

# West Haven Voice

May 19, 2022

Vol. 27, Issue 10 20 Pages

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

## Voice Feature

*An in-depth feature*

WHHS Culinary Program gives hands-on experience

See page 9



## Rossi defends city to Lamont

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi has sent a letter to Gov. Ned Lamont defending West Haven's fiscal management while pledging to cooperate with the state Municipal Accountability Review Board "to improve and strengthen the city's financial operations."

On April 14, the MARB voted to recommend advancing the city to Tier IV, the highest level of state oversight allowed under the MARB by state statute. The final decision is up to Lamont, who was expected at press time to agree with the panel.

In her letter, she recounted the decisions that led to the establishment of the MARB for the city as she took office.

"Within my first week on the job, I was summoned to a meeting with former (state Office of Policy and Management) Secretary Benjamin Barnes, who informed me that West Haven would come under the oversight of the newly created MARB," Rossi said in the May 11 letter to Lamont. "The reasoning was the deficit bonding by my predecessor, former Mayor Ed O'Brien, in the amount of about \$18 million. Along with deficit bonding, the prior administration ran consecutive operating budget deficits causing the fund balance deficit to balloon from \$7.8 million in 2013 to more than \$18 million in 2017."

"Everything was broken in West Haven," Rossi said.

See Rossi, page 8



Photo courtesy of UNH

## Commencement!

The University of New Haven celebrated Commencement, Saturday, with the Class of 2022 taking center stage. Parents, faculty, alums and friends took part in the traditional ceremony, which saw bachelor's and advanced degrees awarded to students.

## Vietnam vet set to lead annual march

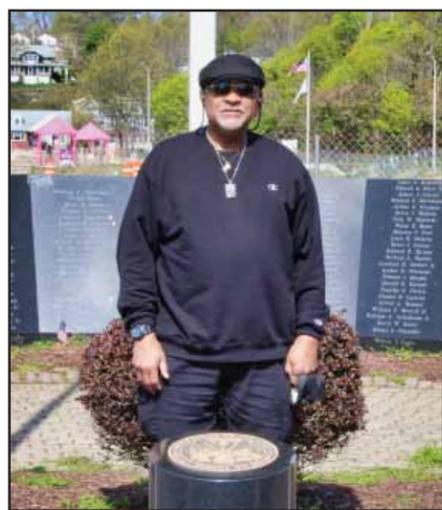


Photo by Michael P. Walsh  
EMERY LINTON, SR

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Vietnam veteran Emery Linton, Sr. will serve as grand marshal of the city's Memorial Day parade when it steps off at 10:30 a.m. May 30.

Linton, 73, will lead the 40-unit procession of veterans, dignitaries and bands along the 1.5-mile parade route, which follows Campbell Avenue from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Center Street.

A decorated Army veteran who served a tour of duty in the Vietnam War, he embraced the honor with typical grace and humility.

"I'm honored they asked me to serve as grand marshal," said Linton, refer-

ring to the West Haven Veterans Council, which helps the city organize the annual parade.

Linton said he accepted the honor during a recent phone call from Veterans Council President Dave Ricci and other members.

"I said, 'What are you crazy,'" joked Linton, moments before thanking them. "Anything they do, I try to help them out with."

Linton was tapped by the Veterans Council for his years of service to the military, his fellow vets and his community, the latter of which is perhaps the cornerstone of the qualifications for grand marshal, Ricci said.

"Emery Linton has been a longtime

resident of West Haven and has made great sacrifices to protect us and to protect this country," Mayor Nancy R. Rossi said. "I am proud that he is serving as grand marshal of our Memorial Day parade, as he is the epitome of what we are coming together to celebrate: sacrifice, service and an undying commitment to one's country."

"I am grateful for those like Emery who are willing to serve as community leaders, and I would like to express my gratitude for all veterans, whether they have served or are currently serving."

This year's edition of southern Connecticut's oldest and largest Memorial Day parade has no rain date and will

See Parade, page 15

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### On this Date

1963 -- Martin Luther King's Letter from Birmingham Jail is published. King used the open letter to defend his nonviolent resistance against racism and segregation. It became one of the central texts for the civil rights movement in the United States.

1962 --Marilyn Monroe performs her famous rendition of Happy Birthday. Monroe gave her sultry performance, which was to be her last, at a party for U.S. President John F. Kennedy. The two are believed to be having an affair.

1959 -- The North Vietnamese Army begins organizing the Ho Chi Minh trail. According to the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA), the system of supply routes used by the "Vietcong" was "one of the greatest achievements of military engineering of the 20th century."

1919 -- Mustafa Kemal Atatürk sets off the Turkish War of Independence. The fight against the allies of the Triple Entente ended some four years later.

1743 -- Jean-Pierre Christin invents the Celsius thermometer. The centigrade temperature scale is used by most countries around the world. Exceptions include the United State, Belize, and Palau.



### \$28K donation funds scholarship for 14 years

From left, Douglas J. Ruickoldt and his father, Doug "the Rake" Ruickoldt, present a \$28,000 check on behalf of the West Haven Breast Cancer Awareness Program to West Haven High School Principal Dana Paredes on May 6 to benefit the Susan A. Ruickoldt Scholarship Fund as Mayor Nancy R. Rossi and committee member Beth A. Sabo look on. The donation will support the scholarship fund for the next 14 years, said Sabo, adding that money raised at the annual Dubel's Golf Tournament will further benefit the fund. The Ruickoldts thanked and praised Sabo for her unwavering commitment to the Breast Cancer Awareness Program, including collecting more than \$700,000 for breast cancer research and education.

### Contact

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# Rossi threatens Haven developer with fine

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi said the city is considering fining The Haven developer for not cleaning up and maintaining the properties it owns along Water Street as part of the long-planned luxury outlet center.

Rossi's warning came during an "emergency" meeting with city and public safety officials at the Water Street project site May 6 to discuss

options for holding the developer, Simon Premium Outlets of Morristown, New Jersey, responsible for the area's rise in blight and traffic issues since the street's temporary closure for The Haven's demolition phase two years ago.

The temporary closure, approved by the city's Board of Police Commissioners, was expected to pave the way for the demolition of several existing commercial buildings acquired by the developer as

part of The Haven South Municipal Development Plan. The area is composed of 55 properties bounded by First Avenue, Elm Street, Water Street, Center Street, Richards Place, Main Street and Bayview Place.

While some buildings have been razed since April 27, 2020, The Haven Development Co. has yet to submit plans to the city to build the proposed \$200 million, 261,182-square-foot waterfront development.

The development company is led by John P. Dionis, Simon's vice president of development, and Matt Armstrong, the executive vice president of The Haven Group LLC, based in Dallas.

During the morning meeting, which included an inspection of Water Street, Rossi said

the city has not heard from the developer in more than three months, despite repeated calls to Dionis by city officials to discuss blight and traffic concerns.

The meeting was attended by Rossi Executive Assistant Louis P. Esposito Jr., City  
**See Water Street, page 13**



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

From left, West Haven Planning Director Christopher Soto, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, Executive Assistant Louis P. Esposito Jr. and Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy inspect the Water Street area of The Haven development for blight violations during an emergency meeting May 6. The city is considering fining the project developer for not cleaning up and maintaining the properties it owns along Water Street, which is temporarily closed, as part of the long-planned luxury outlet center.



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# Dear Felicia

As we head into the final days of May – and it finally gets warm around here – things in our little corner of the universe are really popping, both good and bad. And we have many, many things to talk about, honeybunch.

The foist thing is a letter that Cobina received from Christine Sullivan of the Economic Development Commish. She has been good in two ways: she facilitates the semi-regular feature, "Hidden Gems," which highlights businesses in town; and she is not afraid to let people know how she thinks things are going – something almost unheard of hereabouts.

Tennyrate, she has been on the "Savin Rock Museum" caper and sent a missive this way:

"There appears to be, quite frankly, little to no interest in our little burg in maintaining

the Savin Rock Museum. Because the museum was never run to potential, and then closed (pre-pandemic) for years, no one misses it. Anyone with a modicum of interest, or perhaps more, such as the historical society, are just thankful that some artifacts will still be visible and looking beyond that to the positives of the brewery; the museum is lost in the shuffle. It is now pretty plainly admitted – despite some information which purports to be more or less the real deal – that this will in no way be a museum, that it will be "a display".

"Any criticism of losing even a down-on-its-luck museum ("It was never really a museum") is taken as criticism of the New England Brewing Company, which it definitely is not. The brewery is a boon for economic development and welcomed. It is un-

fortunate that its kind offer to display some of the artifacts is paradoxically the cause of the issue at hand. According to Marty Juliano of NEBCO, they did consider building a separate building for the museum, but parking considerations made that impossible - that would have been preferable, alas.

"As NEBCO wasn't able to showcase the items except in a high-traffic area, those responsible should have at least considered any opportunity to move the museum, to rejuvenate it, to make it a vibrant museum that worked with schools and the community. As you noted to "Felicia", why did it have to be one or the other? Why couldn't we have the brewery and keep the museum? But it turns out it doesn't matter, because no one cares. That's where the criticism lies.

"Meanwhile it's been mentioned that when the Transit Oriented District finally builds housing on Hood Terrace, the Veterans' Museum will be in the same boat -- actually a worse boat, as I don't think they'll be displaying any of those articles in apartment or condo lobbies. Along with plentiful fire department memorabilia as well as other West Haven history artifacts being farmed out from the

Savin Rock Museum (there's some confusion as to whether they have been distributed or have yet to be -- and there's still the matter of The Lost Cannon), our history is in danger of slowly disappearing and with it opportunities for community involvement and economic development.. The city needs to keep this in mind and prepare - show some vision for the future. How do you think that will turn out?"

That final question is a real zinger, but a good one. How, indeed? Just one thing, why does this effort have to be a criticism of one thing in favor of t'other? Why is everything either/or? Can't it be both? Politicians like to pit issues as either/or. They don't necessarily hafta be. More on this in coming missives, hon.

Nelly Nuthatch came by and is really impressed by the fack that Herroner has had it up to her biscupids with the Haven developers. As yew know, some type of negotiations have been going on with the Simon Group, the developers, to git a timeline/idea of what in blazes is being planned and when to expect it. To say the developers have played things close to the vest is a joke.

Soooo, now Herroner is gonna play a bit o' hardball. Good! Maybe it will git the developers to fish or cut bait. She's ready to fine them for blight cuz they are working at a snail's pace to get the buildings razed over there, and have yet to file a plan with the city.

Also, she is thinking seriously of reopening Water Street at least for the summer to alleviate the traffic over there. Anyone who has been traveling on First Avenue toward El-em Street knows what she's talking about. It's backed up for three blocks at least on any given day, and worse during rush hour. Cobina don't wanna be a Gloomy Gus, but me-thinks the slow-walking of this projeck is a portend of the thing being dumped. Shopping centers – even upscale ones – are not doing well. The one in Norwalk is a good example. It's doing OK, but the traffic over there ain't what people thought it would be by a long shot. And, that is Fairfield County, where everything is upscale. We shall see how this transpires.

Of course, the big news everyone is anticipating is the city going to Tier IV with the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB). Watch what happens after the ink dries on Gov. Ned Lamont's order. Things in this burg are gonna be much different, and what happens over the next few weeks and months will keep our ink supplier happy.

The descent to Tier IV has

been long in coming, and the second time the city will be in virtual receivership by the state in 30 years. The board will have virtual control over everything budgetary – and contractual – so it is gonna be very interesting to see what transpires in that regard. The unions in town may or may not be happy with the outcomes.

It's not gonna be a happy time here. Taxes will go up, probably, at the whim of the board, and whilst the mayor and a representative will be on the panel, the outsiders will make all the decisions. They haven't showed much respect for the taxpayers heretofore. There is little to make us think they'll respect us going forward.

Well, Sammy Bluejay was there the night the City Council did its duty and finalized the budget. The package stays perty much the \$168.3 million the mayor's office sent to the body, but they did some jiggling around with the figgers, and got the city outta a potential problem by taking away raises for elected officials that was in the plan. Remember, the raises can only be for the next term, not the current one.

Sooo, after that was done, the city will have its package beginning July 1. Let's just hope that the above-mentioned MARB doesn't decide to reopen the plan and make its own mix of things.

Our ole buddy Ed Granfield must be snickering. Ever since the stuff hit the fan about the city's spending practices and Tier IV being almost inevitable, some politicos in the city have taken a new gander at the plan the Charter Revision Commish put together two years ago, and was narrowly defeated by the voters.

Now that things are in dire straits, some of the revisions are being looked at afresh, with an eye toward getting more professional people involved in the day-to-day operations of the city. Hmmm-mm. Now don'tcha think that Granfield and John Carrano, who spearheaded the two-year process, are chortling at the fack some of the same politicos who pooh-poohed the idea of the overhaul are now looking at the document with less-jaundiced eyes? Remember, the politicos determined they were against it – more because it changed the rules of the game from what they were used to. Now with things going to Hades in a wicker basket, they wanna take another look. Granfield and Carrano must be snickering in their lagers.

Mitt luff und kizzez,  
*Cobina*

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**Gripe Vine Readers:**

I have received quite a few pothole complaints and have directed these to the council person representing your district. Occasionally, they are ignored, and I must send a second request for a follow up. There are occasions when a district council person will indicate in their response that they have passed this request on for assistance. That's it! Usually, there is no solution received by Gripe Vine to indicate that this complaint has been attended to by a city representative and that the problem had been solved. I also must rely on the individuals complaining to get back to me indicating their problem had been solved by the city.

Here's an example: Councilman Robert Bruneau received a gripe from a reader, "Someone tried to fill potholes here on Highland and Sawmill Road but only filled them half-way. Others they missed completely and there are causing cracks in the pavement. They look like a war-pocked drive-way stip. Please fix it."

I forwarded it to the appropriate council persons and did receive a reply from Councilman Robert Bruneau who replied, "Thank you for reaching out. I will notify Public Works to get this handled."

To update my readers who submitted streets with similar problems, I heard from residents on the following streets: Greta, Meloy Road, Highland, Sawmill, Savin, Church Street, and Campbell. I have forward-

ed these streets to the Public Works Works Department for repair.

I like to see solutions and, obviously, I wasn't too happy with the lack of responses I called Public Works and was offered an explanation of why these potholes were not filled. Evidently, there was a delivery delay of a special ingredient to assure a satisfactory solution in the process of filling these potholes. I will be looking for my readers responses on this pothole problem.

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

You helped me many times in the past. Not sure who I should call about the street sign on Cold Spring Road which is dangling.

GW

**Dear GW:**

I left a message at the West Haven Police Department. Has the sign been reattached? Please let me know gripevine-4wh@aol.com.

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

"The handicap ramps were all done last year, but the problem is I live on the corner Chin Clift Trail) and when the city built the ramps to requirements, it made the sidewalk drop a foot so now the grade is steeper than it was. I have my 90-year-old father-in-law living with me and is wheelchair-bound and to push a 250-pound man up the sidewalk is tough."

ME

**Dear ME:**

Steven Johnstone, Councilman for your district was contacted regarding your handi-



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

cap sidewalk drop. He replied, "I will look into it. I can't promise it will be right away with everything going on with

the budget and ARPA, but I will look into it....no promises but effort."

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

I visited the beach (dated April 7) this morning with my daughter to pick up some of the trash, nothing out of the ordinary. We were picking up the trash behind the wooden fence along one of the wood bridges that leads to the beach and was picking up numerous nip bottles and beer cans and that was when I noticed the sleeping bags and clothes under the bridge."

*Caring for the Environment*

**Dear Caring:**

Thank you for your cleanup

efforts. I notified your District Councilman Meli Garthwait of your discovery of homeless encamping. I also notified the mayor's office as well.

**Gripe Vine Readers:**

Gripe Vine received a complaint of lights being out on the Green. Let me know if they have been turned on yet. The city has been made aware of this complaint.

~~~~

Send your gripes, issues or comments to gripevine4wh@aol.com Please include your name, address and phone number. This information is kept in strict confidence with me.

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## Newport Playhouse trip set

The West Haven Senior Center will offer a bus trip Aug. 3 to the Newport Playhouse in Newport, Rhode Island.

The trip includes lunch and the suspenseful comedy "Murder at the Howard Johnson's," a love triangle set in a Howard Johnson's motor lodge involving a woman, her lover and her husband.

The trip costs \$125 and includes transportation, admission, lunch and all gratuities. Payment is due June 24. For reservations, call (203) 937-3507 or register at the senior center, 201 Noble St., upper level.

The bus will depart at 8:45 a.m. from the Savin Rock Conference Center parking lot, 6 Rock St., and leave at 5 p.m. from Newport.

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## Memorial Day Prayer -- 2022

Memorial Day was begun as a way to honor the Civil War dead in the 1880s. Known as Decoration Day until fairly recently, it is a way for the nation to remember all those who fight for the nation, and especially those who pay the ultimate price.

With our fighting men and women in harm's way, this Memorial Day takes on a special meaning. It will be a bittersweet reminder that many thousands are away from home, serving the nation in far-off lands. We think of no greater editorial opinion than expressing the hope they return to us safely.

We make that opinion known by means of a hymn known to us all, though slightly changed to include all the services. *The Navy Hymn*, known also as *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*, was written by Englishman William Whiting. It became the U.S. Navy's hymn soon after, and no service in the Academy Chapel at Annapolis concludes without its singing. It was revised in the Missionary Prayer Book in the 1930s to the version we show here. Sung to John B. Dykes stirring tune, *Melita*, it is a favorite of all denominations, and gained a bittersweet resurgence during the days following the assassination of President John Kennedy.

We present it in an ecumenical version as the hope of all, no matter what creed or religion one follows:

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea.

O God, the Lord of hill and plain  
O'er which our traffic runs amain,  
By mountain pass or valley low:  
Where ever, Lord, Thy brethren go,  
Protect them by thy guarding hand  
From every peril on the land.

O Spirit, whom the father sent,  
To spread abroad the firmament:  
O Wind of Heaven, by Thy might  
Save all who dare the eagle's flight,  
And keep them by the watchful care  
From every peril in the air.

Almighty God of Love and Power,  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
Glad praise from air and land and sea. Amen.



## Scalia was right -- again!

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

Justice Antonin Scalia was among the most prescient Supreme Court justices in American history, and the firestorm over the leak of Justice Samuel Alito's draft opinion overturning *Roe* is a reminder of it.

In *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, the 1992 Supreme Court decision upholding (and amending) *Roe v. Wade*, the justices in the majority believed that they could settle once and for all the dispute over abortion.

Scalia thought this was outlandishly wrongheaded and said so in a dissent that looks farsighted 30 years later. Not only did the Court fail to calm the political waters on abortion, it made itself central to the political and moral argument over the issue.

If there's any doubt about that, consider the security fencing reminiscent of the days after January 6 that is now going up around the Supreme Court building. Consider the left-wing group planning protests at the homes of conservative justices. Consider the proposal from Sen. John Cornyn of Texas that justices get 24/7 security details.

It's extraordinary that now, at the very least, the whiff of

physical intimidation is part of the Court's deliberations on *Roe*.

Scalia might be surprised by that, but not that abortion has remained a point of contention over the decades, despite the Court's preposterous belief that it could make itself the final arbiter.

In his dissent in *Casey*, Scalia analogized the Court's jurisprudence on abortion to its decision in *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, the notorious 1857 case in which the Court denied the petition of a slave named *Dred Scott* for freedom.

The Court issued a sweeping decision, declaring unconstitutional the Missouri Compromise of 1820 that had banned slavery north of latitude 36 degrees 30' in the Louisiana Purchase. It did this, in part, because it thought it could forge a settlement on slavery that had eluded the political branches.

Instead, the Chief Justice Roger Taney made himself infamous for a decision that, like *Roe* and *Casey*, was wrongly decided, that entrenched and extended a profound social wrong, that short-circuited democratic decision-making, and that utterly failed to create political and social peace.

The decision was immediately excoriated by opponents

of slavery in the harshest possible terms. They called into question its legitimacy and indeed the legitimacy of the Court itself. Serious and sober-minded men like Abraham Lincoln and William Seward advanced conspiracy theories for how the Court could have arrived at such an atrocious place. (There were indeed improprieties around the Court's deliberations.)

Scalia invoked a portrait of Roger Taney at Harvard Law School by the great painter Emanuel Leutze in 1859. "He sits," Scalia wrote, "facing the viewer and staring straight out. There seems to be on his face, and in his deep-set eyes, an expression of profound sadness and disillusionment." Scalia imagined him despairing at what his ambitious ruling in *Dred Scott* had wrought and warned the Court against making the same mistake again.

"It is no more realistic for us in this litigation than it was for him in that," Scalia noted, "to think that an issue of the sort they both involved -- an issue involving life and death, freedom and subjugation -- can be 'speedily and finally settled' by the Supreme Court ..."

Rather, Scalia argued, "By foreclosing all democratic out  
**See Lowry, page 7**



Photo courtesy of Steven Mullins

### Singing for WHEAT

Thomas Heilman and Vicki Revere, both of West Haven performed at a concert of the Sir Charles Productions opera company's presentation of "Opera Rara." They were accompanied by pianist Eric Trudel. The concert, which took place at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit was a benefit for the West Haven Emergency Assistance Task Force (WHEAT).

### Obituary

#### Frank F. Gradoia

We mournfully announce the passing of Frank Francesco Gradoia, age 95, of West Haven, CT. Frank passed away peacefully at Milford Hospital on April 29th, after a brief illness. He was born on June 22, 1926, son of the late Salvatore and Maria Perricone Gradoia. Frank is survived by his brother Salvatore "Sal" Gradoia Jr. and his sister-in-law Eleanor Gradoia. He was predeceased by his sister Lucille, his brother Mario, and his sister-in-law Gail Gradoia.

While Frank never married, he was deeply devoted to his brothers and their families, and he lived a full and vibrant life with his many friends and family. His six nephews, Paul, John, Robert, Mark, Mike, and Eric, meant more to him than words can describe. Frank was an avid sports fan and could recall statistics with amazing accuracy.

Frank served proudly in the US Army with the 24th Division during World War II in the Pacific Theater, where he was part of the liberation of

the Philippines and the Japan occupation forces. He was honorably discharged in 1946. Frank worked at Marlin Firearms before taking a position at Torrello Auto Parts, where he worked for over 46 years. We will miss him dearly.

The family had a private celebration of Frank's life. Please consider a donation to Disabled American Veterans in Frank's name. All Funeral Services have been entrusted to West Haven Funeral Home at the Green. To leave an online condolence, please visit our website at [www.westhavenfu-](http://www.westhavenfu-)



### Lowry: *Scalia proven right*

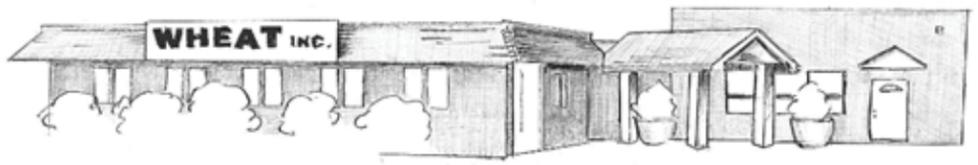
Continued from page 6

let for the deep passions this issue arouses, by banishing the issue from the political forum that gives all participants, even the losers, the satisfaction of a fair hearing and an honest fight, by continuing the imposition of a rigid national rule instead of allowing for regional differences, the court merely prolongs and intensifies the anguish.

"We should get out of this area," he urged, "where we have no right to be, and where we do neither ourselves nor the country any good by remaining."

The Court should have listened to Scalia the first time. Now, Alito's opinion opens the way for it, after one of the most catastrophic misadventures in its history, to finally heed his wisdom.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*  
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WHEAT's pantry is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2:00-4:30. Residents only need to bring a photo ID and two current pieces of mail (bills, lease, official letters, etc) and two or three grocery bags. Please call or email us to find out how to get food if you cannot come in person.

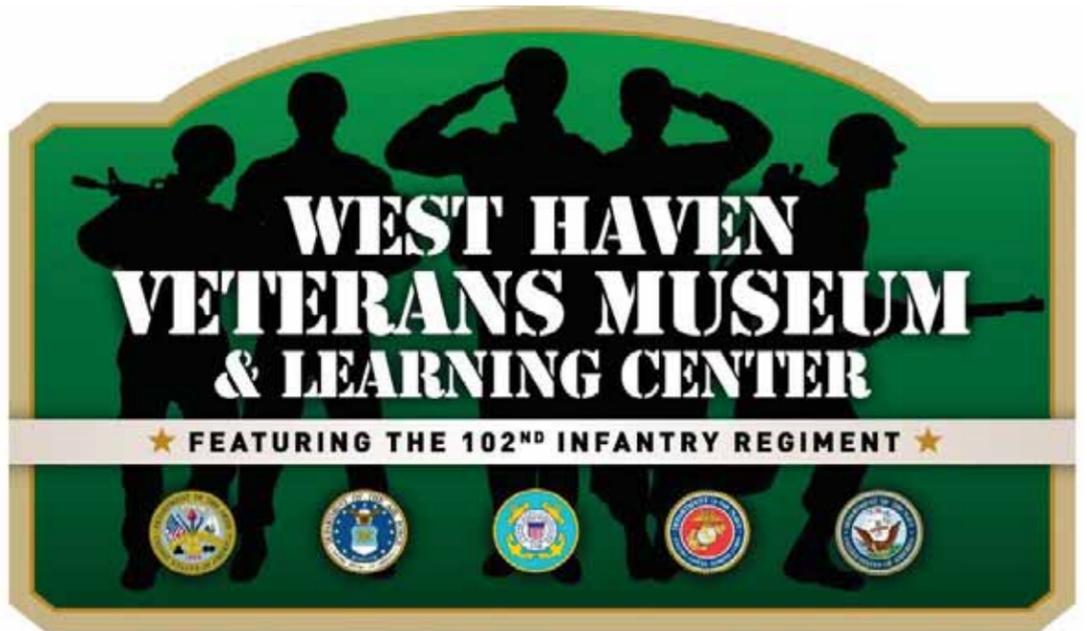
WHEAT is giving out food twice a month during February.

Donations can be brought on Tuesday and Wednesday between 9:00 and 4:30; Thursdays between 1:00 and 4:30. Please drive to the white overhead door to unload donations.

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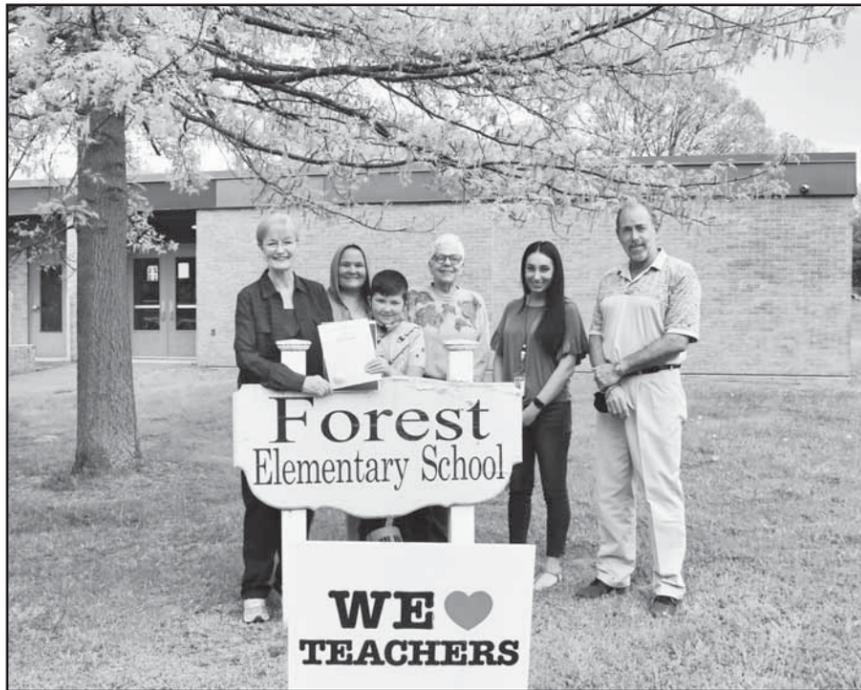
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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

## Apraxia Awareness Day

Forest Elementary School third grader Nicholas Gorske receives a proclamation from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, left, declaring Apraxia Awareness Day in West Haven on May 12. Shown with them are, from left, Nicholas' mother, Anna Gorske, and Forest paraprofessional Cynthia Rusello, special education teacher Gabrielle Gambardella and Principal Thomas J. Hunt. Ethan Kubicko, a seventh grader at Bailey Middle School, also received a mayoral proclamation for Apraxia Awareness Day. National Apraxia Awareness Day was May 14. Nicholas and Ethan have childhood apraxia of speech, or CAS, an uncommon speech disorder in which a child has difficulty making accurate movements when speaking. To increase awareness of the speech disorder for the fifth straight year, the students recently contacted Rossi about declaring the special day in West Haven.



## Rossi:

**Continued from page 1**  
 mayor continued, "My administration has worked diligently over the last 4-1/2 years to fix the systemic problems that have plagued West Haven for decades."

Rossi credited the MARB with helping the city deliver four straight balanced budgets with surpluses, in addition to a projected operating surplus in fiscal year 2022.

"The city didn't use all of the restructuring funds and turned some of the funds back to OPM," the mayor said. "Our fund balance is positive and growing at more than \$6 million. We are recruiting and hiring qualified staff in our finance department and across the city."

In the letter, Rossi touted the reconstruction of West Haven High School, which is "on time and under budget," and the construction of a new Washington Elementary School, which is in the design phase.

The mayor also touted beach and parking renovations, a paving and sidewalk replacement program and economic development efforts, including the future headquarters of New England Brewing Co. on the Savin Rock shoreline and a future Hartford HealthCare office in the center of Allingtown.

Rossi also took former state Rep. Michael A. DiMassa to task for his alleged embezzlement of more than \$1 million in federal coronavirus relief funding while employed by the city as an administrator for the City Council, which, along with former Finance Director Frank Cieplinski, appointed DiMassa to the position.

"Unfortunately, the (funds) ... lacked proper approval and oversight," the mayor said.

Rossi continued: "MARB has had a financial consultant in West Haven City Hall since 2018 that is working to strengthen the finance operations and to act as a liaison to MARB. If not for the unfortunate alleged illegal activities of this State Representative, West Haven would be celebrating historic success."

"I do wish the City of West Haven would have had a chance to respond to the CohenReznick Audit ordered by OPM, since many of the items could have been easily explained and rectified," the mayor said. "With that said, I will guarantee full cooperation from the City of West Haven as we move forward with MARB under TIER 4 to continue to improve and strengthen the city's financial operations."

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# Culinary Arts offers hand-on experience

By Michael O'Brien

Special to the Voice

West Haven High School offers a comprehensive, hands-on culinary arts program for students who are interested in the food services industry. The program is spearheaded by Dana Kent, a Family and Consumer Science Teacher, who graduated from Johnson and Wales in 1984 with a degree in Food Service Management. Kent has worked in restaurants and bakeries prior to working in the corporate and campus divisions with Aramark Corporation, for over 19 years.

There are three courses within the Culinary Arts program designed to give students experience working in real-world restaurant scenarios. The program begins with Introduction to Foods, a semester-long course that teaches students the principles of food and nutrition while working in the new, state-of-the-art kitchen.

"The kitchen is fantastic because it exposes students to a high-grade commercial kitchen," said Kent.

During Introduction to Foods, students also learn to prepare simple recipes to achieve good health while exploring careers within the food industry. They also learn about safety and proper sani-

tation in the kitchen, food storage requirements, and how to measure ingredients.

From there, students who wish to continue their culinary arts education can take Careers in Food and Nutrition. This course allows students to tackle more challenging recipes and begin an in depth search into careers in the service industry. These classes are for kids who have a strong interest in food, they don't necessarily need to have a career interest, but they should enjoy food, cooking, and being independent.

"I enjoy everything about the program," said Jon Cervantes, a senior at WHHS. "It's a good atmosphere and I'm enjoying my time with my classmates and teachers, joking around, it's like a real kitchen scenario."

Those students who stick with the program and have advanced through the first two courses will wrap up the program with the Culinary Arts class, in which they get an authentic restaurant experience by running the school's popular Culinary Café.

In this class, Mr. Kent will pre-cook meats and prepare stations for students prior to their arrival, and as soon as students get to the kitchen, they head to their stations to begin cooking.

"Students who take this class can open themselves up to a lot of different opportunities, from food service, marketing, sales, from equipment to food, all different areas, and they learn how to deal with people which is probably the most important skill you can learn," said Kent.

The Culinary Café offers an array of soups, sandwiches, salads, sometimes pizza or an entrée, and the foods are offered to teachers and staff for a small price.

Menus this year have been Asian-themed, in which they made Won Ton Soup, Shrimp Spring Rolls, General Tso Chicken, Pork & Egg Lo Mein, and for dessert, Ice Cream Cookie Sandwiches. A Mexican-themed menu earlier this year featured Pasta Fagioli, Chicken Tortilla Soup, Taco Salad, Chicken & Beef Enchilada, Pulled Pork & Bean Burrito and Chicken Quesadilla, and for sweets, Tres Leche Cake, Brownies, Chocolate Chip Cookies, and Fresh Sour Cream Cheese Cake.

The café has also prepared holiday meals, such as a Saint Patrick's Day menu in which they served Leek & Potato Soup, Corned Beef and Cabbage, Shepard's Pie, and Corned Beef Ruben sandwiches.

Staff can submit their orders

via email and choose either pick up or delivery, much like a real restaurant experience. If they choose pick up, students will deliver the meal to their preferred destination. It gives students an opportunity to interact with teachers and learn how to count money, and it also helps teach accountability.

The Culinary class also offers students the opportunity

to take the course for college credit. The class has a dual enrollment articulation with Gateway Community College, where students can obtain three credits for Gateway's college course, HSP 103 Introduction to Food Preparation.

"If you are looking to get into the food services industry, looking to get a job as a cook or a chef, I think this program is for you," added Cervantes.



Photo by Michael O'Brien

West Haven's Culinary Arts program offers real-world experience for those looking into the career field, and includes use of a state-of-the-art kitchen

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Photo courtesy of Steven R. Mullins

Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins (center) presents the "Commissioner Mullins Youth Leadership Award" to West Haven High School freshmen Sarah Davey, and Justin Wychowski.

## Frosh win award for 'Leadership'

West Haven Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins visited West Haven High School last week to present the "Commissioner Mullins Youth Leadership Award" to two outstanding freshmen. Sarah Davey and Justin Wychowski are this year's recipients. The award is given every year to two freshmen that demonstrate outstanding involvement in schools and civic activities.

Davey is a Class of 2025 Officer. She is involved in Students Against Destruction Decisions (SADD), she plays volleyball, softball, and hockey. She also plays the clarinet in the Blue Devil Marching Band.

Wychowski is a Class of 2025 Officer. He is involved in the Vex Robotics Team and the Blue Devils Marching Band. Outside of school, he holds a black belt in American mixed martial arts.

Each student was presented with a framed certificate, a booklet containing the US Constitution, Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation, and a \$50 gift certificate to Barnes & Noble.

"Both of these students are the embodiment and example of the youth of the City of West Haven and all citizens should be proud of them," said Mullins, a 1993 alumnus of the school.

Davey and Wychowski were recommended by WHHS Principal Dana Paredes and her staff. Mullins has been presenting award since 2016.

### WH Seniors head to casino, July 13

The West Haven Senior Center will run a bus trip to Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard on July 13.

No casino packages are offered at the moment. The trip costs \$30. Payment is due June 10.

The bus will depart at 8:30 a.m. from the Savin Rock Conference Center parking lot, 6 Rock St., and depart at 3 p.m. from Foxwoods. The casino requires face masks for guests who are not fully vaccinated. Buffets are closed.

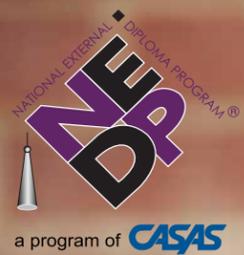
### Lee/Career set Hall of Fame for Omni, Sept. 17

The Richard C. Lee and Hill Regional Career High Schools Hall of Fame dinner will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17 at the Omni Hotel in New Haven.

Sly Williams, one of New Haven's all-time great basketball players leads a class of 14 former students and teachers being honored for their career achievements and public service.

Tickets for the dinner are \$60 each and can be purchased at retail locations in New Haven or on line by going to lee-career.com.

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Photo courtesy of VAREP

## New Home

Recently, Bank of America and the Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals (VAREP) donated a mortgage free home to U.S. Air Force Veteran, Staff Sergeant Quiendel Thompson, and his family in West Haven. Coinciding with Military Appreciation Month, the home donation is a part of Bank of America's ongoing commitment to serving the military and veteran community, locally here in West Haven and across the country. Left to Right: Daniel Rodarte (Media Director; VAREP), Kimberly Larkin-Ritter (House a Vet Coordinator; VAREP), Samara Thompson, U.S. Air Force Staff Sergeant Quiendel Thompson (Home recipient), Dustin Luce (Co-Founder; VAREP). Now a father to a 3-year-old daughter, Thompson's goal is to become a computer programmer – he attends school in Connecticut through the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill and will graduate in May of 2023 with a degree in computer science. As a proud homeowner, Thompson looks forward to spending time with his family in his new home.



## Historians host open house

The West Haven Historical Society will celebrate Kid's Day at the Annual Open House Day, Saturday, June 11. As part of the statewide Open House Day for historical societies and museums, the local organization is planning a free program of activities for age groups 6-12 and is aimed to increase awareness of West Haven history among the young school age children of the city. Admission is free.

a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m., on Saturday, June 11. No rain date is planned.

Particular emphasis will be given to the culture and hand-crafts of Native Americans, who inhabited the local area, along with several games of chance similar to those featured at West Haven's Savin Rock Amusement Park. In addition, there will be learning activities focused on famous citizens of the city who made special contributions to West Haven and Connecticut history.

Hands-on-activities will provide kids with opportunities to make wigwams, learn basket weaving, and making objects with wampum beads, which were common tasks for tribal members. Highlighting this section will be a display of Native American artifacts such as projectile points and arrow heads found nearby at Peterson Farm on Bull Hill Lane.

There will also be a geography section which will include a series of old maps for the youngsters to see where the early settlements were located, how the growth of West Farms (West Haven) developed into neighborhoods and the community familiar to people today,

The Historical Society is located at the Poli House, 686 Savin Ave., across from the Green. The Open House activities will take place in the backyard garden at the corner of Main Street and Savin Avenue. Hours are 10-11:30

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Photo courtesy of Fiona Brady

### Nurse's Day

On May 6, State Reps. Dorinda Borer (D-115) and Charles Ferraro (R-117) visited each West Haven school nurse for National Nurse's Day, donning flowers, state citations and much gratitude. Pictured with them is Mackrille School Nurse Deborah Salkins, Principal Driend and the many students who joined them.

## Anxiety Clinic offers help for local families, teens

The Anxiety and Mood Disorders Program at the Yale Child Study Center offers comprehensive evaluations and treatments for children and adolescents ages 6 to 14 years. Services are provided at no cost to families who agree to participate in research but can otherwise be provided for a fee (with a sliding scale plan also available). The program treats a range of anxiety disorders and fears, such as excessive worrying, social anxiety, difficulties or refusal to speak to other children or adults outside the child's immediate family, etc..

The program is currently conducting two large clinical trials to treat childhood anxiety.

One is for children 6-12 years old and includes two effective treatments for childhood anxiety – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Supportive Parenting for Anxious Childhood Emotions (SPACE), a parent-based treatment. Families enrolled in this research are randomized to receive SPACE or Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for 12 weekly sessions. S

Study participants receive evaluation and treatment at no cost and are compensated up to \$250. The second trial, for children 10-14, tests the effects of a brief computer-based training that targets attentional processes to reduce social anxiety in children. Participants will complete the computer program twice a week for four weeks. Study participants receive treatment at no cost and are compensated up to \$600.

If interested, please feel free to call (203) 737-4644 or email [anxiety.csc@yale.edu](mailto:anxiety.csc@yale.edu) to learn more about the Anxiety and Mood Disorders Program at the Yale Child Study Center.

## Vendors sought for market

The city is seeking craft, farm and food truck vendors to participate in the Tony Inzero Farmers Market, which will open its 2022 season July 7 in the Oak Street Beach parking lot off Captain Thomas Boulevard.

Through Oct. 15, the market, nestled on the right side of the Oak Street municipal lot, will include state farmers selling home-grown fruits and vegetables and crafters selling wares from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays.

It will also include food trucks.

To participate in the semiweekly market, download an application at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/4358/Farmers-Market-Application-2022-PDF>.

Applications are also available for pickup in the mayor's office at City Hall, 355 Main St., where they are due June 13.

Completed applications must be emailed to the market's manager, Killian Gruber, at [kgruber@westhaven-ct.gov](mailto:kgruber@westhaven-ct.gov) or faxed to 203-937-3705.

For more information, call Gruber at (203) 937-3518.

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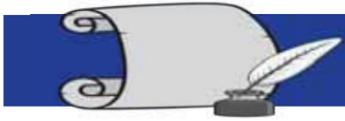
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## Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

### Mining in West Haven

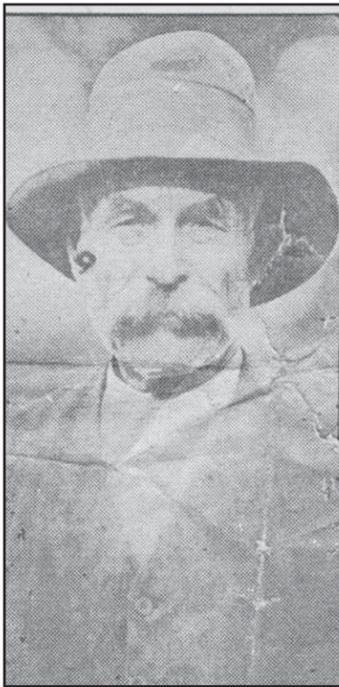
The 19th Century was a period when movement, exploration and adventure sent many New Americans off in search of the fortunes they had come to the New World to collect. Rumors of gold miners striking it rich excited the imaginations of many would-be millionaires.

West Haveners of that era (then a borough of Orange) were familiar with the Waddingham Mansion, which has previously been described on this page.

"This building was valued at \$500,000, contained 44 rooms and was often referred to as 'the showplace of New England.' It was erected by Wilson W. Waddingham and it was said that he discovered a gold mine in the Black Hills of South Dakota and that he was a partner in the Emma Mine."

During that period, "Gold Rushes" took place in what today are twenty-four of these United States—California and Alaska being the most famous. Those days are immortalized in the books by Jack London and Robert Service, both of whom wrote stories of the Alaska Gold Rush.

Some West Haven farmers were also on the lookout for metallurgical marvels which



AUGUSTUS PREHN

they hoped might reveal themselves on their own farms.

David Lambert owned a farm on the present site of Maltby Lakes, and in 1818, he discovered a deposit of silver and galena while digging in a fox burrow. He did obtain a considerable quantity of ore, but having a large farm that required his attention, he didn't continue his mining pursuits for long. Nearby, a copper mine was also begun in 1852, but that mine, run by

the Orange Copper Mining Company, ended in failure.

Augustus Prehn was a German immigrant farmer with one good arm. He owned a farm that was described as being "previously owned by the Prindle family, and located on Saw Mill (sic) Road." From a 1936 newspaper account, "While walking on his farm one day, Prehn picked up a fragment of what appeared to be quartz or a beautiful stone which sparkled in the sun's rays. Some few days later, chancing to examine the object again, he discovered a dark streak running through its center."

Subsequent testing showed that the streak showed traces of gold, silver, nickel and copper. Together with his son, Prehn engaged a financial backer and began to work in earnest to create a mine. A crew of laborers was assembled and promised \$10 per man per month. Soon, crowds would gather every Sunday to watch the mine in operation. Tons of ore were excavated and shipped to Pittsburgh where the minerals were extracted. The deeper they dug, the richer the deposits were. When they reached the depth of seventy feet, water began to trickle into the shaft. The next

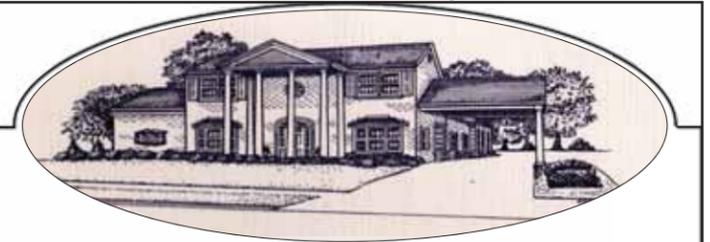
day, the workers returned to the shaft, only to find it filling rapidly with water. Ultimately, the shaft was flooded, the backers removed their support of the operation, and the mine was abandoned.

Adding tragedy to the sadness of the mine's failure, Prehn's son was injured and died in a fall from the cliff which formed the face of the mine operations. Eyewitnesses to the operation summed it up that, "A lot of good, hard work was put into the mine, and there wasn't enough taken out of it to pay for it." This marked the end of West Haven's years as a mining town.

Thanks to Cathie Iaccarino and Bonnie Amato for their assistance in the creation of this story.



Dan Shine is a columnist for the West Haven Voice, and local history buff



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## Water Street: *Fine threatened*

Continued from page 3

Council Chairman Peter V. Massaro, Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy, Planning Director Christopher Soto, West Haven Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien, and police traffic Sgt. Joseph D'Amato and spokesman Sgt. Patrick Buturla.

Rossi expressed disappointment and frustration over Di-onis' lack of communication with the city, saying she plans to give the developer 15 days to respond and take action on blight.

Soto, who leads the Department of Planning and Development, said the city will enforce blight violations "based on The Haven's inactivity and the developer's unwillingness to maintain the properties."

Soto said enforcement measures would include fines "to protect the health and safety of the surrounding neighborhood."

Rossi said she also wants to temporarily reopen Water Street by June 1 to reduce the area's traffic congestion during the summer months.

D'Amato and Soto said that to temporarily reopen the street, which connects to Main and Elm streets, the city must secure the area with fencing and install a guardrail at the bend of Main and Water streets.

But first, the city must receive police commission approval to temporarily reopen Water Street, Rossi noted.

According to the developer, The Haven, when complet-

ed, will encompass 26 waterfront acres featuring dozens of luxury retail shops, restaurants and a promenade.

The project is expected to generate between 800 and 1,200 jobs and several million dollars in municipal tax revenue and fees, the developer has said.

## High school students sought for logo contest

The South Central Network of Care, a regional partnership aimed at building a system for meeting children's behavioral health needs, is seeking high school students from West Haven to participate in a logo design contest.

To participate in the contest, complete an entry form, design a logo and submit them by June 20 to Daniela Giordano, the network's Region 1 chair, at [daniela.giordano@beaconhealthoptions.com](mailto:daniela.giordano@beaconhealthoptions.com). Download an entry form at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/4363/South-Central-Network-of-Care-Logo-Design-Contest-PDF>.

The contest winner will receive a \$50 gift card, and the South Central network will display the first-place logo on its brochures, website and other promotional materials.



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Photo by Todd Dandelske

### Laying one down!

Hannah Burrows lays down a bunt in the Westies' win over North Haven, 6-3. The Lady Westies are on a roll going into the final week of the season with an SCC berth and the CIAC State Tournament on the horizon.

### Swim Club announces '22 awards

The West Haven Swim Club celebrated its inaugural season with an banquet on Sunday April 24. This year's team was comprised of more than 73 swimmers in five different age groups. Swimmers were recognized for growth and improvement throughout the season, excellence in individual strokes, strong technique, versatility and team spirit. The team would like to congratulate and recognize the recipients of two special team awards.

First, the Heart of Gold Award. The Heart of Gold Award is given to swimmers that exemplify the "gold standard" for outstanding commitment, effort and attitude. This year's Heart of Gold recipients are: Gianna Cassone, Naomi Shubin, Austin Carr, Erin Morton and Kaleigh Morton.

The Junior and Senior Coaches Awards are the oldest in the team's history with the Senior Coaches Award dating back to 1979. The Coaches Awards recognize swimmers for excellence in and out of the pool. Each recipient must show exemplary sportsmanship, citizenship, team leadership, commitment, respect, excellence in swimming and they must show a strong drive for personal and team success. The recipients must also qualify for Yankee League Championships. This year's Girls Junior Coaches award winner is Gianna Cassone. The Girls Senior Coaches award was given to Erin Morton and Kaleigh Morton.

The West Haven Swim club would also like to recognize this year's only graduating High School senior, Kaelyn Falanga.

For more information on the West Haven Swim Club or to register, please visit <https://www.westhavenswimclub.org/page/home>.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Cheerleading: Cebi Waterfield - 203-676-6196 [whseahawkscheer@gmail.com](mailto:whseahawkscheer@gmail.com)

## Youth laxxers split

The West Haven Lacrosse 5/6 team continued with action over the last two weeks. The Blue Devils traveled to Monroe and used a balanced scoring attack to come away with a 9-2 win.

Ryan Walsh, Jeremiah McGrath, Anthony Dimeglio, Rocco Kelly, Matt Ciccocanti and Danny Slubowski all found the back of the net. Nick Ciccocanti and Slubowski accounted for assists for the Westies. Michael Paone was outstanding in net for the win.

On Sunday, the Westies dropped a 4-2 contest to North Haven 5/6. After falling behind, 4-0, Charlie Gunning was set up with a nice assist from Kelly to account for a goal. Matt Ciccocanti took and assist from Cody Young to score the other goal. The Westies were led on the attack by AJ Farrell, Shea Outhavong, and Young. Walsh, Ellis Cortes and Sean Gilbert led the defensive effort. Paone was stellar in net turning away several point-blank attempts.

Matt Ciccocanti, McGrath and Gunning had goals, but the Westies fell to New Canaan, 6-3. Kelly accounted for all three assists, including one on a no look pass. Shea Outhavong, Nick Ciccocanti and Anthony Dimeglio all turned in solid efforts. Paone again starred in net for the win. Walsh, Farrell, Cortes and Gilbert once again led the defensive attack.

## Jays top Reds in WHLL

The West Haven Little League Blue Jays beat the West Haven Little League Reds by a score of 11-4. Luciano Chambrelli pitched a complete game, allowing only one hit with a record high of 15 strikeouts.

Luca Decrescenzo had 2 hits and 2 RBIs, including a double and single, and played well on defense. Anthony Gagliardi had 2 hits and 3 RBIs and Luciano Chambrelli helped himself with 2 doubles and 2 RB's.

## Ladies bocce league begun

A new Savin Rock Ladies Bocce League is beginning, and starts play on Wednesday, May 18, at 5:30 p.m. The schedule runs through Aug. 31. Membership dues: \$80 A league meeting will be on May 18 at 5 before play.

The Savin Rock Ladies Bocce League is a *new league this summer*. It is an independent league, which is non-profit and non-partisan. It is a multi-cultural and multi-generational program that provides the opportunity to meet people and get exercise through playing bocce. Beginner to experienced players are welcome. The bocce courts are in the Old Grove section of Savin Rock Park. Players should commit to the season.

Those interested must register through West Haven Parks & Recreation website: <http://www.whparkrec.com> with the registration and liability-wavier forms on the Bocce League site. The \$80 must be paid in full by May 2. Make check payable to Savin Rock Ladies Bocce League and mail with completed forms to: Patricia Rudolph, 102 Bleeker Circle, North Haven, CT 06473.

Any questions please contact Elene Hanahan at [Ehanahan@aol.com](mailto:Ehanahan@aol.com)



hoto by Todd Dandelske

### Outta the park!

Gianni Gambardella launches his home run in the Westies' victory over Platt Tech on Senior Night. The Westies won the game on Senior Night, 19-2, routed the Panthers.

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# Westies: *Softball team rolls in final weeks*

Continued from page 20

Dylan Supan followed with a ground single to score Gambardella with the winner.

The Westies took a 2-0 lead in the first, only to see Cheshire get a run in the third and two more in the fourth for a 3-2 lead over the Westies.

After Gambardella escaped a pair of errors in the top of the first, West Haven got on the board first when DeSanty led off with a single to center, Gilbert reached on a one-out error, and Harp delivered both with a two-out single to center.

The West Haven softball team knew it was going to be in for a battle playing Foran, having suffered one of their two losses to the Lions earlier in the season. The Westies got what was expected.

Scoring single runs in each of the first two innings, the Westies went on to defeat Foran 3-2. Foran scored single runs in each of the final two innings, before the Westies hung on to improve to 10-2.

Mia Rubirosa went the distance in the circle for the Westies, tossing a complete game, allowing one earned run on two hits. Rubirosa walked two and struck out five.

Rubirosa and Jimenez led the Westies with two hits apiece.

West Haven won its sixth straight contest and improved to 11-2 with a 12-0 victory over Hillhouse in a game stopped after five innings in New Haven.

Three different players had multiple hits, led by Beurer with three hits, two runs batted in, and four runs scored. Rubirosa had two hits, drove in two runs, and scored twice, while Raccio had two hits, drove in a run and scored once.

Rubirosa, who tossed a perfect game the last time the two teams met, came within a walk of perfection again as she did not allow a hit, walked one

and struck out eleven in four innings of work. Taylor Alfano struck out all three batters she faced in the fifth and final inning as the duo combined on the no-hitter.

With the postseason upcoming, it is all about seeding now for West Haven. Breaking a 2-2 tie with two runs in the fifth, West Haven went on to defeat North Haven, 6-3.

The victory was West Haven's seventh in a row and helped the Westies improve to 12-2 on the year. Rubirosa went the distance in the pitching circle, allowing four hits and no earned runs, while walking two and striking out 11.

Rubirosa also led the offense with two hits, two runs batted in, and a run scored. Beurer, Raccio, Petruzzello, and Melanie Jimenez each had a pair of hits, while Petruzzello also scored twice.

It was another victory for the West Haven softball team. Then it wasn't before it was again.

With all the craziness of the last few innings, and after giving up an 8-run lead in the seventh, West Haven rallied to defeat Sheehan 11-10 in eight innings Friday evening at Biondi Field in West Haven.

While the victory saw a late lead disappear, it also saw sophomore Alfano pick up the victory in the pitching circle. Alfano allowed one run in 1.2 innings of work as she did not allow a hit or walk. Alfano struck out one.

Alfano's relief appearance became necessary as Sheehan scored eight times in the seventh to even the game at 10. After West Haven failed to score in the bottom of the seventh despite loading the bases, Carrano provided the heroics an inning later.

West Haven improved to 14-3 with a 13-7 victory over Luralton Hall.

Petruzzello led the offense with three hits, two runs



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Brianna Miller slides into home to score for the Blue Devils. Below -- Caitlin Welch drives around a Shelton defender in the Westies' 15-6 Senior Day victory.

scored and two runs batted in. Beurer and Raccio each had a pair of hits, with Raccio scoring three times and driving in a pair, and Beurer scoring twice.

Raccio picked up the victory with four innings of six-hit ball, allowing four earned runs. Alfano pitched the final three innings, allowing one hit and two earned runs, while walking four and striking out two.

The West Haven girls lacrosse team snapped its four-game losing streak with a 10-9 victory over Jonathan Law Tuesday evening at Ken Strong Stadium in West Haven. The comeback victory allowed the Westies to improve to 4-7 on the year.

West Haven trailed 5-1 at the half, before rallying with a 9-4 advantage in the second half. Julia Tsakonas led the way for West Haven with three goals, while Olyvia O'Mara and Brooke Moscato each scored twice.

Moscato also added an assist, while Emma Walker and



Delaney Johnston each had a goal and an assist, and Cassidy Dalton had two assists.

Chloe Konareski scored three times for Law, while Joe Johnson had two goals and two assists, and Lindsay Konlian scored twice.

West Haven held a 36-16 shot advantage in the contest. West Haven's Amber Militrano made nine saves in the win.

The West Haven boys tennis team fell to 4-6 with a 5-2 loss against Hamden at West Haven Tuesday afternoon. Hamden improved to 10-0.

In singles action, Hamden's Brian Oppenheim defeated Punar Garani 3-6, 6-2, 6-1, Quinn Northrup topped West Haven's second seed Miguel Torres 6-0, 6-0, third-seeded Nolan Jermain defeated

Benjamin Sager 6-2, 6-3, and fourth-seeded Josh Alexander of Hamden topped Brandon Sihaphong 6-3, 6-2.

In doubles play, Hamden's Paras Dodd and Rayd Hussain defeated Eshwar Balakumar and Robert Vets 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

West Haven's second seed of Johnny Chen and Yousef Khan defeated Kaustuv Mohany and Keshav Menon 6-2, 3-6, 7-6, while third-seeded Valentin Diaz and Abdourahim Mbengue of West Haven topped Anshul Deval and Lucian Gaetjen 6-3, 6-3.

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).



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# Brickwalk 14th phase dedication May 29

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

Members of the West Haven Veterans Council and city officials will dedicate the 14th phase of the brick Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park at 5 p.m. May 28.

All veterans are invited to participate in the seaside ceremony, which will feature a presentation of the colors, an invocation and taps, as well as remarks by Mayor Nancy R. Rossi and Veterans Council President Dave Ricci.

The public is also invited.

Louis P. Esposito Jr., Rossi's executive assistant, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

In November 2006, the Veterans Council began the first of 14 campaigns selling bricks to memorialize vets on the 100-yard Walk of Honor between the William A. Soderman and Vietnam Veterans memorials.

The bricks, which cost \$75, have charcoal lettering for personalized messages.

About 2,900 bricks have been installed so far, including 58 for the 14th phase and 130 for the 13th phase, which was dedicated June 5, 2021.

In May 2015, the dedication of the eighth phase included the dedication of a granite stone in memory of Veterans Council President Lorelee "Lori" Grenfell, who died Feb. 19, 2015, at age 60. The memorial was crafted by Giordano Bros. Monuments of West Haven.

The Walk of Honor's first phase and the city's Korean War Memorial were dedicated in May 2007.

In May 2008, the walkway's second phase and a memorial in honor of World War II Army Pfc. William A. Soderman were dedicated.

Soderman received the Medal of Honor after he distinguished himself in December 1944 while defending an important road junction near Rocherath, Belgium.

Four years after his death, on July 1, 1984, the flagpole in Bradley Point Park was dedicated in Soderman's memory.

City Human Resources Commissioner Beth A. Sabo has overseen the construction of all phases of the walkway, which was built by City Point Construction Co. of West Haven.

Sabo has also supervised the design and placement of the granite Korean War and Soderman memorials, which were made by Shelley Bros. Monuments of Guilford.

Also in 2008, 14 grave markers signifying every war in U.S. history and peacetime were dedicated. The markers are mounted on granite posts.

Subsequent dedications have been held amid much fanfare, attracting hundreds of veterans and their families from all corners of the state and beyond.

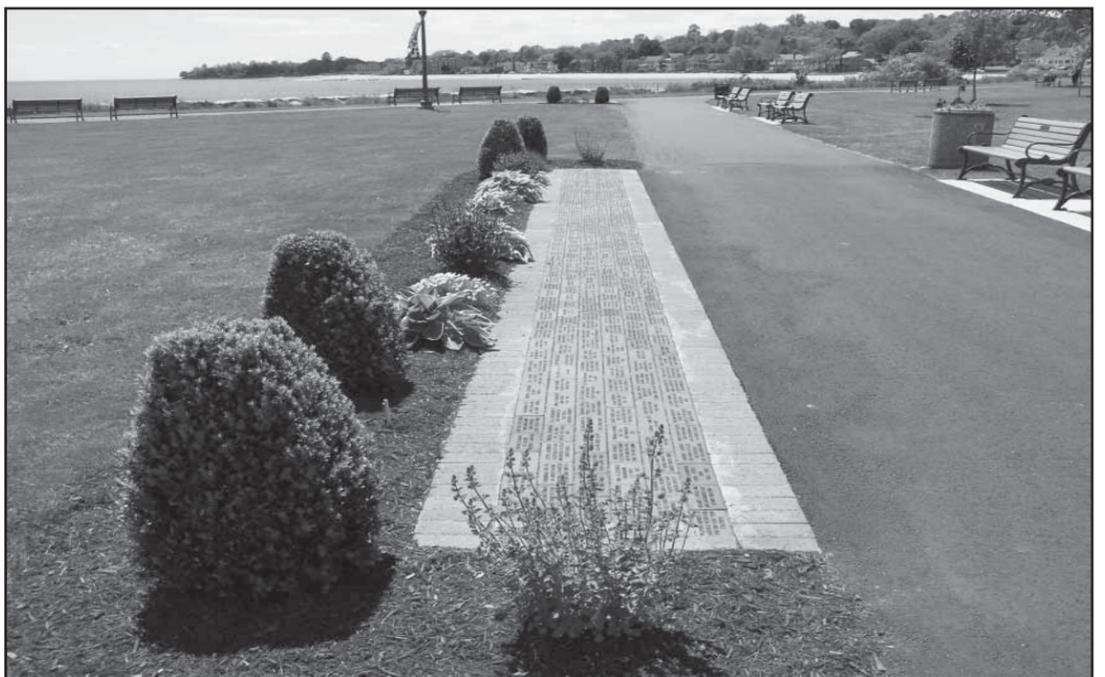


Photo by Michael P. Walsh

The brick Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park. The dedication of the 14th addition is set for May 29 as part of Memorial Day weekend ceremonies.

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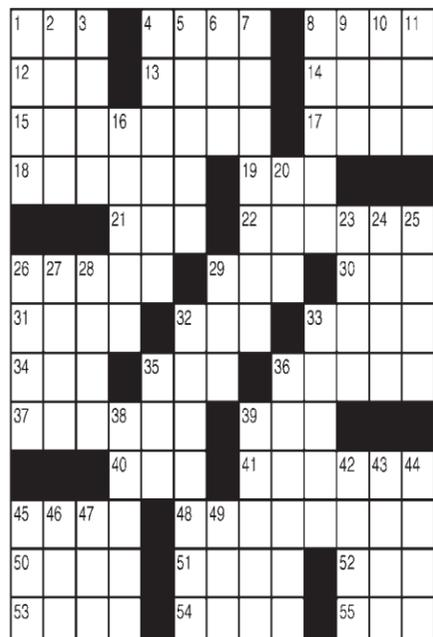
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- ACROSS**  
1 Knock  
4 "The Thin Man" dog  
8 Tabloid writing  
12 Post-op area  
13 Pace  
14 Alike (Fr.)  
15 Sushi fish  
17 "Hi, sailor!"  
18 "Burnt" crayon color  
19 Melody  
21 Ordinal suffix  
22 Game fish  
26 Looks intently  
29 Chaps  
30 Man-mouse link  
31 Has bills  
32 — de deux  
33 Mythical birds  
34 Capote nick-name  
35 Stable diet?  
36 Hill of "Moneyball"  
37 Raw bar mollusk  
39 Impose  
40 Ms. Thurman  
41 Tristan's love  
45 Tibia's place  
48 Saltwater fish  
50 Mata —  
51 Hotel chain  
52 Hot tub  
53 Rhyming tributes
- DOWN**  
1 Eyeglass frames  
2 Antioxidant berry  
3 Brownish purple  
4 Reps  
5 Jazzy Vaughan  
6 Dead heat stores?  
7 Country  
8 June birth-
- stone  
9 "This tastes awful!"  
10 Asian language  
11 Layer  
16 Leg joints  
20 Author Fleming  
23 Earth orbiter  
24 Killer whale  
25 "One-L lama" poet  
26 Attend  
27 Wrong  
28 Jupiter counterpart
- 29 Spring month  
32 Sunshade  
33 Copter blade  
35 Skirt edge  
36 Singer Timberlake  
38 North African capital  
39 Steinway product  
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TRIQOHANRSEAGAL  
NLSJIHTENADROJK  
GFDC CAYJXWVTSRP

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

Bradshaw Jabbar Namath Simpson  
Chan Jenner Norris The Rock  
Conner Jordan Seagal Van Damme  
Ferrigno Karras Shaq

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

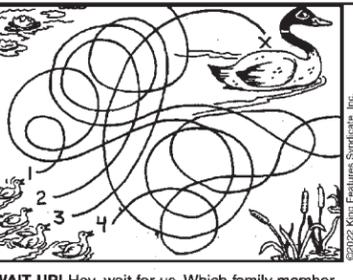
by Linda Thistle

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

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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**WAIT UP!** Hey, wait for us. Which family member is first to swim to its mother's side? Take a guess.

**ZOO'S WHO!** It is the size of a hefty cat, has a long, ugly prehensile tail, carries its young in a pouch. When frightened it may feign death. What animal is that?

**LINK-UPS!** Challenge: See how quickly you can turn these 10 one-syllable words, right, into five two-syllable words by linking those on the left with those on the right.  
Use a pencil to draw lines from left to right in making link-up connections.  
F.Y.I.: A plat, in case you're wondering, is a surveying term for a chart or map.  
Time limit: Not more than 30 seconds.  
Answers are below, if you need them.

**Junior Whirl**  
by Hal Kaufman



**OUT OF THE HAT NUMBER PAIRS**

TEN numbers — 1 through 10—are placed in a hat, whereupon they are withdrawn two at a time.  
Pairs of numbers withdrawn in the process total 4, 7, 11, 16 and 17, respectively. You are asked to determine which two numbers drawn total each of these five amounts.  
Remember, numbers in the hat are 1 through 10. Your task is to find five pairs of these numbers that total the stated amounts.  
Hint: Only two of those in the hat can possibly total 4 — 1 and 3. Take it from there.

**PLUM ROSE**  
**PRIM BOIL**  
**PAR FORM**  
**PLAT MEAL**  
**PIECE MET**

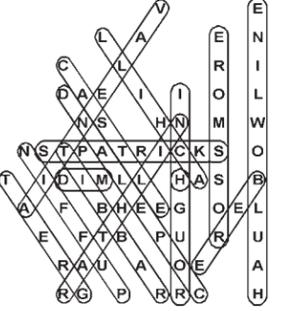
**Answers to last issue's puzzles**

**King Crossword**  
Answers

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

|        |           |      |
|--------|-----------|------|
| BELT   | WHIM      | SIT  |
| ELITE  | AUTO      | ORA  |
| SOLARY | EAR       | LAS  |
| SNIPES | SKUNK     |      |
| OX     | TWEET     |      |
| EAST   | TAINITE   |      |
| TWO    | HUT       | OAT  |
| ELLA   | UPS       | CNBC |
| SARGE  | PO        |      |
| NOTSO  | RAPTOR    |      |
| AMI    | SOLITAIRE |      |
| SAC    | EVELYMCA  |      |
| ARE    | SATE      | SEAM |

**ISLAND: ISLANDS OF IRELAND**



**Weekly SUDOKU**  
Answer

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

# Parade: *Linton* named grand marshal

Continued from page 1

include three marching divisions and a military division, as well as special accommodations for disabled veterans.

It will feature three bands from the Rock House School of Music performing on a trio of floats made possible by Bru-neau's Garage of West Haven and Anthony Augliera Moving & Storage of East Haven.

Acclaimed theater and film actor Connor Antico will perform on one of the floats with Paul Pesco, a renowned New York session guitarist who has recorded and toured with legendary recording artists Hall & Oates, Jennifer Lopez and Madonna.

Antico, 27, of Stamford, is set to star in the fall debut of the John Mellencamp musical, "Small Town," in Louisville, Kentucky.

"I am honored to participate in West Haven's Memorial Day parade and honor all those who have died wearing the uniform of our great land," said Antico, who is also slated to release an extended play record, "Make Something Beautiful," produced by Pesco.

Immediately after the parade, Rock House owner John McCarthy will accompany Pesco, Antico and other notable musicians to perform an all-star tribute concert celebrating John Ziada, the late West Haven restaurateur and community volunteer affectionately known as Johnny Z.

The free show will take place outside Z's Corner Cafe, the live music mecca that Ziada built at 407 Campbell Ave. The public is invited.

During the one-hour concert, Campbell Avenue from Brown to Main streets will remain closed, city officials said.

The Memorial Day parade will include an eight-seat golf cart carrying former grand marshals that is bedecked with a star gracing the names of those deceased. Other veterans will ride on a float.

It will also include a flyover by a C-130 Hercules, a four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft operated by the Connecticut Air National Guard.

Linton will guide the procession from a golf cart flanked by the West Haven Police Honor Guard.

The 90-minute parade, in memory of the deceased members of the U.S. armed forces of all wars, will showcase the city's legion of veterans groups.

The procession will include bands from West Haven, including West Haven High and Bailey Middle schools, and bands from New Haven, such as the Village Drill Team and the Roberto Clemente Leadership Academy.

It will include cheerleaders from the West Haven Seahawks and Jeeps from the Connecticut Beach Cruisers.

The procession will also spotlight the traditional contingent of youth organizations and sports leagues, dance troupes and Scout troops, fraternal organizations and service clubs, local and state leaders, police officers and firefighters.

Linton was born and raised in Bridgeport and graduated from Central High School in 1968.

In September 1969, Linton joined the Army at age 19. He completed basic training eight weeks later at Fort Dix, New Jersey, followed by advanced training at Fort Lee, Virginia, in preparation for Vietnam.

For the next 10 months, he was stationed with the 3rd Armored Division in West Germany and worked in inventory control, known as stock control.

In December 1970, Linton was deployed to the 92nd Engineer Battalion in Long Binh, South Vietnam, where he managed a warehouse and operated a bulldozer, in addition to other wartime duties.

The battalion, stationed under the 159th Engineer Group, constructed warehouses, motor pool sheds, chapels, airfields, pipeline systems and barracks. The battalion also maintained supply routes and operated a rock quarry.

Linton was honorably discharged as a specialist E-4 in January 1972. He received the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal with two service stars.

He also received the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, a South Vietnamese military campaign medal for

support of operations in Vietnam after 1960.

The Vietnam War is a story of patriots who pushed through jungles and rice paddies, heat and monsoon, fighting heroically to preserve the ideals and liberties that Americans hold dear.

From Ia Drang to Hue, U.S. troops won every major battle of Vietnam. Through more than a decade of combat over air, land and sea, they upheld the highest traditions of the armed forces. And more than 58,000 sacrificed all they had and all they would ever know in service to their country.

After the Army, Linton fabricated tire valve stems at

Bridgeport Brass until 1977, when he moved to San Diego and worked at a shipyard doing pipe fitting and ductwork.

In late 1979, Linton returned to Connecticut and worked for the city of Milford as a laborer, truck driver and sewer line mechanic until his retirement in 2005.

Linton stays active as a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7788, the American Legion Post 196 and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 251. He serves as the chapter's POW/MIA chairman and organizes its yearly vigils, traditionally held on the Saturday before Father's Day.

Linton lives in the Alling-

town neighborhood of Maltby Avenue. He has two sons, two daughters, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He is the former 19-year companion of Veterans Council President Lorelee "Lori" Grenfell, who died Feb. 19, 2015, at age 60.

Grenfell, a Vietnam veteran, served stateside in the Women's Army Corps in 1972-75.

In May 2015, Veterans Council members and city officials dedicated a granite stone in memory of Grenfell, the grand marshal of the 2001 Memorial Day parade, during the dedication of the eighth phase of the brick Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park.

West Haven Health Department May 2022

## MAY - MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make healthy choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.

Did you know that mental illnesses are among the most common health conditions in the United States?

- More than 50% will be diagnosed with a mental illness or disorder at some point in their lifetime.
- 1 in 5 Americans will experience a mental illness in a given year.
- 1 in 5 children, either currently or at some point during their life, have had a seriously debilitating mental illness.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on our lives. Many of us are facing challenges that can be stressful and overwhelming. Learning to cope with stress in a healthy way will help you, the people you care about, and those around you become more resilient.

How to reduce stress and anxiety during a pandemic:

- ✓ Take breaks from the news.
- ✓ Make time unwind.
- ✓ Take care of your body.
- ✓ Connect with others.
- ✓ Focus on facts.
- ✓ Set goals and priorities.



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## MAYO - MES DE LA SALUD MENTAL

La salud mental incluye nuestro bienestar emocional, psicológico y social. Afecta la forma en que pensamos, sentimos y actuamos. También ayuda a determinar como manejamos el estrés, nos relacionamos con los demás y tomamos decisiones saludables. La salud mental es importante en todas las etapas de la vida, desde la niñez y la adolescencia hasta la edad adulta.

¿Sabía que las enfermedades mentales se encuentran entre las condiciones de salud más comunes en los Estados Unidos?

- Más del 50% será diagnosticado con una enfermedad o trastorno mental en algún momento de su vida.
- 1 de cada 5 estadounidenses experimentará una enfermedad mental en un año determinado.
- 1 de cada 5 niños, ya sea actualmente o en algún momento de su vida, ha tenido una enfermedad mental gravemente debilitante.

La pandemia de COVID-19 ha tenido un efecto importante en nuestras vidas. Muchos de nosotros enfrentamos desafíos que pueden ser estresantes y abrumadores. Aprender a lidiar con el estrés de una manera saludable lo ayudara a usted, a las personas que le importan y a quienes lo rodean a ser más resistentes.

Como reducir el estrés y la ansiedad durante una pandemia:

- ✓ Tome descansos de las noticias.
- ✓ Tome tiempo para relajarse.
- ✓ Cuida tu cuerpo.
- ✓ Conectese con otros.
- ✓ Centrarse en los hechos.
- ✓ Establecer metas y prioridades.



SOURCE: CDC

## Shore Haven offers annual scholarships to alum players

Shore Haven Junior Baseball will be accepting applications from June 2022 high school seniors that are pursuing further education. The league will be awarding scholarships in the amount of \$250.00 each.

All applicants must have participated in the league for at least two years.

Applications must be returned by May 31, 2022 to Charles Gunning, 125 Central Ave. More information can be obtained from area high school guidance counselor offices or by calling Charles Gunning at (203) 934-9740.

## Devils' nine, lady lax break skeins

The West Haven baseball team was looking to clinch a postseason spot. The Westies were also looking to sweep their cross-town rivals for the second straight year.

Neither happened.

Taking advantage of 13 West Haven walks and three West Haven errors, the Westies fell to the Green Knights 13-2 at Piurek Field.

The loss was West Haven third in fourth games as the Westies fell to 7-5, remaining one win away from qualifying for the postseason.

Four West Haven pitchers combined to allow six hits and struck out five, but the walks proved crucial in the loss as did the West Haven errors.

Trailing 2-0 in the second, West Haven cut the deficit in half as Dylan Supan walked, John Lindsay reached on an error, and with runners on the corners, Corey Coggins delivered Supan with a sacrifice fly to right.

The Green Knights put the game away in the third with six runs on six walks and two hits.

Scoring five times in the sixth inning, Amity outlasted West Haven 8-1 at Amity High School Thursday afternoon.

The long inning spoiled what was a solid start by West Haven's Jack Hay. The West Haven senior pitched well enough to keep the Westies in the game, but the West Haven offense could not string together much on offense, scoring its lone run in the first inning when Tyler DeSanty walked and came around to score on an error.

With the loss, West Haven dropped its fourth decision in its last five games.

West Haven has been struggling of late. Even the return of star Gianni Gambardella could not help get the Westies back on track.

Scoring three times in the first and adding another in the fourth, Hand held on to defeat West Haven, 4-3 in Madison.

For five innings, it looked as if the West Haven baseball team would be sealing the deal for the postseason. The sixth inning was a different story.

A pair of West Haven errors led to three Hamden runs in the sixth inning, before the Green Dragons scored four times in the ninth inning to defeat the Westies 9-5 at Piurek Field.

Struggling to come up with a big hit in its fourth straight loss, West Haven turned to some small ball. The end result was a 3-run fifth inning rally and a 5-2 lead over Hamden.

With the game even at two, Ray Gilbert led off the fifth with an infield single, moved to sec-

ond on a sacrifice and third on a bunt single by Harp. John Lindsay followed with his second hit of the day to score Gilbert, before a bases loaded single by Coggins plated Harp and Lindsay for a 5-2 lead.

The rally broke open a tie game after Hamden scored single runs in the third and fourth innings to knot the game at two.

West Haven (7-8) got on the board first with two runs in the bottom of the first inning.

DeSanty started the rally when he reached on an error to lead off, and Gambardella singled to left to put two on. DeSanty stole third and scored on an error on the play, before Lindsay's two-out single to right scored Gambardella for a 2-0 lead.

Th Westies failed to extend the lead, stranding the bases loaded in the second, and leaving one on in each of the third and fourth innings.

One day after suffering a disappointing extra inning loss against Hamden, the West Haven baseball team rebounded with a 19-2 victory over Platt Tech on Senior Night at Piurek Field. With the 19-hit attack, West Haven picked up its eight win and qualified for the postseason.

The Westies (8-8) took a 2-0 lead in the second, then scored 14 times in the third for a 16-0 advantage.

Senior Damian Gazzaneo led the offense with three hits, two runs batted in, and two runs scored, while Jones had three hits and three runs batted in.

Lindsay added two hits, four runs batted in, and two runs scored, while Gambardella had two hits, including a home run, drove in three runs and scored twice.

Behind a game-tying single from Gilbert in the seventh and a game-winning single by Dylan Supan one batter later, West Haven rallied to defeat the Rams 4-3 at Piurek Field in West Haven Monday afternoon.

The late rally made a winner out of sophomore relief pitcher Chase Supan, who tossed two scoreless innings, striking out a pair. Chase Supan relieved started Gambardella, who allowed six hits and three earned runs, while walking one and striking out six in five innings of work.

West Haven's winning rally started with a one-out single by DeSanty, who advanced to second on an errant pickoff. After Gambardella was intentionally walked, Gilbert singled to right to score DeSanty with the equalizer.

See Westies, page 16



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Brandon Sihaphong prepares to smash a return against North Haven. Below -- Mia Rubirosa delivers from the circle in her win over the Academics. Her no-hitter was marred by one walk in the 12-0 win.



Photo by Todd Dandelske

West Haven Girls' Lax celebrates Senior Day and then went out and beat Shelton 15-6.