

# West Haven Voice

April 22, 2021

Vol. 26, Issue 9 20 Pages

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

## Voice profile

*An in-depth feature*

Former city resident,  
teacher pens book

See Page 11

O'Brien announces run

See Page 3



Photos courtesy of WHCH

## QU students aid WHCH

Nine students from Quinnipiac University spent the day at the West Haven Community House doing many outdoor projects as part of the university's service project known as The Big Event. The Big Event began at Texas A & M University in 1982, and has grown to be the largest, one-day, student-run service project in the nation. It aims to allow students the opportunity to say, "Thank You" to residents of the surrounding communities. The group of students at the Community House spent the day raking, painting, and planting flowers at the agency's Elm Street location.



## Council digs into budget

With the public hearing done for another budget cycle, the City Council has begun the annual task of review. The 165.54 million package was presented last month, and once deliberations are concluded a new budget ordinance is required by the first Thursday in May under the charter.

The public hearing was conducted in a "virtual" setting, with most of the questions, according to council member, focusing on the funding of the West Haven library. Mayor Rossi's budget includes the recommended expenditures requested by the Village Improvement Association (VIA), which runs the system.

The review process has begun with a list of departments coming under initial scrutiny. Both Council Chairman Ron Quagliani (D-at-large) and Finance Chairman Bridgette Hoskie (D-1), who runs the sessions of the Committee of the Whole, said several matters have been resolved. The allocation of money for a rent/lease of a new Allingtown Branch for the library was given a go-ahead, though no new venue has been secured.

Other completed reviews included the Board of Education, Treasurer, who highlighted the state and federal revenues expected, police (with emphasis on discussions concerning a return to a pension retirement benefit).

One alteration the council made was to apportion some of the COVID relief funding toward the Allingtown Pension liability.

"The Council, by unanimous vote, amended the WH Fire Department-Allingtown budget to allocate an additional \$350,000 to the unfunded pension liability and \$50,000 for advance funding of an OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Trust for the Allingtown Fire Department," Quagliani said. "This is consistent with MARB recommendations and if the final budget is approved will reduce the Allingtown Fire mill rate from 14.02 in FY21 to 11.62 in FY22."

Hoskie said that discussion came when she and Councilwoman Robin Watt Hamilton (D-5) met with Allingtown representatives.

"The City Council deliberated over the recommendations provided then voted to add additional funding to the Allingtown Fire District pension fund, over what was recommended by the city's actuary. The additional contribution will not increase taxes and will begin to address the district's unfunded pension liability," she said.

With the Board of Education getting no new funding in the new budget, money is coming to the department via the COVID relief packages from both the state and federal government. There was some fear that one-time infusion might be used to fund day-to-day programming and create a hole in future budgets. Both Quagliani and Hoskie have said the funding is not being used in that manner, but they have offered suggestions to

See Budget, page 8



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Next Issue Date: May 6, 2021 (Don't forget Mother's Day)



The artist known as Brianna R., a fourth grader at Pagels, sees some April showers in the forecast, and urges people to have their umbrellas at the ready.

## On this Date

**1997 -- The Japanese embassy hostage crisis ends after 126 days.** The hero status of the Peruvian troops involved in the successful raid was later called into question when evidence of summary executions of captured insurgents emerged.

**1992 -- A series of massive explosions destroys parts of Guadalajara.** The disaster in the downtown district of Analco occurred after gasoline had leaked into the sewer system. At least 206 people died, nearly 500 were injured, and about 15,000 were left homeless.

**1977 -- Optical fiber is used for telephone transmissions for the first time.** Fiber-optic technology allows sending information over long distances by means of light pulses. It has played an important role in the development of modern-day global communications.

**1945 -- Adolf Hitler admits defeat.** The German dictator announced in the underground Führerbunker that he plans to commit suicide after learning that Soviet forces had entered Berlin.

**1906 -- The 1906 Olympic Games begin in Athens.** While the meet in practice was the second Olympic Games of the modern era, it is not recognized as such by the International Olympic Committee.

### Births

**1916 -- Yehudi Menuhin,** American/Swiss violinist, conductor.

**1899 -- Vladimir Nabokov,** Russian/American author.

## #FunFactFriday

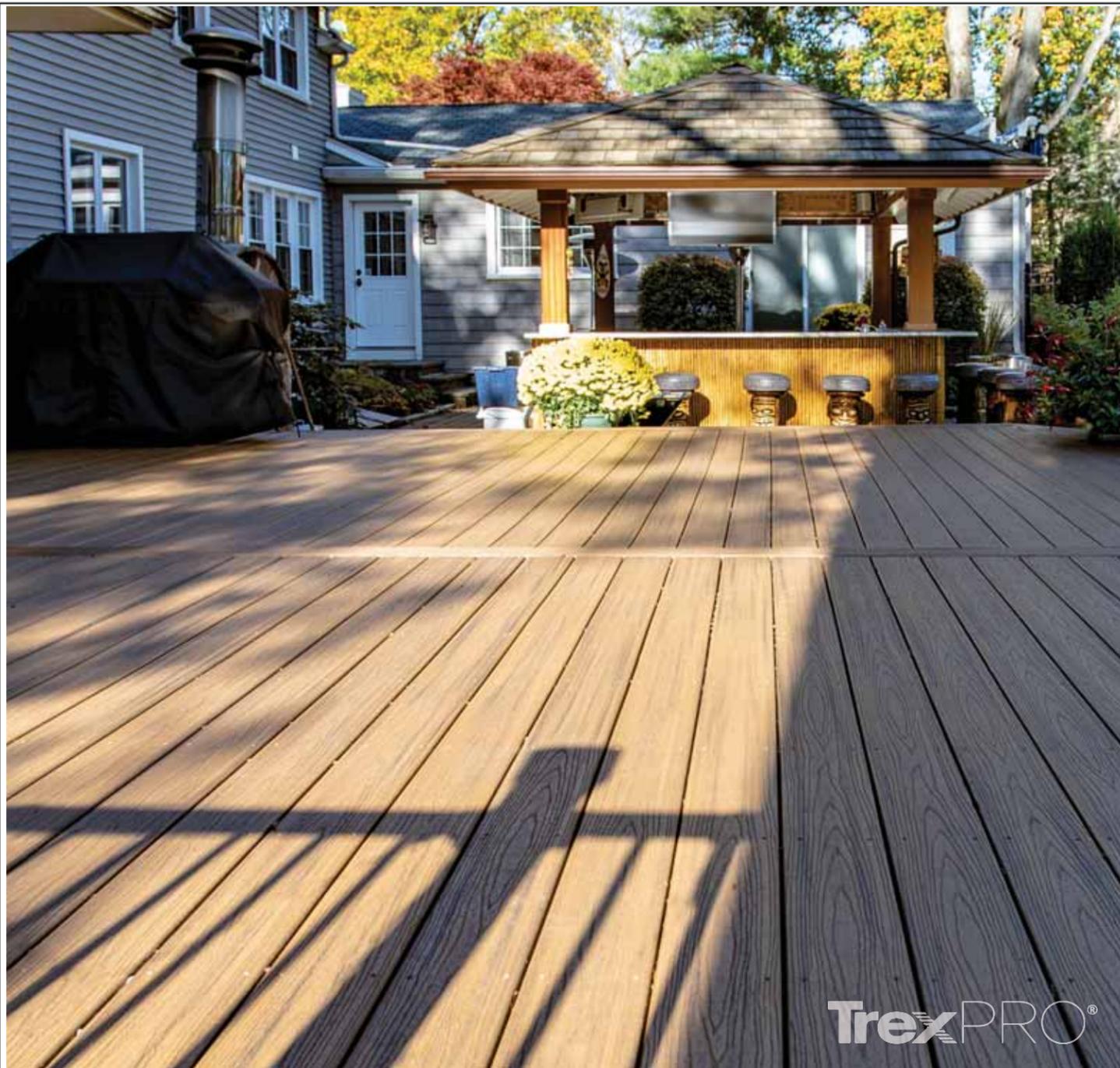
The City of West Haven Centennial Celebration Committee is launching a new series called #FunFactFriday to promote the community's 100th anniversary this year.

Every Friday starting April 9, the committee will post tidbits celebrating historical events, people and places in West Haven from the past 100 years on its official Facebook page, City of West Haven Centennial Celebration - 1921-2021.

The page is administered by the city and edited by Dan Shine, one of the foremost authorities on West Haven history. Like the page on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofWestHavenCentennialCelebrationCommittee>.

The historical facts are compiled from various West Haven Library references by staff members Taylor Cordova and Kiana Arevalo under the supervision of Executive Director Colleen Bailie.

The committee is planning a number of commemorative events, starting in late June, to observe the 1921 birth of Connecticut's youngest town.



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# O'Brien announces run for Democratic nod

And then there were three – Democrats -- potentially.

Ending weeks of reports and speculation, former Mayor Edward O'Brien announced he will seek the Democratic Party's nomination for the position he once held. The announcement came just days after his former executive assistant, John Lewis, announced he will seek the nod.

With the expected announcement that Mayor Nancy Rossi will go after a third term, the city's majority party

is going to do what it has done for the better part of the last two decades, primary.

Before a group of supporters, friends and family, the former chief executive kicked off his campaign on the Green amid social distancing.

From the start he attempted to position himself as the candidate with experience, who is the type of leader the city needs in the next few years. Harkening back to his former speeches, O'Brien began by saying his desire to run the city again is in keeping with his belief that those who live here should give back to the community.

"I was taught at an early age to give back to your community and leave it a place better than you found it. That is something I have always tried to do, from City Clean-Ups, coaching youth sports, volunteering and contributing to community organizations and participating in benefits.

I have been a member many Executive Boards, sat on City Council and, yes, I was the proud mayor of this great city from 2013-2017," he told the gathering.

He said his reason for coming back onto the scene is what he has witnessed as a business owner and homeowner.

"A few short years ago, this

City was on an-upswing in making West Haven a clean and attractive community, one that residents and businesses were proud to call home," he said. "We had three code enforcers that monitored and enforced our blight laws, today we have none, this is unacceptable by any standards and needs to change."

He pointed to the fact as a homeowner he has seen his taxes climb each year, but disputes Rossi's claim she is the victim of past decisions.

"She will blame sins of the past, but the reality is her inability to grow new revenues," he said.

He then alluded to the Haven Project, and said that it was his administration that brought the high-end development into the city. He said the future needs a leader who will go out and interact with developers and businesses, bringing them into the city and growing the tax base.

"Going out into the world and telling businesses large and small why they should relocate to our city and then following through and closing the deal, that is what we need and that is what will lower taxes in West Haven. If I said it once, I said it a million times, every tax dollar we generate from a business relocating to

our city is one less tax dollar we have to get from you, the homeowner," he said.

He turned to education, and said that teachers "need the tools to teach our children," and said the city should go after each and every state and federal dollar to accomplish that goal. He then turned to

the WHPD, and pledged to support it in getting the equipment it needs to do its job.

He pointed to three main goals in his administration:

- ~~Improving schools;
- ~~ Working with police officials to go back to a pension plan and end what he termed

See O'Brien, page 10



EDWARD O'BRIEN



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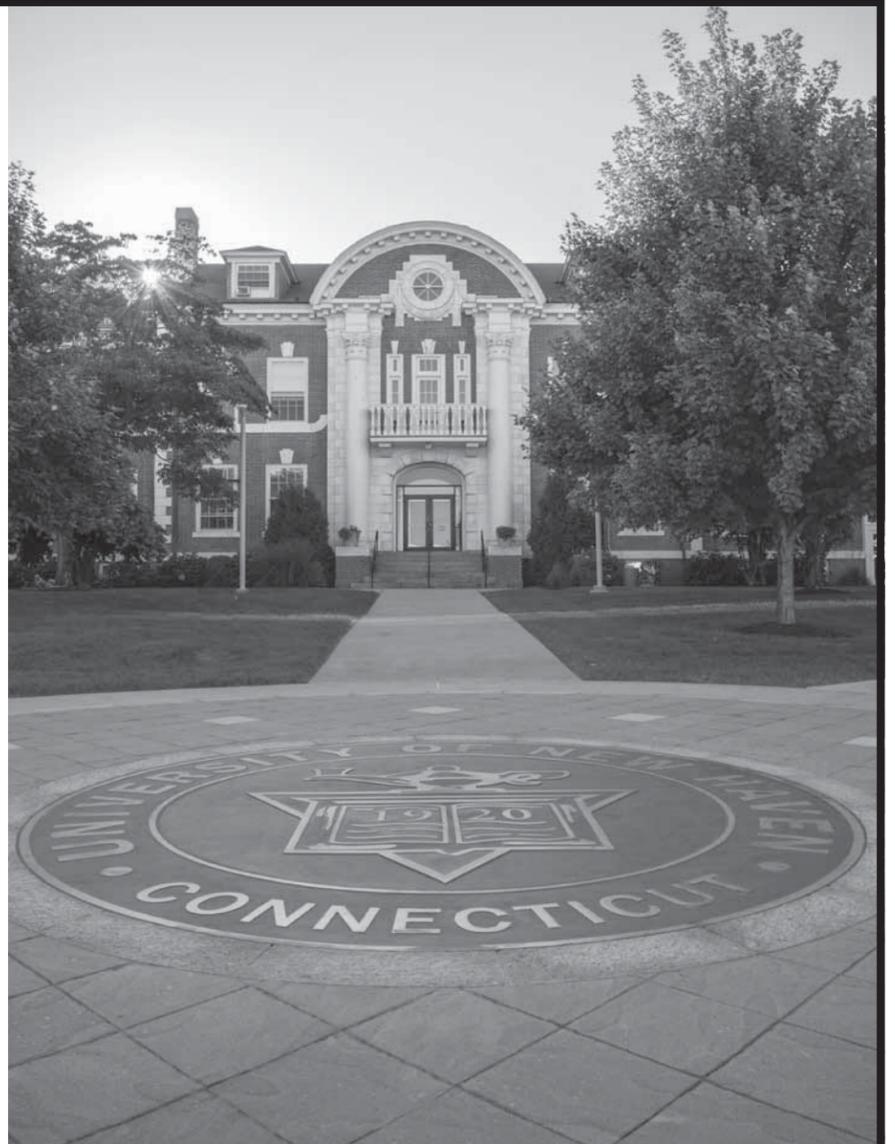
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*"To be a student during this time is to truly become a Charger – to care about the community and others around you."* – Sofia Martinez '22, President, USGA

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[newhaven.edu/reopening](http://newhaven.edu/reopening)



University of New Haven

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# Dear Felicia

Well honeybunch, we're into the latter days of April and it seems like for the foist time in many moons, we're actually having a spring! Rather than jest going from cold and damp to sunny and humid, things seem to be going the way it is in storybooks. The weather is getting warmer, the flowers and trees are doing their bit, and it's lookin' a lot better outside.

Remember last year when we went from the 40s to the 70s in one big swoop? Well, it doesn't seem it'll be like that this year. Although, effen yew were to traverse around the berg, you'd notice that to git around you need a guide. The municipality is going through a repaving frenzy in many parts o' town. You'd know it cuz no matter which way the gassamobuggy is pernted, it seems to hit a detour. Milling

is going on, paving is going on and lanes are shut. It's a mess, but a necessary one. Some of the biggest potholes in history are being taken care of....we think!

Tennyrate, not only is that going on, the local phone company is going through rewiring of telephone poles. Cobina was out and about several days last week, and no matter where she went there were cherry-pickers all over the place and guys changing telephone cables. 'Twas quite something.

Meanwhile, here about town there is a murmur about this being an election year and all, and it seems the Demmies are doing what they do best, fight amongst each other. Whilst we were celebrating Easter, it seems that Ed O'Brien made the announcement that I told yew about a few weeks back:

he's going for another chance to sit on the thoid floor of the Actors Colony.

Surrounded – though socially distant, of course – by family and supporters, the two-term former mayor announced he was gonna take another bit of the apple and see what happens. That means that the three-way race that was expected is gonna happen – again. Remember two years ago, herronner was challenged by O'Brien and Debbie Collins. Both were trounced when the final tallies were in. It'll be interesting to see what happens this year.

But, the most interesting turn of events is the lineup this go-round. Y'see, even Sammy Bluejay was scratchin' his crop tryin' to figger this one out. John Lewis, a longtime Demmie and former executive assistant to O'Brien, has announced his intention to seek the nomination over Rossi. That seems to beg the query, who is supporting whom?

O'Brien was – the operative word being "was" – supported by what is termed the Morrissey faction of the party when he was in his heyday. The bloom seems to be off that rose, according to Sammy. Nobody, in fact, knows where the former chairman of the

party stands on this one, or Lewis for that matter.

What is interesting the local yokels is that O'Brien and Lewis will be fishing outta the same pond when it comes to supporters. The party is still trifurcated amongst the Borer, Morrissey and Rossi factions. With one faction, at least on paper, being split by two candidates, the trick is gonna be to draw from other voters.

It's gonna be an interesting time. Things will git clearer as we move toward July and the party caucuses, but until then, there's gonna be a lotta reading the tea leaves to see what if anything can be gleaned.

Nelly Nuthatch, meanwhile, sez that some of the observations about the berg are homed in on the GOP. There is talk that it, too, might have multiple candidates interested in the party's nod. Earlier in the year the name of Michele Gregorio was bandied about as interested in making another attempt at City Hall, but the story in the local papyrus nixed that report. She's not interested.

Then there is talk that Barry Lee Cohen has been approached as a possible candidate – something he is neither denying or admitting. That became very obvious in said story. Cohen is the councilman in the Tenth Districk, and has made somewhat of a splash amongst the political establishment; if for nothing else, the man sez what he means, not matter what the fallout. That ain't something done much around here.

Then there is talk about a possible dark horse candidate considering a run under the Republican banner. That was confirmed in the papyrus' story as well. We have heard that someone is lookin' into the possibility and asking friends and family, but we still think that decision might be a few weeks off.

Wouldn't that be something? A three-way primary in both the minority and majority party. It's a political junkies dream. We shall see how it all shakes out before too long, methinks.

Our esteemed editor happened to see a letter to our noodge-at-large Eleanore Turkington of Gripe Vin fame, regarding the potholes and pavement on Beach Street. Whilst we understand the difficulties on the roadway, don't expeck the city to do much about it for the time being. Remember, the roadway is to be raised about seven feet in order to proteck pipes and other infrastructure in that area. Effen yew've been around, yew've probably noticed that the beach erosion in front of the former Chick's Restaurant is about as bad as it was about eight years ago.

Until the funding is secured and the work begins, the city

ain't gonna spend dollars on repaving the area when their gonna hafta rip it up and/or bury it when construction begins. That's jest Cobina's take on it.

Didja see the Memorial Day Parade is back on schedule! That means we really are starting to git back to normal. The city is lookin' fer units to take part in the march up Campbell Avenue, and it'll be the foist time in two years. Last year's march, like most else, was canceled due to the COVID panic.

Meanwhile, there is talk that the pesky mask mandate might be lifted anytime soon – probably in the next month. What a relief. Masks have become more a symbolic thing than anything of substance, and it's been that way for some time. Can't wait until this is over.

And with that idea, the Wag was in t'other day, and it looks like we might have the fireworks this year on July 3 and...wait for it...the Savin Rock Festival in late July. Fireworks were, like the parade, canceled cuz of the panic. The Festival, however, has been a victim of the city's lack of funds for about the last four years.

With the new, improved outlook for the city's financial prospecks, one would think that would be one of the events put back on the calendar toot sweet. Nothing official has come through, but there was talk earlier in the year of it being revived.

the City Council has begun its loo-see into the proposed budget by Mrs. Rossi and her minions on the thoid floor. Madame Olga was looking into her crystal t'other day and sez that right now all the council is doing is reviewing the departmental expenditures as they are laid out in the document.

That gives 'em about two-plus weeks at this writing to get past that and into the nitty gritty of it. We ain't sure what's gonna happen regarding any changes that might be contemplated, but Olga saz the smart money is on no real changes gettin' through over the next few weeks, especially if everyone is OK with the what has been handed down from the Mount.

One thing that was concerning a few observers was the fact that state and fed'ral money was used to bulk up the school budget. The fear was that putting that money in accounts that are recurring could put the city behind the eight-ball again.

We're told that ain't happenin', but we shall see. Stranger things have happened in the past.

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

*Cobina*

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### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRST FIRE TAXATION DISTRICT CITY OF WEST HAVEN

Electors of the First Fire Taxation District City of West Haven are hereby notified and warned that the Annual Meeting of said District will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

In accordance to Executive Order 71 issued by Gov. Lamont the First Fire Taxation District Annual Budget Meeting there shall be "A suspension of in-person Budget Adoption for Municipalities/Districts".

The Board of Fire Commissioners shall conduct the business of the Annual Budget Meeting as mandated by Executive Order 71. This meeting will be available for public view through Social Media and or the department website.

The Budget is available on the West Haven Fire Department website for review.  
[www.westhavenfiredept.com](http://www.westhavenfiredept.com)

Questions and or comment may be forwarded to Business Manager Mike Zisek by no later than 24 hour prior to the meeting [mzisek@westhavenfiredept.com](mailto:mzisek@westhavenfiredept.com) – 203-214-3141

The purpose of said meeting will be:

- To receive the report of the Board of Fire Commissioners.
- To submit the budget for the year 2021-2022 for approval and prescribe the rate of taxation to be levied and collected in said District, based on the 2020 Grand List.
- To transact any other business properly brought before said meeting.

Board of Fire Commissioners:  
 Bruce E. Sweeney, Chairman  
 John Carew, Treasurer  
 Herbert Hill, Secretary



**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

The road condition on Washington Avenue to First Street is in need of Repaving. The Road condition is deplorable. It is the last section of West Haven with direct water view. The Oceanside 30-units condominiums were successfully developed a few years ago adding about \$300,000 in tax revenues to West Haven. Development stopped because of the downturn of the state's economy.

It is coming back now and there are plans for more new developments in this unique section of town. Please drive on Beach Street and you will see what I mean, deplorable conditions typical to third world countries. We should not allow ours to turn to one.

We are asking to have Beach Street repaved and prepare it for a better future.

CF Hopeful

**Dear CF Hopeful:**

Although Beach Street is not listed below for paving, there

is hope that your letter today, will come to the attention of the Public Works Commissioner and merit his investigation toward a possible improvement to Beach Street.

Evidently, according to West Haven's Public Works Commissioner, Tom J. McCarthy several roads that were to be milled and paved last week are Elm to Center Streets, Elm Street from Savin Avenue to Sawmill Road, Allings Crossing Road from the Interstate 95 underpass to Shingle Hill Road, West Main Street from Main Street to Lake Avenue, Prindle Road from the Orange line to Frontage Road, Everett Street from Meloy Road to Tuthill Street, Oak Road from Forest Road to Lee Street, Maltby Avenue from Plainfield Avenue to Yates Street, Knox Street and Nonquit Street including Dee Street.

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

Warm weather is here again and with it the people who



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

feel the neighborhood belongs to them.

Fourth Avenue has a neighbor who repeatedly runs his

motorcycle for hours on end. It makes it impossible for several of his neighbors to relax outside due to the noise. He also runs his motorcycle up and down Fourth Avenue, which is a one-way street with a curve where a car coming the right way could hit the motorcycle if the rider comes the wrong way. The motorcyclist also rides on Wood Avenue a street where cars are a regular phoneme. The motorcycle is unlicensed.

I have been reporting about the wrong way drivers for ten years now. Police should get on this before someone gets hurt. We finally got our road

paved. It would be a shame to see blood on it.

PZ1954

**Dear PZ1954**

I have contacted the councilman for your district, Councilman Michael Galignano. His reply will appear in Gripe Vine as soon as it is received.

**Coming up:** potholes... illegal trucks on Jones Hill Road...trash dumpsters on Bellvue and Howard Avenue and much more.

You can submit your gripes, comments, and issues to [Gripevine4wh@aol.com](mailto:Gripevine4wh@aol.com) or mail to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516

**Tax reduction programs open**

The assessor's office is accepting applications for tax relief programs for elderly and disabled homeowners from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays at City Hall, 355 Main St.

West Haven residents can apply for the programs, based on their 2020 incomes, until May 14.

The state elderly and disabled homeowners program offers tax reduction benefits depending on income and marital status. To qualify, the applicant or spouse must be 65 or older by Dec. 31, 2020, or permanently and totally disabled as defined by Social Security.

Income limits, including So-

cial Security, are \$45,800 for a married couple and \$37,600 for a single person.

To qualify for the West Haven senior tax freeze program, the applicant must be 70 by the end of 2020 and have lived in the city for at least 20 consecutive years.

Income limits, excluding Social Security, are \$50,000 for a married couple and \$35,000 for a single person. Those eligible for the program must reapply each year. The assessor's office is also accepting applications until Oct. 1 for additional veterans exemptions. The maximum income is \$45,800 for a married applicant and \$37,600 for a single applicant.

## GRIPEVINE

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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](mailto:gripevine4wh@aol.com) or use the online form at [westhavenvoice.com/gripevine](http://westhavenvoice.com/gripevine).**

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## Democrat spending spree

If the recently passed \$1.9 trillion “stimulus package,” was a Democratic Party slush fund, the so-called “infrastructure bill,” is a \$2 trillion Democratic porkfest. The stimulus package was the Federal Reserve printing money – and taxpayers having to pay for it – to give cities and towns, especially poorly run big cities, a bail-out. Some estimates we saw narrowed the actual money going to people as a fraction of what was given to pet projects.

Now we have the infrastructure plan, and it’s less of the same – the less going to the titled reason for the bill, infrastructure. Of course, that doesn’t mean that the Orwellian Pretorian Guard in the halls of Congress and the media aren’t trying to change the meaning of “infrastructure.”

According to New York Senator Ken. Kirsten Gillibrand: Paid leave is infrastructure; child-care is infrastructure; care giving is infrastructure. One has to admire her gall. But let’s take a look at what is being proposed as broken down by several websites, including the Townhall.com group:

- Less than 6 percent** (\$115 billion) for roads and bridges;
- 43 percent more** is spent on mass transit and rail (\$165 billion) than for roads and bridges;
- Less than 2 percent** (\$42 billion) for waterways, locks, dams, ports, and airports;
- Less than 5 percent** (\$100 billion) for broadband;
- 74 percent more** is spent on subsidies for electric vehicles (\$174 billion) than for broadband.

These are the components concerning what we all consider infrastructure. Meanwhile, the bill is full of non-infrastructure provisions such as:

- \$400 billion** for expansion of Medicaid;
- \$213 billion** for housing and to increase federal control of local housing markets;
- \$100 billion** of additional funding for schools without requiring them to reopen;
- \$50 billion** for a new office at the U.S. Department of Commerce;
- \$35 billion** for climate science, innovation, and R&D;
- \$10 billion** for a new “Civilian Climate Corps;”
- Overturms** right-to-work laws in 27 states.

We all know we need our roads and bridges repaired and that is what the American public is willing to pay to do. But, once again, the Democratic majority – slim though it is – is hellbent on spending millions of dollars we don’t have on more pet projects that have absolutely nothing to do with infrastructure.

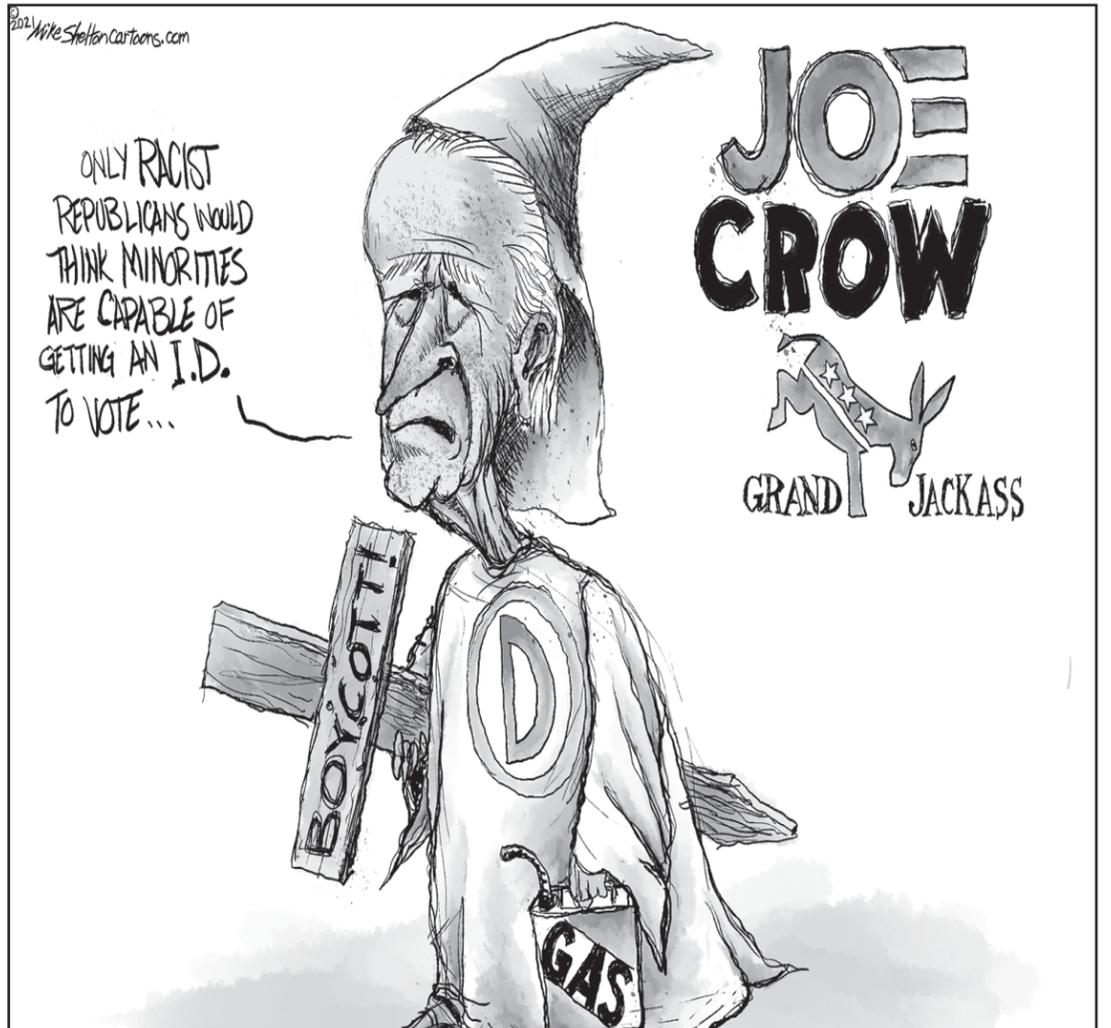
Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said days ago the problems with the bill are semantics. No, not semantics, paying for pet projects on the backs of the US Taxpayer.

And as a sop to the failing unions, the bill would upend right to work laws passed by states. What has that to do with infrastructure? Not much.

The bill has problems at the outset because tax hikes proposed by the White House are unpopular on both sides of the aisle. Can we hope that some sanity will occur and a pared down bill dealing only with infrastructure can be passed? We wouldn’t bet the mortgage.

The Democratic Party is on a spending spree, mostly paying off political patrons. The deficit, meanwhile, is growing in leaps and bounds to the point it is in territory Greece once occupied. The “full faith and credit” of the United States government will mean very little in a very short time.

Work on infrastructure, that’s roads, bridges, tunnels and dams, not a Progressive grab bag of booty and programs.



## Who needs the Russians?

By Rich Lowry  
Syndicated Columnist

Why do the Russians need to bother spreading disinformation when our own domestic sources do a much better job at it?

We just went through a four-year national obsession with Kremlin disinformation. It supposedly swayed the 2016 presidential election. It was “sowing divisions” in American society. It accounted for the discovery of Hunter Biden’s laptop during the 2020 election.

Social media companies were excoriated for allegedly letting Russian disinfo poison their networks, and the American mind.

There was nothing that some Russian operators -- spending a pittance -- couldn’t do. The former Time magazine managing editor and Obama state department official Richard Stengel wrote a book called “Information Wars: How We Lost the Global Battle Against Disinformation and What We Can Do About It.” According to Stengel, the Russians had mounted “an unprecedented attack against the very foundation of our democracy.”

The Russians were amateurs, though. If they really knew what they were doing,

they’d spread rank lies about election reforms passed by an American state, make the deceptions so pervasive that the president of the United States would casually repeat them, unjustifiably dredge up memories of a terrible period of repression in America, relentlessly racialize the debate, and intimidate corporate America into thoughtlessly entering the partisan fight and discrediting itself with a significant segment of the population.

No, Russian trolls operating somewhere in St. Petersburg didn’t undertake this highly successful information operation against the Georgia election law -- Stacey Abrams and her allies in media and politics did.

If the Russians had the requisite skill, they’d spread the false story that a talented American governor had sold out his citizens by letting a campaign contribution distort his distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, suppressing all facts to the contrary and stoking yet more conspiratorial thinking about the governor among his political opponents.

The Russians couldn’t pull this off -- yet “60 Minutes” did, in a laughably dishonest report about Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis using the most pop-

ular grocery store chain in the state to get the vaccine in the arms of Floridians.

If the Russians were devious enough, they’d take a god-awful mass shooting, ignore all of the evidence about the perpetrator’s motives to define it as a crime driven by racial hatred, and undermine faith in the local police and FBI when they presented the facts.

The Russians couldn’t manage this, either -- but a veritable army of media commentators and progressive politicians could. They insisted against the available evidence that the Atlanta spa shooter must have been driven by hatred of Asians, while Democratic senators openly dissented from the FBI director’s statement that the shooting wasn’t a hate crime.

If the Russians had the power or know-how, they’d spin a story of American law enforcement as a racist occupying force that should be resisted in “largely peaceful” protests all over the country, putting the cops on their back foot and creating an environment of spiraling disorder and violence in some of the most iconic U.S. cities.

Of course, the Russians also had nothing to do with this

See Lowry, page 9

# Applications accepted for summer jobs

The city is readying its annual summer work program for students

Applications for the Summer Youth Employment Program will be available from May 3-28 in the athletic director's office at West Haven High School and the main office at Bailey Middle School.

The four- or five-week summer program, which begins July 5, is aimed at funding positions for low-income city

residents ages 14-21.

Students must return applications with all required documents to their school office.

Students who attend other schools must download an application on the city website at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/3267/Summer-Youth-Employment-Program-Application-2021-PDF>.

Downloaded applications with all

required documents are due by noon May 28 to coordinator Jim Eagan, Summer Youth Employment Program, Department of Human Resources, 355 Main St., West Haven 06516.

Applications can also be inserted into the drop box at the Main Street entrance of City Hall.

No applications will be accepted after May 28.

Students must also include copies

of information, such as a birth certificate and Social Security card, as well as documentation of household income. Family income is based on the number of people per household and is required to be within 185% of state poverty income levels.

Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Applicants will be notified by mail or phone if more information is needed.

## Letters, we get letters!

### She begs to differ

I just read the editor's response to the letter from Dominic Francese that was published in the April 8 issue of the *Voice*, and can't in good conscience let some obvious problems with that response slide without comment.

The editor claims only one error was made in his March 18 editorial. In fact, there were at least four.

1. There is no "Imperial War College," as stated — except in Star Trek's Romulan empire.

2. The report the editor claimed projected "hundreds of millions" of deaths from COVID-19 did not. It gave a **worst case scenario** death count of 2.2 million deaths among other projections. Not only did the editorial misstate the total, the rather significant difference between establishing a worst case level of deaths and making a prediction was ignored. One wonders whether the editor even understood the purpose of the report, which was to offer simulations of numerous scenarios.

3. Ferguson resigned not, as was stated, because of a problem with his predictions, but because he violated the very social distancing protocols he said were essential to follow. Claims that Ferguson's methods were erroneous are false. <https://theferret.scot/fact-check-neil-ferguson-covid-19-predictions/> If, as claimed in the response to Mr. Francese's letter that

a "quick search" would show otherwise, why were no links included? Not to provide reputable, fact-checked sources is journalism-by-claimed-authority, which has feet of clay standing in quicksand.

4. The editorial refers to Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel as a "crackpot" with no supporting facts. Doing a search for this claim generates a fact check on a single issue about which many false claims have been made. Dr. Emanuel is not a crackpot. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/11/25/fact-check-article-misconstrues-biden-covid-advisers-vaccine-stance/6424401002/>

The editor's response to Mr. Francese's letter continues this record of misstatements. On the effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine, I could find only observational studies (likely flawed) in the record in favor. Overview of study results here: <https://www.drugs.com/medical-answers/hydroxychloroquine-effective-covid-19-3536024/>.

The claim that "no government should decide who is essential and who is not" flies in the face of history and common sense. Essential workers are identified in all national emergencies, in strikes, and natural disasters, as well as during pandemics.

Taken together, these multiple false statements and un-researched claims are unhelpful in any town's "paper of record." Everyone should have a healthy skepticism about "expert opinion," but the appropri-

ate response is dogged research and analysis, not hot air and bluster. West Haven deserves better.

Shouldn't a paper that can't catch obvious errors such as referring to "Waste Haven" as "Waist Haven" pay more attention to cleaning up its own act than to smearing the records of others without any basis in fact?

*Robin Parsons*

*Ed Note: We never said Ferguson left because of his predications. We did say his methodology came under fire, and citted the London press. As far as the rest, more Progressive liberal claptrap. As we are learning with Project Veritas' revelations, there is more propaganda than information coming out of the mainstream press every day, We cited our sources and did research. As far as missing errors. We try to get all of them as they come in, but what does that have to do with the issues at hand? Nothing. It's just gratuitous gaslighting. This comes down to the essence of the editorial, the power granted so-called experts. They should be heard and respected, but they should not be allowed to curb people's liberties. Some people, however, are more than willing to hand off their God-given rights. We are not.*

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# Budget: *Council digs into proposed plan*

Continued from page 1

the board as to how some of the funds might be best spent.

"COVID funding provided by both the Federal and State governments go directly to the Board of Education," Quagliani said. "The mayor nor the Council has any authority on how school funds are utilized however we did offer our suggestions and recommendations to the BOE. The Superintendent did offer that while the guidance on how to use these grants are still pending, potential uses would be for program development to bridge the educational gap that occurred due to COVID-19 as well as infrastructure improvements of our school buildings."

"There are funds available

directly from the federal government to the Board of Education to mitigate the effects from the COVID-19 global pandemic. These funds will be used to close the learning gap caused by the pandemic and enhance our district's educational performance," she said.

Both agree the next few weeks will be spent looking at what Republican co-minority leader Barry Lee Cohen (R-10) called "more sensitive" issues in the package.

Both Cohen and his co-leader Colleen O'Connor (R-at-large) have seen real cooperation among the members during the deliberations. Both Republicans praised the increase made in the Allingtown Pension Fund. O'Connor wants to see some of the COV-

ID funding coming to the city go to other areas.

"I am happy to say that the Council made a motion and voted to pay down some of Allingtown's Fire Department Pension deficit. These are the kind of projects that need the money. I would also like to see some of the money go towards repairing some of West Haven's playgrounds and parks. Our Infrastructure is in need of some TLC. It is our duty as the Council to make sure that the money is spent wisely," she said.

Cohen, meanwhile, said the budget deliberations now focus on how money is spent, rather than where, and this is where the real review is needed.

"This coming week, we

will review some of the more sensitive areas of the budget which include recommended increases in overtime, newly created and previously open positions, as well as obtaining a better understanding of some salary increases, proposed bonding, and new or expanded project initiatives. Determining if these and other items are fiscally responsible and justified will be thoughtfully undertaken," he said.

Cohen is concerned because due to revaluation one-fifth of city taxpayers may see an increase in taxes. This demands an eye toward value, he said.

"As was noted, the recommended budget offers a 'constant' mill rate. However, given that approximately 20% of homeowners will be pay-

ing higher taxes as currently proposed, my hope is that the council will be keenly aware that we must live within our means. Our mission should be to approve a final budget that creates value for all constituents," he said.

## ***Beach lots restricted***

The city has installed "Beach Permit Parking Only" signs along the shoreline, from South Street to Beach Street, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

Vehicles parked on the shoreline's designated side streets without a valid beach sticker can receive a ticket and be towed, according to city officials.

The parking restriction will take effect annually from May 1-Sept. 30.

"Last summer, our neighborhoods along the shorefront were flooded with visitors from out of town that were parking for free, enjoying our beach and shorefront while taking up parking spots that were needed for our residents and their families," Rossi said. "This year, unless visitors have a valid beach sticker, vehicles in violation will be tagged and towed — we intend on aggressively enforcing this parking ordinance.

"We will always invite and welcome visitors to West Haven, and we want them to enjoy our beaches and shorefront, but they will have to park in designated visitor lots and pay for parking."

## ***Cleanup set for today***

The Department of Public Works and local developer The Smyrna Group are holding an Earth Day cleanup of Spring Street in West Haven and New Haven from 9-11 a.m. today.

Spring Street connects both cities along the marshes that lead to Long Island Sound. Through the years, a large amount of garbage, including plastics, TVs and tires, as well as plastic foam products, have accumulated in the canals that feed the West River, which empties into the Sound.

The area is home to a wide array of wildlife, including a family of swans that floats just yards from the debris field on the river's banks, according to organizers.

"As we acknowledge the pressing concerns of our environment on Earth Day, this grassroots cleanup of Spring Street could not have come at a more fitting time," Mayor Nancy R. Rossi said.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### WEST SHORE FIRE DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> 2021 -6:00 pm

The Board of Fire Commission voted at the April 16<sup>th</sup> 2021 meeting, the Annual meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2021 will be conducted as a Zoom meeting.

Topic: WSFD Annual Meeting

Time: May 7, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86826515458>

Meeting ID: 868 2651 5458

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Meeting ID: 868 2651 5458

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcGseBiIp8>

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

The 2021-2022 Budget and all information on access and comments can be found on the West Shore Fire

District website: [www.westshorefd.com](http://www.westshorefd.com)

Agenda :

- Call of Meeting
- Election for a Moderator who is an elector and resident of the District
- Fire Chief's Report
- Board of Fire Commissioners Report
- Consideration of the Budget
- Resolution for borrowing of monies
- Nominations for Commissioner for three years

Board of Fire Commission

Robert Bruneau, Chairman Commissioner

Michael Doyle Commissioner

Evan Mink Commissioner

Stephen Scafariello, Fire Chief

Kathy O'Brien-Secretary Treasurer

## Lowry: *Disinfo, homestyle*

Continued from page 6

-- Black Lives Matter and the media did all of the hard work and have largely managed to ignore the rising tide of crime that is undoing one of the signal America domestic accomplishments of the past several decades.

None of this is to dismiss the pernicious influence of Russian information operations and cyber strikes, especially overseas, or to minimize the hideousness of the Putin regime. But it is galling to see the same people who sounded the klaxons about Russians undermining faith in the American system for years themselves spread -- or at least casually accept -- progressive narratives based on poisonous lies about our own country.

The Russians are never going to stop running their information campaigns against the West, which date back to the Soviet Union. But they must occasionally be tempted to stand back in envy and awe at all that the U.S. promoters of woke narratives have been able to accomplish without them.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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## Probate adjusts hours

The West Haven Probate Court has announced new hours of operation following the closures caused by the pandemic. To remain open 40 hours per week as required by state law, the court was open from 7:30-6, Monday-Thursday during the closure. The new hours are: 8-4:30, Monday-Wednesday; 8-6, Thursday; and 8-3 on Friday.

Judge Mark DeGennaro noted that even when City Hall reopens fully, the court has plans to continue many hearings, utilizing the remote access platform in order to accommodate peoples' schedules as much as possible.

In order to continue with precautions, hearings will be spread out more to prevent the public from having to sit in waiting areas. Also, staff is working with the mayor's office to reconfigure the courtroom so that parties will be able to socially distance, instead of sitting around a single table.

While DeGennaro and Head Clerk Maureen O'Connor noted the accomplishments the court was able to make during the restrictions imposed by a pandemic, they are looking forward to returning to a time when people will be allowed to come into City Hall, and staff can aid constituents in person.



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# Group protests state zoning proposal

By Alexis Harrison  
Special to the Voice

Citizens from around Connecticut descended on the West Haven Green on Saturday afternoon to rally and protest proposed legislation to centralize zoning in the State of Connecticut. CT169Strong.org, a grassroots organization, aimed to protect local zoning laws, organized the event, dubbed "Hands Off Our Zoning" along with West Haven Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins, who has been a keynote speaker at several CT169Strong rallies recently.

"The power is with you the people and with you the people only," said Mullins. "Maybe not today. Maybe not

tomorrow. Maybe not next week, but this is going to affect your neighborhoods," he said.

Proponents of the proposed legislation believe that zoning laws that control population density and limit certain types of development in towns have created a state divided on racial and socioeconomic lines. State Rep. Charles Ferraro, (R-117) urged the gathering of about 40 to contact their legislators and voice their opposition. He said that state regulated "cookie cutter" approach to zoning won't work in part because municipalities will lose their character.

"What works in West Haven might not work in Orange, it's a very bad idea," he said.

State Sen. Tony Hwang, (R-

Fairfield), a ranking member of the State Legislature's Planning and Development Committee, which held a 24-hour public hearing on the proposed legislation last month called the Democrat-controlled proposals "un-American and "un-Connecticut," due to "individual rights and property rights."

"I'm not saying that we should stay with the status quo," Hwang said. "I'm simply saying that the solution being offered right now by Hartford is a one-size-fits-all that takes away and disrespects the personal property rights of homeowners and residents of every community in the State of Connecticut."

Mullins, a former chairman of the West Haven Planning and Zoning Commission has served on the Commission since 2006, further said the question is one of balance.

"I have had the personal honor and pleasure as a public official to listen to West Haven homeowners twice a month as they come to Planning and Zoning Commission meetings to speak out in favor or against applications on projects that are being considered before the commission during public hearings. Public hearings are part of the checks and balances on government that we in Connecticut cherish and it is at risk of being taken away from us."

He posed the question to the crowd, "How would it be if

we had un-elected bureaucrats in Hartford who are nameless and faceless who will make all of the decisions that go on in your respective communities without you having one bit of say?"

"Do not let Hartford that away our local zoning

rights," Mullins said.

He encouraged residents throughout Connecticut to explore CT169Strong.org to educate themselves on the proposed legislation.

"Text, email and call your legislators and tell them to vote no," he said.

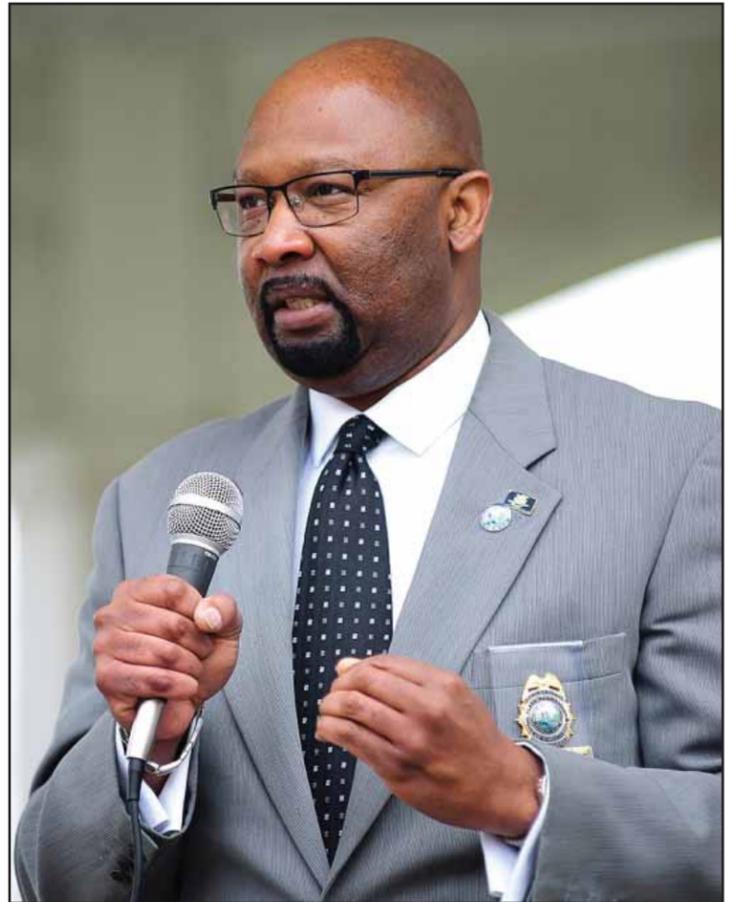


Photo by Eric Ephrim

Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins addresses the crowd at last Saturday's "Hands Off Our Zoning" rally on the West Haven Green. Mullins and CT169Strong.org have led efforts to keep home rule zoning rights throughout the State of Connecticut.

## O'Brien: Announces intention

Continued from page 3

the "revolving door culture;"

"~Instruct the Dept. of Public Works Commissioner to begin an immediate clean-up program throughout the city.

As far as the quality-of-life issues, O'Brien said he supports a return to events that made living here special. He lamented that events were curtailed because of COVID, and said he will work to restore those events, including the Savin Rock Festival.

"In the past (events, concerts) were funded, for the most part, by our business community and learning institutions. I will partner with them and we will again be listening to music on summer nights and enjoying the Savin Rock Festival. I will immediately pull together a

committee made up of volunteers to make that a reality."

He ended his announcement saying his administration will be one of unity between all segments of the West Haven community.

"If I am elected Mayor of this great city, Westies of all ages, color, sex and income will have a mayor who works to make their lives better each and every hour of everyday, a mayor who is accessible and will devote 100% of his time to the position of mayor," he said.

This potential three-way race will be the second time in as many cycles the Democrats have had a trio of candidates.

Rossi was able to beat O'Brien and former City Clerk Deborah Collins in 2019 in order to run in the general election.



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# Eagan turns experience into book

Getting students, especially younger ones, to enjoy activities that are fun and develop athletic skills is always a task for the elementary physical education instructor. A former city coach has teamed up with his brother-in-law to offer a group of activities that, according to the book's back cover, "turn your gymnasium or playground into a magical space."

Jim Eagan a retired teacher and successful coach in the West Haven system, former city resident, and current mentor for Physical Education majors at Southern Connecticut State University, has co-authored a book with Tom Caione, a well-known athletic administrator in the Empire State to aid teacher make PE fun.

Entitled, "GAMES," the book takes 60 activities Eagan developed or adapted during a 40-year career in teaching and coaching and offers them to a new generation of instructors.

Now living in Branford, Eagan was the longtime coach of the West Haven High School girls' basketball team, and is a member of the school's Hall of Fame.

Eagan said the idea for the book had been a longtime in the making and was prompted by many discussions with Caione during family get-togethers.

"I was encouraged by my co-author and brother-in-law Tom Caione, who was an

## 'Kids & Kites' event slated

West Haven Youth and Family Services and the West Haven Interagency Network for Children are holding a "Kids & Kites" event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 1 in Bradley Point Park.

The event will give area families of children with special needs an opportunity to learn about the WHINC programs, services and support groups, including those for Spanish-speaking families, while meeting other families of special needs kids. Kites are provided. The rain date is May 2.

Parking for residents and nonresidents is available in the parking lot of the Savin Rock Conference Center, 6 Rock St., off Captain Thomas Boulevard. The event will include door prizes.

Families can return updated membership registration forms. Forms are also available for new members.

Face masks are required for all participants and spectators.

For more information, contact (203) 937-3633.

athletic and Physical Education Director for several years in New York, to put together some of the activities that I had modified throughout the years. Tom and I would see each other on holidays, and we would always talk shop," Eagan said. "He was very impressed with many of my ideas and often brought them back to share with his colleagues in New York."

It's had other applications as well, ones he wasn't expecting.

"In addition, as a student teacher supervisor for SCSU I could see that young teachers coming out of undergraduate programs could greatly benefit from a publication that was comprehensive, effective, and tested. I wish I had a book like this when I graduated," he said. "In my student teacher observations, several of their activities required that students wait on-line far too long before the got a turn. Most of the games in our book have been modified to give each student more repetitions per class period."

Eagan said the book is geared mostly toward those teaching early grades, but they are very adaptable to older students.

"Most of the games are appropriate for grades K-6, but I have found through my experiences with older students that they still love to play many of the games," he said. "When I was the varsity girls' basketball coach at WHHS,

I would use several of these activities to help my players bond with each other. This was a great team building activity."

The book was in its creative stages before the COVID pandemic hit, but the time offered some opportunities, according to Eagan.

"The book was written prior to the pandemic. However, the lockdown caused by the pandemic did give us more time to edit, make changes, and get the book ready for publication. I think the pandemic has made all of us more aware of our health fragilities, and the value of exercise," he said.

Peer review is always the acid test of any publication, and Eagan said the reactions, thus far, have been positive with workshop attendees..

"Everyone who has had a chance to review our book, has been very impressed. Recently I conducted a workshop for the Physical Education teachers in the Cheshire School District utilizing many of the games in our book. Below are some of the actual written comments received from the participants," he said.

Eagan said the book offers activities applicable for many levels, and fills a gap that some instructors believe needed to be filled.

"The book contains over 60 games, modifications, skill components, and equipment requirements. It covers *Movement Games, Catching and Throwing, Ball Evasion, Kicking*



JIM EAGAN

and Basketball Activities. All of the skill components of each of the activity groups is broken down so the instructor can better measure a student's ability," he said.

The new book has given the former coach a way to connect with a new generation of teacher, and offer something that is useful to them.

"I have really enjoyed the workshops and hope to expand these utilizing the book as their centerpiece. I have even expressed an interest in teaching a college course to PE majors. It's all very exciting," he said.

Published by Outskirts Press, the book may be found at [outskirtspress.com](http://outskirtspress.com).

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# Memorial Day Parade on; units wanted

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

The city will hold the 2021 Memorial Day parade and is seeking veterans, civic groups, fraternal organizations, service clubs and marching bands to participate in the annual procession, which steps off at 10:30 a.m. May 31, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

Although West Haven's parade was postponed last year because of the coronavirus, this year's parade will take place in accordance with federal and state guidelines, city Health Director Maureen B. Lillis said.

"I am very excited that Gov. Ned Lamont has authorized parades in Connecticut this year," Rossi said. "For more than a century, our Memorial Day parade has been a patriotic tradition that families in

West Haven have looked forward to and participated in to commemorate the unwavering courage and selfless sacrifice of our great American heroes."

The city will follow all current and future directives by the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the state Department of Public Health to ensure the health and safety of both parade participants and spectators, Lillis said.

Lillis said that no vendors of any kind are allowed along the parade route, which goes up Campbell Avenue from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Center Street.

According to organizers, participants must register and list required special accommodations for the parade, which has no rain date.

The city will provide transportation for veterans who are unable to walk the 1.5-mile parade course. To make arrangements, call the mayor's office at (203) 937-3510.

The parade grand marshals are World War II veteran Frank Corso, who served in the Army Air Forces in 1942-45, and Korean War vet Salvatore Gullo, who served in the Navy in 1948-52.

Download a participation form at [https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/Docu-](https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/3262/Memorial-Day-Parade-Reservation-Form-2021-PDF)

mentCenter/View/3262/Memorial-Day-Parade-Reservation-Form-2021-PDF.

Forms are also available for pickup at City Hall, 355 Main St., where they are due May 3.

Forms can also be emailed to parade organizer Kristen Teshoney at [kteshoney@westhaven-ct.gov](mailto:kteshoney@westhaven-ct.gov) or faxed to (203) 937-3705.

Leading up to the parade, the city is urging all participants and spectators to review the following guidelines:

— Marchers and partici-

pants must wear face masks in accordance with CDC and DPH guidelines.

— People must maintain social distancing of 6 feet while marching or participating while driving or riding in a car or on a truck, float or trailer.

— Marching bands must maintain social distancing of 9 feet while playing.

— The city has the right to refuse a group or an organization if the parade rules are not obeyed.

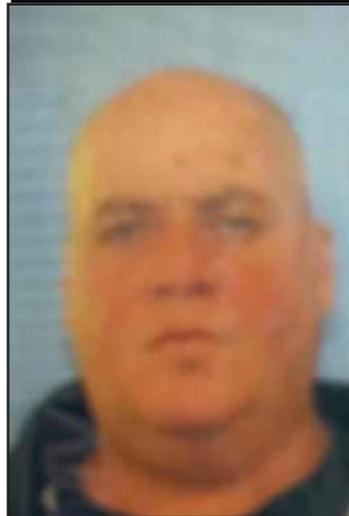


Photo by David W. Richards

Grand Marshal William "Bill" Benson, an Army veteran of the Vietnam War in 1967-68, leads the 2019 Memorial Day parade up Campbell Avenue. After a one-year hiatus, the parade returns.



## Obituaries



### Craig Edwards

Craig Edwards, age 59, passed away on March 27, 2021 at Yale New Haven Hospital. He was born in New Haven on April 20, 1961 to the late Howard P. and Frieda (Pelletier) Edwards. Craig worked as a Forklift Operator for Eder Brothers. One of his greatest pleasures was being at the beach. He will be sadly missed by family and friends. Craig is survived by his sister, Sandra (James) Liberty of West Haven, brothers, James (Leila) Edwards of West Ha-

ven, Neil Edwards of Hamden and Howard Edwards of Maine as well as his brother-in-law Joseph McVety of West Haven. He also leaves behind several nieces and nephews. Craig was predeceased by his sisters Susan Edwards McVety, Debra Edwards and Darlene Edwards. Memorial donations may be made in Craig's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

### Elaine K. Wilson

Elaine K. Wilson, age 75, a lifelong resident of West Haven passed away peacefully at CT Hospice on April 5, 2021. She was born in Hartford, daughter of the late Alexander Wilson and Alice Reinwald Wilson Pawlowicz. Elaine is survived by her siblings, Raymond (Judy) Pawlowicz of SC, Gail (Joseph) Fortini of North Haven and Joyce (Mike) Holland of FL, her sister-in-law Eileen Wilson of West Haven, her brother-in-law Louis Cuomo of Bethany, numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews and many

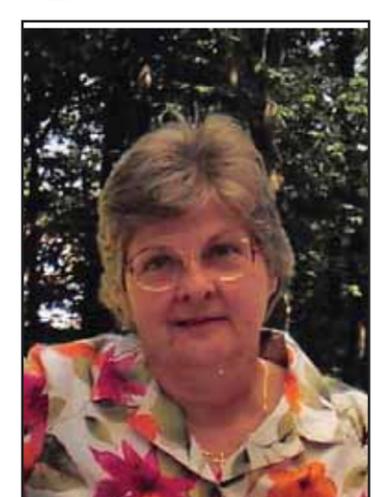
good friends

She was predeceased by her brothers Alexander & William Wilson, her sister Ann Cuomo and her sister-in-law Valerie Wilson.

Prior to her retirement, Elaine worked for Armstrong Pirelli Tire and then was an assistant manager for the West Haven Credit Union.

A Memorial Celebration will be held in the future. West Haven Funeral Home at the Green entrusted with arrangements.

To leave an online condolence, please visit our website at [www.westhavenfuneral.com](http://www.westhavenfuneral.com).



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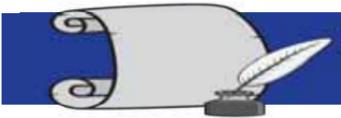
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# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

## West Haven's Centennial Part V

At the close of the Revolutionary War, many Connecticut communities sought to achieve town privileges, and West Haven was no exception: in 1781, Amity, Woodbridge, North Haven, East Haven and Hamden were petitioning for town status. Unlike its initial efforts to establish a separate parish in the early 1700s, West Haven now discovered that New Haven was much more amenable to this latest request.

By this time, Milford had been fighting proposals to dismember it for some time. What followed in 1822, after years of struggle and debate was the joining of North Milford and West Haven into what would be called the Town of Orange--and thus it would remain for the next 99 years. It should be noted that as early as 1848 the people of Orange already "took into consideration the expediency of dividing said town into two towns."

By 1873, West Haven had by their persistence become a borough of Orange, and the original Town Hall was built on the present site of our City Hall. The borough was led by a Warden, giving it semi-independent status within the Town of Orange, but taxes were still paid to Orange. The developing split between Orange and West Haven had been inevitable and was now beginning to take place. Orange was largely rural farmland, self-sustained and thinly settled. Meanwhile West Ha-

ven was home to a shipyard, two buckle companies, a hacksaw shop, a piano manufacturer, and it was attracting other manufacturing concerns as well.

A horsecar company with rail service into the Savin Rock amusement area, Allingtown and New Haven brought laborers quickly to their jobs in the ever-growing array of New Haven factories and stores as well.

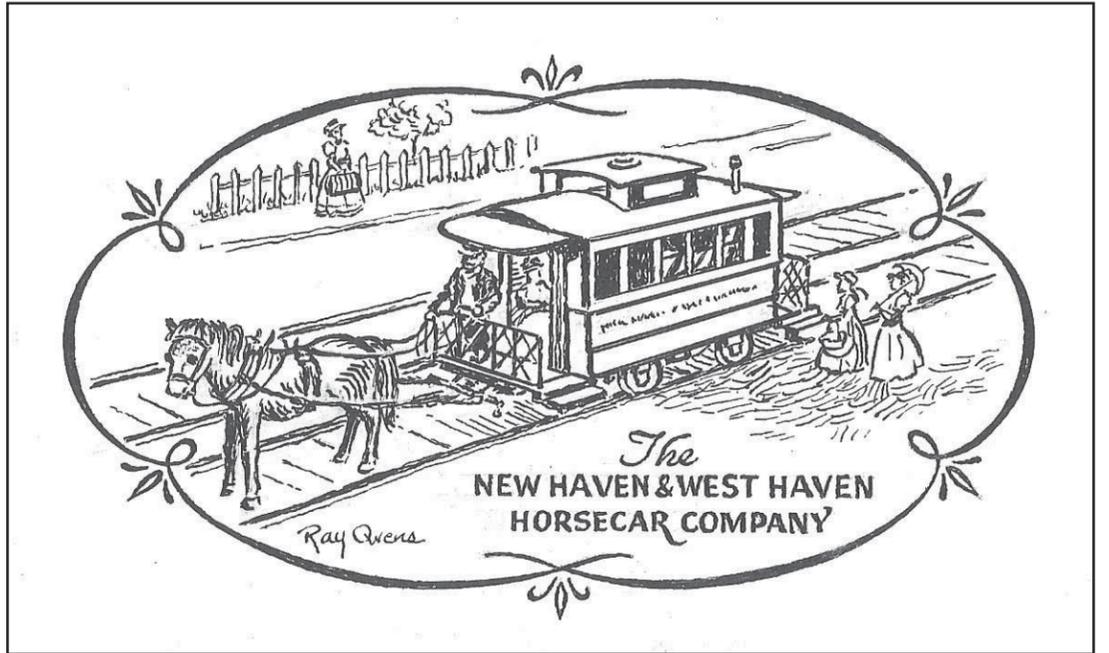
The citizens of West Haven had clamored for public goods: paved roads, street lighting, police and fire services—things that Orange was not interested in providing. Struggles over property tax rates had continually stimulated the creation of the separate borough.

Coincidentally, in 1873 the first telegraph line was extended from New Haven to West Haven and on to Oyster River, linking the borough to the outside world.

No doubt there were those who marveled at this new development, with its mysterious dots and dashes flashing across the overhead lines and onto the clicking iron-core sounders in the distant telegraph offices. The introduction of electricity and city water was but a few years away. For West Haveners, their world was getting smaller and their lives were becoming more convenient and refined.

*Our thanks to Colleen Bailie and the West Haven Public Library for their kind assistance with this story.*

To be continued.



Dan Shine is a columnist for the West Haven Voice



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# Westie baseball moves up to .500

The West Haven baseball team was looking to get off to a good start in the 2021 season. Unable to string together many hits, West Haven fell to Hand-Madison, 5-1, in the season opener for both teams last Monday afternoon at Piurek Field in West Haven.

The Westies were held to just six hits in the game, two coming off the bat of Corey Coggins. The West Haven designated hitter's second hit drove in the only run of the game in the seventh inning with West Haven down 5-0.

The lack of offense and four errors hurt West Haven starter Gianni Gambardella as Gambardella allowed just five hits and three runs, two of which were earned, through six innings. Gambardella struck out eight and walked two in the loss.

Hunter Axelrod pitched the seventh, allowing two hits and two runs (one earned), while walking one and

After a slow start in the season opener, West Haven was looking to pick up its first victory of the year Wednesday afternoon when the Westies traveled to play Xavier at Palmer Field in Middletown.

While the Westies were looking for their initial win of the season, they again could not get a clutch hit in a 5-1 loss to the Falcons.

Dylan Supan took the loss for West Haven on the mound. The junior tossed five innings, allowing four runs, one of which was unearned. Supan allowed six hits, struck out two, and did not walk a batter.

West Haven picked up just four hits in the game, singles by Izzo, Jones, and Wyatt, and a double by Gambardella.

West Haven got in the win column behind the 2-hit pitching of Gambardella, and two hits from Izzo. West Haven topped Jonathan Law, 5-0, in Milford Saturday afternoon.

Gambardella dominated from the start, tossing a complete game, The West Haven junior struck out five and did not walk a batter in the win.

After opening the season with a pair of losses, the West Haven baseball team quickly got to .500. Behind its biggest offensive attack of the young season with 11 hits, including two apiece from Izzo, Jones and Gambardella, West Haven pulled away for an 8-2 victory over Hillhouse Career in New Haven Monday afternoon.

Axelrod tossed the first five innings, allowing two unearned runs and two hits, while striking out six and walking two. Izzo closed the contest, needing just 16 pitches to get through the final two scoreless innings.

Izzo, Jones and Gambardel-

la loaded up the of the lineup as Gambardella also drove in a pair of runs and scored once, Jones scored twice and drove in a run, while Izzo also scored twice.

It may have taken a few extra days, but the season has finally started for the West Haven softball team. The extra time off may have fueled the fire as the Westies erupted for 19 runs on 19 hits in a season-opening 19-0 victory over Hamden at Hamden High Monday afternoon. The game was stopped after six innings.

Not to be lost in the hitting barrage was the pitching of senior Neve Krajcir who tossed six shutout innings, allowing one hit, while walking two and striking out 11.

The Westies had six players with multiple hits, led by freshman Mia Rubirosa with three, and Paige Beurer, Melanie Jimenez, Shyanne Raccio, Holly Waibel, and Hannah Davey with two apiece.

Sophomores Juliana Petruzzillo, Jimenez, and Carrano each drove in three runs, while Rubirosa, Waibel, and freshman Olivia McDonnell each drove in two.

Rubirosa got the Westies going when she led off the contest with a homer to left. Beurer and Krajcir

After a comeback victory over Lyman Hall to start the season, the West Haven boys lacrosse team was looking to get off to a quick start in the home opener against Foran, Monday evening.

Behind two goals from Tyler Moscato, and a goal and an assist apiece from Michael Kelly and Amir Cayo, West Haven topped Foran, 7-4, at Ken Strong Stadium. With the victory, West Haven improved to 2-0 on the year.

"It was another ugly win today," West Haven coach Patrick Reed said. "We played very close to Foran. They are a young team, but very skilled and well-coached. They played a great first half and a broken play let us go into the half up by one. The third quarter was a again our best. Chomps (Anthony Campagnuolo) came up with a couple of huge saves and our defense played in control and shut them out for the third. We didn't take any penalties in the third, but we were able to capitalize on two man-up plays to build a little cushion."

After opening the season with a loss on the road against Jonathan Law, the West Haven girls lacrosse team had a chance to avenge that defeat in quick fashion. Unfortunately for the Westies, they fell just short.

Despite three goals from Olyvia O'Mara, West Haven



Photos by Todd Dandelske

**Above -- Tyler DeSanty throws out a runner against Jonathan Law. The Westies won, 5-0. Below-- Tyler Moscato picks the corner for one of his five goals in the Westies 12-9 victory over Lyman Hall on Opening Day.**

dropped to 0-2 with a 7-6 loss to Law in the home opener for the Westies at Ken Strong Stadium.

West Haven had its chances to get on the scoreboard, but could not find the back of the net. Law goalie Arlene Bunavong also had something to say about that as she made 16 saves in the win for Law.

For the Westies, sophomore Cassidy Dalton, junior Madison Lentine and sophomore Brooke Moscato each scored once. Freshman Amber Mili-trano made 11 saves in the loss for West Haven.

West Haven fell to 0-3 with an 8-3 loss at Lyman Hall Friday evening. With the game

even at three, Lyman Hall pulled away with five goals in the second half to send West Haven to its third loss of the year.

Melissa Tsakonas, Mackenzie Gardner and O'Mara each scored once in the first half for West Haven. The Westies had 24 shots in the game, but Lyman Hall goalie Lauren Cretella made some key saves for the Trojans, finishing with 19.

Claire Riccitelli, Claire Riccitelli, and Casey Mordecai each scored twice for Lyman Hall.

The West Haven boys' tennis team opened the 2021 season with a 5-1 loss against Lyman Hall in Wallingford last

Monday afternoon.

West Haven's lone victory came in the second doubles slot as sophomore Valentin Diaz and junior Mustansir Jamalee won by default. Neither team had enough players for the third doubles team.

In the second doubles spot, Lyman Hall's Anshul Patel and Tyler Hudson topped West Haven's Murtaza Amjad and Ahmed Mohamednour, 6-0, 6-4.

In singles action, Lyman Hall's top seed of Jackson Mailhot defeated Punarvasan Garani 6-4, 6-1. Second-seeded Brady Campbell topped West Haven's Ben Sager 6-0, 6-0,

See Westies, page 16

# Westies: *Boys track comes out of the gate*

Continued from page 15

and third-seeded Alex Zelaya defeated West Haven's Rob Vets 6-0, 6-0. Fourth-seeded Evan Smith of Lyman Hall topped Chris Leum 6-0, 6-0.

West Haven fell to 0-2 with a 5-2 loss against Foran in West Haven Wednesday afternoon.

In singles play, Foran's Nico Esposito defeated top-seeded Garani of West Haven 6-4, 6-0, second-seeded Arush Puri of Foran topped West Haven's Sager 6-7, 6-3, 7-6, and third-seeded Jared O'Sullivan of Foran defeated Abdul Mohamednour 6-1, 6-1. Foran's Ryan Purviance topped Vets in the fourth slot 6-0, 6-0.

In doubles action, West Haven's top seed of Amjad and Mohamednour defeated Danny Abute and Danny Ruano 4-6, 6-4, 7-6. Foran's second seed of Kevin Huang and Keith Pokornowski defeated Jamalee and Chris Leum 6-0, 6-4, and West Haven's third seed of Diaz and Yousef Mohamed defeated Josh Cummings and Steven Mingroane 6-0, 6-1.

West Haven engaged in a hard-fought battle against Hamden Monday afternoon. The Westies could not pull out the victory, falling to 0-3 with a 4-3 loss against Hamden in West Haven.

In singles action, top-seeded Garani defeated Hamden's Quinn Northrup 7-6, 3-6, 10-7. Hamden's Brian Oppenheim defeated West Haven's Sager in the second slot 6-3, 6-3, while Ham-

den's Josh Alexander topped third-seeded Mohamednour 6-3, 6-0. West Haven's Hayat Khan took home the victory in the fourth slot.

In doubles action, Hamden's Will Shrier and Ivan Forbes defeated West Haven's top seed of Amjad and Ahmed Mohamednour, 6-2, 6-1. In the second slot, Hamden's Maddox Lho and Paras Dodd topped Leum and Vets 6-0, 6-1. West Haven's Diaz and Mohamed won in the third slot.

The girls' tennis team fell to 0-2 with a 7-0 loss against Sheehan in Wallingford last Monday afternoon.

In singles play, Sheehan's top seed of Maddie Yasgar beat West Haven's Rebecca Oranzo 6-0, 6-1. Second-seeded Daytona Scherb of Sheehan topped Marley Hauer 6-0, 6-1, and third-seeded Jordyn Allen of the Titans beat Anaeleca Turcio 6-0, 6-0. Dylan Smith beat Fatmanur Aciker 6-0, 6-0 in the fourth slot.

In doubles action, Sheehan's Becky Falcone and Alondra Lopez topped West Haven's Jenna Massaro and Elyze Ancheta 6-0, 6-0. Sheehan's second seed of Lexi Carim and Sydney Cuticelli defeated West Haven's Celia Williams and Jeanette McLaughlin 6-0, 6-0, while the third seed of Sheehan, Halle Digioia and Emily Jasinski beat Vinesah Mumar and Hilari Morrobel-Diplan, 6-0, 6-0.

West Haven fell to 0-3 with a 7-0 loss at Jonathan Law Wednesday after-

noon.

In singles action, Law's top seed of Lucia Pino defeated Savannah Lopez 6-0, 6-0, while second-seeded Samantha Burns topped West Haven's Oranzo 6-0, 6-0. Law's third-seeded Jenna Bagdasarian defeated Hauer, 6-0, 6-0, and fourth-seeded Diya Daruka topped West Haven's Turcio, 6-0, 6-0.

In doubles play, Law's top seed of Sabrina Lawless and Caroline Doyle beat West Haven's Williams and McLaughlin, 6-0, 6-0. Second-seeded Sophie Masselli and Nihitha Kothapalli defeated West Haven's Ancheta and Jenna Massaro 6-0, 6-0, while third-seeded Olivia Hudak and Isabella Gejac topped West Haven's Mumar and Morrobel-Diplan, 6-0, 6-0.

The West Haven boys track team opened season with a 72-63 victory over East Haven Wednesday afternoon at West Haven High. West Haven had nine first place finishes in the meet.

"The entire team brought an outstanding energy to the track today," West Haven coach Ryan Knight said. "Some of these guys have been waiting almost two years to compete outdoors, so it's no surprise the motivation was there. We'll continue to work relentlessly until the next meet."

James Weber and Allen Aldrich had solid days as each was part of three victorious events. The 4 × 800 relay of Justin Rodriguez, Aldrich, Raymond Pagan, and Weber was victorious in

9 minutes, 13.2 seconds, while the 4 × 400 relay of Alex Potter, Dante Rodney, Pagan, and Weber won in 4:02.3. The 4 × 100 relay of John McLaughlin, Hugo Castillo-Guerra, Shawn Tarpeh, and Chris Bowen won in 51.9 seconds.

Weber won the 400 m in 54.4 seconds, while Aldrich was victorious in the 800 m in 2:22.9 and the 3200 in 12:58.3.

Rodriguez won the 1600m in 5:23.6 and Bowen was victorious in the shot put at 31-3.

The West Haven girls track team opened the 2021 season with a 93-48 loss against East Haven at West Haven High Wednesday afternoon. The Westies controlled the relays, but only picked up five first place finishes in the loss.

The 4 × 800 relay of West Haven's Isabella Fiorillo, Maryangel Cruz, Amanda Gullo, and Kenedi Merola was victorious in 12:21.93, while the 4×100 relay of West Haven's Mya Flemming, Ouonaejah Bourne, Tanasia Fildalgo, and Tomalyn Williams won in 55.07. West Haven also won the 4 × 400 relay with a team of Williams, Fiorillo, Merola, and Flemming in 5:02.3.

West Haven's Fildalgo won the 300 hurdles in 53.1 seconds, while the 800m was won by West Haven's Fiorillo in 3:01.

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



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Left -- Dan Izzo makes a spectacular sliding catch in center-field for the Blue Devils. Above -- Anthony Rubin helps the Westies cut down a runner at home in a 5-1 loss to Hand. After losing to Southern Connecticut Conference powerhouses Hand and Xavier in their opening games, the Westies bounced back with wins against Jonathan Law and Hillhouse Career to reach the .500 mark. The spring sports season is now in full swing for the first time since 2019 with all Devils teams playing.

## Shore Haven League offers scholarships

Shore Haven Junior Baseball is accepting scholarship applicants from June 2021 high school seniors pursuing further education.

The league will be awarding two scholarships in the amount of \$250 each in honor of Dave Terese, Sr., Mario J. Argentino plus the Joseph Morrell Sr. scholarship.

All applicants must have participated in the league for two years. Applications must be returned by May 30, 2021 to Charles Gunning, 125 Central Ave., West Haven 06516.

More information can be obtained from area high school guidance offices or by calling (203) 934-9740.

# Youth Soccer League opens with full slate

The West Haven Youth Soccer League opened its spring season last weekend with a full slate of games under sunny skies.

The Elite Soccer Camps Red Rangers won their first game of the season against the Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center Gold Ninjas, 8-4.

For the Red Rangers, Ryan Abekah, Luca DeCrescenzo, and Matteo D'Elia impressed with their footskills and shooting accuracy, all finding the back of the net. Seth Empric pulled an impressive step-over, clearing room for a shot on goal, and Ben Trenchard did the same with a shoulder fake in front of goal, and both Empric and Trenchard found the back of the net.

Collin Gibbons and Jacob Rader made some great passes, Jax Guarino and a sliding stop in front of his goal, and Elias Padilla, Emmett Hemming and Brandon Rylski all impressed in their opening game.

The Golden Ninjas showed a lot of hustle in the game. Aaron Azana played strong on defense, Omar Boghdady showed a lot of heart and hustle, and Julian Concepcion gave it his all.

The R. Mark Pappas D.C. Blue Lightning played their first game of the season against Gunning Law Firm.

Despite playing hard throughout the game, the Blue Lightning came up short in a 7-5 loss. The Blue Lightning scoring was led by Ava Pel-

lino and Stella Porto, with several goals between them and a few great moves and skills to weave in and out of the Gunning Law Firm's defense. The defense for the Blue Lightning was led by Taliah Boykin and Samira Kamara in goal.

Cappetta's Italian Imports opened the season against Shoreline Wellness Center with a 3-2 loss.

Annabelle Fiorillo dominated in defense with goals by Celeste DiNallo and Luciana Cappetta.

The First Congregational Church of West Haven won their opening game of the season over Stars Ice Cream, 6-3. The offense was led by Sophia Mazuroski, who scored some key goals. The defense was led by Michelle Tompkins. Trinity Smith played in her first game and she played well defensively.

#DAVILATRIBE played Rock House School of Music. #DAVILATRIBE won the game, 5-2.

Dulce Pooou scored for Rock House, making it a close game and Mama Kamara had multiple saves in goal.

For #DAVILATRIBE, Juliana Crudo scored her first goal for her team. Eliana Centeno-Galdamez scored a hat trick. Camila Suarez-Caporal pushed the up the field from her defensive position to score a goal helping the team win.

The UNH Maroon Wolves played Nick's Luncheonette on Saturday. The two teams had enough players to split

into two separate games. Wolfs came out on top with a score of 6-4 and 7-1.

Nick's Luncheonette team played great defense and attacked when the time was right. The Wolves' Alessio Biscaglia and Karaj Barton showed great teamwork in the attacking side.

While Lincoln Bertolini and Gavin Lenihan played tenacious defense. As a team the Wolves played well and played with a lot of energy. The Sports Sanitizing of CT-Doritos won against Milano & Wanat, 3-2.

The Doritos played great, coming from behind for the win. Jackson Schoeman led the way with a hat trick. Abraham Marmol showed off his speed

on offense and passed the ball well. Alex Johnson played well in goal and on the field.

In other action, Seacrest Retirement Center defeated P&B Express, 2-1, and Oyster River Energy took down Porto Funeral Home by the same score. Sweet Relief topped the Top Hat Dance Company, 3-0, and the WH Italian-American Civic Association took down Stars Ice Cream, 4-3.

In travel team action, the Vio's Sports Plus U10 girls had a strong start to the season with their first game against Orange despite a 2-1 loss. Stella Porto and Kiley McCoart were aggressive on the field. Luciana Cappetta scored for West Haven. The Baybrook Remodelers U11 girls traveled

to Guilford for its first league game on Sunday. In the first half Braelynn Elliot scored our first goal with an assist pass from Sophia Empric. Kylie Gibbons scored our second solo goal. We played a strong second half but ultimately lost, 5-2.

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- 33 Hostel
- 34 Goes belly up
- 35 Water tester
- 36 "Acid"
- 37 French 101 verb
- 38 Quick look
- 39 Online address
- 41 Ump's call
- 43 Steak choices
- 46 Toy bricks
- 50 Actor McGregor
- 51 Intensify
- 54 Damon of Hollywood
- 55 Essen exclamation
- 56 Grand tale



- 57 On the briny
- 58 Fish story
- 59 Take five
- 9 Walk
- 10 Champagne brand
- 11 Tolkien creatures
- 16 Thai language
- 20 Cravats
- 22 Coup d' -
- 23 Hideaways
- 25 Up to
- 26 ER workers
- 27 Move in waves
- 29 Entreaty
- 31 "The Raven" writer
- 32 "A mouse!"
- 34 Fedora fabric
- 38 Kitchen gadget
- 40 Oscar de la -
- 42 Ga. neighbor
- 43 Disaster aid org.
- 44 "As - saying ..."
- 45 Barking critter
- 47 Be slack-jawed
- 48 Elevator name
- 49 Faction
- 52 High school subj.
- 53 "Evita" role

**MAGIC MAZE • SMOOTHIE INGREDIENTS**

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: GREEK —  
Banana Ice cream Nuts Syrup  
Blueberries Ice Protein Tea  
Chocolate Kale Seeds Whey  
Honey Milk Spinach

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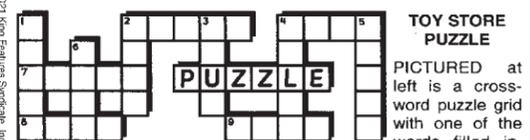
**FRAMED!** Hidden in the above frame of letters is the first line of a famous nursery rhyme. You can find it by reading every other letter in the frame as you read around it clockwise. The trick is to find the correct letter to start with. The picture is a clue.

**A NUTTY CHALLENGE!** Tell your friends that you have in your hand something that no one on earth has ever seen, and that after you show it to them no one will ever see it again. When they fail to figure out what you're holding, open your hand and show them a peanut shell. Open the shell and show them the peanuts inside. No one has ever seen them before. Now pop them into your mouth and chew them up. No one will ever see them again!

**WAKE UP!** No sleeping on this one. In this puzzle, all of the words get progressively longer, and they all end in COT. Use the following definitions:  
1. COT (in place). 2. Native of Glasgow.  
3. A broad scarf. 4. Symbol of a sports team.  
5. A yellow-orange fruit. 6. Paneling on walls.

**Junior Whirl**

by Charles Barry Townsend

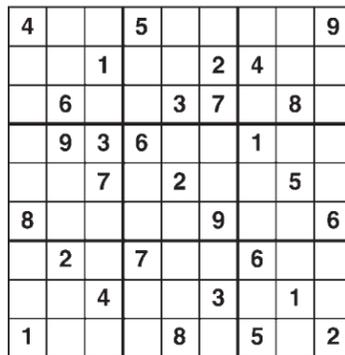


**TOY STORE PUZZLE**  
PICTURED at left is a crossword puzzle grid with one of the words filled in. Below are the words that you'll need to finish the puzzle. The items are all things that you might buy in a toy store. See if you can fill in the puzzle before the store closes in 10 minutes.

- 4-letter words: BOAT, DART, DRUM, MASK, NETS, SLED
- 5-letter words: DOLLS, GLOVE, SLIDE, TRAIN, WAGON

**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!

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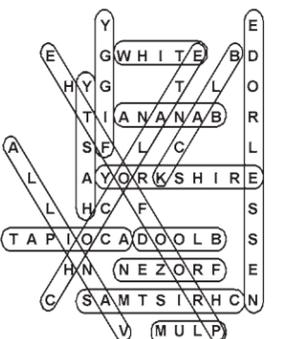
**Answers to last week's puzzles**

**King Crossword — Answers**

Solution time: 22 mins.



**— PUDDING**



**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

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

# City Council Slates Spring Clean-Ups

City Council Chairman Ronald M. Quagliani (D-At Large) has announced that each City Council district will be holding Spring Clean-Ups over the next few months. These Clean-up efforts will be led by each District Council person in cooperation with Mayor Nancy R. Rossi and the Department of Public Works. We welcome our residents to join us in this city-wide clean-up effort.

As a reminder, garbage and litter is to be disposed of properly and not discarded on our roadways, parks, beaches, and watercourses. The West Haven Police Department and the City’s Blight Enforcement Officers enforce violations of our litter and blight ordinances. Blight or litter violations can be reported to the West Haven Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at 203-937-3570. In-progress dumping/littering violations can be reported to the West Haven Police non-emergency number, 203-937-3900.



District clean-up dates are as follows:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>COUNCIL MEMBER</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1st District	Councilwoman Bridgette Hoskie	Saturday, May 1st 12 - 2 pm	West Haven Green near Campbell Avenue
2nd District	Councilman William Conlon	Saturday, May 22nd 10am – noon	April Street Boat Ramp
3rd District	Councilperson Liz Johnston	Saturday, April 24th 9 – 11am	Third Avenue Park near May Street
4th District	Councilman Mitch Galignano	Saturday, May 15th 10am – noon	Stevens Avenue near West Spring Street
5th District	Councilwoman Robbin Watt-Hamilton	Saturday, May 8th 12-2 pm	Daytona St / Budd Place
6th District	Councilman Peter Massaro	Saturday, May 8th 10 am – noon	Marginal Drive near North Pl
7th District	Councilwoman Treneé McGee	Saturday, May 22nd 2-4 pm	Molloy School / Meloy Road
8th District	Councilwoman Chrystal Fanelli	Saturday, May 1st 10 am - noon	Colonial Blvd near Connecticut Avenue
9th District	Councilman Robert Bruneau	Saturday, May 1st 10 am - noon	Colonial Blvd near Connecticut Avenue
10th District	Councilman Barry Lee Cohen	Saturday, June 26th 9:30 – 11 am	Oyster River Beach near Baybrook Rotary

Council members At-Large Colleen O’Connor, Gary Donovan, and Ronald Quagliani will join the district Council persons in this effort. More information will be provided by each district Councilperson on these clean-ups.





Photo by Todd Dandelske

## Victorious!

Above -- Gianni Gambardella hurls a complete game, two-hit, 5-0 shutout against Law on Saturday. Right -- Conner Fowler celebrates one of his four goals in the win over the Lyman Hal Trojans. See more, beginning page 15.



## West Haven Seahawks

Ray Tellier Midget Football League of West Haven, Inc.

### Welcome to the 2021 Seahawks Football and Cheerleading Season!

FOOTBALL- CHEERLEADING -SCHOLASTICS- LEADERSHIP- TEAMWORK- FUN

Come join our regionally and nationally ranked football and cheerleading teams!

**No Tryouts – First Come – First Serve**

**Unlimited Weight Football by Age: 8U – 10U – 12U – 14U**

#### Programs and Registration Rates

Flag Football (5 & 6 Years old)	\$ 125.00
Tackle Football (7-14 years old)	\$ 225.00
Tiny Mite Cheer (5 & 6 years old)	\$ 125.00
Competitive Cheer (7-14 years old)	\$ 225.00

\*\* Equipment and uniforms included \*\*

Discounts available for multi-participant siblings  
Online payment options available at:  
[www.westhavenseahawk.com](http://www.westhavenseahawk.com)

#### 2021 Registration Dates

<b>May 13th</b>	Veterans Field	6-8pm
<b>May 27th</b>	Veterans Field	6-8pm
<b>June 10th</b>	Veterans Field	6-8pm

Please bring registration form, birth certificate (original with seal and a copy) and the medical release form completed by your physician and submit current school year report card when available.

Forms: [www.westhavenseahawk.com](http://www.westhavenseahawk.com)

#### For More information:

**Football:** Mike Last 203-640-8018  
**Cheerleading:** Cebi Waterfield 203-676-6196

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[whseahawkscheer@gmail.com](mailto:whseahawkscheer@gmail.com)

