West Haven Voice

April 23, 2020 Vol. 25, Issue 8 16 Pages

Budget review, regular order occupy council

With the budget deadline only two weeks away, the City Council has had a unique review of the document in the era of Wuhan Virus restrictions. According to City Council Chairman Ron Quagliani (D-at-large), despite the fact the panel has had to work through tele-conferencing, this are moving along well.

The council is reviewing Mayor Nancy Rossi's \$165.2 million budget plan, presented in March. The council than had to have its annual public hearing as a remote event. The hearing kicks off the six-week review under the current charter.

Quaglianis said the meeting's format was different, and that fewer questions were received, but overall it did what was expected.

"The Public Hearing on the budget was a different format this year due to the pandemic," he said. "We received 14 emailed public comments - 1 regarding the overall recommended budget submitted by the Mayor to the Council and 13 regarding the Library."

With the review, the public is still part of the process, as they can use electronic means of asking questions. These can be budget-review items or questions posed for regular meetings.

"Public comments are handled by writing to the City Council or emailing the City Council on a particular item, and these comments will be read into the record during the Public Comment section on our agenda at the next meeting," he said.

According to the chairman, public comments or questions must consist of not more than one page and must include the residents name and address. Emailed comments are to be sent to mdimassa@westhaven-ct.gov and regular mail should be mailed to West Haven City Council, City Hall, 355 Main St., West Haven 06516.

With the public hearing completed, the council had its regularly scheduled meetings and its review of the budget toward a budget ordinance. Quagliani said the council is working in a "virtual" manner, continuing to conduct on-line meetings.

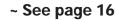
"The City Council has been and will continue to conduct its regular, committee, and special meetings virtually until the coronavirus restrictions are lifted. Residents can view our meetings by clicking on the YouTube channel on the City of West Haven web page. Our agendas are posted prior to our meetings on the website as well," he said.

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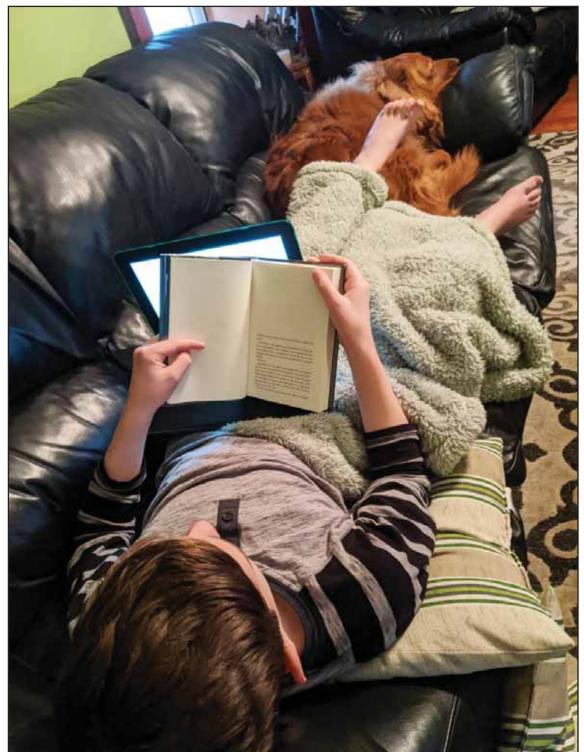
Voice Profile

An in-depth feature

The new high school in final stages of construction







Submitted Photo

As far as the budget is concerned, the means of discussion might be a bit different, but the mechanics are familiar.

"Finance Chairman (Bridgette) Hoskie (D-1) has set the Fi-See Council, page 3

Distance Learning

Justin Woychowski (Bailey student) is shown reading and typing in his Google Classroom on-line log, while his Golden Retriever Shandy sleeps. Justin is like the 6,000-plus students in the West Haven School System, using "distance learning" to get in his lessons. Justin's mom, Jillian, sent the photo into info@westhavenvoice.com. Do you have a family activity or event that you've had to while away the days during the lockdown? Send them into us, and the best ones will be posted on line, and in the print edition. See related stories, page 7 and 12.



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Next Issue Date: April 23, 2020



Columnist Dan Shine sees great weather this week with some possible showers. Most, great sunrises like this one will be one display this week.



On this Date

2005 -- The first YouTube video is posted. The 18-second clip "Me at the zoo" shows cofounder Jawed Karim at San Diego Zoo. It has been viewed more than 13 million times (2014).

1988 -- Kanellos Kanellopoulos flies across the Aegean Sea in a human-powered aircraft. The Greek Olympic cyclist flew a record-breaking 115 km (71 mi) from Crete to Santorini in the MIT Daedalus aircraft, which was named after the mythological inventor of aviation.

1985 - **Coca-Cola releases New Coke.** The new formula was so unpopular that the original Coke was re-introduced as Coca-Cola Classic soon afterward.

1984 -- The discovery of the virus causing AIDS is announced. French virologists Luc Montagnier and Françoise Barré-Sinoussi were awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine for the discovery of the HIV virus.

1971 -- The Rolling Stones release Sticky Fingers.The album is often considered one of the British rock band's best. It includes hits like "Brown Sugar" and "Wild Horses".

Bridges offers scholarship

Bridges Healthcare, Inc. announced that applications are now being accepted for The Barry Kasdan Scholarship for the Pursuit of a Graduate or Undergraduate Degree in Human Services. Eligible applicants must reside in one of the towns located in Bridges' service region, or be employed or related to a Bridges employee. Bridges will award two \$1,500 scholarships in 2020. The successful candidates must meet the following criteria: Must be a Bridges employee, or spouse, child or grandchild of a Bridges employee, or a resident of Ansonia, Bethany, Derby, West Haven, ; must be pursuing a graduate or undergraduate degree in Human Services; and must have completed at least two semesters of college. Completed applications are due no later than Monday, June 1. Please contact scholarship@ bridgesmilford.org to request an application or visit http:// tinyurl.com/bridgesscholarship to complete an online application. Hard copy applications with requested additional materials can be mailed to: Barry Kasdan Scholarship Committee, c/o Michelle LeMere, Board Chairman, PO Box 74, Durham, CT 06422.

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Council: Despite lockdown work continues for panel

Continued from page 1 nance Committee budget hearing dates which began April 14. These meetings will be handled virtually and the public can view these meetings as well as described above," he said.

The late start of the budget review was not an error, Gov. Ned Lamont has given municipalities more time to complete their tasks.

"One of the governor's executive srders allows municipalities to extend their budget process to approve a budget no later than June 30 instead of our usual first Thursday in May deadline. This may be advantageous to us as we should have a better assessment of the economic climate on June 1 than we would on May 1," Quagliani said. "The Council recognizes that there will be difficult days ahead for our residents due to this pandemic and job loss caused by it."

Pandemic or no, the city is still under the scrutiny of the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB). Its scrutiny of the city's budget and the processes that lead to a final product are ongoing.

oversight and would like to low us to extend the tax due stick to the pre-pandemic fiveyear plan. I fell that is unreasonable," Quagliani said.

The five-year plan imposed by the MARB included an incremental increase in the city's mill rate until 40 mills was achieved. The budget includes a .8-mill increase to 37.48. That means each homeowner and property owner would be taxed \$37.48 per thousand of assessed value up to 70 percent of the total.

Quagliani said he and the council believe the new reality of the nationwide shutdown make a tax increase onerous on residents.

"We will continue to advocate for our residents and their reduced ability to pay for services especially due to these historic times of uncertainty, job loss, and reduced financial stability," he said.

Lamont has given a nod to the financial problems, and extended other tax deadlines as well

Quagliani said the council is looking at the options and will do what is best for the taxpayers.

"The governor has also is-"MARB continues to provide sued executive orders that aldate from July 1 and lowers the interest fees for those who cannot pay on time due to coronavirus impacts. The Council will look to take advantage of these programs to assist our residents until they can get back on their feet," he said. "In order to do that we, along with many other municipalities, will be looking to the state to provide a backstop for us to fund our operations for the first quarter of FY21 until these delayed revenues can materialize."

Quagliani wanted to take the opportunity to thank all those on the front lines of pandemic, as well as the residents of the city, who are doing their part.

"I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to all our health care workers, first responders, essential workers, and our residents that have supported them and each other in all the many acts of kindness we are seeing. In this time of stress, anxiety, uncertainty, and disconnect, I am comforted to watch the spirit, kindness, and sense of community that is occurring throughout West Haven, Connecticut, and these United States. Stay well."

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Water Street closes on Monday



By Michael P. Walsh Special to the Voice

The city is permanently closing and abandoning Water Street on April 27 in preparation for the demolition phase of The Haven luxury outlet center.

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi said the project developer is setting up detour signs and digital sign markers in the area of Elm and Main streets to give motorists ample notice of the road closure and traffic change.

The Water Street closure and abandonment is expected to pave the way for the demolition of several existing commercial buildings as part of

Chairmen of the State of CT Veterans' Committee Representative Dorinda Borer and Senator James Maroney

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: (www.va.gov) My HealtheVet: (https://www.myhealth.va.gov/) U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Coronavirus Information: (www.va.gov/coronavirus) VA Connecticut Healthcare System: (www.va.gov/www.connecticut.va.gov) To sign up for text messaging for Veterans' notifications: www.va.gov/HEALTH/VEText.asp

PHONE NUMBERS

Veteran's Crisis Line: 800-273-8255

Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund: 860-296-0719 Needs based funding for food, shelter and clothing.

United Way of Connecticut: 2-1-1

Newington VA Campus: 860-666-6951 West Haven VA: 203-932-5711 The Haven South Municipal Development Plan.

Rossi said executives of The Haven Development Co. have updated city, police and fire officials and utility providers on the \$200 million, 261,182-square-foot waterfront development.

The development company is led by John P. Dionis, the vice president of development for Simon Premium Outlets, based in Morristown, New Jersey, and Matt Armstrong, the executive vice president of The Haven Group LLC, based in Dallas.

The developer's demolition plans for "Demolition Area 'A" of The Haven South were reviewed by Rossi, Planning and Development Commissioner Fred A. Messore, and representatives of the Regional Water Authority, Southern Connecticut Gas and United Illuminating. The area is composed of 55 properties bounded by First Avenue, Elm Street, Water Street, Center Street, Richards Place, Main Street and Bayview Place.

The plans were prepared by the Benesch design firm of Glastonbury.

The Haven's demolition phase is expected to begin shortly after April 27 with the environmental remediation of some commercial structures, followed by the acquisition of demolition permits for each property, officials said.

When completed, The Haven will encompass 26 waterfront acres featuring dozens of luxury retail shops, restaurants and a promenade. The project is expected to generate between 800 and 1,200 jobs and several million dollars in municipal tax revenue and fees, officials said.

Voice looking for family pics of fun activities

Families throoughout the city are making the best of the Stayat-Home order given by Gov. Ned Lamont and state health officials. Some are learning that staying at home can be a blast! The Voice is looking for your photos showing the family activities you are enjoying. Take a photo and send it to our Facebook page or to our email address: info@westhavenvoice.com. Include the names of the people included in the photo and a brief description of the activity.

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Two readers have taken advantage of the offer and sent in photographs and captions.

For those needing further information, call us at (203) 934-6397. Your neighbors are interested and so are we!

Fireworks fizzle; funding flounders

By Michael P. Walsh Special to the Voice

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its significant impact on the community, the Savin Rock Fireworks Committee has determined that it is appropriate to cancel the 2020 Savin Rock Fireworks Spectacular, co-chairwomen Sandy McCauley and Marianne Drapeau announced.

After committee member and City Council Chairman Ronald M. Quagliani, D-at large, informed Mayor Nancy R. Rossi about the difficulties of having a large public event in these challenging times, the committee decided to cancel West Haven's annual July 3 fireworks display to ensure

the health and safety of the public.

Rossi agreed with the committee's decision and thanked members for their "hard work and tireless dedication to putting on the best fireworks show possible."

The committee also had to cancel many scheduled fundraisers due to the pandemic and social distancing restrictions.

"Due to circumstances beyond our control, I feel we have no choice but to cancel this year's show," McCauley said. "Many traditional sponsors are unable to give this year due to the financial uncertainty this pandemic has caused.

"There is no way of knowing when (social distancing) will end."

Drapeau agreed with Mc-Cauley, saying, "We are making the right call to cancel the fireworks this year."

Committee member Sherri Lepper, the city's Democratic registrar of voters, added: "I believe canceling would be the best thing right now. We are not going to raise \$15,000 to pay for the show by July.

"We should get a jump on having fundraisers to raise money for 2021 once this pandemic is over."

Committee member Susan K. Walker echoed Lepper's sentiments, saying: "We cannot raise the money and cannot ask businesses that usually support us to donate this year. We should use the money we have to give us a good start for next year."

The committee's fundraisers this year collected less than \$5,000, said McCauley, who added that the committee is offering to return several checks it received from city businesses to aid their recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.

"The committee wishes all the residents of West Haven good health and will get to work on the 2021 show as soon as we are able to," Quagliani said.

The fireworks display, traditionally launched off Bradley Point, is billed as "the region's largest Independence Day fireworks show," drawing an estimated 100,000 people of all ages to the West Haven shoreline each year.

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This year's fireworks fell victim to funding problems due to COVID-19.

By Dan Shine



Historian's corner

New Haven Topography Part II

Scientific tradition holds that the continental glacier entered and completely covered Connecticut about 26,000 years ago. In addition, tradition holds that the Ice Age preceded that flow, about 150,000 years ago. These forces had a great impact on what is today our homeland.

As it has been explained, the more recent glacier was thick enough to completely cover Mt. Washington, which is 6288' high. Here in Southern Connecticut, our landscape was covered by ice that was 1200-1500' deep.

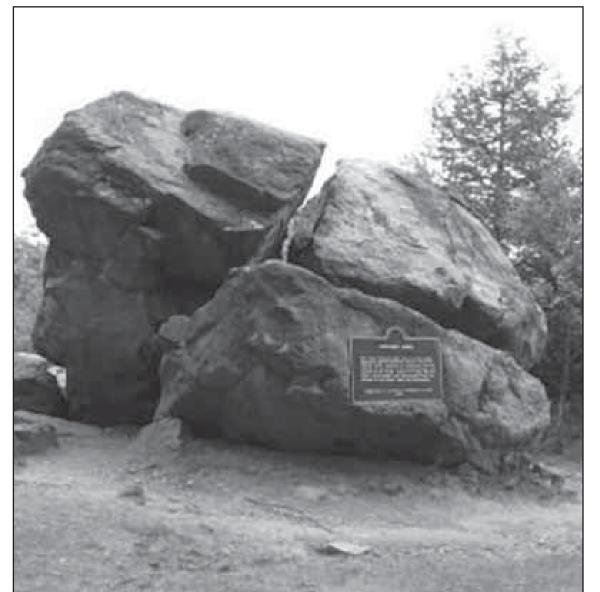
As these glaciers moved southward, their tremendous weight depressed the land areas and plowed earth materials before them with an action resembling that of enormous bulldozers, and reshaped the surface over which they traveled. This action is called glaciation; it creates trough-shaped valleys with steep vertical cliffs where entire mountainsides were created by glacial scraping. And so it was that glacial movement created drumlins, elongated hills or ridges extending north and south, and composed of debris or fragments of rock pushed

along and compressed by the moving ice. These drumlins were composed of boulder clay, glacial sand and gravel. Melting glacial ice produced massive rivers which cut valleys still deeper, and in some places created lakes.

Today, we see ridges and valleys and everywhere there are erratic boulders which consist of types of rock that differ from the underlying bedrock. These boulders were plucked from faraway hills and moved to new locations by glacial action. They lie where they were dropped when the glaciers melted out from under them. A good example of erratic boulders would be those comprising Judges' Cave on West Rock, a formation of erratic boulders, which lie on the spots where they were left so long ago.

After the glacial age, the land was bare of vegetation and the surface was covered with mud and rocks; the passage of time brought the return of vegetation, birds and animals.

And then, after the passage of the centuries, the area that we now call home was ready to be inhabited by mankind, so thus they did appear. We acknowledge the work of Floyd M. Shumway and Richard Hegel from which much of this article was drawn.





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



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Judges Cave, an historical site on its own, is also a representation of some of the

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Established West Haven Voice Bill Riccio, Jr Sales Director Alan Olenick Thursday, April 23, 2020 Page 6

Facing some realities

By the time this periodical hits the streets, it is hoped that we will be somewhere near the peak of the Wuhan Virus curve, or, possibly, on its downward slope. Again, we can hope. The last five weeks have been unprecedented in the severity and scope of any shutdown or pandemic response the world has ever seen. Now we have to look toward putting life - and lives - back together.

The shutdown of the economy was a bold and dangerous move, and we can only speculate as to the ripple effects this will have going forward, but we must reopen the economy and allow people to get on with their lives. That means that a couple realities are going to have to be understood by the general public - and echoed by our leaders.

The first reality is that any opening of the economy is going to include the likely possibility of a spike in new cases. People coming into closer contact that might be carriers of the disease will be out in the world. This means people will get sick, some may die. But, the effect of not letting people get back to some semblance of normality will have its own dire consequences. The insecurity of getting the disease will be replaced by the insecurity of making a living. It's not an either/or proposition.

A possible approach is to quarantine the sick in much the same way as was done a century ago: putting them in secure facilities where they can be cared for until such time as they are recovered or cured. A vaccine is said to be 18 months or more away. The fact we can test for the virus is in our favor, and will allow for the quarantining - even at home - of those with the disease.

The next reality is health professionals and think tanks that came up with the initial projections on infections and deaths have to have their methodology scrutinized.

Let us remember that predictions were between 1 and 2 million deaths, and tens of millions infected. Those projections had assumptions that proved not only incorrect, but egregiously so.

Even in the tri-state area, which is the hot spot of the virus among the nation, the number of cases and the stress on the medical system have been far below what was anticipated based on those early models. Those models to date have been revised downward three times, and continue to skew high.

We must deal with how these models came about, what presumptions or assumptions were made, and what other factors were included to make sure the panic and over-reaction we ve seen thus far does not happen again. Finally, we must deal with the realities of how this unique situation has damaged or will damage individuals.

rest of the world to the virus, at the same time they downplayed its dangers.

China acted as you'd expect. Countries that run gulags aren't typically noted for their good governance and transparency. The WHO is supposed to be different. According to its constitution, "The health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security and is dependent on the fullest cooperation of individuals and States."

But it's hard to see how the differently if its constitution contained a proviso stipulating that it should validate midst of a world-threatening On Jan. 14, WHO tweeted that "preliminary investigations" by Chinese authorities man-to-human transmission. "limited" human-to-human transmission, although it downplayed the finding as typical of respiratory illnesses. Then, the WHO declined to call the outbreak in China a public health emergency of 22, at the same time there were Australia, Japan, Thailand and

South Korea. After the WHO finally declared the emergency, it proceeded to drag its feet on declaring a pandemic, waiting until March 12.

1997

Editor

One of the worst things China did was seal off Hubei province from the rest of the country while flights continued around the world. Was the WHO concerned about that? No, it was fully on board. As a headline in Reuters put it in early February, "WHO chief says widespread travel bans not needed to beat China virus."

Incredibly enough, in late January, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was praising Chinese officials for "the transparency they have demonstrated." Despite the emerging consensus that China has lied about its number of cases and deaths, WHO hasn't yet said a discouraging word about China's actions. It's been resolute, though, in excluding Taiwan from its workings, just as Beijing dictates.Trump takes more than his share of potshots, but that doesn't mean he's always off the m ark. China and the WHO are genuine malefactors who deserve all the obloquy the president, and anyone else, can heap on them. Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

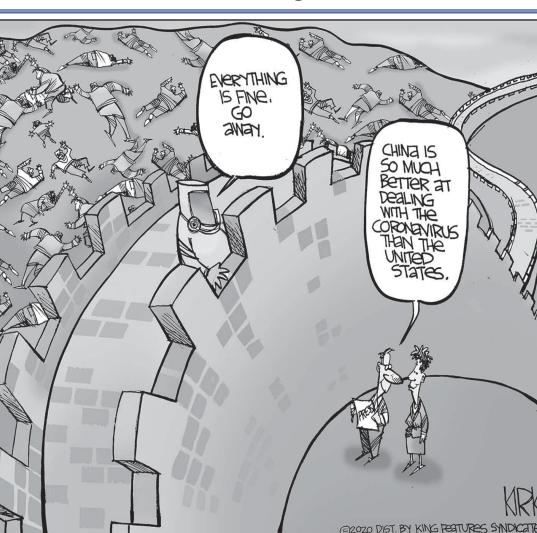
CI2020 DIST. BY KING FEATURES SINDICATE email: Walters Work 546 gmail, com China, WHO worked together

By Rich Lowry

Syndicated Columnist President Donald Trump slammed the World Health Organization at a recent news briefing and was immediately accused of scapegoating.

There's no doubt that Trump is inclined to shift blame when possible (and even when it isn't). He'll never take ownership of the testing debacle at the outset of our coronavirus response or admit it was wrong initially to minimize the virus.

Yet none of this detracts from the force of his critiques WHO would have acted any of China (although he blows hot and cold on that) and the WHO, which are at the center Chinese propaganda as much as possible, especially in the outbreak of a novel virus. had found no evidence of hu-Several days later, it reported international concern on Jan. confirmed cases in Taiwan,



People's livelihoods have been ruined to the point many may never recover. This will have far-reaching impacts on future health, physically and mentally.

We as a nation and society will have effects of the last five weeks that will extend for decades. The treatment of these effects must extend beyond pay-outs and stimulus projects. The things that have given people's lives meaning -- family, profession, religion, social interaction -- have been damaged along with the economy.

We must be ready to help those who are going to have delayed reactions to these events.

The next stage of the Wuhan Virus saga is going to be more difficult than the disease, and those realities must be faced by an informed and ready public.

of this international catastrophe and must be held to account.

Without China's deceit and WHO's solicitude for Beijing, the outbreak might have been more limited, and the world at the very least would have had more time to react.

China committed unforgivable sins of commission, affirmatively lying about the outbreak and punishing doctors and disappearing journalists who told the truth, whereas the WHO committed sins of omission -- it lacked independence and courage at a moment of great consequence. In effect, China and the WHO worked together to expose the

Cavallaro gives schools update 'Distance Learning' is getting it done

this has been a most unique school year. Beginning with the West Nile Virus mosquito infestation in the late summer and fall, the year has been interrupted by the Wuhan Virus to the point, Gov. Ned Lamont has determined to keep schools closed until the end of May.

That decision has made Superintendent of Schools Neil C. Cavallaro and his staff implement new procedures, born of necessity, that may have impacts on education in decades to come. But right now, Cavallaro and his staff must determine the best way to get to the end of the school year, which is scheduled to be completed in mid-June.

Despite the two-month transition to "distance learning" as allowed by the state Board of Education, the schools chief is hopeful the year can end in a more traditional manner for the good of the staff and students.

"I am hopeful that school will be back in session, even it's just for three weeks, he said. "I believe it's important for our staff and students to have closure on this school year.

He said he wasn't going to make any determination solo, that all decisions would be based on guidelines set in Hartford.

"Our district will follow the guidelines set forth by the State of Connecticut and its Department of Education. We will also continue to work closely with the City of West Haven as well as the surrounding communities before making any decision for either returning to school or canceling for the remainder of the year."

He took time to review how the "distance learning" component is going. Under the program, lessons are given on-line, with students expected to take part as if they were in a school building. Those who don't have computers at home, or are limited in access still can get lessons and have contact with teachers on questions and testing. "Right now our distance learning program is going about as well as can be expected. Our teachers have done a terrific job of reaching out to students and holding them accountable for daily attendance and turning in work," he said. "We have to be flexible, because we understand many families simply don't have a computer device for every member of the family."

subject, that has been the topic of some discussion.

"The State Department of Education has recommended that districts strongly consider using the pass/fail option. They've been working with the colleges and universities to see how they would react. Given the circumstances, all are receptive. While I believe it's a viable option, many of our students continue to work extremely hard and should be recognized for their efforts, especially at the high school level," he said.

Cavallaro then explained the mechanics of the program.

"Distance learning is no different than attending school. In order to receive credit, you must attend (sign in) regularly and submit quality work. Those who do will earn credit. Finally, as for final exams, our district has been looking at different ways to show that students have mastered a course and deserve credit," he said.

As far as final exams toward final grades, flexibility is the order of the day.

"Teachers can still give traditional tests as a final, but they can also have students do a research project, and even distance presentations. Our teachers continue to be very creative when it comes to reaching students and getting the most out of them," he said.

One of the problems facing Cavallaro and schools around the country are things such as year-ending activities, including graduation. That has been a major topic of discussion, and no final decisions have been made, he said.

"Right now, as I've said previously, we will be following the guidelines that come from the State of Connecticut and the Department of Education. While I don't foresee our traditional graduation ceremony taking place, we are thinking about different ways to honor our seniors for their accomplishments. One thing that will happen in the coming days is that I, the administrative team from the high school, and class advisers will be meeting with senior class officers. I believe it's important for them to weigh in on any decision prior to one being made. One possibility is holding some type of ceremony in the fall. Another may be, conducting several small ones later in the summer. Again, much will be determined as we navigate the plan to return to normalcy," he said.

No one will dispute the fact expected in order to pass a new school year in the fall. The pandemic has school administrators wondering about what to do in September. Cavallaro is maintaining a cautious optimism.

> "Let's hope that we can return to school in the fall if even for a short period of time. This will give teachers the opportunity to get to know their students. It will also give our social workers, counselors, and other professionals a chance to discuss what's happened over the last months, and see how students are feeling. If we have to go to a distance learning plan in the fall, we will be in a much better position to offer students a tried and tested program that we'll improve on, he said.

The city is also anticipating a way of getting computers to students who may not have one at home.

"We will also be able to provide those students without a Chromebook or laptop, a device that will keep them more engaged in distance learning. We anticipate receiving 1,600 laptops from the State of Connecticut for high school students. We have recently received a \$50,000 gift from Yale University to purchase devices, and the West Haven Rotary Club has worked extremely hard to secure devices for students that need them."

Finally, Cavallaro said the pandemic has not hampered construction of the new West Haven High School, which re-



mains on schedule with a few tweaks.

"The high school project is moving along and remains on schedule. It is still expected to be completed by the fall of 2020. In order to operate in a safe manner, the building committee has agreed to allow the construction workers to work in two shifts. That allows for social distancing. The site continues to receive deep cleaning regularly, and Gilbane Construction Company has posted signs reminding workers to be safe and follow proper precautions.

The pandemic has helped move up some timetables.

"As a result of the school being closed, we will begin a few See Schools, page 14

Submitted Photo

Molly Kennedy, second grader at Alma E. Pagels, sits at a dining room table and does her lessons remotely on her computer. School kids all over the state are now using the technological innovation called "Distance Learning" to keep up with lessons. Schools using the methodology will not have to make up days except those where no learning was taking place. Superintendent of Schools Neil C. Cavallaro is happy with the program, saying teachers and students have been cooperative.

As far as whether a student has achieved the proficiency

Already there are discussions nationwide about the

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nese Virus. Whatever moniker you wanna put on it, honeybunch, in the Asylum by the Sea as everywhere else, that's all anybody is talkin' about and all anyone is concerned about. Our little corner of the universe is jest like everywhere else as well. Stores are closed for the most part, so are restaurants and "non-essential" businesses. Of course, as the Wag pernted out when he stopped over for tea (we stayed six feet apart), the interesting thing about "essential" is it is what is deemed so by the powers in Hartford, namely one Edward "Ned" Lamont, esteemed governor of the Land of Steady Habits.

The Wag noted as did others, that "essential" to the state is very interesting. Lotto outlets are essential, as are package stores and such. The state gits big bucks from the "sin taxes," and ain't gonna close them down. That's immediate revenue. The other places,

Covid-19, Wuhan Virus, Chi- the powers figger, will come later when things can open up. Business taxes will come rolling in once the state is reopened cuz people will need those services.

> Of course, Cobina ain't complaining the package stores are open. We still like to have our wee bit o' sherry on the off-occasion. And, effen this shutdown ain't an off occasion, I ain't sure what is.

> The Wag came cuz he wanted to show Cobina - though she'd already seen it - the absolute Yutz Sen. Christopher Murphy was makin' himself. Murphy has always been a yutz, that's one o' the reasons he got the Demmy nomination. They don't want people who think for themselves.

> Tennyrate, Yutzo got the idea to defend the Communist Chinese government for its handling of the Wuhan Virus and then torched the present administration. Now, I understand he's gotta make a political thing outta it, but to

defend the place and people who made decisions that were either malicious or stupid and got the world in this mess is just crazy.

We've never had much use for Murphy or his "senior" partner for our state, Richard Blumenthal, over the years. They are both hyper-partisan hacks, and have proven that over and over. In the words of the late Shrimpus Flynn, "Nuff said."

Yew know Cobina ain't a social media type. The few times I've seen what people post on social media makes my skin crawl. Some bodies don't have a filter, and hafta let people know everything about their lives. To use a word I used before, it's crazy. But, I guess people git addicted to that stuff the way they get addicted to other things.

Our webmaster showed some comments about our recent editorial, and our editor knew it would "trigger" the usual suspects, and it did. But, there ain't any reasoned discussion or real thought, just vitriol. Cobina will stay off social media.

Despite the Wuhan Flu, things hafta git done in a municipality, and one of the things getting done is the budget. This year will be a bit different however, as told to us by our correspondence with City Council Chairman Ron Quagliani.

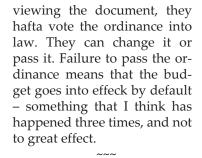
Ole Ron sez that the council,

unlike past years, jest began lookin' over the mayor's proposed budget, which was isshewed a month ago. It was just before the trash hit the fan over the virus. But, they got a bit of a reprieve. It seems that Gov. Lamont has determined that the May deadline for budgets, which I think is the second week of May be state law, was summarily moved to late June, and the July 1 implementation date for the new fiscal year's tax collection will be moved as well.

Sooooo, the committee-ofthe-whole that reviews the budget will meet over and above regularly schedule meetings and in the same way, via Skype or some other electronic means. The good news is the people can take part in the deliberations jest like they could when we could all actually be in groups. Effen they have questions they can be emailed or mailed to City Hall (see the story in the papyrus) and those queries will be addressed.

Quagliani sez the public hearing on the budget went about as well as expected and that several questions were fielded, mostly about the Library, witch took a beating in this spending plan.

Electronic means or not, the rules still apply. The council can only make changes via a super-majority of nine votes on the 13-member council. Once they do their thing, re-



The big news via Sammy Bluejay is that the city is gonna close Water Street on April 27 – we got that story, too. That is big news cuz something – anything – had to happen over there. The neighborhood must be givin' a sigh of relief cuz things were getting more and more seedy over there by the day.

The closure means that a shortcut or side road used by many motorists to leave or enter the city will be closed off, and traffic down there might be a bit more congested from now on. The good news is that after 23 years, four iterations and thousands of words at council meetings, civic forums and in the press, it looks like something is happening.

Remember, a projeck for that site was announced in September of 1997, cuz our editor was there. There have been three names -Water Street Project, West River Crossing, and now The Haven and several attempts to get things started, including one plan that envisioned hundreds of milliondollar condos. This project was announced in October of 2014, and six years later something is happening.

This is only one step in a long process, but maybe, jest maybe, things are moving toward something getting built down there.

Methinks I mentioned this to yew a couple o' weeks ago, but it bears mentioning, again. Nelly Nuthatch fluttered by t'other day and told me that a couple o' private schools she's aware of have already let it be known that the "snow day" is now on the ash heap of history as far as they are concerned. The "distance learning" or "on-line learning," that schools have gone over to in this pandemic has opened up a new way of making sure all 180 days of school get on the schedule. Most public school systems, including our own, have developed a perty good format for the kiddies - who are probably likin' it cuz they hafta stay home for weeks. I posed the question somewhat tongue-in-cheek before, but it seems that necessity has been the mother of invention, or innovation, and effen there's a blizzard, school will be handled via the Internet, unless, of course, wires go down. That'll be another kettle o fish. I'll close this time till next, mitt luff und kizzez,





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WEST HAVEN VOICE

City Photo

Thursday, April 23, 2020 - Page 9

Pinpoint gives masks to city

Pinpoint managing partner T.J. Andrews, front left, presents city and fire officials April 9 with a boxed donation of 75 clear plastic face shields – 25 for each of West Haven's three fire departments - to help protect firefighters on the front lines of the war on COVID-19.Receiving and wearing the shields are, from back left, West Haven Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, acting City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown Chief Michael T. Esposito, West Shore Fire Department Chief Stephen Scafariello and Lou Esposito, Rossi's executive assistant. Andrews and managing partner Steve Gentile also donated 25 protective shields to the city's Police Department.

Caprio to chair Alzheimer Walk

The Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter is pleased to announce that Michelle Caprio will chair the 2020 Greater New Haven Walk to End Alzheimer's.

"My Mother passed away at age 70 from several complications including early onset dementia. It was extremely difficult to see her become so sickly and watch her pass away. She was our rock," Caprio says.

Born and raised in West Haven, Caprio enjoys being part of a strong community. She was PTA President in several schools, ran a health and wellness fair for elementary-aged students and their families, founded and organized a Day of Caring at the First Congregational Church of West Haven and gathers hats, gloves and gift cards to give to homeless and insecure families. This will be her 8th year taking part in the Walk to End Alzheimer's.

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's will take place on Sept. 27 at Lighthouse Point Park.



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Shore Haven scholarships

Shore Haven Jr. Baseball will be accepting scholarship applicants from June 2020 high school seniors pursuing further education. The league will be awarding scholarships in the amounts of \$250 in honor of Dave Terese, Sr. and Mario J. Argentino, plus the Joseph Morrell, Sr. Scholarship. All applicants must have participated in the league for two years for the Terese, Argentino, and Morrell Sr. scholarships. Applications must be returned by May 15, to Charles Gunning, 125 Central Ave. West Haven 06516. More information can be obtained from area high school guidance offices or by calling (203) 934-9740.

Revue rescheduled

The 38th edition of the Golden Oldies Revue, originally scheduled for Saturday, April 4, at Cielo Ballroom has been cancelled and rescheduled for Friday, June 5, 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Michael Hoover presents "Memories of Elvis" at 9:30. Also featured Carla Gemma. Tickerts are \$30 per person. Proceeds benefit MDA. for prizes and Raffle! call Geri Caccavale, (203) 795-5473.

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. If you are interested in making an application for a loan, please call Ralph Lawson, (203) 934-6442.





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Dear Eleanore Turkington: I wonder if there is an ordi-

nance in West Haven that prohibits property owners who allow their yards to remain messy. It just doesn't seem fair to the rest of the people in the neighborhood. Just what can be done about these conditions?

BS Tired of it!

Dear BS Tired of It:

If you live in West Haven and allow your property to allow your grass, weeds or similar vegetation, excluding flowers, fruits and vegetables, they may not "reach and remain at a height of eight inches or greater for a period f 10 days or longer.

Citations issued are reported to the fire, building, police, public works and health departments and the zoning and **Dear Eleanore Turkington**:



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

corporation counsel's offices. To report a blight complaint, you can call the Building Department at (203) 937-3590 and provide as many details about the complaint as possible. Complaints are kept confidential.

I noticed, in West Haven, there are a few closed businesses. Can't someone in City Hall try and get investors interested in them? West Haven can use some more businesses. REI

Dear RFJ:

Although at this time during the COVID-19 Virus, businesses have been affected, however your inquiry as to why West Haven doesn't encourage more businesses was followed up.

I asked Louis Esposito, Mayor Nancy Rossi's assistant and Alan Olenick, Director of the West Haven Chamber of Commerce back in February and March. To date neither of these men responded to Gripe Vine. You can be assured I will continue to follow up on your question.

Dear Eleanore Turkington: I don't understand why labels are printed so small on just about everything, prescription bottles, baking directions, household and maintenance items that you just can hardly read them. Sometimes I get so embarrassed when I call a prescription in and must struggle reading the prescription numbers.

The other day I opened my mail, put off opening my cable bill till last and during this chore practically every piece of mail I received had printing that no one could read. Yes, I finally did open my cable bill and found a complete explanation of their contract folded up to fit the envelope. When I say I couldn't read it, I absolutely couldn't read the print --no larger than a pin head.

I am writing to you today Eleanore, in the hopes at least the pharmacists would change the size of the print on labels and hoping other companies will do the same. Thanks for listening. I am sure your many

readers feel as I do.

By Eleanore Turkington

TG Hopeful **Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

There is a three-way stop intersection behind Seth Haley Elementary School on South Street. It seems that everyone does not even slow down, let alone come to a complete stop. They just breeze through it as if there were no signs at al.

This is a neighborhood with families with young children. It is a high traffic area, bike riding, dog walking, etc. I know that it will be just a matter of time before someone gets hurt. I am hoping something can be done before there is a tragedy. It would be great if the West Haven Police Department would put an unmarked car in this area to view the activity and address this situation.

Very Concerned Parent **Dear Very Concerned Parent:** I have notified Councilwoman Elizabeth Johnston of your concern and will publish her investigative results in Gripe Vine. Thank you for your concern.

Financial Focus Courtesy of Edward Jones Financial Time to "Go Green" With Your Investments?

Over the past several weeks, many of us have been working from home in response to the "social distancing" necessitated by the coronavirus. Nonetheless, we still have opportunities to get outside and enjoy Mother Nature. And now, with the 50th anniversary of Earth Day being celebrated on April 22, it's important to appreciate the need to protect our environment.

Of course, you can do so in many ways - including the way you invest.

Some investors are supporting the environment through "sustainable" investing, which is often called ESG (environmental, social and corporate governance) investing. In general, it refers to investments in businesses whose products and services are considered favorable to the physical environment (such as companies that produce renewable energy or that act to reduce their own carbon footprints) or the social environment (such as firms that follow ethical business practices or pursue important societal goals, such as inclusion and pay equity). ESG investing may also screen out investments in companies that produce products some people find objectionable. ESG investing has become popular in recent years, and not just with individuals; major institutional investors now pursue sustainability because they think it's profitable - and plenty of facts bear that out. A growing body of academic research has found a positive relationship between corporate financial performance - that is, a company's profitability

- and ESG criteria.

So, although you might initially be attracted to sustaininvestments because able they align with your personal values, or because you want to hold companies to higher standards of corporate citizenship, it turns out that you can do well by doing good.

Keep in mind, though, that sustainability, like any other criteria, can't guarantee success or prevent losses.

In any case, be aware that sustainable investing approaches can vary significantly, so you need to determine how a particular sustainable investment, or class of investments, can align with your values and fit into your overall portfolio. Specifically, how will a sustainable investment meet your needs for diversification?

For example, if you desire total control over how your money is invested, you might want to invest in a basket of individual stocks from the companies you wish to support. But if you want to achieve greater diversification, plus receive the benefits of professional management, you might want to invest in sustainable mutual funds. Be aware, though, that even though they may not market themselves as "sustainable," many more mutual funds do incorporate sustainability criteria into their investment processes. You also might consider exchange-traded funds (ETFs), which own a variety of investments, similar to regular mutual funds, but trade like stocks. ETFs often track particular indexes, so an ETF with a sustainable focus might track an index including companies that have been screened for social responsibility.

Make sure you understand the fundamentals of any sustainable investment you're considering, as well as whether it can help you work toward your long-term goals. But by "going green" with some of your investments, you can help keep the spirit of Earth Day alive every day of the year.

This article was written by Edward Jones, Member SIPC, for use by Darryl Zebrowski, your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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Yale grant to help city students

winners are city students.

Yale University is making a \$50,000 donation toward the purchase of Google Chromebooks for students in need within the West Haven Public School District. The district has temporarily closed its schools and shifted to on-line learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, making student access to home computers an urgent priority.

With this donation, the university is working with Mayor Nancy Rossi, West Haven State Rep. Dorinda Borer (D-

It was a team effort. And the 115), and West Haven Councilman Barry Lee Cohen to keep students connected to resources and education.

> Cohen, the Republican 10th District Councilman, may have got the ball rolling on this in a March letter sent to Yale President Peter Salovey, published in the Voice. It was in reaction to a similar donation given the City of New Haven for its school system. Cohen reminded the Yale executive of the university's presence in the city. He applauded the donation to the Elm City schools, and requested if the university

LEGAL NOTICE

WEST SHORE FIRE DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

In accordance with the Governors Executive Orders of the State of Connecticut. The West Shore Fire District will not conduct a Public Annual Meeting.

This meeting will be conducted via a web-based application.

The 2020-2021 Budget and all information on access and comments can be found on the West Shore Fire District website: www.westshorefd.com

Board of Fire Commission Robert Bruneau, Chairman Michael Dovle Evan Mink

Stephen Scafariello, Fire Chief



might consider a similar one to West Haven.

In display of bi-partisanship, he worked with Borer to facilitate the idea, and the representative used her good offices to help work out the results.

"As the city's councilman for the district that is the home of Yale West Campus, I witness firsthand the strong towngown relationship that has been critical in spurring economic development initiatives and contributing to the livelihood of our small businesses," said Cohen. "Yale's extremely generous contribution not only facilitates the education of our youth but provides some sorely needed financial assistance to West Haven families during this most challenging time. I look forward to continued collaboration with the university."

In seeing the results, Cohen was pleased.

"I care deeply about small business and families, therefore the reason for my letter. Some may say I threw the football, but Rep Borer scored a touchdown for the kids and that's all that courts!"

Mayor Rossi added: "I want to thank Yale for their generosity and allegiance to the West Haven community and our students, and thank you to State Rep. Dorinda Borer for taking the lead. The more than 200 Chromebooks will ensure that our children have the tools needed for scholastic success in these very difficult and uncertain times. Yale is a true partner, and their support is very much appreciated."

Borer also acknowledged the importance of the donation.

"When Yale committed to helping our community, I recommended the donation of Chromebooks because I believe it aligns perfectly with Yale's mission and focus on the importance of a quality education. Every child in our city deserves that same opportunity towards a quality education, and this donation coupled with the Rotary Club's computer donation is going to help fill a critical gap," said. Borer.

And Superintendent Neil Cavallaro underscored the need for computers in particular.

"On Behalf of the West Haven Board of Education, I want to thank Yale University for the generous donation of \$50,000," Cavallaro said. "The funds will go towards the purchase of Chromebooks for students and their families who simply don't have the resources during these trying times to purchase them. These

devices are a critical component of the school district's distance learning plan. I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge State Representative Dorinda Borer for working with the university to secure the funds. From her time on the Board of Education, and now as a state representative, she has always been a strong advocate for education and, most importantly, our students."

While closing schools and transitioning to online learning is essential for stemming the spread of the virus, there are significant gaps in computer and internet access among students.

"Our donation reflects Yale University's ongoing commitment to education and to addressing the community's needs for distance learning during these challenging times," said Yale's Lauren Zucker, associate vice president for New Haven Affairs and University Properties.

Yale has moved quickly on several fronts to support the local community, and will continue to do so through a growing number of initiatives and programs. To learn more about Yale's response to COV-ID-19, visit the Yale COVID-19 response website.

amont orders facemasks.

made last week, Gov. Ned Lamont and state officials have now issued order requiring everyone to wear some type of mask or face covering when entering an enclosed space, store or workplace. Lamont said last week an order of this kind was in the works during a daily update. The hope is the face coverings will stem the spread of the corona virus. Through the state's Department of Economic and Community Development,

Making good on statements Lamont issued his most recent of several executive orders. The new order makes significant revisions to mandatory rules outlining additional protective measures that every workplace in Connecticut deemed essential -- and any other business or nonprofit allowed to remain open -- must follow.

> Beginning Monday night, all employees are required to wear face mask or face cloth covering at all times in the workplace.

> The state regulations put the onus of mask availability on the employer, according to the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA), which issued a release.

ployee is not required to produce medical documentation in such a case.

A big change to the regulations concerns consumers.

Customers must also wear cloth face coverings while on premises. Businesses may provide face coverings to customers and visitors. The medical exemption applies for customers, with additional guidance for children.

The state also revised its rules for Connecticut retail stores, and now requires masks or face coverings for employees and customers.

Meanwhile, the governor announced in the same executive order the Presidential Preference Primary, which was supposed to happen this month, and was moved to June 2 will now take place Aug. 11. This most recent order is the latest in a series of 28 orders issued by the governor, and like the rest will remain in effect as long as the health emergency is ongoing.



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Employers are now required to issue masks or cloth face coverings to employees.

If that is not possible because of shortages or supply chain difficulties, employers must provide materials-or compensate employees for the cost-to make their own and share the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for making cloth face coverings.

Masks or face coverings are not required if wearing one compromises the health or safety of an employee because of a medical condition. An emWho: Workers, customers.

Where: Workplace, stores, enclosed areas.

How Long: Until emergency declaration is lifted.

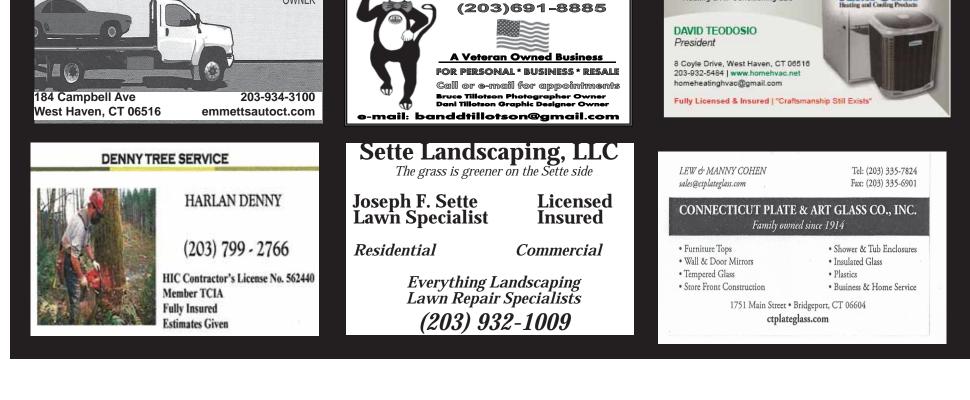


Walmart gives supplies

Walmart of West Haven employees donate several cases of Gatorade, water, and Lysol disinfectant spray and wipes to members of the West Shore, West Haven and City of West Haven Allingtown fire departments; the West Haven and New Haven police departments; and the Connecticut State Police on Monday to aid first responders in the coronavirus fight. Among those receiving the supplies from store manager Tamara Sweeney and asset protection associate Nyijal McMillan in the Walmart parking lot at 515 Sawmill Road on behalf of the departments are West Haven Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, West Shore

Fire Department Chief Stephen Scafariello, West Haven Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien, acting City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown Chief Michael T. Esposito, and West Haven police Sgt. Patrick Buturla and Officers Ahmed Arnold, Kevin Bowerman and Kim Simone. Walmart and other West Haven businesses have mobilized to donate cleaning supplies, face shields and medical gowns to help protect people from COVID-19. Walmart Inc., headquartered in Bentonville, Ark., is keeping its retail stores operating during the coronavirus pandemic.

<section-header>BUSINESS SERVICE GUIDE BUSINESS SERVICE GUIDE



Anniversary

(can be sent from funeral home)

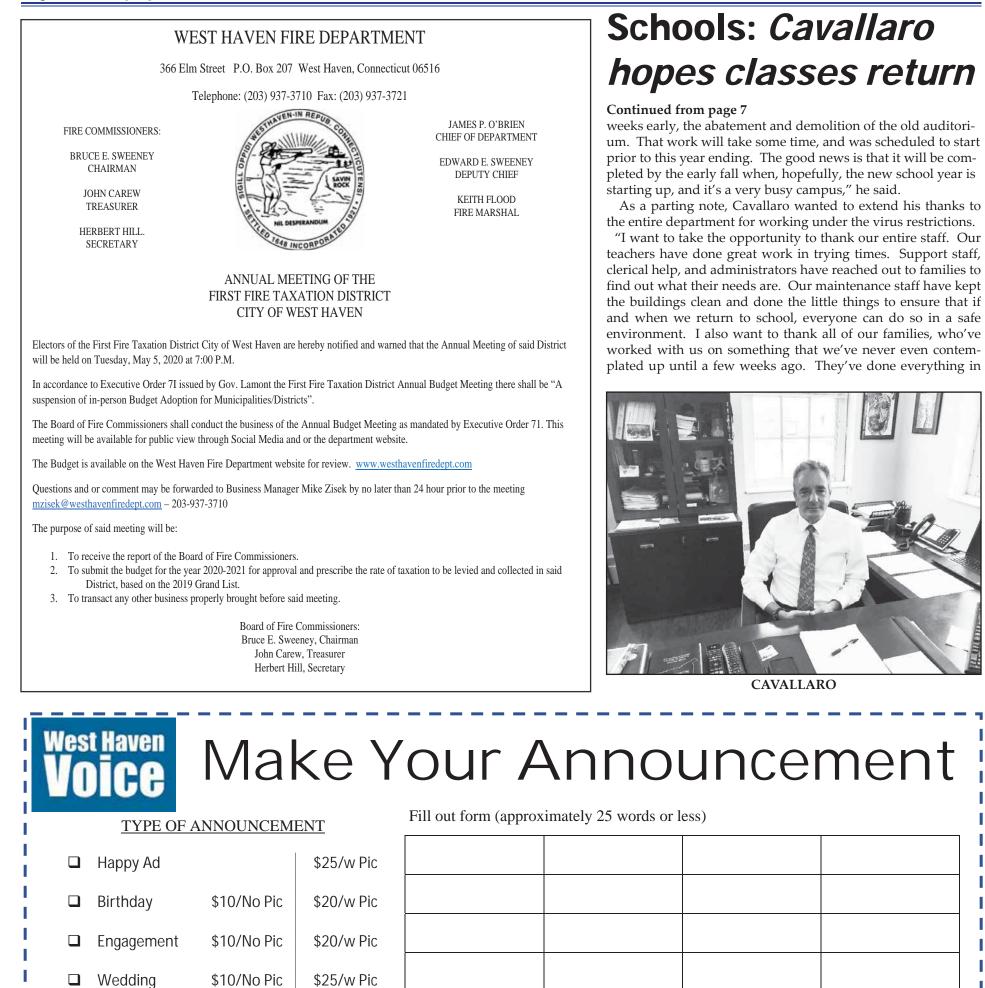
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Ask for Jean Hinton.

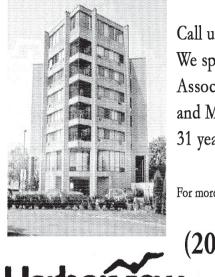
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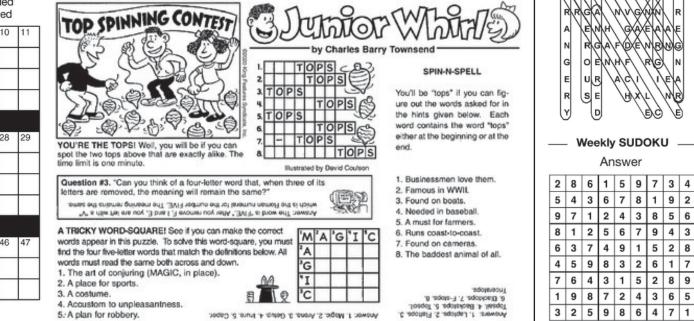
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Answers to last week's puzzles — King Crossword — Answers Solution time: 21 mins. WORDS OF ANGER



WHHS reconstruction marches on

With classes suspended on campus until at least the ing. end of may, West Haven High School is still a bevy of activity as workers with Gilbane Construction and other companies continue the rebuilding project begun two years ago. Current plans call for a fall open-

The Voice was abke to get an update of the project via a series of photos. From what we can see, the construction crews, working in two shifts in order to maintain social distancing, are fast moving toward

the fall opening hoped for by school official.

Various parts of the building are completed or going through final stages of completion. The demolition of the old auditorium and classrooms in that wing will begin ahead of schedule.



One of the classrooms that will give students plenty of light, and an open atmosphere to complete lessons.



The science wing of the building is still under some construction, but is fully expected to be finished by the fall. In the background is the C wing of the old building.





Far left -- The sky bridge will link two areas of the building allowing easy access between classes.

Above -- One of corridors is in the final stages of completion.

Left -- The new gymnasium is taking shape with basketball nets in place. The floor and stands still have to be installed. There will be an auxiliary gym as well, helping to alleviate overcrowding of physical education classes whn indoors.