

West Haven Voice

June 4, 2020

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

Voice Profile

An in-depth feature

WHHS
Class of 2020
Graduation Plan

~ See below



Before the outbreak of COVID-19 in March, the members of the West Haven High School Class of 2020 posed as a group on the steps of Ken Strong Stadium. The class cannot have a traditional graduation ceremony due to state

regulations, but city and school officials are going to give them a chance to get their diplomas in a drive-through ceremony, scheduled June 29 and 30. On the night of the scheduled graduation, June 12, an online ceremony will take place.

Class of 2020 *Graduation goes Drive-through*

The West Haven High School Class of 2020 has had what can be easily described as an unusual senior year. Begun with the mosquito scare of West Nile Virus in late September, the seniors had their last year halted by a pandemic not seen in decades.

From seeing their classmates daily to "distance learning," the seniors and all students in the city lost the social, athletic and personal components of their scholastic careers. School officials can't give them the usual pomp and circumstance that accompanies the end of high school, plans are underway to give them as close to that experience as state guidelines will allow.

Graduation is set for a "virtual" cer-

emony on the night of June 12, according to WHHS Principal Dana Paredes. The pre-recorded ceremony will be shown online to the senior class, and will have the usual "speaking part" of such events, with speeches from the superintendent, Mayor Nancy Rossi, and comments by school officials.

"Parents will receive a link to view it on the 12th," Paredes said. "Later that night the link will be made public."

"We are graduating 381 students. Chloe Hummel is the Valedictorian, and Winnie Jiang is the Salutatorian and Class President," she said.

But the "big moment," the receiving of diplomas was going to be lost. But some out-of-the-box thinking will give

the seniors that moment.

This past Monday, Superintendent of School Neil Cavallaro, Paredes, and Building Committee Chairman Ken Carney showed their plans to the Board on Monday. Earlier that day, meetings with the police, maintenance staff, and Tom McCarthy from Public Works firmed up the logistics.

According to Cavallaro, a "drive-in" ceremony is planned for June 29-30. The superintendent described it like this:

"1 We will be setting up a stage in the student parking lot at the high school.

" 2. Beginning at the Savin Rock Conference Center, graduates and their families will organize in groups of 30.

"3. The first group will ride in procession to the parking lot and park in front of the stage.

"4. Each student will get out of the car.

"5. Their name will be called. They will walk across the stage in cap and gown and receive a diploma.

"6. A photographer will take their picture.

"7. While the first thirty are parked, the second group will be waiting along Educational Way.

"8. Once the first group exits, through Kelsey Avenue, the second group will pull into the parking lot.

"9. The process will continue."

Graduation, page 3

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Next Issue Date: June 18, 2020



Columnist and shutterbug Dan Shine captured this sunrise, recently, portending fine weather and warmer temperatures in the next few days. The photo was taken near Seaview.

On this Date

1989 -- Thousands die in the Tiananmen Square Massacre. Using assault rifles and tanks, Chinese troops massacred unarmed civilians who had taken part in pro-democracy protests.

1989 -- Poland holds the first free elections after World War II. The landslide victory of the Polish trade union, "Solidarity", marked the beginning of the Autumn of Nations, a wave of revolutions resulting in the fall of communism.

1984 -- Bruce Springsteen releases Born in the U.S.A. The album was Springsteen's most successful. It featured hits like "Born in the U.S.A.", "Dancing in the Dark", and "I'm on Fire".

1917 -- The first Pulitzer Prize is awarded. Every year, the prestigious award honors outstanding journalistic achievements. It was established with money bequeathed to Columbia University by publisher Joseph Pulitzer.

1783 -- The Montgolfier brothers demonstrate the first hot air balloon. The flight of the Montgolfière lasted only about 10 minutes, but it secured the French inventors a place in the history books.

Births On This Day

1985 Evan Lysacek-- American figure skater.

1975 Angelina Jolie -- American actress, director, producer, screenwriter.

1975 Russell Brand -- English comedian, actor, singer.

1915 Modibo Keita -- Malian politician, 1st President of Mali.

1738 George III of the United Kingdom.

Deaths

2010 John Wooden -- American basketball player, coach.

Voice looking for family pics of fun activities

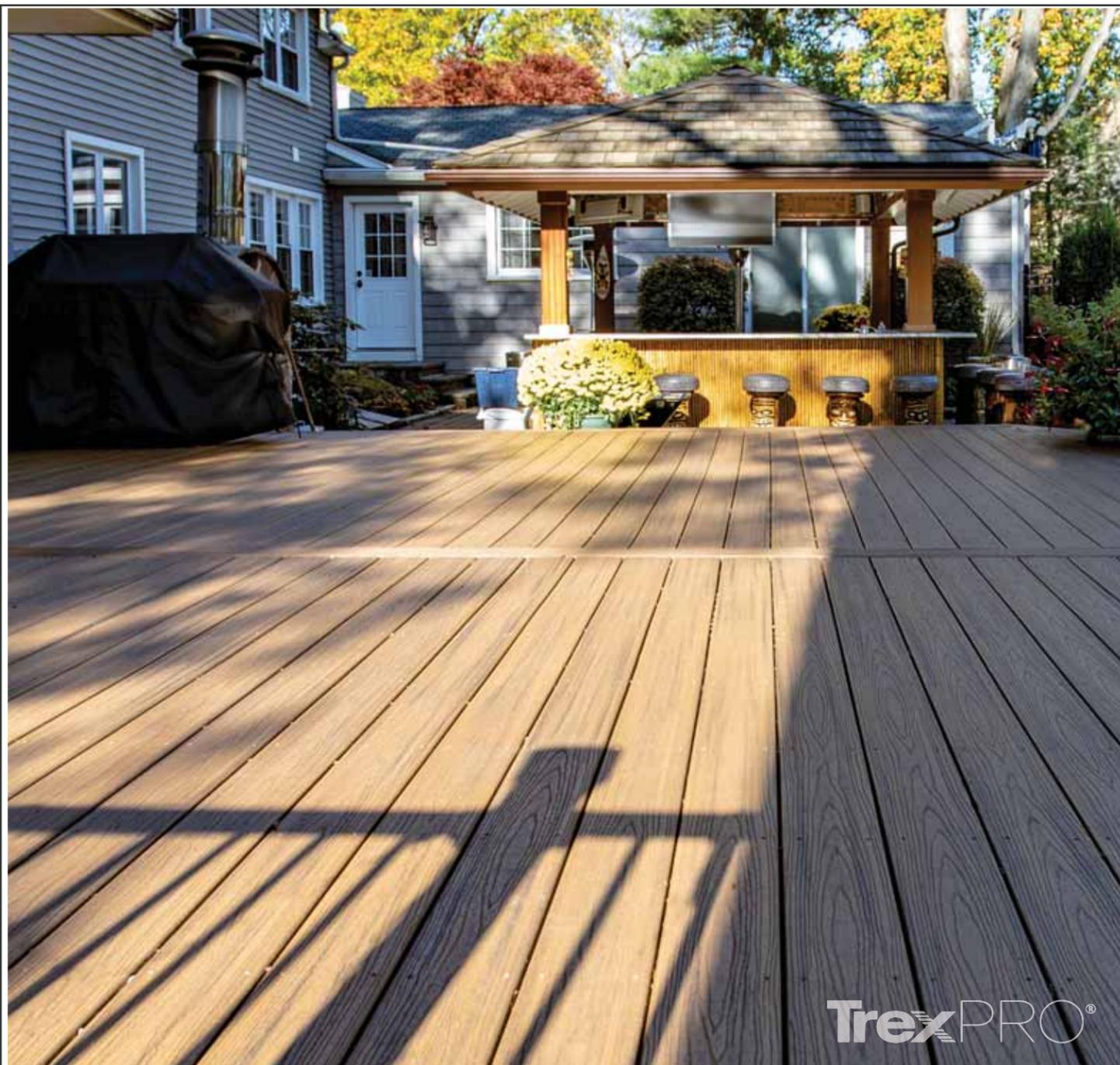
Families throughout the city are making the best of the Stay-at-Home order given by Gov. Ned Lamont and state health officials. Some are learning that staying at home can be a blast!

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.

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!



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Mayor announces Centennial panel

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice
Mayor Nancy R. Rossi is commissioning a special committee to create, organize and oversee events for West Haven's 100th anniversary next year.

The West Haven Centennial Committee will celebrate the 1921 birth of Connecticut's youngest town with a series of commemorative events 100 years in the making.

The centennial will include a kickoff ceremony and other events that observe West Haven's rich and diverse heritage, Rossi said.

In addition to Rossi, the committee members are city Human Resources Commissioner Beth A. Sabo, mayoral aide Ruth G. Torres, Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy, city Treasurer Michael P. Last, Charter Revision Commissioner Rohan Smith and West Haven Historical Society President Jon E. Purmont.

Rossi said the committee will meet in the coming months to plan various centennial events for 2021. The committee will announce the events once they are finalized, she said.

The honorary members are state Sens. Gary Winfield

(D-10), and James Maroney (D-14); state Reps. Charles J. Ferraro (R-117), Michael A. DiMassa (D-116), and Dorinda Borer (D-115); City Council Chairman Ronald M. Quagliani (D-at-large); and council members Bridgette J. Hoskie (D-1), William X. Conlon (D-2), Elizabeth K. Johnston (D-3), Mitchell L. Gallignano (D-4), Robbin Watt Hamilton (D-5), Peter V. Massaro (D-6), Treneé McGee (D-7), Chrystal Fanelli (D-8), Robert Bruneau (D-9), Barry Lee Cohen (R-10), Gary T. Donovan (D-at-large), and Colleen O'Connor (R-at-large).

West Haven, now a city, incorporated as Connecticut's youngest in 1961, is also one of the state's oldest communities.

In 1648, West Haven, then known as West Farms, was settled by farmers from the New Haven Colony. West Farms became the separate parish of

West Haven in 1719 through a petition granted by the General Assembly. In 1822, the parish united with North Milford to form the town of Orange before separating from Orange in 1921 to become the town of West Haven.

See Centennial, page 4

Graduation: *Drive-through set*

Continued from page 1

"We have scheduled the event over two nights (June 29 and 30) from 4-7. Since we've never done this before, we want to make sure there will be plenty of time," Cavallaro said. "It's important to note, that each student is allowed one car, and the only person who can leave the car is the graduate."

Carney, meanwhile, said that special additions are in the works for the seniors.

"I have met with Gilbane Construction to develop a plan to open the road from Educational Way all the way to Circle Street. This will allow the groups of 30 vehicles to travel during the graduation without having to turn around or compete with incoming vehicle groups," Carney said. "Two-hundred feet of fencing cover

has been ordered that will be placed on the existing fencing in the student parking by the Educational Way entrance. A message of congratulations to the 2020 class will be printed on the fence cover. A 40 foot banner will also be installed on the new admin wing in view of the stage."

While the plans are different, and try to make the best of the situation, Paredes said the 2020 senior class was remarkable in many ways, one that will stand out.

"This is a class I'll never forget, not only because of these unprecedented circumstances, but because of who they are as individuals and as a class. I hope despite these circumstances, I can give them the ending they deserve," she said.



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Beach Street rehab gets \$5.2M

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

State Rep. Dorinda Borer and Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced \$5.2 million in state funding May 26 to complete the raising of a section of Beach Street and First Avenue that was 5 feet underwater during Superstorm Sandy.

"This was two years in the making of trying to educate

federal, state and local agencies on the importance of this project to West Haven," said Borer (D-115). "We had a few doors close on us along the way, but as the old saying goes, 'When one door closes, find a window,' and we did.

"I am grateful to the mayor and my area colleagues for their support and everyone who played a key part in se-

curing these funds and prioritizing this project."

Rossi said: "During my time as mayor, I have strongly advocated to raise Beach Street to mitigate the risks of future extreme weather events and to promote economic development. Thank you to our state delegation for supporting this project."

Borer and Rossi heralded the

money during a news conference attended by more than two dozen residents, including city leaders and members of West Haven's General Assembly delegation, at the Sandy Point Beach & Bird Sanctuary on Beach Street. West Haven Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien discussed the public safety aspect of the project.

They were joined by state Sens. Gary Winfield, (D-10), and James Maroney (D-14); state Reps. Charles J. Ferraro (R-117), and Michael A. Di-Massa (D-116); City Council Chairman Ronald M. Quagliani (D-at large); council members Gary Donovan (D-at large), Colleen O'Connor (R-at large), Wil

liam X. Conlon (D-2), Robbin Watt Hamilton (D-5), Robert Bruneau (D-9), and Barry Lee Cohen (R-10); city Treasurer Michael P. Last; and Lou Esposito, Rossi's executive assistant.

The \$5.2 million obtained by Borer and the delegation is for phases two and three of the state and federal project.

The necessary \$3.5 million in funding for phase one had previously been secured in the amount of \$2.94 million from the U.S. Department of Hous-

ing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program and \$560,000 from the city.

Phase one got underway last week, said Rossi, who added that she plans to hold a public hearing for phases two and three of the work.

"Our shoreline is truly one of West Haven's greatest recreational and economic assets," Rossi said. "This project is vitally important in protecting our neighborhoods and will help ignite economic development on the Beach Street corridor."

City Engineer Abdul Quadir, who also spoke at the news event, said the \$8.7 million project includes raising a 3,750-foot stretch of First Avenue and Beach Street from Monahan Place, near the wastewater treatment plant, to Morse Avenue, near the former Chick's Drive-in restaurant.

Elevations will range from 2 to 5 feet, based on existing topography, he said.

Quadir said the project also includes new sidewalks, sewers and utilities, as well as a two-way bike lane for future connection to a regional shoreline bikeway system.



Photo by Marcin J. Stakevitch

From left, state Rep. Dorinda Borer, D-West Haven, and Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, joined by City Engineer Abdul Quadir, announce \$5.2 million in state funding for the raising of Beach Street during a news conference at the Sandy Point Beach & Bird Sanctuary on May 26.

Legal Notice

WEST HAVEN LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of Democratic and Republican party-endorsed candidates for the City of West Haven for election as Democratic and Republican Registrar of Voters will be on file in the West Haven City Clerk's Office, 355 Main St. West Haven, CT.

A list of party-endorsed Democratic and Republican Justice of the Peace will also be on file in the City Clerk's Office.

A Primary will be held August 11, 2020 if the required primary petition for opposition candidates is filed, pursuant to Sections 9-382 to 9-450 of the Connecticut General Statutes, not later than 4:00 p.m. on June 11, 2020. Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing of opposing candidacies, including schedules, may be obtained from:

Sherri Lepper-Democratic Registrar of Voters
JoAnn Callegari-Republican Registrar of Voters
355 Main Street, West Haven, Ct. 06516

Patricia Horvath
West Haven City Clerk

WEST HAVEN CITY COUNCIL LEGAL NOTICE

The Finance Committee of the West Haven City Council will hold a Public Hearing at 6: 55 P.M. on June 8, 2020. The Hearing is in regards to an Amendment for the Community Development Participation Plan: In order to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19), the City of West Haven, Community Development Administration was allocated an additional \$442,726 in CDBG. The Community Development Administration Citizen Participation Plan, 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan shall be amended to include all funding allocated through the CARE Act.

This meeting will be held via electronic methods in accordance with Rule.#30.

Visit https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5cM1trmHe999FXNJ56X_Jg to watch the meeting live. In order to submit comment, please mail to West Haven City Council, 355 Main Street West Haven, CT 06516. Comments may also be emailed to mdimassa@westhaven-ct.gov. Comments must be received by 5:00 P.M. on June 8th to be read into the record.

Stacy Riccio
Clerk of the Council

Centennial: *Panel listed*

Continued from page 3

According to the Historical Society, West Haven was founded by several New Haven Colony leaders who recognized the value of the extended shoreline, unadulterated forests and potential farmland. The historic crossing into West Farms was by horse-bridge over the West River near New Haven Harbor. The West River Crossing is an event that is commemorated to this day both in ceremony and in a master mural in the post office on Campbell Avenue.

Soon after, according to information on the society's website, guilds built six large post-medieval houses within a short distance of the community's central Green, a common grazing and meeting site. The earliest settlers shared the lands with three major Native American tribes that historically summered in West Farms, using the resources of forests, three tributaries and a shoreline abundant with both freshwater and saltwater life.

Applications for summer jobs now being accepted

Applications for the Summer Youth Employment Program are available on the city website.

Download an application at <http://cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/2412/Summer-Youth-Employment-Program-Application-2020-PDF>.

The four-week summer program, which is awaiting federal funding, is aimed at funding positions for low-income residents ages 14-21.

Applications with all required documents are due by 5 p.m. June 5 to coordinator Jim Eagan, Summer Youth Employment Program, Department of Human Resources, 355 Main St., West Haven 06516. Applications can also be inserted into the drop box at the Main Street entrance of City Hall.

Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Students must also include copies of information, such as a birth certificate and Social Security card, as well as documentation of household income. Students who receive free lunch must provide proof as well.

Family income is based on the number of people per household and is required to be within 185 percent of state poverty income levels.

Sale library site prompts questions

A letter sent to the Voice, this week, by a group calling itself the Louis Piantino Library Book Discussion Group, questions the potential sale of the former Forest School Building to a city developer as well as the future of the facility in the borough.

The city recently accepted a \$325,000 bid for the building at 1 Forest Road by the Acorn Group, headed by developer David Beckerman. Beckerman and Acorn have been at the forefront of Allingtown's recent revitalization. His group has constructed The Atwood, at 222 Boston Post Road, and is currently completing the Parkview, which is on Cellini Place.

The letter states:

"We are terribly concerned about what is happening to the West Haven Library. The proposed Library budget for 2021 has been slashed by \$200,000, and we do not know why. The City Council voted on April 27 to sell the Allingtown Library building (The Louis Piantino Library) at 1 Forest Road to The Acorn Group without any public forewarning or input that we can find, and without a plan in place to relocate the library.

"It is unclear what Acorn plans to do with the library building, but there is a rumor that they plan to demolish the building to create a parking lot. Is that ill-founded? We also would like to know who decided to sell that building and why. When did it go out to bid? What were the bids, and by whom were they made? And, is the rumor true that the City Council turned down a \$500,000 bid and agreed to sell to Acorn for \$325,000?

"As avid users of the Allingtown/Piantino Library, we are deeply concerned about the potential loss of this vital community resource. We hope someone can find the answers for us."

The Voice sent a series of questions to Mayor Nancy Rossi, Chairman of the City Council Ron Quagliani (D-at-large), Ken Carney, who is helping in negotiations, and representatives of the Village Improvement Association, the governing body of the city's library system. Executive Director Collen Bailie responded for the VIA, while Corporation Counsel Lee Tiernan responded for the council.

During those postings, information provided to the Voice indicate the VIA did offer a \$500,000 bid for the property; however, city officials said the Acorn Group had "first refusal" on the building, prompting the acceptance of the lower bid.

Mayor Rossi reported the

Acorn bid was accepted, but the contract is still under negotiations.

"The city accepted a proposal from Acorn for the Allingtown Library for \$325,000. The contract has not yet been finalized," she said.

However, she indicated while the sale might go through, the library's location will remain unchanged for the time being.

"Under the agreement, the library may stay at its current location for three years and then potentially relocate to another space within the Allingtown section of the city," she said.

According to sources involved in the discussions, the William T. Blake Building, former headquarters of the city's school system, will be refurbished as a possible location.

Rossi indicated one of the primary goals of the sale is to put the former municipal building onto the tax rolls.

"Once transferred, the library building will be back on the tax rolls and generating commercial tax revenue," she said.

As far as the cut in budget, Rossi indicated her original plan was to keep the library at status quo in the new fiscal year.

"My budget recommendation for fiscal year 2021 held library funding flat at \$1.421 million, the same amount that was appropriated for fiscal year 2020. The library board had requested \$1.758 million, an increase of more than 20%, which was not possible under our city's current financial condition," she said. "The City Council held \$100K pending the results of a requested library study and cut another \$100K based on information from the library governing board, the Village Improvement Association, that it received a federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) forgivable loan for more than \$100K."

Rossi said her administration is committed to keeping and improving the library system.

"The library is not operated by the City of West Haven. The Village Improvement As-



sociation, a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, runs the day-to-day operation. The city does not have a seat on its board, although city taxpayers fund most of the library operating budget," she said. "My administration is committed to a state-of-the-art modern library system and would like to work with the board to ensure the city has a first-class library operation in Allingtown for future generations to enjoy."

Rossi ended by saying the city charter delineates the control of the library and how it is funded. Given those strictures, the administration is trying to work with the VIA.

"The Village Improvement Association has complete control over the West Haven library system per the West Haven City Charter. The city charter requires the city to fund the system. The Board of the Village Improvement Association will decide, based on resources available from the city and their endowment funds, how the library system will operate," she said.

Bailie, responding to our inquiry, said the VIA became aware of a potential sale late last year, and determined a bid was in order.

"The VIA became aware that

its Allingtown location was up for sale when members read the city's RFP (Request for Proposal) notice in the New Haven Register in December of 2019," Bailie said. "The VIA immediately began the extensive process of preparing a bid to purchase the building. Our bid was designed to not only to maintain a library presence in Allingtown, but to expand it, as well. The VIA was disappointed to learn in March that our bid was not chosen and that the property was sold to a developer who has, to date, not articulated the intended use for the property."

Bailie indicated talks have begun with city officials as to future locations for the library, which has an extensive constituency. She said those talks will help determine future plans.

"We are now engaged in a dialogue with the City of West Haven in order to find and pay for alternate space in Allingtown so we can continue to provide our critical services to the community. It is clear that the continuation of library services in Allingtown will require a committed partner in the city and likely the need for the city to reconsider its recent \$200,000 cut to our operating budget. Otherwise, it is dif-

ficult to see how sustained library services in Allingtown will be possible," she said.

Bailie said the VIA is looking forward to the discussions ahead with an open mind.

"The VIA looks forward to an open, transparent, engagement with the city in determining how its critical public services will remain at home in Allingtown," she said.

Carney, who is helping the city negotiate Allingtown projects, said one problem with the library's bid was the fact it did not attach a deposit check, which is part of any purchase bid. He sent documents showing the bids and Acorn check.

"Part of the process is giving a surety deposit on any purchase bid of this kind. Acorn attached a check. We got a piece of paper from the VIA. They were disqualified."

Carney reiterated the mayor's concern the building be put on the tax rolls. The decision was a matter of dollars and cents.

"Part of the plan was to put the building on the rolls," he said. "I can take a \$500,000 bid that gives me the price, but I'll never get taxes from it again, or I can sell a building for \$1 and have \$60,000 in taxes each

See Library, page 15



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Council deserves praise for timely vote on budget

The Wuhan Virus has done damage to all facets of life, from work to leisure, hobbies to home. The illness, ballyhooed by incorrect models and extended media hype, has caused the alteration of the way we do things for the time being, and probably into the next little while. That is why we have to give kudos to the City Council for its timely passage of the city's Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

As reported in the last edition, the City Council was able to pass the mayor's \$165.2 million budget -- with alterations -- in the charter-prescribed time of the first Thursday in May. Under directives from Gov. Ned Lamont, municipalities were given an option of extending its budget-passage timetable into next month, but the council determined it didn't need the extra time.

A total of 11 meetings were conducted -- all through various means of online conferencing -- and the final touches were put on the budget for passage. The council is to be commended as well for ill-fated attempt to cut the mill rate increase from .80 to .58. During its deliberations, the panel was able to find nearly \$600,000 in cuts to make money-strapped taxpayers' burden a bit easier.

That didn't sit well with the state's Office of Policy and Management, which oversees the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) that, in turn, oversees city finances. It must be remembered the MARB mandated that over the term of the current five-year plan, the city must raise its mill rate to 40. The .80 mill rate increase proposed by Mayor Rossi was part of that plan.

With the pandemic, the council hoped to cut the increase to lesser amount to help taxpayers. In what can be termed a typical bureaucratic lack of grasping reality, the OPM gurus let it be known that anything less than a .80 increase would be rejected and sent back for revision.

So, the council determined where the extra funds would do most good. They added money to contingency funds and other such accounts in view of the pandemic, and its effect on taxpayers.

As far as OPM and MARB the lack of empathy for taxpayers has been the hallmark of the last three years since they took over. We shouldn't be surprised by the matter-of-factness with their decision. The agency and the review panel have shown a distinct lack of humanity in the entire process. This was just par for the course.

The city's mill rate then, the amount per thousand dollars of assessment taxpayers will be dunned is 37.48, or \$37.48 per thousand up to 70 percent of the assessed value.

But, we believe the council showed the type of fiscal understanding we want from our elected officials, and should be commended. Councilwoman Bridgette Hoskie (D-1) is to be congratulated, along with Council Chairman Ron Quagliani and the rest of the council for their attention to detail in such unusual circumstances.

The budget got conditional final approval by the Hartford overseers, contingent on the passage of a five-year plan that meets its approval. It is believed the panel will find no other problems, but we've been wrong before.

Still, congrats to the council on a job well done during a situation no one expected. You have worked hard for your constituents.



The press likes the hysteria

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

It's not March anymore.

The coronavirus has taken a heartbreaking toll on Americans, but the course of the virus is not the same as it was a few months ago.

We are on the other side of the curve. There are encouraging signs all over the country, and no early indications of a reopening debacle.

The question now is whether the media and political system can absorb good news on the virus, which is often ignored or buried under misleading storylines.

The press has a natural affinity for catastrophes, which make compelling viewing and good copy. The pandemic is indeed a once-in-a-generation story. So, the media is naturally loath to shift gears and acknowledge that the coronavirus has begun to loosen its grip.

Meanwhile, progressives and many journalists have developed a near-theological commitment to the lockdowns, such that any information that undermines them is considered unwelcome, even threatening.

This accounts for the widespread sense that no one should say things have gotten better ... or people are going to die.

Usually, when it is thought the public can't handle the truth, it is a truth about some threat that could spark panic. In this case, the truth is information that might make people think it's safe to go outside again.

Almost all of the discussion about reopening is framed by worries that we will reopen too soon, not that we might reopen too late. That is literally unthinkable, even as we have entered a new phase.

As data analyst Nate Silver pointed out last week, the seven-day rolling average for deaths is 1,362, down from 1,761 the week prior and a peak of 2,070 on April 21. That's still much too high, but the trend is favorable.

Testing capacity, such a concern for so long, has really begun to expand after hitting a plateau for weeks. Testing nationally on some days has been in the high 300,000s or over 400,000.

The issue in some states now is not capacity, but actually finding enough people to test.

Scott Gottlieb of the American Enterprise Institute notes that the positivity rate, or percentage of people testing positive, has continued to fall throughout May.

The press has often, out of sloppiness or willfulness, tried to create negative news

around the re-openings. CNN recently tweeted, "Texas is seeing the highest number of new coronavirus cases and deaths just two weeks after it officially re-opened." As Sean Trende of RealClearPolitics pointed out, the seven-day rolling average of new cases had indeed been trending up, but the seven-day rolling average of the number of tests had gone up, too -- which would naturally turn up more cases. The key indicator is the positivity rate, and it was down in Texas.

Headlines noted that Florida recorded 500 new cases in one day. It generated fewer headlines, and perhaps none, when Gov. Ron DeSantis explained that the state had received a dump of 75,000 test results, yielding the 500 new cases, for a minuscule positivity rate of 0.64%.

It's not as though we haven't had a cataract of unassailably legitimate bad news over the past few months. We've been experiencing a wrenching public health crisis and a steep recession on top of it.

There shouldn't be a need to obscure favorable trends. We can handle the truth.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Maroney gets Dem not for second term

State Sen. James Maroney (D140) has received the Democratic Party nomination to seek re-election for the 14th Senate District which includes Milford, Orange, West Haven and Woodbridge. He won a unanimous vote of the delegates to the Democratic Party convention. Maroney is looking for his second term.

During his first term, Senator Maroney led the effort to pass several bills in Connecticut that helped ensure a better future for our aging population, youth, and veterans.

As Senate Chairman of the Veterans Committee, he was the main author of a new "Military to Machinist" pro-

gram that will establish certain job training programs to assist veterans with the skills needed to obtain jobs in advanced manufacturing and other related positions.

He also co-authored pieces of legislation that expand eligibility for veterans to receive certain state benefits; and provide greater property tax relief for veterans.

Maroney supported a fiscally strong budget, under which the state Rainy Day fund reached an all-time high of \$2.45 billion earlier this year, leaving Connecticut amongst the best positioned states to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. He also fought to

ensure that Connecticut's aging population would receive a phase out of the income tax.

"As a Senator, James Maroney fights to keep grant money coming into our communities; he works directly with residents and businesses to keep them informed about critical pandemic news and fast-changing executive orders coming out of Hartford," Milford Mayor Ben Blake said. "I'm so impressed by the depth and breadth of James' knowledge regarding local, state and federal coronavirus relief programs - he's a lifeline between many struggling constituent families and the help they depend upon."



Sen. MARONEY

Historian's corner By Dan Shine

Captain Thomas Boulevard
For years I have wondered about the origin of the name of Savin Rock's primary thoroughfare; the following was found in the 1968 Annual Report of the West Haven Redevelopment Agency:

Many people have wondered about the change of the name for Thomas Street.

Actually it is no change at all—merely a formalizing of what has always been.

Some people have expressed the opinion that the change to Captain Thomas Boulevard is an infringement on matters historical and a drastic modern departure from the comfortable old.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Thomas Street was originally named to honor the memory of Captain Amos C. Thomas, and the Agency is following the course of history.

Captain Thomas was an early West Haven shipbuilder and sea-faring man—born in 1785—whose sloops, including one commanded by him, sailed to the British West Indies for cargoes of rum, spices and molasses.

The old Thomas homestead was on First Avenue at the corner of what is now Willow Street (Willow Street didn't exist then) and it is possible, on a clear day, to have an unimpeded view of Long Island Sound—down to the present Savin Rock section.

Between the homestead and the Sound was one vast, flat

expanse of salt marshes.

It is said that when Captain Thomas returned from his voyages, he sailed up the Sound and into the West River, heaving anchor in the shallows opposite the salt marshes which bordered his land.

The homestead, altered by remodeling still stands today.

Captain Thomas died October 31, 1858 at age 72, and was buried at Oak Grove Cemetery.

We are indebted to William Brown of Sycamore Lane, Orange for the information on Captain Thomas.

Mr. Brown is well informed on area historical matters and is a genealogist.

The Thomas name has not disappeared from the West Haven scene, although there is only one direct descendant left.

She is Mrs. Harriet Thomas

Crane North of 77 Center Street. Mrs. North, wed to Edward H. North, is a past president of the West Haven Historical Society; historian for the Connecticut League of Historical Societies; and member of the Antiquarian and Landmarks Society of Connecticut.

Mrs. North's maternal grandfather was George Thomas, who served as Town Clerk of Orange and later in the same capacity when West Haven became a separate community, for some 35 years. In addition, he at various times held the posts of Tax Collector and Postmaster.

Mrs. North's mother was Bertha Thomas, who married Russell J. Crane.

Ed note: We thank Rich Boshea for helping compile the information for this article.



Captain Amos C. Thomas



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



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Dear Felicia

Well sweetie pie, effen I was a bettin' kind, I'd say we are finally gittin' out of this lockdown, which a local cleric termed, "Covid-tide," and might actually be going back to normal. I hafta say effen traffic on the I-95 corridor betwixt Greenwich and New Haven is any indication, the people have decided the lockdown is over - regardless o' what His Excellency, the Governor decides.

In fack, the Wag was here t'other afternoon for tea - don't worry we kep' our distance - and sez he watched one o' the Gov's pressers regarding the Wuhan Flu and said the only thing that came to his mind was a song from the early 1950:

First you say you do, and then you don't;

and then, you say you will, and then you won't;

you're undecided now. So, whattaya gonna do?

It fits, the guy has gone back-and-forth so many times, he's like an oscillating fan. He

wanted the job, but yew can tell, he's a bit outta his ken on this. He wanted to tell people how to live their lives - that's what guys like him do - but, when push came to shove and it didn't have to do with money, he was and is at sea. Meanwhile, don't git the Wag started on the abdication of responsibility on the part o' the General Assembly. Those people should be docked their pay.

And effen there is any doubt that people are up to here with the lockdown, Cobina happened to pass by a local shopping center. I'd like to know how social distancing works with thousands of people in a few stores?

The people have decided with their feet, the "experts" be damned.

We see barber shops and salons are no open, and most are taking appointments to get a trim or a perm to keep the shops "socially distant." And, the restaurants will be open soon with outdoor

service. Let's jest hope the weather, which can't decide effen it's March or June, gets warm for good.

Interestingly, whilst the Memorial Day Parade was axed, and the July 3 fireworks canceled, the one event that we ain't hoid about, so far, is the Savin Rock Festival. That was supposed to make a return this year, and it is usually toward the end o' July. Nothing definite seems to be coming out - yet. Somethin' tells me they are trying very hard to keep one event open for the public this year. People are getting very restless.

Sammy Bluejay perched himself on the window t'other afternoon, and said he'd been breezin' by the Haven Project to see exactly what - if anything - is going on over there. Well, effen you think it's demolition, think again. Maybe it's cuz o' the lockdown, but nothing is really happening over there.

Now, Water Street was closed off as was the last block o' Main Street, which is gonna be part o' this shopping mall when and if it ever gits built. The street was closed off a few weeks ago, and a chain-link fence surrounds everything, whilst the street is blocked by concrete bumpers.

There is no demolition going on, but it seems the local fire brigade is using some o' the structure for some on-the-job training. Sammy saw some members of the brigade climbing ladders and walking a

roof or two.

We'll give it the benefit o' the doubt and say that the COVID-19 lockdown is the reason for this delay, but we'll see.

Of course, one o' the big happenings last week, was the announcement of the Beach Street rehab funding that came via the General Assembly. About \$5 million smackers are gonna be put toward the project, which will raise the roadbed of the thoroughfare about seven feet. It's an attempt to protect it from the erosion that happens over there constantly.

You remember in 2012-13, erosion had almost wiped out the road, and undermined some drain and sewer pipes that happen to be placed over there. It was a dangerous situation. The beach was rebuilt, but here we are some years later, and erosion over the winter has begun to expose the rebuild, and the beach sand that was put down has been cut into perty badly. Soooo, this comes at a good time. It's been three years since the project was announced. Mayor Ed O'Brien was in office then.

Let's hope the whole thing goes off without a hitch. Still, it's gonna be interesting how this is gonna be constructed. That is a major ingress to the city shoreline, and the ripple effects during construction will be something to watch.

Iva Lootey came in last week and

was reporting about the graduation ceremonies the local high school kids are gonna have. You couldn't blame these youngsters effen they feel somewhat snake-bit. The year starts off OK, but before you know it, West Nile Virus and mosquitos become the first problem. Things that should be standard fare for after-school hours had to be either canceled or rescheduled for sunlight hours cuz o' the outbreak.

Then we git by that and before you can say Happy New Year, this Chinese Virus comes along and all the plans the class had for itself going into the final months of the school year were put on ice, and then perty much canceled... or so they thought.

I guess the prom is gonna be a bit later, and is scheduled for August, which is nice, they don't hafta miss that. But I gotta say, whoever came up with idea for the drive-in graduation ceremony June 29 and 30, kudos. That was thinking outside the box.

The kids are gonna have a "virtual" graduation on the correck date, which is June 12. It will have pre-recorded speeches and the things one associates with similar events. Of course, the passing of diplomas can't happen. That's where minds got together and came up with a good plan. It ain't the best, but it's making lemonade outta these lemons.

The kids will have a drive-in graduation, with cars going in procession along the perimeter of the high school, and the kids will be allowed to exit their vehicles and git their diplomas. The details of it are in today's papyrus, but like I said, kudos. It certainly is something these youngsters can tell their own kids some day.

One more thing, I see is the Gripe Vine someone was talking about the deplorable condition of the portable facilities along the Boardwalk. Our editor, who jogs by there now that it is again open, saw for himself the filthy condition.

But, with the reopening of the park, the potties must have been put back on schedule, cuz they were cleaned, and two more were added - maybe until they out building over there can be open. Soooo, there was a letter in this week about it, and it was taken care of. Things seem to be somewhat back to normal.

People are using the park, and others we see. How about reinstalling the hoops on the basketball courts? The kids do need something to do, yew know. Effen they ain't sick by now, they probably aren't gonna be. We hafta get back to real life sooner or later.

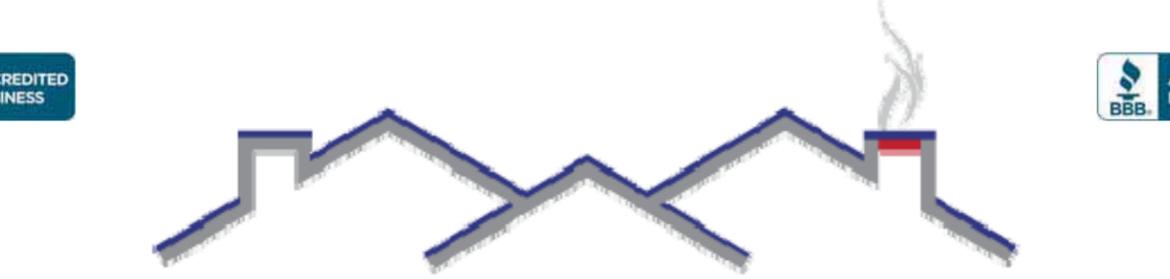
With that bit o' chatter, I'll close this time till next, mitt luff und kizzez,

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Stop&Shop offers new deliveries

To ensure its community members are able to access the essential goods they need, Stop & Shop is launching same-day Pickup & Delivery service, which began June 3 at its West Haven store located at 460 Elm Street. The new offering provides local customers with a faster and more convenient way to shop with pick-up available in as little as four hours. Customers can now place an order on Peapod.com, head to the store, and have a Stop & Shop associate load their groceries right into their car.

“It’s exciting to have our community members be able to experience the convenience of shopping online again and pick up essential items all the while ensuring social distancing and safety practices remain in effect,” said Bill O’Donnell, West Haven Store Manager. “We hope that reinstating this service at our store will provide a seamless and safe shopping experience for our customers.”

To use the service, customers can visit www.peapod.com and select “Pick-up” at the West Haven address. Customers can then head to the store at their chosen pick-up time, park in a designated pick-up spot, then call a phone number to let the store team know they have arrived. Stop & Shop team members will then deliver their order right to their car.

City participating in tax program

The City Council on April 22 approved a motion allowing the city to participate in the Low Interest Rate Program authorized by Gov. Ned Lamont’s executive order in response to the coronavirus pandemic, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

The council’s endorsement of the proposal amid a special meeting paved the way for the low-interest program to aid city taxpayers affected by COVID-19.

According to Section 6 of Executive Order 7S, the program mandates that delinquent taxes remaining due and payable from April 1 are subject to a reduced interest rate of 3% per year for 90 days from April 1.

New taxes due July 1 will have a 30-day grace period and in the event they are paid late will also qualify for a reduced interest rate for 90 days.

Voice Classifieds
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Photo by Dan Shine

Sun ‘n Surf!

City beaches were opened May 22 for Memorial Day weekend, following clearance from state and city officials. Thousands across the state took the opportunity to enjoy the first warm weather of the spring along the shore. Shine caught this view, looking toward Lake Street.

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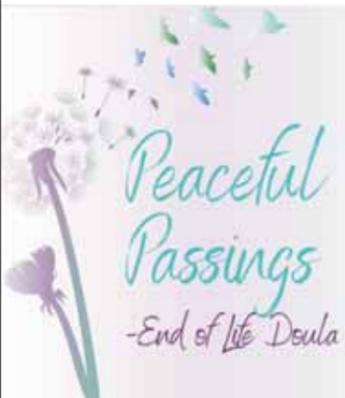


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Around Town

Shred Event scheduled

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association and Ladies Auxiliary is holding a Shred Event on Saturday, June 20, from 10-1. The cost is \$10 for a small box, \$20 for large, and \$20 for a hard drive. There is virtually no contact, as it is a drive-through shred event. Pop your trunk, open your door, and we will remove items for you.

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.

Reminder for club, and social publicists

The West Haven Voice would like to remind club publicists of the requirements for weekly reports. Our rule is: we will edit it, headline it and print it, but we will not write it.

Publicists are reminded that copy should be in complete sentences, paragraph form. No bullet-point announcements will be accepted. Deadline for copy is Tuesday at 10 a.m. unless prior clearance is given by the editor for a later submission. All copy is subject to the same editing for clarity, grammar and space as are all other submissions. Pictures are welcome and will be published on an "as need" basis. Pictures should be accompanied by the names of those in the photo.



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This week I am going to publish your gripes before I investigate them because they are timely and happening all too often. I have already forwarded these complaints to the councilmen/women in these areas and you can expect a follow up in upcoming columns.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I was walking past the Parkade twice in the last two weeks, once in the Parkade and the other time on the corner of Captain Thomas Blvd and the other on Thomas Street.

There was a young person there walking their mean Pit Bull on a twenty-foot chain. It chased an elderly senior woman at the walk sign near Biagetti's and terrorized her. Then, another day, the same person with the mean dog was ready to pounce and kill a family walking their small dog West Haven Police I walk my small grandchild in the Parkade

Please don't wait until this



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

fighting Pit Bull kills someone.
Caring Grandparent

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I just crossed Beach Street near the East Avenue crosswalk, which is clearly marked in both directions for cars to yield to pedestrians. Literally, I was nearly hit by a red jeep Cherokee late model travelling east and a silver Ford F250 travelling west. Can't the West Haven Police do something about this? They must have

been travelling 50 miles per hour. Sickening! Many residents are now walking with children in strollers, dogs, etc. What is wrong with people?

JD Afraid

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

The Beach Street traffic is a very serious problem. For two years we had those pedestrian crossing cones, which you see a lot of in New Haven. (They) are far better at getting drivers to slow down than those tiny little yellow signs.

LG Pedestrian

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

Loud motorcycles, cars speeding on Washington Avenue and cars on Leete Street going the wrong way. Attention West Haven Police Department pull them over give them tickets or send them to jail. Don't use COVID as an excuse. Someone is going to get killed.

TD Warning

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I ride my bike on the board-

walk from Chick's to Bradley Point, usually about four times a week. I CAN'T STAND IT. People do not observe the lines and walk all over the place. When I ride by them on my bike some people say, "Watch where you are riding that thing." The problem is I am on the proper side of the boardwalk. This really happens from St. John's Church to Bradley Point. It is really annoying to slow down to a dragging pace and to wait for people to move and then they get mad like I am doing something wrong. Why don't they pay attention?

AB Curious

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There is trash in the woods on Stevens Avenue. I believe it is private property and the owner and apparently does not care what it looks like. Occasionally Public Works drive by and cleans it. I think the owner should be responsible for clean up. I also, cannot begin to understand why people toss trash into the community intentionally.

Unfortunately, that area is dark and does not have any streetlights which invites dumping.

C/C Can't Believe It

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There is an abandoned car, a two-tone Ford USV with New York license plates that has not moved in about a month between Washington Avenue and Campbell Avenue on Leete Street. Please have it tagged as the street is tight on parking. And this car is using up a much-needed parking space.

Leete Street Resident

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There are three big potholes between 51 and 56 Nonquit

Street. Can you help us get them filled?

WEC Complainant

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There is a porta potty on the West Haven Boardwalk in the parking lot near the Bocce Court. I know the Boardwalk is closed to those who must drive-in and park but appears to be open to those of us who live in the surrounding neighborhood. Imagine my disgust when having a GI episode and running to the porta potty. Wow I guess someone forgot to clean. Just tow that nasty thing away before it causes a major public health threat worse than COVID.

A Disgusted Citizen

Ed Note: It can be reported the facility is now back on schedule with regular cleaning as witnessed by our editor. In fact, two new facilities were installed, one next to the one near the bocce court, and another near the bath house.

Readers I will follow up on these complaints and publish their results in my next Gripe Vine.

If you have a gripe, comment or issue, send them to gripevine4wh@aol.com or mail them to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, Box 4, West Haven 06516. Please include your name, address and phone number kept in strict confidence with me.

Financial Focus

Courtesy of Edward Jones Financial

Nearing Retirement? What questions should you ask?

The recent market volatility has affected just about everybody's financial and investment situations - so, if you were planning to retire soon, will it still be possible?

Of course, the answer depends somewhat on your employment situation. With so many people's jobs being affected by the coronavirus pandemic, your retirement plans may also have been thrown into confusion. But assuming your employment is still stable, what adjustments in your financial and investment strategies might you need to make for your retirement?

Here are a few areas to consider, and some questions to ask yourself:

Retirement goals - Now is a good time to review your retirement goals and assess your progress toward achieving them. You may want to work with a financial professional to determine if the current environment has materially affected your goals or if you need to make modest adjustments to stay on track.

Retirement lifestyle - You probably created your investment strategy with a particular type of retirement lifestyle in mind. Perhaps you had planned to become a world traveler when your working days were over. Of course, in the near term, extensive travel may not be possible, anyway, but once we move past the pandemic, your freedom to roam will likely return. But if your investment portfolio is not where you thought it might be, can you (or do you

want to) adapt your lifestyle plans? And can you accept the same flexibility with your other lifestyle goals, such as purchasing a vacation home, pursuing hobbies, and so on?

Tradeoffs - Based on your retirement goals and your willingness to adjust your retirement lifestyle, you'll want to consider your options and tradeoffs. For example, would you be willing to work more years than you had originally planned in exchange for greater confidence in your ability to enjoy a comfortable retirement lifestyle? By working longer, you can continue adding to your IRA and 401(k) or similar retirement plan, and you may be able to push back the date you start receiving Social Security to receive bigger monthly benefits. You might also review your budget for opportunities to reduce spending today and potentially save more toward your retirement goals.

Social Security - You can file for Social Security benefits as early as 62, but you can get 25% to 30% more each year if you wait until your full retirement age, which is likely between 66 and 67. As you created your retirement plans, you likely also calculated when you would take Social Security, but you may need to review that choice. If you postpone retirement a few years, what effect will that have on when you choose to take Social Security and, consequently, the size of your benefits? You won't want to make a hasty decision, because once you

start taking Social Security, you can't undo your choice.

This is certainly a challenging time to be entering retirement, and you'll have some questions to answer. But even in the midst of uncertainty, you still have many choices. Consider them carefully and make the decisions that work for you.

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



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Sutton to face Ferraro in the 117th

Tony Sutton, Majority Leader of Milford's Board of Aldermen, was nominated by acclamation two weeks ago as the Democratic candidate for State Representative for the 117th District, covering sections of Milford, West Haven and Orange.

The district convention was "virtual," held by videoconference. Delegates representing West Haven, Orange, and Milford joined to watch West Haven Board of Education Chairman Cebi Burns Waterfield place Sutton's name

into nomination. Seconding the nomination was Sutton's mother, Anne-Marie Sutton, who spoke of her son's long-standing commitment to helping others, which she recalled was apparent from a very young age.

Milford Mayor Ben Blake also spoke in favor of Sutton's nomination:

"Tony Sutton is an honest, hardworking, smart and sensible leader. As the Majority Leader on the Board of Aldermen, Tony works the details in order to accomplish big

things. He's helped streamline the way our government operates and made things more efficient and effective than ever before. And that's paid off huge with dividends. We've had lots of successes under Tony's leadership. Last week Tony helped adopt an annual budget which cuts taxes for a fifth consecutive year in a row - that's a back to back to back to back to back decrease in taxes for all residents and businesses - he'll bring the same determination to Hartford."

In accepting the nomination,

Sutton thanked his wife Stacy, who grew up in West Haven, and has been an educator in the West Haven Public Schools for the last 16 years; first teaching at Mackrille Elementary School, and now as an Assistant Principal of Bailey Middle School.

Sutton pointed to his budgeting experience as a Milford Alderman as invaluable experience that will allow him to tackle the significant challenges facing the next session of the General Assembly as it works to promote the state's economic recovery:

"We've [cut taxes five years in a row] through sound fiscal management, innovation and a commitment to teamwork. We have consistently delivered high caliber services,

improved infrastructure, expanded educational opportunities for students, and continue to provide first-class public safety for our residents. That same approach is necessary to tackle the problems facing our state as we get our residents, communities, and businesses back on their feet . . . I want to bring that mindset to Hartford, and I want that to lift our towns and lift our state."

Sutton, 48, has resided in Milford for 18 years with his wife and two daughters, and is an attorney in private practice.

He is a graduate of Quinnipiac College School of Law and New York University.

Sutton will face Republican Charles Ferraro of West Haven on the ballot in November.

Letters

Continued from page 16

Zoom which I have already used with my friends.

In conclusion, I think distance learning is a good way to learn in this scenario. Our health is at a less of a risk to get the virus and there are many privileges including a lot of responsibility. I think many people will agree that this is for the better and it will be a better resolution for the elders and themselves.

Madden

Miss Blake's Class



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Obituaries



Eleanor O. Carter

Eleanor O. Carter, born in Akron, Ohio January 27, 1927 passed away peacefully in Birchwood, Minnesota at her daughter Lori's on May 17, 2020. She was the daughter of Howard Arthur Roberts and Hazel May. She is predeceased by her loving husband Bob in 2003 and her little sister Patricia Ann in 1932. She left Ohio as a teenager and moved to West Haven, Connecticut where she lived most of her life! Six years ago she moved to Massachusetts to a little cottage on a lake to be closer to her family. She is survived by her dear sister Lois Gauruder of Punta Gorda, FL, her son Bob, daughter-in-law Judy and their three daughters Amy, Jennifer & Sarah and their spouses Bobby, Colin and Mike. Also, her daughter Lynn and husband Howard and their two sons James and Jason of Massachu-

setts. She had 11 great grandchildren! Avery, Emerson, Ian, Caroline, Aaron, Jaydon, Gavin, Mason, Brodie, Beau & Rowan whom she adored!

In the early 1950s Eleanor saw a miniature golf course pictured on the cover of Life magazine and thought it would be a great idea to open one. Along with her husband Bob, they not only opened one but built one by themselves. After that endeavor, they built a trampoline center and eventually opened Carter's decorative trends (A furniture and decorating business) in 1958 on Campbell Avenue in West Haven. They eventually moved the business as it grew to Orange where they also moved to. Eleanor truly lived life fully with her husband and family with grace, calmness and an incredible wit. She was truly a beautiful gem! With much love and grateful hearts until we meet again "somewhere over the rainbow!"

Our family would be pleased with any donations to the Fairview Health Services and Hospice, 11725 Stinson Avenue, Chicago, MN 55013.

Keenan Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. To leave an online condolence or tribute, please visit www.keenanfuneralhome.com.

Dennis Archibald

Dennis William Archibald, 68, a resident of Saint John Paul II Center in Danbury (former resident of Rockland, MA and West Haven), passed

peacefully into eternal glory on May 18, 2020.

He is survived by a sister, Joanne Archibald of Danbury, brother, Bruce Archibald of Brockton, MA; nephew, Daniel Spring of Naugatuck; niece, Heather Spring of Antioch, TN and several cousins in the Boston and New England area. Dennis was born in Brockton, MA, the son of William S. Archibald and Dorothy M. (Freni) Archibald. At the age of 9, he moved to West Haven, CT with his family, to follow his father's railroad career in New Haven.

Dennis attended schools in West Haven and graduated from West Haven High School in 1970. He played flute in the West Haven Blue Devils Marching Band and enjoyed playing accordion at home and in concerts. The Boy Scout organization was very important to Dennis and he spent many years earn-

ing badges and attending activities at Camp Sequassen in New Hartford, CT. Dennis was confirmed at First Congregational Church in West Haven and went on to become a regular usher at services there. He worked at El Torito in West Haven, CT, doing food preparation, for several years. In 1977 Dennis moved to Rockland, MA where he was active as an usher at the Congregational Church, enjoyed bowling activities and worked at Stop & Shop until he retired, due to health issues. Dennis was an avid sports fan and could quote statistics for Red Sox, Patriot, Celtic and Bruins players. He enjoyed working outdoors in the yard, whether it be raking leaves or shoveling snow. He always enjoyed a good card game and loved playing board games and watching sporting events. One of the highlights of his last years of life was to visit Gil-

lette Stadium and meet some of the New England Patriots players in person.

In 2017 Dennis moved from Webster Park Rehabilitation Center in Rockland, MA to the Saint John Paul II Center in Danbury, CT to be closer to his sister and her children.

Dennis always had a love for music (especially country music) and would create his own short songs on the spot whenever celebrating birthdays and other occasions with his family. He loved to sing and had a great memory for lyrics. His sweet and caring spirit will be missed by his family. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Dennis' memory can be made to Heifer International, an organization which provides livestock, agricultural training and food to countries around the world in hopes of ending hunger and poverty.



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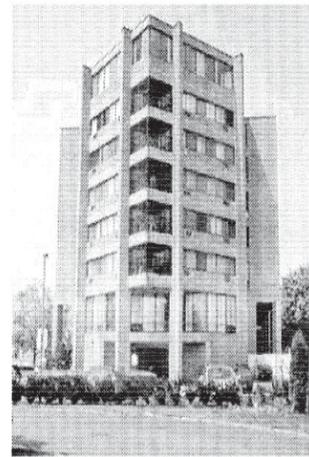
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Americanisms



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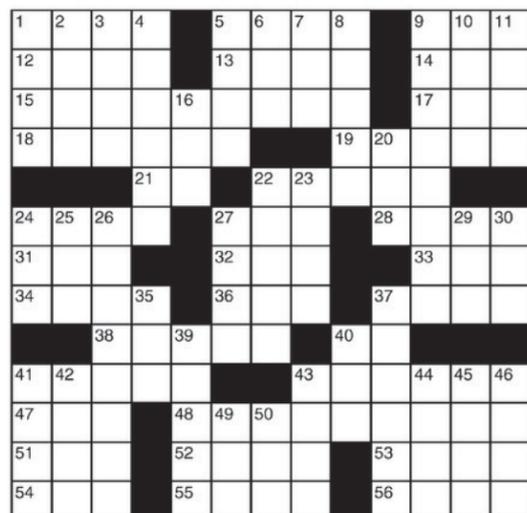
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Comes together
 - 5 Sail support
 - 9 Drenched
 - 12 Met melody
 - 13 From the beginning
 - 14 Wall crawler
 - 15 Voles
 - 17 Back talk
 - 18 Man's hat style
 - 19 Confound
 - 21 First word of "America"
 - 22 Gotham City super-villain
 - 24 Renown
 - 27 Standard
 - 28 Linger
 - 31 Chicken-king link
 - 32 Recede
 - 33 Mongrel
 - 34 Two-wheeler
 - 36 Ph. bk. listings
 - 37 Relinquish
 - 38 Occurrence
 - 40 Letter after lambda
 - 41 Discussion group
 - 43 Insect with pincers
 - 47 Hawaiian neckpiece
 - 48 Crockett and Tubbs' show
 - 51 Tolkien ogre
 - 52 Beige
 - 53 North Sea feeder
 - 54 Buck's mate
 - 55 Deli loaves
 - 56 Reps.' rivals
- DOWN**
- 1 Handled hook
 - 2 Great Lake
 - 3 Told a whopper
 - 4 Biblical dancer
 - 5 One of the Three Bears
 - 6 Blackbird
 - 7 Moment
 - 8 Make slight alterations
 - 9 Grain also called water
 - 10 Satan's forte
 - 11 Work at the keyboard
 - 16 Parched
 - 20 Society newbie
 - 22 Frilly blouse accessory
 - 23 Spheres
 - 24 "Great!"
 - 25 Clay, today
 - 26 "Stop fighting"
 - 27 Teller's partner
 - 29 Flop
 - 30 Before
 - 35 Leading lady?
 - 37 Not straight
 - 39 "Wabbit" hunter
 - 40 - tai
 - 41 Walk wearily
 - 42 Prefix re planes
 - 43 Flightless flock
 - 44 - E. Coyote
 - 45 Warhead weapon, briefly
 - 46 The Bee -
 - 49 Unfriendly
 - 50 Exist

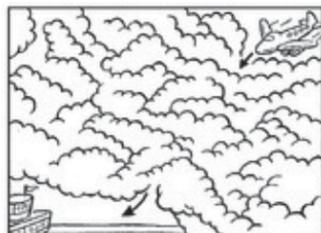


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G E D I T R A N S I S T O R E
B Z X A W T I W F C I I F U T
T R L Q S S L I O A R N S L N
J L I O T G E I F P Y D N E A
C A E A Y R X W O A H V A S R
T H E D O I D S R C T P R U O
R H N R O T S I M R E H T F L

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: PROTECTS A CIRCUIT

- Antenna
- Capacitor
- Coil
- Crystal
- Diode
- Heat sink
- LED
- Rectifier
- Resistor
- Rheostat
- Switch
- Thermistor
- Thyristor
- Transformer
- Transistor



SOCKED IN! Visibility is zero. Can you guide the small plane through the maze of clouds to a safe landing at the airport pictured above?

LUCKY SEVENS! Professor Flunkum wants you to make up a math problem using seven 7's and one minus sign to arrive at the answer "7." You have seven minutes to solve this one.

ANSWER: 7 - 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 = 7

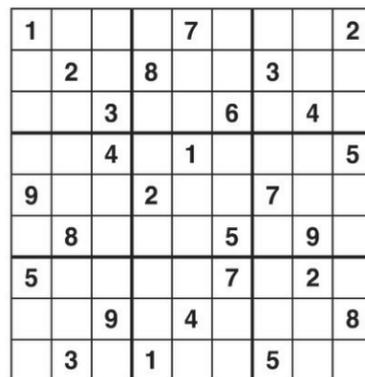
CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.



Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Lack, face, lane, tank, link, link, lick, lick, lice.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



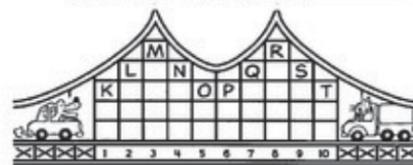
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



Illustrated by David Coulson

A WORD BRIDGE!

The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word plus plenty of hints:

1. A family relation.
2. Type of onion.
3. A free-for-all fight.
4. A snack or light meal.
5. A lyric poem.
6. A wooden church bench.
7. A clever, witty remark.
8. A picture puzzle.
9. A short performance.
10. A sailor.

Answers: 1. Kin, 2. Leek, 3. Melee, 4. Nosh, 5. Ome, 6. Pew, 7. Quip, 8. Ribus, 9. Skit, 10. Tar.

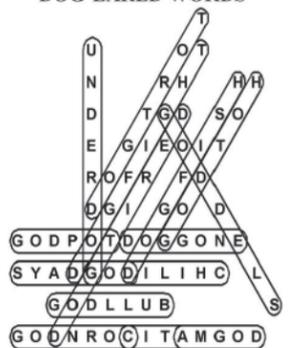
Answers to last week's puzzles

— King Crossword —
Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.



DOG-EARED WORDS



— Weekly SUDOKU —
Answer

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

Library: *Possible sale questioned*

Continued from page 5
year.”

Carney, meanwhile wanted to assure the public of two things the process was open, and the building’s future is assured. Included in the packet was assurance the library would remain in the building for a period of up to three years.

“I was involved in the entire process and I can provide solid proof that everything was done correctly. The building is not being demolished. Thank you for the opportunity to respond,” he said.

In his response for the council, Corporation Counsel Tiernan said sale talks have been going on for some time.

“Prior to Nancy Rossi becoming Mayor, the Acorn Group Development plans for the Allingtown Center included acquiring at some point the Allingtown Fire Station home at 20 Admiral Street, and 1 Forest Road the home of the Piantino Library. The Development of that area progressed to a point that the Developer requested that the City start the process to sell the property and building at 1 Forest Road. The City published a public request for proposal (RFP) to sell the site. Two entities bid. One entity was the Village Improvement Association one entity was the Acorn Group. The Acorn Group’s private commercial appraiser valued the building at \$300,000. Obviously, the true value of a piece of real estate is what someone is willing to pay for it,” he wrote in his response.

Tiernan said he review the bids, and when the council voted, he had all the available data. In the VIA’s bid of Dec. 17, Tiernan gave the following response.

“They needed seven months to apply for and obtain a mortgage. They want to rent space to UNH, the City and other entities including the West Haven Black Coalition. The coalition currently uses space in the building at no charge and it would appear that the Director of the coalition is the spouse of the head of the

Village Improvement Association. However, Mr. (Ted) Brown did not attend the meeting to authorized the bid. If they (Village Improvement) obtained a mortgage, they would pay the city \$500,000.

Tiernan noted that while the city is providing the space at no additional costs to the VIA, there was no explanation as to how the group would pay the annual costs to operate the building, estimated at \$100,000.

“Federal law mandates that they Village Improvement Association file annual tax returns with the IRS and those filed returns are public information. As part of due diligence, I reviewed those returns. In short, the City Council was reviewing a purchaser with a declining endowment, declining interest and dividend revenue and a declining City budget allocation, who was asking to potentially take on a significant new expense. If this purchase proved financially unsustainable for the Village Improvement Association, would the City be

forced to basically buy back the library or use the purchase funds to back stop the sale?” he asked.

“The Acorn Group bid \$290,000, but there was no mortgage contingency, they would pay property tax and the occupants of the building would generate personal property tax for the city. How much? \$25,000 to \$40,000 a year. They would donate \$5,000.00 to the Village Improvement Association if the association vacated the building, but they would be willing, in good faith to negotiate a lease arrangement for up to three years and invest up to \$25,000.0 in improvements to the library space conversely. The Acorn Group would agree to invest at least \$1.5 million and up to \$2 million in improvements to the building which would generate \$10,000.00 to \$20,000 in permit fees for the city.

After review, the Council authorized a contract for sale to the Acorn Group for \$325,000 with all the terms listed in the prior paragraph, the final details

being negotiated by the mayor and myself with the attorney for the Acorn Group. Because of the interest this has generated I have asked the chair(man) of the City Council to hold an addition public review of the sale when the details are finalized. During this COVID period it may be best to provide the public with an additional review.

“Like it or not the city simply has limited resources and overwhelming pressure to find revenue. In addition, the city is pressured encourage development to assist in revenue growth. Sale of the Piantino Library building to the Village Improvement Association would have ended any future development by the Acorn Group. However, the Mayor and the Council were adamant that the Village Improvement Association have space in the Allingtown area. That is why the City negotiated with the developer of the “Blake Building” 66 Tetlow St., for the possibility of the Village Improvement Association locating a long-term lease, a branch there

with a coffee shop. Again, the Developer agrees to pursue this option in good faith. The site is in Allingtown, close to UNH, a public school and public bus.

“The City Council had a choice concerning the sale of the Piantino Library building. Give the Village Improvement Assoc. the option to try to get a mortgage, (maybe they would, maybe they would not no guarantee) and kill development in Allingtown, fail to realized prop. tax revenue and permit revenue or sell to the Acorn Group. The Mayor and the City Council stand as a fiscal trustee of City funds. The Mayor has proposed and the Council has mandated the most fiscally responsible course concerning this topic.”

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Students and Distance Learning

They have their opinions -- Part 2

Second of a series

Recently, students in grades 5 & 6 participated in an online letter writing assignment, offering their opinions about distance learning in a letter to Superintendent Neil C. Cavallaro.

Teachers worked with the students on the elements of a formal letter combined with the process of opinion writing. District English Language Arts Coordinator Colette Bennett and Carrigan School Reading Consultant Latanya Joyner downloaded a number of these selections and sent them to Cavallaro to read and enjoy. The following are those letters.

While it did not surprise any of us that the students missed being at Carrigan, their opinions about learning online and the way they were expressed was "fantastic and enlightening," according to Principal Richard Webber. We agree!

Do you enjoy distance learning? Well I do, it's much easier to work without worrying about getting sick. This distance learning helps protect many people who could get the virus and keeps the hospitals less crowded for the people in need for treatment.

"How do you feel about distance learning?" I feel that online school is a great way to spend quarantine time catching up on things that we might have missed in school. This also helps slow the spread of germs. Quarantine also helps the earth when we are not outside. A lot of pollution clears up which makes up for people littering over 100s of years ago.

"Am I enjoying distance learning?" Yes I am enjoying distance learning because I know that I am safe. Also distance learning gives me time to self distance and get off social media and do more crafts like paper squishies and draw. I can focus more on me and then take more time to give myself a spa. I don't dislike distance learning because if we do not take the time and follow these rules we can get very sick and the numbers will just get higher and higher.

In conclusion I think distance learning is a great way for everyone to stop the spread of germs. Also I think that this is a good way to keep everyone safe. After this Coronavirus stops hopefully we can get back to our Normal lives.

Faith Neaveh Robinson
Mrs. Petrie's Class

Have you ever had distance learning when you were in school? Well if you have, did you like it? Because I am leaning more toward the not liking it side. I find school more fun when you get to interact with other people but that might just be me because my mom could probably go a few days without seeing anyone.

Here are some of the other reasons why I don't really like online learning: First, when I am working on something, and I have a question, I ask my mom first to see if she can help me and usually she can because she says that I am asking silly questions and they are but I just need to double check. Which probably means I just want to talk to someone sometimes, which is weird

because I don't really talk to people in school unless we are in a Special. Secondly, I think that my mom is trying to make use of me being home so I can do all the things I would most likely do on a weekend on a day I have online learning. Lastly, the different deadlines. Sometimes I have to stop what I am doing because it took longer than I expected, to go on to something that will be due soon. I am terrible with time management so that is mostly likely the thing that caused the problem in the first place.

Here are a few reasons why I think online learning is okay: First, my mom is teaching me how to cook. Second, is that we get to learn responsibility because we have to do all of our work before that date and time (even though we do that in school). We also have to tell the truth with the daily exercise from Gym and in Band, we have to say how long we have practiced. I am pretty sure the teachers don't want us to lie if we didn't do what we were supposed to do.

I hope this will all end soon so we can go back to school. Also have a lovely Easter and spring break. Stay healthy.

Isabel Millard
Ms. Morgan's class

Have you ever had a class with friends that are always there to help you when you need it, and a great teacher who is always there to help you with anything you don't understand? Well, that is why I am against distance learning and why I think we should be back in school, back in my class with teachers that have done so much for me. I want to continue learning with them for the time I have left in their classes.

First of all, my teacher Ms Marchitto for humanities, and Mrs Dady for math, are both great teachers. They teach in a way where you can learn something new, faster than watching a 10 minute video teaching you like we watch online. They help you understand what they're asking in a better way and they can interact with you to help you. This is something a video can't do.

Another reason why I am against distance learning is because being in school with other kids helps me mature. It also helps the other students in my class mature, too. It is good to stay motivated and work in a place that has positive energy. My class is the place that helps the other students and I focus and get more help if needed.

Lastly, Ms. Marchitto and Mrs. Dady always help me and the other students understand everything before we take the test. With Mrs. Dady, she tells us to come by three different periods throughout the day if they still don't get it. With Ms. Marchitto, she makes flash cards for us to study, so we do the best we can when we take the tests. These types of study strategies can't be done online. There are some other teachers and classes like mine, but Mrs. Dady and Ms. Marchitto really try to help the class and they want the best for every student.

In conclusion, I think we should be back in school and learning instead of using distance learning. In the class-



Carrigan Intermediate School Students were asked their opinions on the distance learning they experienced this spring. They had some strong ones.

room is a great learning environment. It helps educate students better rather than staying home using a laptop, unmotivated to do work. I think being back in school is the best choice.

Phong Ha
Miss Marchitto's class

What is your opinion on Distance Learning? My personal opinion on Distance Learning is that it is harder and not as easy as learning in a classroom. But I am also very grateful for Distance Learning because it is better than not learning at all. There are a couple reasons why I do not like Distance Learning that I am going to tell you today.

One reason I do not like Distance Learning is that there is not necessarily a teacher right in front of me to help me with my school work if I have an issue. Yes, I do have my parents and older siblings to go to and I can always email one of my teachers for help if I need it, but it's always easier to have a teacher right in front of you who can help you almost instantly.

Another reason I do not like Distance Learning is that it is harder for me to be on top of my work at all times. In order for me to finish all of my work on time, I usually have to wake up early and have a set time for each subject. If I don't keep on the same schedule I usually can not finish all of my work because I can get side tracked very easily. But when I am at school it's not as easy for me to get side tracked because I am at school without my siblings, parents, and pets.

One last reason I do not like Distance Learning that I would like to share with you is that I don't get to see my friends and classmates. As classmates we are always working together and helping each other in certain situations. Like, when we are asked to work in a group we get the opportunity to learn how to collaborate which is a very important skill. Or when maybe I didn't hear the answer to question four on math. Or even if I don't have a blue colored pencil. Though school is for learning, social interaction is a big part of it too.

I can't always reach out to my friends for help and they can't always reach out to me if they need help either.

Distance Learning has been hard and I might not like it, but for me it's better than not learning anything at all.

This is my opinion on Distance Learning and, like I said before, I would love to hear yours.

Mary Repetsky
Ms. Callahan's class

Have you ever had to learn at home? Well, I am this year for a couple months because of the Coronavirus. Our town is taking precautions for this virus by staying home. We will have less of a chance to get each other sick because we are practicing social distancing. This virus causes everyone to be at risk, but the elderly are at a higher risk due to the fact their bodies can not fight the disease as well as someone younger and healthier. Distance Learning allows us to continue our education, as well as, stay healthy.

While doing online school there are many perks. Many people have opinions on this and like the fact of how much responsibility they have. Students can choose how they approach different assignments. Some of the perks are the amount of space you have, like you can sit at a big table or couch with no one next to you. Also, you can stay in your pajamas during the school day or comfy clothes. I personally like to just get ready for the day, though.

It is nice being with your teachers especially mine, but they still do talk to you which is cool. Also I finish early, so I have more time in the day to do what I want and I'm sure many other people too, like playing basketball. These are some of the many reasons I like distance learning.

The work given is not as much as we would get in a normal school day, but enough to keep our education going. I will say that this is much more of a review than new work. Like I said, we can talk to our teachers by typing, hopefully soon in a video chat like

See Letters, page 12