

West Haven Voice

October 1, 2020

Vol. 25, Issue 19 20 Pages

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

Voice Profile

An in-depth feature

The Louis Piantino Library moves from longtime home

See page 12



Photos courtesy of Bob Grestini

Seminary tour

Capacity visitors trekked with members of the West Haven Historical Society Walking Tour, narrated by President Jon Purmont over the weekend, to visit the location of the former Oak Hill Seminary for Women. "Seminary" meant school at the time. The seminary property extended from Savin Avenue to the hill on present-day Church St. The three story structure was built on the hill facing Savin Avenue. First photo: Church St - two 1870 houses and the former Johnson farmhouse, known as the Oak Hill Dairy. The structures were erected after the seminary closed in 1870. Second photo: Savin Avenue, corner of Church St -- 1900 James Peck House. The former seminary building was destroyed by fire in 1896. The morning and afternoon tours were at capacity with 15 participants avg each. Other reservation requests were turned away including a family of five. The participants were very engaged and surprised about the history of the area.

WHEAT sees need uptick due to virus

With the weather becoming a bit cooler and the calendar telling us summer has turned to fall, this was a time when schools, fraternal organizations, clubs and other social organizations geared up for the new business year. COVID-19 has changed all that.

With state restrictions still in place regarding gatherings, and masks needed for any indoor activity where people are congregated, clubs and organizations have either gone to online meetings, or suspended operation until things open up again.

But the turn from summer to fall also brought our minds to the needs of those less fortunate in our community, and many of the organizations that picked up again in September also began collecting things for the city's oldest operating agency to help those in need of food and other necessities, the West Haven Emergency Assistance Taskforce (WHEAT).

Begun as an outreach of the West Haven Clergy Association in the late 1970s, the agency became an independent operation and has provided thousands of families with food relief in time of need. The agency's executive director, Rose Majestic, said this week COVID-19 has led to an uptick in the number of families looking for assistance. And the reasons vary.

"The pandemic has increased the number of families/individuals needing food from us three fold. The people coming to us are a combination of the unemployed, parents who are at home with their children and need extra food, plus those on fixed incomes. We aren't able to judge if opening part of the economy has helped," she said.

Many times, when the shelves at WHEAT's Washington Avenue headquarters were low, the word would go out that new collections had to take place. That helped, but WHEAT looks to a larger group to stock its shelves during most of the year.

"Eighty to ninety percent of our food comes from the CT Food Bank. The rest comes from our West Haven community. Even though donations from organizations are down, individual donations from the community have increased," Majestic said.

Schools in West Haven always participated in collecting food-stuffs as did many social and fraternal organizations, in these pandemic times, Majestic and her volunteer staff have had to look elsewhere for food.

"Understandably, schools are not able to collect for us at this time," Majestic said. "We are receiving much more food from

See WHEAT, page 5

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Next Issue Date: October 15th, 2020



Leah Amaya, age 4, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., sees the sun shining brightly over the trees!

On this Date

1991-- Siege of Dubrovnik. The Siege of Dubrovnik began during the Croatian War of Independence. On this day, the Yugoslav People's Army started its offensive on Dubrovnik.

1961-- Formation of Federal Republic of Cameroon. British Cameroon or Southern Cameroon joined the Republic of Cameroon to form the Federal Republic of Cameroon.

1957 -- Thalidomide launched. Thalidomide, an anti-nausea drug and sleep-aid, was launched. For about five years it was commonly prescribed to pregnant women as a drug to deal with morning sickness. It was finally withdrawn from the market after it was determined that it caused birth defects.

1949 -- People's Republic of China is established. Mao Zedong declared the establishment of the People's Republic of China.

1946 -- Trial of the Major War Criminals end. The Trial of the Major War Criminals part of the Nuremberg trials ended with sentences being passed against several key members of the Nazi party.

Births

1935 -- Julie Andrews. English actress, singer.

1924 -- Jimmy Carter. American politician, 39th President of the United States, Nobel Prize laureate.

1924 -- William Rehnquist. American lawyer, jurist, 16th Chief Justice of the United States.

1910 -- Bonnie Parker. American criminal

1896 -- Liaquat Ali Khan. Indian/Pakistani lawyer, politician, Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Farmers market vouchers ready

Farmers market vouchers are available by calling the Department of Elderly Services at (203) 937-3635 or (203) 627-1382.

In an effort to limit contact, the department is distributing the vouchers by mail to eligible city residents.

To receive \$18 in vouchers, the income limits for those at least 60 years old are \$23,606 per year, or \$1,968 per month, for a single person and \$31,894 per year, or \$2,658 per month, for a married couple.

Each voucher booklet contains six \$3 vouchers that residents can use at any farmers market in the state. A list of markets is included with each booklet.

West Haven's Tony Inzero Farmers Market was canceled in accordance with local public health guidelines.



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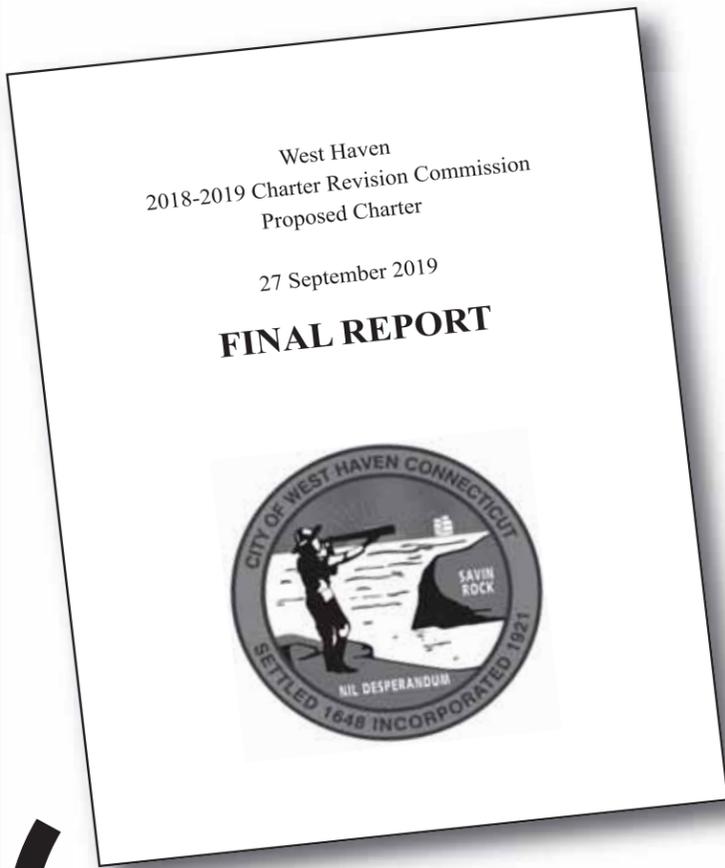


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IMPORTANT DECISION FOR WEST HAVEN VOTERS



ELECTION DAY NOV 3

VOTE ON WEST HAVEN CITY CHARTER REVISION



VOTE ON THE QUESTION	
YES <input type="radio"/>	NO <input type="radio"/>
<p>Shall the City of West Haven amend its current Charter as recommended by the Charter Revision Commission in its final report submitted on September 27, 2019, which changes include but are not limited to: (1) changing to a City Council/Town Manager form of government; (2) establishing minimum qualification requirements for management positions; (3) changing the Tax Collector, City Clerk, and Treasurer from elected to appointed positions; (4) changing from biennial to quadrennial elections for all elected officials; (5) reducing the number of local voting districts from 10 to 3; (6) the Board of Education will consist of nine members three from each district with one minority party member in each district; (7) changing from mandatory to permissible appointments of department heads, boards and commissions?</p>	

West Haven Charter Commission's Key Proposals

- Hire a Professional City Manager
- Require Professional Credentials for all City Department Leaders
- Increase Representation requirements for the City Council and Board of Education at the District Level
- Improve the ability of City departments to streamline operations
- Establish a mandatory Independent Ethics and Compliance Commission
- Modify the terms of all Elected Officials from two to four years

West Haven Charter Revision Commission

Charter Revision Commission Members: Edward R Granfield- Chairman, Iris Diaz-Vice Chairman, John Carrano-Majority Leader, Silvana Apicella, John Brunetti, Victoria Clifford, Rohan Smith, and our intern from the University of New Haven Christian Zapata

To learn more visit
WHCharter.org

Dear Felicia

Howdy do, kiddo. Here we are after the foist week o' fall, and after a cold spell jest before the equinox, it's been, Indian Summer...are we still allowed to say that? It seems people are always trying to edit our language. I was told that there are people on so-called "social media" who don't like it when we call the current pandemic malady the "Wuhan Flu."

They seem in their quaint way to think it's racist. It ain't. That's where the danged thing came from. Full. Stop. Effen yew think that's racist, the problem lies more with the acuser, than with the use of the term. In fack, our esteemed editor has been using that line with people who just use the word "racist" to stop any conversation. He just says, "That's really your problem, not mine," and he moves on. Don't let the hotheads win, and don't let them stifle your language. Use it all the more and watch their heads explode. It is nearest thing to the July 3 fireworks.

Here in the Asylum by the Sea, the Charter Revision Commish has morphed into some type of education panel to explain the question that is to go before the voters on Nov. 3. There is an interestin' subtext to all this, according to Sammy Bluejay.

Ysee, though the commision came up with its report, and made same very substantial changes in the charter, the politicos don't really want it to pass...at least some don't. That is very clear with the whispering campaign that is going on. Sammy is convinced that there isn't anything above board that is happening, it's all below deck.

We've seen this movie before. A charter commission makes changes, the political class really don't want things to change, and the revisions re either voted down, or changes are made to them before they go the voters so that there is really no reason to vote.

Ed Granfield and John Carano spearheaded the com-

mission, and worked hard with the members to git them to understand Civics 101 before they went into making alterations. Cobina ain't sure how this is gonna pan out. If it passes, she'll be pleasantly surprised, but effen it fails, she'll know the politicos won yet again.

The City Council invited the Haven developers to its meeting this week, and we can't wait to find out what was discussed. Now, remember, Iyam scribing this missive before the meeting, and we come out three days after the meeting. We're sure the council will get some inkling of what was said in the regular part of the papyrus.

We see that some demolition has taken place, both on the corners of Water Street and Elm. Both were gas stations at one time or t'other. But that's all that has happened in two weeks. Still, we know that Chairman Ron Quagliani has requested a timetable concerning the demolitions, as well as an update on any rentals that might have taken place. It's important that the council — and the public — get info on this matter, cuz some people are convinced the plan ain't gonna be as advertised.

Nelly Nuthatch was by t'other afternoon and sez that there is a certain segment of the community that things in the long run housing is gonna be put there. Now, that ain't in the proposal, but part of the problem is the developer. The company just won't

give any info as to what it's doing unless forced. They want to play things close to the vest, but there is setch a thing as playing it too close. People's imaginations run wild, and the rumor mill works overtime. Let's hope the meeting this week clarified a few things.

Iva Looty came by and he didn't misstate it when he said everything, yes everything, is tainted by the pandemic. Not a single operation, organization, municipality can do anything without the elephant in the room being addressed. The school system, for example, has been sorely tested. It's been three or four weeks since the new year began, Sept. 8, and there have been some hurdles that have had to be cleared, but, thankfully, not as bad — yet — as some school districts.

This week we asked our superintendent about the negotiations with the teachers' union. Yew remember the union posted a memo just before school started regarding working conditions and protocols. It was part of a larger statewide effort to git thing in writing we are told.

Tennyrate, Iva is convinced that by the time this thing is negotiated, the pandemic might be declared over. Setch is the way these things seem to operate. You could never accuse negotiators of excess speed. This thing will probably take a while to hash out,

and so far, people are keeping a smile on the face and saying nice things. We'll see how long that continues.

I got a query. When did red lights become suggestions? In the past two weeks Cobina has been out in her gassamobuggy and seen drivers blow through red lights as if they weren't there. Luckily, there wasn't much traffic on the intersections. But she can't understand the disregard for traffic signals. Rolling stops at stop signs are becoming the norm. It's all so silly. Are people in that much of a hurry, or is it they think things don't apply to them?

The Wag came by and sez that the Piantino Library is being vacated out of the former Allingtown Community Center, nee Forest School after more than four decades. As yew may have read, David Beckerman, the developer doing most of the restructuring of the Allingtown Green has purchased the building, and the Village Improvement Association could not afford the rent that was being requested.

Where that facility is gonna be relocated is anyone's guess. There are a few options, but it seems that the present administration is somewhat ambivalent to the library. As I am scribing this note, the books and shelves are being taken outta the building and moved to the main library for storage. It is not know when or if the Piantino branch will be relocated.

We hope this changes, honey bunch. The people in Allingtown were served well by the library and should have one close by. The people in this berg pay a boatload in taxes and should at least git a library. It always amazes me how budget-makers of both parties seem setch things are expendable. But, there it is. They think it's spreading the misery. It's just playing politics.

Finally, the people over at WHEAT gave an update about how things are going. With the pandemic and people being laid off because of it, there has been an uptick in requests for aid. And we're getting into the holiday season pretty soon, and collections around town usually go up. With many organizations not meeting or even having business years, one wonders how the slack is gonna be picked up.

Churches play a big part as do schools, but every event around this time o' year has a collection for WHEAT as part o' the price of admission. It will be interesting to see how this pans out.

Mitt luff und kizzez,

Cobina

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WHEAT: COVID-19 prompts hike in requests

Continued from page 1
the CT Food Bank. They've done a tremendous job in making sure all agencies are getting as much as possible."

While the shelves are pretty well stocked, there are things the community can do to help, either in groups, or as individuals, according to Majestic.

"We are doing well in terms of the amount of food we have. We are able to give out an adequate amount of food to everyone who comes. We need Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Peanut Butter, Cold Cereal, Tomato Sauce and Soup (any

kind)," she said.

In keeping with the goals of the agency, Majestic is encouraging people who know a family in need to relate the agency's hours and what it can do to help/

"If someone knows of anyone who is in need of food, please tell them to come to WHEAT. We're open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2-4:30. Everyone must wear a face covering and bring a photo ID and two pieces of mail," she said.

Majestic noted that every community is dealing with the

pandemic, and the struggle is not just in getting enough to eat, but in other ways.

"Our community, like all communities, is dealing with a pandemic that has left us struggling economically, psychologically, and living a life of unknowns and new realities," she said. "

During this pandemic time people have given a lot of support to the agency's goals, and sometimes have left good wishes.

"We are grateful to everyone in West Haven who has sacrificed money and food to

help us during this crisis. And we are very touched by the notes people send thanking us for what we do. It boosts our morale as we struggle to feed everyone while adjusting to a "new normal" ourselves," she said.

Those looking to contact

WHEAT can do so by calling (203) 931-9877 or email wheatcharity@sbcglobal.net with questions, comments, etc.

If you need more information, can visit its Facebook page: WHEAT of West Haven, or visit our new website, wheatpantry.org.

Photo courtesy of WHEAT

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted an increase in food requests for the West Haven Emergency Assistance Taskforce (WHEAT). Many families saw breadwinners go on hiatus due to the pandemic.



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Charter Revision issue put to voters, Nov. 3

The residents of West Haven will have a very important question to answer on Nov. 3. Election Day this year goes beyond the candidates, both national and state, on the ballot. Some 17 months after the Charter Revision Commission submitted its final report, and some 25 months after it had its first working session, voters are asked to approve the question.

This is the text of what voters will be asked to approve or deny:

"Shall the City of West Haven amend its current Charter as recommended by the Charter Revision Commission in its final report submitted on September 27, 2019, which changes include but are not limited to: (1) changing to a City Council/Town Manager form of government; (2) establishing minimum qualification requirements for management positions; (3) changing the Tax Collector, City Clerk, and Treasurer from elected to appointed positions; (4) changing from biennial to quadrennial elections for all elected officials; (5) reducing the number of local voting districts from 10 to 3; (6) the Board of Education will consist of nine members three from each district with one minority party member in each district; (7) changing from mandatory to permissible appointments of department heads, boards and commissions?"

Just a cursory glance at the proposal shows there are major changes on the way should it get approved. The city will decrease the role of the mayor in favor of a professional city manager; requirements for what have been political payback positions will require professional credentials; posts heretofore elected will be appointed; terms will be raised from two to four years; new districting is in place with more minority party representation; changes will be made to the Board of Education (first time since the 1970s); and appointments will become optional.

The current City Charter has been in force since 1960, when the "Town" of West Haven went from a Board of Selectmen form of governance to a mayor-council. The Charter Revision Commission looked at the way things have run over the last six decades and determined a major revision is necessary. There is no arguing that West Haven's list of problems has been exacerbated by a political structure that learned quickly how to game the system.

This new charter is an attempt to keep a political structure, while taking the influence of politics out of the equation as much as possible, hence the derogation of the mayor's office to a near first-selectman status, more power vested in the City Council and the day-to-day operation of the city handled by a paid professional. This is a radical departure from what politicians are used to gaming.

We have every reason to suspect that while there is not an overt opposition to these changes, those efforts are at least covert. Already we are hearing about the lack of input by the voters, when, in fact, the City Council, which is nearest to the voter is given more authority, and, hence, more accountability.

Let's face the fact the current structure has, at least in part, led to the financial quagmire we have faced for the last three decades. Politicians do not want to do the dirty deed of fiscal responsibility unless forced. We have been forced twice in the recent past by state overseers.

Some may see our optimism on this restructuring as inconsistent with our anti-Progressive stance over the years. Not so. We see the elected officials nearest the people as more accountable to those people and not to party.



Primer of Charter Revision FAQs

The West Haven Charter Revision Education and Outreach Committee has begun its public education effort regarding the Charter Revision question on this year's ballot. There is a web site (www.whcharter.org) voters can go to and review the final report, along with written excerpts from the power point report, and the live video feed of that presentation made at the July 1 2019 public hearing. In addition there is a Q&A drop box within the site that interested voters can submit questions and receive a response from a committee member.

Restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, limited resources, and the shift towards mail in voting by A/B that begins in early October have forced the committee to adjust its approach and timelines of this effort. In addition to the website there will be a bi weekly ad campaign along with a city wide mailing on the issue. The following FAQ are also posted on the website for your review

Frequently Asked Questions

Why bring in a city manager? A city manager is an educated and experienced professional trained in all aspects of municipal operations. A certified C/M is an employee who reports to and is accountable to the

Mayor and the City Council.

Do we still elect a mayor? Yes. Under the new format the Mayor is still elected city wide by the voters and becomes the leader of the City Council.

Why change to (4) year terms? It takes years to bring about significant change in any community. Elected officials serving two (2) year terms spend half their time and efforts campaigning for the next term. This tends to force our elected officials to concentrate on the short-term instead of the long-term health of the city.

Why restructure the city council and the voting districts? To better serve every citizen within the entire community. Three (3) large districts with four (4) representatives per district creates a powerful voting block on the City Council. A lone Council member in our current micro-district format can easily be isolated, ignored, or dismissed. An elected group of four (4) from the same district cannot. The days of any one area of town feeling neglected or ignored would be over. The new format includes a majority/minority party requirement that is legally governed by state statute.

Would this change in our district voting system affect

the board of education? Yes and No. It would not affect the current 9 member format or the majority/minority party requirements currently in place. However under the new format, each voting district would now elect three of its own representatives that would serve in consecutive terms instead of the current staggered term at-large only set up. This way every school has three representatives on the BOE to call upon who reside within their respective district, and no one area of town can be left out of the educational decision making process.

Why are you changing the tax collector, city clerk, and treasurer to appointed positions? These positions have evolved over the years and now require a specific skill set in order to meet the industry standards of excellence. This requires a level of training and education in order to be certified in those respective fields. In Connecticut it is illegal to require credentials for candidates to run for elected office hence the change.

What does it mean to require professional credentials for all city department heads? The response is similar to FAQ #6. All city department leaders require a

See Charter, page 14



Gripe Vine Readers:

A recent Gripe Vine column published a request for signage on the Boardwalk requiring face masks. I am looking into this matter. Watch my next column to see if this request was received and completed.

Gripe Vine Readers:

If you recall reading in my latest column, a resident who complained of spiral growth of bamboo plants at her home on Jones Hill Road. The overgrowth of this plant is found at the back of this reader's property, which is adjacent to Seth Haley's Soccer Field.

This reader had complained to the city to no avail. Gripe Vine had contacted other Councilmen and women in the area and to date have not heard from them. I forwarded this complaint to Councilman Barry Lee Cohen, who offered to help this reader to success, even though this is not his district. A THANK YOU to Councilman Cohen. Although correspondence was directed to Councilman Cohen indicating he did not respond to this complaint, the request was



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

sent in error.

I received the following reply from Councilman Robert Bruneau relating to the reader's complaint of overgrown Bamboo plants growing in his yard from the Seth Haley Soccer Field: His comments arrived at deadline:

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I take this job very seriously and take care of all constituents' complaints I am made aware of. I initially called the city's tree contractor and Public Works. Bob Herrington went out and didn't see the issue from the school side of the yard. I have now gone out

there with Mr. Herrington to the actual house and he has been made aware of the situation and will see what can be done. There is not an easy remedy to rectify this problem but all necessary departments are now aware and we will go from there to see what can be done.

Dear Councilman Bruneau:

Thank you for your prompt reply. However, you mentioned you take your job seriously. I would like you to know I take this job seriously as well. I have written Gripe Vine for the West Haven Voice 17 years this coming January. I receive each complaint no matter how large or small with diligence and care. Please let me know when this Bamboo problem is solved.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

When will the pot holes be filled on Plainfield Avenue?

Patient Resident

Dear Patient Resident:

According to Councilman Peter Massaro, the pot holes will be done this week. Please let me know if they were..

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

The entire street of Beach

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Street is rampant with speeding. The problem is that there is too little enforcement of the speed limit. Whether going west to east or east to west people are using Beach Street as a high speed by-pass through the city to avoid other parallel routes that have stop signs and lights.

Beach Street has neither or its entire stretch. Because it has long straight sections, its an invitation in the absence of a police presence a deterrent, to floor it and that's exactly what those of us who actually witness the driving on this street. Its understandable that

the police department would not be privy to these facts, they're never there.

Last year there were at least three incidents where drivers heading west and ignoring the stop sign at Beach and Washington crashed into the guard rail at the entrance to the condos there. None of these incidents were caused by ice.

Crossing Beach Street at any of the sidewalks is as gamble too because many of the drivers feel they own the road, despite state law that demands that they yield to pedestrians at crosswalks.

See Gripevine, page 13

Financial Focus

Can you influence your financial aid reward?

Right now, the pandemic is causing chaos and uncertainty for colleges and students. But it won't always be that way. And if you have children who will be heading off to school in the next few years, you're probably thinking about more typical concerns – such as expenses. How will you pay for the high costs of higher education?

Most colleges do offer financial aid packages that can greatly help with these expenses. But it pays to know, well in advance, how financial aid works. And the key platform for determining much of your child's financial aid is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In fact, if you have children starting college next year, now is the time to get going on the FAFSA, which became available Oct. 1 for the 2021-22 award year.

Filling out your FAFSA will provide you with what's known as your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC calculation takes into account four separate areas: parent income, parent assets (excluding retirement funds, such as 401(k) plans and IRAs, home equity and small family businesses), student income and student assets. The EFC does not calculate the exact amount you must pay for college – rather, it's an estimate, and the amount you pay can

be below or above this number.

Nonetheless, the EFC is important in determining your financial aid package, and your actions can influence the results. Here are a few suggestions for future years:

- Save money in your name – not your child's. FAFSA will just consider up to 5.64 percent of a parent's assets, compared to 20 percent of a student's assets.

- Be aware of how retirement plan contributions can affect aid. Many of your current assets, such as your retirement accounts, may be excluded from the EFC calculation. However, any voluntary contributions you make to your 401(k) or traditional IRA during the "base" year (the prior tax year) generally must be reported on the FAFSA and are counted as untaxed income; consequently, these contributions may have a similar effect on aid eligibility as taxable income. Mandatory contributions, such as those made by teachers to a state retirement system, are generally not reported on the FAFSA.

- Avoid withdrawals from your 401(k) or traditional IRA. The money you take out from these accounts in the years you fill out the FAFSA, and the prior tax year, may count as taxable income in the financial aid calculations. If you really need the money, you may

want to consult with your financial professional for alternatives.

- Consider having children put earnings into a Roth IRA. Money from after-school or summer jobs your children put in a Roth IRA may not be included in EFC – plus, your kids will get a head start on a tax-advantaged retirement account. Keep in mind, though,

that Roth IRA withdrawals could be considered as taxable income on the FAFSA if the account owner is younger than 59 ½, which will be the case for your children, or the account is less than five years old.

Not all these suggestions will be appropriate for everyone, but they're worth thinking about. You might also want to consult with a college's fi-

nancial aid officer before you complete the FAFSA, as aid calculations can be complex. An investment of your time and effort early in the process may pay off when the aid packages are finally delivered.

###

This article was written by Edward Jones, Member SIPC, for use by Darryl Zembrowski, your local Edward Jones Fi-



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Union, system still negotiating

With the opening of schools just days away, last month, the city's teacher's union sent a memorandum to school officials and the Board of Education, looking for a negotiated series of protections and protocols in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Four weeks after schools opening, the city's schools chief said no agreement has been finalized, but talks are ongoing.

"At this point, we haven't reached an agreement, but we have made progress. Since we are in the middle of a negotiation, I believe that's all I can say at this time," said Superintendent of Schools Neil C. Cavallaro this week.

In the memo, union officials were concerned about COVID-related work conditions and adaptations to the work environment that would have to be made. Cavallaro said once schools opened, Sept. 8, operational procedures went from the abstract to the concrete and have settled into routine.

"Now that we're more than two weeks into the school year, things are settling down. Most of our supplies have arrived, although some are still on backorder, because everyone has the same needs. I believe most teachers recognize that we're doing the best we can under the circumstances to keep everyone safe," Cavallaro said. "One thing that is certain, is that once students arrive, teachers are doing all they can to educate them. They've been reassuring and very positive. Their professionalism has really shown through."

In the memo, union officials listed some concerns about outbreaks and what would happen in the case a student tested positive, as well as online learning and classroom procedure. The schools chief believe the system has weathered the opening and now will face things as they come, preparing the best way possible for those events.

"I believe we've created a very safe learning environment for students and staff. Most recognize that. We are certainly doing our best to address any concerns, but in my opinion, everyone is doing their best to adjust to a new normal," he said.

Cavallaro was asked if there have been any union/administrative problems in the first few weeks regarding protocols. He didn't get into specifics, but said all parties were working to adjust to new rules

and guidelines as they come from the state."

This is a learning experience for everyone involved," he said. "Recommendations and guidelines from the various state and local agencies change and evolve as new information becomes available. The amount of information can be overwhelming. All parties are doing their best to learn and understand them."

Regarding anything that arises in the course of the school week, the schools chief is taking a pragmatic approach.

"As I said earlier, we're trying to address concerns as they arise, and I believe most recognize that. In short, there have been few disagreements, and we're working towards an agreement to resolve any outstanding issues. I believe we all have the same goal of educating our students in a safe and orderly environment," he said.

As with many school systems throughout the state and country, some teachers have opted out of the year due to medical concerns, Cavallaro admitted it has been a daunting task to fill those spots, but the strain is exacerbated by other constraints.

"We have several teachers who are out due to being at a higher risk for getting the virus. We also have several who are out on FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act). That continues to be a challenge for our school district as well as most around the state. Our priority has been to make sure that all classrooms are covered with certified teaching staff, and we've accomplished that. As teachers begin to return from leave and more staff becomes available, we'll be able to provide students with additional support," he said.

Cavallaro said now that schools are open under the half-day plan first implemented by the Board of Education, plans are being drawn up to tackle things for the days after pandemic restrictions are lifted. But also remain fluid enough to refine plans already in place.

"We are in the planning stages of how to lengthen the school day and eventually get back to a full day. We are also refining our distance learning model. Currently about a third of our students have opted for that model. We're continuing to monitor the metrics and trends of the virus, and our goal is to be able to adjust immediately given the new set of circumstances," he said finally.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Rossi tours Forest playground project

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi and Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy look over plans as a crew from ALZ Construction of Marshfield, Mass., finishes installing the new playground at Forest Elementary School on Sept. 16. The powder-coated steel playscape, manufactured by BCI Burke Co. of Fond du Lac, Wis., is equipped with stainless steel hardware and molded plastic apparatus for children to play on, including a slide, tom-tom drums and a small rock wall. Financed with a \$100,000 state grant, the playground is also outfitted with a pair of tire swings and park benches and a poured-in-place rubber surface for added safety. Rossi said the Forest PTA had requested a playground for many years, adding that PTA President Carrie Malangone was the driving force behind the project, along with state Rep. Michael A. DiMassa (D-116), who represents the district that includes the Allingtown school.

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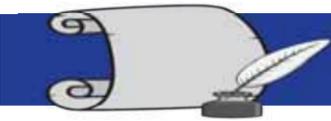
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Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

Secrets of New Haven Green

It's a bit odd that there aren't any ghost stories associated with New Haven Green—especially when you consider that beneath all of that grass lie over 5,000 of New Haven's earliest residents, unmarked in their final repose.

The Green was used as a burying ground from the earliest days of the New Haven Colony.

After severe yellow fever epidemics in 1794 and 1795,

it was decided that the Green was simply too crowded to continue as the principal burying ground.

In 1796, a new cemetery site was chosen, at what was then the edge of town. This became the Grove Street Cemetery, and its first burial took place in 1797.

Meanwhile the burial ground on the green continued to be used sporadically until 1812.

At that time, the gravestones were moved from the Green to

the perimeter of Grove Street Cemetery—but those New Haveners buried beneath them were never moved.

It must be remembered that this was in a time before concrete burial vaults, and that which had been buried generally could not be wholly recovered and moved elsewhere—so there the remains remain—to this day!

Old maps and paintings of New Haven Green indicate the existence of a large col-

umned building located behind Center Church.

That building was the State House. That's right, Connecticut was the only state ever to have two state capitols from 1703 to 1875, those being New Haven and Hartford.

We should recall that New Haven had always been fiercely independent and self-sufficient; a charter from King Charles II in 1662 united New Haven—albeit uncomfortably—with the Connecticut

Colony, otherwise known as Hartford.

Unwilling to play second fiddle, New Haven insisted on being the state capitol, as did Hartford. Somehow, both got what they wanted, and that arrangement lasted for 172 years. Today as you walk around on New Haven Green, you cannot find a single trace of the old State House or the old burying ground; it seems they belong to another time, and that is where they will remain.

The New Haven Green as it looked around the 1840s in an artist's rendering. The three churches, Trinity, Center and United, as well as the Statehouse that stood behind Center Church can be seen. New Haven was the co-capital of Connecticut until 1875. The building was eventually razed with no trace of it found today.



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

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Charter revision question on ballot

West Haven voters have many choices to make this Election Day, Nov. 3, but one that will be most associated with their day-to-day lives is just as important. Some 17 months after the Charter Revision Commission reported back to the City Council, voters get to decide if the city's governmental structure will take a very different turn.

On the ballot is a "yay or nay" vote that will transform the city's governance from a mayor-council form to one that will see ordinary administrative duties handed off to a city manager, with a mayor who will be head of a reformed - and more powerful - City Council.

In its 18-month review of the city's charter, the Charter Revision Commission, headed by Edward Granfield and John Carrano, did a deep dive into the document, which outlines how the city does everything

from vote for an ordinance, to pass a budget, to how and why people are hired for various positions.

The current charter, with some revisions over the years, transformed the "Town of West Haven" from a selectman-representative town meeting formula, to the current mayor-council. This new charter would transform the city to a city manager form of government, hiring a professional administrator under the direction of a new City Council, headed by the mayor.

But the transformation would not end there. The document calls for melding the city's 10 municipal districts into three, with three representatives per district, along with at least one minority representative, giving minority party voters some say.

The document further changes the Board of Education, requires the positions of

City Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer from elected to appointed positions, and requiring appointments to other professional positions have some training or expertise in the department for which they are hired.

Granfield said the hope was for a long introductory process for the voters, but as with much else in life, COVID-19 changed the calculus.

"Due to the Pandemic crisis, the preliminary game plan which included a blend of neighborhood meetings in conjunction with a live town hall type power point presentations were shelved," Granfield said. "Then with the increase of absentee voting, which starts on or about Oct 2, the committee had to reconsider any/all conventional methods and timelines. We were able to meet twice since Labor Day weekend to develop a public education effort."

That effort includes an interactive web site, supported by three full-page ad campaign and at least one citywide mailing, "along with as much free press as we can hope to generate."

Granfield has headed an Education Committee by direction of the City Council, and believes given the circumstances, all that can be done is.

Public meetings are not scheduled prior to Nov. 3 as much of this was done prior to COVID, and after the report was delivered to the Council.

"We do not have on-line meetings scheduled, this was ratified by the City Council last year after four public hearings and 28 working commission meetings that were open to the public," Granfield said.

"The logistics of conducting on-line meetings requires time, resources, and availability of key members, and historically that format becomes a debate on a document and question that has already been vetted and approved for the voters to act on, nothing at this point can be changed."

The chairman indicted the website is interactive and comprehensive, and residents interested will get a good look at what is proposed.

"It includes a FAQ section, both versions of the report, along with the ability to email us with any questions voters may raise. It also includes a live feed of the CRC final public hearing July 1 2019," said Granfield.

See Charter, page 12

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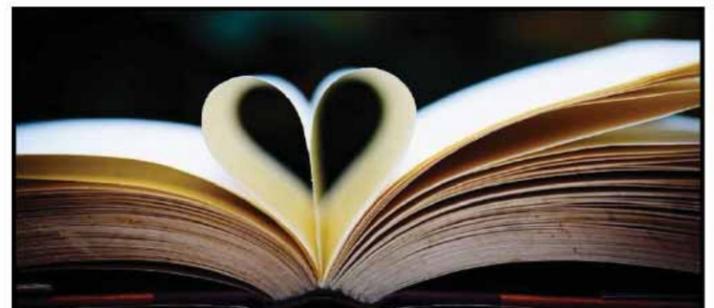
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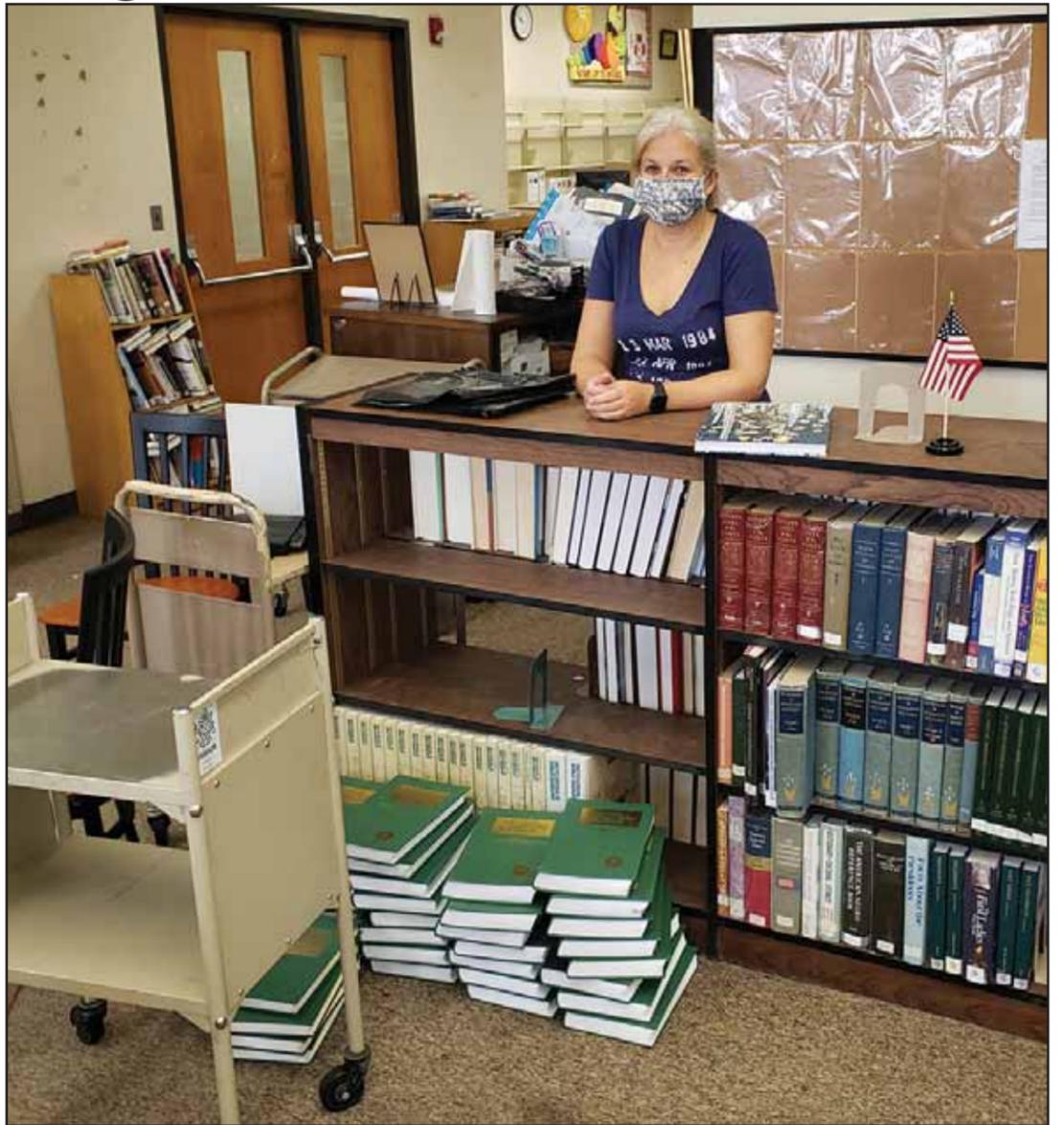
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Piantino Library vacates Center

Photos by Alan Olenick

The Louis Piantino Library moved from its longtime home last week, and awaits a new location. Library workers, volunteers from the Village Improvement Association and Dept. of Public Works employees tore down the stacks and transported materials to the main library on Elm Street until a new location is found. Clockwise from right: Library Director Colleen Bailie gives direction to the staff, volunteers and Public Works crew. Branch Manager Aisha Banks packs up her office. Village Improvement Association board member Curtis Hodgkins works on getting furniture ready for the move. Public Works crew helped with the first phase getting furniture out of Piantino and moving it to Ora Mason. The second phase will be to move the book collection from Piantino to the Main Library.



Charter: *Voters get ballot question on Election Day*

Continued from page 11

The time lag between the delivery of the document and the vote, almost a year-and-a-half, was due to the decision not to put the city through an expensive one-time election. The decision was made to use the Nov. 3 election as a more efficient and inexpensive way of handling the matter.

“Obviously in a perfect world a more comprehensive approach would have been taken, but in that perfect world this would have been voted on last year when most of this was fresh and on the minds of voters who were following this effort,” Granfield said.

The extensive nature of the revision has made some

uncomfortable, and against the matter. Granfield admits there are some – including the political class – who have expressed opposition. Much of that is being hashed out on various social media sites. It has Granfield’s attention.

“My biggest concern might be inaccurate social media posts by detractors. There are some in this community, usually tied to the political power base, that will stop at nothing to maintain the status quo in this town. These folks are not interested in city progress, policy, or change in any size shape or form, they are only interested in maintaining local power and their political influence,” he said. “I have no problem with anyone, who after learning about the pro-

posal, makes an educated decision pro or con. But in today’s world the disinformation crowd is leading the debate on far too many issues of importance.

Granfield said the revision is “by far the most comprehensive effort in our city history since its incorporation, and will be the most important vote that takes place related to West Haven in our time.”

Granfield has a message for all residents after the work done by the Charter Revision Commission.

“We have been doing things in the exact same manner since 1960, the only thing that truly changes are the players, the game remains the same. Times have changed, its time for West Haven to change too,” he said.

Gripe Vine: *Readers get their pet peeves answered*

Continued from page 7

However, I am not sure that speed bumps are the best solution. There are design changes so called "traffic calming measures" such as undulations in the road that would also leave room for metered parking spaces that would force drivers to slow down. This would have the ancillary benefit making better use of the excessive width of the road by putting in a multi-use bike/walk path where we currently have a sidewalk just wide enough for people walking in both directions.

But trumped as a bike/walk path, and often the sight in warmer weather of confrontations between pedestrians and cyclists who feel they own the space.

Tired of the speeding, AB

Dear Tired:

I am forwarding a copy of your complaint to city officials. Let's hope the violations you described will be curtailed.

Gripe Vine Readers, I would like to place a reminder in today's column of West Haven's Boot Law. For those who aren't familiar with this ordinance, city officials say West Haven Residents who are delinquent on their taxes are urged to pay their overdue taxes as soon as possible.

There is a "Boot Program" in West Haven that has resumed and you can risk your vehi-

cles being immobilized with a wheel-locking boot.

Readers, you can send your

gripes, comments, issues to me at gripevine4wh@aol.com or mail them to Gripe Vine c/o

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Charter: *Revision* FAQ's give overview

Continued from page 6

specific background in order to meet the industry standards of excellence. We added this requirement to the city charter to ensure those standards are met when hiring/promoting someone for one of these key positions in city government.

What does the creation of an "independent ethics and compliance commission" mean to me? It means there will be an independent body, not tied to any city, political, or elected body that is responsible for the oversight of our city's code of ethics along with compliance of the city charter. As a commission, they will have the authority, within a limited scope, to take appropriate action if deemed necessary, on behalf of the citizens of West Haven. Any member of this body can only serve for one term and cannot be re-appointed to the position. The expectation is that this person is doing what is right by the city, not doing just what they believe will get them reappointed.

What will the city manager cost? The average salary for city managers in the state of CT is approximately \$150,000/year. However, with the new savings built into the charter, the additional cost is estimated to be \$20,000. This is before any cost savings initiatives, consolidations, implementation of "best practices" etc., that would certainly be a large part of the city manager's objectives.

Will a city manager be required to live in West Haven? This decision was intentionally left up to the City Council to handle on a case by case basis. Since this position will require an employment contract, the CRC believed the City Council should have a level of flexibility in this matter. A residency mandate defined with the charter could significantly hinder the city's ability to recruit a top flight candidate for the positions.

Why wasn't this proposal broken up into individual ballot questions? This is a (60) sixty year old document that over the years has barely been tweaked. The CRC took a comprehensive page by page, paragraph by paragraph approach that included thousands of research hours, including conversations with other communities all across the country by its members. There are a lot of sweeping changes being proposed that if adopted require hundreds of subtle changes within the charter in support of those changes in order for it all to work and flow together. Pull out one critical component and five can be affected. In addition there were a number of legal changes that were long overdue to be updated due to changes in the state and federal statutes over the years.

The City Council along with the city's legal team deliberated extensively on this issue but decided in the end it was too comprehensive to break up, making the single question format the best choice.



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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Hubbard Nature Center revitalized

Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy, left, and Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, center, on Sept. 17 receive a guided tour of the Hubbard Nature and Education Center in West Shore by Councilman Barry Lee Cohen, second from left, and Steven Johnstone, the lead sponsor of the park's revitalization and president of the Hubbard Family Association. A ribbon-cutting was set for Sept. 29. Under the direction of Johnstone, the Hubbard Road park has been closed for renovations since mid-April. During this time, businesses and residents around the community have come together to support the revitalization by providing essential goods, services and labor, said Cohen (R-10). Neighbors, including a dedicated core of Hubbard family and friends, have generously participated in many cleanups to transform the 7.6-acre park, nestled between Jones Hill



Rosary Rally set

Join city residents for an America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally, to be held at Our Lady of Victory Parish, 300 Captain Thomas Blvd, (on the grounds of St. John Vianney Church.) on Saturday, Oct. 10, at noon. Social Distancing and wearing of masks will be observed. Please bring a chair if needed, as no chairs will be provided. Phone Eva Cestari (203) 933-7141, or email rcestari@snet.net for information.



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John B Sliney Bldg is now accepting applications for 1- bedroom apartments. Applications will be added to an existing waiting list. Applicants must meet the HUD and property requirements. Occupancy standards apply. Income Limits apply.

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Pick up location is:
55 Messina Drive East Haven CT 06512
Phone: 203-468-7224

Applications will be available from Monday October 5th thru Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020 between the hours of 9 am to 3:30 pm.

Application will be returned for the following reasons: incomplete, not legible, or not eligible under program requirements.

Credit and Background checks apply
(We do not run credit/background checks at the time of application)

JOHN B SLINEY BLDG IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING PROVIDER AND WE DO NOT DISCRIMINATE BASED ON REACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, SEX, OR PERCIEVED SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, DISABILITY, MARITAL OR FAMILIAL STATUS





Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Roundabout widened

West Haven Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy, left, and Mayor Nancy R. Rossi look on as a crew from Laydon Industries LLC of New Haven works to widen the existing truck apron at the Oyster River roundabout Sept. 15. The work is part of a state Department of Transportation project to upgrade the roundabout at Jones Hill Road and Ocean Avenue.

Letters, we get letters!

Utilize Haven area for Indian Casino

West Haven's West River Crossing has 26 acres of waterfront property.

* 200,000 cars pass this location daily with full panoramic views of this site. Close to the crossways of I95 and I91.

* It borders deep water capable of handling ferry boats, etc.

* The site will support a major hotel with docks and offers a full view of New Haven Harbor and Long Island Sound.

* Perfect Location for CT Tribes Third or fourth Casino or gaming operations and entertainment zones.

* A brief history of this location; in the 1600's this site was a source of Wampum for the tribes that settled in this area (where West River meets Long Island Sound). In the 1700's the area became a Seaport with a

great history of ship building. There are 27 streets in West Haven named after Sea Captains that lived here. A true, SEAPORT, with extensive history. West Haven's West River Crossing has an original ship building structure similar to the replica build at Mystic Seaport.

* City of West Haven resources, 3 miles of public beach, the largest in the State. Once the home of Savin Rock Amusement Park.

* Note-State Statue Sec. 2303, The city of West Haven had legalized Gambling Laws, 4 years of Legal Gambling from 1927-1930.

* Also there is additional waterfront land available for development in West Haven.

I believe if the developers of The Havens Project and the Tribal Fathers in concert could look hard at this site and its many advantages, they mutually could see this as a very desirable spot for a Casino or other gaming venues and entertainment zone.

Michael Mercuriano

President Train Station Committee

Utilize Haven area

I'm hoping I can take this format to send a HUGE thank you to all the West Haven community, who have just helped our mother Katherine S. Held celebrate her 105th wonderful birthday at home. Helping make this milestone happen: First Church and her church family; West Haven Garden Club members; Companions and Homemakers (of Hamden) for sending us Shournell; Home Instead (also of Hamden) for all their years of caregivers who have graced her front door with smiles and caring visits; and to all the dear friends and neighbors who keep in touch and brighten her days. West Haven will always be remembered as a kind and caring community to us all. You made this a very special week of loving memories for a 105 year old West Haven-born lady!

The Held Family



KATHERINE S. HELD

ELECTION WARNING

November 3, 2020 State Election

The Electors of the Town of West Haven are hereby warned to meet places in said town on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at their respective polling for the following purposes:

- I. To cast their votes for Presidential and Vice-Presidential electors, Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative, Registrar of Voters.
- II. Shall the City of West Haven amend its current Charter as recommended by the Charter Revision Commission in its final report submitted on September 27, 2019, which changes include but are not limited to: (1) changing to a City Council/Town Manager form of government; (2) establishing minimum qualification requirements for management positions; (3) changing the Tax Collector, City Clerk, and Treasurer from elected to appointed positions; (4) changing from biennial to quadrennial elections for all elected officials; (5) reducing the number of local voting districts from 10 to 3; (6) the Board of Education will consist of nine members three from each district with one minority party member in each district; (7) changing from mandatory to permissible appointments of department heads, boards and commissions?

Notice is hereby given that the location of the polling places is as follows:

<u>Voting District</u>	<u>Location of Polling Place</u>
District 1 - Elks Lodge 1537	265 Main St.
District 2 - Savin Rock School	50 Park St.
District 3 - Washington School	369 Washington Ave.
District 4 - St. Paul's Church	898 First Ave.
District 5 - Simchat Yisrael Hall	870 First Ave.
District 6 - Forest School	95 Burwell Rd.
District 7 - Anna Molloy School	225 Meloy Rd.
District 8 - Edith E. Mackrille School	806 Jones Hill Rd.
District 9 - Seth Haley School	148 South St.
District 10 - Pagels School	26 Benham Hill Rd.

Absentee Ballots will be counted at the following central location:
355 Main Street, West Haven

Voting machines will be used. The polls will be opened at six o'clock in the morning (6:00 a.m.) and will remain open until eight o'clock in the evening (8:00 p.m.).

Dated at West Haven, Connecticut, this 16th day of September, 2020.

Patricia Horvath
Town Clerk
Town of West Haven

HUD grants aim to help families in stress

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice
The West Haven Community Development Administration has received \$401,929 in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19, CDA

Manager Mark J. Bisaccia announced.

The aid is part of the third round of the coronavirus rescue package in response to the growing effects of the public health crisis.

Using the federal money, CDA will prioritize the needs of low-to-moderate-income residents and the develop-

ment of partnerships between all levels of government and the private for-profit and non-profit sectors, Bisaccia said.

Those who qualify for CD-BG-CV grants must coordinate with state and local health authorities before undertaking activities to support local pandemic response.

The emergency grants are subject to oversight, report-

ing and the requirement that grantees have adequate procedures to prevent the duplication of benefits, Bisaccia said.

CDA is in the process of sending out grant applications to its social services and governmental agencies. For an application, contact Bisaccia at markb@westhaven-ct.gov or 203-937-3550.

Applications will be re-

viewed by the West Haven CDBG Citizen Participation Committee for funding recommendations.

Applications are due Oct. 22 to the City of West Haven, Community Development Administration, 355 Main St., West Haven 06516. Applications can also be inserted into the drop box at the Main Street entrance of City Hall.

Obituary

Noel Cusanelli

Noel Cusanelli, 70, of West Haven died suddenly on Sunday September 20, 2020. He was the beloved husband of June Bauroth Cusanelli. Noel attended the University of New Haven and CT. School of Electronics. His family opened City TV in 1972 on Campbell Ave. in West Haven, a business that Noel continued to operate until the day of his passing. Always a cheerful presence on Campbell Avenue, Noel served generations of customers and maintained a successful business due to the personal attention he provided. He will be sadly missed.

In addition to his wife June, Noel leaves his brothers Peter and Mark Cusanelli, nephew Mark, Jr and two great nephews. His niece Alexandria Cusanelli predeceases him.

Visitation took place on at the

West Haven Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. Lawrence Church at 11 o'clock. Interment will follow in Oak Grove Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. To leave an online message for Noel's family, please visit www.westhavenfuneral.com.





Participate in the West Haven Public Library Strategic Planning Survey:



Go to:

- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WHPL-pr>
- It takes about ten minutes of your time.
- Choose what you want your library to offer the public.
- Now is your chance to be heard so that the planning can be based on your feedback.

Thank you

West Haven Public Library
300 Elm Street
West Haven, CT 06516

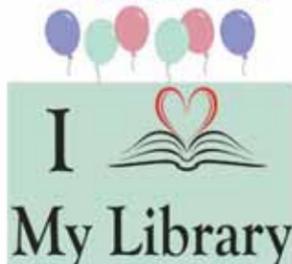
Phone: 203-937-4233
westhavenlibrary.org

WEST HAVEN PUBLIC LIBRARY IS FINE FREE!

September 1, 2020
West Haven Public Library
**will no longer collect
overdue fines for the
following types of items:**

- Books
- DVD's
- Blurays
- Books on CD
- Magazines

(Fines are forgiven when items are returned)



- Reasons:**
- Increases access to the collection to those in need.
 - We ♥ our patrons
 - It's a growing national trend.
 - Promotes peace of mind.

Has it been a
while since your
last visit?
September is
library card
sign-up month!

West Haven Public Library
300 Elm St., West Haven, CT 06516
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WE'RE HERE FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES!

The Graham Room is open for the following services:

- To browse and borrow materials
- Limited computer use (by appointment only for homework, 1-hour limit)
- Parking lot pick up for materials
- Virtual programs and take & make crafts for kids and teens

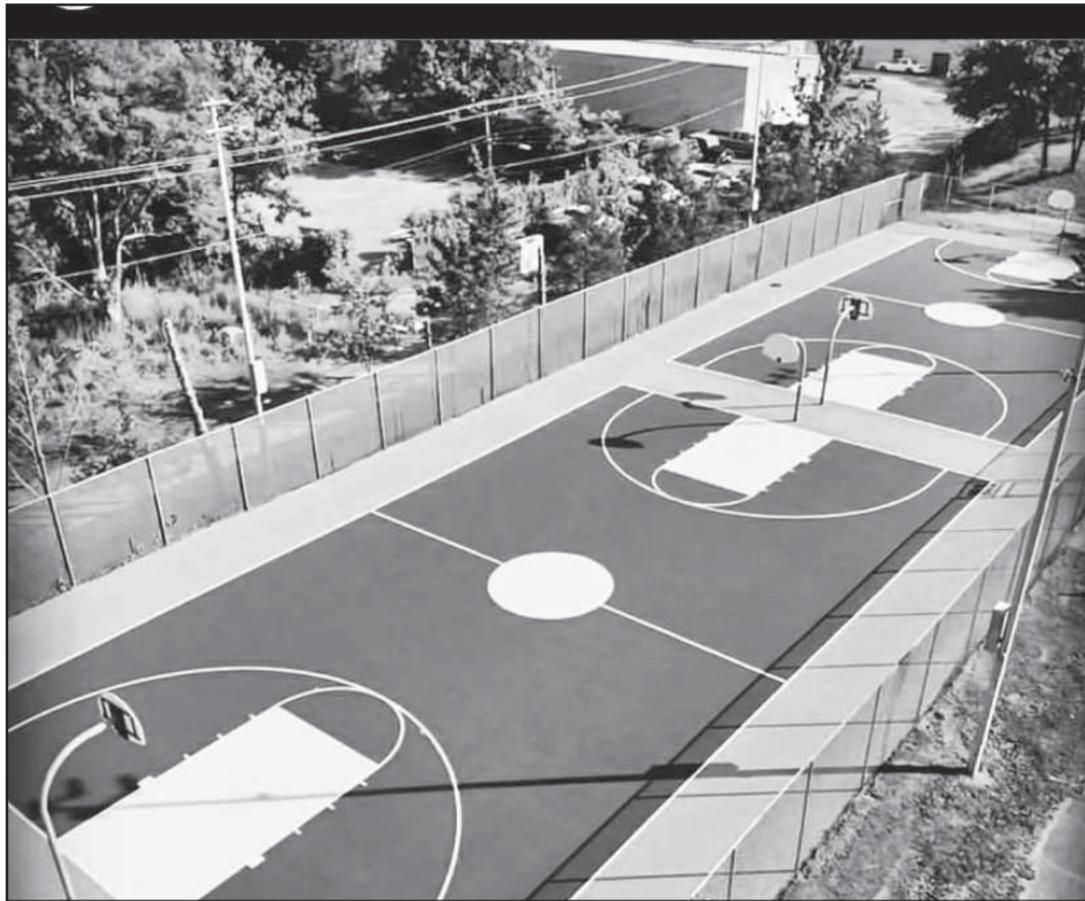
Due to the Covid-19 crisis, there is no seating or hang out space at this time.

West Haven Library
westhavenlibrary.org



Graham Room Hours

AS OF SEPT. 8, 2020
MONDAY & THURSDAY: 12-6:50PM
TUES., WED. & FRI.: 10AM-4:50PM
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
203.937.4233 X4515



Photos by Diane Dietman

Refurbished courts reopen in Veterans Park

Top Left -- Mayor Nancy R. Rossi cuts the ribbon with, from left, city recreation program coordinator Tom Conroy, city sidewalk inspector Ernie Chiarelli and Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman David Coyle on Sept. 23 to mark the grand reopening of the newly refurbished basketball courts in Veterans Memorial Park on Bull Hill Lane. Joining them were state Rep. Michael A. DiMassa (D-116); city Treasurer Michael P. Last; City Council members Bridgette J. Hoskie (D-1), Mitchell L. Gallignano (D-4), Robbin Watt Hamilton (D-5), Peter V. Massaro (D-6), Treneé McGee (D-7), Robert Bruneau (D-9), Barry Lee Cohen (R-10), and Gary Donovan (D-at large); Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy; Park-Rec Director Mark E. Paine, Jr. and program coordinator Diane Dietman; and representatives from Hinding Tennis Courts of West Haven. The two all-weather courts, part of the former federal Nike site property, received a new asphalt surface painted in blue and white, the city's official colors, bordered by a lighter shade of blue. New LED lighting, benches and fencing were also installed, and the existing fencing was upgraded to a vinyl-coated chain-link material, Paine said. The \$49,500 project, overseen by Conroy and Chiarelli, was done by Spring Street-based Hinding Tennis and paid for by a state Local Capital Improvement Program grant. Left -- The courts are shown before the renovations project.



Youth Hockey opens 2020-21 season

The West Haven Mite B hockey team took on a strong Central B team Saturday morning. The Blue Devils jumped to an early lead behind Jax Guarino's goal, but fell behind despite the solid play of Evan Harrison in goal.

Logan Minio scored the only other goal for the Westies, and Brady Salkins and Tony Parise saw numerous shots on goal turned away by the Central netminder. Ryan Schempp continued his strong play defensively, and Joe Mondo and Ethan McGrath worked hard to win the puck back. Connor Owens and Kyle D'Agostino battled hard against the aggressive Central team in the corners for the puck, and Ben Trenchard broke up passes and blocked shots in his effort

for the Blue Devils.

The West Haven Peewee A travel hockey team earned its first two wins of the season this weekend. The Blue Devils thrashed Mid Fairfield Girls 12U, 11-0, on Saturday and then battled Greater New Haven B Red for a 2-1 win Sunday morning. Both games were played at Edward L. Bennett Rink. Saturday night marked the first career youth hockey coaching win for head coach Evan Mink and his brother/assistant coach Adam Mink. Both Mink brothers are former WHYH players.

On Saturday night, seven different players scored goals as the Westies dominated Mid Fairfield. Zach Melchior scored the opener on a power

play off a rebound of Cameren Lipford's shot. Aedan Guarino jammed home Jonathan Charbonneau's point shot, and Rafi Treat fired a laser off a long outlet pass from Lucas Iversen

to make it 3-0 after one period. In the second, the Westies came out firing. Sean Studley scored from the slot and Lipford cashed in a breakaway in the opening minute. Studley

and Melchior fed Lipford for a tally four minutes later. Mikey D'Aiuto then popped in his own rebound for a 7-0 lead after two periods.

See Youth Hockey, page 19

Hall of Fame dinner postponed

The West Haven Hall of Fame Committee has announced it will postpone its Hall of Fame inductions scheduled to take place, Saturday, Nov. 21.

Citing COVID-19 concerns, which include health and safety, as well as the amount of people allowed in a facility, the committee overwhelmingly decided the best course of action was to move the dinner and event to next year, Saturday, Nov. 20.

The 2020 class was to be the first class honored and to use the new facilities at West Haven High since the ceremonies began in 2000.

The new soon-to-be inductees include Joe Pereira, Ada Udaya, Krystle Flemming, the

late David Romanoff, Roland Depew, Gennaro "Jerry" Gambardella, Sr., the late Gennaro "Jerry" Gambardella, Jr., and the Keyes brothers - Michael, Ted, Ed, and the late Steven Keyes. The night will also see long-time announcer and forever Westie Brian Dinneen receiving the first-ever Tinker Blake Community Service Award.

With five members, a father and son combination, a quartet of siblings, and a community service selection, there will now be 186 inductees in the prestigious club since the start two decades ago.

Details regarding the new 2021 date will be announced as they become available.

Elite Soccer picks up 8-3 victory

West Haven Youth Soccer League enjoyed another weekend of beautiful weather this past weekend, getting in a full slate of games. The Elite Soccer Camps Wolves took on Nick's Luncheonette, with the Wolves walking away with the 8-3 win. The Wolves showed some excellent passing skills, as Matteo D'Elia, Ben Trenchard, Jacob Rader and Jax Guarino all combined to work the ball up the field. Luca DeCrescenzo scored a brilliant goal with his left foot, and Trevor Hinton picked up to assists. Jeshrun Polington and Brandon Ryiski played also played well in the win for the Elite Soccer Wolves. The West Shore Family Dental Red Devils played against Meledes Construction, with the two teams tying 1-1. The Red Devils played well in the draw as Adam Lennon led the way with a strong performance as goalkeeper. Jadiel Ayemiz and Eliseo Rivera played excellent defense showing toughness and energy for the Red Devils.

The U12 Westie Girls put up two wins this weekend and they headed

to Naugatuck and Oxford. In the first game on Saturday, the Westies pulled a 6-0 league win. Riley Fenn, Camilla Murphy and Lily Montiel each scored twice. The team played excellent defense and strong offense in this win. On Sunday the girls traveled to Oxford for a friendly. Goalies Kayla Quintanilla and Cristel Miguel kept the ball out with help from Amiyah Jones and Cianna DiGioia on defense. In the end the Westie girls won 3-0, being goals scored by Kaylee Pellino, Riley Fenn and Lexi Lucas. In what was a rivalry game, West Haven U9 Girls came away with the 3-0 victory over Orange. Amy Congacha opened up the scoring with a great pass from Allyson Hernandez. Phoebe DiNuzzo and Klara Frost were strong on defense. Karine Davila was fantastic in goal, coming up with four outstanding saves for the Westies. The U10 Girls Travel Team had a 1-0 win against Guilford on Saturday with a goal by Luciana Cappetta. Annabelle Fiorillo was strong on the defensive line. On Sunday, the girls traveled to Southington where they displayed

great teamwork on the field despite a 2-1 loss. Stella Porto scored for West Haven. Joslyn Davila had some amazing saves in goal.

The Seacrest Retirement Center lost 7-3 to the Sweet Relief Maroon Maniacs. Victor Davila made some great saves in goal for Seacrest Retirement Center, continuing off of a phenomenal performance from the game before as well. Anthony Dimeglio dribbled through the defense for two goals, while Henry Juarez Meja coolly slotted home a penalty. The Maniacs had a solid team effort in which great sportsmanship was shown in the win. Excellent field play was on display from Jose Rangel, Donald and Joshua Moore, Dan Goldberg, Jacob Smalls and John Rodican. Goals were scored by Caleb Awuah and Christian Reyes.

Oyster River Energy took on Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center, with the later winning the match 9-4. Mason Dasilva, Chris Thomas, Enzo Cordova and Julian Concepcion all scored in the win. The Gunning Law Firm Macaroons played a thriller against the

Cappetta's Italian Imports Polar Bears, with the two playing to a 3-3 draw. Ariel Titus led the offensive attack with three goals for the Macaroons. This game was an up and down battle and with ten seconds left, Kendall Gilchrist came up with a diving save to keep the score tied. Jocelyn Kenny scored for Cappetta's while Celeste DiNallo was strong on defense. On Saturday morning the West Haven Professional Firefighters Grey Rhinos played against Shoreline Wellness team. Despite a spirited and hard fought game, the Rhinos lost 6-1 with Allyson Hernandez, Brooklyn O' Mara and Valentina Massa leading the offense with several great plays. On the defensive side of the ball Yulisa Leiva Palma played well, while keeper duties were led by Charlize Boone in the second half as the Rhinos played a more attacking game. For Shoreline Wellness, Gillian Wynus lead the scoring with four goals, and Anessa Worrell and Klara Frost both picked up a goal each. The defense worked hard at stopping the

See Youth Soccer, page 20

Youth Hockey: *Teams open up the new year*

Continued from page 18

In the opening minute of the third, Studley deked and scored on a wraparound, before Melchior one-timed Lipford's feed. Guarino assisted on Eddie Thomas' goal, and Lipford closed out the scoring with a tap in from Studley.

West Haven outshot Mid Fairfield, 49-23. Goaltenders Cedrik Roy (11 saves) and Kai Lupa (12) combined for the shutout in net.

On Sunday morning, Greater New Haven and the Westies battled hard for the full 45 minutes. Studley put West Haven up 1-0 just 3:57 into the game. Melchior slid the puck to Lipford for a shot that was blocked. Off the ensuing scramble, Melchior tipped a pass that bounced out front where Studley whacked it home. The Warriors tied it four minutes later.

The Blue Devils regained the lead with a power play goal eight minutes into the second period. Leo Mazuroski picked up a loose puck and fired a low, hard shot just inside the far post. With three minutes remaining in the second period, Lupa stoned a breakaway with his blocker to keep West Haven in front. West Haven's defense of Charbonneau, Mazuroski, Ryan Pniewski and Gavin Coady was solid down the stretch. The goaltending was strong as well as Roy made 11 saves, while Lupa made 14 in net.

The West Haven Bantam AA travel hockey team won both of its games this weekend at the Edward L. Bennett Rink, topping Suffolk Pal (NY) AA on Saturday and Ridgefield

AA on Sunday.

The Westies opened the weekend with a 7-2 victory over Suffolk. Behind the solid goaltending of Tyler Donroe, West Haven never trailed in the game, leading 3-1 after one period and 6-1 after two periods of play.

Brady Price led the West Haven offense with two goals and one assist, while Nick Eberhart and Ben Gilbert each scored twice, and Robert McCarthy had two assists.

Price scored twice in 24 seconds, the first off assists from Ronnie Mastroianni and McCarthy, for a 2-0 lead with 6:41 left in the first period. Gilbert extended the lead to 3-0 off an assist from Price with 3:25 remaining in the first, before Suffolk answered 53 seconds later.

Eberhart sandwiched goals around a tally from Matt Stevens for a 6-1 lead, with McCarthy assisting on the first Eberhart goal and Anthony Ursini helping on the second. Thomas Porto picked up the helper on the goal by Stevens. Gilbert capped the scoring with an unassisted tally in the third.

West Haven won its third straight contest with a 4-2 victory over Ridgefield Sunday morning. Mickey Dowd led the way with two goals, while Porto added a goal and an assist. Bryan Hong played well in goal for the Westies.

Trailing 1-0, Porto evened the contest off an assist from Stevens with 2:50 remaining in the second, before West Haven scored three times in the third to pull out the victory.

McCarthy gave West Haven

the lead for good with an unassisted goal with 9:40 remaining, before Dowd scored twice in the final 8:52, the second off an assist from Porto.

In its only contest of the weekend, the West Haven Youth Hockey's Bantam A team welcomed New Canaan A1 to the Bennett Rink and came out with a 2-1 victory.

After a very back and forth first period, West Haven struck first in the second period when a shot from the point by Mark Torre deflected in off the post.

Yousaf Ullah was credited with the assist on Torre's opening goal.

The Blue Devils were able to keep the score at 1-0 throughout the second period and into the third. New Canaan tied the game with six minutes remaining in the game off a bouncing puck, but the Westies answered just two minutes later to take the lead.

Torre ripped a puck on net, where Alex Kurowski was able to bury the rebound by standing in perfect position in front of the net. West Haven ended

up closing out the game with a well-deserved victory, bringing its season record to 2-1.

Theo Diakomis, Brody Elam and Chris Consorte played well at forward.

Haygen Axelrod, Javed Ullah and Joe DiGioia all contributed on defense in the win.

In goal, John Kennedy played the first two periods with some key saves to keep the Blue Devils in the game. Greg Galasso came in the third period and made some spectacular saves to seal the deal for the victory.



Photo by Michael Madera

Sean Studley of the West Haven Peewee A team rushes up ice, closely watched by a defender, during action last weekend.

Youth Soccer: *U12 boys edge Guilford*

Continued from page 19
offense up high, and Riley Greene, Josylyn Davila, and Amy Conchaga made some great plays. Zoey Prutting started in goal and made two big saves in the win.

The #DAVILATRIBE Thunder played Top Hat Dance Academy, losing 6-2. Al-

though they lost, Isabella was not afraid to attack the ball and push forward. Angeliza Davila played great defense and was even able to score a goal for her team. The #DAVILATRIBE Lightning played the First Congregational Church, losing 6-2. Eliana Centano Galdamez played her midfield

position well, helping both defense and offense. Juliana Crudo applied pressure to the opposing team and assisted on the goals.

In week 2 action, the Elite Soccer Camps played a solid game in week two of West Haven Youth Soccer League action, picking up the 8-3 win against Cornell-Scott Hill Health Center. Cash Ocampo, Jeshrun Polington, and Brandon Rylski showed a lot of hustle. Trevor Hinton and Luca Gagliardi worked hard, while Benjamin Trenchard set-up Jax Guarino for a nice goal. Jacob Rader, Seth Empric, Luca DeCrescenzo, and Matteo D'Elia also scored in the win. The Italian American Civic Association Gold Team had a fabulous game on Saturday against the #DAVILATRIBE Thunder. After the Gold team went down 2-0, but behind the solid play of Gabriela Campos, Ruaa Naas and Arielle Bernardo, they were able to climb back into the game and scored four straight goals. For the Thunder, Celeste Santiago played an aggressive game and made some great passes and Amelia Rambo played great offensively against her opponent. In what was a competitive match, the Gunning Law Firm Macaroons pull off the 2-1 victory over Shoreline Wellness.

The Macaroons were lead by Ariel Titus, scoring her fifth goal of the young season. This game came down to the very end with Destiny Davis making a diving save to preserve the win.

The Seacrest Retirement Center Toons took on Stars Ice Cream, drawing 3-3. For the Toons, Nicholas Barton played a great game on defense, commanding the game. Mohammed Naas was very physical, bossing the midfield, and scored a nice goal. Eric Smith added a goal as well. The #DAVILATRIBE Lightning played Stars Ice Cream, winning 3-0. Hudanur Sahin played aggressively on defense to move the ball forward and Jada Turner played quick on her feet, which helped her score a goal. Olivia Moretti applied pressure on the opposing team's defense so she could score too. The Nick's Luncheonette Grey Rhinos were in action on Saturday morning playing Cappetta's Italian Imports Polar Bears. Coming away with an 8-3 loss, the Rhinos started out slow but battled hard in the 2nd half with goals from Valentina Massa and Brooklyn O'Mara. Defensively the Rhinos were led by Charlize Boone and Taliah Boykin. Phoebe DiNuzzo took charge in the net again

playing well. Celeste DiNallo, Jocelyn Kenny, Annabelle Fiorillo, and Luciana Cappetta all scored for the Polar Bears with their speed and fancy footwork.

The Milano & Wanat Warriors defeated the Rock House School of Rock Red Devils, 4-3, with a late goal by Enes Sahin. Goalkeeper Jordan Walker made several big saves and Camdyn Edwards played very well. The Red Devils played well despite the loss. Alex Johnson led the way with two goals and strong defense. Jimmy Clark worked really hard on offense and defense. Gabriel Nasicimento showed great effort, adding strong play overall. The Oyster River Energy Tigers played so well against Porto Funeral Homes, with the Tigers taking the 4-3. Grayson McCarthy led the team with the first goal of the season. Mustafa Basci scored two goals in the game, and Russell Rambo scored his first goal of his soccer career. Gian Marmolejos had great speed getting back to play defense.

Sweet Relief played a great game on Saturday, winning 6-2 against the UNH Blues. Guillermo Gonzaga Playing great in goal and great defense was played by Omari Knox and Eric Revas, with excellent field play by Joe Sperry.



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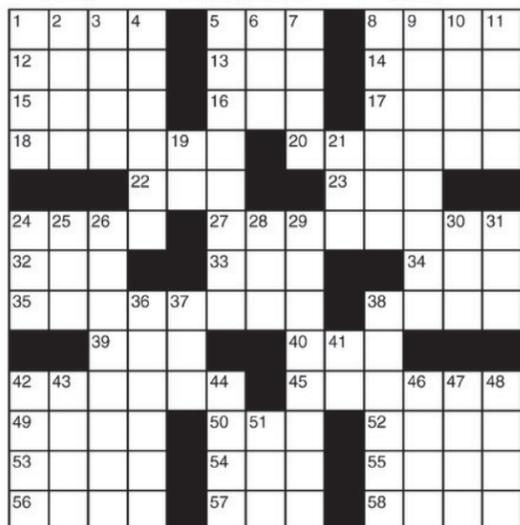
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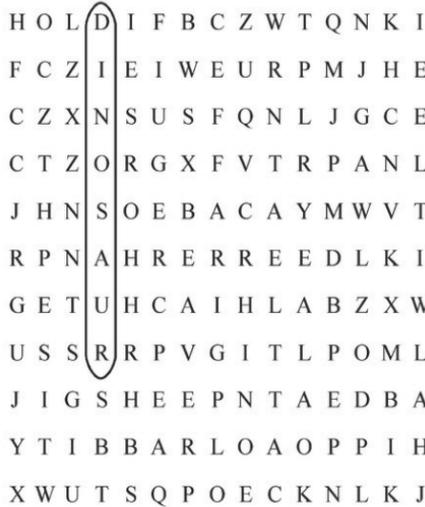
140 Captain Thomas Blvd,
West Haven, CT

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Waller or Domino
 - 5 "— not choose to run"
 - 8 Stoolie
 - 12 Hardly ruddy
 - 13 Calendar abbr.
 - 14 In due time
 - 15 Noble gas
 - 16 Born
 - 17 Loosen
 - 18 Cowpoke of the pampas
 - 20 Get new actors
 - 22 Car-pool lane abbr.
 - 23 Profit
 - 24 Elevator name
 - 27 Crucial experi-ment
 - 32 See 12-Across
 - 33 Heavy weight
 - 34 Mainlander's memento
 - 35 Middy party
 - 38 Favorable votes
 - 39 Raw rock
 - 40 Boom times
 - 42 Merry
 - 45 This or that, it matters not
 - 49 Sheltered
 - 50 Possess
 - 52 Legislation
 - 53 Factory-fresh
 - 54 Craze
 - 55 Malaria symp-tom
 - 56 Automaton's, for short
 - 57 To and —
 - 58 Egg part
- DOWN**
- 1 Vampire tooth
 - 2 Cruising
 - 3 Grand
 - 4 Harmonizes
 - 5 Start some-thing new
 - 6 Buck's mate
 - 7 Finished
 - 8 Tap
 - 9 From birth
 - 10 Affirmative
 - 11 Entanglement
 - 19 Word after heave or gung
 - 21 Finish
 - 24 Night flyer
 - 25 Greek cross
 - 26 Guiltless
 - 28 Bill and —
 - 29 Sly slur
 - 30 Glimpse
 - 31 "— the season ..."
 - 36 Vinegar bottles
 - 37 Coop denizen
 - 38 Off
 - 41 "Life of —"
 - 42 Door-frame piece
 - 43 Hodgepodge
 - 44 Remove, as a cap
 - 46 "Les Miserables" writer
 - 47 Hebrew month
 - 48 Stench
 - 51 Simple card game

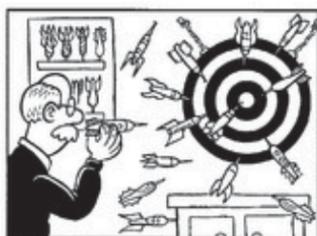


MAGIC MAZE • HERBIVORES



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

- | | | | |
|--------|----------|----------|--------|
| Beaver | Dinosaur | Hippo | Rabbit |
| Bison | Elephant | Horse | Rhino |
| Cattle | Giraffe | Kangaroo | Sheep |
| Deer | Goats | Koala | |



EVERYONE brought their own darts to the local tournament. See if you can spot two darts that are exactly alike in one minute flat.

A STUNNING SUMMATION!

Challenge the class math whiz to solve this one. Have him/her arrange the nine digits below so that the sum of the even digits equals the sum of the odd digits.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Answer: (Even digits) 2 + 4 + 6 + 8 = 20. (Odd digits) 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 = 25.

LET'S SEE IF YOU HAVE THE HOME TEAM ADVANTAGE! Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid A contain the same letters as the words in Grid B.

- | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Indirect information. | 2. Not any. | 3. Inclined surface. | 4. Being identical. | 1. Lacking substance. | 2. Type of light. | 3. English baby conveyance. | 4. A layer of coat. |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|

Weekly SUDOKU

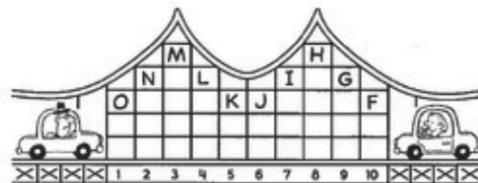
by Linda Thistle



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!



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

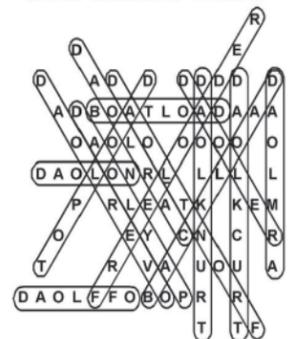
1. A spherical object.
2. A fastener.
3. Latin American dance.
4. Hot and flowing.
5. A young goat.
6. To extend outward.
7. One of many.
8. A Mideast confection.
9. To stare stupidly.
10. An electronic transmission.

Answers to last week's puzzles

King Crossword — Answers



LOAD-BEARING WORDS



Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

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- ★ Rust Prevention Blast
- ★ High Pressure Underbody Blast
- ★ 4 Stage Wheel Cleaning
- ★ Pre-Soak
- ★ Spot-Free Rinse
- ★ Multi-Level Turbo Dry

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- ★ Turbo Pressure Wash
- ★ Rust Prevention Blast
- ★ Underbody Blast
- ★ 4 Stage Wheel Cleaning
- ★ Pre-Soak
- ★ Spot-Free Rinse
- ★ Multi-Level Turbo Dry

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- ★ Pre-Soak
- ★ Spot-Free Rinse
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8Py 1aSTam0aST Ktl, 4tST 8Nebm

eDAv9AAv,5DDO

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SI AWINIDH ULI

SINIGLEI WHU MUTIDI LWASI WLH
LWIH ILH DI HWDMN NULI

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Sah I anl Vhn omaYu



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HTwn 0-9Tt

eDAv.9AAv,111

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