

# West Haven Voice

November 3, 2022

Vol. 27, Issue 21 24 Pages

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

## Voice Feature

*An in-depth feature*

Bailey students  
open food pantry

See page 14



## Officials tout food-energy pilot program

The city is "excited" to launch the largest food scrap co-collection program in the history of Connecticut, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

Starting Nov. 7, West Haven will be the first city in the state to offer a citywide curbside food scrap diversion option to all single-family residents.

Rossi said the program will allow all single-family homes — one, two and three families — to easily separate food scraps and have them collected at the curb in the same container now used for residents' trash collection.

**See related story, page 5**

West Haven and 15 other municipalities have received a Sustainable Materials Management grant from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to develop and launch food-to-clean-energy programs.

Food scrap diversion programs are critical in addressing the state's waste disposal crisis, said Grant Coordinator Doug Colter, who secured the funding for the city.

Colter said Connecticut is facing a solid waste disposal crisis, as traditional options for disposing of municipal solid waste are diminishing or becoming more expensive. With fewer and rapidly aging disposal options in the state, residents and municipal leaders can expect disposal costs to increase at the remaining waste incineration facilities "as well as out-of-state landfilling," he said.

"Thirty-five percent of what residents throw away is organic material — food scraps and yard waste — that can be diverted for composting anaerobic digestion to create clean energy," Colter said.

The West Haven Food to Clean Energy program, funded by a \$1.3 million DEEP SMM grant, will launch a nine-month pilot project for curbside food scrap diversion starting Nov. 7. Participation in the program comes at no cost to the 16,000 eligible households.

Colter said the funding will cover the purchase of special color-coded bags for trash and for food scrap separation for the nine-month pilot. It will also cover the cost of educational materials — mailers, a website and a Connect mobile app — along with personnel to sort the bags and the shipment of food scraps to Quantum Biopower in Southington, where the food will be converted into clean electricity, he said.

"We are very excited for West Haven to be leading the way in Connecticut with this innovative, free food-to-clean-energy collection program," Rossi said. "The DEEP SMM grant allows

**See Pilot Program, page 5**



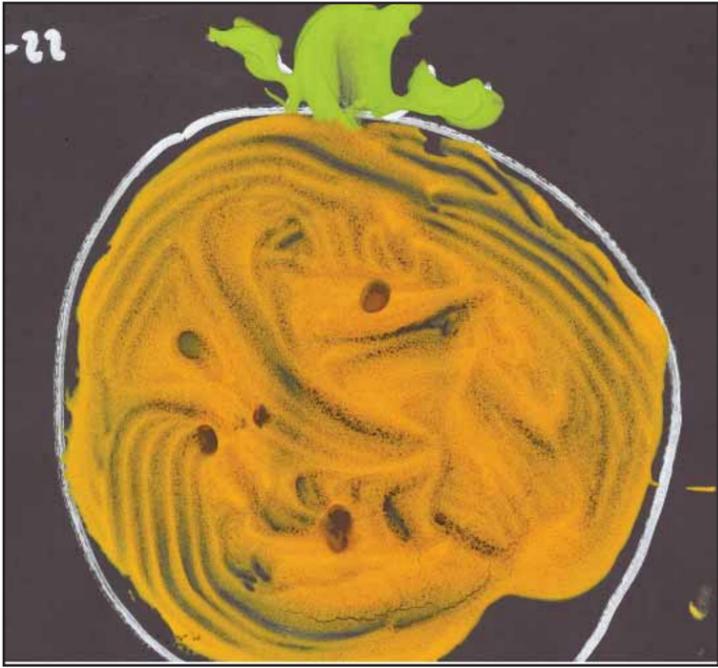
Photo by Leo Kelly

### 'Tree tenders' plant red maple

West Haven "tree tenders" gather in the shade of their newly planted red maple in West Shore's Brennan Field Park on Oct. 15. The tree was planted near the park's basketball court at Highland Avenue and Arlington Street as part of the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Urban Forest Equity Grant award. The hole was dug by a Department of Public Works crew to give the roots the best chance to grow, said Tree Warden Leo Kelly, who oversees the volunteer group of about 30 tree tenders. The group will plant more trees next spring. To become a tree tender, email [whtree@westhaven-ct.gov](mailto:whtree@westhaven-ct.gov). For information and updates, go to the group's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WHTreeTenders>.

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Alessandra Moore, age 3, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. predicts weather just right for visiting a pumpkin patch.

### On this Date

1978 -- **Dominica gains independence.** The Caribbean Island nation gained its independence from the British after being colonized in 1805.

1973 -- **NASA launches Mariner 10.** The last of the Mariner Program, Mariner 10 was the first spacecraft to fly by two planets - Venus and Mercury. The probe flew by Venus on February 5, 1974, and did 3 flybys of Mercury on March 29, 1974, September 21, 1974, and on March 16, 1975, after which communications with the probe were terminated.

1954 -- **Godzilla released.** The Japanese science fiction starring a mutated monster of the same name became an instant hit.

1868 -- **John Willis Menard elected to U.S. House of Representatives.** He became the first African-American to be elected to the house.

1838 -- **The Times of India founded.** The world's largest English-language daily was launched as a bi-weekly as the Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce in Bombay, India.



Photo by Sharon Rodrigues

### 'Way to Go!' award

Special education lawyer and child advocate Jeffery Forte, left, receives the "Way to Go!" award from Viola Waldo on behalf of the West Haven Interagency Network for Children at the Johnson Community Center on Oct. 17. Waldo, the facilitator of the West Haven Parent Support Group for special needs children, presented the award to Forte for "providing services and resources to families of children with special needs." Forte's law firm, Forte Law Group LLC of Shelton, is dedicated to exclusively representing families and children with special needs. The Way to Go program recognizes providers who present at Parent Support Group meetings and go above and beyond to offer services and resources.

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# Dear Felicia

Howdy honeybunch, things are really popping around these parts with the final daze. No, I had that right. The only way yew kin git through the endless commercials on the boob tube and wireless is by being in a daze – at least for a few minutes. We'll get to more on that later, but the final days up to the election are quite something, watching all the worker bees from the parties try to git this one or that one to vote a certain way.

The kiddies, natchurly, were looking more toward Halloween, and they were able to be out in their costumes and finery. Things seem to be jst a bit more "back to normal" around here – even more than last year. Despite the endless talk of boosters and vaccines that aren't vaccines, most people just get on with their lives. The newsies and media want to paint a picture more

sickness comin' our way and more "variants," but they lost people after all the hoopla of the last outbreak. "We're all gonna die!" only sells sooo many papers or can lead only sooo many news shows.

Tennyrate, the election in these parts is goin' perty well. Unfortunately, we're not hearing much about a "red wave" in our part of the world, though that would be very welcome. I hear-tell that the GOP is going after our own Dick Blumenthal. Wouldn't that be a hoot! Blumenthal is the first half of a senatorial duo representing our state that embarrasses the word "embarrassment." Both are hacks that don't have an original idea in their heads, and would well deserve to be put out to pasture. But, don't worry. Effen things look bad for Dickie or anyone else on the fed'ral ticket or state ticket, we're sure lines will form in certain polling places some-

where around 7:30, wherein there will be a call to have the polls stay open past 8. We've seen it before, it's an old saw. It's amazing how many voters decide that the last minute to git in line, and how vans and busses are used to git them there. It's all part o' politics in the Constitution State. So, I don't see much of the red wave hitting these shores. But one can hope.

And effen you've looked at this week's papyrus, yew note that the letters section is a bit more full this week. That is a sure sign of the Silly Season. Letter writing campaigns are still part o' the scene around here. Yup. Outta nowhere came many letters – and it's amazing how so many sound so similar. We've been in this game for a long time, Felicia, we know what the games about. And in soooo many ways it is jst that a game. It has certain rules and certain "plays" and it goes back into the closet until the next election "cycle." What do we expect around here. Mostly status quo when the dust settles on Nov. 9, but there might be a few changes in the guard. It depends on whether people are as sick and tired of the status quo as some believe they are. But, Cobina is from Missouri on this one.

~~~

*It's been more than two months since the Police Commish passed the motion to re-open Water Street to alleviate some o' the traffic along Elm Street and Foist Avenue. Honey, there are times during the day you can pack a lunch and eat it whilst yore waiting for the traffic to move.*

*With the obvious demise of the Haven Project and the demolition of the remaining houses so the land can be cleared, we don't understand what in blazes is taking so long for the fences and concrete barriers to be removed. It would make traveling about the burg a bit more economical. Lawd knows, yew hafta add another 10 minutes or more effen yew have to traverse the area. Things jst seem to come to a halt after decisions are made in our little town.*

~~~

Yew know yew've hit a bit of a lull in the "news cycle" when one o' thee biggest stories is the fack the city is implementing a program turning food garbage into biofuel. That seems to top the list. Sammy Bluejay was in t'other afternoon and we were talking about how the city over the decades seems to get involved in all these projects that have to do with decay.

Back in the 1990s it was the compost site that was gonna be a big money-maker for the city cuz it was going to compost waste and cuttings and tree limbs and setch and sell it back to consumers for their gardens. Yeah.

Now we have this new "chore" as Herronner is calling it. We now will be expected to separate our food garbage from the "waste-paper" garbage, and put it in special bags, which I guess will be transported and somehow it will be turned into biofuel or something. Why do I think this thing is jst another well-intentioned program that ain't gonna turn out to be the boon that its heralders seem to think. Maybe cuz we've seen this type of thing before?

According to the hype it's gonna be the best thing since sliced bread. And, effen yew have old sliced bread put it in the bio waste bag for transformation into biofuel. The pernt is we've seen these things before. It's all feel-good stuff that will have very lit'le real world effect. Not being a Gloomy Gus, jst knowing how these things go after watchin' them for five or six decades.

~~~

*Speaking of things that seem to be hyped but say very little, we've noticed recently an uptick in press releases that are chock full of superlatives, but say nothing. We had a press release come through the wires that talked about a certain project and meeting. But when we were culling through the verbiage of how great*

*this was gonna be for all of us, we couldn't figger out whatinell was gonna be done. There was gonna be a meeting, it was gonna talk about a project, but nary a word about what that project might be, what the logistic are or anything like that.*

*We mentioned that to the people holding the confab and they directed us to the website. So, on we went looking for more details. Instead, we got bullet points about how great the plan was and how everyone should get on board, but not one real detail. All hype, all superlatives, all gobbledy-gook.*

*That's the way things are going now. Looking for details. Forget it, jst get with the program and see how things are gonna change. Needless to say, we weren't impressed. We showed it to the Wag who cme in that morning. He jst rolled his eyes and put pressed "delete."*

~~~

Nelly Nuthatch was in t'other afternoon and wanted to know whatever happened to the Enterprise Zone that was announced two Decembers ago that was to be along the West River? Since the big hype – and believe me it was big – we've seen nothing since the General Assembly approved it – and that was about six weeks after the announcement.

This area was supposed to be for bio-teck and other setch things. Well, while we were led to believe the perks and tax break offered would have businesses breaking down our doors to git in. We git all these wonderful announcements, and nothing.

~~~

*We saw one letter concerning the behavior of a certain member of the City Council, and we were somewhat taken aback by it So, we took a gander for ourselves. It wasn't too far off the mark. One could be passionate about a subject. One could be emotional about a subject. One could even be dogmatic about one's stance. But the behavior went beyond that. It got personal, it got demanding as if anything but the councilmember's take on the subject was tantamount to heresy or high treason!*

*The thing in question, a resolution by the council itself proposing that a federal grant be used and only West Haven businesses could apply was rejected by the Feds. This seemed lost in the conversation. Instead, there was a harangue. No the council had to revise the resolution to fit the Federal guidelines. How about that! So, what was the emotional outburst about? Not a good look for those of us watching that's for sure.*

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

*Cobina*

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# Rossi urges residents to join the program

A new food waste disposal program, announced to start Monday, has City Hall pushing the benefits this week. Called the West Haven Food to Energy Program, the plan is to separate out food scraps from refuse in special bags. The bags will then be transported after collection to a Southington-based firm, Quantum Bio-power.

Mayor Nancy M. Rossi was extolling the virtues of the

program in statements made this week.

"I am thrilled to introduce a pilot project that will give the citizens of West Haven control over the City's solid waste expenses and its impact on the environment," she said.

The program is not mandatory, but optional, and city officials are hoping it will catch on with residents.

"While this is a change for West Haven, it is a proactive

one," said Rossi. "By adopting one simple household change, West Haven residents have the potential to save their community Millions of dollars in tax payer funded solid waste fees."

The West Haven Food to Clean Energy program, funded by a \$1.3 million DEEP Sustainable Materials Management grant, and will launch a nine-month pilot project for curbside food scrap diversion starting Nov. 7. Participation in the program comes at no cost to the 16,000 eligible households.

The program is expected to help curb the cost and logistics of finding means to dispose of municipal refuse. Rossi said the new program accomplishes some of those goals.

"Municipal Governments have long struggled with the financial and environmental cost of waste management. Now, Connecticut faces a crisis as there are very few solid waste incinerators available, and those that remain are rapidly aging. There are towns that are not prepared for the solid waste crises and how that will impact their taxpayers. We are not one of those towns" she said.

She said the new program is part of her ongoing effort to improve residents' lives in the city.

"I am committed to delivering the services that improve the quality of life in our community, and will do so at the best value possible to the taxpayers in the City of West Haven," she said.

Doug Colter, city Grants Coordinator was in charge of the effort, developing the program, which won the grant. Rossi said the program will cut down on current methods and costs.

"This \$1,300,200 State DEEP funded program that my staff pursued and won in a competitive grant program will allow the City to separate our organic food waste so that it can be disposed of at an anaerobic digester that creates farm

fertilizer and green energy as an output. Presently, we burn this waste in incinerators at a significant expense," she said.

Helping to cut costs by changing habits is the means to making the program work, Rossi said.

"This food waste separation program has enormous financial and environmental benefits for our residents, and instead of asking you to pay more for services, we simply ask for one simple household chore adjustment---to put the food scraps in a separate bag. I would like to emphasize that there is no change to your trash schedules, the trash cans you currently use, or recycling pickups," she said.

## Pilot Program: *City first* in attempting program

Continued from page 1

16,000 eligible households the opportunity to participate in a program that can have a positive and significant financial and environmental impact for our city. I am encouraging all eligible residents to pick up their free bags and to participate in this important program to show that sustainability programs should be accessible to everyone."

West Haven residents have received a mailer with information on the program, instructions to download the Connect app, and locations and times to pick up their free nine-month supply of green and orange bags.

Residents can pick up the free bags at the following locations, dates and times:

~ Stop & Shop, 460 Elm St., West Haven, through Nov. 6, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

~ Family Dollar, 163 Boston Post Road, West Haven, through Nov. 6, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

~ Family Dollar, 1055 Boston Post Road, West Haven, through Nov. 6, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

~ ShopRite, 259 Bull Hill Road, Orange, through Nov. 6, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

More information is available on the city website at <https://reducethetrashct.com/westhaven-foodscraps/>.

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## Veterans Day, 2022

Next week, we celebrated Veterans Day, a commemoration of all those who served – and those who died – wearing the uniform of the nation. Originating as Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918, it was dedicated to the end of what was then known as “The Great War.” On the eleventh day of the eleventh month at the eleventh hour, four years of bloodshed ceased in a conflagration that saw many millions die. In many European nations, Nov. 11 is known as “Remembrance Day,” and is marked by the tolling of bells at 11 o’clock.

Rudyard Kipling’s “Recessional,” known popularly as “Lest We Forget,” has been associated with this day and the devastation that occurred not only from 1914-1918, but in World War II and various other wars, incursions, and “police actions.” It stands as a stark prayer for forgiveness and mercy even in those wars considered “just.”

It is a West Haven Voice tradition to present this hymn during the week of Veterans Day as a prayer for peace and for continued hope that wherever our armed forces are sent, they be on the side of what is moral and right.

God of our fathers, known of old—  
Lord of our far-flung battle line—  
Beneath whose awful hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

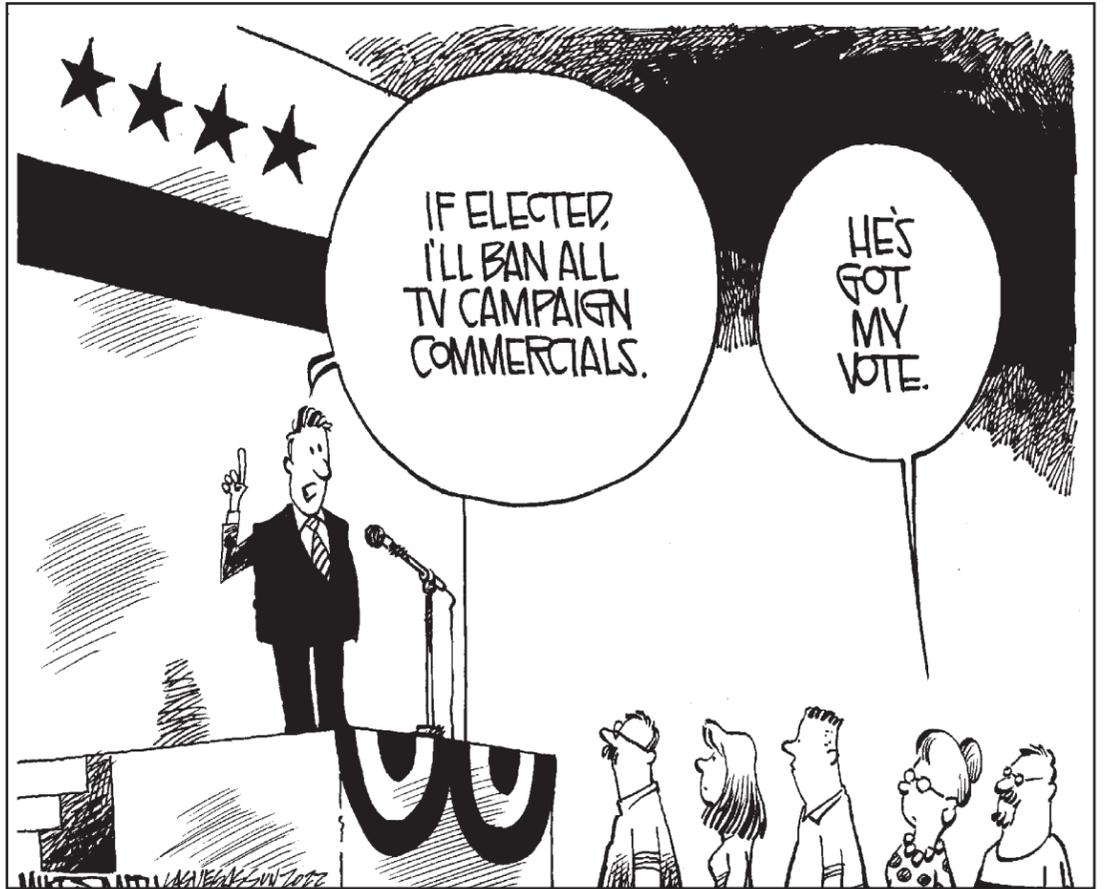
The tumult and the shouting dies—  
The Captains and the Kings depart—  
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,  
An humble and a contrite heart.  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

Far-called our navies melt away—  
On dune and headland sinks the fire—  
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose  
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe—  
Such boastings as the Gentiles use,  
Or lesser breeds without the Law—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

For heathen heart that puts her trust  
In reeking tube and iron shard—  
All valiant dust that builds on dust,  
And guarding calls not Thee to guard.  
For frantic boast and foolish word,  
Thy Mercy on Thy People, Lord!  
Amen.

Thank you to all who served!  
Remember those who died.  
Hope we will never forget!



## Climate screw balls and art

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

Climate activists have found a new target -- the greatest masterpieces in the history of Western art.

Heretofore, no one thought that Claude Monet’s “Haystacks” -- a sublime series studying the changes in light and color on haystacks in a field -- or Vincent Van Gogh’s “Sunflowers” -- a painting that is instantly recognizable and forever associated these flowers with the troubled artist -- had harmed anyone, let alone had anything to do with the alleged climate emergency.

But that was before activists showed up at museums to splatter these works with tomato soup or mashed potatoes, part of a trend of protests directed at some of the most recognizable works in the Western artistic canon.

The actions are a new low, which is saying something. The level of childishness involved makes Greta Thunberg look prudent and statesman-like by comparison.

Fortunately, museums have had the forethought to idiot-proof their major works with special protective glass. The activists say they don’t seek to harm the art, although they are not people one would naturally nominate to make fine-grained decisions about the consequences of their stunts involving spray paint, glue and foodstuffs in close

proximity to delicate, priceless treasures.

Margaret Klein Salamon, the executive director of the Climate Emergency Fund, told BuzzFeed News that the protests only make sense because the activists are thinking things are “so bad that I’m gonna do this crazy thing and glue myself to a painting or a frame.”

In other words, they are channeling the famous line from Otter in the movie “Animal House” -- “this situation absolutely requires a really futile and stupid gesture be done on somebody’s part.”

It’s not the Taliban blowing up the Bamiyan Buddha statues, but the nihilistic spirit is the same.

The protesters have asked, “What is worth more, art or life?” This is a particularly juvenile false choice. Art doesn’t hurt or kill anyone. To the contrary, representational art is part of the warp and woof of humanity -- look no further than the 30,000-year-old paintings from the Chauvet Cave in southeastern France -- and profoundly enriches life.

The juxtaposition of pieces of art of great subtlety and power, whose value has stood the test of time, with often pale, ill-kempt kids ranting hysterically is comical. The beauty and mystery of Sandro Botticelli’s “Primavera” and the pathos of the statue Laocoön and His Sons -- both

works that have been targeted recently -- inevitably diminish anyone using the art as a cheap platform for publicity.

The protesters make strained connections between the art and their causes. A copy of the Leonardo da Vinci painting “The Last Supper” at the Royal Academy in London was on the hit list, as a news report put it, “because people around the world are experiencing a food crisis.” Evidently, no one told the activists that the point of the last supper is not the food.

One of the protestors targeting the Monet painting in a museum in Potsdam, Germany, declared: “Science says we won’t be able to feed our families by 2050. This painting will be worth nothing if we have to fight over food.”

By that logic, there is no act of cultural desecration that isn’t justified. Why not sandblast the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, sledgehammer Michelangelo’s David, or bulldoze Notre Dame because they’ll all be worthless in the climate dystopia awaiting us?

The activists are quite pleased with the attention they are getting. It’s not true, though, that all publicity is good publicity. What they are really putting on display is their own recklessness and fanaticism.

On their own terms, they should think about how hav-

See Lowry, page 7

# Letters, we get letters!

## Unacceptable behavior seen

*Ed. Note the following was a statement read before the City Council at a recent meeting and was requested to be published as a letter to the editor.*

I watched the Oct. 11 council meeting on YouTube and felt something was terribly wrong. I had to say something.

Imagine how difficult it is to speak before this city council. From the podium, A person faces 13 council members without knowing their positions, views, or alliances. Behind the speaker sits an audience that the speaker cannot see but can hear while delivering a message to the council.

The presentation is live streamed for all to witness the speaker's every move.

Sometimes the message is to deliver information or request support for a task. Other times an idea is presented to the

council, all to better the city.

The last thing a speaker before this council expects is to be yelled at, embarrassed, or humiliated by a council member.

But that is precisely how the finance chair Bridgette Hoskie operates.

It does not matter if the speaker is a City Employee, elected official, or volunteer. Everyone is subject to her tirade, lack of decorum, insults, exaggerations, and nasty remarks.

It is an embarrassment to this council and the entire city when the finance chair Bridgette Hoskie behaves badly.

As a result, no one wants to come before this council. Have you noticed the lack of presenters?

Imagine if your child or spouse stood up here and was treated badly. I do not think council members would stand

for it.

A skilled leader would communicate their concerns before the meeting and conduct research. Instead, the finance chair Bridgette Hoskie attends the council meeting completely unprepared and uses the meeting as a sounding board while insulting everyone. That is why a 45 min council meeting goes on for 3 hours.

City Hall is short employees in almost every department. People searching for employment have many options. Why would they come to West Haven after watching a council meeting? No one wants to be subject to the Finance chair Bridgette Hoskie's bad behavior.

My comments have a majority of support from the public and city employees.

Unless the Finance Chairman Bridgette Hoskie starts acting professionally, I will be back for each meeting with others to condemn her behavior.

*Dwight Knowles*

## Supports Haley

I'm writing this letter in support of Aaron Haley. In the short time that I have known Aaron, I have found him to be an open, and honest person. He is an executive director of

a homeless shelter, started the New Haven Pop Warner Baseball league, and he shows his compassion for others.

He is a retired State Trooper, a West Haven Fire Commissioner and was also on the Board of the Allington Fire Department. West Ha-

ven needs leaders that have a longtime record of honesty, compassion and placing assisting and helping people as a priority. Aaron Haley is THAT Man.

*Lori Jensen*

See Letters, page 20

## Lowry: *Nutty vandals*

Continued from page 6

ing easy access to the most awe-inspiring works of arts ever fashioned by mankind is the ultimate privilege. There are no world-class art museums in, say, Micronesia.

So maybe some respect and gratitude for the timeless contributions of true geniuses is in order, but that would require some perspective and decency, wouldn't it?

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

Happy Thanksgiving, neighbors.



I'm thankful to be part of such a wonderful community. I wish all my neighbors a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

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**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

I know that this is not the typical Traffic and Trash gripe you receive, but it is indeed a gripe, so it seems that you are the proper recipient of this complaint.

As you know, this year, the powers that be chose to move the Farmers' Market from its less than its knowingly spot on the Green to the shoreline. This seemed to be a positive move, especially since the two actual farmers were joined by many crafters and vendors (on the Green there has really been two and sporadically

a food vendor.) Of course, the new location had a lot of time to really get going, but it seemed as if with some publicity and word of mouth it would be more successful than its previous iteration.

Imagine my surprise when I made a visit mid-season and found that very few tents were left.

At some point after the market had been there for a few weeks, the Health Department appeared and, evidently, chased off the food trucks and bakers (the olive oil vendor obviously had



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

prepackaged items, but I don't know if he come back since).

Now, obviously, the food

trucks are inspected and certified independently and should not be in violation of health codes. I also know that those who set up the market obviously followed health rules, even rather esoteric, bad, counterintuitive, ones (e.g. a woman who sold candles and soaps wasn't allowed to sell her hand lotions as they were considered a "health product"). As far as Wave Hill Breads, they sell the bread (uncovered) the same way in their literally open-door Norwalk bakery and there at least 15 other state farmers markets at which they sell, I presume the same way as here, with, it would appear, no municipal health objections.

So, it seems as if we have another example of one city entity working to get something positive going and another city pulling it down. It seems suspicious that this came up midseason and that all or almost all of the food vendors were affected (and while I am not sure it seems that the Health Department may not have shown up at the Green when the market was there to check out the baked potato vendor). Obviously, the Health Department received a complaint or complaints, perhaps from the small contingent who never wanted the market moved from the Green. Subsequently the food sellers didn't simply remedy the "violations," which raised another set of questions.

Losing the food vendors took away much of the momentum the market was trying to establish and foresaw the loss of other vendors, who found it economically unfeasible to continue their tenure here.

I would like to know exactly what happened for this to transpire. I couldn't get information from the city.

Meanwhile I am hoping

that the city will support what remains of the market and make its voice known that this was a positive for the city. It was there until the end of October.

*"Missing That Olive Bread"*

**Dear Missing:**

I directed your question on the removal of vendors from the Farmer's Market on the Green. to West Haven Health Director Maureen B. Lillis who replied, "The Health Department only permits food vendors. We have nothing to do with where they set up."

Following this reply, I heard from Michael Walsh,, City of West Haven Public Relations Information Coordinator. "This question has already been answered by Health Director Maureen Lillis and has nothing to do with the Health Department. For the information you are requesting, please call Killian Gruber or the mayor's office.

Readers, I continued to search for an informative reply, so I contacted Killian Gruber, Oct. 12, asking what happened to the vendors during the Farmers Market on the Green and any helpful details to this question.

As of Oct. 28, I had not received a reply. Gripe Vine welcomes any input on my reader's inquiries.

Attention Senior Center Personnel: I have information I would like to share with you but, I am having difficulty reaching your office. Your message center is full. Please email me at gripevine4wh@aol.com

**Coming up...**Greta Street Pot Holes...crumbling asphalt on Hillcrest Avenue.....senior center inquiries.....cats on Valleybrook Road...Ward Heitman House questions.... Robo Calls ..face masks at the Senior Center...vehicle blocking sidewalk at Peck and William and much more.

## SCROG plans to update regional 'Hazard' plans

The 15 municipalities in south-central Connecticut, with the help of the South Central Regional Council of Governments, are preparing an update to the region's Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The plan names natural hazards and their potential impacts to each community, including West Haven. It then identifies activities each community may take to mitigate identified risks.

The plan makes each city and town eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency pre-disaster funding. The grant money may be used for projects that mitigate risk to vulnerable residents, build resilient infrastructure and transit systems, and protect the natural environment.

The plan is each community's tool to prevent damage from natural hazards. Take the opportunity to voice any concerns and share ideas on a Zoom meeting from 6-7 p.m. Monday.

For more information, read the full SCROG news release on the city website at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/>.

# GRIPEVINE

**Do you have a complaint or issue? Fill out this coupon and mail it to Gripevine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven, CT 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).

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# Around Town

## Veterans Day Open House at Museum

The West Haven Veterans Museum and Learning Center will be holding a Veterans Day Open House on Saturday, November 12, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. with light refreshments. Come and enjoy a tour of the museum. We have been adding some new displays and would love to share them with you! The museum is across from the West Haven Train Station at 30 Hood Terrace.

## WH Garden Club meets Nov. 7

The West Haven Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, Nov. 7, 12:30 p.m. at the Ora Mason Library 260 Benham Hill Road. Members will bring their lunch and then presenter JoAnn Lister will do a Floral Design. Newcomers are always welcome to join. For further information please call Iris at (203) 937-1674.

## Stamp Club meets Tuesdays

The New Haven Stamp Club meets every Tuesday evening at 62 Clark Road in North Haven at 7:30 p.m. There is a stamp and coin show the 4th Sunday of every month at the Annex at 554 Woodward Ave. East Haven from 9:00 to 2:30 p.m. All are welcome for both events.

## Liberty Coin Club relocates

The Liberty Coin Club has rescheduled and relocated its shows scheduled for November and December 2022 due to renovations scheduled thru the end of this year at the Hilton Garden Inn in Milford.

The new location and dates for the shows will be at The Courtyard by Marriott on Woodmont Road, Milford, Sunday, Nov. 13, and Sunday, Dec. 11. As always anyone interested in coin collecting and Numismatics is welcome to attend. Admission is free.

## Bradley Point Garden Club sets confab

The Bradley Point Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at the Ora Mason Library, 260 Benham Hill Road at noon. Please bring your own lunch and a gift for under \$12 for our holiday swap.

Newcomers are always welcome to join. Please call Dawn at (203) 932-4619 for more information.

# Enough is Enough!

## Democrat policies have opened our borders allowing a free flow of deadly illegal drugs into our country

### Vote to stop the insanity

### Vote for AMERICA

### Vote REPUBLICAN on November 8th



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**Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital**  
184 Liberty Street, New Haven, CT

**Treatment Provided:**  
Mental Health Treatment Center  
Dual Diagnosis Rehabilitation Center  
**Treatment Setting:**  
Hospital Inpatient Mental Health Rehab

**Yale New Haven Hospital Children's Day Hospital**  
1450 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT

**Treatment Provided:**  
Mental Health Treatment  
**Treatment Setting:**  
PHP / Day Treatment  
Outpatient Mental Health Rehab

**Yale New Haven Hospital Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Prog**  
646 George Street, New Haven, CT

**Treatment Provided:**  
Mental Health Rehabilitation  
**Treatment Setting:**  
Outpatient Treatment Setting

**Hispanic Health Council**  
116 Sherman Avenue, New Haven, CT

**Treatment Provided:**  
Mental Health Rehab Center  
Treatment for Co-occurring Disorders Such as Substance Abuse  
**Treatment Setting:**  
Outpatient Mental Health Rehab



The West Haven Voice will be posting the link to City Council meetings which are taped and available on YouTube.

**City Council Meeting:**

October 24, 2022

**URL:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjWfdhRsrWk>



2022-10-11 City Council Meeting

Photo by Anthony Mullin



Connecticut Republican gubernatorial nominee Bob Stefanowski speaks during a rally on the front steps of West Haven City Hall as Planning & Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins and GOP Lieutenant Governor

## Stefanowski visits city, pitches GOP

By Silvana Apicella  
*Special to the Voice*

Connecticut Republican gubernatorial nominee Bob Stefanowski visited West Haven on his bus tour of the state recently.

During his visit, he stopped at Jerri's Luncheonette downtown West Haven on Campbell Avenue and Center Street.

There he and his running mate Rep. Laura Devlin met with diners regarding their most pressing concerns about the state.

Following Jerri's, the two made their way over to the Main Street steps of West Haven City Hall for a rally and press conference, where they were greeted by organizer Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins, Republican Town Committee Chairman David Riccio and 14th Senatorial District GOP nominee Kim-Marie Mullins.

Before a crowd of about 50 reporters, supporters, citizens and city employees, Stefanowski was introduced by Steven Mullins.

"I am so happy and so proud that we are beginning a new day in the state of Connecticut with new leadership in Hartford that will make West Haven and the other 168 municipalities in the state of Connecticut stronger and that is the leadership of Bob Stefanowski," Mullins said.

Stefanowski said that he and Devlin are hearing concerns from Connecticut residents during the campaign stops they make. The issues are the same.

"It's really important to hear what people have on their minds," he said. "In the Capitol, they assume everything is great. But people are struggling with affordability and safety." Stefanowski said. "Connecticut is hurting right now, and Laura and I are committed to getting it back on track."

In her remarks, Devlin mentioned speaking to a table of retirees at Jerri's about the financial abuse going on in the city, and how the taxpayers are going to have to pay for the mismanagement and corruption.

"No one should have to look over their shoulders and wonder what their government is going to do to them financially," Devlin said.

Kim-Marie Mullin, who lives in West Haven also addressed the crowd.

"I'm not speaking to you as a candidate, but as a resident. I live here and know what has been going on for the past two years. This city is on fire and has been on fire. What we need is transparency and accountability. We're tired of the promises. This election is our chance to make these changes," she said.

# Every Child Deserves A HEAD START In Life!

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# 7-Eleven complex has gala opening

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi cut a red ribbon Oct. 27 to mark the grand opening of New England's first 7-Eleven restaurant complex in West Haven.

Rossi, sporting a pair of oversize scissors, was accompanied by a delegation of 7-Eleven developers and managers and city and state leaders to celebrate the new 5,635-square-foot complex, anchored by a gas station and two counter-service restaurants, on West Haven's bustling Sawmill Road retail corridor, just off Interstate 95's Exit 42.

Rossi, standing in front of the complex's main entrance with developer Jed Hayes of project co-developer and landlord SullivanHayes of Farmington, issued a mayoral citation welcoming the 7-Eleven restaurant concept to 480 Sawmill Road, the former site of a Staples office supply store.

"We are delighted that 7-Eleven has selected West Haven's Sawmill Road for its flagship dual-restaurant concept store," said Rossi, reading the citation to the gathering of officials, moments before snipping the ribbon. "Our city's business community continues to thrive and lead because

we have great businesses and great owners."

Hayes said, "We are so excited to open this first 7-Eleven dual-restaurant concept store in New England and are delighted to bring it to West Haven."

The Staples site, formerly owned by West Haven Mall LLV, was demolished in 2021

after sitting vacant since 2006. The 3-acre property was purchased by Saw Mill WH LLC for \$3.6 million in June 2021.

SullivanHayes chose West Haven's Sawmill Road for a 7-Eleven development because of the area's dense population and high visibility from I-95.

"Overall, the site really

makes for the perfect convenience store location," Hayes said.

"It sits right along I-95 at an off-ramp with visibility to over 125,000 vehicles per day."

Home to the Slurpee-brand of carbonated slushies, the 24-hour convenience store has 20 pumps that dispense 7-Eleven-brand fuel and two in-store

restaurants that are owned and operated by 7-Eleven Inc. of Dallas: Laredo Taco Co., an authentic Mexican quick-service eatery, and Raise the Roost Chicken & Biscuits.

"This evolution store is the first location of its kind in the country to have both new restaurant concepts in a single location," Hayes said.



Photo courtesy of Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, center, cuts the ribbon to mark the grand opening of New England's first 7-Eleven restaurant complex at 480 Sawmill Road in West Haven on Oct. 27. With Rossi are, from left, city Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins, developer Jed Hayes, 7-Eleven Area Leader Vipin Sachdeva, Store Leader Keith Callahan, Restaurant Leader Dawn Maclulo, Executive Assistant to the Mayor Louis P. Esposito Jr., state Rep. Treneé McGee, Councilman Gary Donovan, city Economic Development Commission Chairwoman Christine Gallo and Councilwoman Colleen O'Connor. The 5,635-square-foot complex has a gas station and two counter-service restaurants.

## West Haven's **FREE** Food Scrap Recovery Program Starts November 7<sup>th</sup>

Get **117 FREE** Bags



Sat 10/29 - Sun 11/6, 8 am - 8 pm

Stop & Shop, 460 Elm St  
ShopRite, 259 Bull Hill Rd

Family Dollar, 163 Boston Post Rd  
Family Dollar, 1055 Boston Post Rd

Thurs 11/3 - Sun 11/6, 9 am - 8 pm

Nazar Halal Meat & Market, 39 Elm St  
Greatway Food Store, 502 Saw Mill Rd

Please Participate  
Food Scraps = Green Bags  
Trash = Orange Bags

Set Out Bags the Same Day & the Same Way –  
Both Bags in the Same Can or on the Curb



Put all your Food Scraps in the Green Bag including fruits, veggies, bread, grains, pasta, meat, dairy, cheese, coffee grounds, and all your uneaten leftovers (no packaging)



Learn more about the program here:  
[ReduceTheTrashCT.com/WestHaven](https://ReduceTheTrashCT.com/WestHaven)  
Scan the QR Code  
Call Public Works 203-937-3585



# West Haven Fire Services/ Fire Safety Checklist



**On November 6, 2022: Remember to turn your clocks back one hour**

**ALSO**

## **CHECK YOUR SMOKE & CO DETECTORS**

### Heating Equipment

- Keep electric space heaters at least 3 feet from all combustibles
- Replace furnace filters once a year
- Clean lint from behind clothes dryer
- Install a sparks screen in front of the fireplace
- **Have chimney, furnace inspected and cleaned annually**
- Dispose of ashes in metal containers
- Keep newspapers, other combustibles and clutter away from water heater/furnace



### Electrical

- Avoid overloading electrical circuits
- Inspect electrical cords and appliances for damage
- Do not tack cords to the walls or run them under rugs
- Maintain air space around electrical equipment such as TV, VCR, stereo, etc.
- Install additional outlets, by a qualified electrician, to avoid using cube taps and extension cords
- If you must use extension cords, use only the kind that have a built in circuit breaker



### Flammable Liquids & Hazardous Materials

- Limit the amount of chemicals stored
- Dispose of and recycle household hazardous materials properly.
- Store hazardous materials in proper containers with tight fitting lids and correct identification labels
- Store hazardous materials away from heat sources
- Allow proper ventilation when using flammable liquids and hazardous materials
- Put oily rags in metal containers with tight fitting lids, not in a pile where they can spontaneously ignite.



### **DO NOT STORE PROPANE or GASOLINE INSIDE YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS**

Store in detached garage or shed or on deck

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### Cooking

- **Never leave cooking unattended**
- Cuff sleeves and turn pot handles
- Never store combustibles in oven or on stove top
- When barbecuing, move unit away from house
- Dispose of coals/ashes in metal containers

### Smoking Materials & Candles

- **Never leave cigarettes or candles unattended**
- Purchase and use ashtrays that have the center support feature
- Empty ashtrays into noncombustible containers only
- **Never smoke in bed**
- We recommend against the use of candles
- If you must use candles, place them in sturdy holders

### Smoke and CO Detectors

- **Install SMOKE & CO detectors inside and outside every sleeping area and on every level of your home**
- Test smoke, CO detectors once a month (use a broom handle to reach)
- **Replace smoke, CO detector batteries twice a year (replace when changing time on clocks-Spring and Fall)**
- Replace smoke, CO detector units every ten years

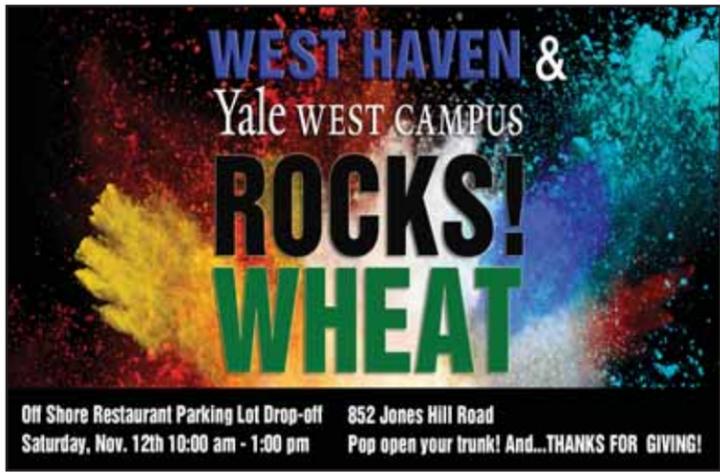
### Fire Extinguishers

- Purchase a multipurpose (ABC) extinguisher
- Teach your family how to use a fire extinguisher (use P.A.S.S.-Pull the pin , Aim, Squeeze, Sweep )

### Develop & Practice a Home Escape Plan

- Develop a home escape plan that includes
  - Crawling low under smoke
  - Two exits out of every room
  - A meeting place outside (tree, mailbox, etc.)
- **Practice escape plan with every member**
- Teach all family members how to:
  - Dial 911 in an emergency
  - Stop, drop and roll if clothes catch fire

**The use of a kerosene heater within the City of West Haven is prohibited by Ordinance**



## 'Yale Rocks WHEAT' slated for Nov. 12 at Off-Shore locale

Local partners are once again supporting the third annual, "West Haven ROCKS WHEAT" food drive on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Off-Shore Restaurant & Lounge parking lot from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Organized by former Councilman Barry Lee Cohen, the event brings together local businesses and community organizations.

Cohen extended special thanks to Yale West Campus and Mark Laoue, owner of Off-Shore Restaurant, for providing the event's volunteers, transportation, and venue. He also noted the generosity of partners that have and plan to contribute again this year to support WHEAT.

"I couldn't have received a faster, more enthusiastic response from Yale West and Mark to once again support this drive that has taken on special significance this year. There is a growing population of families, senior citizens, veterans, and others with limited incomes that are feeling the effects of inflation to fund essentials," Cohen said.

Located at 852 Jones Hill Road, Off-Shore Restaurant's parking lot provides an easy and quick opportunity to donate non-perishable food items to the West Haven Emergency Assistance Taskforce (WHEAT). Also contributing again this year is Apple Oil Company, Star Distributors, and the West Haven Police Union Loca 895, with others to follow.

Yale West Campus team members and other volunteers will request that drivers pop open their trunks for quick retrieval of food donations. Checks made payable to WHEAT will also be collected. All monetary contributions are appreciated and will help feed Westies in need.

As stated on the [WHEAT website](#), food items highly coveted this month include peanut butter, tuna fish,

cereal, pasta, jelly, tomato sauce, soups, canned fruits, and veggies. All nonperishable food items are greatly appreciated. Further information may be obtained by contacting Cohen at (203) 645-2913; [bcohen@westhaven-ct.gov](mailto:bcohen@westhaven-ct.gov); or Jon Atherton [jon.atherton@yale.edu](mailto:jon.atherton@yale.edu).

### Elks' WHEAT drive

The West Haven Elks Lodge is sponsoring its 10<sup>th</sup> annual *Canned Goods for Hot Cocoa Food Drive* on Sunday, Nov. 6, in front of the Elks Lodge, 265 Main St. from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is last food drive with Rose Majestic from the West Haven Emergency Assistance Taskforce (WHEAT), who is retiring. Needed items include: food for a Thanksgiving dinner in addition to basics such as pasta, rice, vegetables.

# Enough is Enough!

Democrat policies have

🤔 caused the **highest** inflation in 40 years

and

🤔 caused the **highest** gas prices in decades

Help stop the insanity

Vote for AMERICA

Vote REPUBLICAN on November 8th



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The next issue of the Voice is our traditional Thanksgiving publication! Look for it Wednesday, Nov. 23!

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Top -- Students stand behind the sign announcing the school's new food pantry awaiting the ribbon-cutting. Doing the honors (right) was Anthony Ouellet, an 8th grader. The new facility will aid those who are in need and brought together members of the academic, business and fraternal communities.



## Bailey food pantry an effort of the school and community

Harry M. Bailey Middle School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony, last week, to commemorate the grand opening of its food pantry, which was able to expand due to a \$12,500 donation from Stop & Shop.

The ceremony featured representatives from Bailey, Stop & Shop, the West Haven Board of Education, Superintendent Neil Cavallaro, members of the West Haven Rotary Club, and several students and teachers, with Principal Rob Bohan and Assistant Principal Stacy Sutton providing remarks.

The food pantry began in the early months of the Covid-19 pandemic and was created by Grace Novak, a West Haven High School Class of 2022 graduate. Novak realized how food insecurity was affecting many kids in West Haven so she started the "Fill a Bag, Fuel a Mind" club at the high school, before expanding it to the middle school.

"Putting food in the pantry for people that may not have enough so they can come in, get

a bag, and fill up that bag just with a little bit of things," explained eighth grader Iyanna Hill.

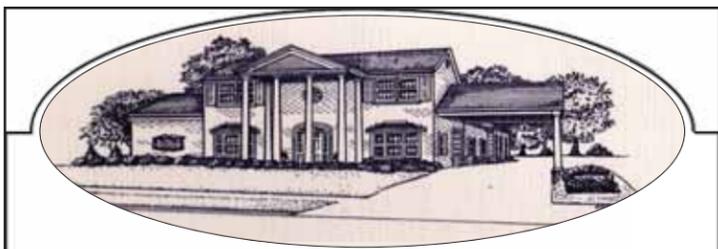
Students or parents can go to an administrator and say they're having trouble affording food that week, and the administrator will bring them to the pantry where they can shop and fill a bag with essential items.

"This is such a good thing for them, and I've known people that have food insecurity," said Anthony Ouellet, another eighth grader and volunteer.

Bailey's students are organizing and restocking the pantry themselves through a club called Bettering Bailey. It is an Interact club through the Rotary.

Once the pantry is fully restocked, the students will also make scarves to support Bailey's coat drive.

"We've helped dozens and dozens of students already," said Sutton. "Some of the kids will come once a week, maybe a couple of times a week. Maybe every other week."



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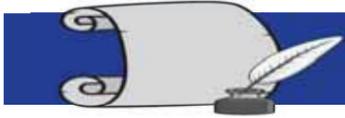
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# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

**WHHS Football 1968  
An Autumn to Remember  
Part II  
(From 2012)**

By the spring of 1968, all those kids who had learned to play football on the sandlots of West Haven had come together to see if they had what it took to play high school football. Spring practice took place for two weeks in June, and then the prospective players entered into a regimen of eight hour days, working out in the August heat. They were days of hitting and getting hit, of running, and passing, and sweating and nursing multiple bruises. According to Pete Chirico, "The coaches pushed our conditioning and our practices to the limit, and I can clearly remember Tom Hunt and Joe McHugh saying, 'If you survive the practices, the games will be a breeze.' They were right."

The Westies Jamboree took place on the first week of September; the actual season began in mid-September, and nobody had any idea of the events that were in store for them.

The first game was played on Milford's home field, and they beat Milford 62-6 that day. Some questioned, "Were they that good, or was this just

a fluke?" It was no fluke, but the truth of that was yet to be revealed.

Notre Dame's coach Ray Tellier, upon hearing reports of that game, is said to have commented, "Don't worry, we'll take care of them (WHHS)." Both he and West Haven coach McHugh were shocked at the next game when West Haven beat Notre Dame 50-12.

And the West Haven Football Team of 1968 continued on, beating every opponent, ending the season undefeated, becoming Connecticut State Champions and being ranked #5 in the nation. That kind of record comes once in a lifetime. In the words of Ed Francis, who played slot back: "For me, the incredible season of 1968 came down to 12 minutes on a Saturday morning at Quigley Stadium against ND. It all changed in that one space of time.

"We had all known each other since we were youngsters and we knew we had a lot of good athletes amongst us. We had played with and against each other for the 10 years or so of our youth. We had size, speed, skills, toughness, and we had something no one else had....we had depth. Most teams had 5 to

10 good players. We knew we had 20-25 kids who could play for anybody. Even so, in our first game with Milford, it was so easy for us that we had a hard time believing it. And with our nemesis Notre Dame, right around the corner we knew we would have the answer soon.

"In that first quarter at Quigley, is started off badly. ND was highly favored and they scored first. Immediately there was an air of "oh no, not again". But literally, in the next few minutes of that quarter, both our defensive and offensive teams started to click and it was over in a flash. We were stopping them cold and scoring almost at will. By the end of that first quarter, I think we all felt we were for real. In our next 7 games we were only seriously challenged once by Stamford who we eventually beat by 15 points.

"So many years later, I can still remember the feeling that morning. The direction of many of our lives pivoted on those twelve minutes, because the opportunities we would soon be presented with flowed from those 9 amazing games. I think we all recognize that we were lucky to be part of such a great team which created

wonderful memories for the City and for us that have lasted to this day."

When Steve Johnson was asked what his feelings about the 1968 season were, so many years later, he answered thus: "I felt gratitude. I want to thank all the folks who came out to support our team; and I was grateful for the support from my Mom and Dad, as I know each of us was glad to see our parents and relatives in the crowd. To the Westie community, thanks for just being there; I am glad to read and hear that the events of that year are still remembered, over forty years later."

In the 1969 WHHS Yearbook, may be found the following:

Coach Joe McHugh sums up this year by saying, "Everyone worked together. There was team effort and dedication." This was the year of the West Haven High School Blue Devil team. It was a year of incredible victory, bronzed game balls, outstanding play, and slogans on helmets. It was a year that will long be remembered by the team, the students, the faculty, and alumni of our school. The team has brought honor and pride to the coaches, the players as individuals, the student body,



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

and the community; and now we take this opportunity to honor them."

**To be continued.**

*We would like to thank Pete Chirico, Harry Conlan, Bert Siclari, Burt Cohen, Ed Francis, Steve Johnson, Ted Williams and especially Tom Lavery for their patient assistance in the creation of this column, and the retelling of this tale.*



A crowd of almost 10,000 saw the Westies come up against the Hillhouse Academics on Thanksgiving Day. It was just another big day of offense for the Blue Devils as they pummeled the visitors 76-6. The table at right shows why the team was eventually awarded the Waskowitz Trophy, symbol of what was then a mythical state championship. The team was named fifth in the nation later that year.

| WE | THEY |                |
|----|------|----------------|
| 62 | 6    | (Milford)      |
| 50 | 12   | (Notre Dame)   |
| 42 | 6    | (Wilbur Cross) |
| 95 | 6    | (Hamden)       |
| 58 | 20   | (Lee)          |
| 37 | 22   | (Stamford)     |
| 72 | 16   | (Ansonia)      |
| 34 | 0    | (Jonathan Law) |
| 76 | 6    | (Hillhouse)    |

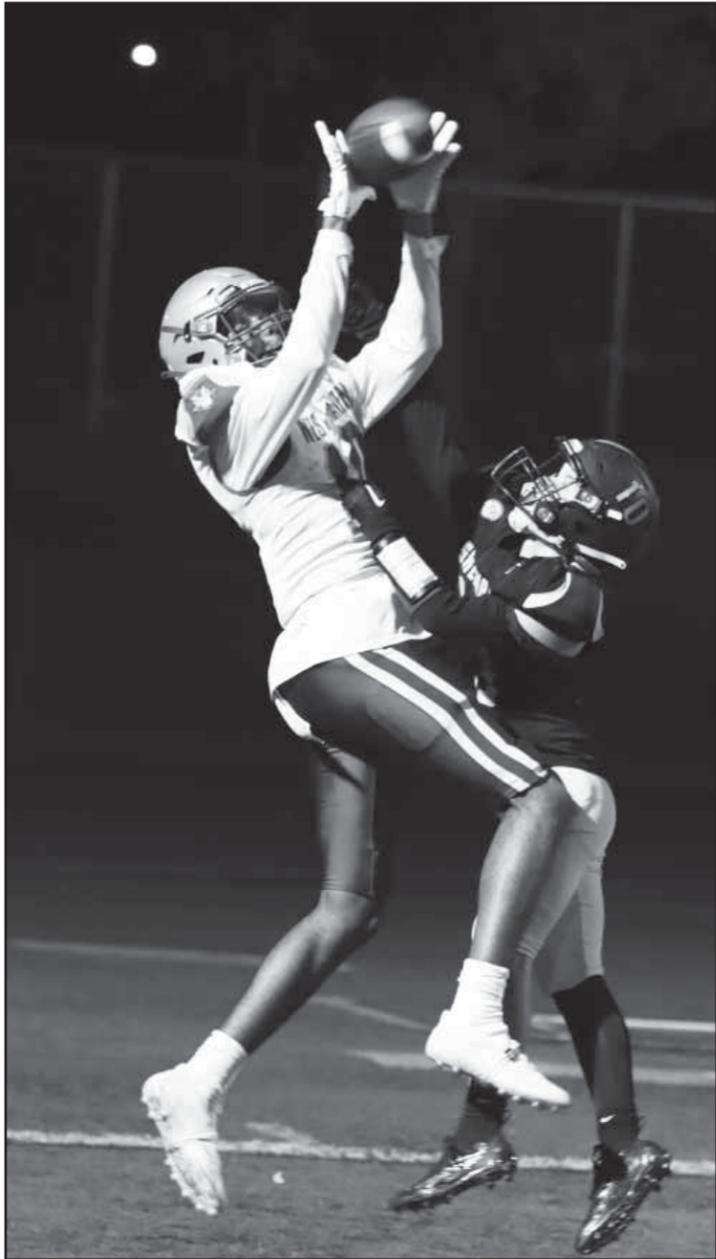


Photo by Todd Dandelske

Teriq Mallory hauls in a TD pass for the Westies against Sheehan.

## Westies roll to 7-0; beat Gaels, Titans

Rich Boshea and his West Haven football team have enjoyed the first five weeks of the season. Having outscored opponents by 196 points, the Westies, ranked fifth in the GameTimeCt Top 10 poll, worked to post five wins to open the season.

Boshea was well-aware the contest against Shelton was going to be anything but easy. Despite an early cushion, Boshea proved to be right.

Holding off a furious Shelton comeback, West Haven held on for a 34-28 Southern Connecticut Conference victory over the sixth-ranked Gaels in front of a packed house at Ken Strong Stadium in West Haven.

Leading by 14 points at the half, West Haven knew the Gaels would come out firing to start the third quarter. While the Gaels did so, West Haven's Avian Evans recovered a fumble to set up a 1-yard touchdown run by Jah'zire Massey for a 28-8 lead with 7:04 remaining in the third quarter.

The recovery by Evans was his second defensive gem in the last two possessions as he returned a Michael Kinik interception 72 yards for a score

right before the half.

The Gaels never wavered, scoring the next 13 points and getting within 28-21 to end the third quarter. Kinik, who finished with 300 yards passing and three touchdowns, quickly found Kanye Tinney for a 52-yard scoring strike to get within 28-14.

After holding the Westies on three plays, Kinik hooked up with Ricky Feola for a 54-yard scoring strike to get within seven points with 3:26 left in the third quarter.

With the Westies facing their first bit of adversity on the season, they quickly regrouped. The defense held Shelton on its next possession with a combined sack by Connor Holy and Kadear Dembele, before West Haven embarked on a 10-play, 51-yard drive which was capped by a 1-yard scoring run by Trevor Tompkins.

The drive saw a big play when the Westies picked up a first down on fourth-and-12 when quarterback Nick Conlan connected with Armani Reid to the Shelton five.

Kinik and company still would not let the Westies off the hook as he connected with Feola for a 52-yard gain, then

hit John DeCamps with a 10-yard scoring strike with less than two minutes to go.

West Haven held on for dear life, recovering the onside kick and running out the clock for its sixth victory of the season.

The first half may have seen 10 West Haven penalties, but it also saw big plays by the Westies. Three separate chunk plays by the Westies gave them a 22-8 lead at the half.

West Haven did not waste time taking an early lead, taking nine plays to move 66 yards for a 6-0 lead on the game's opening possession.

Conlan, who threw his first two interceptions of the season in the opening half, converted a big third down pass when he hit Eady in stride for a 41-yard touchdown strike just 4:46 into the game.

The Gaels moved down the field on their opening possession only to see Aedan Coe come up with a big interception for West Haven.

Looking to go ahead by a pair of scores, West Haven and Conlan were thwarted when Tinney picked off Conlan's first pass of the year, setting up Shelton at the West Haven 22.

Five plays and two West Haven penalties later, Shelton was on the board when David Dojlidko scored from two yards out. The Gaels then connected on the two-point conversion for an 8-6 lead.

That was the only lead for the Gaels in the opening half as West Haven answered immediately with a 7-play, 70-yard drive which saw West Haven overcome four penalties on the drive.

Conlan, who threw for 203 yards and three touchdowns, then picked up a bad snap and fired a 23-yard scoring strike to Coe over the middle for a 14-8 lead with 8:49 left in the half.

With both defenses coming up big and making important stops, the first half saw a big change of events in the final minute.

Looking to run out the clock deep in West Haven territory, Shelton switched it up and used a Kinik to Feola connect

See Westies, page 17



Photo by Todd Dandelske

West Haven Girls' Soccer celebrated Senior Night before their 3-1 victory over East Haven.

# Westies: Teams wrapping up '22 seasons

Continued from page 16

tion of 46 yards to the West Haven 48.

Two plays later, the Westies were up by a pair of touchdowns when Evans stepped in front of a Kinik pass and raced 72 yards for the score. Reid ran in the conversion for a 22-8 lead with 12 seconds remaining in the half.

The two teams combined for 723 yards of offense.

West Haven improved to 7-0 with a 52-0 victory over Sheehan in Wallingford.

Tompkins scored twice, Conlan threw a pair of touchdown passes and Evans returned his third interception for a touchdown this season. Conlan's two touchdown passes tied a school record of 14 in a season.

West Haven took a 16-0 first quarter lead when Tompkins and Deven Robinson sandwiched a safety with touchdown runs of seven and 41 yards.

The Westies put the game away with 21 points in the second quarter. Conlan hit Tompkins with a 6-yard scoring strike, Evans returned an interception 35 yards for a score, and Conlan connected with Teriq Mallory for a 12-yard scoring connection and a 37-0 halftime lead.

Jeremiah Francis ran in from four yards out in the third quarter and Joe Capela capped the scoring with a four-yard run in the fourth quarter.

The West Haven volleyball team fell to 10-6 with a 3-1 loss against Guilford. The contest at West Haven High saw the Westies fall, 25-23, 17-25, 25-17, 25-14.

Jenna Johnson led the Westies with 14 assists and 11 digs. Asia Ford added 13 digs and nine kills, Alison Frazer added 12 digs, Dulcemaria Castillo had 10 digs, Tanasia Fidalgo played well with nine digs, Jordyn Johnson had eight digs, and Astrid Portugal Morales chipped six aces and four digs. Bianka Portugal Morales chipped in five digs in the loss.

Following a tough loss to Guilford, West Haven had yet another challenging match. This, the Westies came out on the right side of the scoreboard.

In what was a back-and-forth battle, West Haven topped Hamden 23-25, 26-24, 22-25, 25-17, 15-9 Wednesday evening in West Haven. With the victory, West Haven improved to 11-6 on the season.

Trailing 2-1 in games, West Haven battled back to win the fourth game by eight points, then held on in the fifth and final game to pick up the victory.

Ford led the Westies with 20 kills, 10 digs, and nine blocks. Frazer was solid on defense

with 13 digs, Fidalgo had 12 digs and five kills, Hudanur Sahin added 14 assists and nine digs, while Jordyn Johnson had eight digs and Astrid Portugal Morales chipped in seven digs.

West Haven won its second straight contest with a 3-0 decision over Foran Friday evening. With the home victory by scores of 25-22, 25-21, 25-13, West Haven improved to 12-6 on the year.

Jenna Johnson ran the West Haven offense with 28 assists, six kills, and two aces, while also adding nine digs on defense. Ford was dominant with 18 kills and 11 digs, Frazer had 17 digs and three aces, while Dulcemaria Castillo had 11 digs.

Jordyn Johnson finished with seven digs, Olivia McDonnell had seven kills, Fidalgo and Astrid Portugal Morales each added six digs, while Bianka Portugal Morales and Emma Davey each had five digs.

West Haven saw its two-match win streak come to an end with a 3-0 loss at Shelton Monday evening. With the 23-25, 21-25, 19-25 defeat, West Haven fell to 12-7 on the year.

While the Westies were in each game, they could not pull ahead or get the crucial point needed.

The end result saw the Gaels win by two points in the opening game, four in the second game, and six in the third.

Jenna Johnson ran the West Haven offense with 23 assists, three kills, and two aces, while also adding nine digs on the defensive side.

Castillo was solid with 14 digs and four aces, Ford had 11 kills, seven digs, and three aces, Jordyn Johnson and Astrid Portugal Morales each had seven digs, Frazer added six digs, and Fidalgo and McDonnell each had five kills.

With Senior Night always a big part of the season, West Haven was looking to send its seniors off on the right foot to end the regular season. The Westies were also looking to improve their postseason seeding.

Unfortunately for the Westies, North Branford proved to be too much, sending West Haven to a 3-1 loss. The 20-25, 25-16, 23-25, 24-26 defeat ended West Haven's regular season with a record of 12-8.

Jenna Johnson ran the West Haven offense with 17 assists, while also adding 12 digs on defense. Ford had a solid night with 14 kills, six blocks and six digs, Castillo added 11 digs and five kills, Frazer had eight digs, and Astrid Portugal Morales and Jordyn Johnson each had seven digs.

Having a successful regular season, the West Haven vol-

leyball team was looking for success in the postseason. The Westies have gotten off to a successful start.

On its game from start to finish, No. 8 West Haven topped No. 9 Sacred Heart Academy, 3-0, in the opening round of the Southern Connecticut Conference tournament Friday evening at West Haven High. The 25-19 25-11 25-21 victory allowed the Westies to improve to 13-8 overall on the year.

Jenna Johnson led the Westies with 18 assists, while McDonnell had 10 kills. Bianka Portugal Morales added nine digs, and Jordyn Johnson, Ford and Frazer each chipped in seven digs.

Ford also had six kills and four blocks, while Astrid Portugal Morales had five aces and four digs, and Fidalgo added three kills and three digs.

The West Haven girls soccer team snapped a three-game losing streak with a 3-1 victory at Amity Monday afternoon. With the win, West Haven improved to 6-6-1 on the year.

The Westies received a balanced scoring attack, solid defense, and 11 saves from Cassidy Carrano in the win.

Celia Williams scored off an assist from Ariana Izzo, Jaylyn Powell tallied off an assist from Julia Tsakonas, and Abigail Phelan scored off an assist from Maya Bermudez.

West Haven won its second game in a row and improved to 7-6-1 with a 1-0 victory over Shelton in West Haven Wednesday evening.

Taking a perfect lead pass from Tsakonas, Bermudez found the lower right corner of the net for the only goal West Haven needed.

The West Haven defense and Carrano did the rest as Carrano picked up the shut-out with eight saves in another solid defensive performance by the Westies.

The Westies had great defense from Llyanna Griffith-Waite and Celia Williams, and great midfield play from Emma Walker and Ariana Izzo.

West Haven moved to 7-6-2 with a 2-2 tie at Hamden Friday evening. With the draw, West Haven kept its Southern Connecticut Conference tournament hopes alive, needing some outside help.

Against Hamden, Carrano made five saves in goal. On the offensive side, Walker continued her solid play with an unassisted goal, while Julia Tsakonas scored off an assist from Izzo.

West Haven improved to 8-6-2 with a 3-1 victory over East Haven Wednesday evening. The win helped the Westies qualify for the Southern



Photo by Todd Dandelske

## Asia Ford goes up for the spike in the Westies' 3-1 loss to North Branford.

Connecticut Conference tournament.

Tsakonas scored twice, both assisted by Izzo. Tsakonas also assisted the third West Haven goal by Bermudez. Carrano made 11 saves in the win for West Haven.

West Haven delivered the first loss of the season to Mercy earlier in the season. The Tigers remembered.

Controlling play from start to finish, second-seeded Mercy topped No. 7 West Haven 2-0 in the quarterfinals of the Southern Connecticut Conference tournament in Middletown Saturday afternoon.

Carrano was stellar in the loss for West Haven with 30 saves.

The West Haven boys soccer fell to 2-7-3 with a 6-1 loss against Cheshire Monday evening at Ken Strong Stadium. The loss kept the Westies winless in their last seven games at 0-5-2.

Cheshire got off to a quick start in the game and never looked back, leading 3-0 at the half and 4-0 less than two minutes into the second half.

Robert Foley got the Westies on the board when he scored with 19:25 left off an assist from Rafael Gazcon.

West Haven never got closer as Cheshire added a pair of goals in the final 12 minutes to seal the victory. The Rams had six different scorers in the contest.

Yahzeel Beyley made 10 saves in the loss for the Westies.

The loss followed a scoreless draw Friday evening against Shelton where the Westies held a 9-4 shot advantage, but could not find the back of the net.

Beyley made three saves in the draw.

West Haven got back in the win column with a 2-1 victory over Career/Hillhouse in New Haven Wednesday afternoon. With the victory, West Haven improved to 3-7-3 on the year.

The Westies never trailed in the game, taking a 1-0 lead 10:15 into the contest when Sebastian Navarro scored off an assist from Gazcon.

Career/Hillhouse scored off a penalty kick at the 26:34 mark to even the game, before the Westies used a late tally to secure the victory.

Ethan Masoperh scored an unassisted goal with 5:37 remaining to give West Haven a 2-1 lead, and goalkeeper Abraham Mero made one save to preserve the win.

West Haven had a 30-4 shot advantage in the contest.

West Haven closed the regular season with a 3-9-4 record as the Westies fell at Notre Dame 2-1 and play to a scoreless draw against Shelton at home.

Gazcon scored the lone West Haven goal in the loss to the Green Knights.



Photo by Todd Dandelske

## Heading up!

West Haven's Jared Yarway leaps for the header against NDWH. The Westies lost this contest to their city rivals, 2-1 at Veterans Field, and are completing a disappointing regular season.

# Blue Lightning notch two wins in soccer

The last two weeks have seen some great games in the West Haven Youth Soccer League. The Elite Soccer Camps Blue Lightning won the last two weekends. Their first game was a 5-0 win over Gunning Law Firm. Roland Green, Ryan Abekah, and Matteo D'Elia all showed their growing skills in the win. This past weekend saw the Elite Soccer Blue Lightning win, 6-1, over the Red Dragons. Luca DeCrescenzo set up Jacob Rader for a beautiful goal for the Dragons. Jaxon Cruz made a few fantastic saves in the loss. For the Lightning, Ethan Fonseca and Ben Trenchard played lock down defense, while Jax Guarino worked hard in the midfield.

The Mad Mike's Cheesteaks played a strong game against Stars Ice Cream. Lila Bell had a strong all-around game, Isabella Faugno, Anna Howery and Savannah Clark supplied the offense. Jaelyn Aviles, Layla Campos and Lily Mooretorres played strong defensively. All the girls are playing very well, showing improvement every week. Mad Mike's Cheesteaks were back in action against UNH Devils, winning 4-0. Offensively Isabella Faugno, Anna Howery, and Annabella Provo poured the goals in. Defensively, Lily Mooretorres, Savannah Clark and Alice Burns stopped many scoring attempts.

Taco Town played a great

game against York Business Center, with the game ending in a tie 6-6. Rida Saanon, Christopher Romero and Daimeon Griffin all scored for Taco Town. Wade Little and Amir Issa both showed great hustle on defense and midfield. Taco Town's second match was a loss to a tough Falcone Law Firm, with the game ending, 4-2. Taco Town worked hard defensively with Rida Saanon and Christopher Romero both scoring.

Luck wasnt on the side of the West Haven Professional Firefighters two weekends ago, as they were upended by Falcone Law Firm, 3-0, despite the great hustle of Doniel Agustin, Farid Saibou and Mateen Latiff. Leading the way

on defense was Jacob Smalls, Abraham Morales-Linares and Buarag Abdelmageed. Saturday saw the West Haven Professional Firefighters line up against the York Business Center. The Firefighters topped the opposition, 5-0. Leading the way with a hat trick was Dixon Lopez with Doniel Agustin chipping in two of his own. Playing spectacularly on both sides of the ball were James and Carlos Bazar. The staunch defense was led by Moayyad Idris and Yair Negron.

The #DAVILATRIBE Yellow Jackets played Cappetta's Italian Imports, falling 5-1. Sofie Burns used defensive kicks to stop the ball from advancing. Rebekah Parrilla attacked the ball, helping the defensive line. Angeliza Davila returned to play after an injury in goal to push the ball up the field. Fatihah Beyah used her midfield position to dribble the ball up the field towards the goal. Kamyah Bell scored our only goal of the game following through off a deflection.

Saturday morning, R.Mark Pappas DC Grey Wolves matched up against Frankie's of West Haven at Peterson Field and came away with a 3-1 win. It was a well-played game on both sides of the pitch. The Grey Wolves were led by Ruaa Naas who notched all three goals, with assists from Isabella Celantano, Aubrey McDuffie and Valeria Almonte Duarte. The defense was on top of its game with Ava Garcia and Genesis Gallego helping to set up the offense distributing the ball well. The Grey Wolves were anchored in net by Vittoria Almonte Duarte with great

saves.

In a fantastic show of unity and sportsmanship P H B Express supported each other allowing every player on their team to score at least one goal this game inching towards the goal of having every player score at least once this season. Goals came from Boden Rogers, Jude Charles, Jase Wysinoski, Youseff el Haouzi, Logan Hodge, Omario Escoffery, Jeremiah Nunoo, and Alexander Urgiles.

The Rock Hoiuse School of Music U12 girls were on the road in Branford last Sunday where they took home a 4-3 win. Kylee McCoart had some great plays and footwork throughout the game with Annabelle Fiorillo leading the defense. Luciana Cappetta scored for West Haven. The girls were back in action this past Sunday, playing a tough match at home against Guilford, ending in a 5-0 loss. Annabelle Fiorillo worked hard to control the defense along with Josylyn Davila. Kylee McCoart had several shots on goal for West Haven.

The West Haven U10 boys travel team suffered its first loses of the season, despite some solid game play. Last weekend the boys fell to North Haven, 5-3. Ryan Abekah scored, and Matteo D'Elia, Ethan Fonseca, Roland Green and Joey Ruiz worked hard in the midfield. This past Saturday, the boys lost at home to Southington, 4-3. Ben Trenchard played a solid game defensively, joined by Colin Gibbons and Seth Empric. Mason DaSilva controlled the center of the field, and Jaxon Cruz played well in goal.



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& THE LIST GOES ON!

# Youth Hockey squads play in tournaments

The West Haven youth hockey Mite A team won the Mite Upper Division at the Haunted Shootout Tournament in Marlborough, MA. The Westies had an undefeated 6-0 record over the weekend.

In round robin play, the Westies faced the Palisades Predators and Woodbridge Wolfpack Hockey Club, each from New Jersey, along with the Greater New Haven Warriors and East Coast Thunder from Hyannis Mass.

The Blue Devils were led by goaltender Landon Silverman who recorded two shutout wins and only allowed six goals all tournament. The team scored over 40 goals in all with every player finding the back of the net.

Solid defense by Cooper Owens and Keegan Jackson also made it difficult for opposing teams to score on Silverman. Offensively the Devils were led by Henry Seslar, Santino Martin, Caden Minio, Emmett Hemming and Alexa Jacob.

The highlight of the weekend was a 2-1 semifinal overtime win against rival Hamden with Brody Miller netting the game winner. In the final game, the Westies found themselves down early to Weymouth, Mass. and fought back for a 5-3 victory and a championship trophy.

The West Haven Mite C team played the Wallingford RiverHawks Mite B. Wesley Morazzini was in goal for the Westies and he made great saves during the match up. Multiple goals were scored by Caleb Ford and Jackson Ford. Brayden Gagliardi also scored a goal and an assist was made by Caleb Ford. Shots on goal were made by Maddy Bruder, Ava Healy, Ryan Shannon and Quinn Uscilla.

On Sunday, the Mite C' played the Shoreline Sharks at Bennett Rink. In net again for the Blue Devils was Wesley Morazzini, who made more great saves. Multiple goals were made by Caleb Ford, Jackson Ford and Gagliardi. Uscilla, Bruder and Shannon also each contributed a goal,

which assists made by Jackson Ford, Uscilla, Gagliardi and Shannon. Shots on goal were also made by Healy.

The West Haven Mite C team played South Windsor at Bennett Rink. In net for the Blue Devils was Healy, who made many great saves during the matchup.

Multiple goals were scored by Caleb Ford, Jackson Ford and Gagliardi. Bruder also scored a goal, while shots on net and passes were made by Uscilla, Morazzini, and Ryan Shannon.

The West Haven Squirt AA hockey team took home the Squirt A title at the Haunted Shootout in Marlborough by posting a 5-0 record, including three shutout wins. The team was paced all weekend by the strong goaltending tandem of Gabe Calabrese and Michael Paone, and a strong defensive attack led by Cody Young, AJ Farrell, Henry Strada and Danny Moll which limited scoring chances.

In the final, the Westies topped the Westchester (NY) Vipers AA 10-0 behind the multi-goal games from Colby Cushing, Nick Ciccocanti, Dylan Spreyer, Farrell and Charlie Gunning. Assists in the game came from Dane Walsh (2), Peyton Berlepsch, Young, Jeremiah McGrath and Alex Jenei. Paone and Calabrese combined for the shut out.

Paone and Calabrese shut out the Weymouth AA, 10-0, in the semifinal. Cushing and Gunning combined for eight goals, while Jenei and Strada also found the back of the net. Westie assists came from Moll, Walsh Young, Strada and Farrell.

In the opening round, Gunning, Spreyer and Jenei paced the Westies to a 6-1 win over the Palisades Predators. Young had two assists on the day and Berlepsch added another.

The Westies trailed the Vermont Flames AA, 2-0, entering the third period before rallying to a 5-2 win. Gunning scored two goals to pull the team even, before Berlepsch buried the game-winner.

Cushing and Gunning each added another goal for the difference. Paone and Calabrese combined for the win.

McGrath, Spreyer, Young, Cushing and Gunning combined for 10 goals as the Westies were all over the New Jersey Avalanche 12-0. Assists on the day came from Walsh, Strada, Berlepsch and Moll. Paone and Calabrese combined for the shut out.

In a matchup of the two top-ranked teams in the state rankings the Squirt AA hosted the Connecticut Jr. Whalers and came away with a 5-2 victory.

Walsh set up Gunning early in the first period to give the Westies a 1-0 lead. Farrell then weaved through traffic and went top shelf, Gunning had two more, and Ciccocanti also scored for the Westies, Assists on the day came from Young, Strada, Jenei, Spreyer and McGrath. Paone went the distance for the win with 14 saves on the day.

The final game of the weekend saw the Westies upend the Junior Wolfpack AA 13-1. Walsh started the scoring off with a wrister, and McGrath, Ciccocanti, Spreyer, Cushing and Gunning all found the back of the net.

Ciccocanti had three assists on the day, and Young, Strada and Farrell each added one assist. Calabrese got the win in net with 10 saves.

The West Haven Squirt A1 squad faced off against the Northeast Junior Huskies on

Sunday in what turned out to be a battle of goalies, The Blue Devils topped the Jr. Huskies, 5-4.

Ethan McGrath and Matteo Kenworthy had a showcase performance between the pipes, facing 25 shots, only allowing four to touch the back of the net. McGrath had some amazing saves during the first shift, keeping 11 of the 12 shots he faced out of harm's way. Kenworthy made some dazzling leg saves, and was able to account for 10 of the 13 shots he faced.

Olivia Persico started the scoring for the Devils in the first period with an assist from Carter Liston at 5:59. Tyler Gyllensten was next on the board with an unassisted goal in the second period at 8:43. Gyllensten's goal was shortly followed up by another unassisted goal by Julius Stokes at 10:57.

Stokes went on to score two more unassisted goals in the third for his fourth hat trick of the season.

The West Haven Peewee AA hockey team started strong on its three-game weekend with a 3-1 victory over Darien A Saturday morning at Bennett Rink.

The first goal came just three minutes into the game by defenseman Santino Desantis, taking the puck all the way up ice. A scramble in front of the net ensued following a shot from Tyler Persico at the blue line, and Andrew Lacasse shot

in the rebound for the second goal before the end of the first period.

The third period yielded the final goal for the Westies with a snipe from Jaxon Troyer. Barbera was flawless in net with a total of 26 saves in the game.

The second game of the day at Bennett Rink for the Peewee AA's and they dominated the Yale AA, 7-1. Colin Dempsey earned himself a hat trick by getting a goal in each period, an unassisted goal and two with assists from Rocco Kelly, Sophie Digoia, and Desantis.

Troyer had an unassisted goal in the first and shortly after, TJ Russo scored with an assist from Austin Picard. Sophia Locklear had two goals in the game's second and third periods.

On Sunday, the team traveled to Simsbury and came home victorious 11-2. Digoia didn't waste any time and put two goals on the board in the first few minutes. Lacasse followed suit and put another tally. The second period saw goals from Lacasse, getting his second, Troyer, Desantis, and Digoia getting her third to secure a hat trick. The third period did not disappoint with more goals from Kelly, Guarino, Dempsey, and the final goal from Desantis. Locklear, Bereski, and Russo.

The West Haven Bantam AA Major team won the 2022 Haunted Shootout at the New **See Hockey, page 23**

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# Letters, we get letters!

## Tax non-profits

While area politicians laud what "great work" each of their cronies did with increased PILOT funding and the one-time bailout of Covid-19 funds from the federal government, New Haven and West Haven are in still in financial distress.

The mayors, Sens. Looney and Winfield, and the rest cheer themselves and high-five one another as if they've won the Superbowl, when all they've done is fill a bucket-sized hole with two wine corks. According to the City of New Haven in 2020, tax-exempt property represented \$8.5 billion, or 59.57 percent, compared with taxable property of \$6.7 billion. This means about 40% of the remaining property owners paid 100% of the tax bill. Any homeowner knows, even though the mayor and governor disagree, that their tax bill went up. My property taxes went up almost a \$1,000 this year and with more increases coming next year it'll be surely going up even more.

At the core, you pay more whether you own or rent because Yale and the University of New Haven pay less. The impact on renters cannot be overlooked as landlords simply pass the costs on in the form of increased rent to tenants. The huge cork needed to fill the bucket-sized hole is to amend the state constitution and TAX Yale and other large non-profits. Critics will argue that Yale and the University of New Haven have huge economic impacts in the form of wages, scholarships, some tax payments, and the businesses they attract to the area, but the losses will be more than offset by increased revenue to each city. MATH says we close our deficits and get on the right path. THAT would be something to cheer about.

John Carlson

## Oust Maroney!

Last week a criminal shot a New Haven police officer and seriously injured the officer. This week, two officers were killed in the line of duty with another seriously wounded, after all three were shot by another criminal in Bristol. We're far beyond the point in Connecticut where crime is restricted to "nonviolent" car thefts. Violent crime has reached a fever pitch in the state. Now, criminals have such little regard for the rule of law that law enforcement themselves have become a target. No reasonable person in Connecticut believes this happened overnight.

We've all seen the gradual descent into lawlessness that began with regularly occurring juvenile car thefts, esca-

lated to car jackings and robberies at gunpoint, to now the killings of police officers. What's worse? James Maroney's misleading crime statistics, still want you to believe that Connecticut is safe. Families know better. They also know what's behind the degradation of our public safety: Connecticut Democrat policies from 2020 that are weak on crime and make it virtually impossible for criminals to go to jail. If we don't vote every politician that supports these reckless and irresponsible policies, what is next? Republicans did introduce a plan, contrary to any Democrat misinformation that is out there, to prevent crimes like this. James Maroney wanted nothing to do with it. To them, your safety does not matter. I hope that you support Kim Marie Mullin and Republican candidates, who will uphold the rule of law, on Nov. 8.

Robert Wittkofski

## Sen. Marony aids state's decline

How much was your last grocery bill? Have you been purchasing fewer necessities or simply not purchasing others at all? I can tell you that I've drastically cut back on what I buy at the grocery store. Simple items like maple syrup or even mangos are now a luxury. Enough is enough. This inflation at the hands of Connecticut Democrats has reduced our quality of life in the state. And, even though they have the power to bring relief to Connecticut families, they refuse. Their answer is to pour more gasoline on the fire—they're the only ones who can afford it, by the way! How will they do this? Within the past year, Democrats created a highway tax for commercial trucks that takes effect in January. Think that these companies will transfer this cost to us? You bet. Any item we buy in the grocery store or anywhere else—delivered on trucks—will likely become even more expensive. Worse, James Maroney twice rejected Republican efforts to bring hundreds of millions in REAL, immediate tax relief to us—not rebates for a select few. Connecticut families cannot go any longer under Democrat control. Please join me in electing Kim Marie Mullin and new Republican leadership in November.

Deborah Esposito

## Don't feel safe

It's a shame that we no longer feel safe in our community. I find myself looking over my shoulder at the gas station, or in the parking lots along the Boston Post Road. Public safety in this state is becoming a serious problem. The head-

lines speak for themselves. I now lock my car doors when buying gas as a precaution that someone will steal my pocketbook out of my car as has happened to other women.

Who would even think of leaving their front door open and unlocked with just a screen door today? That is how I grew up in Orange. Today cars are broken into and pocketbooks stolen while at the gym or taking a walk at the community center in our town. Does anyone really believe that the rise in crime is a myth, or concocted by fear-mongering Republicans that are lying to you? Crime is on the rise in every town in Connecticut, regardless of political affiliation. Career criminals who carjacked a mother in broad daylight (this happened in North Haven) or shot at a homeowner while stealing a catalytic converter (also true, in Wallingford) didn't stop to consider their victim's political affiliation. I encourage you to please take this crime issue into consideration when voting to send candidates like Kim Marie Mullin to Hartford who support law and order. We must support our men and women in blue who put their lives on the line every day to protect all of us.

Karen Kerames

## Dems need to go

Does your household budget allow you to simply 'top off' your home's heating oil or fuel tank in a moment's notice? Mine certainly does not. Apparently, though, Gov. Lamont believes everyone has a silver-spoon background such as his. Recently, he urged families and businesses to 'top off' their heating tanks to forestall coming fuel shortages—again, a circumstance that he and his Democrat party's standard-bearer Joe Biden own completely. I'll remind Governor Lamont and Democrats that home heating oil is at an all-time high and very few people can simply fill their tank on a moment's notice.

When the Democrat 'truck tax' comes into play in January, expect costs to soar further. I cannot afford to simply heat my home, one of the most basic needs heading into a cold New England winter. Beyond the complete tone-deafness of the Governor's statement, let's look at the last time families were forced to stockpile an essential item all at once. Does infant formula ring a bell? Mass stockpiling led to widespread shortages and price increases, where some of the most vulnerable families were unable to procure this necessity. Why was this necessary? Again, because of failed democrat policies at the federal level. If everyone

'tops off' their tank because of the Governor's ignorant statement, expect prices to spike even further. By the way, this statement is not one of opinion. The president of the CT Energy Marketers Association noted the damage that Governor Lamont's ill-advised call to action will bring, referring to it as 'irresponsible.' Families across Connecticut are badly hurting financially, and cannot take more punishment at the hands of Connecticut Democrats. I encourage everyone to reverse this course and vote for Republican candidates on Nov. 8.

Patrick Moore

## Vote GOP Nov 8

How much has it cost you to fill your tank recently? Are you now putting this otherwise routine expense on your credit card because the cost is still roughly double, or maybe not even completely filling the tank? I will not be fooled when Connecticut Democrats and the media now brag about the 'decrease' in cost over the past year. A decrease of 30 cents means nothing if the starting point was five dollars to begin with. We are being conditioned to accept three- and four-dollar per gallon gas as the new norm. Worse, Democrats are fooling us into being thankful for fees at the pump that are still higher than we've seen in years. Families in Orange certainly haven't been fooled when we're still forced to decide between fully filling our tanks and affording other necessities. This situation is entirely at the hands of Democrats at the state and federal level—they control every branch of government. I hope that you will join me in voting out James Maroney and Mary Welander on Nov. 8.

Michelle Tenny

## Vote Yes, Nov. 8

When you go to the polls on November 8th, look for the Early Voting Referendum question in the upper right-hand corner of your West Haven ballot.

The ballot question will ask "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?"

You may wonder why our Connecticut State Constitution needs to be amended?

Connecticut has not adapted to the times. We are one of only four states that does not permit *any* early in-person voting. (The others three states are Alabama, Mississippi, and New Hampshire.) Also, our state's voting rules are set in our state constitution, unlike in most other states. This makes it hard to change voting rules when they are outdated or no longer serve us well. To change

the time for voting requires an amendment, or a change, to the state constitution.

In 2021, the Connecticut legislature agreed, in a bipartisan vote, to put the Early Voting Referendum on this November's ballot. Both legislators in my West Haven District, Representative Charles Ferraro and Senator James Maroney, voted in support of this question because they understood that Connecticut voters wanted more than just 14 hours on one day to vote. When this referendum passes, our legislators will then decide how many days of in-person voting, with consideration of the costs, and how early voting will take place. Making decisions for Connecticut is a legislator's job. We send trusted legislators to Hartford to debate and to enact laws regarding finances, the law, education, public works and health, the environment, and other important needs of our state. Please realize that this question is only about *in-person* early voting. This referendum does not encompass absentee ballots. Absentee ballots are available only to voters who meet specific requirements in our state constitution. And of course, when Early Voting becomes available, Connecticut voters will still be able to wait to vote on Election Day if they need more time to decide. Please vote YES on Nov. 8.

Merla Porter

## Vote Yes, Nov. 8

At this point, everyone is aware of what's going on in our neighborhoods. Take a look at the headlines, which you see almost daily. Shootings in broad daylight in Manchester, carjackings in Wallingford, assaults on senior citizens in Orange. Gunfire on I-95. These are all actual events that have happened this summer. Connecticut has turned into the 'Wild West.' Any politician or dishonest journalist that tries to tell you crime is actually not a problem is lying to you. They know the inconvenient truth. This month, a teenager was shot and killed on Broad Street in Hartford, steps from the state capitol. Public safety is a major problem in Connecticut. Two years ago, James Maroney voted for a police accountability law that was based on emotion and not common sense. Ask any law enforcement officer and they will all tell you the same thing: their hands are tied by this legislation and are forced into a reactive position to crime. Support candidates like Kim Marie Mullin who will restore law and order in Connecticut.

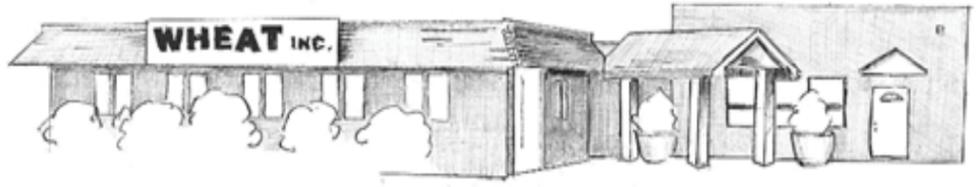
Joe Viola



Photo by Todd Dandelske

**Digging it out!**

Samantha Carrion digs one out for West Haven against North Branford. Her Westies lost this contest, but were able to take the first round of the SCC Tournament with a 3-0 over Sacred Heart.



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.

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**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

1 Creche trio  
5 Sheep's cry  
8 Espy  
12 Optimist's credo  
13 Steal from  
14 Texas city  
15 Lost traction  
16 "Madam Secretary" memoirist Madeleine  
18 Dutch exports  
20 Spanning  
21 Demolish, in Dover  
23 Jungfrau, for one  
24 Tirana resident  
28 Blathers  
31 Meadow  
32 Seafood selection  
34 Gangster's gun  
35 Lincoln in-law  
37 Tuna type  
39 Sneaky chuckle  
41 Son of Adam and Eve  
42 You can count on it  
45 Seduce  
49 Prince of Monaco who is Grace Kelly's son

51 Shark variety  
52 Check  
53 Rm. coolers  
54 Baby carriage  
55 Golf stroke  
56 Belly  
57 Eyelid woe

**DOWN**

1 Fine spray  
2 Rights advocacy org.  
3 Author  
4 Prime Minister  
5 Cabbage, broccoli and

6 MSN rival  
7 "Waterloo"  
8 Making spiral patterns  
9 Samoan port  
10 Phil of folk music  
11 Youngsters  
17 - Victor  
19 Skillets  
22 British nobles  
24 Flight stat  
25 Zodiac cat  
26 Vice  
27 Mother  
Teresa, for

the like  
one  
29 Standard  
30 Fr. holy woman  
33 Social appointment  
36 Not half bad  
38 Victors  
40 "Ben- -"  
42 Seniors' org.  
43 - cheese dressing  
44 Male deer  
46 Scurry  
47 Fine  
48 Iditarod terminus  
50 Post-op area

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**MAGIC MAZE** ● AN "S" FIRST, MIDDLE AND LAST LETTER

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

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

Sealskins Sensors Slushes Sportscasts  
Seasons Sideshows Snowshoes Sunsets  
Seesaws Siestas Somersaults Swashes  
Selfishness Slashes Spinsters

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
◆◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Answers to this week's puzzles

**King Crossword**  
Solution time: 22 mins.  
Answers

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
Answer

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

**The Garden Bug**

**Roasting pumpkin seeds**

- Preheat oven to 300° F.
- Toss 1½ cups raw pumpkin seeds, 2 teaspoons melted butter and a pinch of salt in a bowl, mixing well.
- Spread the seeds in a single layer on a baking sheet and bake for about 45 minutes or until golden brown. - Brenda Weaver

Source: Allrecipes.com

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# Hockey: *Squirts, Bantams win in Marlborough*

Continued from page 19  
England Sports Center in Marlborough, MA over the weekend. The top-seeded Blue Devils downed second-seeded Palisades Predators, 6-2, in the championship game on Sunday afternoon. The Westies dominated the weekend offensively and defensively as they outscored their opponents 29-4 in the five games.

Ethan Kelly led all Blue Devil scorers with seven goals and eight assists in the tournament.

Studley followed with six

goals and an assist. Defensesmen Leo Mazuroski and Ian Brezac each scored three goals, while Aaron Campbell and Shefter both had two goals and two assists.

Alex Zhukovsky and Mike Madonick (one assist) had two goals apiece, Brett Kayser and Matthew Kelly each had a goal, and Sam Malangone had an assist. The Blue Devils earned the top seed by going 3-0 in pool play.

On Friday afternoon the Westies opened the tournament against the Predators. It

was a scoreless game into the third period when Mazuroski took a feed from Ethan Kelly and zipped it home.

Brezac and Ethan Kelly followed with unassisted goals and Upson earned the shut-out.

The West Haven Bantam AA Minor team fought a tough back and forth game against Southern Stars Bantam A team on Saturday at Bennett Rink. Despite Southern scoring a goal within the first two minutes of the game, the Westies came back and scored one

goal in the first period and two in the second.

Keegan Dobratz put West Haven on the board first with an assist from Enzo Plano. Plano then followed that up with the second goal with a little help from Dylan Diciocio. Zach Melchiorre found the net to make it 3-1 Westies with seven minutes left in the second period. Eddie Thomas and Cameren Lipford assisted on the goal.

Despite Southern scoring two more goals in the second to bring the score to 3-3, West

Haven's Mark Vere scored the fourth and final goal with 10 minutes left on the clock.

Southern pulled its goalie and tied the game at four with one minute left to play. Benny Pikul was outstanding in net, stopping multiple shots including many breakaway attempts.

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).

## Utilities warn of new scam

The parent company of the United Illuminating Company (UI), Southern Connecticut Gas (SCG) and Connecticut Natural Gas (CNG) — has received multiple reports of scammers threatening to disconnect gas or electric service unless the customer makes an immediate payment over the phone using a prepaid debit card.

Caller ID may show the call is coming from the utility. In some cases, the perpetrators seem to have specific knowledge about the customers they're calling, and may even provide a callback number with a recorded greeting similar to the energy company's customer service line.

Typically, the caller informs the customer that a crew is on the way to shut off service unless an immediate payment is made. Perpetrators may tell the customer that the company had not received a recent payment or incorrectly processed a payment, so the customer must pay again.



The West Haven Squirts team celebrates following its win of the Haunted Shootout in Marlborough, MA. The Bantam team also won its Shootout tournament. Photo by Tim Gunning



# Nov. 19

## Starts at Bradley Point 9 am - Noon

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#### A History of Leadership & Service

Aaron Haley was a CT State Trooper and Academy instructor, retiring after 20 years. He then worked as an investigator in the Public Defender's office.

He founded and coached POP Warner Football in New Haven. As Chairman of the Allingtown Board of Fire Commissioners, he hired the first African-American Fire Chief in West Haven.

Aaron is currently the Executive Director of Emergency Shelter Management Services, a provider of shelter for the homeless. He lives in West Haven with his wife, Attorney Karen Mayes Haley, where they raised 5 children.

Paid for by Aaron Haley for State Rep 2022 , Angela Driver Treasurer. Approved By Aaron Haley