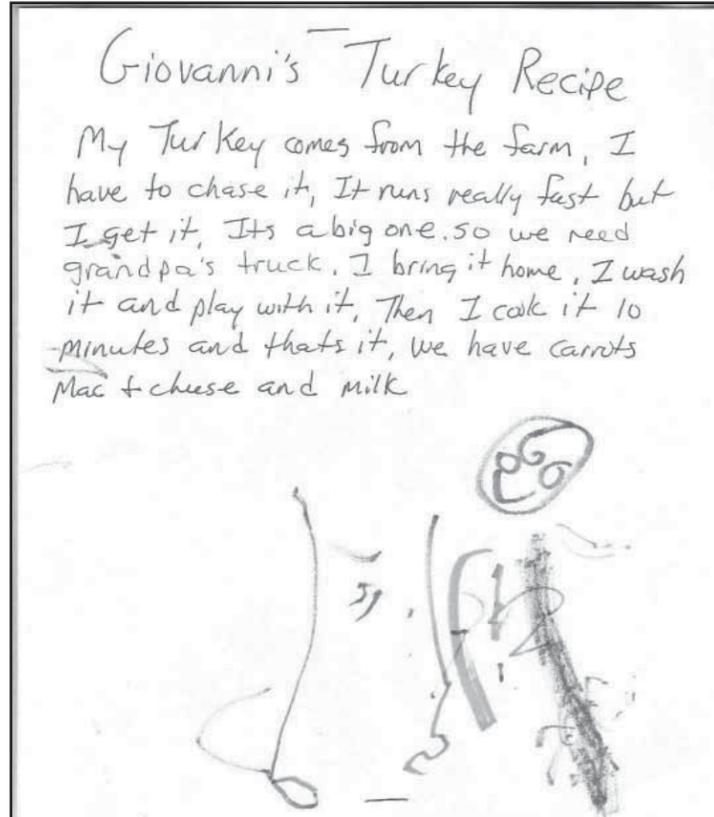
The public is invited to a reception that will follow in the school cafeteria.

Rossi, a certified public accountant most recently at Whitten, Horton + Gibney LLP in Orange, is no stranger to public service in West Haven. She is a former five-term

councilwoman who was elected to represent the 7th District on the City Council in 2005. She served as chairwoman of the Finance Committee from 2007 to 2015.

Rossi lives in the 7th District with her husband of 38 years, Arthur Rossi. They have two sons, Angelo and Stephen, and two grandchildren, Arthur, 9, and Julianna, 4 months.

Photo courtesy of WHCDC



## Holiday fixin's

Giovanni Guarnieri, age 4, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. wants to share his recipe for Thanksgiving Dinner. Each year the youngsters offer their methods for making the holiday feast.



*The Committee for the  
2019 Mayoral Inauguration  
requests the honor of your presence to  
attend and participate in the Inauguration  
of  
**Nancy R. Rossi**  
as Mayor of the City of West Haven  
and  
the Oath of Office to all  
Newly Elected Officials  
on  
Sunday, December 1, 2019, at noon  
in the West Haven High School Auditorium  
1 McDonough Plaza  
West Haven, CT*

*Reception immediately following  
in Cafeteria*

**Newly Elected Officials**

<i>City Clerk</i>	<i>Patricia Horvath</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Michael P. Last</i>
<i>Tax Collector</i>	<i>Dorothy Chambrelli</i>
<b>Board of Education</b>	
	<i>Robert Guthrie</i>
	<i>Anne Heffernan</i>
	<i>Patricia Libero</i>
	<i>Andrea Talamelli</i>
	<i>Caryll (Cebi) Waterfield</i>
<b>Board of Assessment</b>	
	<i>Ralph Biondi</i>
	<i>Joseph W. Harvey III</i>
	<i>Mark Palmieri</i>
<b>Council-at-Large</b>	
	<i>Gary Donovan</i>
	<i>Colleen O'Connor</i>
	<i>Ronald M. Quagliani</i>
<b>City Council</b>	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> District</i>	<i>Bridgette J. Hoskie</i>
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> District</i>	<i>William Conlon</i>
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> District</i>	<i>Elizabeth Johnston</i>
<i>4<sup>th</sup> District</i>	<i>Mitchell Galignano</i>
<i>5<sup>th</sup> District</i>	<i>Robbin Watt Hamilton</i>
<i>6<sup>th</sup> District</i>	<i>Peter Massaro</i>
<i>7<sup>th</sup> District</i>	<i>Treené McGee</i>
<i>8<sup>th</sup> District</i>	<i>Chrystal Fanelli</i>
<i>9<sup>th</sup> District</i>	<i>Robert Bruneau</i>
<i>10<sup>th</sup> District</i>	<i>Barry Lee Cohen</i>

## Thanksgiving 2019

When Puritans left England in May of 1620, they were unsure what lay ahead for them, knowing they had to endure months at sea making the crossing. They were looking to create a "Shining City on a Hill" filled with believers in the Calvinist Christianity they had come to confess. They hoped when they landed in the New World, they would be able to create the type of civil and religious atmosphere that would make them prosper and, as was the case for all Puritans, get a sign they were, indeed, the elect.

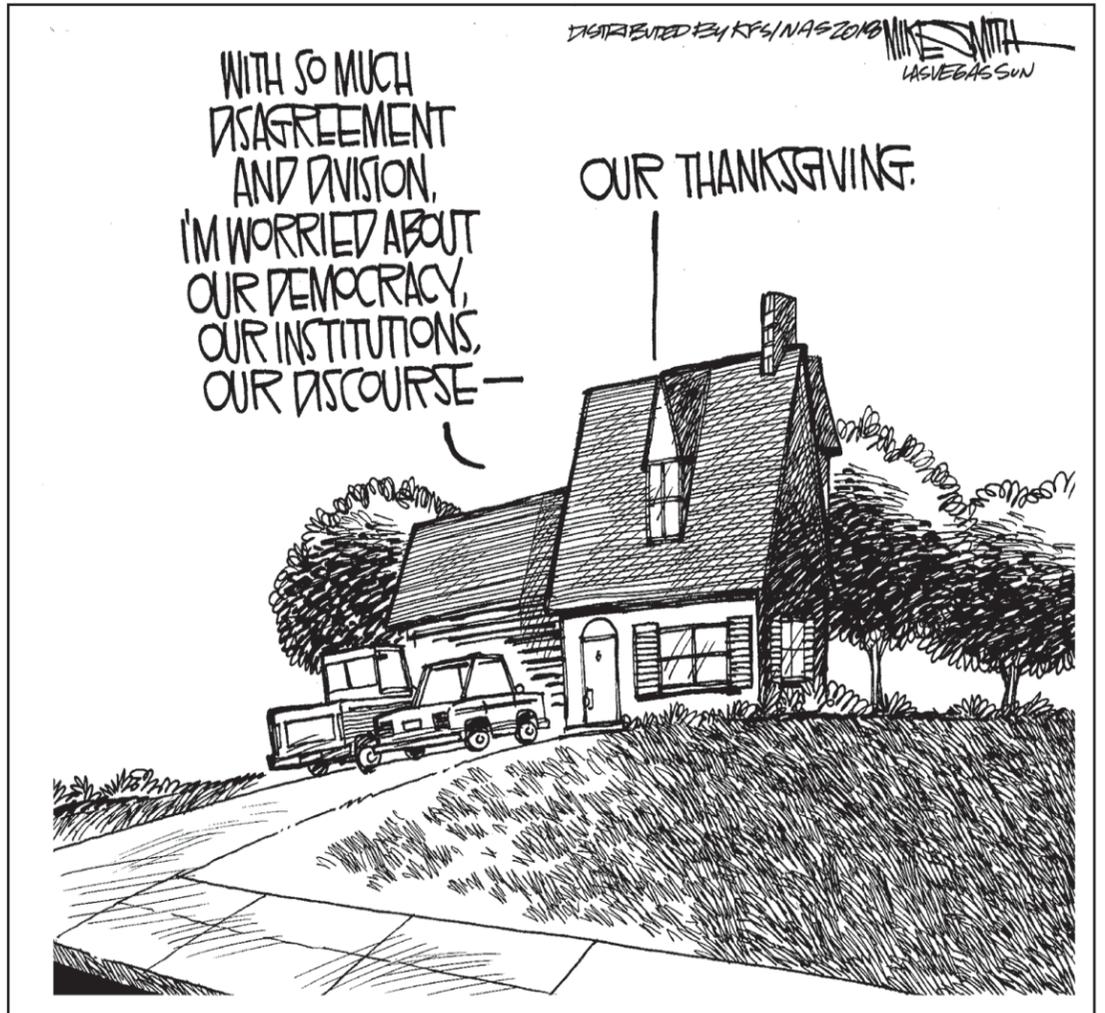
Their brand of Calvinism was "covenant" centered. Throughout the Old Testament, God had made a covenant with men. This "Covenant Theology" prompted them to bind themselves into a civil body under a covenant. That document, signed before they landed to form the Plymouth Colony, was given the name, "The Mayflower Compact." Under this document, the first colony in Massachusetts Bay was established, and was to be the prototype of other covenants and constitutions that were to follow. Later, decimated by exposure and famine, many of the signers never made it through the first winter. Those that did declared a day of Thanksgiving, which served as the point of origination for the New England holiday that was to follow well beyond 1620, into the 19th Century.

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honour of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first Colony in the northern Parts of Virginia; Do by these Presents, solemnly and mutually, in the Presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick, for our better Ordering and Preservation, and Furtherance of the Ends aforesaid: And by Virtue hereof do enact, constitute, and frame, such just and equal Laws, Ordinances, Acts, Constitutions, and Officers, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general Good of the Colony; unto which we promise all due Submission and Obedience.

IN WITNESS whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape-Cod the eleventh of November, in the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King James, of England, France, and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, Anno Domini; 1620.

Mr. John Carver,  
Mr. William Bradford,  
Mr Edward Winslow,  
Mr. William Brewster.  
Isaac Allerton,  
Myles Standish,  
John Alden,  
John Turner,  
Francis Eaton,  
James Chilton,  
John Craxton,  
John Billington,  
Joses Fletcher,  
John Goodman,  
Mr. Samuel Fuller,  
Mr. Christopher Martin,  
Mr. William Mullins,  
Mr. William White,  
Mr. Richard Warren,  
John Howland,  
Mr. Steven Hopkins,

Digery Priest,  
Thomas Williams,  
Gilbert Winslow,  
Edmund Margesson,  
Peter Brown,  
Richard Britteridge  
George Soule,  
Edward Tilly,  
John Tilly,  
Francis Cooke,  
Thomas Rogers,  
Thomas Tinker,  
John Ridgdale  
Edward Fuller,  
Richard Clark,  
Richard Gardiner,  
Mr. John Allerton,  
Thomas English,  
Edward Doten,  
Edward Liester.



## Dem loser: Medicare for All

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

The clear loser of the Democratic primary is "Medicare for All."

First, it demonstrated the unreliability of Kamala Harris out of the gate, when she endorsed it before quickly backing off. Now, it has blunted the momentum of Elizabeth Warren, made a mockery of her claim to be an uber-wonk and shredded her implicit appeal to Bernie Sanders supporters as an equally committed left-winger without the baggage.

Under pressure for weeks for details related to her version of the proposal, Warren has now backed all the way down to promising to pass Medicare for All by the end of the third year of her presidency.

This is an implicit concession that she won't do it at all. No presidential candidate ever pledges to do something important in Year 3. That's when, if history is any guide, a president has suffered a midterm drubbing and lost all legislative momentum. Warren wants us to believe that this would be the opportune time for her to pass perhaps the most sweepingly intrusive government measure in American history.

Warren's fundamental mistake was to believe, like almost

all the Democrats early in the race, that she had to chase Bernie Sanders around the track, which inevitably involved backing his signature health care proposal. But it became immediately evident that it's one thing to promise to eliminate all private health insurance if you are a self-declared socialist; it's quite another if you imagine yourself anything short of that.

As soon as another erstwhile Bernie band-wagoner, Harris, uttered out loud that she'd end private health insurance, it created a controversy that she was clearly uncomfortable with. As a way to wiggle out of it, she came up with her own plan.

Warren lasted longer. Her undoing was that her resolute unwillingness to say that she'd raise middle-class taxes to pay for the program undermined her self-image as a woman with a "plan for that." She had to jerry-rig a financing program built on such outlandishly rosy assumptions about costs and revenues that even her journalistic cheerleaders have been skeptical. As she continued to take fire, Warren announced her "transition" plan, effectively saying the program is not a first-term priority.

In so doing, she has managed

to bring on herself the worst of both worlds. Democratic purists will be disappointed in her, and Sanders voters feel confirmed in any doubts they already had about her commitment.

It should have been foreseeable that proposing a ruinously expensive, enormously coercive health program would present political problems. Even Democratic primary voters aren't fully sold on a Medicare for All plan that eliminates all private insurance.

Sanders has gotten away with it because socialism is his brand and conviction. He hand-waves away questions on the specifics -- what do they matter, when the revolution will make all things possible?

In contrast, Warren let the critics get into her head, just as she did over her purported Native American heritage, and stumbled into a messy, self-destructive response, just as she did with her DNA test last year. Democrats have to be wondering, over and above her struggles with Medicare for All, if this is really who they want to send up against the endlessly combative and needling Donald Trump next year.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*



**Dear Gripe Vine Readers:**

Quite often my readers ask, "You quote comments from West Haven's Councilmen and Councilwomen. What I would like to know is just what do they do for our community?"

A good question, readers. In my experience, I would say in West Haven, councilmen and councilwomen are slow to respond to this column. West Haven residents are taxpayers and they deserve to have their concerns addressed.

Over the years among West Haven Councilmen and Councilwomen representatives some are difficult to reach and comment and today I would like to define their duties for you. There are several that make the effort to assist with Gripe Vine readers concerns but, in many instances, it takes numerous tries to obtain responses. We all have busy lives and not enough time to fulfill our duties, but I must ask West Haven's Councilmen and Councilwomen to try and help our residents with their issues as promptly as they can. Sometimes it takes at least two or three requests for help from these individuals and sometimes I will get a reply,

indicating they would contact city offices to investigate readers' issues but that's it! Follow ups are so very important.

So, here's a bit of general information for you relating to the duties of a Councilmen or Councilman :

Council members are asked to do their very best to represent their constituents only after they have seen to the needs of the city. With this thought in mind, my readers need your help. Please offer them promptness in replies and follow ups as well.

With this information in mind, I would ask our Councilmen and Councilwomen, if you have one of my requests for information sitting on your desk, please try to reply to my readers through Gripe Vine. Your efforts are respected and appreciated.

**Dear Gripe Vine Readers:**

To those residents living on Linden Street who have been complaining about the condition of the hazardous sidewalks, your complaints were forwarded to Councilwoman Tracy Morrissey who had spoken with the sidewalk inspector. The sidewalk was slated for repair. My question, with the efforts of your Council-

## City's small businesses in spotlight on Saturday

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi has announced the city's participation in the 10th annual Small Business Saturday on Nov. 30.

Nov. 30 also marks the lighting of the city's Christmas tree on the Green. The Yuletide event attracts hundreds of people each year, many of whom Rossi hopes take advantage of sales at downtown specialty shops.

Small Business Saturday falls between Black Friday and Cyber Monday. It is a day to celebrate and patronize the small, independently owned businesses that help stimulate local economies across the country.

"Patronizing a West Haven small business is a great way to kick off your holiday shopping," Rossi said. "While you're downtown for the tree lighting, why not stop at one of the stores or restaurants. Whether you're looking for items for your holiday table — fresh flowers, truffle products or gourmet meats — or perhaps jewelry, wine or gift cards, West Haven small businesses have you covered."

Small Business Saturday was established by American Express in 2010 in response to the most pressing need of small-business owners — more customers — and has served as the ceremonial kickoff to the holiday shopping season for small businesses ever since.

According to AmEx, U.S. shoppers reported spending an estimated \$17.8 billion at independent retailers and restaurants on Small Business Saturday in 2018.

Similar to last year, the Small Business Saturday Coalition, led by Women Impacting Public Policy, a nonpartisan small-business advocate known as WIPP, is rallying mayors nationwide to show their support and encourage their communities to shop small on Nov. 30.

"West Haven's diversity is reflected in our small businesses," Rossi said. "When you support a small business, you're supporting our community as well."

In recognizing the importance of supporting independent businesses, Rossi has issued a Small Business Saturday proclamation declaring the special observance in West Haven.

Merchants and consumers can learn more about Small Business Saturday, including how to participate, at [www.shops-mall.com](http://www.shops-mall.com).

## By Eleanore Turkington



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

woman and the sidewalk inspector, have the sidewalks been repaired? Please let me know [gripegvine4wh@aol.com](mailto:gripegvine4wh@aol.com)

**Dear Aaron Charney:**

Gripe Vine reported a huge hole just before First Street adjacent to the Gov. John Davis

Lodge Turnpike back in July. Have you checked it out and if you did, was this hole repaired?

**Gripe Vine Readers:**

Who ran the Apple Festival this year? Please contact me at [gripegvine4wh@aol.com](mailto:gripegvine4wh@aol.com). I have a question from some of my readers, "Will it be possible to hold this festival at the Grove next year? There's much more room at the Grove. Shut down the parking meters for that day and we can all have a great time."

**Dear Gripe Vine:**

There are several potholes at 32 Knox St. When will they get repaired?

*JC Curious*

**Dear Members:**

Readers have complained of broken tires and split side-

walls at Campbell Avenue near Highland Street because of potholes.

Have you investigated this area since receiving this complaint from Gripe Vine? Has the huge pothole on Sorenson Road been filled yet as well? My readers are counting on your investigation of these areas.

~~~~~  
Readers may submit their complaints, issues and comments to [gripegvine4wh@aol.com](mailto:gripegvine4wh@aol.com) or mail them to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, Box 4. Please include your name, address and phone number, kept confidential with me.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving everyone! More from Gripe Vine next week!

# GRIPE VINE

Do you have a complaint or issue? Fill out this coupon and mail it to  
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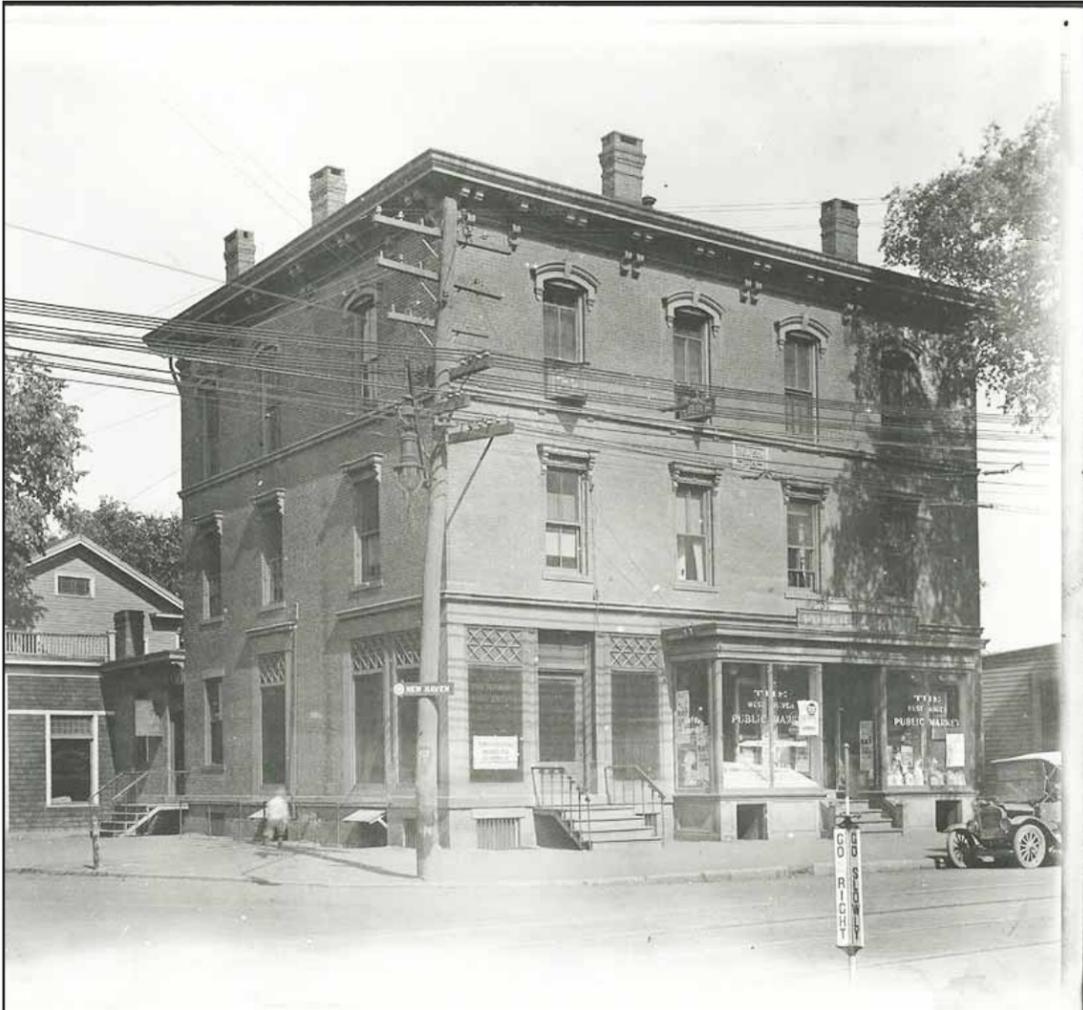
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# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine



What is now known as the "Altschuler Building" is one of the oldest structures in the city, dating back to 1825. It has served in many ways over that long history, including a courthouse.

### West Haven Green, 1920s Part VIII Conclusion

On the southeast corner of Campbell and Main was the what is today known as the Altschuler Building; built in 1825, it is the oldest "larger" building in West Haven. Over the years, it has housed a courthouse, a jail, a post office, a morgue and a library. During the 1920s, West Haven Bank and Trust was located there; the bank failed during the Great Depression of the 1930s, taking all of Katherine Held's family's money with it, for these were the days before the advent of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. That building is reputed to have its own howling ghost, that of murder victim Jennie Cramer, but that's another story for another day.

For many years, the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company—better known as the A&P—occupied different locations on the block between Main Street and Curtiss Place. At that time, it was one of the "larger" grocery stores in West Haven.

Also in that block was the Cameo Theater, one of several West Haven movie houses which enjoyed great popularity during the years before the advent of television.

Generally, the other businesses occupying that block included a barber, a meat market, two bakeries, two grocery stores and a hardware store. In those days, you could walk to one of the many stores on Campbell Avenue, and buy every item that you could possibly need!

At the south corner of Curtiss Place stood the telephone company building, on the site where it still stands today, connecting telephone calls for West Haveners.

By the 1920s, Church Street had been cut through to Campbell Avenue, dividing the old Burial Ground, and causing the removal of Christ Church; and also by this time, that church was rebuilt in stone, standing on the south side of Church Street, and to the west of the Burial Ground.

Katherine Held recalls that next door to Christ Church stood the home of Harry Ford and Sarah Welch; later it would become the home of First Church's Sexton Jimmy Coyne.

To the west of that house stood the home of Reverend Johnson of Christ Church.

In front of those homes, and even until late in the twentieth century, stood small stone obelisks with iron rings

affixed to them. These served as hitching posts for those who came into town in buggies and on horseback.

On Savin Avenue, to the north of Church Street stood the home of John Lynch, civil engineer and influential local politician. Next door stood the home of the Wells family, with its wraparound porch that the neighborhood children enjoyed playing on. In the early years of the twentieth century, this property was a dairy farm, which at the urging of the town fathers was later moved to a more rural area in Seymour.

Two houses from the Wells House was the First Church parsonage; at that time it was the home of Reverend Wilbur Johnson. Although Rev. Johnson added 350 new members to the church in one year, and was responsible for assembling the fifth largest Sunday School in the country, he was forced out for "improprieties" and left West Haven in disgrace.

At the corner of Savin Avenue stood the Poli house, as it still stands today. The Poli family at one time owned 30 theaters and various other properties around the United States; Sylvester Poli was at that time the largest theater owner in the world. Today the Poli house is occupied by the West Haven Historical Society.

It is the sincere hope of these writers that these homes and business facilities, which represent such a significant part of West Haven's history, will be retained and maintained for the benefit of future generations.

Thanks to Steve Hildrich for his help with this part of the story



Dan Shine is a columnist for the West Haven Voice, and former historian of the First Congregational Church.

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Photo by Josh LaBella

The Murillo family has much to be thankful for, despite adversity. Daughter Gabby Murillo (center) came home last week after months in hospitals and rehabilitation centers following a June accident that left her in a wheelchair. Shown with her from left are: Kevin Maurutis, Amanda Maurutis, Jennifer Murillo, Amanda Murillo, and Eric Murillo. front: With their aunt are Logan and Lennon Maurutis



# Murillo family gives thanks in adversity

By Josh LaBella  
Voice Reporter

The story of Gabby Murillo is one of perseverance and community support. The 23-year-old returned home last Thursday after spending over five months in hospitals.

Murillo is a West Haven resident who was participating in her dream internship at Disney Orlando when a June 16 car accident left her paralyzed from the shoulders down. Her C3, C4 and C5 vertebrae were injured as well as other nerves being completely severed. Since the June 15 accident, Gabby has undergone multiple surgeries.

Thursday was an “emotional homecoming” for the Murillo family, who said they appreciated the immediate support they got from the community. Gabby said she was happy to be home and her parents said it was a huge relief.

“We were at Gaylord for six weeks. We were at Shepherd for 13 weeks. Orlando Regional Health was three weeks,” said Gabby’s mother Amanda. “She’s done a wonderful job progressing.”

Gabby is no longer using a trach or a diaphragmatic pacemaker, a device which helped her breath. She is also no longer in need of any medication.

Amanda said it got lonely during their time at the hospitals in Orlando and Atlanta, where she stayed with her daughter the entire time. She described the Murillo family as a close one, enjoying Sunday dinner, and said not being together was hard. She said the family has been focusing on the positives.

Gabby’s father Eric said the immediate outpour of emotional and financial support

was unbelievable. The family started a GoFundMe page in order to pay for Gabby’s wheelchair, medical expenses, she and her family’s travel and lodging expenses as well as the addition that needed to be built to accommodate Gabby when she returned home. To date it has raised over \$128,000.

“That was a God-sent from the people that donated,” said Eric. “Their heart opened up and they enabled us to do what we did. To be able to have the addition, to be able

to get the stuff that we need to get to her, it’s an ongoing expense.”

The family said probably would have had to declare bankruptcy if it was not for the financial support they received. They also said they would not have been able to make their house accessible to Gabby and would have had to move.

The family moved to West Haven almost 34 years ago and said they love the town and the community. But West-  
See Murillo, page 18

**STUFF A STOCKING**  
*For Gabby Murillo*

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# Annual tree-lighting has new attractions

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

The annual lighting of the Christmas tree on the Green will herald an evening of merriment Saturday.

The six-hour holiday festival will begin at 2 p.m. with Christmas music, food trucks, face painting, train rides and wreath decorating, as well as craft and artisan vendors.

The event is presented by the city, the First Congregational Church of West Haven and

West Haven United, an organization aimed at bringing the city's volunteer groups together. Executive Assistant to the Mayor Louis Esposito will be master of ceremonies.

The festivities, featuring a cast of costumed Christmas characters, will continue at 3 p.m. with the opening of Santa's village and eight craft stations on the Green, where children can decorate wooden ornaments, write letters to Santa, and make cards for U.S.

troops overseas and those at the Veterans Affairs Hospital on Campbell Avenue.

At 3:15 p.m., West Haven High School junior Nora E. Mullins will sing the national anthem, followed by a half-hour play by the West Haven High Drama Club at 3:30 p.m.

The ceremony will continue at 4 p.m. with performances by the West Haven High dance team, holiday carols sung by the St. Lawrence School chorus and performances by the

Top Hat Dance Academy.

Along with hayrides, kids can ride on a vintage firetruck from the West Shore Fire Department.

The activities are free, but people are asked to bring non-perishable items for the West Haven Emergency Assistance Task Force, which provides food for residents in need.

For a \$5 fee, youngsters can also take a ride on the Roaming Railroad, a trackless train sponsored by the West Haven

PTA Council.

Shortly after 5 p.m., the West Haven High and Seahawks cheerleading teams will perform, followed by Yuletide classics sung by the Bailey Middle School chorus and a singalong led by Victorian carolers from a portable stage on the Main Street side of the Green.

At 6 p.m., Rossi will greet revelers and announce the designers of her Christmas cards

**See Tree-lighting, page 16**



Photo courtesy of WHCH

## Spirit of giving

Families that are served by the West Haven Community received food and turkey donations from various groups and organizations including West Haven Professional Firefighters 1198, University of New Haven's Bethel Hall Residence and Graduate Student Services and Vertical Church. "Thanks to the outpouring of support, many families will be able to have a wonderful Thanksgiving meal with their families," said Patty Stevens, Executive Director. Pictured are Stevens, along with representatives of the West Haven Professional Firefighters 1198.

## Celebrate Black Friday & Small Business Saturday Weekend at The Shops at Yale

**Ice Carving Demonstrations, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 1:00-3:00pm**

**Customer Appreciation Giveaways, Friday & Saturday, 1:00-4:00pm**

**Yuletide Carolers, Friday & Saturday, 1:00-5:00pm**

**Andy Wolf Holiday TUBULATION Series, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 2:00-4:00pm**

**Free Popcorn & Giveaways, Saturday, 12:00-4:00pm**

**Storytelling & Photos with Santa, Saturday & Sunday, 1:00-3:00pm**

**Free Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides, Sunday, 12:00-4:00pm**

**Free 4-Hour Parking with Purchase, Nov. 29 - Dec. 24**

**Gift Card Giveaway, Nov. 29 - Dec. 24**

**A Taste of Chapel, Thursdays Dec. 5, 12 & 19**

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## The Shops at Yale



Located in the heart of the Yale University Campus, in historic downtown New Haven.  
For directions and parking visit [TheShopsatYale.com](http://TheShopsatYale.com)



## 'Hawks play for title

The West Haven Seahawks 8U team (12-0) beat the Mount Hope Cowboys (11-1), 7-0, in the New England Pop Warner semi-final on Saturday.

The game matched the Connecticut and Rhode Island 8U (7- and 8-year-old) state champions.

The game was held at the athletic facilities of LaSalle Academy in Providence.

The Seahawks and Cowboys both utilized fast and physical defenses.

The Seahawks scored in the second quarter on a 28-yard Tristian Crawford touchdown run that included three broken tackles.

The Seahawks' defense held a very talented Cowboy offense off the scoreboard. William Pastore, Jacari Harris, Mason Booker, Jayden Spell and Kayden Desruisseaux leading the way.

The Seahawks will travel to play the Massachusetts champion Dorchester Eagles (12-0) for the New England Pop Warner Football Championship on Saturday.

The game will be played at the Manning Bowl, Lynn, Mass. (time TBA).

The 8U level is only competitive to the regional level and the winner of the regional championship Saturday does not travel to the National Pop Warner Championships this year.



Photo courtesy of RTMFL

## Xavier edges Westies, 22-21

The West Haven football team continues to battle in the 2019 season. Unfortunately for the Westies, they have not been able to pick up the victories.

In its fifth contest of the season decided by eight points or less, West Haven dropped to 2-7 with a 22-21 loss against Xavier Friday evening in Middletown.

The Falcons dealt the Westies another heartbreaking loss, scoring in the final seconds, then adding a two-point conversion for the win.

West Haven has lost four in a row, three of those contests by six points or less, and two in the final minute of the games.

The Westies scored twice on the ground and once by way of a fumble return for their three touchdowns. Andre Rentas and Jordan Berrios ran in two touchdowns, and Tamayo Ferreira had the fumble return for the score.



Abvoe -- West Haven Seahawk 8U running back Tristian Crawford (4) breaks a final tackle to put the Hawks up 7-0. The Seahawks beat the Mount Hope Cowboys (RI) 7-0 to advance to the regional championship game on Saturday. Keft -- Seahawk back Trayvon Jaynes (8) runs away from a Mt. Hope (RI) defender during the regional semi-final game. The Seahawks won 7-0.

## Knights dedicate Green Bowl to Dr. Aversa



DR. JOHN AVERSA

Notre Dame High School is dedicating the 2019 Green Bowl on Thanksgiving morning to the late Dr. John Aversa and his family.

Dr. Aversa passed away this past summer, leaving a legacy of service to so many, including Notre Dame students and athletes.

An official on-field dedication ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. Thanksgiving morning at the 2019 Green Bowl.

Aversa's wife Ellen, as well as additional members of the Aversa family, representatives of Notre Dame's Administration and Athletic Department, including President Robert Curis, Athletic Director Jason Shea, former Athletic Director's Joe Tonelli, and Tom Marcucci, and the Notre Dame football team will be present for the ceremony.

Notre Dame fans are encouraged to arrive in time for the ceremony, which will take place on the sideline near the 40-yard line on the side of the field near-

est the bleachers.

Dr. Aversa always made time for Notre Dame High School as it reminded him of his own high school experience.

No matter how busy his schedule was, if a Green Knight student-athlete needed medical attention, he made sure to see him.

He also volunteered as the team physician for our football and hockey teams and was a constant on the football sideline and in the hockey rink, loving to watch our teams play.

The entire Notre Dame community was saddened by his passing and deeply appreciative of his passion, compassion, and dedication to our students and athletic teams. Dr. Aversa was a treasure to all who knew him, especially to his family.

That is why it is our honor and privilege to dedicate the 2019 Green Bowl to Dr. John Aversa and his family.

# Mite C team loses to Wallingford

The West Haven Youth Hockey Mite C team played its first two games of the season. On Saturday, the Westies lost 5-3 against a tough Wallingford Hawks squad. Evan Harrison played well in goal, supported by Joey Mondo and Julius Stokes. Jax Guarino scored the first goal of the season for the team, and Tony Parise added the second, before Guarino picked up the third.

Ben Trenchard worked hard to get the puck and created a few scoring chances that forced the Wallingford goalie to make some great saves. Brady Salkins and Kyle Johnson showed off their growing stick-handling skills as they worked the puck down the ice.

On Sunday, the Mite C Blue Devils were back in action against a skilled Greater New Haven Mite B team. New Haven dominated early, but Guarino made some fantastic saves in goal. Mondo and Stokes worked hard to get their team back into the game. Trenchard played a great defensive game, as Harrison, Salkins, Johnson, and Parise tried to put the puck into the back of the New Haven goal.

The West Haven Squirt A travel hockey team defeated Greenwich A, 7-, in a convinc-

ing victory at Dorothy Hamill Rink on Sunday. The Blue Devils played with grit and determination for three periods en route to winning their ninth game of the season.

Forward Cameren Lipford (3 goals), center Tyler Silva (2 goals, 1 assist) and forward Aedan Guarino (2 goals) led the offensive charge for the Westies, with goaltender Alex Werle stopping 24 shots to smother the Cardinals' offense.

In the first period, Silva put the Blue Devils up, 1-0, crashing the net and rebounding Lipford's shot off the Greenwich goaltender. The Cardinals tied it on a power-play goal at 1:46 of the period.

Early in the second, Lipford caught a pass from Silva and fired a wrist shot from inside the right faceoff circle to put the Westies up 2-1. Silva made it 3-1 at 9:27 of the period on a rebound assisted by defenseman Andrew Grillo.

At 6:18 of the second, Lipford went coast-to-coast to give the Blue Devils a three-goal lead. Lipford then scored his third of the contest on a power play, launching a wrister from inside the right blue line at 2:56 of the period.

At 2:16 of the second, Werle

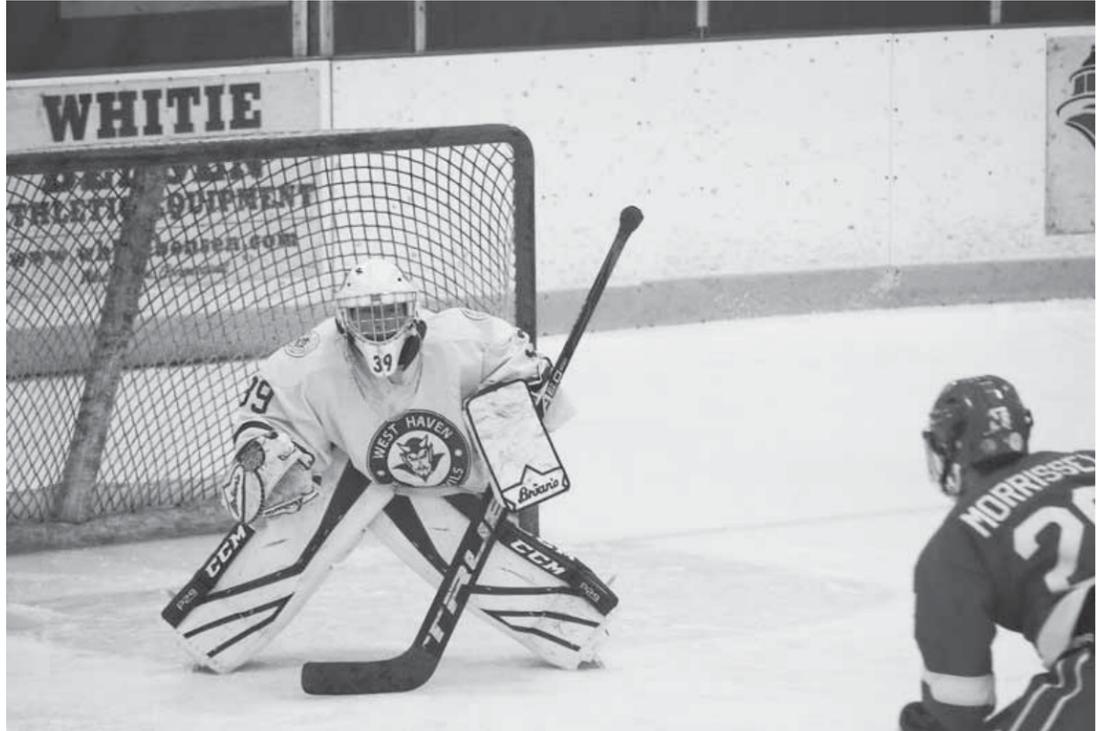


Photo courtesy of Mike Madera

West Haven Bantam A goalie Bryan Hong prepares to make a save against Long Island.

made a highlight reel-worthy save. While lying on his back, he reached behind his body with his stick on the ice and batted a shot away, robbing a Greenwich goal.

Grillo and fellow defenseman Kyle Guarino complemented Werle's tremendous defensive efforts and blocked several shots as well.

At 0:02 of the second, Aedan Guarino scored in front of the net to put the Blue Devils up, 6-1.

The Cardinals scored twice to start the third, cutting the Westies' lead to 6-3. Aedan Guarino put the game out of reach at 3:45 of the period with his second goal of the contest on a rebound from forward

Ryan Walsh. The Cardinals scored a final time at 1:35 of the third to pull within three.

The West Haven Peewee A travel hockey team went 2-1 over the weekend with a pair of convincing wins and a close loss. The Westies knocked off New Canaan A, 9-2, and Greater New Haven A1, 9-6,

See Hockey, page 14

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# Hockey: Peewees roll over New Canaan

Continued from page 13 but dropped a 4-3 decision to Greenwich Skate A. The Peewee A squad is now 11-13-1 overall and 10-9-0 in CHC action.

On Saturday, the Blue Devils traveled to the New Canaan Winter Club's outdoor rink for a game under the bright afternoon sun. New Canaan jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first five minutes before the Westies righted the ship.

Sean Studley broke into the New Canaan zone and fed Ronnie Mastroni to get West Haven on the scoreboard. Mastroni later connected with Mike Page for a one-timer with only 20 seconds remaining in the period to tie the game at two.

The Blue Devils erupted for four second period goals to take over the game. Studley fed Mastroni again in the opening minute. Brady Price found Page for his second goal of the game, Studley buried a wraparound goal, and Alex Bowery jammed home a rebound of Chris Consorte's shot to give the Westies a 6-2 lead.

In the third period, Price roofed a wrist shot, Mastroni returned the favor and assisted Studley for a one-timer, and Page's shot deflected to Price, who fired it in to close the scoring and give West Haven the 9-2 win.

Greg Galasso started in goal and made four saves, before falling ill and leaving the game. Jacob Silva relieved and shut out New Canaan the rest of the way with 15 saves. Af-

ter shaking off the start, the Westies' defensemen- Leo Mazuroski, Ryan Pniewski, Matt Kelly and Jonathan Charbonneau- were stout.

On Sunday morning at Edward L. Bennett Rink, the Westies hosted Greenwich Skate Club and fell behind 3-0 in the second period before mounting a comeback attempt.

While short-handed, Studley dug out the puck and hit a streaking Mastroni who converted a beautiful wrist shot. Greenwich extended the lead to 4-1 in the third period when, with just over five minutes remaining, the Westies pulled Silva and added the extra attacker.

Page found Dylan Bosworth at the right point and he fired one over the goalie's shoulder. With the Westies' net still empty, Bosworth again shot from the point and Studley redirected it in to cut it to 4-3. The equalizer could not be found though and time ran out on the Westies. Silva made 23 saves in goal.

On Sunday afternoon, the Westies headed to the Northford Ice Pavilion to face Greater New Haven and won, 9-6.

Consorte opened the scoring with a laser assisted by Studley.

Matt Kelly then scored on a power play with assists to Bowery and Bosworth. The Warriors came back with three straight goals to open the second period and went up, 3-2.

Page quickly tied the game when he converted Studley's drop pass. GNH then scored twice more for a 5-3 lead, but

Consorte scored less than ten seconds later when Bosworth won the face off to him. The Westies tied the game with 29 seconds left in the period when Studley's shot was saved and Bowery swept in the rebound.

West Haven scored four goals to start the third period and ice the game.

Page chipped in Matt Kelly's pass, Price was foiled on a wraparound attempt, but Studley knocked in the rebound, Bowery found a streaking Studley for a wrist shot, and Mastroni converted a breakaway with assists from Kelly and Bowery.

Galasso started the game and made 13 saves while Silva finished up with 10 saves.

The West Haven Peewee AA travel hockey team has finally arrived atop the CHC ratings as it continues to ride a winning streak which has earned the team rights to the number one rating in the state.

The Devils opened the weekend in Long Island against the Nassau County Lions AA on Saturday, looking to avenge an earlier season loss.

John Donohue gave the Devils a 1-0 lead in the first when he beat the Lions goaltender.

Nick Eberhart added to the lead off a beauty started by Thomas Porto behind the net who fed Nicky Steven before he put a pass on Eberhart's tape for a goal and a 2-0 lead.

The Lions tried to claw their way back but ultimately fell to West Haven, 4-3. John Donohue finished with a hat trick, including the game-winner.

Tyler Donroe, despite allow-

ing three goals, played extremely well as he was tested early and often.

On Sunday, the Westies hosted New Canaan (ranked 3rd in CHC) and posted a 6-3 victory at the Bennett Rink.

Donohue delivered again after picking up a loose puck and going the rest of the way shorthanded with 7:23 remaining in first for a 1-0 lead. Donohue scored again 4:15 into the second period, adding to the lead with a power play goal and he completed his hat trick five minutes later for a 3-0 advantage.

Porto opened the third by battling to win possession along the boards, before scoring for a 4-0 lead. New Canaan bounced back to cut the deficit in half, before Nicky Stevens scored off an assist from Eberhart for a 5-2 lead.

Leading 5-3 with 33 seconds remaining in the game, Billy Mascari sent a backhand pass across the slot to a wide open Porto, giving West Haven the final margin of victory.

Nate Kempton tended net, completed the game and was outstanding along the way. The Devils are now riding an 18-game winning streak.

The West Haven Bantam A travel hockey team swept three games this weekend, topping Greater New Haven, Long Island Mustangs, and Southeastern.

Bryan Hong was the story in goal all weekend as he came up with several big saves in each of the three games.

The Westies opened the week with a 5-3 victory over Greater New Haven Friday evening at the Edward L. Bennett Rink. Michael Madera and Dave Brown led the offense with two goals apiece, while Colin Deane added two assists.

Brown gave West Haven a 1-0 lead with an unassisted goal 1:19 into the contest, before Madera broke a 1-1 tie in the second period when he knocked in a rebound of a Deane shot.

With the game even at two, Brown scored off an assist from Cade Simone for a 3-2 advantage with 5:05 to go in the second.

Cam Delvecchio gave West Haven a 4-2 lead in the third off assists from Jayden Spreyer and Mickey Dowd, and Madera increased the lead to three off an assist from Deane with 1:12 to go.

The Westies won their second of the weekend with a 7-1 victory over Long Island in West Haven Saturday afternoon. Spreyer led the way with three goals, while Dowd and Delvecchio each had a

pair of assists.

West Haven took a 3-0 lead in the first as Spreyer opened with an unassisted goal 3:02 in, then scored off an assist from Dowd 2:27 later. Delvecchio made it a 3-0 game off assists from Dowd and Matt Wezenski with 28 seconds left in the first.

Simone increased the lead to 4-0 off an assist from Madera 1:14 into the second, before Matt Stevens scored off assists from Kyle Droney and Josh Gyolai 2:29 later.

Chris Adkins scored off an assist from Simone, and Spreyer scored off an assist from Delvecchio with 2:54 left in the second.

West Haven capped the weekend with a 4-1 victory over Southeastern in Norwich Sunday afternoon.

Spreyer gave West Haven a 1-0 lead 32 seconds in off assists from Dowd and Delvecchio, before Brown scored with 9:16 left in the opening period off a helper from Will Giaquinto.

The Westies increased the lead to 3-0 when Madera fed Simone in front with 3:58 to go in the middle period. Spreyer capped the scoring off an assist from Dowd.

Dante Hardt and Gabe Mongelli played well offensively, while Sean Bosworth, Haygen Axelrod, and Jason Alling played well defensively.

The West Haven Bantam B travel hockey team faced off against Echo B in a non-CHC game on Saturday and posted a 4-1 victory.

The Westies were led by a hat trick from Zack Fonda and a goal from Danny Johnson. Ashley Welch assisted on all three of Fonda's goals and Carson Lee and Taylor Alfano would also contribute assists.

On Sunday, the Westies played East Haven in a rematch from earlier in the season and played to a 4-4 tie. The Blue Devils fell behind early in the first, but tied the game when Fonda connected from Lee and Yousaf Ullah. The Westies also received goals from Lee, off an assist from Fonda, and Yousaf Ullah, which was unassisted.

West Haven fell behind, 4-3, with 5:32 left in the third period and goalie Austin Fruin was pulled with under 1:30 for an extra attacker.

Ashley Welch drew the face off back to Taylor Alfano on the point who got off a high shot which found its way to the back of the net for the tying goal. Fruin fended off an eight second attack by East Haven to seal the tie for the Blue Devils.

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Photo courtesy of Stacie Wals

## Rush up-ice

West Haven Squirt A center Tyler Silva takes the puck past center ice against Greenwich A at Dorothy Hamill Rink. The team beat the Cardinals, 7-4.

## GOP: Eyes goals

Continued from page 3

Mullins, who also said that party unity is a key issue that Republicans need to resolve, unequivocally denied Gregorio's claims. He said he campaigned for her and other candidates in Allingtown. He also said that Libro is doing "a magnificent job" and should continue to be the person leading the party as it moves forward.

He pointed to the party winning the tenth district City Council seat as a major accomplishment. Mullins said their focus should continue to be beating democrats in elections and unifying the party. He said it was up to the chairman to find out what that unification looks like.

Regarding support for Gregorio's campaign, Libro said through her experience working on previous campaigns with the former mayoral candidate she knew Gregorio to be a "strong, independent woman" who knows how she wants things done. Libro said she followed Gregorio's lead and helped her when asked but deferred to her judgment.

"If her perception is that I did not help her, I'm sorry for that," said Libro, who added she could not speak to the alleged lack of support from the Mullins camp. "I know how she is. She likes to control it. She likes to run. She's large and in charge."

Libro said there is always work to be done in terms of party unity. She said unity has been an issue since the 14th senatorial primary in which people "took sides."

"We've been trying to unify and work together as time goes on," said Libro. "I think we need to remain focused on raising money and getting good people elected. Because it's local, sometimes feelings get hurt. We need to get passed that. I think we all want unity, but sometimes its difficult to get unity."

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Ten turkeys are hiding in storefronts and locations around West Haven.  
Stop by the Main Library on Elm Street for a clue sheet. The turkeys will be there all month, so work at your own pace to find them.  
Once you find five of the turkeys and copy down the hidden message written on their bellies, return the clue sheet to the Children's Department of the library by November 30th for a special turkey surprise!

West Haven Public Library \* 300 Elm Street \* 203-937-4233

# Tree-lighting: *New attractions added to traditional festivities*

Continued from page 11  
and the winners of West Haven United's ornament-making and merchant window-decorating contests.

The cheerleading teams will then escort Santa and Mrs. Claus to the stage, where they will join Rossi and her special guests to set the tree aglow.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will

arrive in a 1935 Mack pump firetruck from the West Haven Fire Department. The city's official Christmas tree is encircled by five smaller evergreen trees adorned with fluorescent-colored lights.

Before returning to the North Pole, Santa and Mrs. Claus will meet visitors and pose for snapshots in their workshop

until 8 p.m. Organizers will offer the photos with Santa as a free digital download online.

Starting Wednesday, people can view and download their photos on the city's Flickr page at <https://goo.gl/EkLxZz>. The internet address is case sensitive.

Just steps from Santa's workshop, boys and girls can drop

off their wish lists at St. Nick's official U.S. Postal Service mailbox. Huge electric snowflakes will decorate The John C. Ireland Bandstand, and Victorian streetlamps bedecked with angels blowing on trumpets will illuminate the walkways.

Volunteers from the West Haven Chamber of Commerce

will hand out free hot chocolate, and vendors will sell food and novelties.

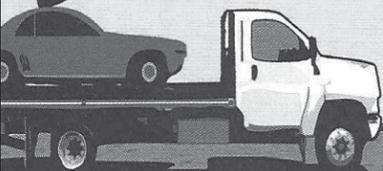
The vendors will include the First Congregational Church and the food trucks of Franco's Fried Dough-Licious, Hungry Bear, Ruethai's Kitchen and Ted's Steam Machine.

If it rains, the lighting will go on at 5 p.m. Monday.

# bsg

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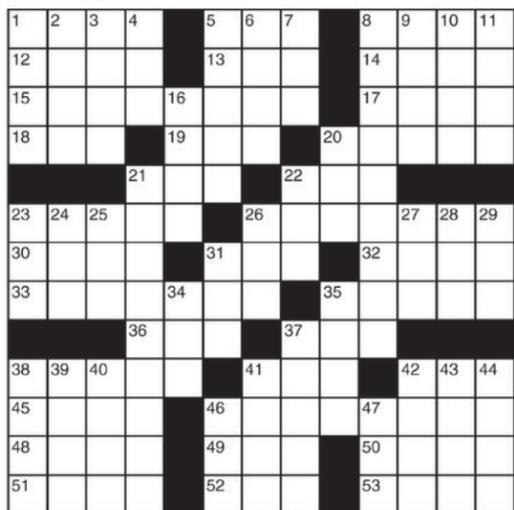
**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- 1 Netting
- 5 Personal ques-  
tion
- 8 Grouch
- 12 Liniment target
- 13 Chop
- 14 Firetruck need
- 15 Barbecue fuel
- 17 One side of  
the Urals
- 18 Glutton
- 19 Prune
- 20 Skill
- 21 Police officer
- 22 Has potential
- 23 Should, with  
"to"
- 26 Assail per-  
sistently
- 30 Entreaty
- 31 "Delish!"
- 32 Small wagon
- 33 Breastbone
- 35 "It's mine!"
- 36 Diving bird
- 37 Two, in Tijuana
- 38 Pamphlet
- 41 Raw rock
- 42 Pair of per-  
formers
- 45 Laugh-a-  
minute
- 46 Entrancing
- 48 Teen's woe
- 49 Ginormous
- 50 Eastern bigwig  
(Var.)
- 51 Equal
- 52 "Help!"
- 53 Maravich of  
basketball lore

**DOWN**

- 1 Jet speed  
measure
- 2 Reverberate
- 3 Carpet type
- 4 The girl
- 5 Shout
- 6 Jalopy
- 7 It gives a hoot
- 8 Monstrous  
whirlpool of  
myth
- 9 Parks of civil  
rights fame
- 10 "Yeah, right"
- 11 Defeat
- 16 Coagulate
- 20 Rotating part
- 21 Role
- 22 Off-tattooed  
word
- 23 Chances, for  
short
- 24 Last (Abbr.)
- 25 "Gosh!"
- 26 Vagrant
- 27 Upper limb
- 28 Aries
- 29 Coloring agent
- 31 Opposite of  
31-Across?
- 34 Eccentric
- 35 No stay-at-  
home
- 37 Hauls
- 38 Snare
- 39 Kind of pud-  
ding
- 40 Top-rated
- 41 Major U.S.  
river
- 42 FDR's on it
- 43 One
- 44 Shrek, for  
instance
- 46 Letterman's  
employer
- 47 Paper equiva-  
lent of a GPS?



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NEW WORD



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

- Ankle
- Basemen
- Budge
- Burn
- Complain
- Deal
- Die
- Diploma
- Flee
- Handcar
- Rabbi
- Radian
- Regimen
- Spine
- Though



**DON'T GET SQUASHED** trying to count all of  
the pumpkins in our picture. See if you can match our  
total.

**IT'S LOG-ON TIME!** See if you can compute the answer to  
this Alpha-Math puzzle. You must replace the letters on the  
computer screen with the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and  
9 so that you have a correct addition problem. The same  
letters get the same digits.

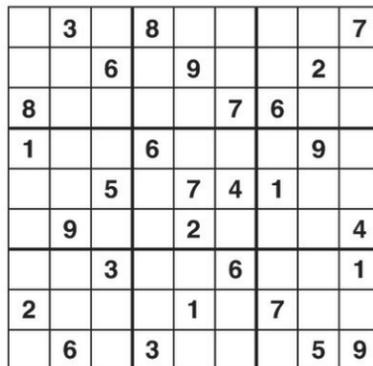


**LINK-UPS!** Here's a list of 12 one-syllable words that are  
divided into two columns. Turn them into six longer words  
by linking them together. To do this, draw a line from the  
word in the left column to a word in the right column.

- OUT
- PLAN
- NEST
- RAP
- AGES
- SCAN
- RANT
- THIN
- TEST
- WAR
- KING

**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



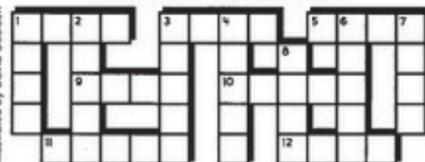
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way  
that each row across, each column down and  
each small 9-box square contains all of the  
numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

**Junior Whirl**  
by Charles Barry Townsend

**SHORT-NAME AMERICAN CITIES!**



Below are the names of 14 American cities  
that you will need to complete the puzzle  
above. Use the trial-and-error method.

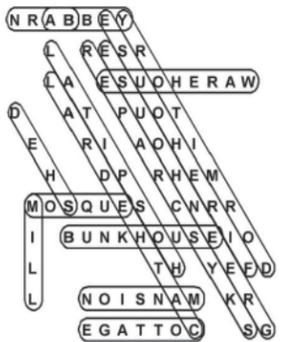
- 4-letter words:
- AMES
- BEND
- ELKO
- LIMA
- ROME
- SWAN
- WACO
- WARD
- 5-letter words:
- BLAIR
- CULLY
- NITRO
- OMAHA
- TAMPA
- TYLER

Answers  
to last week's  
puzzles

**King Crossword**  
Answers



**BUILDINGS**



**Weekly SUDOKU**  
Answer

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

# Murillo: Community aid has buoyed city family

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|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
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| Foot Long Sub..... | \$4 <sup>99</sup> | \$5 <sup>99</sup> |

with this ad

Continued from page 9  
ies were not the only ones to answer the call for help. The Murillos said they received support from around Connecticut, the country and the world. Gabby said the support was "empowering and motivational."

The Murillos said the Facebook group, "Gabby Murillo's Road to Recovery," has been a great support. Gabby's sisters said members frequently make inspirational posts relat-

ing to how Gabby has inspired them. There is at least one person from each of the 50 states in the group, and many from other countries.

The addition was constructed primarily by Baybrook Remodelers, who donated the bathroom. DeRosa Builders coordinated donations of materials and labor from six other companies who did the excavation and concrete work, roofing and painting.

The construction started in

September and finished about two weeks ago. The family said they never thought she would get to be home for Thanksgiving.

"There's a spiritual part of this too," said Eric. "That comes together with everything. The spiritual part is amazing. You feel the blessings and prayers from people."

Eric went on to say the situation has made it easier to push the little things that used to irritate them aside. He said that it's important not to take anything for granted. He said his daughter being safe is both a spiritual and medical miracle.

"I thank God every day, because this could have been worse," said Amanda. "A spinal cord is a very serious injury. But I don't know, since this happened, I've just had this feeling in my heart that she's going to overcome this."

Eric said the family is taking the situation day by day and is still adjusting. As of now, Amanda is Gabby's full-time caretaker. But eventually she will have to go back to work and they will need to hire someone.

Gabby said she wanted to thank everyone for the support she received. An early childhood education major, she made a special point to highlight the cards she got from children in the West Haven parks and recreation department, which she said meant a lot.

## Revaluation now underway

West Haven has hired the appraisal company Vision overnment Solutions Inc. of Hudson, Massachusetts, to perform the city's state-mandated 2020 revaluation.

Data mailers are being sent to residential property owners to verify property information. It is essential that all data mailers are returned.

In the coming year, Vision data collectors will verify information on file with the city assessor's office and visit properties recently sold, with open building permits or with known physical changes.

All data collectors will be wearing an ID badge, and their vehicles will be registered with the West Haven Police Department. Homeowners are encouraged to ask for identification before letting anyone into their homes. Those questioning the identity of a data collector can call the (203) 937-3900.



## West Haven Chamber of Commerce

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## Around Town

### Christmas celebration

New Life Church located at 255 Jones Hill Road, invite you and your children (ages 5-10) to its first Christmas Celebration on Dec. 14, from 10-1:15. The Christmas Celebration will include: Decorating of gingerbread houses, 10:15-10:55; Reading of Christmas story, 11:00-11:15; Candy Cane Craft, 11:20-11:40; Snack time of Christmas cookies and juice, 11:45-12:10; Story of the Birth of Jesus & a gift for the Children, 12:15-1:15. Please RSVP, (203) 934-3022. Please leave your name, phone, and the number of children. A confirmation reply will be made. An adult must be present with the child during the festivities. An adult area with coffee, tea and cookies will be available during the activities, but adults are welcome to stay with the children.

### 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.

### Holiday Bazaar

The West Haven Garden Club will have its Holiday Bazaar on Thursday, Dec. 5 from 9-2. It will take place at the West Haven City Hall, 355 Main St. The

bazaar will have handcraft items, Christmas tree raffle, plants, and bake sale plus so much more. This is to include money, which is being raised for a bench for a child shot in Newtown. The bench will be put at the pink playground on the beach.

### Christmas Fest

First Congregational Church is hosting its annual Christmas Fest on the Green on Saturday, Dec 7, from 9 to 2:30. The festival will have exciting craft and candy vendors, lunch, bake sale, and a kids' activity table and surprise tree. Our Book Sale, Clothes Closet, and White Elephant sale will all be open as well. We'll have decorated trees, wreaths, and other items being raffled off. Have your picture taken with Santa between 11:30 and 2. There is a collection of food for WHEAT. Questions? Contact First Congregational Church at (203) 933-6291.

### Santa breakfast

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association is sponsoring a Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 15 from 10-1 at the Cielo Banquet Hall, 85 Chase Lane. Cost is \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members. Children 10 and under eat free. All Children must be registered with name, age and sex. RSVP by Dec 11. Contact: Rich Frey, (203) 215-8698 or Lisa Aguzzi, (203) 927-6467. The buffet-style breakfast includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee and juice.

### Christmas events

The First and Wesley United Methodist Church par-

ish is sponsoring two holiday events the weekend of Dec. 7-8. A Living Nativity (an outdoor re-creation of the Christmas story), is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 7, from 2-4.

This is a Christmas gift to the community. Experience the story of Christ's birth by seeing the manger scene with costumed characters. During the event, parishioners will distribute free gifts (hats/mittens) to children, provide hot chocolate, and host a children's craft area.

The next day, the 2nd annual Praise & Worship Concert "Light of Hope, is scheduled for 4 p.m.

The concert is free and includes a wide variety of sacred music. \*Your generous freewill offering will be used for the many ministries of the church. There'll also be 17 handmade light-up snowman couples (approx. 7"x6"x6" each) available to purchase to benefit the church.

### Breakfast with Santa

First Lutheran Church is sponsoring Breakfast with Santa at the church, 52 George St, on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 9-12. There will be activities and photos with Santa. Tickets available at door For more info, call Kyla (203) 859-2088

### Atlantic City trip

F. Seniors and Friends are running a trip to Atlantic City on Jan. 6-8, at Resorts Casino. Cost of the trip is doubles, \$235; triples, \$229, single, \$319. Four meals, two shows and slot play included.

Reservation must be with a deposit is \$50 person with final payment due Nov. 29. Call Fred Morgillo, (203) 389-5808, or (203) 927-4249.

Photo courtesy of WHHSC



### Holiday opus

The West Haven High School Children's Theatre will present *Ho, Ho, Ho: the Santa Chronicles*, by Pat Cook, on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 10 and 11:30 a.m. in the brand new auditorium at WHHS. Children 12 and under are free. Tickets for all others are \$5.

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