

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

# West Haven Voice

December 22, 2022

Vol. 27, Issue 24 20 Pages

## Voice Feature

*An in-depth feature*

City remembers  
Pearl Harbor attack

See page 10



# City marks Hanukkah festivities

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Rabbi Schneur Wilhelm of Chabad of Milford-Hebrew Congregation of Woodmont was joined on the West Haven Green by Mayor Nancy R. Rossi to celebrate the second night of Hanukkah on Monday.

Wilhelm led an assembly of West Haven leaders and residents in a blessing before lighting the menorah with Rossi on the Main Street side of the downtown park.

The lighting marked day two of the eight-day Jewish Festival of Lights, a commemoration of rededication of the Temple by the Maccabees after their victory over the Syrians.

The annual ceremony featured lively performances of Jewish folk music by Nu Haven Kapelye. The popular local klezmer band — New England's largest — is composed of violin, clarinet, mandolin, accordion, double bass, trombone and saxophone players and an accompanying Yiddish vocalist.

Wilhelm's wife, Chanie, gave out light-up menorah necklaces, and members of ArtsWest CT gave out chocolate coins wrapped in gold foil, known as Hanukkah gelt.

Also attending the event were state Rep. Treneé McGee (D-116) City Council members Robbin Watt Hamilto, (D-5) and Victor M. Borrás (D-8), City Clerk Patrick C. Horvath, and Planning and Zoning Commissioner Steven R. Mullins.



Photos by Michael P. Walsh

From Top --Rabbi Schneur Wilhelm of Chabad of Milford-Hebrew Congregation of Woodmont is joined on the West Haven Green by Mayor Nancy R. Rossi to celebrate the second night of Hanukkah on Monday. Members of Nu Haven Kapelye play a Jewish folk song. The popular local klezmer band — New England's largest — is composed of violin, clarinet, mandolin, accordion, double bass, trombone and saxophone players and an accompanying Yiddish vocalist. Left -- Chanie Wilhelm, the wife of Rabbi Schneur Wilhelm, left, gives a light-up menorah necklace to Dalia Coleman, of Woodbridge, during festivities on the Green, marking day two of the eight-day Jewish Festival of Lights.



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## Mistletoes



Grace Mawaba-Sefa, 2 years old, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc. wishes everyone Happy Holidays and says to watch out for mistletoe!

### Contact

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Next Issue Date: Jan. 5, 2023

### On this Date

**2010** -- Don't ask don't tell was repealed. President Obama signed the repeal of the don't ask, don't tell policy that governed the recruitment and service of LGBTQ members in the United States military.

**1989** -- Romanian President Nicolae Ceaușescu overthrown. The Communist President was ousted after widespread demonstrations in the country. Ceaușescu and his wife Elena tried to flee the country, but were captured, tried and executed by a firing squad.

**1937** -- Lincoln Tunnel opens. The 1.5-mile-long (2.4 km) long tunnel passes under the Hudson River and connects New Jersey to New York City.

**1891** -- First asteroid discovered through astrophotography. 323 Brucia was discovered by Max Wolf and was named after Catherine Wolfe Bruce, an American patron of astronomy.

**1882** -- First Christmas tree to be illuminated by electric lights displayed. Edward H. Johnson, an associate of inventor Thomas Edison and the Vice President of the Edison Electric Light Company, became the first person to decorate a tree with electric lights.

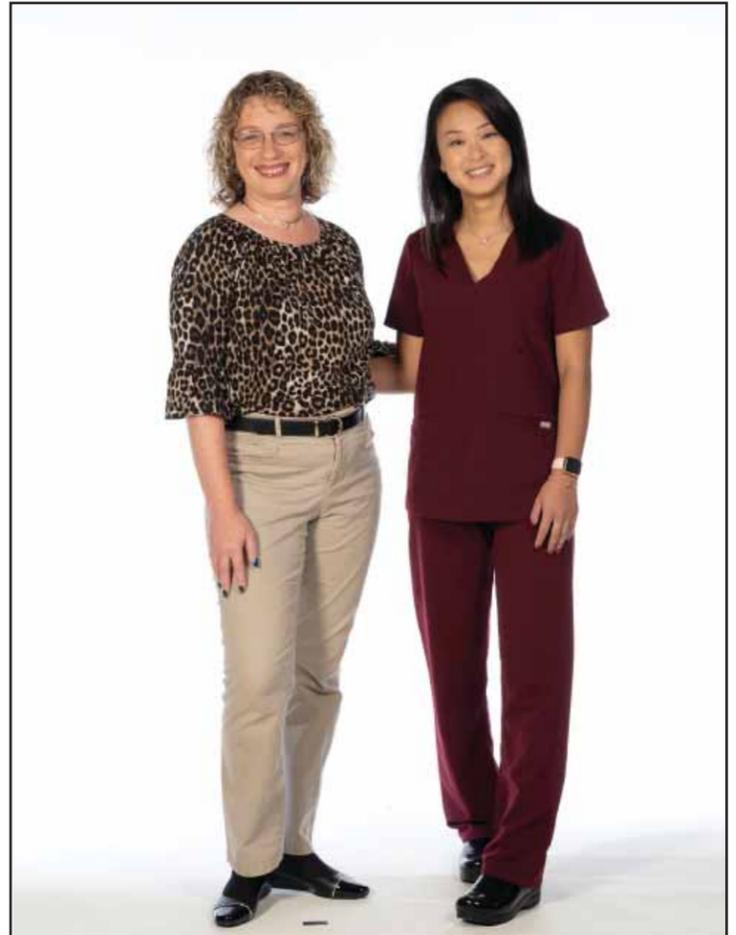


Photo courtesy of CEA

### Featured in campaign

Alice Lam (right), a nurse from West Haven, is featured in the Connecticut Education Association's "Because of a Teacher" ad campaign along with her former teacher Kristen Record of Stratford. The campaign focuses on the impact teachers have on their students, with Alice crediting teachers like Record for her current successes. You can see the campaign at <https://cea.org/becauseofateacher/> and read the news release at <https://cea.org/because-of-a-teacher-every-profession-is-possible/>.

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# Snow removal parking rules reviewed

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

To help crews expedite snow removal, Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy is reminding residents and businesses to observe parking regulations during and after storms.

Per the "Severe Weather" parking ordinance under Chapter 188 of the West Haven Code, police will ticket and tow vehicles violating the ordinance at the owner's expense. Violators will receive a \$100 fine.

Once snow begins to fall, a parking ban is in effect on the even-numbered side of most roads, unless one is posted with a "No Parking" sign on the odd side.

The ban is in effect for 36

hours after a storm. Residents are urged to park in driveways or designated private lots.

However, during an official snow emergency declared by Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, a parking ban will run from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. on both sides of Campbell and Savin avenues, Morgan Lane, Elm Street, Meloy Road, Second Avenue from Elm to Beach streets, and Main Street from Savin to Washington avenues.

McCarthy is also reminding residents and businesses to shovel their sidewalks within 24 hours after a storm or face a \$25 fine "for each day that the violation persists."

According to the "Removal of Snow and Ice" ordinance under Chapter 195 of the West Haven Code, people are given

24 hours to remove snow from sidewalks on and bordering their properties.

Violators are subject to the \$25-per-day fine, which is enforced by the Police Department, the ordinance states.

To report a complaint, call the department's nonemergency line at 203-937-3900. Complaints are kept confidential.

McCarthy also pointed out that plowing or blowing snow into city streets is prohibited and violators are subject to a \$60 fine for each offense, per the ordinance.

Also, residents and businesses with mailboxes damaged by snow thrown from a plow are the responsibility of the property owner.

The city will only repair mailboxes damaged by the striking of a plow blade if there is visible evidence, such as paint or tire tracks. Snow removal around mailboxes is the property owner's responsibility.

Residents are also urged

to help firefighters keep hydrants clear of snow.

For more information, call the Highway Department at (203) 937-3644 or visit the Department of Public Works page at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/177/Public-Works>.

## Leaf bag pickups ended for the year

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

The city's leaf bag pickup has ended for 2022.

The curbside service will resume the week of April 15 on residents' weekly collection days.

Until then, residents are required to bring all leaf bags — paper, no plastic — to the compost site, 1 Kimberly Ave., from 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Proof of residence is required.

Residents are asked to put leaves and grass clippings in separate biodegradable paper bags. Plastic bags are prohibited.

The 2023 pickup schedule for leaf bags is April 15-June 1 and Oct. 1-Dec. 15.

Also, mattress drop-off at the city garage, 1 Collis St., has been suspended until April 3 because of safety concerns during the colder months.

Mattress bags for curbside pickup are available for \$25 by calling the Department of Public Works at (203) 937-3585 or visiting the department on the third floor of City Hall, 355 Main St.

The bags are picked up on residents' weekly collection days.

Merry Christmas, neighbors.



I wish all my neighbors peace, joy and love this Christmas season and beyond. I'm blessed to be part of such a wonderful community.

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# Dear Felicia

Here we are, again, sweets. It's the last ishew of the year, and when next we correspond it'll be the turning of the New Year. Here in the office, we have a set of book cases that hold a few of each of the issues, and we cull out older ones every so often. Each year we start in the January rack and move our way to the December rack. And, each year it seems things go just a bit faster than they did the year before. We started these colyumes, you and I, way back in the 1970s, and haf continued them, perty much with little interruption all this time.

We've seen a lot in those years, more than 50 when you think about it, and have seen politicians come and go, and yet the game always has been the same: politicians who think they can git away with things and don't cuz there are other politicians who can't wait to talk about it. Been that way for

years, don'tcha know. That's whot keeps you and I in business, I guess.

Tennyrate, with the end of the year, and the fack that Jolly Ole St. Nick will be traversing the skies in jest a few days, Cobina has come up with her lit'le list of things the local leadership might find in their stockings this Christmas.

Mayor Nancy Rossi - Her stocking hung by the chimney with care will have a mock-up of the Haven Project, courtesy of the Simon Group. She can put it under her tree, next to her Christmas village and think of what might have been. Meanwhile, ex-mayors who thought the project was going to be a boon at a time when malls were closing all over the country will get a recording of Anthony Newley singing, "What Kind of Fool Am I."

The Mayor's Guy Friday Louey Esposito - A book of

exercises for the facial muscles, particularly those used for smiling. Ole Lou always has the look of doom on his face and needs to lighten up a bit. The daily workout of those muscles might help.

City Finance Director Scott Jackson - A new set of hip boots so he can wade through the financial morass that is our fair city's signature trait. Goodness knows he's gonna need something to keep the pecuniary muck off his duds.

Director of Public Works Tom McCarthy - Mr. Mac is gonna git some salve for his ears, since they must be burning with the mention of his name in several venues, including Superior Court, over the last several weeks. The DPW honcho usually has people after him or her all the time, but not like this.

City Clerk Patty Horvath - The clerk is gonna get an all-expense paid trip to Hartford to review the proper way to store and maintain absentee ballots - the longtime bane of elections in this burg. Santa will even throw in a dinner at one of the eateries in the Excel Center, jest so she has something to look forward to after the session.

Corporation Counsel Lee Tiernan - The barrister representing the burg has a reputation for being rather quick

with the repartee. He will get a set of the Rumpole of the Bailey book series to see how snark can be both biting -- and classy.

Park-Rec Director Mark Paine - Ole Mark will get a list of excuses and reasons to stay outta the political cess-pool that is City Hall. He ain't needed there often, and that's good for him.

Councilman-at-Large Ron Quagliani - Ron, who wears more hats at the University of New Haven than you can imagine will get a new hat rack - and the hats to go with them. He can change identity every time he needs to act as one type of official or t'other.

Councilwoman Bridget Hoskie - The councilwoman has been the object of some attention over the last little while because of her impassioned - if somewhat off the rails - speeches concerning things she's concerned about. In her stocking will be a pamphlet on calming techniques she can use to lower the heat a bit.

Rep. Dorinda Borer (D-115) - The rep now has new responsibilities in Hartford as Deputy Speaker and a move and shaker up there. Well, like most of the Demmies, she should get a list of the people leaving the state each month because of the high taxes and out-of-control spending her party endorses. The taxpayer lake is drying up. Maybe she and her cohorts will get the message, but don't count on it. Politicos don't get positions because they are independent thinkers.

Rep. Trenee McGee (D-116) - The rep recently won her own full term in office and showed herself to be a complete partisan, though she has shown signs of some independent thinking. In her stocking will be pre-woke dictionary, giving definitions of words that haven't been adulterated by nonsense. That way she can stop using the jargon and find out the real meaning of words.

Rep. Charles Ferraro (R-117) - With his clout as the senior elected Republican in the city, in his stocking will be a whip and chair so he can tame the folderol in the party apparatus that hasn't won a real election in more than 30 years. The in-fighting over the ruins that once was a thriving alternative is silly.

All the former GOP town chairmen - In their stockings will be the list of failures whilst they were in charge, and all the things they should've said, but didn't during those years.

Democratic Town Chairman Michael Last - See Ferraro. These next few months are going to be chaotic. The factions

are gearing up for a squabble, and it's gonna be a headache. So, some headache powders will be in your stocking as well.

Republican Town Chairman Dave Riccio - Some energy drinks will be in his stocking as he tries to come up with some attractive candidates for the 2023 municipal elections. He's gonna hafta work overtime.

Congresswoman Rosa De-Lauro Greenberg - Now that the Demmies will be in the minority in the House, something to be thankful for, our purple-haired septuagenarian will need something to do. In her stocking will be a set of knitting needles. She can make scarves for herself and her buddy Nancy P. as they sit on the back benches.

Sens. Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy - Santa will have a real tough time with these two. We suggest each get a marionette in their stockings. They can learn how to pull strings the way their strings have been pulled for the last few years; and just like themselves, the puppet will not have an original idea in his head.

Gov. Ned Lamont - Since we're stuck with him for another four years, maybe he can find in his stocking a book on "principles." Lord knows he doesn't have any so far.

Good Guy Patrick Morrissey - Pat will see a new pair of walking shoes in his stocking for those daily walks along the beach, and a new wool hat for these colder days.

City Publicist Mike Walsh - Ole Mike has been trekking around the Northeast recently with son Ryan as the youngster hones his hockey skills. Walsh will find a gas card or two to help those loooooonnnng road trips.

School Publicist Mike O'Brien - We're sure the schools PR guy is inundated with requests from schools to give them a lit'le exposure, both online and in print. O'Brien will get an answering service contract to keep track of all the requests.

Our Editor Bill Riccio, Jr. - This time o' year gives the scribe a little down time. In his stocking will be the last pieces he needs to finish his Lionel layout. He's not had a lotta time lately.

Ad Director Alan Olenick - The adman likes cruise line trips, in his stocking will be a new cruise and some fun after a long year.

To our Readers - Hope you get whatever you wish this Christmas season, as well as wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

*Cobina*

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**Dear Gripe Vine Readers:**

It's been quite a year hasn't it with all the traumatic happenings in our lives, including Covid 19, booster shots, school closings, high grocery prices and national and worldwide occurrences?

Readers living in West Haven have had the opportunity this year, to air their local complaints in Gripe Vine

Thanks to the West Haven Voice, Gripe Vine has been able to connect gripes and questions, through their district councilpersons who have stepped up to provide residents with improvements in a number of areas. It is hoped their continued cooperation will serve West Haven taxpayers with satisfaction.

Back in January of this year readers complained of speeding on Campbell Avenue, motorists ignoring pedestrian crosswalks and new laws that prohibit opening car doors while the vehicle is moving.

The baseball field near the old Chick's Drive In received complaints of neglect because of careless dog owners, Potholes on Captain Thomas Boulevard were reported, Ward Heitman Museum inquires, malfunctioning traffic lights and graffiti covered and missing stop signs.

Reports came in of cars without handicap licenses parking in city parking lots, blighted property on White Steet, traffic congestions at Kelsey, Main, Elm and Wagner Street, Brown Street mangled sidewalks, two lane merging at Campbell Avenue and overgrown trees on Blohm Street.

Quite a number of complaints referring to out of towners license plates displayed and questions on tax responsibilities. West Haven's Boot Law, abandon house on Rockdale Road, dogs on Jessie Drive and numerous broken

bulk trash pickup, wishes for a local transfer station, removal of Church Street potholes sand Sawmill Road and Greta Street blight.

Lids were requested for public traffic barrels to discourage birds from digesting trash, suggestions arrived to encourage the city to start charging for blighted houses and complaints of illegal parking at the high school baseball field. A reader complained of "too early" trash pickups, am snowplow gripes of not using alternate side plowing.

Readers complained of homeless people sleeping under the beach bridge and on the beach and a reader griped about her neighbor placing out of town trash for local pickup. I also heard from readers who complained of lights being out on the Green.

Readers complained of landscapers mowing lawns too early in the morning, while a dangling street sign was called to Gripe Vine's attention. Another gripe I was asked to investigate was an empty lot on Plainville Avenue that was unsightly, covered with overgrown grass and bushes. Readers complained of lack of maintenance on Hazel Street, a delayed fireworks complaint landed on my desk and readers complained of illegal parking at the beach, resulting in an improved method of parking.

Bocci Court players wanted more trash containers, Gripe Vine readers weren't too happy about the raised electricity prices and complaints arrived relating to the lack of face masks on the senior citizen bus, Porta A Potties were requested for more areas and suggestions came in to turn the "blighted areas" near Washington Avenue be used for a Pickle Ball Court.

Readers complained of cars flying through a school



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

Hillcrest Avenue, and Greta Street, poor pond conditions reported at Ocean Avenue

and Pond Street while readers complained of roads in poor shape at Park Circle and Savin Avenue. A resident also complained of numerous cats in the Valleybrook neighborhood.

Many complaints referring to discarded junk on an empty lot on Stevens Street, motorists running through a red light at Gilbert Street, a report of an abandoned car on the sidewalk at the corner of Peck and William and a request not to paint a fire hydrant on Kelsey Street yellow because the reader wanted it to be kept

ed white and blue in honor of 911.

A complaint questioning the removal of the Farmer's Market to the shoreline area and a request to improve road conditions on Fay Street because of the flooding of a residence here.

Readers, this is just a sampling of gripes that arrived and happily, most of them were repaired, replaced or reported to the correct departments.

*Happy Holidays and a Healthy New Year!*

*Eleanore Turkington*

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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 or use the online form at westhavenvoice.com/gripevine.

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## A Visit from St. Nicholas

By Clement Clarke Moore - 1779-1863

*'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;*

*The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;*

*The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;*

*And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,  
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,  
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.*

*Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.*

*The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow  
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,*

*When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,  
With a little old driver, so lively and quick,  
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.*

*More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,  
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;*

*"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!  
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donder and Blitzen!"*

*To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!  
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"*

*As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky;*

*So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,  
With the sleigh full of Toys, and St. Nicholas too.*

*And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.*

*As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.*

*He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;*

*A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back,  
And he looked like a pedler just opening his pack.*

*His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!  
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!*

*His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow  
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow;*

*The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,  
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath;*

*He had a broad face and a little round belly,  
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly.*

*He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;*

*A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;*

*He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,  
And laying his finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;*

*He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle,*

*But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,  
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."*



## Spies who should be in the cold

By Rich Lowry  
Syndicated Columnist

The "Twitter Files" released by Elon Musk give us a more fine-grained understanding of how and why the social media company decided to censor the Hunter Biden laptop story.

This was a woefully stupid decision. The New York Post's account was suspended for two weeks for the offense of coming up with a scoop that we are still talking about and that will surely play a large role in upcoming GOP investigations into Biden family corruption.

That's the kind of thing that newspapers should get awards for; Twitter thought it should get punished for it.

But the Twitter officials caught up in the progressive bubble that caused them to censor first, ask questions later -- all in the name of "safety," of course -- weren't the most blameworthy actors in this episode.

That dishonor belongs to the former intelligence officials who put out a widely cited, deliberately misleading letter suggesting that the Hunter Biden laptop was Russian disinformation. It muddied the discussion over the laptop and gave President Joe Biden a handy tool to try to deflect the laptop story.

These former officials knew what they were doing, traded on their public service for a tawdry political purpose, and

have by and large demonstrated no remorse.

Even the former head of trust and safety at Twitter -- who sounds like he just came from a sit-in at a university president's office demanding the disinvitation of a right-wing speaker from campus -- has said Twitter shouldn't have suppressed the Hunter Biden story.

Amazingly, the former officials, once entrusted with some of the most sensitive powers and roles in the U.S. government, aren't as responsible and accountable as a social-media functionary from woke central casting. As a sheer matter of public accountability, their disgraceful performance should be one focus of House Republican investigators beginning in January.

More than 50 former intelligence officials signed the letter, including five former CIA directors or acting directors. Biden cited the letter in a debate with Donald Trump. "There are," he said, "50 former national intelligence folks who said that what ... he's accusing me of is a Russian plant."

That statement was strictly true; it just didn't hold the significance that Biden hoped the average listener would assume. When Trump derisively noted that Biden sounded like he was saying that the laptop was another Russian hoax,

Biden doubled down: "That's exactly what we're told."

Of course, we all know that there's no way Biden heard about the laptop with all its tawdry and comprising information and thought, "No, that's not my boy -- must be the insidious work of an extremely adept, undetected Russian spy network trying to influence the election."

Now that multiple other news outlets have confirmed the legitimacy of the laptop, the letter-writers haven't repented about themselves spreading clever disinformation meant to influence the election. They've fallen back on a Jesuitical defense of their handiwork.

And, indeed, the letter-writers played a game. They didn't actually say that the Hunter Biden laptop story was disinformation, at the same time they created that impression. This has given them plausible -- or more accurately, implausible -- deniability.

Cornered about the letter on Fox News, former CIA officer David Priess said that the laptop story, just as the letter asserted, had "all the classic earmarks" of Russian disinformation. That didn't mean it was disinformation, just that it had the earmarks.

That's not how the letter was promoted at the time, though. Nick Shapiro, a prime mover behind the missive and a for

See Lowry, page 7

## Letters, we get letters!

### Need for services now apparent

Thanks to all who initiated the opening of Bridges Mental Health Center on Elm Street in West Haven. Its attendance is growing at a rapid pace, and as clinicians have been attending both Milford and West Haven's centers, it is likely grow even larger.

We held a rally a few years ago. We worked hard and received support from so many passionate people including doctors, nurses, and clients.

I can't express the gratitude I felt when I walked into the Elm Street center for the first time. It was surreal. It felt like I received a gift. What I and others fought hard for had come to fruition.

It also showed me that many politicians were humane. People like Charles Ferraro led me to other Republicans who were always such a pleasure to talk to.

We talked about issues we were interested in, and agreed on many things. Even when we disagreed, he made it clear he took my views seriously.

Politics have become bitter and even dangerous. We must look inside ourselves and not let the poison in.

We must be compassionate and honor all. No matter race, creed, color or religion. There is just good and bad, not Democratic and Republican. We need to heal our nation. Some fight for this, but many times politics gets in the way.

In a letter sent a few months ago, I talked about our rights and freedoms being threatened. This conflict has gotten worse. It's a long hard battle, but we must fight as one!

*Jonathan Bober*

### Son's memory kept alive in Foundation

My name is Shantavia Chappell. My 5-year-old son Darius Chappell passed away unexpectedly while he was sleeping on Thursday Oct. 6.

I started a nonprofit organization called The Darius Chappell Holiday Giving Foundation, Inc., on November 23, 2022. I started this nonprofit to keep my son's name alive.

I will be hosting my first giveaway event next week for Christmas. This Christmas, I have teamed up with The Hometown Foundation to provide toys to 40 children at Kiddie Tech University in West Haven, CT and 28 students at Forest Elementary School in West Haven, CT.

In upcoming years, I would like to continue to provide Christmas toys to the students at his previous schools, Easter baskets to the children in local churches, costumes to children in need for Halloween and Thanksgiving baskets to families in need for Thanksgiving. These events will be conducted annually. Every year, I would like to help even more families than I did in the previous year.

Darius was an amazing little boy. He lit up every room he walked into to. He was born at 31 weeks & 3 days and was diagnosed with Craniosynostosis due to him being born prematurely.

After undergoing reconstructive surgery on his skull before his 2nd birthday he continued to thrive and meet all his developmental milestones. Darius was healthy overall, and his passing was sudden and devastating. The autopsy results are still pending, but they think it was natural cases or something medically undiagnosed. The preliminary results were all negative.

Darius was my only child, my heart, and my world. I am currently a graduate student at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT, studying to become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. This traumatic experience has shifted my focus to grief counseling for parents who have lost a child or children. I would love to share more about my son's life and legacy.

He touched so many lives in his short time here on earth. Darius was truly an "Angel on Earth."

*Shantavia Chappell, BA*

### WWII historian visits center

World War II historian Arnie Pritchard will present "This Business of Fighting: A Human Face on World War II" at 10 a.m. Jan. 24 at the West Haven Senior Center, 201 Noble St.

## Lowry: *Spies as censors*

Continued from page 6

mer top aide under CIA director John Brennan, told Politico, "The real power here however is the number of former, working-level IC officers who want the American people to know that once again the Russians are interfering."

No weasel words there. And the press coverage leaned heavily on the suspicions of the intelligence officials, not their lawyerly caveats.

Even more than the former management of Twitter, the letter-writers have shown they never should be trusted again.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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## Obituaries

### Lynne Ann LaRock

Lynne Ann LaRock, age 69 of Leland, NC passed away Saturday, December 17, 2022 after a courageous battle with cancer. Daughter of William and Dorothy (Behrendt) Riccio, Lynne was born November 20th, 1953, in New Haven, CT and lived in West Haven the majority of her life. She graduated from West Haven High school in 1971.

She worked many years for the City of West Haven and for Yale-New Haven Hospital as an administrative professional. Lynne's priority in life was always her family and her passing is deeply felt among them. Lynne is preceded in death by her son Russell G. LaRock and her parents. She is survived by her husband Russell J. LaRock, her son Jeffrey W. (Jennifer) LaRock, her brother William V. Riccio, Jr and her beloved granddaughter Honora J. LaRock as well as a large group of extended family and dear friends.

A Solemn Requiem Mass will be celebrated in St. Stanislaus Church on Thursday, Dec. 29, at 10 a.m.

Burial with a private service will be held at

Saint Lawrence Cemetery in West Haven, CT. Contributions in Lynne's memory can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



## West Haven Food resources

W.H.E.A.T.  
674 Washington Avenue  
Food Pantry Hours: 2:00-4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday through Thursday

First Congregational Church on the greenG  
Monday lunch at 11:00 a.m.  
Tuesday dinner at 5:00 p.m.  
Christmas Eve Community Breakfast  
Saturday, December 24 at 9:00-11:00 a.m.

PROJECT H.O.P.E.  
52 George Street  
Thursday evenings 6:00-7 p.m.  
Providing meals in partnership of the Vertical Church. Enter on George Street.

Purple Pantry Boxes Food boxes that you can walk up to and access the foodG Locations are outside of these churches:

House of Jacob, 142 Canton Street

First Congregational Church

Our Lady of Victory, 300 Captain Thomas Boulevard

School Food Pantries  
West Haven High School non-perishable food and hygiene pantry: Students can visit during the day  
Bailey Middle School Food Pantry: students can access during the day  
Contact a School Social Worker for an appointment

United Methodist Church  
89 Center Street  
Community Meal on the third Saturday of the month at 4 p.m.  
Free coffee and snacks at the Church's Cafe every Thursday 10 a.m.-noon

FOODSHARE Mobile Food Unit  
[www.ctfoodshare.org/get-help/connecticut-food-banks-mobile-pantry-schedule](http://www.ctfoodshare.org/get-help/connecticut-food-banks-mobile-pantry-schedule)

Vertical Church, 225 Meloy Road  
8:45-9:45am  
Every two weeks on Tuesday  
225 Meloy Road

Errera Center, 114 Boston Post Road  
1:30-2:15 p.m.  
Every two weeks on Tuesday  
114 Boston Post Road

Meals on Wheels  
203-752-9919. No income threshold. It is for ages 60+ and homebound. Currently, there is a waiting list, but we suggest you contact them to get on the list

F.I.S.H  
[www.fishofgreaternewhaven.org](http://www.fishofgreaternewhaven.org) or 203-503-0107  
Serves the homebound with groceries. Currently, there is a waiting list but expanding for 2023

2-1-1 Connecticut  
211ct.org  
Up-to-date information on food programs and services, in addition to full range of other resources

West Haven Food Policy Council is gathering information on food resources into one place, so that residents know how to easily access information on assistance.

We have applied for a grant to build a website with this information, but in the meantime, you can use and share the list of FREE FOOD RESOURCES below with anyone you know who may need them. It is not all inclusive as we will continually add more information,

Thank you to State Rep. Dorinda Borer for gathering this information.



## Students donate to Toy Closet

Students of Carrigan Intermediate School collected and donated more than 900 toys to Yale-New Haven Hospital in support of their Toy Closet Program. These toys were loaded on a bus to be delivered to the hospital on Thursday, Dec. 15 by members of the Student Council. Toys are given out 365 days a year. Carrigan School has supported this program for the past ten years and has been recognized by the faculty and staff of Yale-New Haven Hospital for their generous donations – now totaling 10,000 toys delivered.

## UI resumes tree trims

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

United Illuminating has begun the latest phase of its tree care program to reduce the amount of vegetation that UI says threatens power lines during storms.

Over the next three months, UI's tree service contractor will increase the distance between vegetation and power lines by targeting trees and limbs on Donna and Island lanes, Callegari and Country Hill drives, and Meloy Road, said city Tree Warden Leo Kelly, who reviewed and approved the project.

Kelly said UI may contact city homeowners about permitting pruning and tree removal on their properties.

The contractor, Asplundh Tree Expert LLC, will focus work on UI's "Utility Protection Zone," which extends 15 feet above, 8 feet below and 10 feet to the side of power lines, he said.

According to UI, the Orange-based utility will designate trees for pruning or removal if they pose a threat to power lines or risk falling into or encroaching on the Utility Protection Zone, causing damage to the electrical system or outages due to their height and growth pattern.

People can direct questions to Kelly at lkelly@westhaven-ct.gov.

## Garden Club meets

The West Haven Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, Jan. 9, 12:30 p.m. at the Ora Mason Library, 260 Benham Hill Road. There will be a general meeting and members will bring lunch. Newcomers are always welcome to join. For further information, please call Iris at (203) 937-1674.

# Every Child Deserves A HEAD START In Life!

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## How Can I Help Prevent Sewer Backups?

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets or garbage disposals
- Pour grease and oil into a covered disposable container and put it in the trash **“Cool It - Can It - Trash It”**
- Soak up remaining fats, oil and grease with paper towels and dispose of with your trash
- Before you wash dishes, scrape meats and food with fat and grease into the trash
- Put baskets or strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and empty the drain basket or strainer into the trash
- Only use garbage disposals for fruits, vegetables and organic waste

### ***Properly Dispose of Household Grease***

**Most grease is a byproduct of cooking and is usually found in such things as:**

- food scraps
- meat fats
- lard
- cooking oil
- butter & margarine
- baked goods
- sauces
- dairy products

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Grease is one of the leading causes  
of sewer overflows.

***Never pour grease down the drain!***



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# City remembers Pearl Harbor attack

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

The city and the West Haven Veterans Council commemorated Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day at the West Haven Veterans Museum & Learning Center on Dec. 7.

The ceremony, traditionally held on the Veterans Walk of

Honor in Bradley Point Park, was moved indoors because of rain.

Before a gathering of veterans, city and state officials, and residents, Councilman Gary Donovan, D-at large, read prepared remarks on behalf of Mayor Nancy R. Rossi honoring the American patriots who

made the ultimate sacrifice 81 years ago during Japan's surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

On Dec. 7, 1941, just before 8 a.m. Hawaii Standard Time, a swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes descended on the island of Oahu and bombed the U.S. Navy base at Pearl Harbor, killing 2,335 service

members and 68 civilians and thrusting America into World War II.

"Although the attack happened 81 years ago today, that doesn't outweigh the suffering that is still felt," said Donovan, speaking from a World War II exhibit in the museum at 30 Hood Terrace.

"Despite the event occurring more than eight decades ago, there are still dozens of survivors who still have to live with their memory of that fateful day," said Donovan, flanked by a wingtip from a Japanese Zero fighter that was shot down by a Bridgeport anti-aircraft unit.

The solemn service featured a presentation of the colors by members of the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard, and Louis P. Esposito Jr., Rossi's executive assistant, served as the master of ceremonies.

After thanking the veterans in attendance for their service, West Haven Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien read the names of the 18 Connecticut servicemen who died at Pearl Harbor. Lt. Michael Farrelly rang the department's chrome bell each instant a name was called as a line of chiefs, officers and firefighters from the West Haven, West Shore and City of West Haven Allingtown fire departments saluted.

"During the Pearl Harbor attack, we lost 18 soldiers from our own state of Connecticut," Donovan said. "As we stand here in remembrance of all victims from the attack, I would like to extend my condolences to all of those who lost family members to the attack."

At the end of Rossi's poignant remarks, Donovan recognized Floyd Welch, Connecticut's last known Pearl Harbor survivor, who died in August 2020 at age 99. Welch,

of East Lyme, served aboard the battleship USS Maryland and helped save many lives aboard the bombarded battleship USS Oklahoma.

"We will never forget the bravery not only by Welch but by the thousands of other Americans like him on that day," Donovan said.

In observance of Pearl Harbor Day, Veterans Council Vice President Al Beck Sr., an Army vet of the Vietnam War, led the crowd in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and President Dave Ricci, a Marine Corps Vietnam vet, and O'Brien laid a wreath.

The ceremony was attended by state Reps. Charles J. Ferraro, R-West Haven, and Treneé McGee, D-West Haven; City Clerk Patricia C. Horvath; city Tax Collector Dorothy Chambrelli; city Human Resources Commissioner Beth A. Sabo; and Treasurer John Carew and Secretary Herbert Hill of the First Fire Taxation District's Board of Fire Commissioners.

The half-hour program included the national anthem sung by Ana Garcia, opening and closing prayers given by Vertical Church Pastor Randal Alquist, and taps played by retired West Shore fire Lt. Kevin McKeon.

The Veterans Museum & Learning Center sits just off Sawmill Road, opposite the West Haven train station.

The 9,000-square-foot museum, a living history of America at war, shows collections from the 102nd Infantry Regiment of the Connecticut Army National Guard and the New Haven Grays, a protective force formed after the War of 1812.

It also displays relics from each conflict since the U.S. fought for independence, allowing visitors to walk a timeline around the camouflage-clad warehouse.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

West Haven Veterans Council President Dave Ricci, a Marine Corps vet of the Vietnam War, and West Haven Fire Department Chief James P. O'Brien lay a wreath in remembrance of the 18 Connecticut servicemen who died in the Japanese bombing of the U.S. Navy base on Oahu, Hawaii.

## We have moved

To 27 Wagner Place as of Nov. 1, 2022

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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Lt. Michael Farrelly tolls the West Haven Fire Department's chrome bell 18 times in honor of the 18 Connecticut servicemen who died at Pearl Harbor in 1941 as a line of West Haven, West Shore and Allingtown fire chiefs, officers and firefighters stand at attention. Farrelly rang the bell after West Haven Chief James P. O'Brien read the name of each serviceman.

# Eco panel asks public's input on concepts

The ongoing effort to restore the city's shorefront vegetation to more native and less invasive species has hit a milestone, and is looking for public input.

Four concepts have been developed for the West Haven Boardwalk Resilience and Eco-Restoration Project, the West Haven Shoreline Restoration Committee announced.

The public is invited to give feedback on the different alternatives via the project website at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/806ffac8f509415a8278595435707de4>. The deadline is Jan. 14.

Since July, the committee has been collaborating with SLR International Corp. and the West Haven community to restore a 1.5-acre area of public shoreline adjacent to Old Grove Park, with the goal of becoming a model for coastal ecosystem exploration with an educational component.

To identify opportunities and constraints associated with potential improvements, SLR has prepared four conceptual alternatives depicting nature-based coastal solutions and potential amenity space improvements. The concepts include key ideas that help define how the space can be used and what visitors will see and learn when immersed in the space.

"Ongoing community involvement is a vital component of this project," said committee co-leads Marilyn Wilkes, the vice president of the Land Trust of West Haven, and Mark E. Paine, Jr., the director of the city Department of Parks and Recreation. "These four concepts were developed with the data we collected from the on-site community engagement event and online survey."

"Now we are asking the public to weigh in on the four designs and let us know what elements within each concept they like or dislike," Wilkes and Paine said. Once the data is analyzed from the concepts' online survey, SLR will prepare a final Nature-Based Coastal Resilience Plan and then create a preliminary engineering plan to 30% design. The plan will show enough detail to identify temporary and permanent impacts and develop a preliminary engineer's opinion of probable construction costs.

It will also indicate existing structures, topography, utilities, vegetation removals, and sediment and erosion controls.

The committee is expected to share the plan with the public by March.

See the concepts at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/4870/Boardwalk-Eco-Restoration-Project-Concepts-PDF>.



Four concepts have been developed by the West Haven Shoreline Restoration Committee, based on earlier public meetings. Those concepts are now the subject of a new request for public input. Those interested are asked to review the project concepts and give an opinion on which is best.

## Borer secures funds for Sandy Point plan

State Rep. Dorinda Borer (D-West Haven), House Chairman of the Bonding Subcommittee, has secured \$850,000 in bond funding to help the National Audubon Society establish a Coastal Resilience Hub in or near the Sandy Point Beach and Bird Sanctuary in West Haven. The funding dovetails with other effort in the city concerning coastal ecology.

The funding was approved during the December meeting of the State Bond Commission on Thursday.

"Our shoreline is our greatest asset, and we need to keep investing and upgrading its aspects in a way that makes it not only beneficial and aesthetic for our residents but attracts investors and consumers to West Haven," said Rep. Borer. "The National Audubon Society making West Haven their regional home is just another feather in the cap toward these goals. West Haven with its long, usable coastline and beach scene provides for the perfect landscape for a tasteful environmental structure like those we see within many other coastal cities in Connecticut."

The National Audubon Society is a non-profit organization. In addition to Audubon's premier work with birds and their habitat, they have become the leader in wildlife education, ecosystem-wide conservation, research, coastal resiliency programs, youth programs and more.

"We here at Audubon Connecticut/New York are elated with today's announcement as the Sandy Point Beach and Bird Sanctuary is one of the state's foremost locations to observe rare shorebirds and is

a nationally listed Important Bird Area," said Mike Burger, Executive Director of Audubon Connecticut and New York and Vice President of the National Audubon Society. "The Hub will bring the greater West Haven community together to create a place to demonstrate climate resilience best practices and highlight ways to use nature-based solutions to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The Hub will also support wildlife, recreation and open space in the city of West Haven. We are grateful to Governor Ned Lamont and especially want to thank Dorinda Borer for her sponsorship of this project and her dedication to the shoreline and natural resources of West Haven."

The National Audubon Society anticipates working with the City of West Haven on this effort.

A Coastal Resilience Hub would also help to put into action many of the priorities and strategies already identified and needed by the City of West Haven for conservation of coastal resources, neighborhood development, natural hazard mitigation and overall community resiliency. T

They will incorporate the goals of the Coastal Resilience Plan (2017), Plan of Conservation and Development (2017), and the Harbor Management Plan (2018).

The creation of a Hub would help centralize community level preparedness that would expand on the strategies and priorities identified through municipal planning efforts.

"I am thrilled to see that Audubon Con-

necticut has been awarded state bonding to establish a Hub for Coastal Resilience," West Haven Mayor Nancy Rossi said. "The Hub furthers West Haven's coastal resilience efforts while also engaging and educating the community. This will be a wonderful addition to our beautiful shoreline!"

In recent years, Rep. Borer has continued to work on investing in the shoreline by securing \$3,900,000 in funding for the new Cove River pedestrian bridge that she helped to design, \$200,000 funding for the Boardwalk restoration project, \$5,000,000 to raise Beach Street, \$2,000,000 to upgrade the sewer pumps stations and bathrooms at East Avenue and Beach Street and at Ocean Avenue and Dawson Avenue.

West Haven City Councilor Meli Garthwait (R-2nd District) added gave a full endorsement to the plan

"I am beyond excited that we will have the new Audubon hub coming to West Haven, especially while I am serving as the District's Councilwoman. I have dreamed of this – like many other residents – ever since moving to Sandy Point, which is one of the richest locations for rare shore birds and has been designated by Audubon as an Important Bird Area for the state," she said. "A very big heartfelt thanks to our State Representative, Dorinda Borer, for helping to make dreams come true for all of us who have worked so hard to promote and protect West Haven's gem, Sandy Point Beach and Bird Sanctuary."

Submitted Photo

## Student recognition

St. Lawrence School recently hosted a Student Recognition Breakfast for December. Students are selected for this achievement based on multiple criteria, including academics, the way they treat others, and their display of kindness and helpfulness. During breakfast, attended by the students, their parents or grandparents, principal, Frank Arnone, spoke about each child and presented them with a summary of their personal achievement. The students recognized were: Grade 1: Melodylove Izilein; Grade 2: Calyse Edwards; Grade 3: Cristal Zecua; Grade 4: Axel Teng; Grade 5: Shafee Jones and Enoch Kehinde; Grade 6: Lacy Miraldi; Grade 7: Lulu Sebas; Grade 8: Molly Senberg.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

## Happy 100th birthday!

City resident Elizabeth Petrushonis receives a citation in honor of her 100th birthday from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi during a celebration with friends at Seacrest Retirement Center at 588 Ocean Ave. on Monday. Rossi recognized Petrushonis for her "contributions to our great city." Reading the citation, Rossi said, "Over the course of a century, you have made extraordinary memories and have woven your own unique story into the narrative of West Haven."





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## Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

### Historian's Corner Christmas Shopping, Downtown

December, 1957

The five-year-old could barely contain himself as he rode with his sister in the back seat of the 1951 Plymouth: their parents were taking them Christmas Shopping!

There were no seatbelts in the car—those laws would come later—and the floorboards were already rotten from the salty New England winter roads. Father had shored up the Plymouth's floor with pieces of plywood, but here and there, the boy could watch the road passing by beneath him, and he found this intriguing.

There was no shopping mall on the Post Road as of yet—ground would be broken there in 1960 on a large tract of marshy land. For now, shopping was done on Campbell

Avenue, or “downtown” in New Haven.

Interstate 95 would not open until the next year, so the family drove from Kelsey Avenue to Elm Street, and crossed the humming drawbridge onto Kimberly Avenue. When they passed Union Station, the boy knew that they were almost there.

They parked the Plymouth on Chapel Street—there were no parking garages back then—and walked to the entrance of the old Malley's at the corner of Chapel and Temple Streets. A couple of hours were happily consumed among the polished glass display cases, before they posed for a photo with Santa Claus.

Next, they crossed Church Street and had lunch in one of the five-and-ten cent stores. The boy liked to eat his grilled cheese sandwich at the coun-

ter, where he could watch the soda jerk mix his drink: a couple of pumps of syrup went into the glass, followed by a “jerk” on the lever that dispensed the carbonated water. If the boy had been good that morning, a scoop of ice cream landed on top of the mix.

After lunch, they continued down Chapel Street, stopping in the little shops, and finally arriving at the place that the boy had been anxiously waiting for: Shartenberg's Department Store at the corner of Chapel Street and State Street.

Shartenberg's had six floors of shopping space, and on one of the upper floors was a most magical place called Toyland. In there, a child could “fish” for his or her surprise gift, which was wrapped in brown paper and tied with twine. The fishing rods had a small wire “hook” on the end of the line; each child would

catch their gift by hooking the twine. Then there was a trip through Toyland on a large scale-model New Haven Railroad train. And finally, Santa Claus again! The boy couldn't understand how Santa could work in two stores at once—he certainly was magical! He told Santa that he wanted an American Flyer train that puffed real smoke when it went around the track.

When they left Shartenberg's the sun had set; it was cold and crisp out on the sidewalk and the lights were lit on the Christmas Tree on the Green; around the periphery of the Green, other Christmas lights glowed warmly.

It had been a wonderful day! As they drove home, the boy was getting sleepy, so he laid his head upon the armrest; as he drifted off to sleep, he wondered why Christmas couldn't last all year long.



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

Christmastime in New Haven during the 1950s was a very special place for youngsters. Lights were hung across the main thoroughfares, like Chapel Street (shown below), where many of the major department stores were located, offering all kinds of things to fascinate kids. Shartenberg's was one of those stores, with Toyland on the sixth floor of the art-deco building. It featured a New Haven train running between departments, and a fishing pond known by youngsters all over the area.



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# City students donate 400 smoke detectors



Photo by Michael O'Brien

Pictured with the smoke detectors are Deputy Chief Raphael Zayas, Deputy Chief Ron Pisani, Fire Marshal Keith Flood, Chief Stephen Scafariello, Chief Michael Terenzio, Deputy Chief Michael Esposito, and Milford Lowes assistant manager Chuck Conable.

By Michael O'Brien  
*Special to the Voice*

In October, West Haven Public Schools hosted 'Hat Day' at its elementary schools in a fundraising effort to benefit the West Haven Fire Department (WHFD). The event was a huge success as collaborative efforts helped raise \$1,860 to purchase 400 smoke detectors for the WHFD.

Elementary school students and staff were asked to donate \$1 to wear their favorite hat on 'Hat Day'. In total, students and staff raised an incredible \$779, which was then matched by the University of New Haven.

"I am so proud of the efforts of West Haven's elementary school students and staff to give back to our fire department," said Melissa Cohen, a school psychologist at Savin Rock.

In addition to the money raised by the elementary schools and UNH, there were also several anonymous donors from the community who wanted to support the cause. Lowe's of Milford and Lowe's of Newington also donated additional smoke detectors.

The WHFD received all 400 smoke detectors on Friday, Dec. 9. They will be loaded onto firetrucks. When the WHFD responds to a call, they will install them in any West Haven home that does not have one. The WHFD is only able to do this through donations and grants.

## Westie Gianquinto named chairman of annual 'Heart Walk'

The American Heart Association, the largest voluntary health organization fighting cardiovascular diseases, announces Lou Gianquinto, president of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut, is serving as chairman of the Greater New Haven Heart Walk for the second year in a row. The annual Heart Walk will take place at Savin Rock in West Haven on Saturday, May 6, 2023.

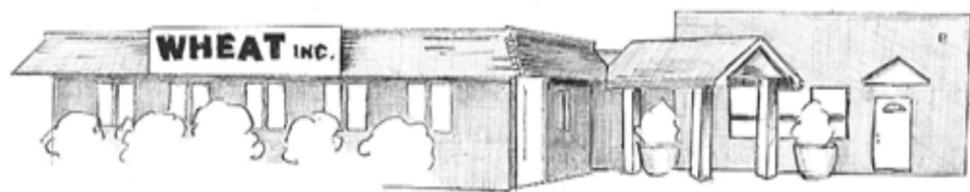
As chairman, Gianquinto, originally from West Haven, will lead organizational and recruitment efforts in greater New Haven. Building on his company's mission to improve the health of people across Connecticut, he will call on area volunteers, survivors, and business leaders to step up to support the organization's efforts to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular disease and stroke. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States with approximately one death per minute.

"In my first year as chairman, I realized the amazing impact that's possible when we bring our communities together to support each other. Building on that experience, I am eager to take on this leadership role for a second year to make even greater progress towards changing these statistics and raising the funds needed to support such a critical cause," said Lou Gianquinto, president, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut. "Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is a long-time supporter of the American Heart Association because our efforts to improve lives and communities here in Connecticut are so closely aligned."

The New Haven Heart Walk, in its 35th year, is slated to raise \$360,000 and will take place at Savin Rock in West Haven kicking off at 10 a.m. Heart Walk participants are encouraged to follow the American Heart Association's Connecticut Facebook page @heartCONN to find pre-event challenges and information to make the Heart Walk experience more fun.

As president of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut, Gianquinto leads a health plan accounting for more than one million lives in Connecticut. His team works to simplify healthcare and improve lives for the members Anthem serves across the state, as well as the communities where they live and work. He joined the company in January 2020 to run its Missouri Medicaid health plan (Missouri Care, now branded Healthy Blue MO). He brings his deep industry experience to his current role where he is working to grow and innovate, particularly in the area of value-based care, in service of people across the state.

"We are grateful to Lou Gianquinto for joining us for a second year to lead the Greater New Haven Heart Walk," said Todd Boe, American Heart Association Heart Walk Director. "Lou's passion for progress and commitment to our mission, aligns with our Heart Walk efforts. Together, we can make a meaningful impact on the health of everyone in greater New Haven."



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.

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

### WHEAT

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# Ryan Belous elected Master of Annawon Lodge

By Steven R. Mullins  
Past Master

At its annual year end election, Annawon Lodge, 115 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of West Haven elected Brother Christopher Ryan Belous, 34 as the 2023 Worshipful Master. He succeeds Worshipful Brother John Garcia, who served as Master in 2022.. Belous has been a member of the Lodge since 2018.

Belous, a lifelong West Haven resident, is son of the late Emil West and the late Nancy Belous. He graduated West Haven High School in 2006 and continued his further education at Gateway.

He has been employed at Aerospace Manufacturing for the past thirteen years.

The year 2023 marks Annawon Lodge's 150th anniversary. Belous has been leading the efforts for a year long celebration. The Lodge was chartered on March 24th.,1873 in the Village of West Haven in the Town of Orange. The Lodge's first location was the second floor of what is now called the Altshuler Building on the corner of Campbell Avenue and Main Street.

As Worshipful Master, Belous follows in the footsteps of such notable West Haven citizens

as former First Selectman (Mayor) Elmer R. Scranton and educator Harry M. Bailey.

Belous will be installed this Saturday, January 7th in an elaborate and colorful ceremony at the West Haven Masonic Temple, 263 Elm Street, West Haven at 11 a.m.

The rites will include a tribute to Garcia honoring his tenure as Master. A breakfast will begin at 9:00 am. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

The rites will be presided over by the Reverend & Most Worshipful Bruce Bellmore, Grand Master of Ancient free and Accepted Masons in the State of Connecticut.

In addition to Belous, other officers elected and appointed are as follows: Senior Warden: Joseph F. McVety, Junior Warden: Douglas J. Turcotte, Senior Deacon: Gerardo Nero, Junior Deacon: Jeremy Borelli, Tiler: Julio Patron, Treasurer: Gerald Calibritto, Hon. PM, Secretary: Dennis Frosolone, PM, Marshall: Michael Cotella, Historian & Trustee: John Garcia, PM, Chaplain: John Ryan, PM, Senior Stewart: Oreo Oluwo, Junior Stewart: Eliot Buenunano and Almoner: Steven R. Mullins, PM



CHRISTOPHER RYAN BELOUS

## Yale Medicine alerts patients of hack

Yale University is alerting patients of a late summer computer hack that might compromise patient privacy.

"On September 12, 2022, Yale Medicine learned that an unauthorized third party accessed a computer on or about August 11, 2022, and installed malicious software that rendered files on the computer inaccessible.

"The computer stored information about patients seen at Dr. Tito Vasquez's former practice, Connecticut Plastic Surgery Group LLC, between 2009 and May 3, 2021. The information included patients' names, as well as demographic information, insurance information, and visit

notes. For a small number of patients, photographs, Social Security numbers, driver's licenses, and credit card numbers were also included. There is no indication that any of the information was misused or shared, and the incident did not involve the records of any other Yale Medicine practices. All medical records created by Dr. Vasquez's practice after May 3, 2021, have been securely stored in Yale's medical record system and were not affected by this incident.

"Yale is mailing letters to patients whose information may have been involved and offering them complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services. Patients

are encouraged to activate the complimentary services being offered and are reminded that it is always a good idea to watch for signs that their personal information is being misused and report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement authorities.

Patients who have questions or concerns related to this incident may call toll-free helpline at 855-926-1375,

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# Mite A team has scoring explosion on ice

The West Haven Mite A hockey team welcomed the Wonderland Wizards out of Bridgeport. The Westies were led by Henry Seslar and Brody Miller, who each scored twice and got their teammates involved in the action. Goaltender, Landon Silverman, was impressive in net and Cooper Owens helped on defense, making it very difficult for the Wizards to score. Goals by Brayden Jacob, Caden Minio, and Keegan Jackson helped the Blue Devils to an impressive win.

The Mites then traveled to South Windsor to face off against the South Windsor Knights. Alexa Jacob was in-between the pipes for this match-up and had many outstanding saves.

Silverman showed he can shoot the puck just as well as he can block it, by netting three goals. The Westies lit the lamp over 15 times, with goals coming from Santino Martin, Emmett Hemming, and others.

The West Haven Mite B hockey team spent Saturday down in Norwalk where the Westies went up against the CT Junior Whalers and had some great plays. Goals were scored by Austin Picard, Landon Alling, Kiera Harrison as well as Jack Weiss.

West Haven traveled to Avon and the Westies had some great competition. Many shot attempts and great puck passing were done by all players, helping JP Beebe, Alling and Caleb Ford score goals for the day. West Haven had many great saves from goalie Jackson Ford.

The West Haven Mite C hockey team hosted Darien Mite B Gray. In net for the Blue Devils was Jackson Ford, who made many excellent

blocks and saves during the matchup. Multiple goals were scored by Brayden Gagliardi and Quinn Uscilla, with one goal each scored by Maddy Bruder and Ava Healy.

Shots on net were made by Caleb Ford, Wesley Morrazini and Ryan Shannon. Excellent defense was played by Caleb Ford, Shannon and Healy.

West Haven team took on the Milford Mudhounds. In net for the Mite C's was Caleb Jackson, who made many great saves during the matchup. Multiple goals were scored by Ford, Gagliardi, Shannon and Uscilla. Healy and Morazzini also scored a goal each, and assists were made by Ford and Shannon. Excellent defense was played by Healy, Ford and Gagliardi.

The West Haven Squirt A1 hockey team had a red-letter weekend taking on the Mamaroneck Tigers and the New Canaan Winter Club in a double-header. The Westies bested Mamaroneck, 3-2, and New Canaan, 6-4, in what turned out to be a battle amongst the goalies.

Goaltenders Ethan McGrath and Matteo Kenworthy stopped 48 shots between the two games. With some remarkable glove saves by McGrath, and point-blank blocks from Kenworthy, the pair were able to limit the Tigers to two goals and four goals for New Canaan, respectively.

Julius Stokes was the sole scorer against Mamaroneck obtaining a hat trick. Stokes again had a multi-point game against New Canaan with yet another hat trick and two assists for an 8-point weekend.

Tyler Gyllensten was another standout in the New Canaan game, scoring a goal and an assist. Jameson Schempp was able to tack two goals on

the board with some beautifully set up shots from Stokes, and Noah Silverman gained a point with his assist on Stokes' first period goal.

The West Haven Peewee AA hockey team took on the Elite Hockey 12U Minor team and posted a 7-2 victory. Tyler Persico, Colin Dempsey (2), Kyle Guarino, TJ Russo, and Jason Troyer scored. Bereski picked up four assists.

The Peewee's traveled to Bridgeport to face Wonderland AA and posted a 1-0 victory. Max Barbera earned another shutout, making this his sixth full game shutout. Barbera blocked all 20 shots in securing the win for the Blue Devils. Late into the first period, Bereski was able to sneak the puck in for a 1-0 lead.

The Westies met the Western Peewee A team and won, 8-0. With Barbera in net, the Westies secured another shutout.

Bereski, Digioia, Troyer, Locklear (2), Picard (2) and Kelly scored, getting two goals in the period and an assist later.

The Westies then faced the Peewee A Dragons. Smith played spectacularly in net, only allowing one puck to get by him and helping the Blue Devils come out on top with a 5-1 win.

Digioi, D'Aiuto (2), Troyer, and Santino rounded out the scoring.

The Westies finished off weekend in Stamford against the Sharks Peewee A team and posted a 13-1 win. TJ Russo led the scoring with a goal and our assists, D'Aiuto had a four-goal hat trick, with Digioia, Picard, Troyer, Persico, Grillo and Lacasse scored. Russo would also get four assists in the game and another goal in the third.

The West Haven Bantam AA

Major hockey team lost, 4-1, to Hamden AA before bouncing back to win, 7-3, over Simsbury, and shut out Hartford Jr. Wolfpack, 3-0. The Westies are now 17-5-2 overall and 9-4-2 in league play.

The Westies struck first against Simsbury. Sean Studley opened the scoring before Simsbury scored three quick goals to go up 3-1. The Westies regrouped and took back the momentum when Charlie Strada banged home a rebound of Mike Madonick's shot just before the end of the period.

Early in the second period, Studley passed from behind the net to Ethan Kelly to tie it 3-3. With four minutes left, Alex Zhukovsky dove and popped in the rebound for a 4-3 lead.

Leo Mazuroski scored to open the third and make it 5-3. Matt Kelly snuck one under the goalie with assists from his brother Ethan and Will Hamre. Ethan Kelly then deked and scored on a break-away with assists to Strada and Madonick. Bryce Upson made 29 saves for the Blue Devils.

The Westies traveled to Champions Skating Center in Cromwell to face the Wolfpack. Studley again opened the scoring. The Westies put the game away in the third period. Mazuroski fired from the blue line on a power play and Ethan Kelly flipped in the rebound. Madonick closed the scoring when he took Mazuroski's feed and banked one off the goalie and in. Upson was solid throughout with 30 saves to earn the shutout.

The Blue Devils dropped a 4-1 decision to Hamden in a close battle. Hamden scored two late goals at the end of the second period and another early in the third to gain control. Charlie Clark scored the only Blue Devil goal with Studley assisting.

The Blue Devils knocked off Central AA, 3-2, before los-

ing a 6-4 decision to the South Westchester (NY) Blackhawks.

At Newington Arena, the Westies were down 2-0 until midway through the second period when Nick Shefter slid in a backhand. Early in the third period, Aaron Campbell deflected a pass over the goalie to tie the game at two. Two minutes later, on a power play, Ethan Kelly scored ice the win. Upson was solid with 26 saves in the game. Against the Blackhawks, the Westies went down 4-0 after the first period. Mazuroski made it 5-1 with a power play goal halfway through the third period, before the Westies mounted a furious comeback. Campbell sniped one and Ethan Kelly stole the puck, charged to the net, and zipped a shot home to make it 5-3. Less than a minute later, the Westies went on a power play and pulled their goalie. Ethan Kelly made it a one goal game. An empty net goal sealed it for the Blackhawks. Upson and Max Malangone combined for 14 saves as the Westies outshot the Blackhawks 39-20.

The West Haven Bantam AA Minor team traveled to Wallingford to take on the Hawks Bantam A team and earned a 9-1 win.

Zach Melchior, Eddie Thomas, Benji Brown and Dylan Dicioccio all scored two goals in the game. Defense-man Lucas MacNiven also scored from the blue line for the second weekend in a row.

Kai Lupa played tremendously, only allowing one goal in the second period. Johnny Cicarella played in net in the third period and did not let anything by him.

The team then fell to Central AA, 2-0. Central scored both goals in the first period, but was unable to get past the Westies for any more goals in the second or third.

Benny Pikul was once again outstanding in net, blocking over 15 shots each period.

See Youth Hockey, page 16



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# West Haven Swim Club keeps up home win streak

The West Haven Swim Club continued its success at home with a win over the New Milford Barracudas. 335-277 on Dec. 10.

West Haven took first place in 28 of the 59 individual events and eight out of the 15 relays. The most competitive races included Roman Shubin pulling ahead with a win by one second in the 13U boys

100-yard breaststroke, Marvin Castillo winning by a tenth of second in 9/10 boys 50-yard freestyle, and Sophia DeLauri taking first with less than a second lead for girls 11/12 100-yard freestyle.

Camryn Holthaus and Winter Valdivieso took the top two spots for the 8U girls' 25-yard freestyle, while Joshua Muntonji and Nicholas Carrasco

won for the boys. For 9/10 girls 100-yard freestyle, Morgan Beers and Isabella Celentano came in first and second with Marvin Castillo winning for the boys' event. Sophia DeLauri swam to first place out of a large group of 11/12 girls for 100-yard freestyle. Roman Shubin won the same event for boys 13-and-over.

West Haven swimmers came

in strong for butterfly events with Maddy Lisi (25 yards for girls' 8U), Blaise Shubin (25 yards for boys' 8U), Lucy Cacioppo (50 yards for girls 9/10) and Kales Morton (100 yards for girls 15-and-over) taking first place.

For the longer freestyle events, Naomi Shubin won the 200-yard event for girls 11/12.

In the backstroke, Blaise Shubin and Zayn Ahmed-Dhillon swept first and second for the boys 8U 25-yard event, Morgan Beers and Isabella Celentano for the 9/10 girls 50-yard event, and Kales Morton and Caroline Tirollo for the girls 15-and-over 100-yard event.

In individual medley events, West Haven won 8U girls with Camryn Holthaus, 8U boys with Blaise Shubin, 9/10 girls with Lucy Cacioppo,

13-and-over boys with Roman Shubin, and girls 15-and-over with Kales Morton. For breaststroke, Camryn Holthaus (girls) and Michael Meglio (boys) won for 8U for 25 yards, Naomi Shubin for 11/12 girls for 50 yards, Roman Shubin for 13-and-over boys, and Erin Morton for 15-and-over girls for 100 yards.

In the 50-yard freestyle sprint the younger swimmers came in strong, leading the events for 8U girls (Maddy Lisi) and boys (Michael Meglio) as well as for 9/10 girls (Gwyn Faoro) and boys (Marvin Castillo).

The next home meets are Jan. 14 vs. Shoreline Aquatic Club and Jan. 21 vs. Newtown.

For more information, visit [westhavenswimclub.org](http://westhavenswimclub.org).

## Legal Notice

**The West Haven Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on a proposed text amendment to Article 2, Section 31 of the West Haven Zoning Regulations on Tuesday January 10, 2023 in the Harriet North Room, 2nd Floor, West Haven City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut at 6:00 p.m.**

The proposed text amendment adds a new Section 31.7 providing parking standards for University Research/Mixed-Use Facilities located in the Planned Research and Development PRDG zoning district. The proposed text includes the following:

defines a University Research/Mixed-Use Facility as having all the following characteristics: located on a site with a total land area of at least 75 acres, contains multiple buildings having a total of at least 600,000 square feet of gross floor area, contains at least 750 parking spaces, and is utilized for a variety of university uses including research, laboratory, office and storage.

determines parking requirements for such a facility based, in part, on the number of faculty members and employees assigned to the facility rather than the gross floor area of the buildings at the facility.

A copy of the proposed text amendment is available in the West Haven Office of Planning and Development, 1st Floor, West Haven City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Connecticut. You may also contact the Planning and Development Office at 203-937-3580 for more information. Applicant: Yale University

## Youth Hockey roundup

Continued from page 16

West Haven traveled to Stamford to face the CT JR Whalers. Although down a few players, the Blue Devils gave it their all, ultimately falling, 4-2.

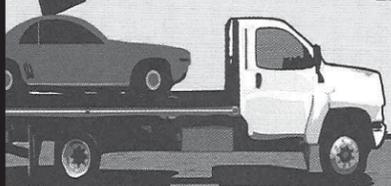
The Westies started the third period down 2-0. Lupa traded places with Pikul in the net to finish the game. The trio of Melchiorre, Michael D'Aiuto and Diciocio were able to get one past the goalie to get the Devils on the board and make it 4-1. Shortly after, Cameren Lipford took advantage of a breakaway and made it 4-2.

The Westies pulled off an incredible 4-1 win over Darien A1. Pikul was outstanding in net, blocking over 20 shots, including many rebounds.

Lipford got things started for the Westies with a shot from the circle after a pass from Brown. Darien tied the game at the beginning of the second, but Guarino answered right back and scored to give the Westies the lead.

Lipford would also add an assist to his day at the start of the third period when he skated all the way up and passed across the crease to Mark Vere who scored. Melchiorre scored the fourth and final goal to seal the deal.

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**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- Feedbag bit
- Chilled
- Theatergoer's souvenir
- Show to a seat, slangily
- Cleopatra's river
- Poi base
- Dance syllable
- Fabric fastener
- Klum of "Project Runway"
- Hide-hair insert
- Early birds?
- Apple intruders
- Wind-driven toy
- Tidy
- Altar affirmative
- Fusses
- Log chopper
- Region (Abbr.)
- Flag-shaped blazer accessory
- Pago Pago's place
- Sleuth Wolfe
- Sphere
- Lively dance
- Yankee uniform pattern
- Squeak stopper

**DOWN**

- "That hurts!"
- Tennis great
- Bangkok language
- Perception
- Espionage org.
- Sprite
- TV chef Paula
- "Sophie's Choice" author
- Spigot
- Like lemons
- Supplement, with "out"
- Earth sci.
- Auto style
- Harvest
- Extra-long
- British gun
- Plum centers
- Notion
- Standard
- Easy gait
- Eden tempter
- Perches
- Privy
- Illustrations
- Telly watcher
- Earring site
- "Star Trek" captain
- Medicinal plant
- Prof's degree
- Three, on a sundial
- Away from SSW
- "— Little Teapot"
- Standard

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**MAGIC MAZE • CASH-RICH WORDS**

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

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

Cash bar	Cash-and-carry	Cashmere	Lancashire
Cash cow	Cash-poor	Cold cash	Noncash
Cash crop	Cashbox	E-cash	Uncashed
Cash flow	Cashier	Encash	

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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: 24 mins.  
Answers

**CASH-RICH WORDS**

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

Answer

**Weekly SUDOKU**

**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

8. BUSINESS: In what year did McDonald's introduce the Big Mac to all of its customers?  
9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president tried to ban Christmas trees from the White House?  
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What do bees collect from flowers and use to make honey?

Answers

- London, England.
- Indian Ocean.
- The death of President Abraham Lincoln.
- Gamma.
- 1846.
- Juror No. 8.
- A polyhedron with seven faces.
- 1968.
- Theodore Roosevelt.
- Nectar.

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Photos by Todd Dandelske



Above -- Anne Plunkett celebrates her goal to help the Westie Sharks defeat the Blades, 9-3. Right -- Randy Alston-Brown defends against the Xavier Falcons.

## Westies: *Teams open winter season*

Continued from page 20

Less than five minutes later, the Westie Sharks were within a goal when Picard scored off an assist from Anne Plunkett. Just 48 seconds later, the game was tied when Ashley Welch scored an unassisted goal.

The rally from the three-goal deficit had the Westies back in the contest, but New Canaan took the momentum away just 20 seconds later with the go-ahead goal. The Rams added another tally 2:40 later, and closed the scoring with 2:19 left in the contest.

Isabelle Desrosiers made 35 saves in the loss for the Westie Sharks.

The team bounced back from its first loss of the season with a 9-3 victory over Amity/North Haven/Cheshire. With the victory, the Westie Sharks improved to 2-1 on the year.

Tsakonas and Picard led the way with two goals apiece as seven different players scored, and 11 different players were in the scoring column.

Evelyn Twarowski made 16 saves in the win for the Westie Sharks.

Traveling to East Haven to face Guilford, the girls knew they was in for a tough game.

Behind three goals and an assist from Picard, including the game-winner in overtime, and 35 saves from Twarowski, the Westie Sharks topped Guilford, 4-3.

The Westie Sharks took a 1-0 lead just 36 seconds into the contest when Plunkett scored off an assist from Picard. Guilford evened the game with less than five minutes remaining in the opening period, but the Westie Sharks responded when Picard scored an unassisted goal with 2:48 left in the period.

With the game even at two in the third period, Picard was at it again, scoring an unassisted goal with 1:58 remaining for a 3-2 advantage. Guilford needed just 1:11 to respond to send the game to overtime.

Picard was not going to let her team come away

without the victory as her third unassisted goal with 3:20 gone by in overtime gave the Westies the win.

Twarowski was solid in goal, making 12 saves in the first period, 10 more in the third, and four in overtime before Picard's winner.

West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy posted its fourth win in five games with a 10-3 road victory over Hand. The win was also a milestone as it was the 100th for head coach Erin Blake.

Plunkett, Picard and Olivia Twarowski led the offense as each scored twice and added an assist. Harrison, Julianna Montano, Tsakonas, and Ireland each added a goal, while Harrison also had an assist. The Westie Sharks had 10 players in the scoring column.

The last time the West Haven girls basketball team set foot on the court the season ended in a second round upset against Danbury. Nine months later, the Westies got to avenge that loss.

Behind a balanced attack, with nine different players in the scoring column, the Westies rolled to a 50-24 victory over the Hatters in the season opener for both teams.

West Haven scored the first eight points in the contest and never trailed in the opening victory. The Westies led by 12 after one quarter and 32-9 at the half.

Carrano led the Westies with 15 points, Abuhatab had 13, and Fiorillo finished with six in the win.

Scoring 11 of her team-high 14 points in the fourth quarter, Goodrich led the Tigers to a 55-40 Southern Connecticut Conference interdivision victory over the Westies.

The win for the Tigers, ranked third in the GameTimeCT Top 10 poll, helped Hand win its second straight contest to start the year. West Haven fell to 1-1.

The game did not have the offensive firepower expected from the start as the two teams combined for just five points in the opening quarter and 29 in the

first half.

The first field goal for the Westies came 44 seconds into the second quarter when Abuhatab drained a 3-pointer for a 5-3 lead. A free throw by Abuhatab and two buckets by Titus gave the Westies a 10-8 lead with 2:25 left in the half.

Hand then took off on a 10-1 run to end the half as Natalie Lucas and Coco Rourke gave the Tigers a 12-11 advantage before a 3-pointer by Lucas increased the margin to 16-11. When Lucy Schwarz drained a field goal, the Tigers went to the half up 18-11.

Lucas finished with 12 points and Carson Miller added 10 in the win for the Tigers.

Abuhatab led the Westies with a game-high 19 points, while Dealyce Howard scored eight and Titus finished with seven.

The season opener for the West Haven boys' basketball team did not go as planned. Scoring just 14 points in the second half, West Haven fell to Xavier, 58-42.

The Westies, who trailed 31-28 at the half, managed just six points in the third quarter to fall behind by 14 points. West Haven never caught up.

In an evenly played first quarter, West Haven trailed 17-16. Adam Elkharraz hit a pair of big 3-pointers and finished the quarter with seven points, while Jared Butler added five in the quarter.

The two teams continued to battle in the second quarter with Randy Alston knocking down a pair of 3-pointers and Bennett Scott scoring four points for the Westies.

Alston led West Haven with 10 points, while Elkharraz had nine, and Jackson added eight. Butler finished with seven points in the loss.

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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).



# Sports

Thursday, December 22, 2022

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## Westies' squads open the season

The West Haven co-op hockey team was looking forward to the start of the 2022-2023 season. After ending the preseason playing well, the Westies were optimistic entering the season opener against New Canaan.

A lack of offense tempered that enthusiasm.

Scoring three times in the second period, New Canaan, the state's fourth-ranked team, cruised to a 7-0 victory over the Westies at the Edward L. Bennett Rink Monday evening.

West Haven never got on track offensively, being outshot 44-10 in the contest. The Rams pressured West Haven goalies Javed Ullah and Kiryl Astrovukh from the start, with each coming up with some solid saves throughout.

Ullah was sharp from the start, turning aside all 10 shots he faced in the first period and 12 more in the second.

Marcus Burrows had West Haven's best scoring chance in the first period when his shot from the right faceoff circle was turned aside by New Canaan goaltender Mason Pickering.

After a scoreless first period, the Rams took control of the contest in the second period, scoring twice in the first 3:11.

Trailing 2-0, Lucas Narvaez was denied with a Pickering pad save with 3:20 left in the second. Doster Crowell, who finished with a hat trick, scored his second of the game with 2:07 left in the second for a 3-0 New Canaan lead.

The Rams added a short-handed and power play goal in the third for a 5-0 lead which the Westies could not come back from.

Astravukh played well in goal for the Westies, turning aside eight shots in the final stages of the third period.

The West Haven co-op team was looking to rebound, but fell to Guilford 8-3.

Thomas Porto led the offense with two goals and an assist, while Yousaf Ullah added a goal and an assist. Astravukh and Javed Ullah combined to make 33 saves, with Ullah stopping 22.

The Westies got off to a good start as Porto scored 2:57 in off assists from Jayden Spreyer and Yousaf Ullah. The Grizzlies evened the game 2:15 later, but after a one-timer by Spreyer was denied, Porto scored on the power play off an assist from Brady Price with 4:59 to go in the first.

The Grizzlies then scored the next five goals to take a 6-2 lead. West Haven again got within three goals as Yousaf Ullah scored with 11:27 left in the game off assists from Burrows and Porto.

The West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy girls hockey team got off to a good start with a 4-2 victory over rival Hamden.

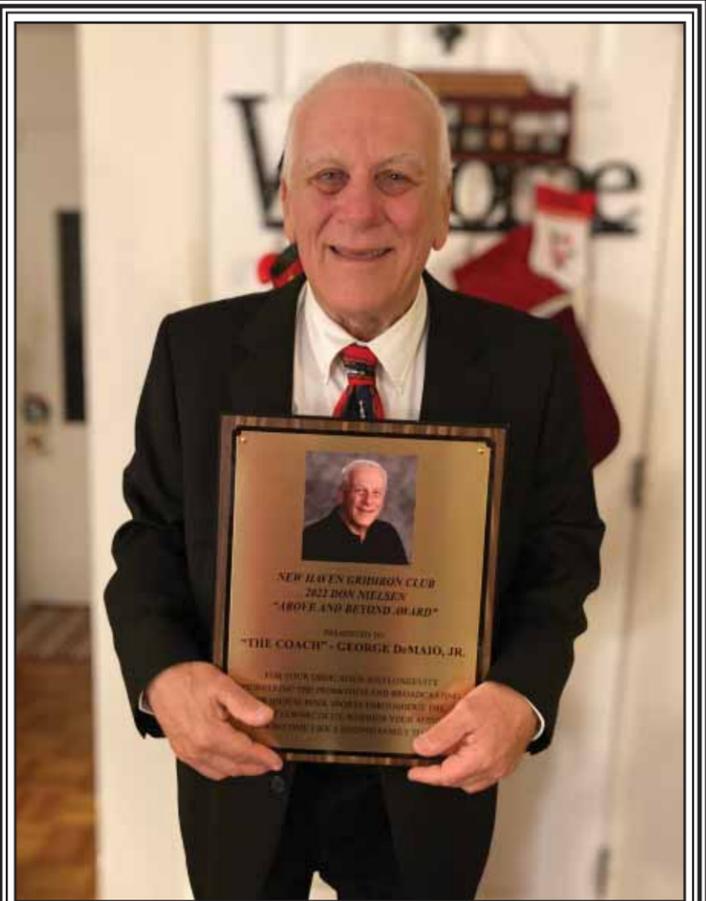
Julianna Montano scored twice, including once on the power play, and Julianna Picard had a goal and an assist in the season-opening win. Isabelle Desrosiers made 23 saves in the victory for the Westie Sharks.

Fresh off the victory, the West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy faced another tough task when it traveled to play New Canaan. The Westie Sharks faced an early deficit, and rallied to tie, before falling on the road to the Rams, 6-3.

New Canaan took a 3-0 lead in the opening period, before the Westie Sharks were able to settle down. After a scoreless second period, WH/SHA picked up its intensity.

Looking for a spark, Tsakonas gave the Westie Sharks exactly what they needed when she scored just 1:44 into the third period off assists from Rachel Harrison and Julianna Montano.

See Westies, page 19



Submitted Photo

### DeMaio wins Neilson Award

West Haven resident and WELI radio personality Coach George DeMaio was honored recently by the New Haven Gridiron Club as the winner of the Don Neilson Above and Beyond Award for work with the community. For more than 37 years, DeMaio has been a strong advocate of high school athletics by way of his broadcasts of football, basketball, hockey, baseball and softball games throughout the listening area. His Saturday Morning Sports Show has been on the airwaves for decades, and his promotion of local athletes is incomparable. The award was given at the annual New Haven Gridiron Club Levi Jackson All-Area Team dinner, which honors local high school and college athletes.

Photo by Todd Dandelske

No. 20 Cassidy Carrano defends for the Blue Devils in their 50-24 opening night victory over Danbury. The Lady Westies avenged a CIAC Tournament defeat last year at the hands of the Hatters in the opener for both teams. All winter sports squads got underway with opening games.

