

West Haven Voice

June 16, 2022

Vol. 27, Issue 12 24 Pages

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

Voice Feature

An in-depth feature

Veterans Walk
gets 14th upgrade
See pages 3, 12



Class of '22



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Onto the next chapter

The West Haven High School Class of 2022 walked its way into history Tuesday night with ceremonies at Ken Strong Stadium with family and friends on hand to celebrate. Having a mix of traditional pomp and joyous whimsy, the

most recent alums finished their high school careers, moving onto the next chapter in their lives. Photographer Todd Dandelske captured some of the highlights of the evening. See more photos on page 13.

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Nhyira Effah Ayim, age 4 1/2, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., predicts all kinds of weather patterns for the next few days.

On this Date

2010 -- The world's first country-wide total tobacco ban goes into effect. Bhutan banned the cultivation, harvesting, production, and sale of tobacco and tobacco products. It is still legal in the South Asian country to smoke in a private setting, but obtaining tobacco products legally is close to impossible.

1976 -- South African police kill hundreds of protesting schoolchildren. An estimated 20,000 youth were protesting against the introduction of Afrikaans as the languages of instruction in their schools when police officers started firing into the crowd.

1967 -- The Monterey Pop Festival opens. The three-day concert event featured historic performances by Jimi Hendrix, The Who, Ravi Shankar, and Janis Joplin.

1963 -- Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman in space. The Soviet cosmonaut completed 48 orbits on board the spaceship "Vostok 6" before returning safely to Earth. The former textile worker was declared "Hero of the Soviet Union" and received the United Nations Gold Medal of Peace.

1960 -- Alfred Hitchcock's film Psycho is premiered.



Photo by Dan Shine

Morning solitude

The shoreline early in the morning is a different place than when hundreds or thousands of people are walking it later in any day. Early morning joggers, walkers, dog enthusiasts and other early risers like the quiet and solitude the water's edge brings as the sun comes up. Columnist Dan Shine spotted this solitary resident taking in the morning sights and smells.

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Veterans' Walk gets 14th addition

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

Joined by city and state leaders and members of West Haven's Veterans Council and three fire departments, dozens of veterans and their families from all corners of Connecticut and beyond turned out June 4 to help dedicate 58 bricks as part of the 14th phase of the Veterans Walk of Honor.

Standing on the Walk of Honor in the heart of Bradley Point Park, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi delivered remarks to the patriotic crowd, many donning red, white and blue.

"Thank you to the West Haven Veterans Council for continuing this tradition as well as city Human Resources Commissioner Beth A. Sabo for overseeing the construction (of each installment of the walkway's bricks)," said Rossi, speaking in front of a black granite memorial in commemoration of World War II Army Pfc. William A. Soderman.

Rossi continued: "Here we honor both the living and deceased veterans, and I would like to reflect on the valor of our brave men and women who served. I hope that each of you are able to take a moment today, spending time with each installment here. I would like to thank each vet-

eran for their service, their courage and their commitment to our country."

State Rep. Dorinda Borer (D-115) served as the mistress of ceremonies for the late-afternoon event, postponed from a week earlier because of rain.

"We want to thank those who are participating in this phase and all phases, as we know this symbolization is significant to each of you," said Borer (D-115). "Some of the bricks were bought for your brother, your son, your daughter, your father. I actually have one here for my father, and some of you have purchased a brick for a near and dear friend.

"Whomever you are recognizing, we know you carry them in your heart, and together, we are thankful for their service."

The seaside ceremony also featured remarks by Veterans Council President Dave Ricci, a Marine Corps vet who served in the Vietnam War.

"At this time of year, we take a moment to honor and remember the fallen for their courage, commitment and sacrifice, for they are the real heroes," Ricci said. "To those who died, we will mourn your passing; to those who lived, we will bless your name."

The half-hour program commenced with a procession of local and state officials and West Haven fire chiefs and officers and followed with a flag-raising by the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard, composed of members of the West Haven Fire Department, the West Shore Fire Department and the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown.

It included the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by West Haven resident Nora E. Mullins, a prayer by Mullins' father, city Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins, and the singing of "God Bless America," also by Nora Mullins.

Ricci then introduced Veterans Council Secretary Steve Carney, a Vietnam Army vet, who read a poem written by Army Maj. Michael Davis O'Donnell on New Year's Day 1970 at the Battle of Dak To in Vietnam.

The event concluded with a wreath-laying at the base of the William A. Soderman Memorial by Vietnam Army veteran Al Beck Sr. and his son, Al Beck Jr., followed by taps played by retired West Shore fire Lt. Kevin McKeon.

After the ceremony, families lined the Walk of Honor

to search for bricks they purchased in honor of loved ones, living and deceased.

Each \$75 brick has a personalized message engraved in charcoal lettering.

In November 2006, the Veterans Council began the first of 14 campaigns selling bricks

to memorialize vets on the 100-yard walkway between the Soderman and Vietnam Veterans memorials. About 2,900 bricks have been installed to date, including 130 for the 13th phase, which was dedicated June 5, 2021.

See Veterans, page 12



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Dear Felicia

Well graduation happened, the kiddies are no longer kiddies, but young adults, and the Class of 2022 had its night jest before we put this little papyrus to bed. Yew can see the happy faces herein effen yew've a mind to do so.

I always git a bit nostalgic at this time o' year, Felicia. It was a eon or so ago when we trouped the boards to git our diplomas in the old City Hall. A lot has happened, and a lot o' water has traversed under our bridges, that's for sure. I always wonder whot'll these young gennelmen and ladeez face in their walk of life. 'Tis a time to reflect, that's for sure.

Here in our little corner of the universe, though, many other things are happening. Yew hear about crime and you hear about things happening all over the place that hafta do with crime. Well, here in God's Li'l Acre we seem to be

having some problems along those lines as well.

In a short period o' time we found out that the parking lot behind the old Silver's is gonna be closed at night due to crime, and then we hear that the St. John Vianney/Our Lady of Victory Carnival, which was always a mainstay around here since the mid-1960s is canceled due to "security reasons." That usually means they are afraid something untoward is gonna happen.

Sammy Bluejay sez that the problems surrounding the parking lot have been complained about for years. In fact, I seem to remember a group o' people coming over to our office when we were ensconced in Savin Avenue, and residents complaining about things happening. Of course, not much was done, that's why they came to us.

People seem to be hanging

around back there, and with most of the businesses closed at night, there is a potential for activity that might not be in the best interest of the community - or neighborhood. Thus, the city decided to close the lot after dark.

The carnival effen I remember did have one or two problems over the previous few years, and maybe that is what led to the decision to cancel. It was the same time as the July 3 fireworks, and that brought in a lotta people from the outside. There could have been discussions and "security" meant paying for constabulary to patrol the place as well as make other arrangements. Too bad, tough to see a bit o' summer history go by the boards.

Speaking of the fireworks and other summer events, it seems the decision on setch things was made based on a couple o' criteria, so sez Nelly Nuthatch. Ya see, hon, everything now is based on cost, but there is another variable in the equation. Whilst the city thinks moving the fireworks to September 3 will cut down on overtime costs - that seems to be the gen'ral consensus, the reason is the smaller crowd that will be expected.

Whilst herroner is saying things like it will be a "city event" and celebrated by locals, what they are really saying is the

costs that come with more than 100,000 people coming to the shore are perty steep, and with the MARB having control over the city's purse strings, don't think that didn't come into play when the decision was made.

The problem with security is also a problem. It's no secret that police departments have been hamstrung by politicians who wanna be politically correct, and that has led to a rise in various classifications of lawbreaking as one might expect. Sooo, there were a couple thing involved in the decision.

But, I will put my money on the fact MARB probably thought the cost was too high. After all we've been this route before. Welcome to the world of absentee ownership

Getting to the budget, by the time this papyrus finds its way to the street, the MARB will have had its meeting concerning it, which was scheduled for June 15. Effen yew remember, the concern about the budget was a gap of about \$2.5 million that has to do with the revamp of the city's police package, which will go back to pension and give a hefty raise to the men and women in blue. Of course, something went haywire according to herroner and the MARB's figures are off because the actuarial company made some errors, double counting some things or setch. 'Tis amazing how this city has trouble with information getting to those who hafta do the math.

As it said in my last misive, it seems that information seems to be a hardship for the city when it has to get to the right people. The audit of its use of Federal funds was askew, sez city officials, cuz there was a mistake in the info the auditor used. Now, we have the MARB having a double counting in its info that caused the budget to be nixed. Let's hope things get on track.

Once the budget is in place, a lotta questions will be answered, and we can finally determine jest what we can and cannot have as the ones who pay the bills in this burg.

We are still awaiting word from the Actors Colony concerning its ongoing talks with the Simon Group, the developers of the Haven. Cobina traversed the area in her gassamobuggy a few days ago and the heavy machinery still seems to be lining up rubble and rock into neat piles, but it's anyone's guess when things will actually start over there.

The heavy equipment seems to be in the same place. Yew don't think the developers are using that old ploy of a stationary bulldozer jest to make it seem like something's happening, do yew? Meanwhile, there have been

threats of fines for "blight" now that demolition of the former houses on the property seems to be off again on again. It's off again as we speak. It's been a month since the threat was made, we wonder effen there's been any movement? It would seem not.

As far as getting a timetable or idea of when things will really get going over there, not much has happened either. Meanwhile herroner has said she wants to use Water Street to alleviate the traffic jams over there, especially at rush hour. Not much has happened that way either.

The Wag was in t'other afternoon and all he did was show me the local daily papyrus and say, "Hmmm."

From whot I can glean John Bernardo has schedule a hearing for a "plea change." Hmmm, indeed. Bernardo is one of the four people charged in some type of scheme to get federal Covid money in some questionable way. He and the others have been charged with fraud.

A plea change might indicate that things are starting to move along, and Bernardo might be talking to aid the case. The feds are involved and this is a usual tactic. We wouldn't be surprised effen things really begin to percolate on this case. It's been about a year, and we're sure the feds have had discussions (!) with the major characters more than once or twice.

More details maybe coming out about the allegations and what is supposed to have happened.

We'll wait and see, and keep an open mind. The feds ain't always on the up and up.

Keep yore eyes peeled on this one, honey bunch. Things might be moving toward an early conclusion on this one, maybe. Jest speculation on my part. The city really doesn't need a long drawn-out affair.

Iva Lootey was here t'other day and sez that while he knows Beach Street is supposed to undergo a rebuild, the current pavement has drivers weaving around as if the place was Burma Road. Ya gotta watch wither you're going cuz the potholes are more like sinkholes. One false move, or going too fast, and you might be on the business end of a tire jack.

Word is the work on that rebuild is gonna happen later than originally planned, which has some people who bought property over there none too happy. We shall keep our eyes on that one, cuz like everything else in the Asylum by the Sea, nothing happens as planned.

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

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Fireworks moved; Festival, concerts remain

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

The city has decided to move the 2022 Savin Rock Fireworks Spectacular from July 2 to Labor Day weekend to give West Haven's biggest event "more of a local flavor," Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

The fireworks, billed as "They Will Be Heard on the 3rd" and presented by the Savin Rock Fireworks Committee, will now launch off Bradley Point at 8 p.m. Sept. 3. The rain date is Sept. 5.

"I can't wait to celebrate the Savin Rock Fireworks Spectacular with my fellow Westies on Sept. 3, the same date as last year's display," Rossi said. "This is a meaningful event for all of us who live in West Haven and is a special opportuni-

ty to come together as friends and neighbors to celebrate our hometown by demonstrating the best of the American community spirit."

In a prepared statement, the fireworks committee, co-chaired by Sandy McCauley and Marianne Drapeau, said: "Due to recent concerns, the city has postponed the July 2 show to Sept. 3. We look forward to seeing you then."

In addition to the fireworks, Rossi announced the return of the Savin Rock Festival on July 29-30 and the West Haven Summer Concert Series, starting in late June.

The festival, which debuted in 1982 in celebration of the bygone seaside amusement park, will take place in Old Grove Park. Details are forth-

coming.

The free concert series will kick off on the Green from 7-9 p.m. June 23 and June 30 with classic rock hits by The Generators, sponsored by the West Haven Public Library, and oldies by Tony V. More concerts on the Green and in the Grove are forthcoming.

For this year's pyrotechnics show, the city is focusing

less on attracting out-of-town visitors and more on attracting West Haven residents, a strategy aimed at decreasing crowds to reduce overtime costs for police and public works crews, organizers said.

Before the fireworks light up the sky over the West Haven shoreline, a DJ will play music on a portable stage in front of Savin Rock from 6-8 p.m.

A fleet of food and dessert trucks will once again dish up eats and sweets on the north side of Captain Thomas Boulevard, from Dyke Street to Platt Court. For the second straight year, police will close Captain Thomas Boulevard and Ocean Avenue, from Kelsey Avenue to Platt Court, for several hours to give the festivities more of a block party feel.



Photo Courtesy of Flickr

Fireworks light up the night sky over West Haven's Bradley Point during a display from the past.



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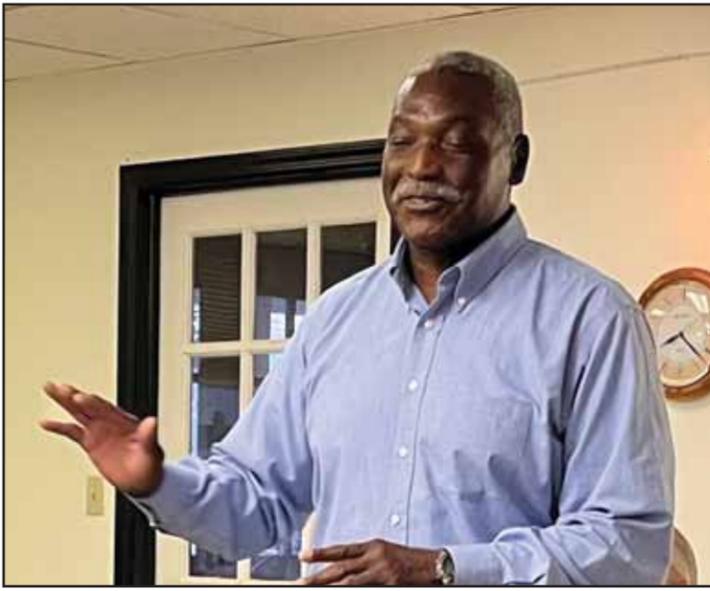


Photo courtesy of Steven R. Mullins

Aaron Haley accepts his nomination for State Representative at the Republican Town Committee meeting

Haley announces 116th run

Former Allingtown Fire Commission Chairman Aaron Haley has accepted the Republican nomination for State Representative in the 116th District. The district covers all of Allingtown and portions of the Center and West Shore.

The incumbent is Democrat State Rep. Trenee' McGee, who won in a special election last December to fill the seat left vacant after the resignation of former State Rep. Michael DiMassa, who is facing charges of fraud over the use of COVID relief funds. City resident Bill Miller is collecting signatures to force a primary against McGee in August.

Haley vows to return integrity to government and provide leadership that the district that has been lacking for decades. A 26-year veteran Connecticut state trooper, Haley is currently executive director of Homeless Emergency Shelter Services. He is also founder and a coach of New Haven Pop Warner Football. He has named Planning and Zoning Commissioner and former 116th candidate Steven R. Mullins as his campaign manager.

Haley, 60 is a graduate of West Haven High School. He later earned his BS in criminal justice from the University of

New Haven. For the last 30 years, he has been married to Attorney Karen Mayes Haley. Together they raised their five children in West Haven. They also have three grandchildren.

Mullins inks letter to VIA

Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins has sent a letter to Village Improvement Association President Patrick Galvin requesting that the future Allingtown Library be renamed. The VIA is the governing board of all West Haven Public Libraries.

In his letter, Mullins stated, "Although the Louis Piantino Library in Allingtown is now closed and is currently looking for a new home, it is my hope that when it is dedicated; Allingtown's new library be renamed the "Albert and Loretta Forte Memorial Library."

Albert E. Forte; served as Town & City Clerk from 1973 - 1981. He died in 1992. He was married to the former Loretta Bon Tempo Forte, a librarian in Allingtown. Together, they had one daughter, Valerie Forte. Mrs. Forte died in October 2005.

In addition to serving as City Clerk, Mr. Forte was active in numerous activities in the borough, town and finally city of West Haven. He was a very influential member of the Village Improvement Association. The elevator at the Main Library on Elm Street is named after him.

"Mr. Forte was a longtime member of the Allingtown Volunteer Fire Association and was instrumental in the racial integration of the Association. He was also an environmentalist long before it became fashionable," said Mullins, who delivered the New Haven Register newspaper to the Forte's in the 1980's.

Albert Forte was a veteran of the United States Navy and served in the Second World War. He was a part of many veterans' organizations in West Haven.

A tree planted outside of current Town & City Clerk Patricia Horvath's Office was dedicated to Albert Forte by Mullins and then-Mayor John Picard in 2013 to commemorate the 21st anniversary of his death.

Stamp Club meets

The New Haven Stamp Club meets every Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at 62 Clark Road, North Haven.

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Photos courtesy of Meari Avery

Lesson in history

The West Haven Historical Society conducted its annual Open House as the headquarters, 686 Savin Ave. The emphasis this year was on teaching youngsters the history of the area, with a concentration on Native American contributions. The day included exhibits and games to make the learning fun.

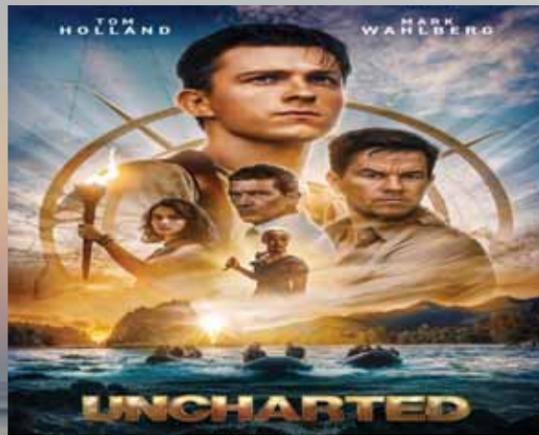


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'Make Music Day' at Old Grove



ArtsWestCT's Elinor Slomba is shown with Moises Vazquez.

ArtsWestCT is focused on music as it has scheduled Music West Haven Day at Old Grove Park located at Palace St on the first day of Summer, Tuesday, June 21, from 5 to sundown. Food Trucks will be there starting at 4 -- Taste of Grill and Franco's Fried Dough-licious.

The event is free, open to the public, and appropriate for all ages.

Participants are encouraged to bring chairs and/or blankets. There is no rain date.

"Make Music Day is a worldwide event, with millions of musicians of all styles, all ages, and all skill levels reimagining their cities as stages, and using music to spread joy to their communities," a press release from ArtsWestCT reads. "Every kind of musi-

cian — young and old, amateur and professional, of every musical persuasion — pours onto streets, parks, plazas, and porches on the same day to share their music and celebrate the start of Summer with friends, neighbors, and strangers."

In preparation for this, the West Haven Public Library helped gather empty containers to make instruments with more than 100 3- and 4-year-olds at West Haven Child Development Center June 7 and 8.

Director Tammy Theis-Satterlee was excited about the project.

"West Haven Child Development Center has partnered with ArtsWest CT and with The West Haven Early Childhood Council in support of

Music and the Arts in our community by working together to bring Make Music Day to West Haven," she said. "Together, we have developed programming that has been brought into the West Haven Child Development Center that is focused on both visual and musical arts. It is a proven fact that music and arts support brain development, specifically in language, social, and cognitive domains. Music and art are the building blocks to math and literacy! This programming is dedicated to giving the children an opportunity to explore a variety of percussion instruments with a local musician in various ways, practice nonverbal communication skills by using eye contact and other reciprocal social skills, make their own instruments with community artists, and then practice playing their instrument with the musician, Moises Vazquez. Finally, families can then bring their children to Old Grove Park after work where they will then have the opportunity to come together for Make Music Day on June 21."

Theis-Satterlee said the event is filling a need, heard often in child development circles.

"Parents in our community continuously express their desire to socialize with other parents, which is something that has been lost during Covid. The arts are a natural and gentle way of building community and healing from the wounds that Covid has left on the community. The social interactions that have been witnessed during this programming at WHCDC have been profound.

"Children communicating with each other and with adults using drums and percussion instruments has allowed all children to have an opportunity to be a part of the fun. Children with autism or who have experienced trauma in their lives can particularly benefit from the arts," she said.

Multimedia artist Zohra Rawling - a West Haven resident - has been organizing the musicians and will announce the slate next week. ArtsWestCT has secured a donation from Make Music Day International of professional drumsticks and steel pan drum sets for live bucket-drumming at the event.

Learn more about ArtsWestCT and subscribe to receive their newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/908229a46dc9/art-is-blooming-all-around> Musicians and venues can sign up for Greater New Haven area events on June 21st: <https://www.makemusicsnewhaven.org/>



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If you believe your "unalienable" rights are derived from the government, and not Nature or "Nature's God," you are not ready for the real world.

If you believe your civilization, the one that has given you the right to speak and protest, is fundamentally evil and must be collapsed, you are not ready for real life. You have a gap in your education that needs to be addressed.

If you see the history of this nation as intrinsically evil and must be destroyed, you are not ready for real life. You have not the maturity to understand that all nations have pasts that are less than stellar, no matter the location or the culture.

If you think ideas are violence and must be stamped out, you are not ready for real life.

If you see words as violence to be destroyed by violence, you are not ready for real life.

If you need trigger warning and are unable to listen to opposing ideas, shouting people down, you are immature and unequipped for dealing with real life.

If you need safe spaces to shield you from people or arguments with which you disagree, and are unable to articulate those objections, you have been robbed of an education and are unprepared for the real world.

If your major was or is in topics that end in "Studies" (Women Studies, Gay Studies, etc.), these are not disciplines, they are political statements. You will not be prepared to enter the real world after graduation.

If you think policy disagreements, or people who have opposing views to yours deserve to be "cancelled" by losing their job, their property and their reputations, you are not ready for the real world and are an emotional child.

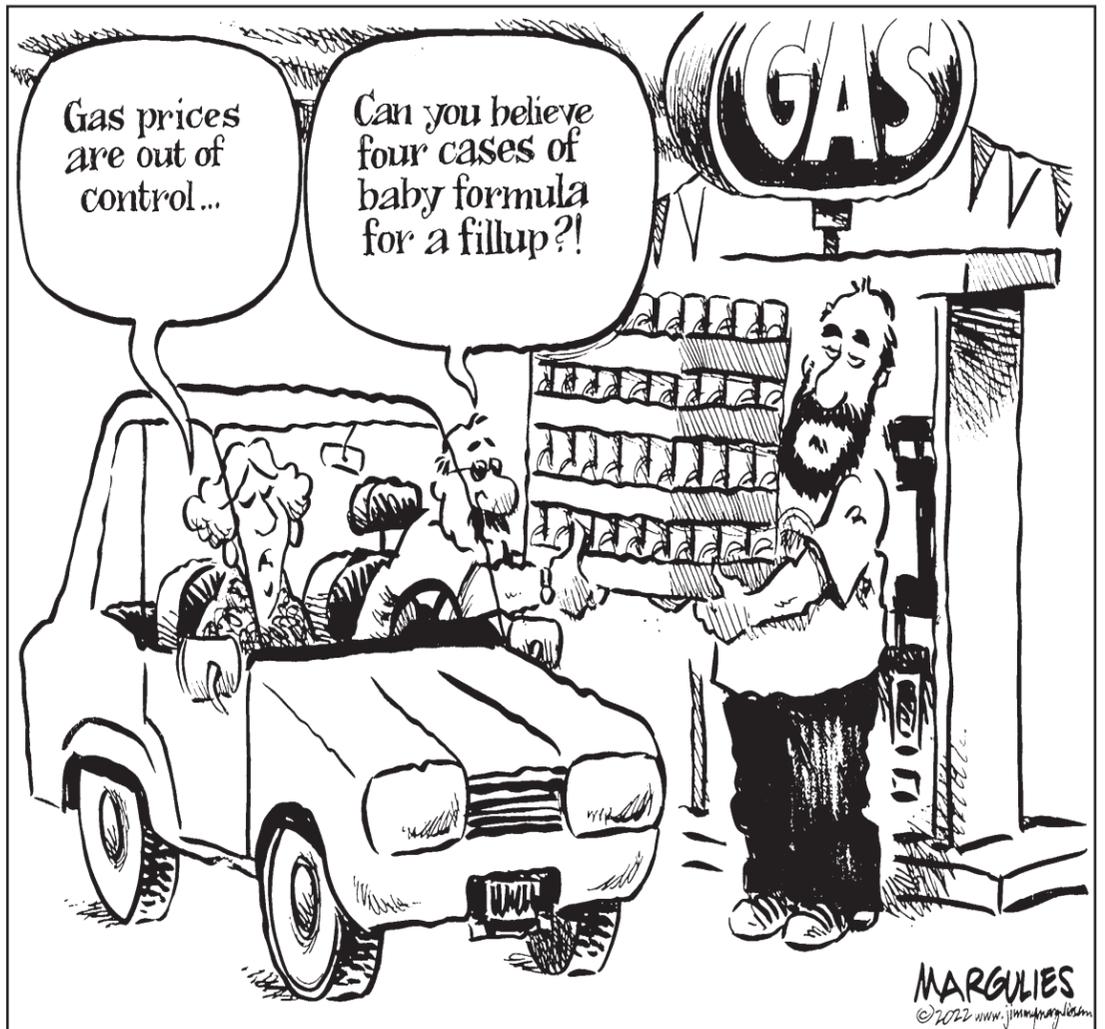
If you think tearing down statutes and defacing property and harming people are the way to fight fascism, you yourself are the fascist and are no better than the Brown Shirts or the Black Shirts, or Stalinists of former times - and as propagandized as they were.

If you can't separate political thought from any aspect of life, including entertainment, you are unprepared to live in the real world.

If you believe that biology must take a back seat to displaced and disordered thinking that will hurt individuals in the long run, you are unable to understand the consequences of those thoughts, and unable to function in reality.

Education is the learning of objective facts and truths, and being able to discern those things that are neither objective nor true. If you see the world from a totally subjective point of view, or are willing to blind yourself thinking you are morally right and everyone who disagrees is evil, you are incapable of dealing with the world, and have been poorly trained.

If you can find your way to rational thought with dispassionate results, you are truly educated and deserve a place in the real world. Good luck!



The 'blowhard' president

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

The president of the United States is a blowhard -- again.

If the country thought that it was getting a buttoned-up, by-the-books communicator after four wildly undisciplined years of Donald Trump, it knew nothing about Joseph R. Biden's long career as Washington's standout long-winded, seat-of-the-pants, poorly informed, and misleading talker.

Biden blew up two presidential campaigns with his verbal idiocy, and no one thought during his decades as a senator that he was just the statesman the country needed to handle sensitive international questions with precise, cogent communications.

Winston Churchill famously mobilized the English language and sent it into battle. Joe Biden tries to muster the English language but confuses and dispirits it, until the poor language slinks off ready to get its discharge papers and return to civilian life.

Biden's handling of Russia and China in recent months has been marked by a basic inability to stay within the lines of U.S. policy -- by seeming to give a kind of greenlight to a "minor" Russian incursion into Ukraine, by calling for Vladimir Putin to go, and by committing to defend Taiwan by force.

All these wayward statements

required immediate and utterly predictable clean-up by a White House staff that must be on constant alert to explain on a moment's notice what the president meant after he says something completely different.

Rarely have so few had to clarify so much.

Biden the other day related how a trauma doctor had supposedly told him once that a .22-caliber bullet might, say, lodge in the lung and be removable, whereas a 9 mm "blows the lung out of the body." It should be stipulated, first of all, that all bullets are dangerous. Still, this was a ridiculous explanation of the relative dangers of the two calibers and gave the impression that Biden was moving on from seeking to ban so-called assault rifles to wanting to prohibit 9 mm pistols, too.

The gaffe joined other notable Biden miscues on guns, including his bizarre advice several years ago to shoot a shotgun in the air as a means of self-defense and his erroneous insistence that there was a prohibition on the ownership of cannons during the Revolutionary War.

Biden clearly believes that he is some sort of expert on gun policy when he has managed to demonstrate over and over again that he has no idea what he is talking about.

His anecdotes and personal stories are invariably studded

with exaggerations or outright fictions. As *The Washington Post* wrote of a story Biden told about Afghanistan on the campaign trail in 2019, "It appears as though the former vice president has jumbled elements of at least three actual events into one story of bravery, compassion and regret that never happened."

An NBC News report about Biden's White House relates that -- showing colossal but typical lack of self-awareness -- Biden resents his staff following him around with a broom and dustpan: "He makes a clear and succinct statement -- only to have aides rush to explain that he actually meant something else." This, according to Biden, "smothers the authenticity that fueled his rise."

Uh, no. The sentiment that motivated voters to switch to Biden in 2020 wasn't, "We're going to vote for this blustery guy who says anything that comes into his head because that will be such a refreshing change." Rather, it was, "This guy in his basement seems relatively restrained compared to the blustery guy who says anything that comes into his head."

Biden is less flagrant than Trump -- he's not firing top officials on Twitter or making pronouncements based on the last thing he saw on TV. But he's also less entertaining. Biden imagines

See Lowry, page 10



Photo by Steven R. Mullins

Mason of the Year

Worshipful Brother Kyle Podpolucha, was named Annawon Lodge Mason of the Year. A ten-year member of Annawon, he served as Master of the Lodge in 2020. He is currently Vice President of the Blue Lodge Council and director of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut Child Identification Program, commonly known as "Chip." The dinner and awards testimonies were held at Annawon Lodge and attended by dozens of well-wishers. Podpolucha was presented with the plaque by past recipient Past Master William Breen.

Trip to Goodspeed set

The West Haven Senior Center will offer a bus trip

Sept. 21 to the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam.

The trip includes lunch at the Gelston House, followed by the musical "42nd Street," a backstage musical that follows the rehearsal process of a Broadway show produced during the height of the Great Depression.

The trip costs \$139 and includes transportation, orchestra-level seating and lunch. Payment is due Aug. 17.

For reservations, call the senior center at (203) 937-3507.

The bus will depart at 10 a.m. from the Savin Rock Conference Center parking lot, 6 Rock St., and leave at 4:45 p.m. from the opera house.

Face masks and proof of full vaccination are required to enter the theater.

Johnny Z jam slated for Sunday

A "Memorial Jam" in honor of the late John Ziada, known as "Johnny Z" is scheduled for Sunday, June 19 from noon to 6 at the West Haven Italian-American Club, 85 Chase Lane. Tickets are \$40 per person.

Featured performers are the JohnnyZ All-Star Band, Categories, Shot Down, Tears Fall Down and others.

All proceeds go to the family. Check out the Facebook page for ticket information. Tickets may also be purchased by going to Eventbrite.com

Lowry

Continued from page 9
himself the adult in the room at the same time that he routinely belowns himself and makes potentially consequential verbal missteps.

This is, indeed, the authentic Biden, but it's not inspiring, praiseworthy -- or reassuring.

Rich Lowry is editor-in-chief of the National Review.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Primary of Democratic Party will be held in West Haven, CT on August 9, 2022 for nomination to the following office.

Office State of Representative in the 116th District

Districts 4, 5, 6, and 7th
Term 2 years

Notice is also hereby given that the following are the party-endorsed candidates of the Democratic Party for nomination to said Municipal offices, together with the street addresses of

Name	Address	Office	Term
Trenee McGee	52 Eagle Place	State Representative in the 116th	2 years

Notice is also hereby given that the following enrolled candidate of the Democratic Party have filled petitions in conformity with the Sec 9-406 of the General Statutes, as candidates for nomination to said Municipal offices:

Name	Address	Office	Term
Joe Miller	19 Richards Street	State Representative in the 116th	2 years

Dated at West Haven Connecticut, this 9th day of June 2022.

The foregoing is a copy of the notice which I received from Sherri Lepper, Registrar of Voters of the Democratic Party, in accordance with Sec. 9-435 of the General Statutes. As provided in said notice, a primary of the Democratic Party for nomination of candidates to the office therein specified will be held on August 9, 2022; the hours of voting said Primary will be 6am to 8pm, and the location of the polls will be as follows:

Voting District	Location of Polling Place
4 St. Paul's Church	898 First Ave
5 Simchat Yisrael	870 First Ave
6 Forest School	95 Burwell Rd
7 Molloy School	225 Meloy Road

Absentee Ballots will be counted at the following central location

355 Main Street. Dated at West Haven Connecticut, this 9th day of June 9, 2022.

2nd Juneteenth Festival

The city will celebrate its second annual Juneteenth Celebration this Saturday at Brent Watt Park, Tile Street in Al-lingtown. The festivities will take place between 11-2, and will feature entertainment, booths, and food. The headlin-ing entertainment is the Nu Groove Band. Entry is free and for all ages. Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved black Americans. The event is being sponsored by the State Rep. Trenee' McGee (D-116) and the West Haven Se-ahawks.

17 WHHS students complete program

For five Saturdays in April and May, 17 West Haven High School students participated in the CICSTART program sponsored by the National Science Foundation and Connecticut's Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing.

CICSTART is a program designed to build career interest in computer science through advanced real-world technol-ogy. Students participated in this program virtually this year as opposed to in-person as in years past. The goal of this program was to provide students with a concise and focused laboratory-based pro-gram with a structured ap-proach to basic engineering, teamwork, interpersonal, and technical writing skills.

Westie students honed their technical and professional skills while taking personal responsibility for their contri-butions and communications for weekly team projects. Mr. John Birch, Founder and Presi-dent of the Birch Group, LLC., a national full-service organi-zational talent-optimization consulting company, provid-ed students a 360° feedback evaluation which included a DiSC® personal assessment tool and emotional intelli-gence training. DiSC® is a personal assessment tool used by more than one million peo-ple every year to help improve teamwork, communication, and productivity in the work-place.

Professor Eric Flynn, Profes-sor Mehrdād Fäézi, Teacher Mr. Andrew Angle (Science Teacher at Bloomfield High School), and Mr. Eric Rice (STEM/CTE Department Chair & Teacher at West Haven High School) led students through a series of micropro-cessor labs, solid modeling, and engineering mathematics activities. Flynn is the Engi-neering Technology Depart-ment Chair at Gateway Com-munity College and Fäézi is the Program Coordinator of the Precision Manufacturing Certificate Program and the STEM Division Coordinator at Manchester Community Col-lege.

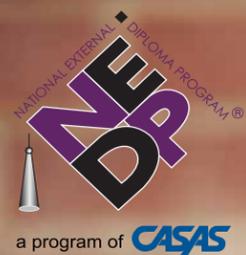
WHHS Students who Par-ticipated in the Program:

Kareem Abdelaziz, grade 9; Jerry Booker, grade 12; Mala-chi Calhoun, grade 10; Ma-

lik Coulibaly, grade 11; Lena Enaw, grade 9; Jaheime Gor-don, grade 10; Ali Hamza, grade 9; Brianna Montano-Vazquez, grade 11; Ahmed Osman, grade 9, Mustafa Os-man, grade 9; Enrique Rivera, grade 10; Sufyan Sayed, grade 9; Brandon Sihaphong, grade 9; Antonio Worrell, grade 11; Justin Woychowski, grade 11.



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Photo courtesy of Academy of Hope Adult Public Charter School, Washington, DC

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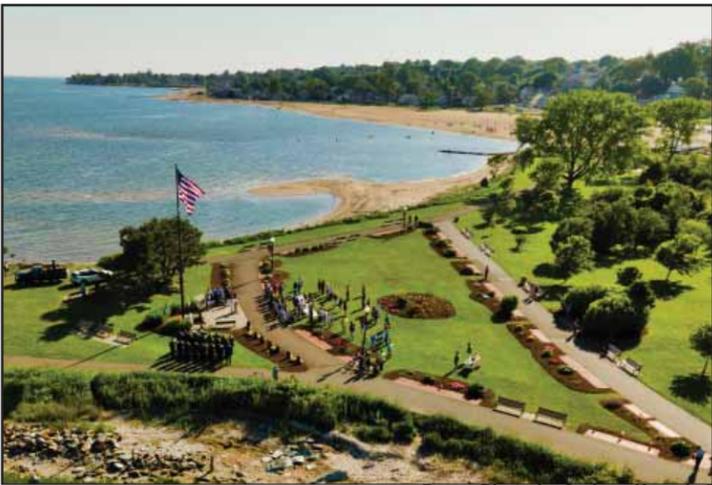
Photo by Michael P. Walsh

West Haven Mayor Nancy R. Rossi delivers remarks.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Above -- West Haven resident Kim-Marie Mullin touches the Walk of Honor brick she purchased for her father, John J. Mullin, a Navy veteran who served as a torpedoman's mate in Vietnam. Behind Mullin, Councilman Steven J. Johnstone, R-10, searches for the brick he purchased for his grandfather, World War II Army Staff Sgt. Frederick H. Johnstone. Below -- Vietnam War Army veteran Al Beck Sr., right, and his son, Al Beck Jr., lay a wreath at the base of the William A. Soderman Memorial in Bradley Point Park during West Haven's dedication of the 14th phase of the brick Veterans Walk of Honor on June 4.



Drone Photo by Andrew Kosarko

An aerial view of the Walk of Honor ceremony.

Veterans: *Walk updated*

Continued from page 3

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 in 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 the Soderman memorial were dedicated.

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

On July 1, 1984, Bradley Point Park's flagpole was dedicated in memory of Soderman, who died in 1980.

In addition to overseeing the construction of all phases of the walkway, which was built by City Point Construction Co. of West Haven, Sabo has 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.

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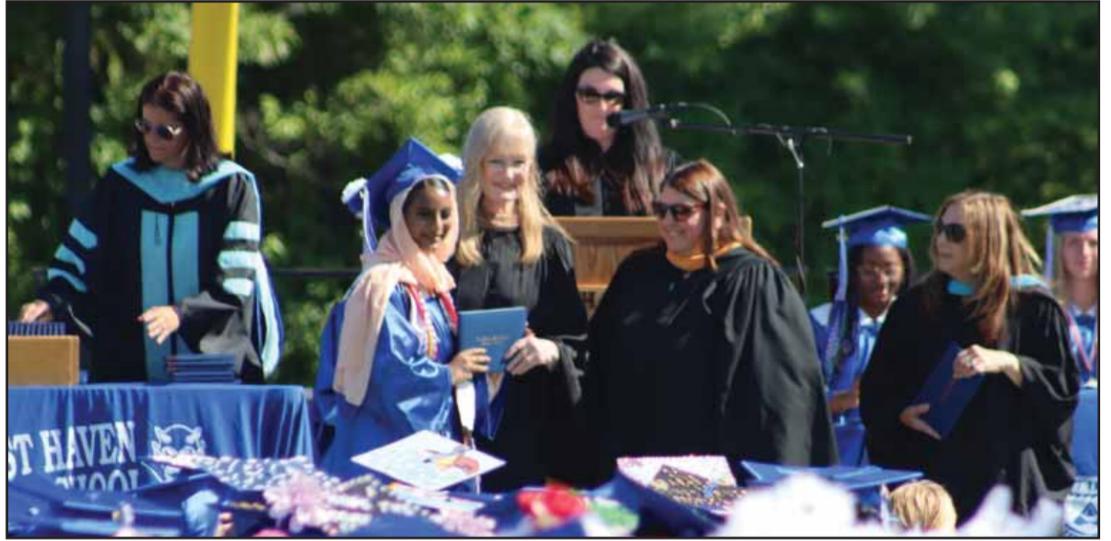


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Photos by Todd Dandelske

Class of '22

Joy and a sense of accomplishment were the orders of the day, Tuesday, with the graduation of the latest senior class at West Haven High School. Photographer Todd Dandelske captured some of the moments at the ceremony.



Notice of funding opportunity

ARPA funds in support of food insecurity

Total of funds available: \$400,000

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announces that the City of West Haven is soliciting financial grant support proposals from charitable organizations that provide services to West Haven residents in support of combatting hunger. Organizations that distribute food, (food banks) operate public feeding services (soup kitchens) or otherwise provide support services that seek to address food insecurity in West Haven are encouraged to apply for grants to be made from the American Rescue Plan Funds as they are made available to the City.

Overview

The City of West Haven has received a commitment for certain funds from the U. S. Department of Treasury to address inequities that were exacerbated by the COVID 19 pandemic. Addressing community food insecurity is an authorized use of these funds. The West Haven City Council has authorized Mayor Nancy Rossi to solicit proposals in pursuit of her ARPA spending plan from area charities that serve food insecurity and hunger needs in West Haven for grant requests to further their missions. The total funds anticipated to be expended under this opportunity is \$400,000.

Application Deadline

Application forms along with any supporting documents must be emailed in PDF format to dcolter@westhaven-ct.gov no later than 3:00 pm Thursday June 30th, 2022.

Download the Application Form from the City's Website

<https://cityofwesthaven.com/Civics/letsme.aspx?DI=AAU>

Applicant Qualifications

1.) Non Profit Status: Applicant agencies must be organized as a not-for-profit charitable organization, and have received an IRS determination letter indicating not for profit status. (eg: 501c3 or other applicable designation). Individuals, for-profit businesses, and organizations primarily engaged in political activities are not eligible to apply. IRS status and CT Secretary of State filing and report status must be current and not in default at the time of funding. Groups not duly registered with the IRS may partner with a qualified fiscal sponsor, provided the fiscal sponsor becomes the Applicant and maintains control of all funds and records.

2.) History of Providing Services: Applicant agencies must be able to demonstrate a history and mission success of

providing anti-hunger and food insecurity services to West Haven residents.

Transparency

3.) Public Inspection of Records: Applicant Agencies shall agree to allow the City of West Haven, the U.S. Treasury, and their auditing contractors to inspect their financial books and records.

4.) Required Disclosures: Applicant Agencies shall agree to all of the terms and conditions of Federal Funding and the American Rescue Plan Act, including non-discrimination policies, disclosure of lobbying activities, bidding and contracting requirements, required financial reporting, and like activities that are deemed necessary in the sole opinion of the City of West Haven.

a. In accordance with Federal civil rights law, the City of West Haven civil rights regulations and policies, the City of West Haven, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering City funded programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by the City.

b. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the City of West Haven Office of Grants In Aid, via a TTY relay service at 203.937.3620 ext 3010, or by email to dcolter@westhaven-ct.gov. Program information may be made available in languages other than English upon request.

5.) Ethics Disclosure: Applicant Agencies shall provide a City of West Haven ethics disclosure report for the Agency, each of its directors, and each of its paid senior management staff. Such disclosure shall identify any relationships with immediate family, business, or membership to an elected official of the City of West Haven or to any Senior Management staff member of the City of West Haven, including appointed members of the Citizen's ARPA Review Committee.

6.) Purchasing: Applicant Agencies shall comply with the City of West Haven purchasing ordinance for all activities funded by the City.

7.) Advertising and Acknowledgement: Agencies who are chosen for award agree to allow the City of West Haven

to publicize the award and the activities it supports. Agencies agree to provide credit to the City of West Haven and the ARPA funding plan in all publicity of activities funded in whole or in part by this funding opportunity.

Objectives

8.) West Haven Beneficiaries: Programs and activities funded by this opportunity shall demonstrate how they will benefit the citizens of West Haven.

9.) Mission: To address hunger and food insecurity issues in the City of West Haven that were exacerbated by the COVID 19 Pandemic, and to build capacity for agencies to address food insecurity beyond the performance dates of this funding opportunity.

10.) Performance Period All funds must be encumbered by June 1st of 2023, and expended by June 1st of 2024. Program Priorities:

11.) Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate how funding under this program will serve the hunger needs of the community beyond the funding timeline by enhancing infrastructure (eg: walk in cooler), building capacity (eg: paid staff, distribution facilities or vehicles) or build out of facilities.

12.) Applicants should consider means of food distribution via schools, faith organizations, delivery to persons who do not have means of travel, addressing language barriers, consideration of disabilities, and addressing cultural and religious needs.

13.) Applicants are encouraged to provide nutritional counseling and food education including food storage and cooking to program recipients.

14.) Funding priority will be given to programs where this funding will enable other matching funds to leverage an opportunity.

15.) Priority will be given to Agencies that are headquartered in West Haven.

16.) Agencies are encouraged to not duplicate services that have other funding sources, and to not propose activities that are covered by other organizations.

17.) Applicants may be requested to appear for an interview with the Citizen's ARPA Review Committee.

18.) Applicants shall make application for funding on a form provided by the City of West Haven, and understand that all documents submitted will become public record.

'Healthy Minds, Bodies' focus of program

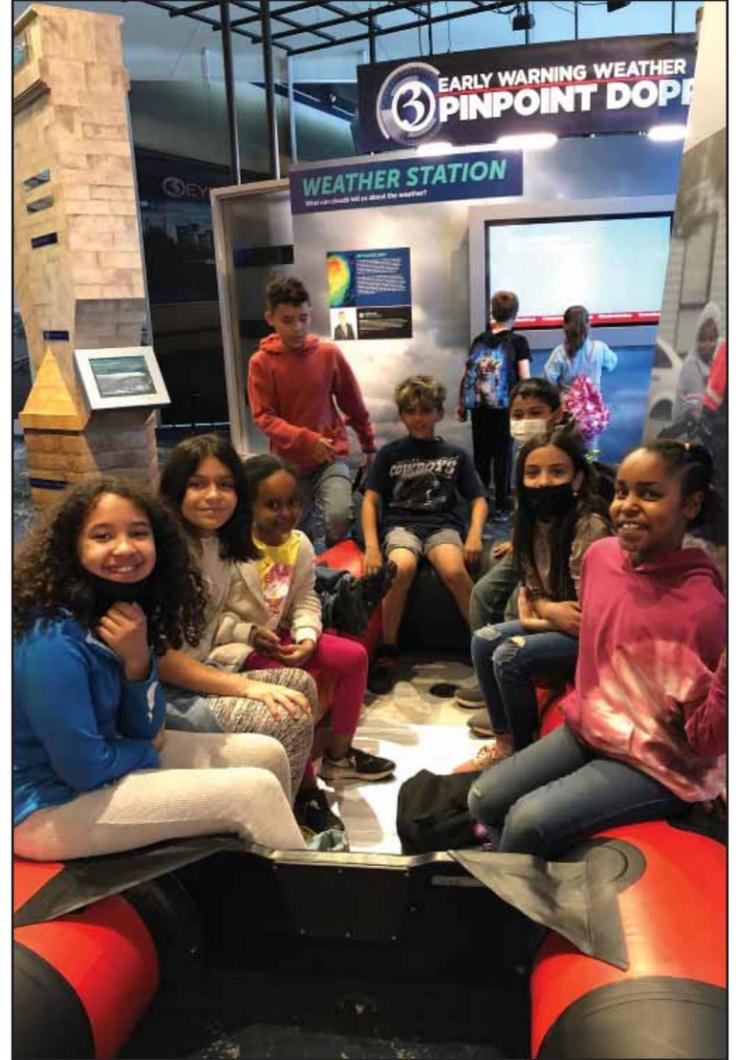
Four teachers and 44 third and fourth graders from Alma E. Pagels Elementary School are participating in an inter-district program called, "Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies." Students at Pagels are joined by their peers at Bradley School (Derby) and Chatfield-LoPresti Elementary School (Seymour) as they learn about proper nutrition, physical fitness, school performance, and psychological well-being.

"I'm pleased to be a part of "Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" because it provides enriching educational experiences for our students and allows them to work cooperatively with students from other regions in Connecticut," said Ann Wentworth, a second grade teacher at Pagels. "Children are learning how to stay healthy in a fun, engaging way, and they are making new friends from other schools!"

"Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" is a grant program designed to bring students of diverse backgrounds together to enhance multi-cultural understanding and improve academic performance as students learn to establish a healthy diet and healthy lifestyle.

In an effort to keep students safe from COVID-19, students stay in their respective schools for roughly half of the meetings as they take place on Zoom. At Pagels, the meetings are displayed on the school's new Promethean boards. Students are then asked to participate in field trips on Saturdays with most of them taking place outdoors.

School meetings focus on



Photos courtesy of Michael O'Brien

Pagels students took part in an inter-district program, Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies. A total of 44 third- and fourth-graders were part of the program.

a specific theme while students participate in activities in their respective schools, as well as virtually with the other schools in the program doing projects, challenges, and other activities. The lessons and activities are run in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere, with activities focusing on healthy lifestyles, the relationship between food and exercise in achieving a healthy

Photos by Michael O'Brien

balance, as well as the role that a student's own culture plays in their food choices.

Recently, students participated in a team-building challenge in which they created a structure out of marshmallows, spaghetti, and toothpicks. Their task was to create the tallest freestanding structure using only the given materials. Shortly after, they spent the day in Hartford at the Sci-

ence Center with peers from Derby and Seymour learning about science through participating in hands-on science exhibits.

The program revolves around four core content areas: nutrition, physical activity/exercise, teamwork to enhance self-efficacy, and goal setting. It takes place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, once a month, as well as Satur-

days. The program started in March and ended this month.

"Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" is sponsored by the Connecticut State Department of Education.

The program is staffed with certified teachers from Bradley, Chatfield-LoPresti, and Pagels. The four teachers from Pagels are Vinny Carr, Rachael Langley, Kelly Nebor, and Ann Wentworth.

Mackrille Garden dedicated to former principal

On Wednesday, June 1st, Mackrille Elementary School dedicated its enclosed courtyard garden after former principal, now Assistant Superintendent, Judith Drenzek. Mrs. Drenzek spent the day at Mackrille planting with students in boxes created by Mr. Martin's WHHS woodshop class, while Mackrille students painted their handprints on the side. Each grade had its own box. Mrs. Drenzek started the garden 9 years ago when she was the principal, following a donation from the American Heart Association. The AHA provided Mackrille with several hundred dollars' worth of established plants, gardening equipment, raised beds, and soil. Mrs. Drenzek worked with teachers to incorporate garden work in science lessons and give students opportunities to water and monitor the crops. Students also helped harvest herbs and vegetables. Mackrille Principal Taryn Driend and staff have dedicated the garden after Mrs. Drenzek, which is now officially called 'Judith Drenzek's Teaching Gardings.'





Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I am writing as I have a huge gripe with our mayor we have running our city. How dare she postpone the fireworks to Labor Day weekend again!!

When the carnival at the church was postponed, reasons were due to security reasons and to prep for the fireworks celebration Fourth of July weekend! But now, she decided to make the executive decision to postpone them again! Does she not realize the Fourth of July Fireworks are the biggest celebration that West Haven has very year and that it brings tons of revenue for small business located in this town? There was no mention that she was considering this as a possibility, no discussion no open forum ALLOWING West Haven residents to have an opinion if WE wanted this or not.

Nope, just decided to keep quiet and make the decision herself. Such a typical politi-

cian forgetting that she works FOR the people NOT for herself.

My family and I look forward to the Fourth of July fireworks every year and I know that I'm not alone on this!

Celebrating the fireworks on Fourth of July Weekend is not only a symbolism of summer, but also a celebration of becoming an independent country.

No one has fireworks Labor Day weekend and we will now be the only city/town to do such a thing!

Fed Up Resident

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

Just read your article on potholes complaints.

I live on Hazel Street, a short dead-end street that hasn't been tended to since 1998. Hazel Street has been comping my complaint to my councilman to request assistance. It is beyond description. It is beyond unacceptable. Please



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

help!

Dear AT:

I have written Councilman Victor Borrás for assistance with your plight.

If you also note your submitted photos will appear in today's column. Gripe Vine readers will be looking for your response, "Yes, Hazel Street has been repaired!"

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

The sidewalks on Brown Street are in very bad shape and especially dangerous for the elderly that walk on it. Please helps fix this sidewalk!

Afraid Resident

Dear Afraid Resident:

Good News!

I forwarded your complaint to Eric Chiarelli, Protect Coordinator and Sidewalk Inspect-

tor who replied to our Brown Street gripe with, "132 Brown Street is on the list for replacement under the Child Replacement Safety Program by the mayor under the ARPA Community Investment Plan and approved by the City Council."

Gripe Vine has received numerous complaints concerning the dangers on the Brown Street sidewalk. Readers, please keep me informed on the progress here.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

There is an empty lot on Plainfield Avenue that is full of grass and bushes that are not being taken care of and it is out of control.

Disgusted

Dear Disgusted:

I have forwarded your complaint to Councilman Peter Massaro who replied, "I will check on it."

As always, I ask my readers to let me know if gripes have been completely.

~~~~~  
I you have a gripe, comment or complaint, you can email Gripe Vine at [gripevine4wh@aol.com](mailto:gripevine4wh@aol.com) Please include your name, address and phone number. Your email will be kept in strict confidence with me. My readers can also mail your gripes to me by mail by sending them to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516.

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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).



Hazel Street potholes have plagued the street for years, but help is on the way.

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**Historian's corner** **By Dan Shine**

What is a Father?  
 Father's Day originated as local celebration in 1910 in Spokane, Washington. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge supported the establishment of a national Father's Day. However, the gears of government often turn slowly, and it wasn't until 1972 that the permanent national observance of Father's Day was a reality. This week, your historian defers to the late Chaplain Bob DuVall of the US Army's 75th Infantry Division Veterans Association; Chaplain DuVall had some very touching thoughts concerning fatherhood:  
 A father never feels worthy

He is never quite the hero his daughter thinks; never quite the man his son believes him to be, and this worries him--sometimes. So he works too hard to try to smooth the rough places in the road for those of his own who will follow him.  
 A father gets angry when school grades are not as good as he thinks they ought to be. So he scolds his son--though he knows it is the teacher's fault. A father gives his daughter away to another man who is not nearly good enough--so he can have grandchildren who are smarter than anybody's. A father makes bets with insurance companies about who

he loses--and the bet is paid off to those he leaves behind.  
 A father gives strength by sharing his strength, happiness by sharing his love.  
 A father is someone who knows that giving makes living a pleasure and that thoughtfulness is the best measure of a man.  
 A father is neither an anchor to hold us back, nor a sail to take us there, but always a guiding light whose love shows us the way.  
 Whenever, wherever, however he is needed, a father is always there.  
 A father's love is strong in its gentleness, gentle in its strength. It helps you reach

new depths of understanding, new dimensions of life.  
 Fathers have a knowledge of life and love not found in books, but in the heart.  
 There is no one like a father to care so completely, give so quietly, teach so gently, love so much.  
 I do not know where a father goes when he dies; but I have an idea that after a good rest, he will not just sit on a cloud and wait for the girl he loved and the children she bore. He will be busy there too--repairing the streets, oiling the gates, fixing the stairs, smoothing the way.  
 Best Wishes to all those who uphold the honorable traditions of fatherhood-



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



Dad Stephen Shine comforts his child -- one of the many things fathers consider part of the vocation.



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 Pick up location is 55 Messina Drive East Haven Ct 06512, Phone: 203-468-7224  
 Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Applications will be accepted from June 27, 2022, thru July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

No additional applications will be given out or accepted after the close of business on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Income Limits and occupancy standards apply.

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

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

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Applications will be available from Monday June 27, 2022, thru Friday July 29, 2022.

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

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# Alum bankrolls UNH athletics upgrade



Photo courtesy of UNH  
JEFF HAZELL

University of New Haven President Steven H. Kaplan, Ph.D., announced last week that the institution has received a \$3 million commitment from Jeffery P. Hazell '83, '10 Hon. that will serve as the lead gift for the renovation of the university's Charger Gymnasium. Once it is completed, the on-campus facility will be named in honor of Hazell.

"Jeff has long been a deeply devoted benefactor and loyal supporter of Charger Athletics and innovative programs that invest in the success of our students," said President Steven H. Kaplan, Ph.D., who will transition to chancellor of the university as of July 1. "Our athletics teams are a

great point of pride for our entire university community, and Jeff's transformational commitment will significantly expand and upgrade our athletics facilities, creating a multi-purpose center that provides our student-athletes with cutting-edge facilities and resources that enable them to excel and to continue competing at a championship level."

The Jeffery P. Hazell Athletic Center will be home to the university's men's and women's basketball and women's volleyball teams and host large-scale university and community programs. The upgraded facility will include:

~ Renovated locker rooms for all varsity sports;

~ Increased seating capacity and new viewing areas in the arena;

~ Additional team meeting space and coaches' offices;

~ An upgraded lobby honoring past Charger greats and championship teams.

Hazell, a native of Marblehead, Mass, who now lives in Windermere, FL, owns and operates Boston Lobster Feast, a chain of three popular seafood restaurants in the Orlando area, and he is the founder of Bar Harbor Lobster Co., the Sunshine State's largest wholesale seafood company. He started Bar Harbor in the garage of his house in 1986, just three years after he graduated from the University of New Haven with a degree in hotel and restaurant management. In 2017, Hazell sold the assets of the wholesale company to Performance Food Group, a Fortune 200 company that is the country's second largest broadline food distributor.

It was during Hazell's junior year at the university that he interned at a restaurant in Disney World. The experience, he says, shaped the course of his professional life. Years later, Bar Harbor Lobster's largest account was with Disney World.

Hazell opened his first Boston Lobster Feast in 1991. Throughout his 35-year career, Hazell has operated seven different restaurants, purchased three different wholesale seafood companies, and owned two food trucks selling lobster rolls.

"I get great satisfaction being able to give back to my alma mater so that current students can have the same opportunities I had," said Hazell. "I wouldn't be where I am today without the University of New Haven. As a Charger, I believe 'championship DNA' is in my blood. I am proud to be able to help the university continue to help students become successful."

A longstanding university benefactor and a member of the Board of Governors, Hazell, who was a member of the football team as a student, helped revive the university's football program in 2009 following a five-year hiatus. He also supports Jeffery's Fusion, the university's on-campus fine dining restaurant, and the Hazell Nut Café, which provides experiential learning opportunities to hospitality and tourism management students in the university's Pompea College of Business.

Hazell was awarded an honorary Doctor of Business Administration from the university in 2010 and was presented the university's

See UNH, page 19

West Haven Health Department

# COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS

When: Every Friday in June  
Time: 11:30am to 2:00pm  
Location: 201 Noble street, West Haven  
Vaccine: Moderna

DON'T FORGET

- No appointment required
- Please bring vaccine card to receive vaccine
- Second booster are for people 50 years or older

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Let's get vaccinated!

For more information please contact  
West Haven Health Department at  
203-937-3660

# Westies: *Losses oust teams from tournaments*

Continued from page 24

game tomorrow, so we have to come prepared."

The West Haven ace sealed the win by retiring the side in order in the seventh.

"His change was working pretty well," Luneau said of Gambardella. "I think he got better as the game went on. He bared down. That's why he is going to the University of Maine. He can do that."

Gambardella and John Lindsay led the West Haven offense with two hits apiece.

The season has come to an end for the West Haven baseball team. Unable to come up with a key hit, West Haven fell in second round action to 10th-seeded Trumbull, 3-0, at Trumbull High the next day.

With the loss, No. 26 West Haven closes the season with an 11-11 record.

Dylan Supan went the distance for West Haven, tossing a complete-game 8-hitter, allowing three earned runs. Supan struck out six and did not walk a batter.

West Haven will remember this contest as one of missed opportunities. The Westies stranded a pair of runners in four of the seven innings played.

The missed opportunities started early as Tyler DeSanty singled to lead off the game and Gambardella followed with a walk, but West Haven

could not capitalize.

After Trumbull got a two-out hit to score a pair in the bottom of the first, West Haven stranded two more in the second. A double play erased a runner in the third, before Trumbull took a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the inning.

The Westies had another opportunity to score in the fourth as Lindsay reached on an error and KJ Harp walked. A ground out by Corey Coggins moved a pair to scoring position, but both were stranded.

West Haven again had another opportunity in the sixth when Lindsay opened with a walk, and Coggins singled with one out, but the Westies again could not push a run across.

With the season on the line, West Haven failed to go down quietly in the seventh. Gambardella reached on an error with one out, but two ground outs ended the West Haven season.

The West Haven softball team got off to a slow start to the Class LL state tournament, but it was how the game finished which was all that mattered.

Trailing 2-0, No. 8 West Haven scored three times in the third, then added a pair of runs in each of the fifth and sixth innings to defeat No. 25 Newington, 7-2, in the opening round of the state tourna-

ment at Biondi Field.

Shyanne Raccio led an 11-hit attack with three hits, two runs batted in, and a run scored, Mia Rubirosa had two hits, scored three times, and drove in a run, while Brianna Miller added a pair of hits and scored once.

Rubirosa also pitched well, going the distance and allowing just two hits and no earned runs, while walking two and striking out seven.

The Westies took the lead for good in the third with three runs for a 3-2 advantage. Rubirosa walked with one out, Paige Beurer followed with a two-out walk, and a single by Raccio scored Rubirosa to cut the deficit in half. Juliana Petruzzello followed with a double to left, scoring Beurer and Raccio for a 3-2 lead.

West Haven extended the lead to 5-2 in the fifth as Rubirosa, Miller, Beurer and Raccio opened the inning with singles. Beurer's single scored Rubirosa, and Miller scored as part of a double steal attempt.

A two-out rally in the sixth sealed the victory for West Haven as Rubirosa singled to score Natalie Gallo. Following a single by Miller and a walk to Beurer, Raccio singled to score Rubirosa.

The season continued for the West Haven softball team. Falling behind early, eighth-ranked West Haven rallied to

top No. 24 Staples, 6-5.

Rubirosa went the distance, allowing two earned runs on six hits, while walking one and striking out six.

Raccio led the way with three hits, two runs scored and a run batted, while Rubirosa had two hits and a run scored, and Gianna Carrano had two hits and a run batted in.

Trailing 3-0 after a half inning, West Haven rallied to take a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the inning. Rubirosa led off with a double, Brianna Miller was hit by a pitch, and Raccio doubled with one out to score Rubirosa. Juliana Petruzzello followed with a two-run single to even the game, and Hannah Davey singled with two outs to score Petruzzello for a 4-3 lead.

After Staples evened the game in the top of the third, West Haven pulled ahead in the bottom of the inning when Hannah Burrows led off with a double, Hannah Davey sacrificed Burrows to third, and Melanie Jimenez grounded out to score Burrows.

West Haven increased the lead to 6-4 in the fourth as Raccio led off with a single, moved to second on a passed ball, and scored on a single by Carrano.

Staples scored once in the seventh, but Rubirosa got a pop out to send West Haven to the quarterfinals.

The season for the West Haven softball team has come to a bitter end. Leading by two runs with six outs to go, eighth-seeded West Haven could not get the final out.

Top-seeded Danbury scored the tying run on a very close

play in what could have been the final out of the game, before using a walk-off homer in the eleventh to end the dream season for the Westies in a 5-2 final.

West Haven led 2-1 going into the seventh, but Danbury used a one-out single, a stolen base, and a wild pitch to put the tying run on third with one out. Rubirosa got a ground out for the second out, but a slow grounder to Beurer at short was just beaten out, allowing the tying run to score.

West Haven had a golden opportunity to take the lead in the eighth as Hannah Davey walked with two outs and Melanie Jimenez singled, but Rubirosa was retired on a grounder to third to end the frame.

The Westies had another opportunity to take the lead in the eleventh, as Rubirosa singled with two outs and Miller walked, but Beurer flied to center to end the inning.

West Haven took a 2-0 lead in the fifth inning as Davey reached on an error, and pinch-runner Gallo advanced to second on a sacrifice by Jimenez. Rubirosa singled to put runners on the corners, and Miller reached on a fielder's choice to load the bases.

Walks to Beurer and Raccio scored Gallo and Rubirosa for a 2-0 lead, but the Westies could not push across another run.

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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Teachers



Photo by Todd Dandelske  
**Briana Miller takes a lead from third base versus Newington.**

# UNH: Alum donates \$3m

Continued from page 17

prestigious President's Award in 2017.

An in-person ceremony celebrating the vision for the Hazell Athletic Center is being planned on campus for the fall.

Charger Athletics completed another banner year during the 2021-22 academic year, posting more than 150 wins combined across 18 varsity sports, with more than 300 student-athletes being named to the Northeast-10 Academic Honor Roll following the fall semester.

"Jeff is without question one of the most accomplished graduates in the rich history of the University of New Haven," said Sheahon Zenger, director of athletics and recreation, who will become the university's interim president on July 1.

"Beyond his incredible support of Charger Athletics, which is a most worthwhile investment in our championship DNA, he has long been a devoted benefactor of immersive educational programs that prepare our students to excel working in an industry in which he has accomplished so much. We are indebted to Jeff for his generosity and his passion for the university."

Hazell's \$3 million commitment marks the second seven-figure gift the university has received within the last month, following a \$2 million commitment from longtime faculty member Alice Fischer, Ph.D., and her husband to create the Alice E. and Michael J. Fischer Teaching Chair in Computer Science Endowed Fund.



Photo courtesy of UNH

The North Campus Gym will see a reconstruction and renaming for Hazell once completed.

WestieBlue.com



For all your West Haven sports, visit [www.westieblue.com](http://www.westieblue.com)

Complete coverage of all sports teams from Youth Sports to Alumni

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Photos courtesy of Michael P. Walsh

The West Haven Youth Lacrosse team ended its regular season over the weekend. The team mugs it up following a successful jamboree showing. Right -- Rocco Kelly mixes it up.

# Booster Eligibility

## When to get your 1st booster:

- If you received Pfizer or Moderna - At least 5 months after your second shot.
- If you received Johnson & Johnson/Janssen - At least 2 months after your shot.

## Which booster should you get?

- If you are 18 years or older: Any of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States – Moderna.

## People in certain groups or situations can get a 2nd COVID-19 booster.

### You are eligible for 2 boosters if you:

- Are 50 years of age or older and got your first booster at least 4 months ago.
- Are moderately or severely immunocompromised, 12 years of age or older, and got your first booster at least 4 months ago.
- Got 2 doses of J&J/Janssen vaccine at least 4 months ago.

## When to get your 2nd booster:

- If you received Pfizer or Moderna - At least 4 months after your 1st booster shot.
- If you received a Johnson & Johnson/Janssen booster - At least 4 months after your 1st booster shot.

## Which booster should you get?

- If you are 12-17 years old: Pfizer.
- If you are 18 years or older: Pfizer or Moderna.



# Youth lax team ends its season

The West Haven Lacrosse 5/6 team wrapped up its season with a split of games in a jamboree in Milford.

The Blue Devils trailed Milford, 2-0, with three minutes to play and exploded for three goals in the win. Anthony Dimeglio, AJ Farrell and Charlie Gunning scored to take him the win. Rocco Kelly assisted on a pair of the goals. Dimeglio controlled three straight faceoffs to set up the Westie win. Ryan Walsh, Jeremiah McGrath, Matt Ciccocanti and Danny Slubowski all made key defensive stops to get the win. Michael Paone was outstanding in net for the win.

The Westies dropped a 3-1 contest to Shelton 5/6. Matt Ciccocanti, Cody Young and Nick Ciccocanti led the Westie efforts. Walsh, Ellis Cortes, and Sean Gilbert led the defensive effort. Paone was again stellar in net turning away several point-blank attempts.

The Westies lost a heartbreaker to Amity, 9-8, with Amity scoring a late goal. Kelly netted four goals for the Westies and Young, Farrell, Gunning, McGrath and Slubowski each netted one. Assists came from Shea Outhavong and Walsh.

## Gagliardi pitches Jays to 10-8 win

Anthony Gagliardi pitched five innings and had nine strikeouts as the Blue Jays defeated the Orioles by a score of 10-8. Colin Watson had 2 hits and 2 RBIs and Logan Pas-carella had a hit and 2 RBIs and brothers, Emmanuel and Elijah Williams, each had a hit in the win.

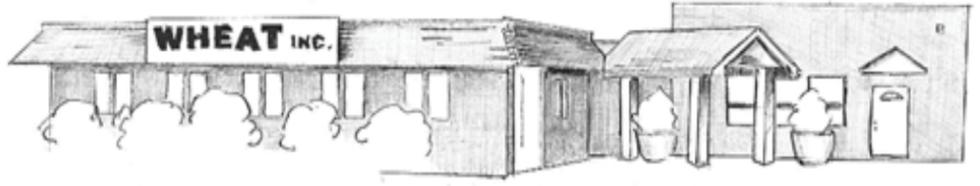
# Youth Soccer ends its spring season

It was a great final weekend of the season for the West Haven Youth Soccer League last weekend. Milano & Wanat lost on the final day of the season to the very skilled Elite Soccer Camp Tsunamis, with the Tsunamis picking up the 5-1 win. Milano & Wanat saw Jaxon Cruz pick up a goal and play hard throughout the game. Gavin Lenihan worked hard on and off the ball, while Dyllan Lopez and Derek Dorosario showed a lot of hustle. Goalie Carlos Garcia-Perez made some great saves. For the Tsunamis, Jax Guarino had the first goal, getting a great pass from Roland Green. Ben Trenchard picked up two assists, setting up Green and Matteo D'Elia for goals. Santino D'Amato and Ryan Abekah split time in the goal, both making several great saves. Mason DaSilva made line-breaking passes, and Tonye Issac, Liam Lima, and Ethan Fonseca were stellar on defense. Nathan Powell worked hard in the midfield in the win.

The Westies Nutrition Maroon Marauders played a great game against Vio's Sports Plus. Cameron Moody, Caleb Ford, and Kobe Hammond all scored their first goals of the season. The boys were able to find the back of the net through amazing teamwork, passing the ball, talking and working together. While #DAVILATRIBE learned a lot about positioning this year it wasn't enough to come out with a win in the final game of the season. Aerial Copland played goal for the first half and made good saves and Selma Freire played second half with some aggressive stops. Rona Boulguid had two hard fought advances on midfield and her sister Reem was injured but continued to try to play strong. Journii Hunter and Juliana Alvarez worked together to make good passes and get a few shots on goal. Amilianna Gonzalez and Aria Reynosa were always eager to play and played both offense and defense. Jaslean Diaz worked in her footskills, making moves to get up the field. Maxim Castillo Aranda had a great first year, a great attitude, working hard on the attack. Karine Davila and Klara Frost worked hard on defense.

The U15 in-house boys' and girls' teams played in the annual coed jamboree this past weekend. Falcone Law Firm and #DAVILATRIBE combined to take on Stowe's Seafood and the West Haven Professional Firefighters in a hard-fought match. The second group saw Mad Mike's Cheesesteaks and Elsie Encarnacion State Farm Insurance play against the WH Italian-American Civic Association and Touch of Heaven Home Care. All the teams played hard, showing good passing that led to quite a few goals.

The WHYSL Travel Teams also closed out their seasons last weekend. See Soccer, page 19



Beginning June 17<sup>th</sup>, WHEAT's food pantry will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 2:00 & 4:30 p.m. Please remember that you need to bring a valid photo ID, two pieces of mail and a few grocery bags in order to receive food. You can get food once a month.

Donations are accepted on Tuesday and Wednesday between 10 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

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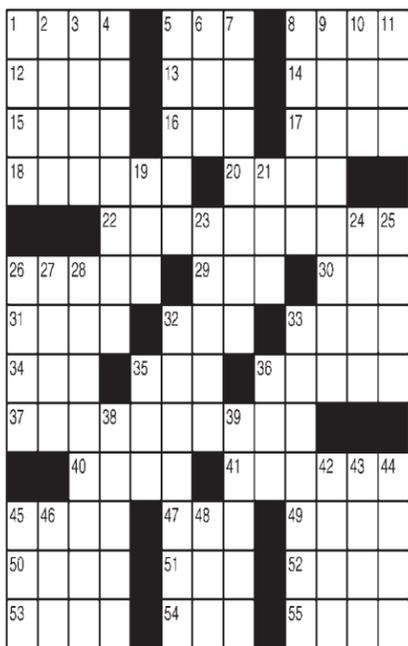
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  - Architect Saarinen
  - Inseparable
  - Reply to "Shall we?"
  - Legal document
  - Sailor
  - Privy to
  - Debriefed person?
  - Crib cry
  - Enigma
  - Mudville slugger
  - "Certainly!"
  - Half of CIV
  - Exploits
  - Goof up
  - Fine spray
  - Pickle holder
  - "— was saying ..."
  - "Olympia" artist
  - Batting position
  - Scruff
  - Help
  - Eager
  - Energy
  - Yon folks
  - Anti-fur org.
  - Before



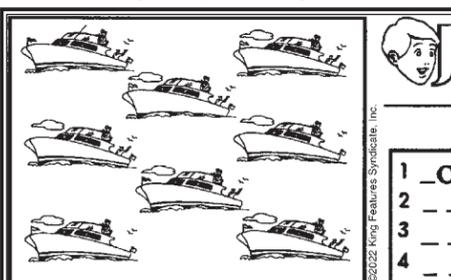
- Wheelchair access
- Texter's sign-off
- Last letter in London
- Garfield's pal
- "Chocolat" actress
- From — Z
- AOL rival
- Devious
- TV spots
- Aleppo's land
- French river
- Chanteuse
- Stitched
- Andean land
- Saharan pooch
- Observes
- Slogan
- Santa — winds
- Scale
- Address for Toscanini
- Venomous viper
- Roast VIPs
- Tennis star Rafael
- Identified
- "If — a Hammer"
- Big rig
- Ilk
- Suitable
- Dog doc
- Rage

## MAGIC MAZE • NATIONAL DAY: JUNE

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions: forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: **Self-Portrait With Your Phone**

|          |             |          |             |
|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| Bubba    | Eyewear     | Jerky    | Upsy Daisy  |
| Cheese   | Flag        | Lobster  | Waffle Iron |
| Doughnut | Gingerbread | Olive    | Yo-Yo       |
| Egg      | Iced Tea    | Red Rose |             |



**WAVE LENGTHS!** Two of eight cabin cruisers above appear to be enough alike to be twins. Which two is for you to say.

**SENSES TAKER!** Add a sense — sight, hearing, touch, smell, or taste — to each sentence. 1. We play — football. 2. I — trouble. 3. She dresses in good —. 4. The judge held a —. 5. We bought the item — unseen.

**TAKE STEPS!** A street with a steady flow of traffic is 22 feet wide. Your stride, either forwards or backwards, is always exactly two feet in length. Now then, starting at curb's edge, if you take three strides forward and two strides backward continuously (in dodging traffic to go straight across), and each stride takes one second, in how many seconds should you reach the other side? This may sound tricky, but it isn't.

Hint: You gain two feet in each five-second period.  
P.S.: You'd be much safer at a corner with a light.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦  
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

## Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

**DOUBLE-O WORDS TO PONDER**

WELL, double-O and behold, we have half a dozen double-O words to ponder, each with one more letter than its predecessor. You are asked to identify these words in accord with the following definitions:

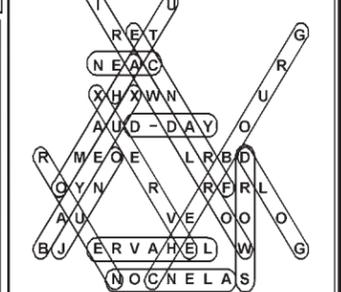
- Winnie-the-Pooh pal: **Baby** —
  - Away, scat, you chickens!
  - Eskimo snow house.
  - Skin-deep body design.
  - Produce used to cleanse hair, prevent dandruff, etc.
  - Screechy, crested member of the parrot family.
- Let's see how quickly you can come up with the answers.  
Time limit: 2 minutes.

## Answers to last issue's puzzles

— **King Crossword** —  
Answers  
Solution time: 24 mins.



## NORMANDY



## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Photo courtesy of Dan Shine

## Eagles soar

The Scouts of Boy Scout Troop 802 gathered in the Hall at First Congregational Church where four of their number were awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. The ceremony was attended by local official Steve Mullins and State Representative Charles Ferraro, along with families and friends of the Scouts. Pictured above are Scoutmaster Steve Shine, Scouts Stefano Cono, Phillip Homburg, Alex Potter and Chris Leum, along with Rep. Charles Ferraro (R-117). Troop 802 meets weekly at First Congregational Church.



# Soccer: Spring season comes to a close

Continued from page 21

weekend. The West Haven Elks Lodge 1537 U14 girls finished the season with a win 4-2 against Southington and a 0-0 draw against Meriden. Amyah Kelly and Sydney Gayle ended their last year of travel before high school with a goal each. The offense was held down by Riley Fenn, Kaylee Pellino, and Kylie Gibson. A great job was done in the midfield by Daniela Bazar, Arianna Throm and Camilla Murphy. The defense played strong, led by Kayci Gayle and Cristel Miguel. The People's United Bank U11 girls finished the season at home Saturday versus Madison. Joselyn Davila worked hard to defend the ball against her opponents as Celeste DiNallo was able to use her footskills to maneuver the ball around the field. Despite their efforts, the girls fell short, losing 4-1.

The Connex Credit Union U19 boys made a terrific run in the Connecticut Cup this year, making it to the semifinals. On their run they were able to beat Southington, 7-0, Watertown, 5-0, and Farmington, 6-4, though they eventually lost to East Hartford to end the run.

The team was led by the outstanding goalkeeping of Brian Carew and the defense led by Ricardo Lopez, Diego Soto, Collin Charron, and Mekhi Pittman. The offense was led by a Derrick Meza, Brian Rivadera, Mubarak Issa, Sebastian Navarro, Raphael Gazcon, and Donaldo Yanez. The Budget Car Wash U19 Boys team had a terrific league season and ended up on top of the B division to win

the league. Goalkeeper John McGlaughlin was terrific all year. Wilson Cordova, Manny Gordon, David Smith, and Antonio Marcos led the defense, while the attack was led by Victor Lorenzo, Andy Toledo, Bobby Severino, Kevin Arce, and Jerson Marcos.

The Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center U10 boys had a busy end of the season, playing five games in seven days, and coming away with five wins. The busy stretch opened up with an away win to Orange last Sunday. Ryan Abekah and Roland Green scored, and Seth Empric and Collin Gibbons were instrumental on defense to the 6-2 win for the young Westies.

The team was right back in action on Monday, playing host to a tough Milford team, and winning, 3-1. Davonte King, Mohammed Lamkhtar, and Mason DaSilva dominated the center of the midfield. Jaxon Cruz made several huge stops in goal, and Luca DeCresenzo scored a key goal to put the game away for West Haven.

On Friday, West Haven hosted Hamden, winning, 5-3. Jimmy Clark and Nathan Powell were strong on defense, and Jacob Rader played well in midfield and in goal. Matteo D'Elia scored and made several key passes to set-up his teammates for attacking chances. On Saturday, the Westies were right back in action against Hamden, this team as the away team. Seth Empric and Ethan Fonseca were outstanding on defense, and Derek Dorosario was strong in midfield. Ben Trenchard scored a nice left

footed goal after winning the ball and driving towards the net, and Tonye Issac had a strong all around game in the 7-4 win.

In their final game of the season, the Westies traveled to Cheshire, and won. 8-2. Jax Guarino contributed on offense and defense, as he and

Trenchard limited Cheshire's looks at the goal. Gavin Lenihan had the assist on the Westies' first goal, winning the ball and passing to DeCresenzo for the goal. Gibbons was excellent on defense and on the wing. Josiah Soto played well in goal, and Adam Lamkhtar scored and excelled on de-

fense as well.

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The West Haven Youth Soccer League thanks all of its sponsors, coaches, parents, and players for a fantastic Spring season. Registration is now open for the Fall season, please visit WHYSL.org for more information.

Thursday, June 30th
5:00 - 6:30 pm at the West Haven Library
300 Elm St.

Ancestry and Genealogy

How to Research Your
Family History

Learn how to use Ancestry
to research your family
history, connect with
family members, and build
your family tree

Registration is Required

To register, contact the library at (203) 937-4233
or reference@westhavenlibrary.org

Westies' hopes dashed in CIAC tourney losses

In the hour-long drive it took the West Haven baseball team to travel to Manchester to open the Class LL state tournament, Gianni Gambardella and his senior teammates had plenty of time to think. The obvious thought was the game could be their last in a West Haven uniform.

The University of Maine-bound senior was not going to let that happen. In a dominant performance, Gambardella allowed just two hits and struck out 12 on the mound, and drove in the only run of the contest in the seventh as 26th-seeded West Haven upset No.7 Manchester, 1-0, in Manchester in the first round.

"Everyone had it in their minds, this could have been our last high school game," Gambardella said. "We all came out and played as hard as we could. We made a couple of errors in the field, but that will happen. We bounced back, and in the later innings, we got fired up."

Gambardella never gave in, especially when Manchester had runners on base. The senior got stronger, stranding five on base, including four in scoring position.

"What an effort by Gianni," West Haven coach Ron Luneau said. "Twelve strikeouts. He gets the winning hit. John Lindsay, great two-hit effort by him. He hasn't even played baseball in the last three years. I just wish we put more meaningful balls in play. I wish we executed our bunts better. But again, we squeezed out a W against a pretty good team, a pretty powerful team. They are very scrappy. Their pitcher (Mason Cycenas-Heimer) pitched great. I tip my cap to him."

With the game scoreless in the seventh, West Haven scored the only run it needed.

Damian Gazzaneo was hit by a pitch, but Manchester turned a bunt by Evan Jones into a force out at second. With two outs, Gambardella ripped a long drive off the fence in center to score Jones for a 1-0 lead.

"I am very proud of our kids," Luneau said. "On the bus, I just said leave your heart on the field. Whether we won or lost, I thought we played hard. That's all I can ask for."

The hit by Gambardella picked up a West Haven team which committed three errors and could not come up with a big hit off Manchester ace Mason Cycenas-Heimer.

The Westies left a pair of runners on in the first and second innings, and single runners on in the third, fourth, and fifth innings.

Gambardella made sure to pick up his team's offense as he got the final out of the second after Manchester put runners on the corners with a strikeout.

Gambardella overcame another error in the third, by snaring a line drive and turning it into an inning-ending double play.

"This was really the first game back that I had that two or three pitch mix," Gambardella said. "The last two or three starts I was struggling with my curve ball. I wasn't doing as good as I did today, and you could see that."

With a runner on third in the fifth, Gambardella got a fly out to left to end the threat. The Westie ace had to overcome one more obstacle as a strikeout and wild pitch allowed the first runner of the sixth to reach. A stolen base and a ground out later saw Manchester with the go-ahead run at third, but Gambardella got a ground out back to the mound to end the threat.

"It feels great," Gambardella said. "We have another big

See Westies, page 18

Photos by Todd Dandelske

Top -- Juliana Petruzzello stretches to get the runner at first. The Westies made it to the third round of the CIAC Tournament before being ousted by top-seeded Danbury. Right -- Gianni Gambardella throws a complete game 1-0 victory over Manchester, striking out 12 in the CIAC playoffs.

