

West Haven Voice

March 18, 2021

Vol. 26, Issue 6 16 Pages

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

Voice Profile

An in-depth feature

City resident finds fulfillment in art.

See page 10

City Budget Extra Edition On Streets Next Thursday!



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Rossi gets vaccine

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi receives her first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine from West Haven Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien at City Hall on March 3. Rossi, 62, took the injection of Moderna vaccine at a clinic for city employees 55 and older in the Emergency Operations Center to demonstrate the importance of getting the inoculation. Under the state's March 1 rollout of Phase 1c, those ages 55-64, along with educators and child care providers of all ages, can start receiving the vaccine.

'Fill-A-Bag' expands in city schools

By Sabrina Yaser,
Rostrum Editor-in-Chief

Ed. Note: The following appeared in the most recent edition of *The Rostrum*, the WHHS newspaper. It was submitted with a request it be printed in the Voice. We are always happy to highlight young journalists in our pages.

West Haven High School junior Grace Nowak's "Fill-A-Bag, Fuel-A-Mind" club has expanded to Harry M. Bailey Middle School. The club provides supplies like snacks, backpacks, clothes, and hygiene products for students who are in need.

The club has also expanded to May

V. Carrigan Intermediate School, where a supply closet is opening soon.

"It's only the beginning, as we now hope to spread into the elementary schools and even have kids from other towns start their own Fill-A-Bag, Fuel-A-Mind pantries in their schools," Nowak said.

To get the word out about the club, Nowak used the media and sent emails to all of the principals in the West Haven School District about it. She even presented her idea at a Board of Education meeting.

Nowak said she's also been spreading the word about the club through

Facebook (Fillabag, Fuelamind) and Instagram (fillabag_fuelamind).

After receiving the email from Nowak, Bailey Vice-Principal Stacy Sutton thought it was an amazing club, especially if it meant helping people in need during the pandemic.

"Our goal in education is to help students, not just learn academically, but in every facet of their life—anything we can do to help students is what we want to do," Ms. Sutton said.

All chapters of the club are run by students (collecting donations and organizing) and teachers/staff are there to supervise. The club even does drive-

by donations, where people come in their cars and drop off supplies, such as non-perishable foods and hygiene products.

The Bailey chapter of the club has a separate room they decorated to keep all the donated supplies, and they put up a bulletin board outside the room to let students know where to go if they need any necessities.

It's almost like a store where if a student is in need they can go to the supply room, ask for their necessities, and the staff that runs the room fills a bag full of supplies and gives it to the stu-

See Club, page 3

No new increase to highlight Rossi FY'22 budget plan

For the fourth time since taking office, Mayor Nancy N. Rossi will present a budget for the new fiscal year, and this one will have some positive news for city taxpayers if all goes well. The City Council will meet in special session at 5:30 this afternoon for the budget presentation, setting off a six-week process that leads to adoption of a budget ordinance in May.

The Fiscal Year 2022 budget may have good news for taxpayers: a "constant" mill rate, and no further acceptance of state restructuring funds, according to Rossi, who must still pass the proposal onto the Municipal Accountability Review Board for approval.

If given the go-ahead by the state panel, Rossi indicated in remarks this week the new budget will have no mill-rate increase (using the work "constant"), and no new funding from the State of Connecticut in the form of restructuring funds received since she took office in 2017.

The indication the mayor hopes to keep the mill rate steady means it will be the first year since 2017 taxpayers have not seen an increase. The MARB forced the city to raise the mill rate incrementally over the course of the five-year plan of 2017 with an end goal of attaining 40 mills. Last year's \$165.2 million plan saw the tax rate go to 37.48 (not including fire taxes), and would remain the same should Rossi get her way.

The mayor had another surprise, indicating the city will forego taking any further funds from the state. That is something that could give her leverage with MARB going forward.

See Budget, page 5

elm diner
(203) 933-9966
111 Elm Street, West Haven

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP!

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

DINNER

CATERING

OPEN 6 AM to Midnight Every Day!

Contact

West Haven Voice

West Haven Voice, LLC
840 Boston Post Road, West Haven, CT 06516

203-934-NEWS (6397) Web: westhavenvoice.com
Facebook: whvoice Twitter: @whvoiceads

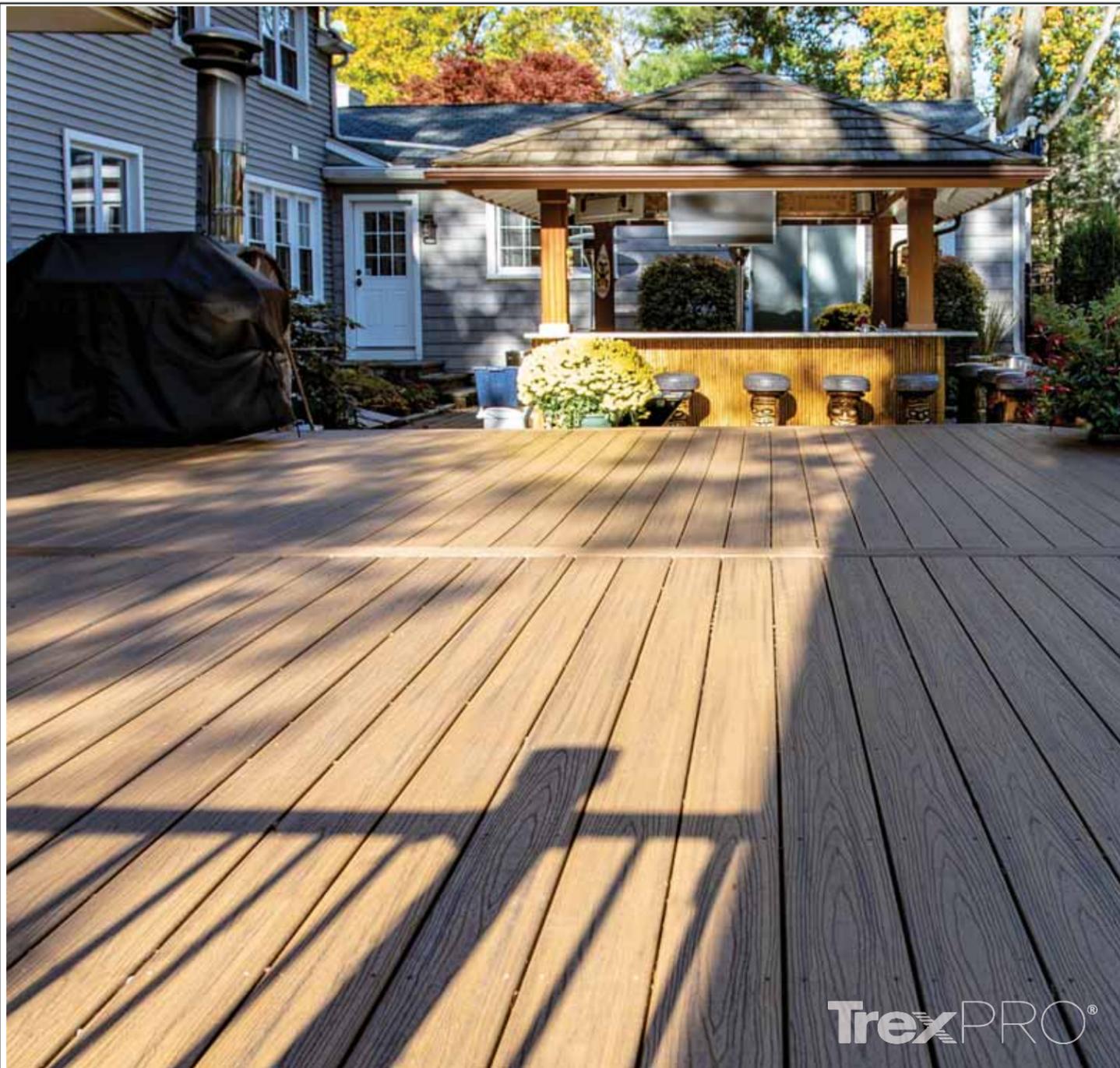
Editor Bill Riccio - info@westhavenvoice.com

Sales Director Alan Olenick - sales@westhavenvoice.com

Next Issue Date: March 25, 2021
City Budget Legal Notice Special Edition



The artist known as Malaka, a Kindergartener at Pagels School is waiting for all the animals to come out and enjoy spring.



**Designed to fit with Mother Nature,
yet withstand the test of Father Time.**

Presenting the latest ways for your ideas to take shape from Trex® For longevity, style, eco-friendly design and life-long value, it's setting the stage for Next. To learn more about how Trex® is making hte most in outdoor living, contact the TrexPro listed below.



Phone: (800) 224-2128 | (203) 937-6400
824 Boston Post Road | West Haven, CT 06516
1700 Boston Post Road, 2nd Floor | Fairfield, CT 06824
E-mail: info@baybrookremodelers.com
Website: www.baybrookremodelers.com



**Engineering What's Next
in Outdoor Living®**

On this Date

1990 -- East Germany holds its first and only free parliamentary elections. The election was held between the peaceful revolution leading to the demise of the German Democratic Republic in 1989 and the German reunification in 1990.

1971 -- A 100 feet (30 meter) high wave destroys a Peruvian mining camp and kills hundreds of people. The tsunami was caused by a massive rock avalanche that crashed into Lake Yanahuani from a height of 1300 feet (400 meters).

1965 -- Russian cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov becomes the first person to walk in space, During the tethered spacewalk, which lasted 12 minutes, Leonov ventured up to 10 meters from his spacecraft, Voskhod 2.

1962 -- The Évian Accords are signed, ending the Algerian War. Algeria gained its independence from France as a consequence.

1892 -- Lord Stanley of Preston pledges to donate a challenge cup for the best ice hockey team in Canada. Today, the Stanley Cup is the world's most prestigious ice hockey trophy.

Births

1981 -- Fabian Cancellara, Swiss cyclist.

1932 -- John Updike, American author, poet, critic.

1869 -- Neville Chamberlain, English politician, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

1844 -- Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, Russian composer.

1837 -- Grover Cleveland, American lawyer, politician, 22nd President of the United States.

Deaths

1936 -- Eleftherios Venizelos, Greek politician, Prime Minister of Greece.

1913 -- George I of Greece.

1745 -- Robert Walpole, English politician, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

1314 -- Jacques de Molay, Frankish knight.

978 -- Edward the Martyr, English king.

**Special Edition
next week!
City budget
published,
public hearing
to be
announced!**

Club: *Idea expands to other city schools*

Continued from page 1
dents.

The room contains snacks,

dinner, personal hygiene products, backpacks, water, Gatorade, and more.

Ms. Sutton said it was very easy to start the club at Bailey, despite the pandemic because

they had many motivated staff members and high school students who helped them.

"It was exciting getting it started, just knowing that we were going to be able to help the kids in need," Ms. Sutton said.

Many staff members do-

nated to the club. Bailey's PTA even bought approximately \$300 worth of groceries and personal hygiene products.

Ms. Sutton hopes to put food on the family table and to "pay it forward" so that others can do something nice for others.



Designed like a store, students can "shop" for their needs. The program has grown beyond expectations, with city middle schools joining the project.



Life insurance from a real-life person.

Encarnacion Ins Fin Svcs Inc
Elsie Encarnacion, Agent
487A Campbell Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
Bus: 203-932-0591

Get life insurance that comes with someone local (me). I'm here to help you protect your family's financial future. **LET'S TALK TODAY.**



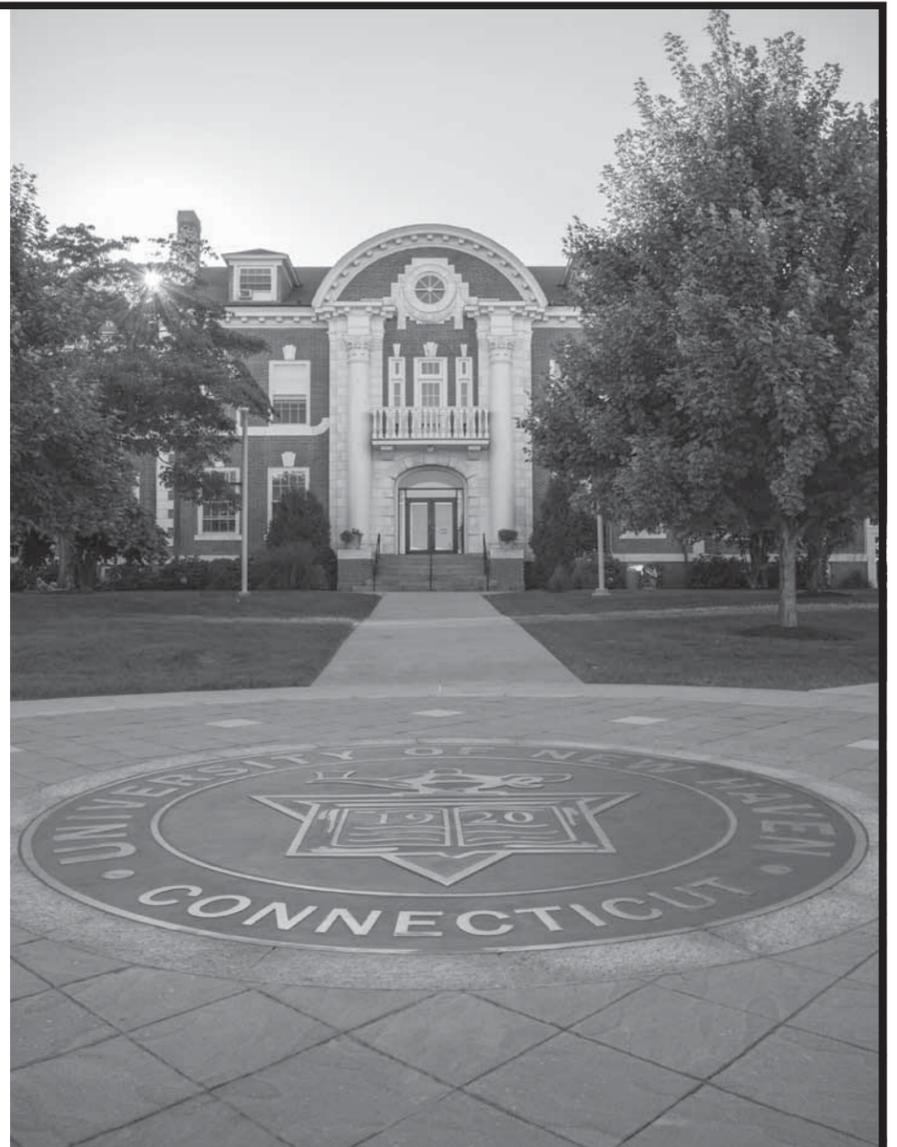
State Farm Life Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI)
State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI)
1708148 Bloomington, IL

A SAFE CAMPUS. A SAFE COMMUNITY.

Home is the place where you feel safe. For the University of New Haven, West Haven has been home since 1960. That's why from the very early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, we put a plan in place to safeguard the health and well being of our students and, by extension – West Haven residents.

"To be a student during this time is to truly become a Charger – to care about the community and others around you." – Sofia Martinez '22, President, USGA

For more information about our reopening, visit:
newhaven.edu/reopening



University of New Haven

| **A Partner in the Community**

Dear Felicia

Howdy sweets. Here we are in the middle o' March already, and we got our annual taste of warmer weather only to have Ole Man Winter come right back and bring in cold winds and cold temps. On top of it, we had to suffer the annual "spring ahead" of Daylight Savings Time. Oh well, I guess there's a plus in that, but losing that one hour of shuteye does put Cobina outta sorts for a couple days.

Tennyrate, didja hear about the assemblyman that is proposing we go to Maritime Time or whatever it's called? That's the time zone jest ahead of ours. They don't change times, and he thinks our little part of the universe should jump time zones.

That's got about as much chance of passing – or getting past committee – as a snowball in the hot place. It does make

interesting conversation – for about 30 seconds, but that's about all.

No, what everyone is talking about is the fact that most of the restrictions that were put in place for two weeks 53 weeks ago are gonna be lifted by the Fearless Le...governor. As of Friday night, restaurants and bars, gyms and churches and other places can all open to 100 percent capacity – with social distancing. How that actually changes things is anyone's guess.

We got this missive from a local, and thought you'd be interested in what he has to say. It's a former business type, so he's got the chops to understand what all this window dressing is all about. As he sees it its symbolism over substance. He's probably right.

"This is why Democrats should never be math teach-

ers. As of March 19m three of my favorite pub owners will be able to operate at 100% capacity subject to social distancing. While I'm truly happy for all three, let's do some Democratic math. My guess is each location probably holds 100-125, not sure. And each is probably under 2000 square feet. Meanwhile, my friends at the IA club which I will guess is closer to 5000 square feet, are limited to 100 patrons per event. Restaurants depending on operating hours this size can manage 300-400 customers a day but the IA or Omni ballroom in New Haven (capacity 500) can only host 100 per event, which typically run 4-5 hours. How did Lamont become a multi-millionaire??"

One of the recipients of this missive pernted out that some adjustments will be made – probably. It jest pernts out to Cobina how out of touch all of these politicians are from top-down, and party doesn't really have much to do with it. It's power, pure power.

~~~~~  
Meanwhile, Sammy Bluejay came in t'other afternoon and sez there are some noses outta joint cuz the mayor is looking to re-up a committee that was disbanded, and didn't contact the former members. The way he gits the lowdown, the Sustainability

Committee was disbanded some time ago. Much of it had to do with how the committee saw its role and how City Hall saw its role.

The panel did some work, and the city got a Bronze award – presumably there's a gold and silver – for its work. Noses got outta joint when that happened cuz as in most things, the politicians took credit. There was a bit of a hue and cry over it when we published the story, I can tell you.

People don't seem to understand that when it comes to committees like this if something goes wrong, it's the committee's fault. If it goes right, it's because the local politicians did it. They take credit for the good, and throw people under a big bus for the bad. Unfair? Yeah, but it's the way it is.

The committee kind of petered out, according to Sammy, and now herronner has posted a notice looking for interested parties to re-up the panel. None of the former members were contacted, supposedly. Sooooo, there is a it of a melodrama going on about that.

The Sustainability Committee – in fact, the whole sustainability effort – is just glad-handing and box-checking for politicians. Unfortunately, there are people who take this stuff seriously and are shocked – just shocked – that no one else takes it the way they do. As I said above it's symbolism over substance. Sad? Maybe. Cynical? Yes. True? Definitely.

~~~~~  
And with all this other stuff going on, herronner is poised to present her budget for Fiscal Year 2022 this week, and we will be coming out with a special edition next week to let the taxpayers take a gander. For the foist time in a loooooonnnngg time, the whole process has been under wraps. Normally, by this time we git inklings of things to expect. Not this year.

Nelly Nuthatch was here t'other day and sez she's hoid that herronner is gonna try to do this package without a tax hike. Well, it is an election year, and that is always the attempt, but Cobina questions that gambit.

As we have been saying for quite some time, the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) says the city's mill rate has to go up to 40 before the end of the current five-year plan – or at least the one that was foisted upon us four years ago. We still ain't reached that point, and the last time she tried to finagle no tax increase – two years ago effen mem'ry serves, she got shot down and the City Council had to add one in. What makes anyone think this will be different?

It seems to me that effen there is an attempt to put a budget across with no mill increase heading toward the

Promised Land of 40, the MARB is gonna nix the plan and make the City Council amend the package.

Since I'm being cynical as above, could this be an attempt by the thoid floor to have plausible deniability? The mayor's office puts forth a budget with no increase, only to have the council forced to make a hike. That allows herronner to say, "T'warnt me, it was them dastardly council folk and the MARB."

Somehow or other there might be more truth to that scenario than anyone will be willing to admit...call it a hunch.

~~~~~  
City Hall is open again, and I guess we're all supposed to be happy about that. Those who have to do business with the various offices ensconced therein certainly will be happy. I guess it's another sign that things are gettin' back to normal – or whatever passes for "normal" these days.

~~~~~  
The Haven is getting a bit more cleared out, we see. Slowly but surely buildings are being demolished – some have been up for more than a century. Some of the homes have been taken down, too, though not as quickly as the commercial sites. It's gonna be interestin' to see what happens when they git to the former Bilco Door location. That's been there forever, and probably is gonna need some remediation of a sort. Once they take that down, you'll know that things are beginning to move over there.

Speakin' o' that, Cobina still thinks the city did a nasty by not cooperating with Bilco to keep it in the city. Here was an internationally known company, and we treated it so poorly. It makes the blood boil.

~~~~~  
Before we go, jest a reminder there is gonna be another edition next week -- and extra as we used to say in the bizz -- for the budget, so everyone can git a perusal.

~~~~~  
A couple weeks back Cobina ned that something better be done toot swwet concerning the Savin Rock Conference Center, formerly Phyllis', formerly the Casino (remember those days?).

We noted that the building itself looks like it's goin' to seed, but, more importantly, the roof looks none too safe. One almost wonders effen there are one or two local yokels who are hoping Mother Nature takes care of things befroe the city has to. It's happened before ya know. Think Savin Rock Gazebo, 1978.

I'll close this time till next, mitt luff und kizzes,

Cobina

For All Your Real Estate Needs....

Fran Gregoriades, TRC



Office Manager, CT Realtor, Florida Broker

203-932-6455 x 301

Harborview
REALTY SERVICES, LLC

140 Captain Thomas Blvd
West Haven, CT 06516

It's a wedding ring, an anniversary ring or stackable ring.



This is our best selling 7 stone diamond band available in 3 total diamond weights and now specially priced.

1/2ct total weight for \$1,000

3/4ct total weight for \$1,500

1ct total weight for \$2,000

Made to your finger size in 14K White, Yellow or Rose Gold.

Let us finance your purchase for up to 60 months.

Leslie Jewelers

523 Campbell Ave., Downtown West Haven, CT

Friendly Service
Provided Here!

203-933-3291

Family Owned
And Operated

Visit us on the web - www.lesliesjewelers.com

Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00am-5:00pm, Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm
or by appointment



Dear Eleanore Turkington:
I am addressing my gripe through Gripe Vine to the City of West Haven: "Would you please do us all a favor and pave Dee Street?"

Every year we submit requests to repave the potholes ridding this small street and every year they are poorly done and by November the street is all torn up.

The holes are the same as in the past and take up the width of the street.

Dee Street Resident

Dear Resident:

I submitted your Dee Street complaint to Councilwoman Robin Watt Hamilton who promptly replied, "My apologies to my constituents who are faced with this ongoing issue. I have forwarded this complaint to the Public Works

Department for a permanent fix."

Residents on Dee Street, if you haven't seen a permanent solution to the conditions on your Street, you may write to me at Gripevine4wh@aol.com.

Dear Gripe Vine Readers:

Residents in the Plainfield Avenue have been complaining that there are huge and permanent potholes taking over Plainfield Avenue. I have notified Councilwoman Robbin Watt Hamilton and Councilman Peter Massaro of this complaint.

Councilman Massaro replied, "I already told Public Works about the potholes; the weather is just starting to get warm.

There are many potholes in the whole city. They will get done."

Following receipt of my re-



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

quest for assistance with this pothole problem, Councilwoman Hamilton replied that the Plainfield Avenue pothole gripe was not in her district.

However, she indicated she would add this complaint to the list already given to Public Works.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I was walking my elderly

she said.

Allingtown, which shut-down its independent fire district to come under the city's auspices a decade ago will get good news as well.

"The Allingtown Fire District is in good shape financially. It finished last year with a \$766,000 budget surplus and have, for the first time, a healthy rainy-day fund of \$1.9 million. The current year budget is balanced, and I will not be recommending any tax increase for the Allingtown Fire District in the proposed budget," she said.

Closing out her assessment of the budget, Rossi said the new reality of a healthier fiscal health has made the budget-making process a bit less precarious with more breathing room.

"This budget process is easier now that the city is in a better place financially. she said. "This year we will not request the last year of funding."

**Special Edition
next week!
City budget,
public hearing
announcement**

including addressing our aging infrastructure, removing blight, and revitalizing our parks, athletic facilities, and other city properties," she said.

The elephant in the room is MARB, as of press time, the mayor had not sent the budget proposal to the panel for approval, but said talks are continuing.

"We are in ongoing negotiations with MARB regarding the fiscal year 2022 budget. I have enjoyed strong support from the City Council and our state delegation members in these efforts," she said..

The school system takes the lion's share of any municipal budget.

Rossi said with outside funds coming in from state and federal sources, the school system did not ask for any additional funds.

"The Board of Education will be receiving additional funding from the State of Connecticut and Federal Government (American Recovery Plan) which will allow them to operate with the current level of city funding. They are not requesting additional city funding and there will be no need for any closures or budget cuts in our school system,"

Budget: Plan unveiled

Continued from page 1

"I am confident we can deliver an honest and balanced budget that will keep the mill rate constant," she said this week. "The city will also benefit from commercial growth in our grand list for the third consecutive year."

The term "constant" is important, because she said revaluation - something that takes place every four years now - has increased the Grand List. The mill rate will go down with the actual tax remaining the same.

"I am preparing my recommended budget for fiscal year 2022, which begins July 1, 2021, and I will be keeping the mill rate constant. West Haven's property values increased significantly during the recent revaluation, and as a result, the city will adjust the mill rate downward," she said.

Saying West Haven has "turned the corner" with three consecutive balanced budgets and a growing rainy-day fund, she plans to refuse any further state restricting money.

"I believe West Haven can move forward on its own, and effective July 1, 2021, I will propose that the city take no more additional funding from the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB).

West Haven has one additional payment of \$2 million for FY'22 in the five-year plan before completely phasing out. In effect, the city phased out a year early.

"With the progress we have made over the past three years, it would be irresponsible to continue taking restructuring funds from the state. The city has changed the financial culture and West Haven can move onward responsibly and now focus on other priorities

mom on Leete Street. As we passed one house, there was overhanging growth and thorn bushes from the front yard onto the sidewalk. My mom tried to brush them away as she walked by and got pricked. A small child could have easily gotten cut. It has been like this forever. Police, homeowner, City and chop down or trim way back. I would hate to see someone get hurt or sue the homeowners. Please take notice!

CW Fearful

Dear Fearful:

Councilwoman Bridget Hoskie received your complaint to Gripe Vine. Her reply, "I will request one of the code enforcers to take a look."

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There is a unit on Knox Street that has the most annoying

and loud music bumping all day long..so disrespectful.

RR Annoyed

Dear Annoyed:

The Councilwoman for your area, Robbin Watt Hamilton sent this reply to your complaint, "There are noise ordinances in place. Please instruct your readers to call the police for enforcement. Please give the exact address because there are more than 100 units on this street."

If you have a gripe, comment or issue, send them to gripevine4wh@aol.com or Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven, 06516 If necessary use a plain sheet of paper if your gripes/comments are lengthy. Please add your name, address and phone number, kept strictly confidential with me.

Wednesday, March 24th @ 11:00 AM
Live on Zoom

Virtual HUD Homebuyer's Seminar

Registration Required!
To sign up call us at (203) 937-4233 or email us at reference@westhavenlibrary.org

Campbell Motor Sales, Inc

REPAIRS - AUTO BODY - TOWING

CT Auto Emissions Test Site

175 Campbell Ave. West Haven
Phone: 203-932-2253 Body Service: 203-494-7652
Fax: 203-932-2254

KEENAN FUNERAL HOME INC.

238 Elm Street West Haven (203) 933-1217
330 Notch Hill Rd. North Branford (203) 481-3217

Providing a full-spectrum of products and services, both traditional and alternative, preneed and at-need.

Our professional staff is a group of compassionate and dedicated funeral directors experienced in discussing customized options with families. We are available to assist families at the time of immediate need or to help families make prearrangements.

Philip M. Appell, Funeral Director
Phil.appell@carriageservices.com

www.keenanfuneralhome.com

The end of our captivity

On Friday, the captivity many of us feel the last year has been with – for the most part – be over in many ways. Life will return to some semblance of normality with the opening of various establishments, and lifting of other restrictions. Ours is not to enumerate those things allowed under Gov. Ned Lamont's order, but to make a much broader, and, we hope, heard point.

Since March of 2020, the people of the United States, particularly in our part of the nation, have surrendered our liberty and our self-reliance on those whom some regarded as experts in certain fields. It was they who determined what should be closed, who was necessary, who was expendable, and how life was to be lived over the course of this pandemic. Never in our history was the country shut down and large cities turned into ghost towns. We did this because we allowed it. We acquiesced to those who had post-nominals following their surnames and gave them almost cult-like obedience.

Families lost their livelihoods, citizens shut themselves off from the outside world. Schools, factories, businesses were closed, and many will never reopen. All of this happened because we were told – and allowed ourselves to be convinced – that the experts had our best interest at heart.

Almost from the beginning, however, we should have known what many less-trusting souls thought all along: the situation is serious, but the proposed solution is the most devastating a nation could ever undergo. But we went along, driven by a media that ran daily death totals and sick counts. "Panic Porn" is the moniker it gets, and it is well deserved. We now know those death tolls were inflated. Even the CDC acknowledges many who died "with" COVID were listed as died "of" COVID.

What was supposed to be a two-week shutdown turned into one lasting 53 weeks, and the question must be asked: why? Experts told us this was necessary. Yet, those same experts had incorrect data almost from the first.

~~ An expert at the Imperial War College, London, came up with the projection that hundreds of millions would die in the pandemic within weeks. Those projections were found to be faulty, and he lost his position. But the entire premise of the shutdown was based on this computer model, and despite its being incorrect, it set the tone for what was to follow. Hundreds of thousands did die, many at the hands of bad decision-making.

~~ The lionized Dr. Anthony Fauci has had a litany of gaffes, misstatements, and lies that would have had anyone else discredited and finding other work. But, propped up by politicians and media, Fauci is still considered the top dog in the nation's response. And remember, he wanted Americans to "do what your told," as if he earned the right.

~~ Experts shamed and shunned those who professionals – experts in their own right – who believed Hydroxychloroquine was an effective remedy. The media shouted and scorned. People lost their jobs. Now we find out the professionals right, and the experts wrong. Why?

~~ Even in our own state, much of the decision-making was dependent on the word of crackpot Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, brother of Democratic apparatchik Rahm Emanuel. Emanuel at one point was espousing keeping the state shut through much of this year.

As we get further away from this pandemic, and get back to normal, we must defy those "experts," including politicians who want a "new normal," or who wish to dictate rather than lead. Much of what they decided has been arbitrary and was an exercise in control rather than prevention.

We cannot let this happen again. This was a guessing game, with people's lives in the balance.



HR-1 is a total disgrace!

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

It'd be fitting if Democrats undertook a radical procedural step to pass a radical piece of legislation.

That's what the left is pressuring Senate Democrats to do by eliminating, or significantly curtailing, the filibuster to pass HR1, the sweeping voting proposal that is one of the most execrable bills to pass the House in a very long time.

HR1 would federalize the conduct of elections and codify what were supposed to be emergency voting procedures during the pandemic, in frankly partisan legislation sheathed in the rhetoric of "voting rights."

According to advocates of the bill, anything to tighten up or maintain good practices regarding ballot security is "voter suppression" worthy of the old Jim Crow South.

By this way of thinking, Republican efforts at the state level to, say, reduce the days available for early voting -- Iowa is reducing its early voting period from 29 days to 20 days -- will disenfranchise millions, never mind that deep blue New York State allows only about a week of early voting.

Voter identification laws,

a bogeyman of supporters of HR1, were recommended by a 2005 bipartisan commission jointly led by Jimmy Carter and James Baker, neither of whom will ever be mistaken for Bull Connor. Not too long ago, it was a feature of big bipartisan voting bills to require states to periodically clean up their voter rolls, another commonsense measure that is now considered tantamount to wielding bully clubs and police dogs.

There may be many problems besetting American democracy, but people turning out to vote isn't one of them. Turnout exploded in the 2018 midterms prior to the pandemic and turnout exploded in 2020 during the pandemic, with both Democrats who availed themselves of early voting and Republicans who voted same day showing up in historic numbers.

In response largely to a non-problem, Democrats want to trample on the prerogatives of states to conduct elections, mandating their electoral priorities throughout the land.

States would have no choice but to accept same-day registrations. People applying for various government programs or for college would be registered automatically. States

couldn't turn away the registrations of 16-year-olds, even though they can't legally vote.

States couldn't require voter ID. They couldn't remove inactive voters from the rolls. They couldn't work with other states to try to find duplicate registrations six months prior to an election.

It would be pandemic-era mail-in voting forevermore, with no ID or witness signatures required and ballot-harvesting and drop boxes mandatory everywhere.

Felons could no longer be barred from voting. The federal government would pay to train high-school students how to register people to vote and fund "campus voter coordinators," as well as giving colleges grants to register students.

To truly bring home that the states are being divested of powers that go back to the founding of the republic, state legislatures would no longer draw congressional districts; instead the task would be taken up by purportedly independent commissions. The FEC would no longer be bipartisan, and sundry provisions would prohibit or chill unwelcome political activity.

That many Democrats say
See Lowry, page 7

Assessment appeals now being processed

The Board of Assessment Appeals will hear appeals of real estate and personal property assessments on the 2020 grand list by appointment during April.

The board will also hear appeals of motor vehicle assessments on the 2019 supplemental motor vehicle grand list that received a tax bill due Jan. 1.

Any property owner who wants to appeal an assessment must submit a written application to the board.

The assessor's office must receive the completed form to have it stamped in by 5 p.m. on or before March 20.

Download an application at <http://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/2891/Board-of-Assessment-Appeals-Application-PDF>.

Applications are also available at the window outside the assessor's office of City Hall, 355 Main St., or by calling the office at (203) 937-3515.

Staff members will answer questions about the appeal process.

Lowry: *Dem power grab*

Continued from page 6

that the filibuster should fall for this bill is a symptom of the fevered state of the party, which despite holding or winning every elected branch of the federal government has conjured out of nothing a vast conspiracy to stop people from voting that allegedly justifies one of the most blatant federal power grabs in memory.

Early voting isn't going away, but there should be protections against potential abuses and voting on Election Day should be encouraged -- it's the most secure and private, and least error-prone, way to vote.

It's a symptom of what a wrecking ball HR1 is that, in the course of mandating the opposite on all counts, it could kneecap both the states and a longstanding Senate procedure in one fell swoop.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
(c) 2021 by King Features Synd., Inc.*



COLONIAL PROPERTIES

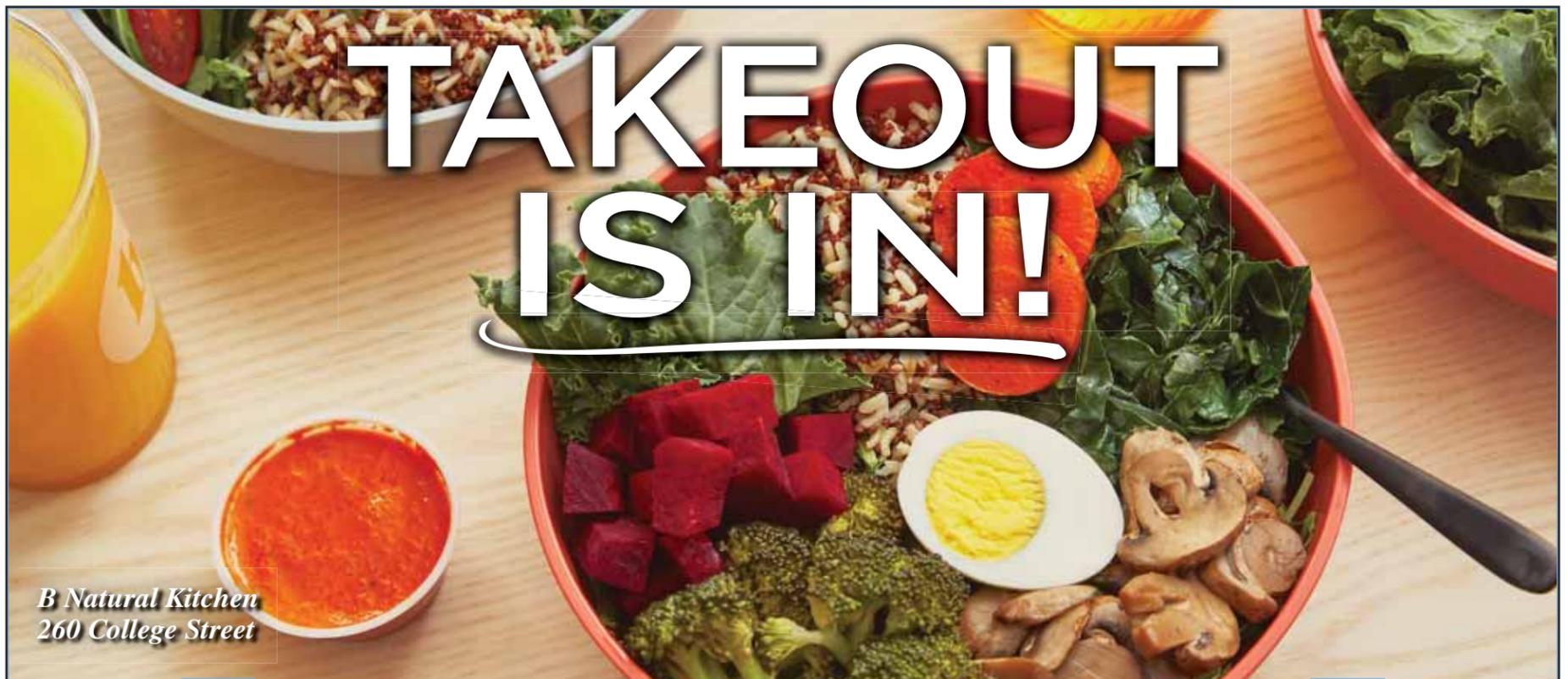
200 Boston Post Road, Orange



Fred A. Messor
Sr Vice President

“Serving All Your Real Estate Needs Since 2007”

203.988.6298 • fred@colprop.com



TAKEOUT IS IN!

*B Natural Kitchen
260 College Street*

Union League Café • South Bay • Tarry Lodge • Basta Trattoria • Maison Mathis Pacifico • Midpoint Istanbul • Claire's Corner Copia • Harvest • Sherkaan • Ivy Wok Tomatillo Taco Joint • Yamasaki Teriyaki • The Juice Box • Shake Shack & more!

The Shops at Yale

Plan your visit at TheShopsatYale.com

The Chapel Street Historic and Broadway Districts in downtown New Haven.





Photo by Jim Rich

Creative painter

Zack Pagnani, with his mother, Debra Rich, and his mentor, Mark Nilson, shows his painting as part of West Haven Youth and Family Services' virtual Picasso Paint Party on Feb. 27. A total of 77 budding artists from 26 West Haven families participated in the Zoom event, the first of the agency's newly established CAFE program, which stands for Children and Family Events.

WHPD begins new accreditation process

The West Haven Police Department is looking to get re-accredited, and looking toward a process that will give them the best opportunity to serve residents, according to information provided this week.

A team of assessors from the Police Officers Standards and Training Council (POSTC) will come to the city next month to begin the process of certifying the city's department. April 5 is the target date for the process to begin, and members of the community are invited to join in the process. Once completed, the examination leads to the WHPD as qualifying for Tier I of the State Accreditation Standards.

"Verification by the team that the West Haven Police Department meets the POST Council's state-of-the-art Accreditation Standards is part

of a voluntary process to gain accreditation—a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence," the announcing press release noted.

Lt. Joseph Romano, spokesman for the WHPD, answers questions concerning the accreditation, and what the agency hopes to accomplish in the upcoming weeks.

"The West Haven Police Department has a long-standing reputation as being recognized as a Tier 3 accredited agency, and was last certified as such in May of 2019," Romano said. "In 2019, the West Haven Police Department developed its Professional Standards Unit. At this time, Chief (Joseph) Perno implemented the PowerDMS computer program in order to stay current with progressive policing,

State/National standards, as well as Evidence-Based Policing practices."

Romano said the upgrade was a difficult one to coordinate, but was accomplished with a lot of hard work.

"The Professional Standards Division used this opportunity to update many policies that will work concurrently with the new State of Connecticut Accountability Bill," he said. "Although this was a long, arduous process, our officers can now receive all new policies instantly through the new computer program. This essentially will streamline future Accreditation Assessments, which will foster this agency's police legitimacy within the community."

Romano said the state's three-tier system builds on a police department's handling of administration and police practices.

The Connecticut Accreditation program contains three Tiers:

Tier 1 – Assists police agencies to better protect themselves and their employees from liability exposure while simultaneously enhancing the delivery of service and improved public confidence in the agency.

Tier 2 – Focuses on Professional Standards which addresses legal requirements, management and operations.

Tier 3 – Focuses on general management and further ex-

pands on the Tier 2 standards.

According to Romano, it's a fairly straight-up process.

"The assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from the Connecticut law enforcement community," the department's press release announced. "The assessors will review written materials; interview individuals; and visit offices and other places where compliance can be witnessed."

"When the Tier 1 evaluation begins, the POSTC Assessors will simply be checking our policy/procedures and conducting a building walk through to ensure the West Haven Police Department meets or exceeds the state standards (this evaluation was delayed throughout the year of 2020 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic). The Accreditation Assessment should take approximately three weeks and should be completed on April 5. The department should receive its results from POSTC during their monthly meeting in May," he said.

Once the POST Council accreditation assessors complete their review of the agency, it reports back to the POST Council Accreditation committee who will recommend to the POST Council if the agency is to be accredited or re-accredited. Accreditation is for three years, during which time the agency must submit annual reports attesting con-

tinued compliance with those standards under which they were initially accredited or re-accredited.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments. Comments can be mailed to William Tanner, POSTC Accreditation Division at 285 Preston Ave. Meriden, CT 06450, by telephone at (203) 427-2602, by fax at (203) 238-6643 or by email: Accreditation.Compliance@po.state.ct.us.

Please enter the name of the agency in the subject line of the email.

A copy of the State Accreditation Standards is available online at <http://www.ct.gov/post>, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council / Accreditation Division website.

Romano said the department hopes residents will be part of the process.

"The West Haven Police Department appreciates the public's support regarding this process and as always, our mission is for our Officers to work in partnership with our citizens to achieve a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect for the betterment of the community," he said finally.

For more information regarding the POST Council accreditation program, residents may write to Tanner at the above noted addresses.



Allison Wendt
REALTOR® *Call me to get your house sold!*

C. 203.980.6095
O. 203.876.7507 | F. 203.876.5923

allison.wendt@raveis.com
AllisonWendt.Raveis.com

179 North Broad Street
Milford | CT 06460

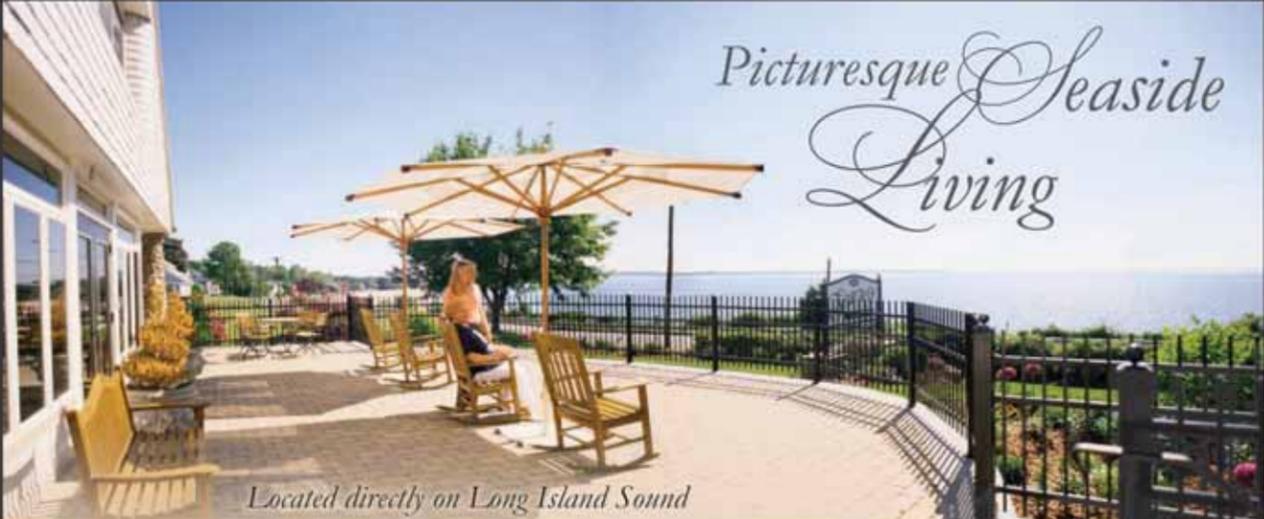
WILLIAM RAVEIS

*Luxurious
Affordable
Assisted & Memory Care*

SEACREST

588 Ocean Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516

203-931-2510
www.seacrestweb.com



Picturesque Seaside Living

Located directly on Long Island Sound

Submitted Photos

Black Heritage Awards

The West Haven Black Heritage Committee recently honored four West Haven High School students for their academic achievements and community service. Seniors Mussie Abraham and Annabel Obas and juniors Aissatou Diallo and Abdourahim Mbengue were recommended by high school Principal Dana Paredes. The ceremony took place on Feb. 26 as part of the end of Black History Month. It was attended by Planning & Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins, Chairman of the Black Heritage Committee as well as committee members Councilwoman Trenee' McGee (D-7) and Councilwoman Robbin Watt Hamilton (D-5). Right -- Junior Annabel Obas receives her award from Commissioner Steven R. Mullins. Seniors Aissatou Diallo (lower right) and Mussie Abraham (below) receive their awards from Mullins. Mbengue was unable to attend the ceremony. Looking on in the presentations is Hamilton.



City parishes' food drive set to roll April 10

Our Lady of Victory and St John XXIII parishes will sponsor a Food Drive to benefit WHEAT on Saturday, April 10, from 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of St Louis Church, 89 Bull Hill Lane. Donors are asked to enter through Aldi's driveway, pop your trunk, and a volunteer will retrieve your food donation.

Most needed food items are: pasta, tomato sauce, peanut butter, Mac and cheese, soup, tuna fish, hot and cold cereal, rice and canned pasta (Ravioli and SpaghettiOs).

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be brought to the Food Drive or checks can be mailed to W.H.E.A.T. , 674 Washington Ave., West Haven 06516.

Special Edition next week! City budget unveiled by Rossi!

IT SOLUTIONS WHEN IT MATTERS

NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE
 BUSINESS CONTINUITY
 MANAGED IT SERVICES
 IT SECURITY

500 Boston Post Road
 Milford, CT 06460

180 Glastonbury Blvd., Ste 107
 Glastonbury, CT 06033

935 Jefferson Blvd., Ste 1004
 Warwick, RI 02888

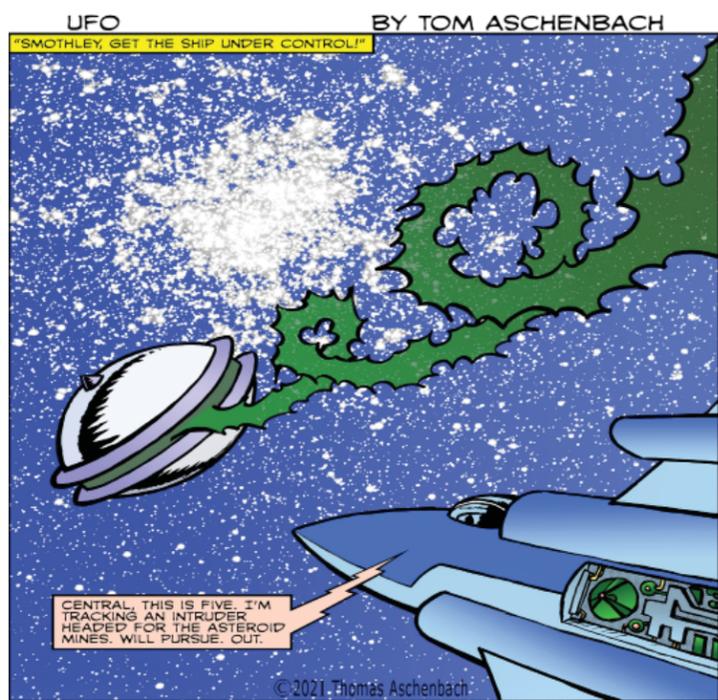
TBNG CONSULTING

(855) 512-4817 | www.tbngconsulting.com | info@tbngconsulting.com

City artist follows his passion



Tom Aschenbach and wife Jamie came to the area when she was hired at SCSU.



A transplanted city resident has fulfilled a dream and created a sci-fi comic strip that has run in the pages of the Voice for almost two years. Tom Aschenbach has gained a following for the strip, which is called, UFO, and his work has brought about invitations to speak to school children regarding art.

In Brunswick, GA, in 1972, Aschenbach grew up in Jacksonville, FL. It was there he developed an appreciation for art.

"My grandfather was an amateur landscape painter. I developed a love for drawing from him," he said.

Comic strips were a passion for Aschenbach and that passion started very early.

"In the fourth grade, I made my first comic book series. It was called Simon and Ralph," he said. "The premise was, Simon was always happy/optimistic, and Ralph was always grumpy and pessimistic. These were drawn on notebook paper that I'd stapled together, and I tried to sell them to my fellow students for ten cents apiece. My teacher, Mrs. Champion, ended up buying all of them, and encouraged me to keep drawing."

As he grew up, a new interest began to show up in his art, and influence the way he wanted to portray his work.

"In the 80's, I loved reading science fiction, superhero comic books, and comic strips like Calvin and Hobbes and Bloom County. I first had the idea for my own comic strip in the early 90's. At first, it was going to be a funny strip about aliens. Then I realized I wasn't funny, so I turned it into the sci-fi adventure strip it is now," he said.

His art interests are not limited to far off galaxies or strange beings. He does other things and uses other media in his art pursuits.

"Over the years, I've worked

as an artist when I can, picking up freelance gigs here and there. I did a series of children's activity books for a local publisher in Jacksonville. Through him, I did a coloring/activity book for Ripley's Aquarium, Cypress Gardens, the Schiele Museum of Natural History, and the people of the Seminole Nation, among others. That gave me the confidence to try and do my artwork full time," he said.

Bad health a need for brain surgery between 2006-2009 threatened his pursuits.

"For awhile, I wondered if I'd ever draw again. It was a low point in my life, but was ultimately for the best," he said.

Then he met the certain someone that made life different – and certainly gave him a new outlook.

"I met my Jamie Reeves in 2014, and it was love at first sight. We were married within six months. When she was hired to work in the library at SCSU in November of 2016, we moved up to West Haven. We absolutely love it here, and plan on buying a home within the next two years," he said.

Besides doing the "UFO" comic strip, Aschen sculpt custom resin toys, doing everything involved in that medium, from mold-making to casting the resin. He is currently working on a dinosaur toy that should be ready within a month.

"I also love coming up with t-shirt designs to sell online. Doing the comic strip is still the most fulfilling art that I do," he said.

Last year tragedy struck as the Aschenbach family lost Tom's younger brother, Matt. It was a blow to artist, who shared his love for science fiction with his sibling.

"We lost him last year. When I'm writing up a new strip, or designing another alien, I ask myself if he would like it. Or what would he like to see

done in this spot, etc. So, in a way, I'm doing the comic strip with my brother," he said.

How are people reacting to UFO. The reviews seem to be the public enjoys the strip.

"I've had a very positive response to the comic strip. An academic at SCSU told me he and his wife look forward to reading it every issue. And I was even asked for my autograph by someone who worked at the Valero gas station," he said.

He still has plans for the strip, and hopes it goes a step further in its development. He wants to follow the path of many comic strips and see it animated.

"In the future, I'd like to see my comic turned into animation. Either as a cartoon for TV, or film. I've been working on a screenplay since last year, adapting the strip for a movie," he said. "As I get older, I realize that if I want to see it done, I'm the one that has to do it. No one is going to realize my dream for me."

Doing something he enjoys, whenever he gets an opportunity to talk to young artists, he has a straightforward message: do it.

"To the kids out there who enjoy making art, I'd say don't give up on it. If it's something you're truly passionate about, the world needs you. The artwork we have now is wonderful, but you're the ones who'll give us the art of the future," he said.

What's next for Aschenbach? The sky's the limit. He's taken what was a hobby and made it into a profession.

"My future with Jamie looks bright and wonderful. We have our fur babies to keep us warm, and the community of West Haven welcomes us," he said. "I'm currently working full-time as an artist for hire."

If you'd like to see more of his artwork, visit his artist page on Facebook: facebook.

Borer named chairman of bond panel

Speaker of the House Matt Ritter, (D-Hartford) announced the appointment of Rep. Dorinda Borer (D-115) as the House Chairman of the General Bonding Subcommittee of Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

Ritter considers this role to be integral to Connecticut's fiscal health and growth. Ritter called bonding one of the three pillars which support the state's economy: The Appropriations Committee, the Finance Committee, and the General Bonding Subcommittee.

As House Chairman Borer will support and coordinate funding to cultivate economic growth across the state. The state generally bonds large capital improvement projects which promote job growth: construction jobs as well as permanent jobs.

"I am honored to accept the appointment as Chairwoman of the General Bonding Subcommittee," she said. "Investing in capital projects

across our state is one of the most effective ways to create jobs and stimulate economic growth that sustains our state for the future. Our cities have significant needs that require attention and I'm thrilled to be a part of the leadership team that will help craft the direction moving forward. Bonding is vital to our state and we should be capitalizing on the current low interest rates, while still adhering to the bonding cap. It is essential that Connecticut uses its bonding funds thoughtfully in order to provide financial security to the many communities who have been hit hard by the pandemic."

In addition to her new appointment Borer serves on the Banking Committee, the Public Safety and Security Committee, and as the Chairman of the Women's Bipartisan Legislative Caucus.

"The Bonding Subcommittee is key to Connecticut's economic recovery and I know that Rep. Borer will excel at prioritizing bonding requests," Ritter said.

TITAN ENERGY
Creative energy solutions

WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU
SAVE \$ ON YOUR ENERGY

Contact us for a custom quote on your
electric and/ or natural gas.

We'll also let you know if you qualify
for a FREE energy audit.

Contact:
MICHAEL HORTON
Ph: 203-464-3163
Fax: 860-436-3459
mhorton@titanenergyne.com

2275 Silas Deane Hwy., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 | titanenergyne.com

Historian's corner **By Dan Shine**

West Haven's Centennial Part II

To tell the story of West Haven, we first have to start with the story of New Haven, the first planned city in the New World, one that was laid out on a grid system of nine square blocks.

The New Haven Colony, settled in 1638, was the strictest of the colonies in its adherence to Puritanism; indeed, New Haven held fast to the Puritan way of life long after it had disappeared elsewhere.

New Haven's 500 original settlers were the followers of the powerful and dynamic minister John Davenport, and his friend Theophilus Eaton; together they had come to this area by way of Boston. Finding Boston too liberal thinking for their ultra-conservative tastes, the group traveled again by ship to the place known as

Quinnipiac, and settled there, renaming it New Haven.

The New Haven Colony had been founded by Puritans who were seeking religious freedom and a chance to increase their fortunes in the New World. However, the inescapable truth was that by 1647, the colony was in serious financial trouble--the colonists desperately needed to earn profits, that their colony might be sustained. But how?

They sought to build their fortunes through trade, thus they ordered the construction of a 150 ton ship for a trading voyage to England. In her hold would be "some pease, some wheat, all in bulk, with about two hundred W. India hides, and a store of beaver and plate." The sale of these goods would bring much-needed profits to the aid of the suffering colonists.

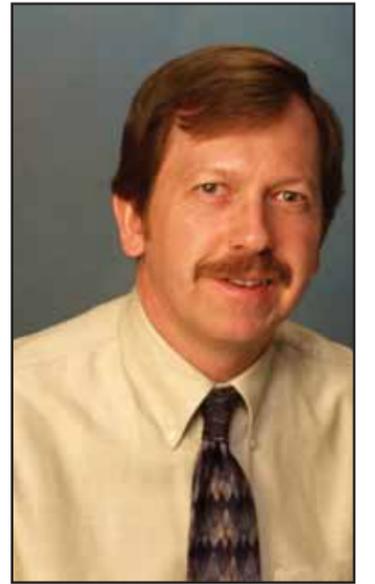
Captain Lambertson was to command The Great Shippe, as she was called, even though he had no experience guiding a ship from the Colonies back to England. When he inspected the laden ship, he noted that she listed to one side; he subsequently described her as "walty" (likely to capsize). Nevertheless, the Great Shippe sailed for England in the bitter cold winter of January 1647. So cold was it, that a three-mile passage had to be sawed through the frozen harbor--quite a feat, even for today. The ship was drawn backwards down that passage to open water; the sailors, superstitious as ever, saw in this an ill omen.

Thus, did the Great Shippe disappear from the harbor, never to be seen again. Eventually it became apparent to those left behind that their ship

was gone, along with their fortunes, their crew, and many of their family members.

With this unraveling of their Puritan dream of a prosperous mercantile community, the New Haveners were forced to embrace a farming life. Quickly they looked west with increasing interest, to the developing farms of the "West Side," which today is known as West Haven. These farms would quickly become the breadbasket of the village of New Haven. And so it was that the farmers of the West Side began to contribute to Puritan New Haven's rise to self-sufficiency.

Our thanks to Peter J. Malia for his assistance with this story.



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



Colonists came to the New Haven area in 1638, four years after Connecticut was founded.



West Haven Funeral Home

In this age of corporate-owned funeral homes, we are a family owned and operated establishment, proudly serving our community since 1965.

We provide a level of dignity, respect, personal care and attention to detail that is second-to-none. In your time of need, allow us to honor your loved one -- not because this is our business, but because this is our way of life.

Funeral Directors:

Celia Pinzi, Michael Dion & James Stricker

Office Manager - Erin Raymond

Pre-Arrangements & Pre-Financing Available

662 Savin Avenue, West Haven, CT 06516 · Phone: (203) 934-7921

Email: office@westhavenfuneral.com · www.westhavenfuneral.com

Legal Notice

West Haven City Council Legal Notice

The City Council of the City of West Haven will hold a Public Hearing for Comment March 22, 2021 at 6:55 P.M. via the following method. This meeting will be held via electronic methods in accordance with Rule #30. This hearing is regarding modifying the 2015-2020 Five Year Plan and the P.Y. 45 Action Plan for the Community Development Agency.

Visit https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5cM1trmHe-999FXNJ56X_Jg to watch the meeting live. In order to submit comment, please mail to West Haven City Council, 355 Main Street West Haven, CT 06516. Comments may also be emailed to mdimassa@westhaven-ct.gov. Comments must be received by 5:00 P.M. on March 22 to be read into the record.

Stacy Riccio
Clerk of the Council



aidesandcompanions.com

Home care by Aides and Companions can be a low cost alternative to more expensive assisted living programs. We work to ensure our clients stay safe and healthy at home. We can help to identify needs before they become difficult and expensive to resolve.

Unlike most home care agencies, Aides and Companions care-givers are all Certified Nurses Aides or Home Health Aides. All are graduates of state-certified programs and receives monthly "in-service" training to keep their skills honed.

OUR SERVICES

- Live-In Care
- Overnight Care
- 24/7 Care
- Respite Care
- Daily or Weekly Visits
- Caregiver Services
- Transportation Services

65 Elm St, West Haven
(203) 777-1234

info@aidesandcompanions.com
www.aidesandcompanions.com

Duncanson hits hoop milestone

The West Haven boys hockey team won its second consecutive contest with a 6-4 victory over Notre Dame-Fairfield in Shelton Monday afternoon.

A week after getting thumped by the Lancers, the Westies received a goal and two assists from Ben Carfora, a goal and an assist from Anthony Peschell, two assists each from Nico Bruneau and Nick Boanno, and 25 saves from Charlie Miller to improve to 4-3 on the year.

With Notre Dame-West Haven next on the schedule for the Westies, they will have four days to get ready for the high-powered Green Knights.

West Haven had eight players in the scoring column and needed just 25 seconds into the game to get on the scoreboard when Peschell took a feed from Bruneau and scored from the point.

Brian Essing evened the game for the Lancers with a short-handed tally with 3:25 left in the opening period to wipe away a solid first period by the Westies.

The Lancers took a 2-1 into the second but that was the last lead for Notre Dame as West Haven scored the next three goals for a 4-2 advantage.

Carfora tied it, and Michael Kelly gave West Haven the lead for good. Mike Alfano poked in a loose puck in front with 28.1 seconds left for a 4-2 lead.

Miller then came up big in the third period. The senior goaltender denied Tim Finkenzeller on a breakaway with 2:30 gone and turned aside a shot by Matt Newton 20 seconds later.

The Westies gave Miller some cushion, scoring their second power play goal of the game with 9:38 remaining. Off assists from Boanno and Peschell, Ryan Bernardi fired a shot to the top corner for a 5-3 lead.

Miller stood on his head the rest of the way but the Lancers made it a 5-4 contest with 2:18 to go. Ryan Smith scored his first career goal into an empty net off an assist from Carfora with 54.2 seconds remaining to seal the win.

West Haven returned from quarantine Sunday afternoon in Cromwell against Xavier-Middletown. After a strong start, the Westies could not

maintain the energy and fell 5-3 to the Falcons on Senior Day for the Falcons.

Boanno had a goal and an assist, Ben Carfora and Bruneau scored, and Miller had 30 saves in West Haven's first game in two weeks.

WHGH

The West Haven / Sacred Heart Academy girls hockey team improved to 6-0 with a dominant 5-0 victory over Hand-Madison Thursday afternoon in Northford. The Westie Sharks held a 61-4 shot advantage in the contest, with Grace Nowak making four saves in the shutout.

Geena Montano led the way with two goals as the Westie Sharks scored three times in the opening period and never looked back.

In one of the most exciting contests of the season, the team remained undefeated on the season. Scoring the tying goal with 45 seconds left in regulation, the Westie Sharks did one better by using Emilee DeGrand's second goal of the game with three seconds left in regulation to defeat Amity, 3-2, Saturday evening in Hamden.

Playing without Mia Celentano, Jianna Cohrs and Jenna Hunt, the Westie Sharks turned to others to pull out the victory.

Down 2-0, the Westie Sharks started their comeback 4:01 into the third when Chase Ireland scored off an assist from Melissa Tsakonias. Despite the pressure, WH/SHA could not get the equalizer until 45 seconds remained in the third when DeGrand tied the contest off assists from Juliana Montano and Mackenzie Gardner.

With all the drama in the final seconds, West Haven came through again as DeGrand scored in the final seconds of overtime to help the Westie Sharks post the win.

Grace Nowak made 23 saves in the win as the Westie Sharks held a 42-25 shot advantage in the contest.

The West Haven boys basketball team has come back from quarantine looking as if it has not missed a beat. After returning with a win over Amity, the Westies picked up their second straight victory with a 54-32 decision over Jonathan Law..



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Malcolm Duncanson records his 1000th career point against NDWH, the senior three-year varsity player was a big part of the team's recent success, and its 63-47 win over Notre Dame-West Haven last week.

Eli Blackwell and Malcolm Duncanson led the way with 19 and 10 points, respectively, as Blackwell drained four 3-pointers. Manny Belcher and Kairon Hooks each scored eight in the win.

West Haven improved to 4-0, including 3-0 since returning from quarantine, with a dominant 58-34 victory over Shelton in Shelton Tuesday evening.

Belcher, Duncanson, and Hooks each finished with 10 points in the win.

With a pair of losses entering its rivalry game against West Haven, the Notre Dame-West Haven boys basketball team could have gone one of two ways. For coach Jason Shea, he got to see what his team was made of.

Trailing by five late in the third quarter, the Green Knights turned up their de-

fense and closed the game on a 26-5 run to defeat previously undefeated West Haven 63-47 at Neil Cavallaro Court at West Haven High Monday evening.

Carroll finished with a game-high 23 points, including 10 in the second half. Conner had 16 points, 10 coming in the first half, and James Rawlins finished with nine points as Notre Dame had seven players in the scoring column.

The Westies had three players in double figures, led by Blackwell's 14 points. Calhoun finished with 12 points and Duncanson had 10 in the loss, including the 1,000th of his career.

A day after suffering its first defeat of the year, the West Haven boys basketball team rebounded. Getting off to a quick start, the Westies im-

proved to 6-1 with a 68-49 victory over East Haven Tuesday evening at West Haven High.

West Haven led by 12 points after eight minutes of play and 40-20 at the half. The 20-point lead was more than enough for West Haven in the 19-point victory.

The Westies had three players in double digits and were led by Blackwell with 21 points. Hooks finished with 18 points, while Duncanson finished with 13 and Calhoun had nine.

West Haven improved to 7-1 with a win against Foran, 97-42.

West Haven controlled the game from the start, leading 26-6 after eight minutes of play and 55-19 at the half.

Blackwell was the star of the game with 42 points, while Duncanson scored 17, and 10

See Westies, page 16

Youth Hockey squads continue season play

The West Haven Mite B travel hockey team took on two tough opponents this past weekend. On Saturday, the Westies hosted an aggressive Riverhawks team. Evan Harrison came up with several big stops between the pipes, while Ryan Schempp and Ben Trenchard helped him out with a strong game defensively.

On Sunday, the Blue Devil's played Mid-Fairfield in Stamford. Mid-Fairfield jumped to an early lead, but the Westies soon equalized from a Logan Minio goal. Kyle D'Agostino and Brady Salkins kept the pressure up on the forecheck.

The West Haven Mite B travel team took on two tough opponents, the Riverhawks and

the Greater New Haven Warriors A1 team.

Trenchard was strong on defense throughout both games, blocking shots, picking off passes and breaking up plays. D'Agostino also had a strong weekend, working hard on the forecheck and the backcheck.

The West Haven Mite C hockey team had yet another riveting game against the East Haven Hornets. Strong offensive plays by Tyler Gyllensten yielded four goals for the young Devil at 6: Noah Silverman managed to add another. West Haven goaltender Jameson Schempp had numerous saves.

The West Haven Peewee A hockey team battled ECHO A last Sunday morning at Ed-

ward L. Bennett Rink. The Blue Devils dropped a 4-3 decision.

West Haven goaltender Kai Lupa had a strong first period, making several critical saves. Down 2-0, Mikey D'Aiuto jammed home his own rebound to make it 2-1.

The Westies tied the game tied the game on Ryan Pniewski's goal. Pniewski's second goal of the game rounded out the scoring. Lupa finished with 26 saves.

West Haven split a pair of games this weekend. The Westies lost, 4-3, to Western Minor and then rebounded to defeat Central A, 4-2.

Matt Molnar had the hat trick in the loss.

On Sunday morning at Ed-

ward L. Bennett Rink, the Westies trailed 1-0 to the Central Capitals, before Thomas had two goals, Mechiore one and Rafi Treatthe final goal. Lupa had 17 saves and was solid throughout the game.

The West Haven Bantam AA hockey opened the weekend with a 2-2 tie against the Ct. Jr. Rangers Saturday evening at Chelsea Piers.

Trailing 1-0, Brady Price scored off an assist from Ron Mastroni. Just 3:17 later, West Haven had a 2-1 lead when Nick Stevens scored an unassisted goal.

The Westies hosted Wonderland AA Sunday at the Edward L. Bennett Rink and fell, 4-2. Ben Gilbert and Nikolas Allan scored in the contest.

The West Haven Bantam AA team defeated West Hartford A on Saturday, but fell to Greater New Haven A on Sunday.

West Haven opened the week with a 2-1 victory at West Hartford. West Haven took a 1-0 lead with 3:03 left in the first period when Mickey Dowd scored off assists from Mastroni and Jack Aloï.

With the game even at one in the second period, West Haven scored the eventual winner. Allan scored the final tally of the game off an assist from Stevens at the 13:25 mark for a 2-1 advantage.

Bryan Hong preserved the victory in goal, making several solid saves to keep West

See Youth Hockey, page 15



The Family Restaurant
Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner
Try Our Omelettes - Starting at \$5.00!

Our Menu Includes:
Salads, Grinders, Wraps, Burgers, Pasta, Greek Items
Dine In or Take Out

LUNCH SPECIAL
FREE CUP OF SODA
WITH PURCHASE OF A SUB OR CLUB SANDWICH

142 Campbell Ave
(formerly Cafe Haven)
(203) 934-4407



Grassy Hill Auctions
\$ CASH \$ For Your Items!!

Always Buying

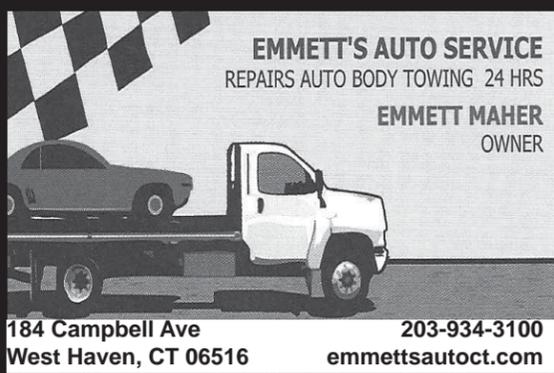
Antiques, Collectibles, Old/ Vintage Toys, Musical Instruments (Saxophones, Trumpets, Violins, Flutes, Clarinets, Trombone & SO MUCH MORE) Advertising Items, Wristwatches (Broken or Not), Pocket Watches, Tools (Machinist, Woodworking, & MORE) Doorstops, Clocks, Oil Paintings, Old Signs, Old Photographs, Old Postcards, Brewery Items, Hunting & Fishing, PEZ Dispensers, Costume Jewelry, Broken Jewelry, Gold & Silver Jewelry, Gold & Silver Coins, Military Items, Swords & Bayonets, Helmets & Patches, Medals & Uniforms, Pocket Knives, Lighters & Pipes, Fountain Pens, Mechanical Pencils, Fraternal Order Items, Religious Items, Industrial Items, Winchester Items, Sikorsky Items, Pratt & Whitney Items, Colt Items, Native American Items, Vintage Electronics, Slot Cars, Toy Trucks, Matchbox & Hotwheels, Barbie's, Folk Art, Statues, Bronzes, Trains, Cameras, Mid Century Modern Furniture, Straight Razors, Shaving Items, Political Items, Comic Books, Sports Cards & Autographs...
& THE LIST GOES ON!

ESTATE SALE SERVICES
&
ATTIC & BASEMENT CLEANOUTS

Jude M. Dichele & Bill Pastore
Owners
(203) 868-1816
GrassyHillAuctions.com

Call Before You
Throw Anything Away!!!

bsg BUSINESS SERVICE GUIDE



EMMETT'S AUTO SERVICE
REPAIRS AUTO BODY TOWING 24 HRS
EMMETT MAHER
OWNER

184 Campbell Ave
West Haven, CT 06516

203-934-3100
emmettsautoct.com



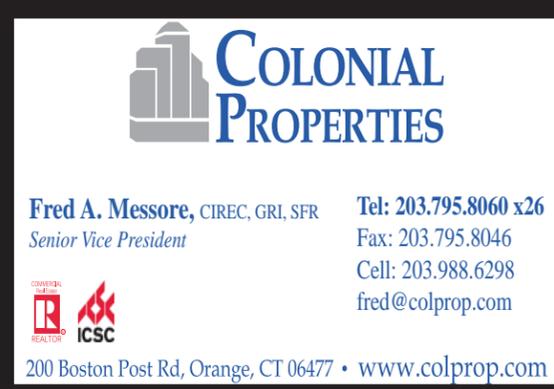
"We'll Be Pleased To Serve You..."

B&D TILLOTSON PHOTOGRAPHICS®
GRAPHIC DESIGN
(203)691-8885

A Veteran Owned Business

FOR PERSONAL * BUSINESS * RESALE
Call or e-mail for appointments
Bruce Tillotson Photographer Owner
Dani Tillotson Graphic Designer Owner
e-mail: banddtillotson@gmail.com

GB Masonry
Stone Walls * Sidewalks * Pavers
Chimneys * Brickwork * Flagstone
Stone Siding * Stucco
Fully Insured -- Quality Work!
17 years Experience
Jimmy-- 203-206-1159
gbmasonrystone@gmail.com



COLONIAL PROPERTIES

Fred A. Messorre, CIREC, GRI, SFR
Senior Vice President

Tel: 203.795.8060 x26
Fax: 203.795.8046
Cell: 203.988.6298
fred@colprop.com

200 Boston Post Rd, Orange, CT 06477 • www.colprop.com



DENNY TREE SERVICE

HARLAN DENNY
203-799-2766

Fully Insured • Estimates Given
HIC Contractors License No. 562440
MEMBER TCIA

FIREWOOD • TOPSOIL • STUMP GRINDING

This can be your spot
Voice Ads work for you!

Give us a call --
(203) 934-6397

CALL YOUR AVON LADY

Looking for Avon?
Call Phyllis Franco,
(203) 932-9367,
And I'll drop off a brochure.
Over 30 years experience
Friendly service.

FOR RENT

Harborview Condominiums
Commercial space available
In this professional building.
Desk/Space from \$295/month.
Full office with waiting area
\$695/month, includes off-street
parking, Use of penthouse meet-
ing room, janitorial services
Call us for an interview.
(203) 932-6455.
Fran x 301

GUTTER CLEANING

Jay's Gutter Cleaning. Minor
repairs, tree work, hedge-
trimming, power washing,
Insured. Free estimates. Call
(203) 506-9384.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Repairs -- Walls and ceilings,
sheetrock, carpentry. Free esti-
mates. Insured HC#0647093. Bill
(203) 901-2136.

John's Lawn Cutting

203-508-3659

Call for estimate!

CARPENTRY, REPAIRS

Decks, porches, wall,s ceilings,
sheetrock, taping, water dama-
ge, 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-
terested candidate \$820 per week
if you are interested in the posi-
tion Contact: moorecraig235@
gmail.com

FOR SALE

**1000-PIECE JIGSAW PUZ-
ZLES FOR SALE OR TRADE,
CALL RON, (203) 907-6993.**

AMWAY SALES

Looking for Home, Health,
Beauty Products - We Have What
You Need.
Contact: Amway Distributor
Nia at 203-440-8631/ knia500@
gmail.com
Amway.com/myshop/
mtm

SITUATIONS WANTED

Seamstress, over 30 years'
experience. Can do everything,
pants, suits, dresses, gowns, etc.
Reasonable rates. Call Debbie,
(203) 908-5050

FOR SALE

Ping Golf clubs, \$100;
Craftsman Table saw, 2.5 HP.
\$50. Call 203-710-5056.

Voice Classifieds

(203) 934-6397

PLUMBING PROBLEMS???

Leaky pipes, Leaky Faucets,
Leaky Showers, RunningToilet,
Leaky Toilet, Drain Cleaning,
Leaky Hot Water Heater, Gard-
bage Disposals, Dryer/Washers,
Laundry Lines, Dishwasher Lines,
30 gal. Gas, or 40 gal. Electric
Water Heaters, Baseboard Instal-
lations and Repairs, Gas Stoves,
FULL PLUMBING REPAIR SER-
VICES, 24/7 days a week at (203)
584-6868.

HELP WANTED

Babysitter is needed in West
Haven mornings. The child is 10
years of age. Person hired needs
to drop the child off to school each
day. Will be dropped off 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 off
at 12:30. Salary negotiable. Call
Carnell Artis, 203-257-0248.

Voice Classifieds

(203) 934-6397

**PIANO LESSONS
BY COMPUTER**

Since 1992, in your home
when we can.

Beginners welcome,
reasonable rates.

Details, References.

In West Haven: 203-479-4467

TAX SERVICE

More changes in tax laws affect your 2020 taxes.

Let me help you get your refunds.

**Over 40 years' experience preparing taxes in a
professional, timely and cost-efficient manner.**

No waiting with pick-up or dropoff service.

Call Bill at (203) 934-9525.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



Call us for an interview.
We specialize in Condo
Association Management
and Multi Families.
31 years experience.

For more information, call Fran x 301

(203) 932-6455

Harborview
REALTY SERVICES LLC

140 Captain Thomas Blvd,
West Haven, CT

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 June honoree
 - 4 Say it's so
 - 8 Pretzel topper
 - 12 Past
 - 13 Travel permit
 - 14 Done with
 - 15 Brock of base-
ball
 - 16 Alaskan city
 - 18 Heron's kin
 - 20 Army address
 - 21 Dalai --
 - 24 Slow, in music
 - 28 Right to vote
 - 32 Cash advance
 - 33 201, in old
Rome
 - 34 Heat to near
boiling
 - 36 GOP org.
 - 37 Priestly vest-
ments
 - 39 Cheap ride
section
 - 41 "Yum!"
 - 43 Novelist
Hunter
 - 44 Steal from
 - 46 Cowboy's
workplace
 - 50 Spur on
 - 55 Tic-tac-toe win
 - 56 Nerd's kin
 - 57 Hostels
 - 58 Hooting bird
 - 59 Big wind
 - 60 Track tipster
 - 61 Carrier to
Amsterdam
- DOWN**
- 1 Valley
 - 2 Awestruck
 - 3 Gloomy
 - 4 Online images
 - 5 Sportscaster
Scully
 - 6 Computer key
 - 7 Stadium
cheers
 - 8 Reddish-brown
horse
 - 9 "Selma" direc-
tor DuVernay
 - 10 Table support
 - 11 Three, in
Rome
 - 17 Texas tea
 - 19 Sprite
 - 22 PC alternatives
 - 23 Marble type
 - 25 Asta's feeder
 - 26 Tart flavor
 - 27 As soon as
 - 28 "Shool"
 - 29 Bruins' sch.
 - 30 Little lies
 - 31 Mountain ht.
 - 35 Most loved
 - 38 Painter's
motion
 - 40 Genetic letters
 - 42 Thee
 - 45 Telly watcher
Cranny
 - 48 Batman's hood
 - 49 Actress
Celeste
 - 50 Early bird?
 - 51 PBS funder
 - 52 Cartoon frame
 - 53 Yucatan year
 - 54 Wildebeest

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15			16					17			
18		19				20					
		21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30				31		32			
33			34				35		36		
37			38		39			40			
41			42		43						
			44		45		46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54			55	
56					57					58	
59					60						61

MAGIC MAZE • "IT" WORDS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all
directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: AN ESTABLISHED CUSTOM

- Acquit
- Bandit
- Benefit
- Circuit
- Counterfeit
- Credit
- Deposit
- Explicit
- Forfeit
- Inherit
- Profit
- Solicit
- Transmit
- Unit
- Whodunit



RIDDLE-DOTS! "Hey, Mike! What can go up a
chimney down but can't go down a chimney up?"
Connect the dots and solve the riddle.

SOMETHING IN COMMON: What do the following two sentences
have in common? 1. No lemons, no melon. 2. Was it a car or a
cat I saw?

FIND-A-WORD! On the top line is our mystery
word. You need to fill in the missing letters.
Clue words (smaller words contained
in letter-by-letter order within the
mystery word) are defined below.

- 1. Cost per unit.
- 2. In or near.
- 3. Spoiled --.
- 4. Long-tailed critter.

Junior Whirl
by Charles Barry Townsend

**WARM
WORD
CORD
COLD**

LADDER PUZZLES

LADDER puzzles have been
around for over a hundred years.
They were made famous by
Lewis Carroll, the author of "Alice
in Wonderland." In this type of
puzzle you are given a word that
must be changed into another
word in a series of moves. During
each move you must change one
letter in the previous word so as
to form a new word. In our exam-
ple we changed WARM into
COLD in four moves. See if you
can change the following four
words:

- 1. BOAT to CASH.
- 2. MORE to LESS.
- 3. FISH to MEAT.
- 4. SICK to WELL.

4. SICK, SILK, SILL, SELL, WELL.
3. FISH, FISH, FINT, FEAT, MEAT.
2. MORE, LORE, LOSE, LOSS, LESS.
1. BOAT, COAT, COST, CAST, CASH.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

**Answers
to last week's
puzzles**

King Crossword
Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

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

**DRINKING
ESTABLISHMENTS**

B	U	R	R	O	A	D	H	O	U	S	E
B	L	O	U	N	G	E					
B	A	C	O								
B	R	N	T	L							
O	T	G	S								
O	N	T	I	K							
M	O	O	R	P	A	T					
R	C	O	G	I	N	M	I	L	L		
L	L	A	H	R	E	E	B	J	C		

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Youth Hockey

Continued from page 13

Haven in front.

The Westies closed the weekend with a 2-1 loss against Greater New Haven A at the Edward L. Bennett Rink Sunday afternoon.

Trailing 1-0, West Haven evened the contest 17 seconds later on a goal by Thomas Porto off assists from Stevens and Dowd.

The West Haven Youth Hockey Bantam A team played a home-and-home this weekend with the Yale Bulldogs, losing both, 5-4.

Chris Consorte with Theo Diakmois picking up the assist. After Yale scored two unanswered goals, the Westies picked up two goals of their own, both coming from Alex Kurowski. Diakomis ended the scoring with 11 seconds left for the final score.

On Sunday, West Haven made the trip to Hamden to take on Yale once again to skate to another 5-4 loss. Kurowski scored twice, Consorte and Brody Elam rounded out the scoring.

John Kennedy played superb in net in both contests. Dylan Bosworth and Connor Bunnell played very well on defense in both games. Connor Moriarty played well on offense, including a key blocked shot in Saturday's game.

The West Haven Bantam A travel hockey team hosted long-time rival Hamden at the Bennett Rink on Saturday where the Westies skated to a 5-1 victory. Bowery got the scoring started with an unassisted goal in the halfway point of the first period. Hamden scored a goal to tie it later in the period, but Bowery tallied his second of the game off a low hard shot, with an assist coming from Digioia.

After going into the third period with a 2-1 lead, West Haven began to take over when Digioia scored his own goal from the point, off a pass from Maiocco. Kurowski scored shortly thereafter going top shelf, off a feed from Maiocco, his second assist of the game.

Bowery secured a hat trick by scoring the final goal of the game with a nice dangle, with Digioia getting the assist, knotting his third point of the day.

Kennedy played a full contest in goal, making some key saves to keep the Green Dragons at bay. Diakomis, Consorte and Moriarty all played well at forward. Elam, Bunnell and Bosworth all contributed on defense in the victory.

For all your West Haven sporting news including game articles by Mike Madera, highlights, photos and more, visit www.westieblue.com.

*First Congregational Church
of West Haven*

invites you to join us for Holy Week:

Palm Sunday March 28 10:30AM
in person and online

Maundy Thursday April 1
online only

Easter Sunday April 4 10:30AM
in person and online



For in-person services, all state and local COVID-19 guidelines are followed. Attendees will enter up our Campbell Ave. ramp, be checked in, and must wear a mask at all times within the building.

Please register at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScC24EHko1PHJFBM48T72ZOKMxbLIEKHwVALOIiAaUcMYPiQw/viewform?usp=sf_link, or call Kirsten @ 203-859-8782. Give your name and names of those in your party, as well as a telephone number.

For online viewing, please go fccwesthaven.org and scroll down to click on LIVE STREAM SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 10:30am or WATCH PAST SERMONS

The Only Name You Need To Know In Real Estate



RICK CHAMBERLIN

UNMATCHED EXPERIENCE • UNMATCHED PROFESSIONALISM
UNMATCHED SERVICE

For Three Generations.... Broker/Owner

FIND OUT WHAT YOUR HOME IS WORTH IN TODAY'S MARKET!

REALTY PARTNERS

433 Campbell Ave, West Haven

203-933-2500 (Ext. 303) or 203-641-7044

Fax: (203) 933-3721 • Toll Free: (800) 356-3734



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Anthony Vendrella competes in the 55 hurdles against Fairfield Prep at the Floyd Little Athletic Center. The indoor track season along with other winter sports is having a curtailed year due to COVID-19.



Westies: Quintet rebounds

Continued from page 12
different players reached the scoring column.

Kyle Kearson finished with nine points for West Haven, while Adam Elkharraz added eight in the win.

West Haven improved to 8-1 with a 67-42 victory over Career Saturday afternoon.

West Haven had nine players in the scoring column and was led by Wade Sheffield with 16 points, Calhoun with 15 and Blackwell with 11. Sheffield and Belcher each drained a pair of 3-pointers in the win.

WHGB

The West Haven girls basketball team snapped a three-game losing streak with a come-from-behind 45-43 victory over Shelton Wednesday evening at West Haven High. The Westies trailed by eight points at the half, before rallying in the final eight minutes to snap their skid.

West Haven held the Lady Gaels to just 20 second half points, including 11 in the final eight minutes. The Westies outscored Shelton 30-20 in the second half.

Sophomore Amani Abuhatab led West Haven with 19 points and 10 rebounds, while Sarah Evangelista added 11 points, and Cassidy Carrano scored seven.

Clarissa Pierre led Shelton with 19 points.

In basketball, it is not always how you start, but how you finish. Just ask Kandie Everette of Wilbur Cross.

Hitting on just one field goal entering the fourth quarter, Everette broke a 43-43 tie with a pair of buckets, leading the Governors to a 58-47 Southern Connecticut Conference inter-division victory at Neil Cavallaro Court at West Haven High Friday evening.

The baskets by Everette were the daggers in the hearts of the Westies as West Haven completely lost its offensive touch in the fourth quarter, hitting on just one field goal by Tenique Gates with 3 minutes, 54 seconds to go to get the Westies within 47-45.

April Artis led all scorers with 17 points for Wilbur Cross, while Middleton had 15.

Carrano led West Haven with 15 points, while Abuhatab added 12 and Gates finished with nine.

~~~

For all your West Haven sporting news throughout the year, including game articles by Mike Madera, highlights, photos and more, visit [www.westieblue.com](http://www.westieblue.com).

# Tyler Newkirk Craft Company

GIFT & GARDEN SHOPPE  
OPENING FOR THE SPRING SEASON

OPENING MARCH 20, 2020  
668 JONES HILL ROAD,  
WEST HAVEN

Handmade crafts and decor by local artists, a wide variety of house and Easter Plants, tasteful home & garden decor.