

State approves Enterprise Zone

The city’s Enterprise Zone along the Front Avenue corridor and extending to composting site along the West River received an important imprimatur and is moving toward attracting new firms into the area. The announcement of the zone was made in early December, and city officials received the go-ahead from Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, one of the major hurdles in the process.

Mayor Nancy Rossi said the state has not only given its OK, but is helping in the process.

“Commissioner Lehman’s Office has confirmed the State of Connecticut has accepted the city’s Enterprise Zone designation and is working with the city where appropriate to identify opportunities for business/industrial entities looking to expand or establish a home in Connecticut,” she said this week.

The Enterprise Zone has excited city officials as an innovative way to bring new businesses into the city and allow for tax breaks that could not otherwise

be offered. The state, meanwhile, reimburses the city for revenue lost due to the lower assessments.

The Front Avenue/Spring Street corridor was designated because it came under the criteria needed for the designation:

- ~ The area must include at least 25 percent of the population living below the poverty line, and on public assistance; and be twice the state average in unemployment of residents in the proposed district
- ~ The designation must be first approved by the city’s legislative body, in West Haven’s case the City Council.

Once the designation is given by the DECD, the city can solicit businesses for the zone and those businesses derive certain benefits:

- ~ The businesses get a five-year 80% tax abatement on real and personal property that are new to the grand list, the state reimbursing the city for the lost revenue;
- ~ A 10-year, 25% or 50% credit on

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Voice Profile

An in-depth feature

Former Westie nominated for US Hockey Hall of Fame

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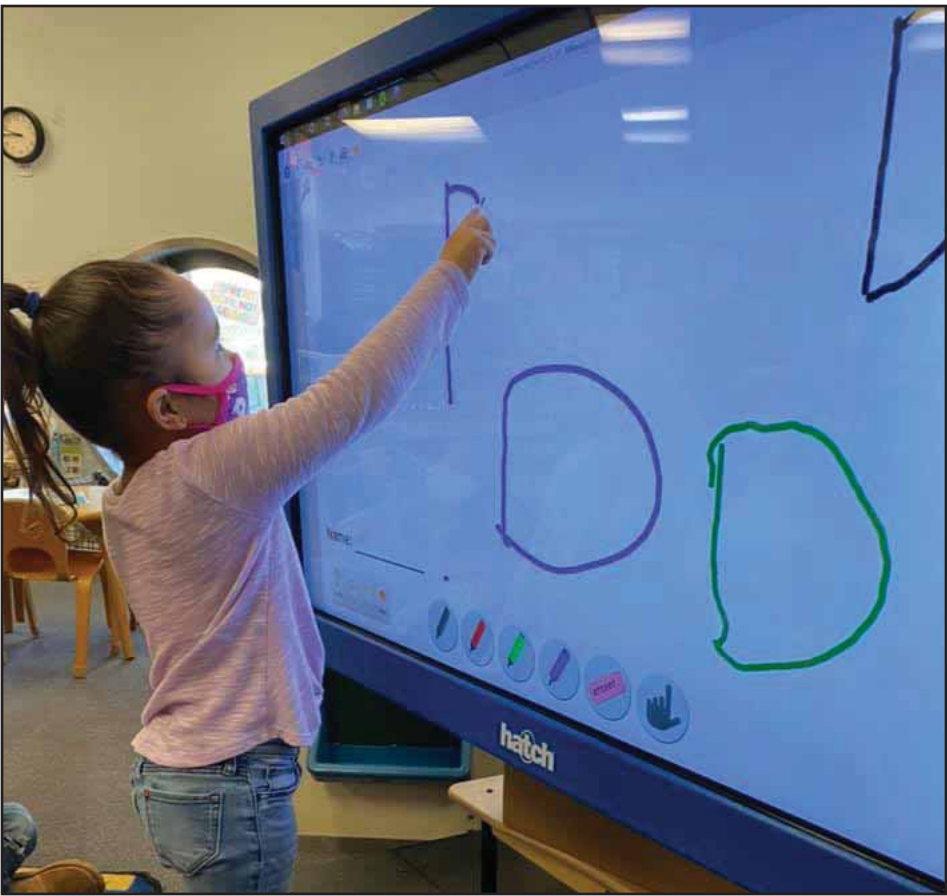


Photo courtesy of WHCDC

‘D’ is for....

Kaylani Foster, age 4, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. uses a smartboard to practice the letter “D.” The center received the smart board as part of winning the NBC/Telemundo Innovation in Technology Award, funding from the University of New Haven and the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.



Photos courtesy of Miguelina Felix

Rink upgrades

The Edward L. Bennett Rink has received a few upgrades recently. This includes brand new bleachers, an upgrade to the boys varsity locker rooms, and currently working on additional add-ons. The 52-year-old facility has had many major upgrades in the last few years, making it one of the top venues in the state.

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Noah Santino, age 2, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. predicts more stormy weather to come.

On this Date

2004 -- Facebook is founded. The social networking service currently has over 1 billion active users.

1948 -- Ceylon (Sri Lanka) proclaims independence within the British Commonwealth. Since the 16th century, the island had been colonized by Portugal, the Netherlands, and Great Britain.

1861 -- The Confederate States of America are established. 6 slave states met in Montgomery, Alabama to form the Confederacy, which lasted only until 1865.

1859 -- German archeologist Constantin von Tischendorf discovers the Codex Sinaiticus. The "Sinai Bible", a handwritten copy of the Greek Bible, is considered a great historical treasure.

1789 -- George Washington is elected as first President of the United States. Washington took office on April 30, 1789.

Births

1948 -- Alice Cooper, American singer-songwriter, actor.

1913 -- Rosa Parks, American activist.

1906 -- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German pastor, theologian.

1902 -- Charles Lindbergh. American pilot, activist

1746 -- Tadeusz Kościuszko. Polish/American general

Deaths

2006 -- Betty Friedan, American author, activist.

2001 -- Iannis Xenakis. Greek/French composer, engineer, theorist.

1987 -- Liberace, American singer, pianist, actor.

Clinic resumes counseling services

The West Haven Youth and Family Services Clinic has resumed counseling services for couples, families, individuals and youths using a confidential virtual platform.

Call (203) 937-3760 to schedule an appointment with certified therapists Robbin Wolf-Airault or Sheila Hebert.

Former clients and new referrals are asked to leave their name, phone number and reason for calling so a clinician can contact them.

I-A Bingo reopens

The West Haven Italian-American Civic Association will reopen its weekly Bingo on Thursday Nov. 5, Doors open at 6 p.m.. Social Distancing applies. Masks must worn, no reserved seats. Bring your own snacks & drinks. Call (203) 937-8339 for information.

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UI awards grant to Community House

The West Haven Community House recently received a \$8,876 grant from United Illuminating/Southern Connecticut Gas/Connecticut Natural Gas under Connecticut's Neighborhood Assistance Act tax credit program.

The funding will help fund capital improvements to multiple facilities of the Community House's main campus on Elm Street as well as residential group homes including roof work, updating air conditioning and heating units, as

well as replacement of boilers and furnaces.

"For nearly 80 years, the West Haven Community House has provided essential services to residents of the greater West Haven area. Our core programs are Head Start, a comprehensive school readiness preschool program for 3- and 4-year old's; Children and Youth Services serving school age children; a Youth Violence Prevention Program for middle school youth; and Community Connections, a

day and residential program for adults with intellectual disabilities. We have multiple facilities throughout West Haven, some of which are 25 years and older, and we must ensure that they continue to be a safe and efficient environment for the more than 150 employees and the hundreds of clients we serve", said Patty Stevens, Executive Director of West Haven Community House.

"We are grateful for AVANGRID, Inc. and its subsidiaries for their generous support

and for their commitment to non-profits in the New Haven area", she continued.

United Illuminating (UI), Southern Connecticut Gas (SCG) and Connecticut Natural Gas (CNG) — all subsidiaries of AVANGRID, Inc. — distributed a total of \$441,540 in

grants to 59 organizations.

Since 2010, UI, SCG and CNG has awarded \$3.8 million in grants through the NAA Program, which offers a corporate tax credit to encourage businesses to provide financial support to qualified local non-profit organizations.



Photo courtesy of WHCH

Construction projects

Preschoolers from one of West Haven Community House's Head Start classrooms made igloos for their "Polar Town" after reading books about igloos and polar bears including, "Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What do you hear?"



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A Partner in the Community

Dear Felicia

Well, honey bunch, February is here and as I scribe this note, there is talk of snow and ice and all the things that make this time of year what it is: exciting in a strange sort o' way, and for folks like you and me, a bit on the scary side. No one wants to end up on their backside. But this month is always the coldest, so it should be interestin' to see how things turn out.

One of the things we learnt here is that the "snow day" is definitely a thing o' the past. Sammy Bluejay fluttered by with some info about this and that, and mentioned that in last week's snow "event" as they like to call it, the kiddies were not given the day off, but were to "distance learn." Now that the Wuhan Virus or China Virus (jest to make the Washingtonians upset) has changed much, it has changed the ven-

erable snow day. It is a thing o' the past in these parts, never to be seen again.

Meanwhile Sammy had some info about the local GOP and what may happen come the fall municipal elections. Word is that a section of the party wants to see Michele Gregorio take a second stab at the thoid floor to run against herroner as she did two years ago. Gregorio did better than some expected, and as with many things political in these parts, the bloom kind o' falls off the rose after the second term – and definitely in the thoid. Herroner will be going for number three.

Now, whether MG determines she wants to go through another campaign is a question, but Sammy sez that some others in the party are lookin' elsewhere. Iyam told that another member o' the Grand

Ole Party might determine a run. Right now, what's being determined is whether said possible candidate has the support of members of the party.

Last time, the party experienced its foist primary in many a moon over whom would carry the standard into November. One wonders effen the same could happen this time, with Gregorio trying to go for another bite of the apple, and another candidate looking for a first bite.

We shall see, but the fact that we're even talking about the minority party this early in the going is a good thing. Usually, we don't start mentioning the inevitable loss of the candidate until the summer. Who knows, maybe people will be tired of the one-party rule that has held us back, and in this centennial year they will throw off the shackles of the majority organization. One could hope...

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*Whilst we're talking about it, one wonders effen the little problem that exists betwixt the Actors Colony and Daryl Cummings committee can be fixed to the general benefit of the city – not that setch a consideration is ever in the cards. As is stated in this week's editorial, the West Haven*

*Centennial Committee is actually two separate groups. Cummings set up his own organization foist, and then the Actors Colony set up its own – using the same name.*

*Can we get the collective ack together and jest come up with a unified committee, or are egos that fragile? One is justified in posing the question. Things should not have got this far, but what else is new? Last we hoid Cummings sent a "cease and desist" missive to the thoid floor, but that's all that's happened. It would be a waste of time and money to get together a lawsuit. What would be beneficial is that everybody play nice in the sandbox. But, like we asked before, is that asking too much?*

~~~~~

Believe it or not – and this was pernted out to me by Nelly Nuthatch – the new Enterprise Zone in the Front Avenue area was announced two months ago already. It was in early December and here we are two moons later. The question before the house is what exactly has been accomplished in the last little while?

Of course, we posed those very queries to the mayor, the City Council chairman, and the state rep behind the idea, and yew can see those results. It was supposed to be a slam-dunk when it was announced, and we understand with the holidays and all things kind of come to a halt, but we still are waiting to hear what exactly the status is.

Remember too, the city said it was already getting inquiries about the possibilities, what with the tax benefits the plan gives to those who locate within the EZ's environs. The state will reimburse the city for the taxes lost, accordingly – at least for the time being.

The state has a habit on occasion to put things together and then take them away, depending on how much it has overspent or over-estimated its own budget/tax plan for a given year. Over the last few "budget cycles" the state hasn't exactly been hitting its own revenue projections. So, there is always the possibility that a renege can take place.

It'll be interesting to find out how things are progressing and whether this new entity will be the catalyst of a new and brighter future for our community. Yeah, I'm layin' it on thick.

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*And whilst we're on the subject of budgets, it would seem with the month turning a page, the FY'22 budget-making process should be in full swing. We know the City Council has been looking at the current budget and some cost overruns in departments.*

*We also know that herroner put*

*the kebosch on any correspondence betwixt the department heads and the councilors without the imprimatur of the thoid floor with cc's to herself and Louey Esposito. So, what must be queried is whether the council is getting the info it needs and having the give-and-take that these processes usually have? Whilst the chairman and herroner were trying to put the best face on the diktat that came out last month, one would think that some of the interpersonal chat that would help people along is being missed.*

*Still, no one knows what's going to happen until the mayor puts out her budge message in four weeks.*

*The only thing that is certain is it will include a tax increase. As we all hafta remember, the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) has mandated the city up the mill rate over the term of the five-year plan passed four years ago. So, this is the fourth increase, I reckon. The goal is to put the mill rate to 40 by the end of the plan.*

*Sooooo, everything is up in the air as it always is. The only thing really wanted to know is how much the mill increase will be this time 'round heading toward the magic number of 40.*

~~~~~

With the year now a month old and things settling in, Iva Lootey came by and wondered what is gonna happen with the Allingtown Library. The branch was closed indefinitely in October when The Acorn Group purchased the former 1 Forest Road site, where the library was housed for three-plus decades.

There is a murmur here or there that there is an outside possibility it might actually return to that site in the basement if a rental agreement can be hammered out, according to Iva.

That poses one query: does that mean the new owners are being magnanimous, or is it they can't rent the basement? It's a fair question.

So, the opening of the Louis Piantino branch might be in the same building but different place. That would be the perfect ending to this silly scenario.

Iva mentioned that a few places have been looked at, some inquiries were made, but the rents requested kind o' put things off the table.

We shall see what transpires in the interim, and effen the people of the Allingtown borough will get back their branch library. Iva will keep Cobina posted.

~~~~~

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

*Cobina*

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Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I inquired once before, in the 9th District, why there are vehicles illegally parked that are in residential neighborhoods re: Connecticut Motor Vehicle Department: any ¾ ton trucks and any six wheels that is considered a commercial vehicle are not allowed permanently to be parked on residential property in West Haven. An example a dump truck on Colonial Place, a box truck on Jones Hill Road opposite Bellvue Avenue, two dump trucks plus a utility trailer on Jones Hill Road opposite View Street, a ladder truck on Jones Hill Road, a rain maker box truck on Hillside Avenue and a box truck (paint co.) on Hillside Avenue with Massachusetts license plates.

Also, does anyone inspect why new owners or rental owners are not required to get Connecticut license plates and pay taxes in West Haven? I see lots of cars with out of state vehicles. Also, is there a limit on why there are so many trash compactors parked in a driveway for so long?

There is one on Howard

Street and one on Bellvue Avenue that has been in their driveway for three to four years.

I would like the 9th District Representative to inquire about these areas and other problems.

Irritated Resident

Dear Irritated:

I have contacted Councilman of the 9th District, Robert Bruneau who replied to your complaints with, "The storage container on Bellvue will be out of there no later than June. The people had a flood situation in their basement which has now been resolved and their furniture is in the storage container. They have assured the city it will be out of there no later than June. I will get back to you on Howard as soon as I have an update."

Dear Councilman Bruneau, thank you for your prompt reply. My readers will be looking forward to the results of your investigation on this reader's complaints.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There is a huge pile of tree brush near my home that has been there since the storm back



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

in the summer. The neighbor on Florence Street cut up a fallen tree branch and put it in back of their shed which faces a neighbor's back yard. This is an ugly pile of brush where animals can easily hide in it. How can the neighborhood get rid of it?

Disgruntled Neighbor

Dear Disgruntled Neighbor:

I passed your information on to Councilman Peter Massaro and he suggested you contact the Blight Office at City Hall at (203) 937-3590. Their office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Gripe Vine Readers:

I have received inquiries on

a decayed tree located on Central Avenue. As a follow up, I notified Councilman Robert Bruneau on this issue.

His reply, "As a follow up I checked for the tree situation and that problem has been resolved."

Thank you, Councilman Bruneau.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

Why can't the dead trees on the Green be removed before the limbs fall on dogs and people?

Tired of Waste

Dear Tired of Waste:

I asked your Councilwoman Bridgette Hoskie for assistance with your complaint. She replied, The trees will be inspected and reviewed as deemed as necessary by the tree warden."

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I have complained in the past about trucks on Voss Road. An 18-wheeler was making its way toward Sawmill Road. I happened to be outside taking pictures and captured a photo depicting this problem. Some-

times the rumbling will shake the house. Its just aggravating that they cut through our little neighborhood to save a small amount of time going around to Sawmill to get to the railroad station.

BB Tired

Dear Tired:

Councilwoman Chrystal Fanelli received Gripe Vine's inquiry relating to huge trucks travelling through your neighborhood. Councilwoman Fanelli's reply, "I will see what can be done about this."

Coming up: lighting on Captain Blvd's shopping area.. Painter Drive and Noble Avenue sidewalk...decaying tree on Simos lane and much more.

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If you need more writing space, complete your Gripe on a separate piece of paper and submit with this form. Your identity will be kept confidential with Eleanore Turkington, Gripevine Columnist. You can also e-mail your gripe to gripevine4wh@aol.com or use the online form at westhavenvoice.com/gripevine.

Ernesto G. Cipolli III

Ernesto G. Cipolli III, 32, of Wallingford, formerly of West Haven, died Saturday, January 16, 2021.

He was born in New Haven, September 13, 1988, a son of Ernest G. Cipolli, Jr. and Karen (Poppendieck) Cipolli of Wallingford. He was a graduate of Mark T. Sheehan H.S. where he was a member of the football team.

He went onto attend Lincoln Technical Institute and was employed as an electrician for Rogers Electric.

Ernesto loved all, and held his loved ones close to his heart. He grew up spending countless hours with friends skateboarding, riding bikes, racing dirtbikes, and playing Yalesville Little League Baseball. He never wasted a moment and lived every second to the fullest.

Ernesto was adventurous and never turned down any challenge. He loved being home with his family and his



dog, Tilly. Most of his recent years were spent looking after his nephew, JJ, whom he lived for.

Spending days playing video games together, fishing, playing sports and watching movies. Ernesto worked as a talented electrician and traveled often, but always made it a point to speak to his nephew and see him any chance he had. Ernesto loved his family and friends, always showing how large his heart truly was.

Ernesto will be missed by his parents, Ernest and Karen; his sister, Katie Lynn; his brother

and sister-in-law, John R. and Valerie (Plunske) Cipolli; his nephew who he adored, Jay Cipolli; his aunt, Kathe Wynne (Jack); his uncles, Bob Poppendieck (Donna), and Ricky Averill; and several cousins.

He was predeceased by his aunt, Linda Averill; his paternal grandparents, Ernest and Patricia Cipolli; and his maternal grandparents, John and Margaret Poppendieck.

The Wallingford Funeral Home, 809 N. Main St. Ext., was in charge of arrangements. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 382 Hope Hill Rd., Yalesville. Interment followed in All Saints Cemetery. A celebration of life will be held in safer times.

COVID precautions will be followed at all services and masks required.

Gifts in his memory may be sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital - www.stjude.org



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Living up to caricatures

Sometimes we in West Haven live up to the caricatures sometimes foisted upon us by outsiders. They will say we are argumentative, overly political, and hard-headed, with a single-minded drive that precludes rational discussion. In other words, we're stubborn.

West Haven is much more nuanced than the lazy caricatures imposed upon us, but there are times we seem to play right into them.

Take for example the kerfuffle concerning the city's centennial celebration for 2021. For those who do not know, West Haven became an independent municipality one hundred years ago, severing from the Town of Orange. Once a borough of that town, it had quasi-municipal status in much it did before finally making a break.

The corporate documents had the new "Town of West Haven" imitate its former partner in Orange with a selectman form of government, along with representative town meetings. It wasn't until the 1960s the selectmen gave way to the mayor-council form of government we have today.

West Haven was considered the "blue collar" section of Orange, and continued that trait as it morphed into its own municipality. The fact the Savin Rock amusement park was along the shore only enhanced the "blue collar" designation.

Today, the centennial celebration should be a way of bringing together the various sections and neighborhoods, not to mention the three major districts in the city: Center, Allintown and West Shore. But such is not the case.

When the announcement of the celebration was made, an independent panel was formed by resident Daryl Cummings. He called his group the "West Haven Centennial Committee." Within weeks the city announced its own "official" group, and called itself – you guessed it – "The West Haven Centennial Committee."

Let us understand, firstly, nothing in this city is a coincidence or happenstance when it has the patina of politics attached. With the announcement of the city's committee a "Cease and Desist" letter was sent by Cummings, claiming the poaching of his organization's name. He threatened a lawsuit. To date, no lawsuit is pending that we are aware.

But it points to our original statement. Sometimes we just have controversy where none – NONE – should exist. But as with many things, this has a whiff of politics attached to it.

Mr. Cummings is a Democrat, but has not enamored himself with the current administration. He is an "outsider" in the parochial attitudes that govern city politics among the majority party.

Cummings, it seems, came up with the idea. Formed a committee, and used the name before City Hall made its own announcement. One could make a good case the politicians co-opted the name in defiance of citizens committee. Further, the city politicians, seeing a group was interested in getting involved, should have brought them into the process.

Instead of "Us v. Them," a "We" dynamic could have been attempted and a coalition of people and ideas could have been established. But that's not the way things work. Politicians hate to share the spotlight, and this is a prime example.

It didn't have to be a controversy, but little in this city comes without controversy. We hope things can resolved amicably, but we aren't – as the saying goes – holding our breath.



Free speech for me.....

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

Long a stalwart defender of the First Amendment, the American media is now having second thoughts.

For decades, it was a commonplace sentiment among journalists that freedom of the press was one of the glories of our system. It helped to make the government accountable and to air diverse points of view -- even unpopular ones -- to be tested in the marketplace of ideas.

Media organizations were at the forefront of the fight to vindicate First Amendment rights, with The New York Times involved in two landmark Supreme Court decisions (New York Times Co. v. Sullivan and the Pentagon Papers case) and tended to rise as one against any perceived threat to their prerogatives and freedoms.

This advocacy has been sincere, although, if nothing else, journalists should be First Amendment purists out of a sense of self-interest. In a 2018 essay in The Atlantic representing the bygone conventional wisdom, titled "Why a Free Press Matters," the longtime newscaster Dan Rather noted, "As a working journalist, I know I have a stake in

this concept."

One would think so.

Yet, now journalists have lurched from finding a threat to freedom to the press in every criticism of reporters and news outlets by former President Donald Trump to themselves calling for unwelcome media organizations to be shut down.

They've become the thing they profess to hate -- closed-minded censors who want to stifle free expression, First Amendment be damned.

Perversely, the TV program and email newsletter of the top media analyst at CNN, Brian Stelter, has been a clearinghouse for such advocacy, whether it is demands to get right-wingers removed from social media or -- more astonishingly -- to keep conservative cable networks off the airwaves.

Stelter's colleague, media reporter Oliver Darcy, tweeted about his effort to get cable companies to answer why they carry pro-Trump channels like Newsmax and One America News Network. "Do they have any second thoughts about distributing these channels given their election denialism content?" he asked on Twitter. "They won't say."

In the same vein, Washing-

ton Post columnist Max Boot drew a direct line between how we deal with foreign terror groups and how we should treat right-wing media organizations. "We need," he wrote, "to shut down the influencers who radicalize people and set them on the path toward violence and sedition."

Boot noted, approvingly, that the U.K. doesn't have the equivalent of Fox News because regulators won't allow it. The U.K. also doesn't have a First Amendment, a small detail that might be worth considering if the point is to protect our freedoms rather than destroy them in a fit of ideological vengeance.

A writer at the progressive publication Mother Jones argued for an advertiser boycott instead of regulatory action in a post called, charmingly, "It's Time to Crush Fox News."

A boycott wouldn't violate the First Amendment like a direct crackdown on Fox and others. Still, it would be private action undertaken in the service of a profoundly illiberal goal, running counter to the country's culture of free speech.

All of this would be bad enough if it weren't people who write and comment on

See Lowry, page 7

Sewer pipe repairs continue this month

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

The city will perform sanitary sewer repairs and pipe lining in West Shore starting in mid-February.

City Engineer Abdul Quadir said the work will be done from Feb. 15-July 24 on Hillside Avenue, Bellevue Avenue, Milton Avenue, Howard Street, Grand Street, Lake Street, Connecticut Avenue, Colonial Boulevard, Colonial Circle, Baycrest Drive and Honor Road.

During the roadwork, residential wastewater operations will be interrupted for about four hours, Quadir said. Residents will be notified by letter one week in advance and 24 hours before the work begins, he said.

The project contractors are Missouri-based Insituform Technologies Inc., a subsidiary of Aegion Corp., and Inland Waters Inc. of Rhode Island.

Lowry: *Hindering speech*

Continued from page 7


TV for a living advocating it. But journalists have been moving in this direction for a while now, as Armin Rosen catalogues in a disturbing report for Tablet magazine.

The author, Steve Coll, who is no less than the dean of the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University, said last December, “Those of us in journalism have to come to terms with the fact that free speech, a principle that we hold sacred, is being weaponized against the principles of journalism.”


The former managing editor of Time magazine, Richard Stengel, has written: “All speech is not equal. And where truth cannot drive out lies, we must add new guardrails.”

And so its erstwhile champions are ready to retreat from strict adherence to the First Amendment to a new rule of “free speech for me, but not for thee.”

~~~~~  
Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.  
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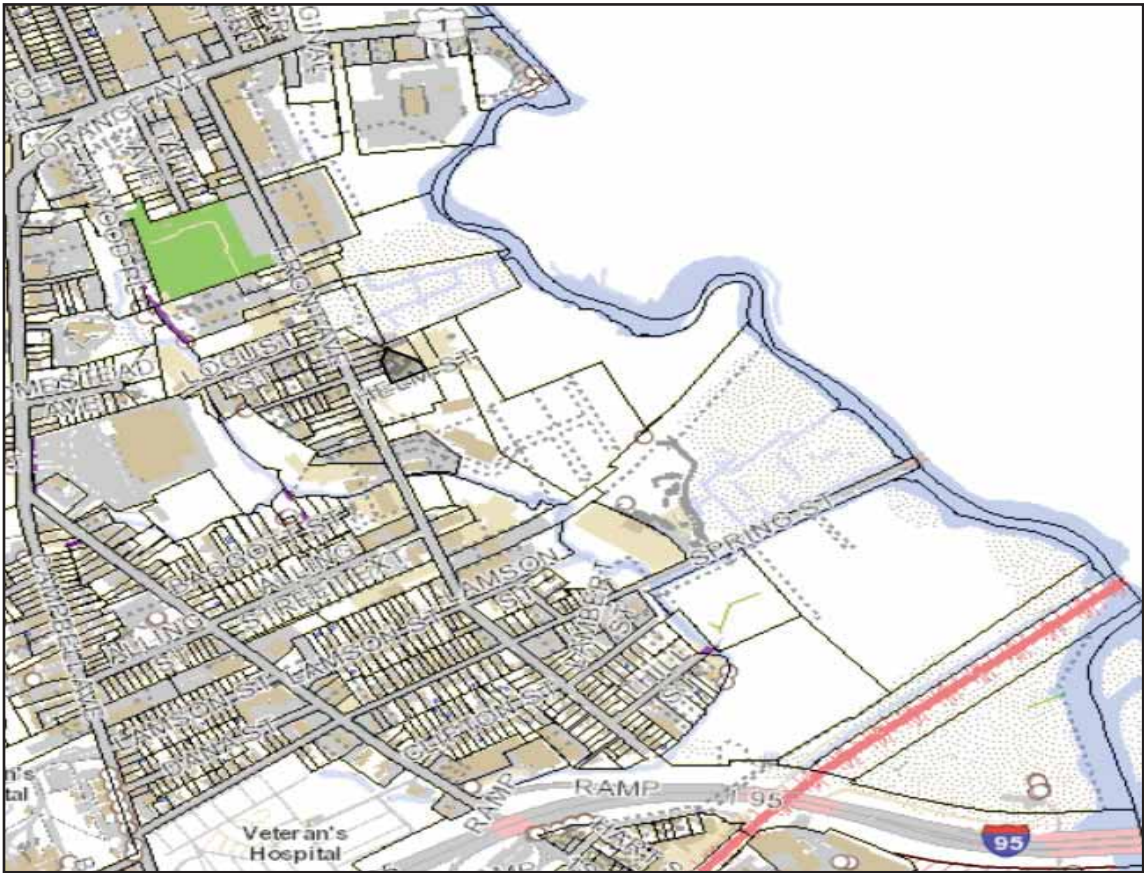
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# Enterprise Zone: *State OK begins process*



The enterprise region is along Front Avenue and the West River and extends to the city's composting site.

Continued from page 1  
state corporate business taxes, the state reimbursing the city for lost revenue;

~ Newly formed corporations that locate in the zone get a 100% exemption from state corporate taxes for the first three years and 50% in the succeeding seven years;

~ Exemption from the state conveyance tax on purchase of the properties in the zone.

Once the business purchases space in the zone and derives the benefit the major requirement is the business hire from the city in question, and particularly the residents in the enterprise zone.

According to the mayor, no zoning changes or variances are necessary as the area is zoned for industrial development. Also, she said no other modifications, like a special taxation district, are necessary in the future.

Since the announcement, Rossi said the reaction of the business community has been positive.

"The business community has been thrilled to learn of the potential benefits of the Enterprise Zone. Many well-known companies have reached out about acquiring properties, and local businesses along Front Avenue are seeking to expand their footprint. At this time the City Council has accepted proposals to allow business expansion along Front Avenue and on Feb. 8 will consider a proposal from Laydon Industries for a development within the zone," she said. "Today we received a proposal for business expansion and expect to receive additional proposals. State officials are also receiving inquiries."

She said the city will reach out to current property holders to make sure they understand the opportunity the new designation give.

"We will, in the next 30 days, reach out to every landowner in the district to ensure they know about the opportunities of the Investment Zone and we will partner with appropriate financing entities to maxi-

mize the potential opportunities for investment. Moreover, there is overwhelming interest in solar development of the former landfill space. We plan to name the solar developer within the next 30 days," she said.

The city has looked at land and has made some designations, parceling out land, and looking at those sites that are not able to sustain construction.

"As of now the City has examined the parcels and appropriately mapped out some of the unbuildable land for bio/solar projects and has begun accepting proposals on a case by case bases for other developments within the Zone. We are not discouraging any interested investor at this time," she said..

The fact the city is currently without its own Economic Development Director is not inhibiting the process, according to Rossi. She said she believes projects like this are team efforts and the absence of a economic director isn't an obstacle.

"The process has not been hampered at all. Development in the city has always required a team approach and my administration has leveraged many individuals and resources for successful development in the city," she said.

Currently she has a team of people working on the development area plan that includes Executive Assistant Louis Esposito, State Rep Michael DiMassa (D-116), various city officials, college interns and outside consultants.

Rossi said the new zone is seeing benefits, and is a way for the city expand its tax base and attract new employment opportunities.

"Make no mistake, the purpose is to use government incentives to restore demand and business activity geared more to free enterprise and less to government supported measures. The results are fairly immediate. Every city-owned vacant acre sold increases tax revenue," she said finally.

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# Westie Barzee tapped for Hall *Player, coach, scout, owner nominated*

A former WHHS hockey player, and carrying the name of one of the most influential hockey families in the city, former scout, coach and player Jack Barzee has been nominated for induction into the United States Hockey Hall of Fame.

Barzee’s long and varied career in hockey covered parts of six decades and included many formative experiences with the Waterloo (IA) Black Hawks of the United States Hockey League, a junior league that has developed many future NHL stars.

The Black Hawks announced that the organization will nominate Barzee for the United States Hockey Hall of Fame before the selection committee begins to consider its 2021 candidates near the end of February.

“He was a pioneer of where we are today, and why we are here today with the amount of Americans that have the opportunity they have,” said Black Hawks President and Head Coach P.K. O’Handley.

Retiring from NHL Central Scouting in 2012, Barzee had spent 23 years working for the National Hockey League in addition to four years as a scout for the Washington Capitals. During that period, players born and developed in the United States became increasingly prominent at the highest levels of professional hockey. At the time Barzee began scouting, approximately 75 percent of NHL’ers were Canadian, while U.S. players shared the balance of opportunities with their counterparts of various European nationalities. Today, Americans make up nearly 30 percent of NHL rosters.

Before Barzee had the opportunity to influence the perception of U.S. skaters, he took a hand in directly developing many as a coach and junior hockey team owner. Beginning in the 1976/77 season, Barzee became the Black Hawks’ head coach during the team’s final season with a roster of all senior players. That offseason, he was an influential voice as the USHL merged with the Midwest Junior Hockey League.

The two years which followed included hybrid rosters of junior and senior players skating together, and Barzee’s Black Hawks won the league’s playoff title in both 1978 and 1979. Skating with an all-junior club in 1979/80, Waterloo won the league’s South Division and reached the Clark Cup Championship series.

Barzee would go on to found the Dubuque Fighting Saints in 1980, leading that organization to three Clark Cups, two Anderson Cups, and two USA Hockey National Junior Gold Cup championships in just five seasons. His Saints also produced the most prominent NHL player developed in the USHL during the league’s first decade of all-junior competition: future Calder Trophy winner and Stanley Cup champion Gary Suter.

Barzee originally hailed from West Haven. At age 6 he played Peewee Hockey at the New Haven Arena and played West Haven High School Hockey then on to the US National Team, Pittsburgh, Muskegon, Nova Scotia Maritime Hockey League and then onto the Waterloo BlackHawks. The Barzee family is well known in hockey circles in Connecticut, his dad, Bud Barzee, was a player, coach and official in the early days of the sport in the area, was a supporter of the building of the Edward L. Bennett Rink in 1969, and a founder of the West Haven Youth Hockey Association.

After skating for several minor league and senior teams in the northeast, he joined the Black Hawks in 1965/66. He was a member of three Waterloo USHL championship squads. The game also took him briefly to the Green Bay

Bobcats when the Hawks were on hiatus from the USHL in 1969/70 and to Kusunacht, Switzerland, in 1972/73.

His return to Waterloo provided his first administrative role, when he became Publicity Director and President of Black Hawks Enterprises, the publicly-owned company operating the team throughout much of the 1970s.

Other Notable Honors and Achievements from Jack Barzee’s Resume include

–Three-time USHL Coach of the Year (’78, ’81, & ’83)

–USHL Treasurer, 1981-1983;

–Coached the U.S. entry during the 1979, 1980, and 1981 Beard Cup tournaments in Switzerland;

–Recognized in 2005 with the USHL’s Distinguished Service Award;

–Former member of USA Hockey’s Board of Directors.

“You look at Gino Gasparrini, you look at Herb Brooks, you look at Jack Barzee...they got with a bunch of owners and said what this [the USHL] could be. Quite frankly, they had a crystal ball that it could be a large feeder for the National Hockey League...he was a driver in this and really set forth the vision of what this has become,” said P.K. O’Handley, President and Head Coach of the Waterloo Black Hawks and winningest

head coach in United States Hockey League history.

“During his time with NHL Central Scouting, Jack was a key catalyst in having the USHL being recognized in the scouting world as the top junior league in the United States and he proudly promoted the

talent and potential that was available to the professional hockey ranks from the United States,” said Dan Marr, Director of NHL Central Scouting, in 2016..Barzee’s nomination will be considered and an announcement is expected by the end of the month.



JACK BARZEE, 1972

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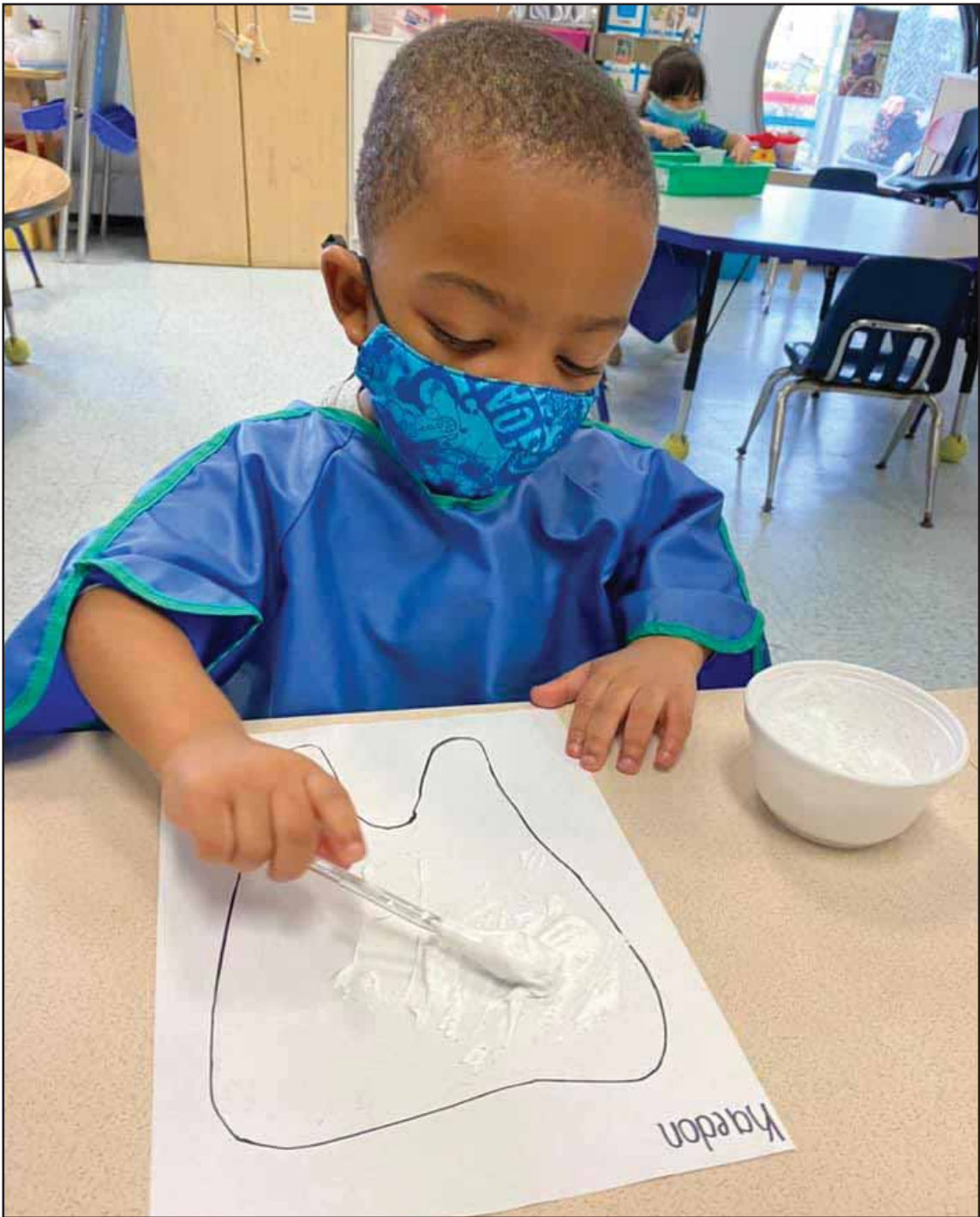
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Photo courtesy of WHCDC

Dental hygiene

Kaedon Maeby age 4, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. works on a shaving creme and glue tooth creation for February’s Dental Month.



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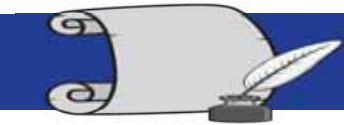
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Our expected season start date is May 17<sup>th</sup>, but may change due to possible changes in Covid-19 restrictions.





Historian's corner

By Dan Shine



Cowboy Valley

I grew up a-dreamin' of bein' a cowboy  
And lovin' the cowboy ways  
Pursuin' the life of my hard-ridin' heroes  
I burned up my childhood days  
-Willie Nelson

In the years around 1960, The Boy's imagination was filled with cowboys: those fair-minded romantic heroes who wore Stetson hats and rode handsome horses past cactus and sagebrush as they crossed the wide prairies of the Old West.

A child's life during that period was very different from what it is today: with it came abundant freedom to come and go at will. Mothers were home all day to handle child-care and household chores. Children often played ball in the street because fewer people owned cars, and many family chores could be accomplished on foot. Their toys and diversions were simple, and children would often gather to play in groups. Television—as simple and limited as it was in the beginning—was taking the place of radio as a medium for news and entertainment.

And everyone it seems had a fascination for the Old West, and those hardy souls who settled it. Families watched television programs together, and there were a multitude of Western-themed TV shows to choose from: The Lone Ranger, Rawhide, The Rifleman, Wagon Train, Have Gun Will Travel, Cheyenne, Maverick, Laramie, Wyatt Earp,

Roy Rogers, Zorro, Bonanza, Daniel Boone, Sugarfoot and more. The country was crazy about cowboys back then, and children dressed in vests and chaps and carried cap guns in holsters strapped to their hips.

Recognizing this fascination as a business opportunity, a Newington man named Art DuBois created Cowboy Valley. In 1957, Interstate 95 had not yet opened in Connecticut, so his idea was to capitalize on the "shore crowd," those who were traveling along Route 1 through Connecticut on their way to the beaches of Rhode Island and Cape Cod.

He purchased twenty acres of land along Route 81 in Killingworth and built a Wild West town complete with a main street that included a bank, a gunsmith, a Wells Fargo Express office, a hotel, a barbershop, a bootmaker, a doctor's office, an outfitter and a saloon. There were also wigwams with a real Narragansett Indian in residence. Meanwhile, stables for the livestock were kept out of sight of visitors.

The grand opening took place in the summer of 1957. To promote the new venture, a real stagecoach was drawn by a team of horses from Hart-

ford to Killingworth along the old Route 9. In addition, the crew of Cowboy Valley was featured one day on the Happy the Clown show, which aired on Channel 8.

And the children loved Cowboy Valley. They took with them many warm, life-long memories of their visits: Being deputized and catching bank robbers with the help of the sheriff. Or riding in a stagecoach that was held up by armed villains. They thought that this fantasyland would never end.

But it did, and for a variety of reasons beyond the control of Cowboy Valley. And at the end of its third season in 1959, Cowboy Valley was heading for the last roundup.

Cowboy Valley's main street and all of its buildings sat abandoned for years before being demolished. Today a church and a few houses sit on the twenty acres where so many childhood memories were shaped and formed.

A little bit of the old West was captured for just a few years in a short-lived tourist center called, "Cowboy Valley" in Killingworth. The new Interstate 95 construction was seen as a way of getting families to the site. Finally, after only three years, it closed, and was finally demolished.



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



## Westie squads look to openers

So much has changed since the West Haven boys hockey team last left the ice in Danbury a year ago. Following a win over Immaculate in the regular season finale, the Westies were prepared to travel south down I-95 to face Greenwich in the opening round of the CIAC state tournament.

After an abbreviated fall season, the winter sports teams will follow suit, playing 12 games and a conference tournament afterwards.

For West Haven, plenty has changed. Nine seniors graduated, leaving plenty of holes to fill, especially in goal with the departure of Jared Pliszka, on defense with the graduations of Robbie Forleo, Sean Dupre and Colin Hines, and on offense with Kaden Morgillo, Richie Greene, Kevin Moriarty and Nick Carfora also gone by way of graduation.

Much may have been lost, but the Westies return several top players from an 11-8-1 squad of a season ago. Seniors (captain) Nick Boanno, Michael Kelly, and Conner Fowler, juniors Ryan Bernardi, Nico Bruneau, and Mike Alfano, and brothers Ben (sophomore) and D.J. (junior) Carfora return to lead what could be a top offensive unit.

West Haven Coach Steve Harris will also have a strong group of seven freshmen to build around with defencemen Yousaf Ullah, Jason Alling and Haygen Axelrod, and forwards Marcus Burrows, Jayden Spreyer, and Michael Madera. Javed Ullah will serve as the team's backup in goal.

While nothing is set in stone as far as offensive lines early in camp, look for the Carfora brothers, Boanno and Bruneau to anchor the top two lines with Alfano, Kelly and Bernardi. Fowler will be in the mix and Harris will have a freshmen group to plug in as well with Burrows, Spreyer and Madera.

Defensively, the Westies return a solid trio at the blue line in senior assistant captain Ryan Smith and juniors Joe D'Aurio and Anthony Peschell. Sophomore Zach Forbes will also be in the mix for a bulk of playing time on the defensive side.

Harris again will also have to turn to youth on the defensive side as the freshmen trio

of Yousaf Ullah, Alling and Axelrod will be looked to for quality minutes.

The key for the Westies may be in goal where senior Charlie Miller takes over the helm between the pipes for his senior campaign. Miller has looked impressive early and will need to be on his game throughout if the Westies are going to have a solid season. Freshman Javed Ullah will also be learning under Miller.

A 12-game season will be something new for all teams. Each team will make the Southern Connecticut Conference tournament for a chance to win the title.

The league has also announced an early exit in the tournament will also allow for extra games to give the players at least 14 or 15 games on the year.

West Haven opens the regular season Monday, February 8 when it plays host to Hamden at 6 p.m. at the Edward L. Bennett Rink. Details regarding fan attendance will be announced soon.

### Girls Hockey

Less than a minute. That was all the time left, 33 seconds to be exact, for the West Haven-Sacred Heart Academy girls hockey team to force overtime in the opening round of the state tournament last season at East Catholic.

A late goal by East Catholic foiled the season for the Westie Sharks right before the global pandemic hit. With winter sports back on the schedule, sixth-year coach Erin Blake and her squad are ready to get going once again.

Despite the loss to graduation of all-everything players Taylor Nowak (over 100 career goals), Brooke McNabola and Megan Froehlich (over 100 career points), the Westie Sharks have plenty to like about the upcoming season.

With starting goaltender and now junior Grace Nowak out with a knee injury last year, Blake and her staff were able to develop junior Hannah Davey and senior Hailey Alfano in goal. Both played well and now Blake can use any of the three between the pipes this year in what is now a loaded position.

The Westie Sharks will be led this year by senior captains Mackenzie Gardner and Jenna Hunt, and senior alternate

captains Jianna Cohrs, Mia Celentano, and Hailey Alfano.

Gardner, a two-year starter, will anchor the team at the blue line. The senior had 20 blocked shots and put up 17 points a season ago. Junior Meghan Dupre will also be a key player on defense for the Westie Sharks as she recorded 17 blocked shots a season ago.

Dupre looks to play alongside freshman Julianna Montano, while Gardner will play alongside another strong freshman in Taylor Alfano. Sophomores Emilee DeGrand and Anne Plunkett will also see time on the defensive side.

Hunt, Cohrs and Celentano will be the go-to players on offense for Blake, forming one of the best scoring trios in the area. Hunt had 44 points last season, Cohrs had 33, and Celentano contributed 23 as a junior. Cohrs was a 2019 All-SCC Second Team selection.

With plenty of depth, Blake and her staff have the ability to move players around. Blake will also have the ability to have players play junior varsity and varsity. Looking to create balance on the offensive side, Blake may be moving girls to find the right fit.

Celentano and Cohrs will likely team up with junior Maya Boyhen to form a solid trio, while Hunt will have a nice complement of players, including Plunkett and fresh-

man Geena Montano. Junior Caitlin Welch, DeGrand and freshman Ashley Welch will also form another solid offensive line.

The Westie Sharks open the year Tuesday, Feb. 9, at the Edward L. Bennett Rink against Masuk-Barlow at 5:15 p.m. Details regarding fan attendance will be announced soon.

### Track

The West Haven boys and girls indoor track season will have a different template in 2021. With the pandemic, West Haven coach Modestine Vaughn will be looking at a different type of season as she embarks on her 15th campaign at the helm of the Westies.

Vaughn will turn to some key participants to lead the way in this very different season. Senior captains James Weber, Neil Chen, and Tomalyn Williams will lead the way.

A four-year player and second-year team captain, Weber runs in the 600 meters and is a member of the Southern Connecticut Conference 4 x 800 championship team.

A three-year player on the team, Williams runs the 55 meters and is a part of the 4 x 200 team. She is a two-time state athlete for Vaughn.

Senior Anthony Vendrella will also be a key piece to the team. Also a member of the SCC 4 x 800 championship

team, Vendrella takes part in the 55 meter hurdles.

### Boys swimming

The West Haven boys swimming team will be looking to make strides as the 2021 season unfolds. With a young team, head coach Robin Viani will be looking for continual improvement in what will be a shortened season due to the pandemic.

The season will also present another challenge as the meets will be virtual. Viani and the squad are up to the challenge.

Leading the way in 2021 will be junior captains Brian Carew and Mustansir Jamalee. Jamalee will lead the way in the freestyle and butterfly events, while sophomore Anthony Castillo will swim in the freestyle events.

West Haven opens the season Thursday, Feb. 1, against Sheehan at West Haven High at 2 p.m. Details regarding fan attendance will be announced soon.

### Girls Basketball

After returning to the post-season last year for the first time since 2017, the West Haven girls basketball team was eliminated in the first round of the CIAC Class LL state tournament by Trumbull. The world was then affected by the current pandemic.

With time to prepare for the future, West Haven head

See Westies, page 13



Photo by Miguelina Felix

The new high school offers a state-of-the-art weight room for athletes. The new facility has been open for a few months, and with the winter schedule beginning next week, Blue Devils' team members have and will be availing themselves of the various stations and apparatus.



# Westies: *Squads get ready for openers*

**Continued from page 12**  
coach Jessica Moriarty knows she has a handful of key players returning from the eight-win team of a year ago. Add in a key freshman piece and the Westies will have a strong team entering the 2021 campaign, the eighth with Moriarty at the helm.  
Moriarty enters the season with senior guard and captain Sarah Evangelista leading the way. According to Moriarty, Evangelista, a four-year starter who averaged six points and five assists as a junior, already looks like a totally different player from a year ago and may be the team's best shooter.  
Moriarty can then add sophomores Amani Abuhatab

and Kassidy Carrano to form a powerful scoring trio. Abuhatab came on the scene as a freshman and averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds per game, and was an All-Southern Connecticut Conference and All-Area selection.  
Carrano was equally impressive as a freshman, averaging eight points and 4.5 rebounds a game. Also returning from last year's squad are juniors Tenique Gates and Davina Mendez who will be relied upon for quality minutes and points as well.  
Guard Isabella Fiorillo. Fiorillo will look to run the offense from the point in her initial campaign.  
The season will also see a Southern Connecticut Con-

ference tournament, but no state tournament. Add in the new rules with the wearing of masks, and everyone is in for a season of adjustments.  
West Haven opens the season Wednesday, Feb. 10 against Lauralton Hall at home at 6 p.m. Details regarding fan attendance will be announced soon.  
**Boys Basketball**  
Following a tough loss in the quarterfinals of the Southern Connecticut Conference tournament against Hamden, the West Haven boys basketball team was ready to make a deep run in the state tournament last season.  
That run never happened when the winter sports season was shut down due to the

global pandemic.  
With a solid group of returning players and an influx of transfers, West Haven starts the season as one of the teams to beat in the SCC.  
Leading the way for West Haven in the 2021 season will be tri-captains senior Malcolm Duncanson, and juniors Javaun Calhoun and Manny Belcher.  
Duncanson, an All-League and All-State selection in 2020, is a 6-foot senior guard who averaged 17 points, 8 rebounds and 4 assists per game a season ago. Calhoun is a 6'-6" forward who averaged 6 points, 7 rebounds and 4 blocks per game, while Belcher is a 6'-3" guard who averaged 10 points and 4 rebounds per game.

Along with the dynamic trio of Duncanson, Calhoun and Belcher, Sullivan will have 6'-0" junior guard Kyle Kearson and 5'-8" senior guard Eli Blackwell to complicate matters for opposing teams. Blackwell is a transfer from Amistad and adds an immediate scoring threat for Sullivan.  
West Haven will also get another solid senior player in Notre Dame transfer Cairon Hooks. Hooks is a senior guard who will be counted on to put points on the board.  
West Haven opens the season Tuesday, Feb. 9. at Fairfield Prep at 6 p.m. The Westies open the home season Friday, Feb. 12, against Hillhouse at 7 p.m. Details regarding fan attendance will be announced .

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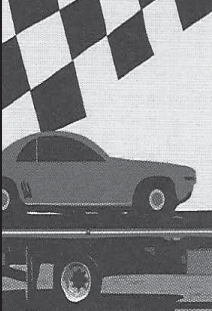
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Call for estimate!

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Decks, porches, wall,s ceilings,  
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repairs. Free estimates, in-  
sured. MC/Visa.CT. Lic. 0647093.  
Bill, 203-901-2136.

## SITUATION WANTED

Looking for a energetic, compe-  
tent loving Nanny/Au Pair for our  
two children. The older boy is 4  
years old and goes to Pre-school  
and the younger girl is 8 months  
and we are willing to offer any in-  
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Babysitter is needed in West  
Haven mornings. The child is 10  
years of age. Person hired needs  
to drop the child o to school each  
day. Will be dropped o at your  
house at 6:30 a.m., and pick the  
child up after school. Child must  
be at bus stop at 8:15, dropped o  
at 12:30. Salary negotiable. Call  
Carnell Artis, 203-257-0248.

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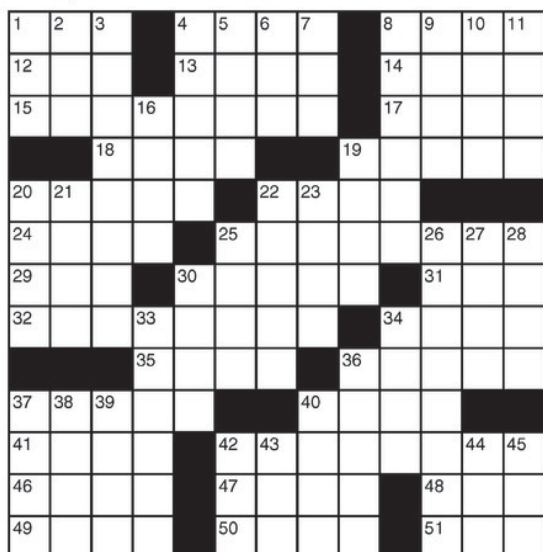
**Harborview**  
REALTY SERVICES LLC

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West Haven, CT

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Atlas page  
8 TV's "Warrior Princess"  
12 Oklahoma city  
13 Operatic solo  
14 Sick as —  
15 Newscast opener  
17 Cathedral area  
18 Vittles  
19 Half of a '60s group  
20 Sad song  
22 Begged  
24 Early Peruvian  
25 Taylor Swift's genre, say  
29 R-V link  
30 Beetle Bailey's boss  
31 As well  
32 Bargain for leniency  
34 Felines  
35 Fail to see  
36 Island porch  
37 Neptune's realm  
40 Ride the waves  
41 Actress  
42 Cowboy  
46 Challenge  
47 Matty of base-  
ball  
48 Old Olds  
49 Auctioneer's cry  
50 Citi Field team  
51 Society newbie  
1 Yoda pad  
2 Hubbub  
3 Drink-to-go holder  
4 Coffee bar offering  
5 Cupid's alias  
6 Tire filler  
7 Salary  
8 Idyllic place  
9 Dutch cheese  
10 Bright star  
11 Mellows  
16 Long tale  
19 Viral Web phe-  
nomenon  
20 Platter  
21 Division word  
22 Sweat outlets  
23 Women's links org.  
25 Buddies  
26 Silicon Valley school  
27 Teeny bit  
28 Mozart's "— fan tutte"  
30 Whirl  
33 Stunned  
34 Sagan or Sandburg  
36 Waikiki wing-  
dings  
37 Probability  
38 Pisa farewell  
39 British noble  
40 Espy  
42 Deli meat  
43 Flamenco cheer  
44 Born abroad?  
45 Sailor



## MAGIC MAZE • NATIONAL — DAY : JANUARY

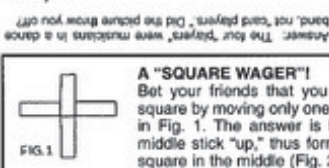
Y V T Q O L I G D B Y W T R Y  
P M S K I N F D B Y W U S Q K  
O M K E I F R D N F B Z E P C  
X ( I R I S H C O F F E E ) L I U  
W U S Q O U T O C U N L Z H D  
M W J H F W O D C P A Y Z C R  
W I V T E Z S P Q M O P U N E  
N N L N A E B L S A K P P R B  
I N G K H D A E H E L B B O B  
A I V I R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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all  
directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: — THE POOH

Apricot Cream Puff Kazoo Rubber Ducky  
Bean Cuddle Up Milk Spouses  
Bobbiehead Fig Newton Popcorn Trivia  
Corn Chip Irish Coffee Puzzle



CAN YOU FIGURE OUT how all four made money?

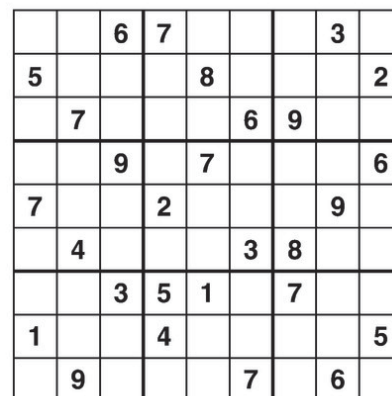


ATTENTION ALL WORD FANS! In this puzzle, all of the  
words get progressively longer, and they all start with FAN.  
Some hints:  
1. Keeps you cool.  
2. Type of tooth.  
3. To like.  
4. Type of airplane.  
5. Loud trumpet flourish.  
6. Animated Spanish dance.

Answers: 1. Fan, 2. Fang, 3. Fancy, 4. Fanfare, 5. Fandango, 6. Fandango.

## 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!



4-Letter Words: Fawn, Puma  
5-Letter Words: Bison, Camel, Chimp, Crabs, Hippo, Horse  
6-Letter Words: Lambs, Lions, Mamba, Mules, Seals

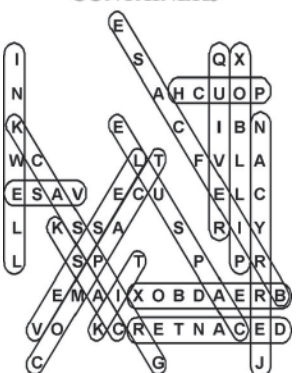
Answers: 1. Crane, 2. Hippo, 3. Mamba, 4. Hippo, 5. Hippo, 6. Hippo, 7. Mamba, 8. Mamba, 9. Hippo, 10. Hippo, 11. Hippo, 12. Hippo, 13. Hippo.

## Answers to last week's puzzles

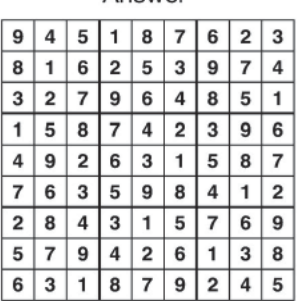
### King Crossword — Answers



### CONTAINERS



### Weekly SUDOKU — Answer







**CAP OFF  
YOUR  
SENIOR YEAR:  
FAFSA CHALLENGE**  
WEST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

**Submit your FAFSA and earn a  
free cap and gown!**

*Win raffle  
prizes!*



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weekly  
at the Career Center  
Questions:  
[fafsa-help@whschools.org](mailto:fafsa-help@whschools.org)

Courtesy of Miguelina Felix

WHHS enters ‘Challenge’

West Haven High School has entered the state-sponsored Cap off Your Senior Year Challenge. Seniors who submit their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will have their names entered into a raffle to win a \$100 visa gift card and will receive their cap and gown completely free of charge. This is a challenge involving all seniors in the state.

## Bone Marrow for Madi



**Madi's Story**  
Madison Cicarella is a beautiful, talented and kind 8th grader who lives in West Haven, CT. Madi as we all call her is currently ready to fight and fight hard. The day after Christmas 2020 Madi was taken to Yale emergency room after collapsing at home. Until that time she and her mom, Nikki, didn't know there was anything wrong. But when she was taken to the hospital and they began running tests, she was admitted to the ICU. She was there for several days and underwent different testing and transfusions and although beginning to feel better, was receiving no answers. At that time they decided to do bone marrow testing because her results were all very concerning but not definitive. After she had the blood marrow testing performed and received the preliminary results, she was able to return home with her mom Nikki. However, they still had no definitive answers but only some very concerning possibilities. She followed up with her doctors and new hematologists. By Friday 1/15/21, after many tests, more transfusions and doctor's visits, Madi and Nikki received the diagnosis for Madi. She has been diagnosed with Myelodysplasia. This is a type of cancer in which the bone marrow does not make enough healthy blood cells (white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets) and there are abnormal cells in the blood and/or bone marrow. Madi is now starting months of treatments including chemotherapy and ultimately will be needing a bone marrow transplant. Madi's friend's and family have started the process of being tested but we need more people to get tested to increase the possibility of finding a match for her!

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

1. Go to <https://dkmsgetinvolved.org/virtualD.../bone-marrow-for-madi>, [Join.bethematch.org/MadiTime](https://join.bethematch.org/MadiTime) or [Text MadiTime to 61474](https://text.maditime.com/61474) and sign up to be tested to become a bone marrow donor. You should only register on one (DKMS or Be The Match). Please be aware anyone between 45-60 will have to register online and will be asked for a \$100 payment to process if using Be The Match. We are hosting a live donor drive on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm @ First Congregational Church in West Haven.
2. Please consider a financial donation to help. Financial donations can be sent to Venmo. The user name is @Nikki-Stancarone
3. Please send love and prayers to both Madi and Nikki as they navigate this journey.
4. Follow our Facebook page @BoneMarrowandLoveforMadi for upcoming events and fundraisers to help Madi and her mom Nikki.



Be The Match



DKMS Get Involved

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