

West Haven Voice

January 19, 2023

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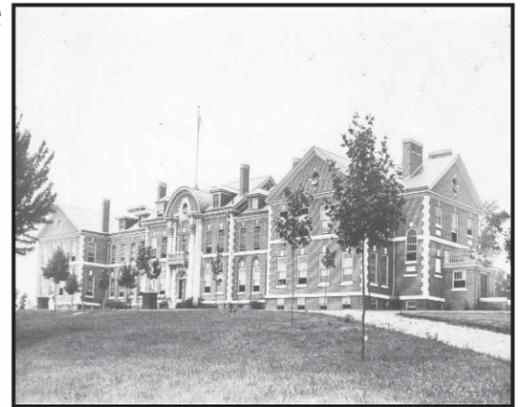
West Haven's only independent news source
By and For West Haven

Voice Feature

An in-depth feature

History
of UNH, Part 2

See page 13



Museum awakes post-Covid *Fundraiser to aid rehab plans*



Stalled by Covid, Ward-Heitmann House Museum's rehabilitation project is up and running, again.

A local museum group amid overseeing many needed repairs and renovations to its location prior to the COVID-19 pandemic is just now getting back up to speed and restarting its long-halted plans. The Ward-Heitmann House Executive Board has announced plans for a fundraiser in conjunction with renewed construction of what many consider the city's oldest extant structure.

The museum has launched the "Get a Hug from Ward-Heitmann" fundraiser to help raise funds for the museum's restoration and preservation initiatives. Highlighting the 501(c)(3) non-profit charity's new logo, Ward-Heitmann House is selling 50/50, poly/cotton hoodie sweatshirts at \$25 each with sizes ranging from Small-5XL until Jan. 30. Hoodie color selections are white and navy blue.

The effort is an attempt to get things back on track after an almost-three-year hiatus due to the worldwide pandemic.

In a press release issued last week, the museum's board announced a

restructuring of its bylaws and operating code, but more importantly, it has set its sights on re-starting the work that was halted back in 2020.

"The Ward-Heitmann House Museum continues with the extensive renovations that began before the pandemic. The house was raised off the ground in the first phase, and a new foundation was poured underneath the side wing. In the second phase, the foundation for the main house structure was repaired, and new drainage was initiated. Tighe & Bond were hired as the engineering company to oversee the foundation and grading work," the press release read.

Several structural problems were in need of correction, forcing the museum to close prior to the pandemic for the repairs. One other problem arose, however, that made the closure longer and more costly.

Drainage around the building was compromising its integrity. It forced what was then thought to be a tem-

See Mjuseum, page 12

Rossi clarifies 'compliance' notices for 'Scrap' program

Saying the bulk of responses has been positive in a city-wide pilot program asking residents to participate, Mayor Nancy Rossi defended "compliance notices" stuck to doors and orange "violation" notices that were found on trash bins.

A December pilot program, "Food Scraps to Energy" sent red flags some residents just before Christmas with a notice that "compliance monitoring" would begin. The much-touted program seeks to have residents separate food scraps, fruit peels coffee grounds and other such refuse in bags that were made available earlier in the fall.

The green bags are the place for food scraps, while orange bags are to be used for regular trash.

Waste Zero, will take the bags and turn the waste into biofuels. This program is seen to head off what is called a growing problem in the state on refuse disposal.

While the distribution of the bags took place early, many residents don't have the bags, and there is nothing to indicate the program is mandatory. Some residents are not participating either because they don't have the bags, or they prefer to keep things as they are.

When orange "violation" notices were tagged onto trash bins last week, calls to the Voice and other publications were made.

See Food Scraps, page 15

NOTICE

City of West Haven
Food Scrap to Energy Program

Compliance Monitoring begins week of Dec 19

Place all your food scraps in the Green bags and all trash in the Orange bag

What goes in the Green bag?
Food Scraps: Fruits & Vegetables, Meat & Seafood, Eggs & Eggshells, Leftovers & Spoiled Food, Coffee Grounds & Tea Bags as well as Pastas, Bread and Grains.

What goes in the Orange bag?
Trash only. Anything that can't go in the blue tote and doesn't go in the Green bag.

Securely tie your bags. Put BOTH bags in your current trash can on your regularly scheduled pick-up day. Food scrap bags will be turned into

This notice caused 900 calls to City Hall.



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Juniper, a Grade 4 student in the West Haven Community House after School Program, is hoping for some winter weather as we get into January.

On this Date

2007 -- Turkish journalist Hrant Dink is assassinated. The murderer was a 17-year old Turkish nationalist who disagreed with Dink's view on the Turkish denial of the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

1983 -- Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie is arrested in Bolivia. Barbie was known as the "Butcher of Lyon".

1966 -- Indira Gandhi becomes India's first female prime minister. She was assassinated on October 31, 1984.

1915 -- Georges Claude patents his neon discharge tube. Neon lighting soon became popular for outdoor advertising.

1829 -- Goethe's "Faust" (Part 1) is premiered. The work is considered one of the greatest works of German literature.

Births

1946 -- Dolly Parton, American singer-songwriter, actress.

1943 -- Janis Joplin, American singer-songwriter.

1839 -- Paul Cézanne, French painter.

1809 -- Edgar Allan Poe, American author, poet



Photo by Michael O'Brien

Life-saving lesson

The International Save A Life Tour visited West Haven High School in December to inform students on the dangers of driving impaired and distracted. The program included hands-on Distracted Driving Virtual Reality Driving Simulators.

Voice classifieds
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Photo by Michael O'Brien

New apprentices

Last week, the 2022/2023 WHHS Career Center Eli Whitney Scholarship recipients registered for their first course at the Eli Whitney Adult Apprenticeship Program. Three students received a check for their tuition to begin the coursework in either the electrical, plumbing, or heating and cooling trades. Students will take courses this spring in the evening at Eli Whitney Technical High School, Hamden. The three students are (from left): Richard Meza, Nicholas Gerbase and Ty Murphy.



Happy New Year, neighbors.

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Dear Felicia

Well sweets, January is now in its second half – jest like the tax bills that people hafta pay this time o’ year – and the “Winter of our discontent” seems to be running apace. Needless to say, effen there is a way this burg can tick the populace off in trying to set off a “pilot program,” the mavens of the Actors Colony known as City Hall will not only find a way to do it, they’d do it with a flare.

Setch is the case that’s happened over the last couple o’ weeks since last we communicated. Sammy Bluejay came in t’other afternoon and said that more than a few people were miffed that “Noncompliance” notices were tacked onto their doors for the “Food Scrap to Energy Program” that was foisted upon the taxpayers in November. “A pilot program,” they said. “Not mandatory,” they said. Yet, “compliance monitoring” began jest before

Christmas – something not said when this boondoggle of a program – they did it jest for the grant money, dontcha know – was announced with all the usual bells and whistles.

Now fast forward to the last week or so, and orange “Notices of Noncompliance” were tacked onto peoples’ trash cans, looking like some kind o’ legal notice or t’other. And, the complaints from the populace are coming fast and furious, not only in this office, but in City Hall as well, we are told. Good.

Nobody is against doing things to help the city, but who was the bureaucrat that thought this was a good idea? Are they not paying attention to the anger that’s out there. Are they not aware of the daily nonsense people hafta put up with. This wasn’t jest some technocrat making a bad decision. The word that comes to mind is “moronic,” honey

bunch.

Yew can’t palm off a program that’s a “pilot” with all the flowery language about how good for everyone this will be, and ain’t it great what we can do for the environment, but it’s all, ya know, not mandatory, and then make it seem mandatory. This is jest a small incident, but it shows how people in government think – even in municipal government.

Sammy sez that some in the Actors Colony were wary of the way this was rolled out, and were against the whole printing of “notices,” but the usual do-gooders wouldn’t listen. There is real annoyance out there and, when yew couple it with everything else going on in town, one has to wonder how decisions are made – and botched – at 355 Main St.

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Then we see, according to Nelly Nuthatch, that the usual is happening – or not happening – when it comes to the city paying its bills. Evidently, invoices are sent, and then the waiting game begins. And it ain’t that this hasn’t happened before, but the usual excuses are given.

Cobina happened to see the local papyrus about this story, and noted that the same excuses made by city officials concerning the paying of bills this go-round

are the same thing that have been said each and every time the matter has come up, in other words, at least once a year.

Telling people reforms are in the works, and we’re making changes ain’t gonna cut it for people who did the work and now want the result of their labors. Now, Cobina don’t wanna be suspicious but every time this seems to come up, it’s cuz the city has tapped out its current resources and is waiting for the next round of tax bills to be paid. Lo and behold, it’s January, and ain’t it coincidental that the second half of the property tax bills are due this month? Yeah, that’s about the size of it.

People like to make jokes about “Ground Hog Day,” and the plot. We seem to live it each and every year here in the Asylum by the Sea. Or, as the old bromide goes, “The more things change, the more they stay the same.”

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Speaking of the same, jest when we thought that there would be some movement in finally gettin’ the Arts Center out of the suspended animation it’s been for the past decade or so, things don’t look so good. As we pernt out in this week’s editorial page, the Arts Center has been on the back burner for so long, it’s gone rancid. Except for when it’s used as a prop for a political speech or press conference, nothing much has changed at the Center Street site since about 2012.

The pandemic windfall was gonna change that. Now, however, we have a change in plan, and not for good reason, but still another reason to halt any progress. The money has to be used for some other projects that need cash flow now, and come under the parameters of the grant’s use. Sooooo, like mature adults that’s probably what’s gonna happen. Meanwhile, one wonders what shape the ancient building on Center Street is like now, and whether it is getting weakened by the elements.

It’s jest amazing in this burg that things that are announced, and plans that are ballyhooed never seem to get done in a timely fashion, not ever, never. We’ve been talking about the Arts Center since at least GW Bush’s foist term, and stuff was done in his second. Yew can count the number of years, then nothing’s been done on three hands.

Our editorial writer was right. Yew gotta think of things in geologic time when it comes to our fair corenr of the universe.

~~~~

Pertinent to what we discussed in our last missive, there seems to be a sense of disillusionment amongst the politicians of our city, especially longtime members of

the political class. One wonders effen a sea change of people will be happening come the municipal election this year. Iva Lootey noted that much of the angst comes from the fact that city boards, commissions and the City Council itself, are little more than rubber stamps for the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB), and to sit through meetings where decisions are already made is very depressing.

Iva seems to think that some well known politicians might decide they’ve had enuff of the in-fighting over nothing and go back to jest being part of the taxpaying public. Life is too short to spend at meetings where stuff can’t get done and decisions are made by outsiders.

We shall see, but Iva is convinced that a big change is in the wind. There is good reason to believe the thoid floor might see a change as Herronner may or may not run for a fourth term, and effen that happens the whole “election cycle” can be like the herding of cats.

With three factions of the Demies still extant and some in-fighting amongst the GOP, it could be quite an election season, and something yew and I haven’t seen since the 1980s. We shall see. But as the winter wanes things might become clearer. By the end of the budget season, we might know how things shake out.

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Speaking of the Budget Season, as we move through January the process has begun anew, we are told. Usually by this time the Department heads have put together their wish list or budget outlines – for example, the Board of Education jest approved \$89.9 million proposed by Superintendent Neil Cavallaro. And, as per usual the Board of Finance will hafta look at everything before the thoid floor even begins to put together some type of budget plan. And with MARB have control of the budget apparatus, that adds yet another step in the process.

By March all will be ready and we’ll know what fiction our leaders have come up with. Then we go through the whole kabuki with public hearings and meetings and setch until May when the thing will be voted on, one way or t’other. Yup, here we are again.

Adn remember, we can’t come outta the process without a budget. Either it gits passed by the City Council or it goes into effeck by default effen they can’t get a majority vote. So, one way or t’other it’ll be over by the foist Thursday in May as usual.

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

Cobina

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Dear Gripevine Readers:

I will begin today's column with an apology. There was a glitch in Gripevine's email address, and a new address had to be created to facilitate receipt of your email messages to Gripe Vine.

Gripe Vine's new email address: gripevineatwh@yahoo.com

Please resend your unanswered gripes and

those who have previously responded, to this new email address or mail your gripes and issues to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

Many of us park by the water to relax and read. I hate when people smoke and eat food in this area of Old Grove Park or any other space by the water.



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

A Griper

Dear Griper:

I am sure there are readers

who enjoy smoking and eating by the water as well. If you are one of those folks, and have an opinion let me know!

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I know it's past Christmas, but there are many people who decorated their houses for the holiday season. Maybe next year they could send their addresses to the Voice, giving many of us the opportunity to drive by these decorated houses for holiday enjoyment.

Mr. Cheerful

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

To the city's sign maker in West Haven: How about

creating a sign for the ball field outside the high school that says, "No Parking on the side walk in this area. Park your cars in the street"

The city could save money repairing these sidewalks that are meant to be walked on not parked on.

Baseball Fan

You can send your gripes to **gripevineatwh@yahoo.com** Please include your name, address and phone number kept in strict confidence with me or you could mail them to Gripevine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road.



Photo by Michael O'Brien

Alumni Homecoming help

WHHS hosted its Alumni Homecoming on Dec. 13, in the Career Center. High School counselors helped alumni reach their career goals by helping with job opportunities, financial aid, resume writing, and apprenticeship programs.

2nd-half taxes are due

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

The second installment of city tax bills — real estate, personal property, motor vehicle, sewer — was due Jan. 1, and payments after Feb. 1 are considered delinquent and subject to interest, Tax Collector Dorothy Chambrelli said.

The 2021 supplemental motor vehicle bills are for vehicles registered after Oct. 1, 2021, and were also due Jan. 1.

Payments — full or partial — can be made by cash, check, credit card, debit card or money order from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays in the tax office on the first floor of City Hall, 355 Main St. The building has an ATM on the first floor.

Taxpayers can also make payments online at <https://www.mytaxbill.org/inet/bill/home.do?town=westhaven>. Sewer bills are on the same page but under a separate tab. Tax payment history can also be viewed and printed.

The fees for credit cards and electronic checks are available on the Tax Collector page of the city website at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/276/Payments>.

During tax season, taxes can be paid by the drop box outside the interior door of the tax office from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Do not leave cash or credit card information in the drop box.

When paying by drop box, the canceled check is the receipt.

Taxes can also be paid by mail to the Office of the Tax Collector, City of West Haven, P.O. Box 401, West Haven 06516.

Anyone needing a motor vehicle clearance must pay in person by cash, credit card, debit card or money order.

To enter City Hall, visitors must use the west entrance on the Savin Avenue side. Face masks are strongly recommended.

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GRIPE _____

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 'geologic time' line

If we were to produce an aphorism that describes West Haven, we would write thus: West Haven does things in geologic time.

No matter what this issue, what the project, what the matter before the leaders of West Haven, it takes months, years, decades, to get things off the drawing board and into reality. This is particularly true of economic development projects – just ask any developer. But it goes beyond that to even municipally implemented plans.

The prime example, of course, is the project of several iterations at lower Elm Street on the harbor. Announced in September 1997 as the “Water Street Project,” it went through several name changes, including “West River Crossing,” and “The Haven,” along with several changes in scope, from an area that extended from the tracks on First Avenue to Main Street to the harbor, and then abbreviated to what it is today. Before that, it was years before anything came about on Sawmill Road.

Now we have a municipal project that is on the back burner again, the Arts Center. Announced in the mid-2000s, the West Haven Arts Center was to be an anchor to revitalize the city’s dying Center Business District. It was hoped exhibits, shows, concerts, and other events would serve to bring people into the Center, and bring about a renaissance harkening back to the days when retail shops dominated the area.

As we said, the Arts Center was/is expected to draw people to the Green and Center and revitalize downtown. There was a time when it was a booming district, but bad decision-making (which was criticized at the time) doomed merchants and business owners. The administration of then-Mayor Azelio Guerra was at loggerheads with the State of Connecticut over the rental of courtrooms located in City Hall. Eventually, the feud resulted in the city losing the court to Milford, and those areas, built as courtrooms, languishing for years before anything was done.

The result was the traffic that came into downtown and supported local businesses dried up. Before long, business that had been around for decades closed shop and were never replaced.

The Arts Center was to remedy that situation – almost two decades ago. The arts were to be a magnet for the public to come back. The purchase of the former Masonic Temple on Center Street was the first step. Donations, grants, and other gifts were to fund the rest of the project. The building was gutted, and some design changes made, but nothing has happened on the site in more than a decade.

Now money earmarked for the project through the federal pandemic funds is being urged to go elsewhere. There are good arguments to do so. But this means that the Arts Center will have to wait again for something to come along: a grant, a State Bond Commission issue, or something else, all in the sweet by and by. Meanwhile, the building languishes against the elements.

This newspaper supported the Arts Center when it was announced, and still support the project, but it has been ignored, except for when it was a good political issue. Once again, something that is to be for the good of the community, for its economic development as well as its quality of life is relegated to the “sometime in the future” file.

We understand the need for pandemic money to be used on more pressing projects without putting a burden on the taxpayers; but a decision must be made about whether the city will see this long-standing project completed, or we move onto utilizing the building for something else. Kicking this can down the road is no longer an option, we are running out of road.



'Yellowstone' and race baiters

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

Long after it has run its course on TV, the show “Yellowstone” will provide fodder for countless Ph.D. candidates in whiteness studies.

In certain precincts, the verdict about the smash hit that has spawned a cottage industry of spin-offs is in: The show is about whiteness, and particularly white grievance.

In a recent podcast about “Yellowstone,” Sam Sanders of New York Magazine said, “Kevin Costner sets up the imagery of conservative white grievance without any of the negative baggage.”

His interviewee, New York Times critic Tressie McMillan Cottom, added that the context is a “show in post-Trump America, the political backdrop of white grievance and white reclamation that we are undergoing, trying to claw back to a sort of mythical 40, 50 years ago, when our systems worked better for white Americans than they did for non-white Americans.”

Got that?

Another piece at New York Magazine a couple of years ago observed that the show advances “a desperate and threatened appeal to American identity and white masculinity.”

The debate over “Yellowstone” isn’t new; the show is in its fifth season, and after a brief hiatus, the latest episode

drops on January 8. But the debate matters. As the most popular scripted show on cable TV, it is a significant cultural phenomenon.

So, is the hostile and racially reductive critique of the show accurate?

It is certainly true that the protagonist (and anti-hero of the show), John Dutton, is white. The family patriarch and owner of the Rhode Island-sized Yellowstone ranch in Montana, Dutton fights off hostile forces threatening his land-empire through political subterfuge and murder -- you know, the way all white people do.

That you can’t help but sympathize with Dutton, despite his loathsome methods, is a count against the show, although too much shouldn’t be made of this.

Dutton has charisma on his side -- he’s played by big-time star Kevin Costner, who looks like the Marlboro Man and sounds like Clint Eastwood.

Taylor Sheridan, the show’s creator, has been at pains to deny “Yellowstone” is a conservative show.

About this, he is correct. It has no sympathy for capitalists, corporations or economic development. But it is decidedly populist -- and right-leaning populist -- in its disdain for these things. By skewering assorted coastal elites while taking an unsentimental view of Native Americans, it stead-

fastly refuses to bend to contemporary progressive pieties.

In its appreciation for land, place, family and tradition, the show channels Wendell Berry via the ethos of the Wyatt Earp vendetta ride.

There’s nothing particularly “white” about this. Protecting and valuing what’s yours is a universal American, nay, human, quality.

Then, there’s the notion that the land is somehow “white” because the white man stole it from the American Indians. The show doesn’t have any problem acknowledging Native American claims. The chairman of the local tribe, Thomas Rainwater, has a vision of buying back all the land with the profits from a casino project.

Kathryn VanArendonk of New York Magazine maintains that Rainwater is “an otherness to Dutton’s whiteness.”

Yet, Rainwater is less of an “other” than someone who wants the same thing as Dutton -- namely, the land -- and who schemes and maneuvers to try to get it.

The true hero of “Yellowstone” is traditional masculinity as reflected in the ideal of the American cowboy. Of course, there’s an exaggerated emphasis on fisticuffs and violence. But in a show where most people are unhappy, the grace notes tend to come

See Lowry, page 7

Changes in tax laws may affect your return

By Bill Conlan
Tax Preparer

Ed. Note – In the coming weeks, city residents will begin the winter chore of preparing their taxes for 2022. As with any other year, changes in the tax code were made that taxpayers should be aware of when doing the forms. Local tax preparer Bill Conlan has written this compendium of changes.

Once again it is time to begin thinking about filing your income taxes for the year 2022, and I want to give you a summary of any new changes for the year.

The first thing to make note of is that many of the expanded credits and deductions available for the 2020 and 2021 tax years due to the Covid-19 pandemic, have for the 2022 filing season, been reduced or eliminated.

The child tax credit reverts

back to the \$2,000 for a qualifying child under 17, and \$500 for all other dependents. The extra amounts allowed in 2021 up to \$3,600 for children under 6, and \$3,000 for all others is now eliminated.

You qualify for original amounts if your Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) is below \$200,000 for single filers and below \$400,000 for married taxpayers.

The dependent care credit is also reduced to pre 2021 amounts of \$3,000 for one child, down from the \$8,000 allowance for the 2021 year.

The enhanced Earned Income Credit (EIC) available for year 2021 is now eliminated, and taxpayers must now be between ages 25-64 to take advantage of any EIC.

The \$300 and \$600 charitable deduction for non-itemizers is eliminated.

Lowry: *Race-obsession*

Continued from page 6

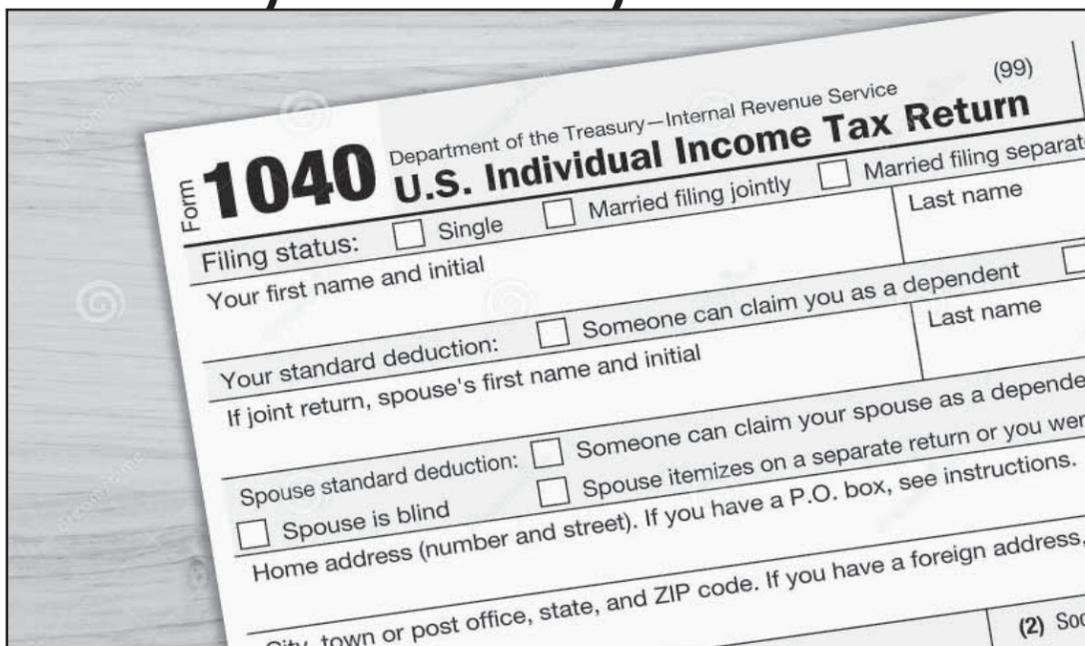
via the bunkhouse, where the ranch hands socialize among themselves, and in honeyed moments of appreciation for the outdoors and for horses.

In a culture that relentlessly boosts college degrees and other credentials, "Yellowstone" at its best is an oasis of a different way of looking at accomplishment and value.

This aspect of "Yellowstone" must account for a large part of its appeal. The progressive critics who see the show through the prism of "white grievance" are only proving that they, not Taylor Sheridan, are the ones obsessed with race.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Residential energy credits are available for the 2022 tax filing year, and include insulation, storm windows, furnaces, heaters, boilers, and central air conditioners.

Other credits are also available for solar equipment and qualified battery operated vehicles.

The standard deduction is now \$25,900 for married persons and \$19,400 for Heads of Household, and \$12,950 for single filers.

The IRS has delayed for one year implementing the new 1099-K reporting requirement for third party network transactions such as Venmo, Pay Pal, CashApp, etc,

which changed amounts from \$20,000 to \$600.

It is unclear if some taxpayers might still receive some forms this year for 2022 taxes, which will have to be reported on tax returns this filing season.

The educator deduction of \$300 per individual is allowed for 2022 taxes. For CT taxes, the Pension and Annuity Exemption has been increased to 100 percent of taxable income for filers, if Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is below \$75,000 for single and head of household filers, and \$100,000 for married filing jointly.

For teachers they may deduct 50 percent of their taxable

pension income for year 2022, and the deduction for Military Retirement Pay is allowed for any payments included in Federal Gross Income

As of this date, proposals to reinstate last year's child tax credit amounts, and increase the (SALT) deduction from the present \$10,000 to \$80,000, have not been passed.

The listing of these changes should aid you as you begin to get your tax preparation documents organized, and will make preparation of your 2022 tax return easier, and less stressful.

Bill Conlan may be contacted by calling (203) 934-9525.



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Photo by Michael O'Brien

'Pancakes and PJs'

Before the holiday break, Seth Haley's PTA hosted "Pancakes in Pajamas," which included story time, pancakes, wearing pajamas, and more!

Join us for an entertaining evening of video horse racing, raffles, prizes and more



A Night At The Races

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Doors Open
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Photo by Michael O'Brien

Winter Wonderland Night

Forest Elementary School hosted a Winter Wonderland night in December for students and families. Even Santa and Mrs. Claus made an appearance. Schools ended the calendar year with many holiday events with focus on the students and their families.

Snow removal rules subject of reminder

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.

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>.

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Submitted Photo

January 'Recognition'

St. Lawrence School recently honored students selected for *Student Recognition* in the month of January. Shown are: Vivian Andrade. (1st), Sophia Hernandez (2nd), Isabella King (3rd), Lesmari Brown (4th), Camdyn Edwards (5th), Nicholas Mantilia (6th), Naveah Vaughn (7th), and Desiree Jackson (8th). James Rullan, sixth grade teacher, hosted January's celebration breakfast, attended by family members. During the breakfast, he summarized the accomplishments the teacher and classmates shared about their student and presented the recipient with their certificate and St. Lawrence pin.



St. Lawrence celebrates 'Catholic Schools Week'

Each new year, Catholic schools nationwide celebrate the excellence and value of a Catholic education, and the benefits they bring to their surroundings. The city's only Catholic School will mark the event with special events and an Open House. This year, from Jan. 29 to Feb. 4, St. Lawrence School will again participate, taking part in various activities throughout the week, including an open house for those interested in this academic option.

2518, or visit during the open house on Feb. 2. at 231 Main St.

St. Lawrence School opened in 1917, and is currently celebrating its 105th year providing Catholic and academic education to children in West Haven and the surrounding area.

"Started by the Rev. Jeremiah Curtin and three Sisters of St. Joseph, the school flourished and expanded throughout the years. The main goal has always been to care for the spiritual and intellectual education of children," a school press release noted.

Today, the school is the only Catholic grammar school in the city, and continues to offer the type of moral and academic education expected by those parents who send their children.

"Committed teachers work in a supportive environment with active parents to teach the whole child - academically, spiritually and socially. Smaller student populations enable teachers to focus on the needs of their students," the press release reads.

The week's activities in the school provide an opportunity for the students to join in the celebration. Plans include "Special Person's Day," pajama picnic and a movie, BINGO, and Valentine card-making for a convalescent home. On Thursday, Feb. 2, there will be an open house from 9-10:30 a.m. and 6-7:30 p.m., for parents/guardians interested in this education option for their child. Tours of the school will be available.

Those interested in investigating the St. Lawrence School experience can call (203) 933-



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The 2020 Covid shutdown hampered renovation and rehabilitation work at the Ward-Heitmann House Museum. The Board of Directors has begun a fundraiser and re-started the work on the city's oldest building. Left -- Drainage problems were compromising part of the building. The foundation has been rebuilt, with drainage work continuing with completion set for the spring. Right -- The forge was open during the shutdown during special events.

Museum: *Fundraiser aids renewed efforts*

Continued from page 1
 temporary -- and short -- closure into something much longer.

"A correction was needed for the grading around the house, which caused the work to stop," the press release noted. "This issue has been resolved, and grading will be finished in April this year. New grass will be planted as well. The third phase is replacing the roof and any needed repairs inside the museum."

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, located in Washington, DC, has an easement on the property.

Therefore, they must approve all plans and any renovations to the museum, including the materials used, along with state and local approvals. It is an extensive process.

The nine-member all-volunteer board of the Ward-Heitmann House Museum Foundation, Inc., has directed the fortunes of the facility since it opened in the early 2000s. The board has always made the property self-sustaining and is not owned by any state or municipal agency. All funds come from private or grant sources.

The board has raised funds to make the necessary updates, with most of the money coming from grants (more than \$300,000 from the state, businesses, and private foundations were raised entirely by the board).

"State Rep. Dorinda Borer (D-115) secured an additional \$100,000 in bond funds. Operating expenses (even while closed) are approximately

\$20,000 yearly," read the press release.

Although the main museum was closed during this time, the Blacksmith Shop continued operating and participated in the *CT Kids are Free* at the museum initiative. The project was announced on group's Facebook page, and through the West Haven Public Library for the past two summers. Grants from CT Humanities funded this project. A member of the board volunteered as the blacksmith for these demonstrations.

While the structural problems were addressed, the planning and consultations of professionals was necessary. The board said several professionals worked *pro bono* to aid the effort.

"Special thanks to Attorney Fred Hedberg of the law firm of Robinson & Cole for volunteering his many hours of

expertise as an attorney and a civil engineer to assist the museum board in navigating the drainage project; Attorneys Russell Da Silva and Jonathan Russell of the New York City law office of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, LLP, for volunteering to assist the board by overseeing the updating of by-laws and other necessary documentation necessary to operate as a non-profit organization; Attorney Priya Morganstern, director of the CT Probono Partnership, for her unwavering support of nonprofit organizations; (and) Past, present and future board members and volunteers who have come together to preserve this small but important piece of West Haven history," the press release read.

For those interested in the "Get a Hug from Ward-Heitmann hoodies, orders with payments may be placed

via Venmo @wardheitmann. Checks, made payable to the Ward-Heitmann House Museum, may also be mailed to Ward-Heitmann House Museum, PO Box 573, West Haven 06516.

All orders with payment must be received by Jan. 30.

When sending payment please include in the "Notes," field of Venmo or on a separate piece of paper with your mailed check the following information: your name, street address, email, and telephone, as well hoodie color choices with corresponding sizes and quantities.

Orders may be picked up at the West Haven Library - Main Branch, 300 Elm St. from Feb. 14-18 during the following hours: Feb. 14-16, 10-6:30; Feb. 17-18, 10-4.

For information, whhm277@yahoo.com or bcohen@launch232.com.

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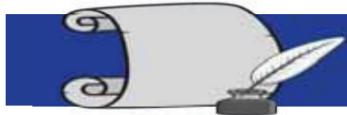
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Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

The University of New Haven Part II

The New Haven County Temporary Home For Dependent and Neglected Children

Continuing the series on the University of New Haven, the story of the Allingtown main campus cannot be told without referencing Connecticut's county home, child welfare system. The state passed legislation in 1883 to create a network of facilities in each of the state's eight counties. This was done out of the perception that the problem of neglected and uncared-for minors needed to be addressed in a more organized and uniform way.

Thus the New Haven County Temporary Home for De-

pendent and Neglected Children was created as part of the system.

Prior to this, such children were kept in town almshouses or placed in institutions. These new homes were intended to provide education, discipline, nutrition and sanitary conditions for children who had been brought to the attention of the courts and committed to such care.

By 1960, the restructuring of the application of government services brought about the end of county government within Connecticut. With this came the end of "county homes" and transfer to services in a less institutional setting.

What we know today as University of New Haven's Maxcy Hall opened late in 1909 as the third and final location of the

home in New Haven County. The stated cost of construction was \$150,000. The institution had begun its operation in the Tyler City section of Orange in 1884.

Subsequently, the operation was moved to a larger facility in New Haven, and yet again needing more space, the Allingtown site was chosen.

The new home, plus a smaller structure in matching Colonial Revival style that is today known as the Gate House, was built to accommodate as many as 300 children with classrooms, dormitories, recreational facilities, a chapel, an infirmary, and staff quarters. With its location on a 25-acre Allingtown Hill site, the magnificent vista was an added bonus, one that is still enjoyed today.

An elderly man who visited shortly after the opening declared that these 'poor' children were "richer than thousands in the city" and that living here "ought to help in making them fine men and women." The home, said to have been intended as the "finest in the country," was lauded for its "palatial appointments" and was perhaps the only one in the eight Connecticut counties specially built for its intended purpose.

However, the administration of the facility was not without significant flaws: The unfettered use of corporal punishment led to concussions and broken bones among the children who were under County care. This ultimately led to the dismissal of the facility's superintendent



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



The New Haven County Home as it appeared in 1946. It was to become the permanent home of New Haven College. Over the years the one-building institution would grow to what we know today as the University of New Haven.

ditorium of the Main Building (Maxcy Hall) in the 1930s. It is still rumored that glimpses of a small boy wandering aimlessly around the building have been witnessed by students and faculty alike.

The vacant property here was purchased in 1960 by President Marvin K. Peterson for New Haven College, and the institution grew to become the University of New Haven in 1970.

The structure was known as the Main Building until June 4, 1987 when it was named for Dr. Ellis C. Maxcy who headed the college from 1932 to 1937 during the Great Depression.

Maxcy Hall continues to be UNH's 'main building' today.

Co-authored by retired UNH reference librarian, Bob Belletzkie, whose campus history articles were published in UNH's *Charger Bulletin* in 2005 and 2006.

in 1955. Shortly thereafter, the facility was closed, when the institutional approach to child care fell out of favor, and all the county homes were eliminated.

Apparently, the building has its own ghost: The story is still told of young George Maloney, a displaced war orphan who died tragically in the au-

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www.indeed.com/cmp/West-Haven-Community-House-Inc.

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Letters, we get letters!

Binge drinking during Super Bowl

Super Bowl Sunday, Americans will turn their focus to one thing and one thing only: football. That's right – the most anticipated exhibition of the year is right around the corner, and fans everywhere are pulling out their jerseys, preparing game day snacks, and stocking up on their favorite beverages for the Big Game.

If your game day plans involve cracking open a Bud Light or Bud Light Seltzer, Enjoy Responsibly and planning ahead for safe rides. Whether you designate a driver, call a rideshare service, or take public transportation, the important thing is that you – and those in your community – make it home from the festivities safely.

For more than 35 years, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler partners have invested more than \$1 billion in responsible drinking marketing efforts. As a local beer distributor, Dichello Distributors, Inc. is working alongside Anheuser-Busch to ensure that safety is the number one priority before and after the Big Game.

So, don't drop the ball. Binge drinking and drunk driving are 100 percent preventable, and together we can ensure everyone ends the day with a win.

Because when it comes to responsible drinking, we're all on the same team.

Cheers,

Tony Lota
Alcohol Awareness Coordinator
Dichello Distributors, Inc.
Orange CT

Free radon test kits available

It's not too late to test your home for radon, the second-leading cause of lung cancer.

The city Health Department has a limited number of free radon test kits, Health Director Maureen B. Lillis said.

To receive a test kit, call the department at 203-937-3660. A sanitarian from the department will deliver the kit and help place it in the home, Lillis said.

Radon is a colorless, odorless and naturally occurring radioactive gas formed from the natural decay of uranium. It's found in rock, water and soil.

While radon in outdoor air poses a relatively low risk to human health, it can enter homes from the surrounding soil and become a health hazard inside buildings, Lillis said.

To learn more about radon, visit <https://portal.ct.gov/dph/Environmental-Health/Radon/Radon-Program>.

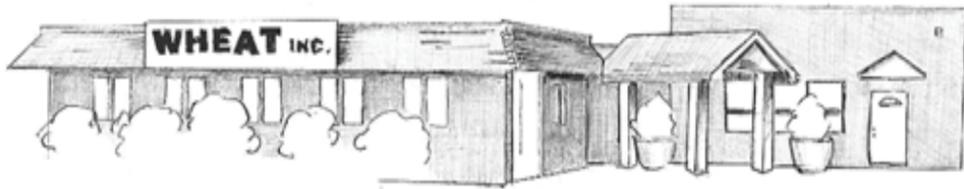
Reminder to publicists for 2023

Club and organizational publicists are reminded the deadline for publication of the West Haven Voice is Monday, 10 a.m. before the Thursday publication date. Nothing will be accepted after that time without prior approval by the editor.

Press releases and notices should be sent to info@westhavenvoice.com by either a Word document or text file to be converted in-office. Notices or releases must have the four Ws: who, what, where, when.

All releases sent are subject to editing and/or cutting for space consideration as with any other story or release. Quotations are the first to be deleted for space. Releases will be edited so they conform with the style established by the publication

Those wishing more information concerning the publication of notices should contact West Haven Voice during regular business hours, (203) 934-6397, or the above website.



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.

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Scraps: Mayor clarifies program's goals

Continued from page 1

Rossi said her office took more than 900 emails and calls over the last week, and believes the residents are behind the program, which was funded by a state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) \$1.3 million grant.

"We have responded to over 600 emails, and 300 phone messages inquiring about the program. Less than 1/2 of one percent were negative responses. Most of our residents appear to be willing to give this a try, and others are enthusiastic," she said.

She said the city is adapting the program as the process moves along, and "adapting to citizen feedback."

She does admit, some of the verbiage has been problematic to some residents.

"While the term 'compliance' is used by the waste management industry to describe all waste disposal habits, it appears to have been misinterpreted by a minority of residents," she said. "The city has changed the notice to reflect the intent of the program and will be deploying the new notices as of Jan. 12."

She said the need for as many people to participate is necessary for statistical purposes.

No fines are contemplated for those who do not participate.

"In order to collect accurate data, we need as many households as possible to participate. Those that cannot for a disability reason or will not for personal reasons will not be fined but encouraged to try the program to help us get feedback for improvement. We are only talking about three simple concepts here: One bag for trash, one bag for food scraps, and put them in the same can for collection," she said.

The program is a means to get ahead of what she sees as a growing problem nationwide, and the program as established is economical to the city.

"This program is the only low-cost initiative that the city has available to it to mitigate the rising costs of disposal. Therefore, the success of this pilot is of paramount importance to our citizens. We don't want to be in a position of having to cut other valuable services to pay for waste disposal if there is an alternative," she said.

As far as the city taking steps to codify the program, that is sometime off in the future, according to the mayor.

"The city will not consider legislation to adopt the program until we have had an opportunity to review the data from the pilot program, conduct public hearings, and satisfy ourselves the program is worthwhile," she said. "That said, it is worth noting that the State of Massachusetts became the 12th state in the nation to adopt a similar program, and we realistically must plan for that happening here in CT as well."

"Therefore, as mayor, I feel it is important to prepare the citizens of West Haven for what appears to be inevitable, and I am glad we can do this on grant funds and not from our own pocket."

The mayor took the opportunity to defend the vendor, Waste Zero, as the consultant on the program.

One reader said, "If a company is going to make money off conversion of the garbage, let them sort it out." That was a reference to the sorting done through the bags. Her defense went in a different direction.

"As to the consultant, the premise that there is something illegitimate about hiring a consultant is a misnomer. All governments routinely contract out services and purchase goods from for-profit firms. In this case, DEEP through normal State procurement regu-

lations selected this consulting vendor to help the towns implement the State funded program," she said. "The city has cooperated with the program framed by the state and employed this vendor using the grant funds to distribute bags and monitor the citizen participation. Further, the City of West Haven published a public bid for the manufacture of the bags, which was won by Waste Zero in an open and fair

public bid."

Rossi said the program is the way of the future, and the city should get on board, and all the information has been given to the public.

"The city and DEEP has made a concerted effort to educate our citizens on the waste management crisis, we as a nation are facing and the dramatic threat rising costs make to our delicately balanced budget," she said finally.



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Around Town

Seniors plan Aqua Turf trip

The West Haven Senior Center will offer a bus trip to the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on March 14 to see the award-winning McClean Avenue Band and Irish step dancers perform.

The trip costs \$120 and includes transportation and corned beef and cabbage and baked scrod served family style. It also includes a glass of wine or beer, coffee and doughnuts, as well as door prizes. Payment is due Feb. 10. For reservations, visit the senior center at 201 Noble St., upper level, or call (203) 937-3507.

The bus will depart at 9:45 a.m. from the Savin Rock Conference Center parking lot, 6 Rock St., and leave at 3:45 p.m. from Aqua Turf.

WWII stories planned Jan. 24

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.

Orating from letters he inherited from his father's Army footlocker, Pritchard will tell fascinating stories of Anton Pritchard's wartime service.

Pritchard has spoken at several venues across Connecticut

Thursday, January 26th
6:30 - 7:30 pm
300 Elm Street

Endangered Languages Project

Join us for a presentation about the Endangered Languages Project! You will learn about the project and how to access the ELP website, as well as how you can play an active role in protecting endangered languages

Registration is Required
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Westies: *Lady hoopsters top Academics*

Continued from page 20

East Haven took a 1-0 lead with 5:21 remaining in the first period as a Savo shot was deflected past Astravukh, but the deficit was short-lived. Off a feed from Spreyer, Madera evened the game from in front 1:06 later.

The Westies continued to pressure, but shots by Burrows, Price, and Porto were denied in the final 3:18 of the opening period.

West Haven had a pair of odd man rushes to start the second period, but Spreyer was denied off a feed from Madera, and Burrows was denied off a feed from Price.

Burrows finally gave the Westies the lead they would not relinquish when he ripped a shot off the crossbar and in off an assist from Price with 4:47 remaining in the second.

The Westies scored the eventual winner early in the third. After a point shot by Josh Rodrigue was covered up, Price won the faceoff to Burrows, who rang a shot to the top left corner for a 3-1 lead with 1:52 gone by in the third.

The West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy girls hockey team won its fifth straight contest and improved to 6-1 with a 2-0 victory over Hamden.

Isabelle Desrosiers was solid in net, making 24 saves to post the shutout. Desrosiers was particularly effective in the third period with 10 saves to preserve the shutout.

While Desrosiers made seven saves in each of the first two periods to keep Hamden off the scoreboard, the Westie Sharks scored the only goal they would need in the second period as Olivia Twarowski scored off assists from Kelly Manfield and Rachel Harrison at the 5:50 mark.

The Westie Sharks picked up an insurance goal when Anne Plunkett scored off an assist from Geena Montano at the 14:36 mark of the third period for a 2-0 advantage.

Then things went sour. After a 4-0 loss at Avon, WH/SHA dropped its second straight contest with a 2-1 defeat at the hands of Guilford. Despite a solid defensive effort and clutch goaltending from Desrosiers, the Westie Sharks could not pull out the victory.

Desrosiers was tough in net as she stopped 18 shots for the Westie Sharks, including nine in the third period. Unfortunately for the Westie Sharks, Guilford goaltender Kadence Epke was equally impressive, turning aside 29 West Haven / Sacred Heart Academy shots, including 14 in the second period.

Trailing 1-0, the Westie Sharks got the equalizer with 6:34 remaining in the contest as Twarowski scored off an as-

ist from Ashley Welch.

The tying goal would hold up for 3:08, before Guilford scored the winner when Julia Crisci scored off an assist from Isabella Jackowicz.

The Westie Sharks had just seven shots in the final period, with Epke coming up big in goal for Guilford.

West Haven / Sacred Heart Academy continued the rough going.. Unable to score the equalizer in the final nine minutes, the Westie Sharks fell 3-2 at Simsbury.

The loss was the third straight for the Westie Sharks and dropped their record to 6-4 on the season.

Desrosiers made 18 saves in the contest as the team played solid defensively. Desrosiers made 11 saves combined in the first two periods and seven in the third.

Trailing 1-0, the Westie Sharks evened the contest when Rachel Harrison scored an unassisted goal in the second period.

Simsbury scored late in the second and early in the third for a 3-1 lead, but the Westie Sharks battled back. Julianna Picard scored off an assist from Plunkett with 9:02 remaining, but the Westie Sharks could not get the equalizer.

The West Haven girls basketball team improved to 4-3 with a 66-32 victory over East Haven. The Westies had seven players in the scoring column and were led by Amani Abuhatab with 22 points.

Kassidy Carrano and Ciara Harp each scored 14 points, while Dealyce Howard scored eight. Carrano finished the contest with four 3-pointers and Harp drained a pair.

The Westies were on their game from the start with 20 points in the opening quarter and 38 in the first half. Carrano drained a pair of 3-pointers in the opening quarter and Abuhatab scored four points.

Abuhatab and Harp did the damage in the second quarter as Abuhatab knocked down four field goals for eight points, while Harp hit two 3-pointers and a field goal for eight points of her own.

Carrano hit two more 3-pointers in the third quarter and had eight points, while Abuhatab connected for five more points in the third.

West Haven improved to 5-3 with a 72-49 victory over Hillhouse at home. The victory was West Haven's second straight and third in its last four games.

Abuhatab led the Westies with 30 points, while Carrano finished with 16, and Howard had eight. Carrano was solid from the outside, draining four 3-pointers.

West Haven put the game away early, leading by 11 after

one quarter, and 42-19 at the half. Despite an evenly played second half, the 23-point deficit was too much for Hillhouse to overcome.

Abuhatab scored 11 of her team's 22 first quarter points with Carrano, Isabella Fiorillo, and Harp all draining 3-pointers in the quarter.

Carrano and Abuhatab helped put the game away in the second quarter with Carrano scoring seven and Abuhatab six.

Abuhatab added six more in the third to go along with five from Howard and four from Arianna Titus, before Abuhatab helped close the game by scoring seven of her team's 12 fourth quarter points.

West Haven improved to 6-3 with a 79-47 victory at Guilford Tuesday evening. The win was the third in a row for the Westies and fourth in five games.

Abuhatab and Fiorillo led the way for West Haven with 16 points apiece. Abuhatab added 10 rebounds, four assists, three steals and two blocks, while Fiorillo had five assists.

Harp scored 15 points and had two steals, Carrano scored nine points, along with 10 rebounds and two assists, while Howard added eight points in the win.

The Westies came out of the gates running as Abuhatab scored five points and Noelle Lawrence drained a 3-pointer in a 12-point first quarter. West Haven continued the quick scoring in the second quarter as four players combined for 24 points, led by Harp's nine points on three 3-pointers, eight points from Fiorillo, four from Ella Morgan, and three from Howard.

The Westies pulled away with 22 points in the third quarter. Carrano scored nine points, and Abuhatab and Fiorillo each scored six.

West Haven is starting to heat up. With three players in double figures, the Westies topped Lyman Hall 65-47 Friday evening at West Haven High.

Abuhatab led the Westies with 14 points, Carrano had 12 points, and Howard scored 11 as the Westies won their fourth straight game to improve to 7-3.

Abuhatab also added 12 rebound, seven assists, three steals, and three blocks, while Carrano had seven rebounds and five assists. Arianna Titus was solid on the boards with 11 rebounds, while Ella Morgan pulled down 10.

The Westies trailed by three points after one quarter, before turning the game around with a 21-10 run in the second quarter to take a 32-24 lead at the half. West Haven increased



photo by Todd Dandelske

Adam El Kharraz goes through two, Cross defenders for the basket. The Governors won this one despite the effort.

the lead to 12 in the third, before pulling away in the fourth quarter.

Howard led the way in the third quarter as she scored seven of the team's 21 points, while Lawrence added five and Carrano four.

Abuhatab and Harp heated up in the third quarter as Harp scored eight points, Abuhatab had seven, and Carrano and Lawrence each drained 3-pointers.

Five different players scored in the fourth quarter with Isabella Fiorillo leading the way with four points.

The West Haven boys basketball team fell to 2-4 on the season with a third straight loss. The 92-70 home defeat against Wilbur Cross followed a nail-biting loss at Jonathan Law two days earlier.

Against the Governors, the Westies fell behind early and tried several times in the second half to make a comeback. West Haven was denied each time.

Trailing by 17 points in the third quarter, baskets by Bennett Scott and Bryan Tillman got the Westies within 51-38. A steal and basket by Tillman had the Westies within 53-40, before Cross increased the lead to 58-42.

Tillman then led an 8-2 run with a basket and two free throws to get the Westies within 60-51, but Cross nailed a 3-pointer with one second left in the third quarter to take

a 63-51 lead.

Trailing by 14, Tillman drained a 3-pointer, but despite baskets by Isaiah Jackson and Scott, West Haven could not get within single digits again.

West Haven fell to 3-5 with a 60-50 loss to Fairfield Prep at West Haven High Wednesday evening. The loss was West Haven's fourth in its last five games.

The Westies jumped out to an early lead, but trailed by three points at the half. After taking a double-digit lead, the Westies could not hold on and Prep pulled away to win by 10.

West Haven took an 11-8 lead in the opening quarter as Adam Elkharraz scored five points. The Westies added 14 points in the second quarter as Jayce Perry scored seven points and Elkharraz scored five points.

Five different players scored in the third quarter as West Haven trailed 45-38. Perry scored four points and Elkharraz drained a 3-pointer. Joseph Williams scored five of his team's fourth quarter points, while Scott added four.

Elkharraz led the Westies with 14 points, while Perry added 11, and Scott finished with 10 points.

For all your West Haven sporting news throughout the year, including game articles by Mike Madera, highlights, photos and more, visit www.westieblue.com.

Mite squads continue success on the ice

The West Haven Mite B hockey team spent Saturday at home where it played Yale. The Westies had some great plays as Sadie Moll filled in for goalie and saved many pucks. Goals were scored by Landon Alling and Jack Weiss.

West Haven went to Northford to play Greater New Haven and the Westies had some great competition. Many shot attempts and great puck passing were done by all players, helping Kierra Harrison, Alling, JP Beebe, Austin Picard and Gabby Jenei score goals for the day.

West Haven had many great saves from Ava Healy.

The West Haven Mite C hockey team had two games this weekend. The first game was on home ice against Darien Gray.

Caleb Ford was in net and made many excellent saves. Ryan Shannon, Brayden Gagliardi and Jackson Ford each scored a goal, with multiple assists from Ava Healy and another assist by Jackson Ford.

Shots on net were made by Maddy Bruder, Healy, Wesley Morazzini and Quinn Uscilla. Excellent defense was played by Bruder and Healy.

In the afternoon, the Mite C's traveled to Total Mortgage Arena in Bridgeport to take on the Shoreline Sharks. Caleb Ford was in net again during the matchup and made many more great saves for the Blue Devils.

Multiple goals were scored by Gagliardi, Jackson Ford, Bruder and Uscilla, while Shannon also scored a goal. Assists were made by Shannon and Gagliardi.

Shots on net were made by Healy and Morrazini, while excellent defense was played by Jackson Ford, Healy and Bruder.

The West Haven Mite C hockey team traveled to Newington to take on the CT Chiefs on Saturday. In net for the Blue Devils was Ava Healy, who made many great saves during the matchup.

Multiple goals were scored

by Gagliardi and Bruder, and a goal was also scored by Uscilla. Uscilla and Morazzini also each had an assist.

The Mite C's played Hamden Mite B on Sunday in an away matchup. Healy was in net again for the Blue Devils and made many excellent saves.

Multiple goals were scored by Gagliardi, Jack Weiss and Landon Alling. Uscilla, Morazzini, Finn McLaughlin and Bruder also scored one goal each. Uscilla and Alling each had an assist during the matchup.

The West Haven Bantam AA Major hockey team dropped both of its games this weekend. The Blue Devils lost, 4-2, to Western A and 3-0 to New Canaan AA. The Westies are 19-7-2 overall and 10-6-2 in CHC play. On Saturday afternoon at Danbury Ice Arena, the Colonials scored three goals late in the third period to pull out the 4-2 win over the Westies.

Brett Kayser tied the game at one for West Haven with a hustle play in the final minute of the first period. After his initial shot was saved, he pounced on the loose puck and jammed it in.

Sam Malangone put the Westies ahead, 2-1, when he nabbed an errant pass and snapped it home with 13 minutes left in the game.

Bryce Upson was clutch in goal, but Western scored two power play goals and added an empty netter in the last six minutes. The Westies were outshot 40-22.

On Sunday, New Canaan outshot West Haven, 34-15, and skated away with a 3-0 win.

The West Haven Bantam AA Major hockey team competed in the MLK Classic hosted by the Northern Cyclones in Cyclones Arena in Hudson, NH. The Blue Devils went 1-2 in three hard-fought games.

In the opener on Saturday, the Westies outplayed the Valley Jr. Warriors, outshooting them, 33-13, in posting a

1-0 victory. Sean Studley fed Ethan Kelly who flipped in a backhander four minutes into the game for the lone goal. Upson posted the shutout in net.

In Sunday's second game, the Westies were tied 3-3 late in the third but lost, 5-3, to the NE Predators. Down 1-0 midway through the second period, Ethan Kelly hit Studley with a stretch pass and the winger roofed the breakaway to tie the game. The Predators scored twice to regain the lead, but the Westies would not quit.

Kelly passed to Leo Mazurowski who ripped it from the point.

Studley redirected it out of the air and into the net to make it 3-2.

Early in the third period, Matt Kelly took a shot and Studley pounced on the rebound and fired it over the goalie's shoulder for a hat trick to tie the game at three. The Predators pulled away late.

Upson made 19 saves in the contest as the Westies outshot them, 27-24.

In game three early Monday morning, the Blue Devils faced the undefeated VT Flames. Ethan Kelly redirected in Jack MacNiven's shot for the Westies' lone goal late in the first period. Upson made

25 saves in the 3-1 loss.

The West Haven Bantam AA Minor team traveled to Newington to play Central CT Capitals on Saturday and fell, 3-1.

Despite numerous penalties, and going into the second period down by one, Zach Melchiorre and Cameren Lipford were able to work together and even the game.

Lipford skated the puck up ice and passed to Melchiorre in front of the net, shooting twice to get the Westies on the board.

The defense worked tirelessly to keep the puck out of the zone, not allowing any shots or breakaways.

The Westies held the Capitals to a tie at one, until only three minutes remained in the third period. Despite the loss, Benny Pikul was solid in goal.

The Westies faced Greenwich Skating Club Sunday night at Bennet Rink and posted a 4-2 victory. Despite Greenwich getting on the board first, the Westies dominated the rest of the game as the defense was stellar with Benji Brown and Aedan Guarino leading the charge, constantly winning the battles in the corners, and keeping the puck in the zone.

The Blue Devils entered the second period trailing by one,

before quickly falling behind by two goals. With six minutes left, Brown made a huge stop at the blue line and passed the puck to Dylan Dicioccio, who shot it right past the goalie and got West Haven on the board.

Less than three minutes into the last period, Eddie Thomas, Lipford, and Mark Vere were controlling the zone along with the defense of Ayden Troyer and Jackson Heyn. Thomas backhanded the puck in from the outside of the circle to even the game at two.

Just two minutes later, Dicioccio received a pass from Guarino, went bar down and put West Haven up, 3-2.

Forwards Keegan Dobratz, Michael D'Aiuto, Ian Olszewski, Peter Aurora and Carson Frost continued the pressure, while Isaac Mann and Lucas Macniven made some key saves, and blocked shots to keep the puck in play.

With eight minutes left in the third period, Dicioccio recorded a hat trick for the night and secured the win for West Haven off assists from Melchiorre and Enzo Plano.

Kai Lupa was solid in net for the Westies.

For all your West Haven sporting news throughout the year, including game articles by Mike Madera, highlights



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Jayden Spreyer celebrates his game-tying goal as time expired versus ND-Fairfield.

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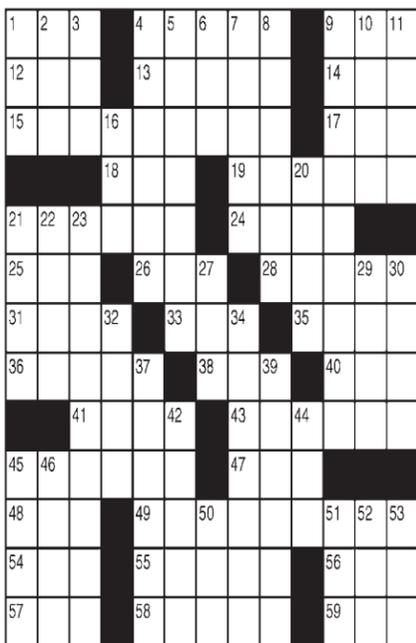
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Energy
- 4 Amtrak express
- 9 Sushi fish
- 12 Praise in verse
- 13 VIP on Air Force One
- 14 Tennis feat
- 15 Museum piece
- 17 Train lines (Abbr.)
- 18 Sprite
- 19 Holler
- 21 Word game with dice
- 24 Horseshoe site
- 25 Brit. record label
- 26 Not 'neath
- 28 Bolivian city
- 31 Wilson's predecessor
- 33 Observe
- 35 Castle
- 36 Caper
- 38 Music booster
- 40 GPS suggestion
- 41 Skip
- 43 Telethon array
- 45 Soft and weak
- 47 Kanga's kid
- 48 Use a shovel
- 49 Land in the Irish Sea



- 54 Oklahoma city
- 55 Beethoven's "Fuer --"
- 56 Kimono sash
- 57 Unruly group
- 58 Impudent
- 59 Tex- -- cuisine
- 7 "The Addams Family" butler
- 8 Houston team
- 9 Picnic veggie
- 10 Beige
- 11 For fear that
- 16 Small barrel
- 20 Thy reaction
- 21 Alpha follower
- 22 Muscat's land
- 23 Eloquent person's talent
- 27 Actor Stephen
- 29 Memory word
- 34 Catherine, notably
- 37 Municipalities
- 39 "Nuts!"
- 42 Inventor
- 44 Gut-punch
- 45 Wax-coated cheese
- 46 Rover's pal
- 50 Fleur-de- --
- 51 Off-tattooed
- 52 Jurist Fortas
- 53 Kibosh
- 32 Marathoner's stat

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MAGIC MAZE ● ASSOCIATED WITH HAIR COLOR

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

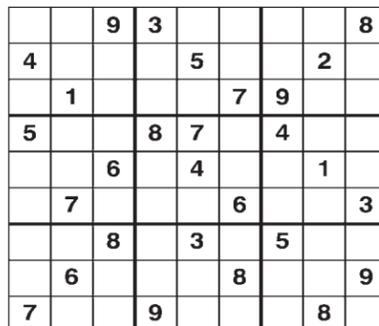
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: REDDISH-BROWN HAIR

- Black
- Bleached
- Blond
- Brown
- Dark
- Dyeing
- Flaxen
- Ginger
- Gray
- Light
- Platinum
- Red
- Sandy
- Strawberry
- White

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

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

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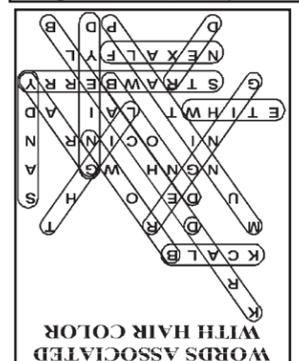
Answers to this week's puzzles



Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword



Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

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

- 7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a female peacock called?
- 8. FOOD & DRINK: How many meals do Hobbits eat in a day, according to the movies?
- 9. ADVERTISING: Which product used a manicurist named Madge in its advertisements?
- 10. MEDICAL: What is a common name for the condition called septicemia?

- 1. The Mississippi
- 2. "Westworld"
- 3. Twister
- 4. Lyndon Johnson
- 5. 1955
- 6. "Family Feud"
- 7. A peahen
- 8. Seven
- 9. Palmolive dishwashing liquid
- 10. Blood poisoning

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HIDDEN GEMS

Cooperative Effort between the Voice and the West Haven Economic Development Commission

Ah, the post-holiday slump. January, February, three-quarters of March - dreary gray days, not so much on the "What To Do in Connecticut This Weekend" website. We all need a bit of a lift, and nothing gives a lift like good cuisine and good company. And West Haven is home to two new establishments that fit the bill.

Moby Dick's Cafe opened in September on Campbell Avenue near Center Street and has developed a loyal and diverse following in three short months. Owner Doug Ruickoldt had restaurant ownership in his blood. His grandmother and father ran Ruickoldt's in New Haven for years, and his father also ran Billy's Cafe on Sawmill Road for a couple of decades. So, after a long career with Metro North, Doug and partner Evan Mink spent four months gutting the former Sonny's, and brought back the original name, as well as the beauty of the cherry ceiling beams and original copper-topped bar. Diligent work on those antique fixtures was coupled with a new subtle maritime motif, from the unique lit-porthole frames along the wall to the Manhattan-style black and white tile floor, high top tables handmade by Ruickoldt's son Nick (complete with whale fluke purse holders) and an open kitchen with an oyster station theme.

Ruickoldt felt it was a no-brainer to open in West Haven.

"I love the town, love the people. It might sound a little corny, but I'm a true Westie," he said. Partner Mink is also a West Haven native, and feels the same. When asked why the pair chose downtown, Ruickoldt said that he remembers what downtown was like.

"You had Silver's, Liggett's, Horowitz's, Mario and Joseph's, Herzog's...you could get everything you needed here. It was a beautiful downtown. I would love to see it come back to where it was," he said.

Moby Dick's has a short menu, which concentrates on what they do best. Of course, there's the raw bar, featuring clams and shrimp the size of small chicken drumsticks, as well as various and sundry oyster varieties which vary by day and are sourced fresh daily.

"People love oysters!" exclaims Ruickoldt.

The raw bar is the only one in West Haven, and also features a "skyscraper" and

a "seafood tower" (oysters, clams, shrimp, and crabmeat) perfect for sharing. The lobster bisque and clam chowder are favorites, along with their flatbread sliders and cast iron skillet macaroni and cheese. All food is made in-house by "Chef Jeff" Lamberti (formerly of the West End Bistro). Even the juices are all freshly squeezed daily. "Orange, grapefruit, lemon, lime..." Ruickoldt enumerates them with pride.

"People love it. We don't use drink mixes. It's all house-made," he said. They're also popular for their very nice selection of good wines. Happy Hour runs daily from 3-6 weekdays with \$2 off mixed drinks and \$1 off beer and wine, and you absolutely cannot beat the new Tuesday specials, featuring half price oysters as well as mac and cheese and meatball slider specials and several other great offerings (including those beyond-jumbo shrimp)..

"We're getting a lot of people from out of town," the owner continues "Southbury, Fairfield, Seymour, Shelton -- not just the neighboring towns." He recounts how a Fairfield couple told him how much they love the place and couldn't wait to return. But, Ruickoldt is quick to add, he also is seeing more and more young couples who live within walking distance stopping by, as well as residents who commute to New York daily and just don't want to make dinner.

But of all the things of which the owners are very justifiably proud, Ruickoldt says he's most proud of Moby Dick's "professional staff, welcoming atmosphere, being a place where people can come and enjoy themselves and have a good day or night out." It also has a coziness according to the owner - "Not small, but cozy... comfortable."

Lisa Sweeney, one of Moby's friendly bartenders, adds, "People come in as strangers, but the next time they come in, it's like, 'oh, I remember what you drink...'" And customers then become friends.

Meanwhile, down by the shoreline at Captain Thomas Boulevard in the former ramen restaurant Oak Beach Bar & Grill has opened to great fanfare.

Oak Beach is overseen by owners Gino Fetta and his son Luigi Fetta, as well as cousin Al Dinofrio and friend Mark Lynch. Much like Ruickoldt and Mink, the owners found that a total

gutting of the property had to take place with a lot of hand-built and personal touches now in place: It's also subtly nautical, all beachy greys (as opposed to the dreary ones mentioned in our opening paragraph) and neutrals.

Gino Pere, a lifelong butcher and the meat man behind the original iteration of the Savin Rock Roasting Company, has been in the business all his life starting with years at Rose's Supermarket. Luigi is "a great mixologist with a passion for food" who worked on the Gold Coast with Dinofrio, Oak Beach's chef and so brought him in. Here, too, the menu concentrates on a tidy selection of varied dishes that the restaurant knows they do best.

The owners here originally were looking at Milford for their establishment, but Jimmy Greenberg, owner of the building on Captain Thomas, told them it was available.

"West Haven is a great community," Gino Sr. says. Also born and raised here, he was thrilled with this news. Son Gino (or as many of the customers seem to call him, "Little Gino") says that he loves the Captain Thomas-Ocean Avenue corridor.

"I call it the yellow brick road," he laughs.

Photos of the shoreline dot the brick walls and, proudly over the front window, there's the painted plaque that proclaims we're in 06516 territory.

Chef Al Dinofrio says that the secret to success, learned from long years in the industry, is simple.

"Fresh ingredients. Everything from scratch, second to none. And consistency is very important."

Systems are implemented to keep quality constant.

"Fresh product in, fresh product out," declares Dinofrio. "We already have a great product, but we're always fine tuning to make it exceptional." He also adds that the employees are wonderful and "excited to sell something unique and different and so good," he said.

The most popular dish is the Gino's burger (proprietary meat mixture on Bibb lettuce, with ripe beefsteak tomato and red onion on a fluffy, soft potato roll served with cole slaw and fries), followed by the uber-popular steak and cheese sandwich and then the angelically light ricotta dumplings (Oak Beach's very superior turn on traditional gnocchi).

"It's simply ricotta, fine

flour, rolled and cut by hand, with a sauce of San Marzano tomatoes, garlic, olive oil and basil," says Dinofrio.

The Teres Major filet is a beef cut most people have never even heard of but it's making quite a name for itself thanks to this restaurant. Meatballs are also devoured in large numbers.

Customer Lisa DeRosa entered and asked for a redux of the cream of broccoli soup which was a special the week before.

"It was the best I ever ate," she said. "I wanted to order two." She was there urging Gino Sr. to put it on the menu

permanently.

After only four weeks the owners are clearly overjoyed with the concern and are having a great time with their customers.

"This is a restaurant like you haven't seen, and won't see again," Gino Sr. says.

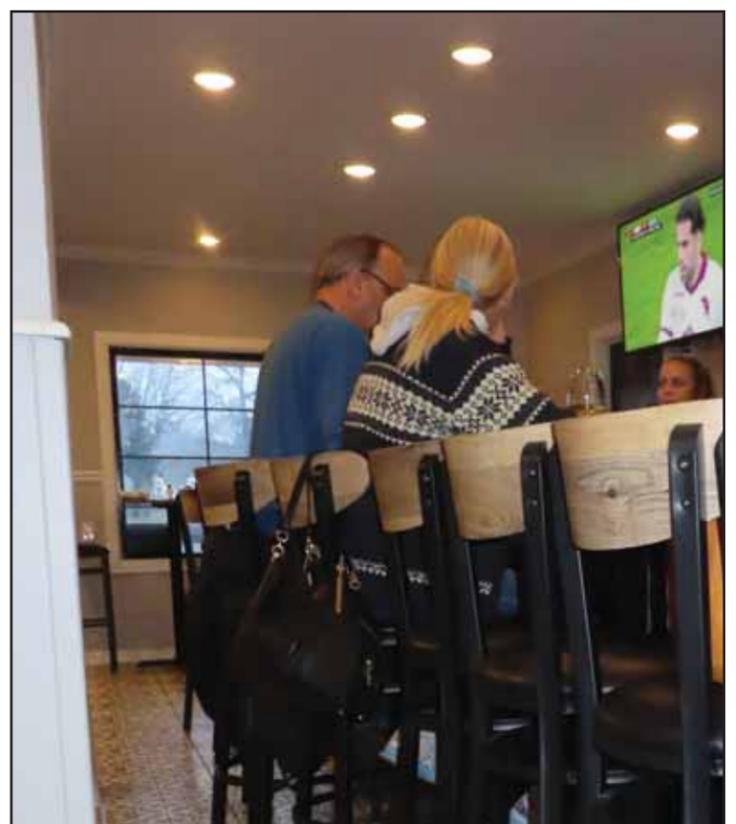
"They're very happy that this is a place where people can just be themselves," Gino Jr. adds.

When asked what makes Oak Beach stand out. Gino looks around at the crowd and his staff and says, "This is a family. This is what I wanted."

Two great ways to beat the winter blahs



The food and atmosphere at two of the city's newest bistros have people coming back in the short time both have been open. Moby Dick's (above) on Campbell Avenue, and the Oak Beach Bar and Grill on Captain Thomas Boulevard are welcome additions to the city's many fine restaurants.





Sports

Thursday, January 19, 2023

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Skaters get first win of year v. EHHS

Searching for its first win of the season, the West Haven co-op hockey team played its best game of the season. Unfortunately, it was not enough.

Onyx King's goal with 1:03 left in overtime lifted Notre Dame-Fairfield to a 2-1 victory over the Westies at the Wonderland of Ice. With the loss, West Haven fell to 0-5.

With the game scoreless after two periods, the Lancers took a 1-0 lead after a West Haven turnover with 6:41 remaining in the third.

The Westies, who had controlled play in the middle period, then mounted the pressure once again in the final four minutes. With a man advantage and an extra skater, a perfectly designed play allowed Marcus Burrows to set up Jayden Spreyer, who ripped a shot from the point in for the equalizer with 0.5 seconds left in regulation.

After Javed Ullah stopped a two-on-none breakaway just 43 seconds into the extra session, the Westies picked up the play once again. Shots by Thomas Porto and Mike Madera were turned aside, Yousaf Ullah's power play shot just went over the net, and Spreyer hit the post with 2:10 remaining.

With the Westies still pressuring, the puck cycled out of the zone, leading to King's breakaway goal.

West Haven played its best in the second period, outshooting the Lancers 14-5, with Notre Dame goalie Colby LaSalle stopping each shot.

LaSalle denied Madera with a shoulder save 53 seconds in, turned aside Porto in front 1:33 later, and denied Madera once again with a glove save 3:04 in. LaSalle was the difference in the second period as he denied Yousaf Ullah's point shot with 11:03 to go, denied Brady Price from the slot 30 seconds later, and Spreyer from the slot a short time after.

The Notre Dame goaltender continued to thwart the Westies, stopping Madera in close with 9:30 to go, and Burrows from the slot with 7:09 remaining in the middle period.

LaSalle then denied Jason Alling with 7:34 remaining in the third of a scoreless game, and Porto from the slot just 13 seconds after the Lancers took the lead.

Javed Ullad made 29 saves in the loss and was particularly impressive in the opening period when he turned aside all 12 Notre Dame shots.

Then it happened. the team won tough match-up, putting it in the win column.

Led by 37 saves from Kyril Astravukh and two goals by Burrows, the Westies topped East Haven 3-2 Wednesday evening at Dilungo Rink in East Haven. With the victory, West Haven, which has played significantly better in its last three games, improved to 1-5 on the year.

Astravukh was stellar throughout the contest, making clutch saves the entire game. The West Haven goaltender was at his best in the final period.

Astravukh denied a breakaway by East Haven's Michael Savo, who scored twice, with 2:10 gone by and the Westies leading 3-1. He then denied John D'Albero in front with a pad save with 9:47 to go, and Cameron Greene from the right faceoff circle with 7:01 to go.

After Savo cut the West Haven lead to 3-2 with 6:35 to go in the third and East Haven increasing the pressure, Astravukh denied East Haven the rest of the way.

Astravukh also came up with a pair of huge saves 1:15 apart with less than five minutes to go in the second period to preserve a 2-1 lead.

See Westies, page 16



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Above -- Cici Harp defends for the Blue Devils in their 72-49 win over the Academics. Middle --Ella Morgan battles for position under the hoop versus Hillhouse. Below -- Thomas Porto clears the front of goalie #35 Javed Ullah against Notre Dame of Fairfield. The Westies lost this one in a nail-biter, but got in the win column with a 3-2 win over East Haven