

West Haven Voice

July 6, 2023

Vol. 28, Issue 13 20 Pages

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

Voice Feature

An in-depth feature

Lions Club
hosts annual
VA picnic

See page 19



Harbor dredging, shore impact heads agenda at Sound confab

Making New Haven Harbor more conducive to natural improvements was the topic of a recent discussion, and continued meeting between on state official, and various other interested parties.

State Rep. Dorinda Borer recently convened a meeting with federal, state, and local officials involved in the New Haven Harbor Dredging project to discuss the timing and impact to the Harbor and West Haven's shoreline.

The project includes the removal of nearly 4.3 million cubic yards of sediment and 43,500 cubic yards of rock. The plans are to utilize the rock sediment for local reef building and clean sediments for marsh creation within the harbor.

Significant state and federal funding has been allocated for this project. As former Bonding Committee Chairman, Borer worked on allocating funding for the Harbor; for both clean water and for the widening and deepening of the channel.

Dredging will create tidal wetlands for plants and animals, create shellfish beds, reduce waves that result in storm damage, and benefit the water pollution control plant. Depending on timing and wetlands elevation, it may also help the construction of the critical WPCA outfall pipe.

Rep. Borer pulled the parties together because she felt city officials need to be engaged and in tune to the timing of the project, but also should be sharing information with the Army Corps regarding West Haven's shoreline to avoid unintentional adverse effects.

"The purpose of this project is a matter of safety, boating, and
See Harbor, page 11



Submitted Photos

Top-right -- Park-Rec Director Mark Paine points out an impact dredging of New Haven Harbor has on the city's shorefront during a meeting of coastal officials and Rep. Dorinda Borer last week. Right -- Officials take a walking tour of local sites during the day's conference.



Let us tailor a

Marketing Solution

for your business!

sales@westhavenvoice.com



Lilah Kisiel, age 4, a West Haven Child Development Center, Inc student, is looking forward to warm weather just right for swimming.

On this Date

2013 -- Asiana Airlines Flight 214 crash lands in San Francisco International Airport. The plane was en route to San Francisco from Incheon International Airport, South Korea. The crash, which killed 3 people and injured at least 190 others, was the first fatal incident involving a Boeing 777 since it came on the market in 1995.

2006 -- Nathula Pass, a trading post between India and China opens for business. The trading post had been closed since the Sino-Indian war of 1962.

1964 -- Malawi gains its independence from Britain. Between 1953 and 1963, the Southeast African country was part of a British controlled federation called Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. After dissolution of the federation and independence, Nyasaland changed its name to Malawi.

1912 -- King Gustaf V opens fifth Summer Olympics in Stockholm. The international multi-event sports meet was the first such event in history to introduce the photo finish and automatic timing devices for track competitions. Twenty-eight countries, participated in the games.



Continuing series

Last summer, we began to publish a series of public domain postcards and photos of old Savin Rock, particularly in the early years. This proved very popular, and we continue it this summer. We show what is now the beach/bike path as it was seen at the turn of the 20th century.

Contact

West Haven Voice

West Haven Voice, LLC
840 Boston Post Road, West Haven, CT 06516

203-934-NEWS (6397) Web: westhavenvoice.com
Facebook: whvoice Twitter: @whvoiceads

Editor Bill Riccio - info@westhavenvoice.com
Sales Director Alan Olenick - sales@westhavenvoice.com
Sales Development Jillian Perovich - jillian@westhavenvoice.com

Next Issue: July 20 (Now publishing the 1st and 3rd Thursdays)

A UNIQUE FACILITY FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT

Anniversaries | Baptisms | Bar/Bat Mitzvahs | Birthdays | Meetings | Repasts
Communions | Fund Raisers | Reunions | Showers | Wedding Receptions

We accommodate up to 200 Guests, Full Kitchen Facility, Bar Room Facility and Stage, Deck/Patio and Grill, Full Audio & Video Projector, LED Dance Lights, Wireless Internet, Ample Parking, ADA Compliant Access

For Reservations:
Call (203) 937-0088

WEST RIVER HALL

37 ORLANDO STREET | WEST HAVEN, CT 06516

info@westriverhall.com
www.westriverhall.com

Family literacy focus of Council, guest

Last month, the West Haven Early Childhood Council organized a special event featuring Dr. Loretta Long, the esteemed actress known for her role as nurse Susan on the beloved children's television program, Sesame Street. The event aimed to highlight the significance of family literacy and encourage the transmission of family history through storytelling, particularly em-

phasizing the importance of sharing these stories with the youngest members of the family.

Dr. Loretta Long's presentation captivated the audience with her heartfelt words and insightful perspectives. She passionately emphasized the power of storytelling as a means of preserving family traditions, values, and cultural heritage. Throughout her talk,

Dr. Long emphasized the role that stories play in connecting generations and fostering a sense of identity and belonging among children.

Attendees of the event, which included parents, educators, and community members, found Dr. Long's message to be deeply inspiring and thought-provoking. Her expertise and genuine passion for promoting family literacy

were evident, leaving a lasting impact on everyone present.

To commemorate the event and to provide participants with a tangible memento, everyone received a personally signed copy of Dr. Loretta Long's book, "From Paw Paw to Sesame Street, My Journey." This book, undoubtedly

a cherished keepsake, further emphasized the importance of passing down family history through stories, as it chronicled Dr. Long's own journey from her early life experiences to her iconic role on Sesame Street.

The signed copies of "From See Council, page 16



Photo courtesy of WHECC

Paul Schott, chairman of the Early Childhood Council is pictured with Tammy Theis-Satterlee, council coordinator and Dr. Loretta Long (formerly Nurse Susan on Sesame Street).

Combine and get in on the surprise.



Here's the deal, our Home and Auto rates are already great. But when you combine with State Farm[®], you can save even more. Call me to discover your surprisingly great rates on Home and Auto today.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.[®]

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm underwriting requirements.

Encarnacion Ins Fin Svcs Inc
Elsie Encarnacion, Agent
487A Campbell Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
Bus: 203-932-0591

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
State Farm General Insurance Company
Bloomington, IL
State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas
State Farm Agents
Richardson, TX
State Farm Florida Insurance Company
Winter Haven, FL
200185



A Partner in the Community



University of New Haven

www.newhaven.edu

Dear Felicia

Well hon, yew know summer is rolling along when Fourth of July rolls around. That means the "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer (so quoth Nat King Cole)" and here we are! As I told yew before, the Cobina rule is in effect.

Therein it states that the amount of coverage of bathing attire is in opposite proportion to the, er, girth of the wearer. Ya see it all the time, people of more "substantial" proportions seem to think skimpy is in, whether they be of either sex. Cobina has had this axiom for decades, and ain't seen it fail yet.

Meanwhile, the Mystick Maidens of the Marsh were lookin' for a place to have their July 4 festivities, and had to settle for the West Haven side of the marshes along the Oyster River. Beach Street being under construction kind o' put us in a quandry as it'll be harder to git to Sandy Pernt. The MMM council determined Oyster River, and there we were. We had a grand ole time.

It was good to see the city puttin' back the fireworks to July 3, and Sam-

my Bluejay sez that the City Council woiked long and hard to make sure the funding was in place so it could happen. As yew remember, the fireworks were moved last year to the Savin Rock Festival, which caused quite the uproar.

Ostensibly, Herronner said at the time, it was gonna keep the outsiders from comin' into town. As yew might recall, the fireworks along Bradley Point used to bring in upwards of 100,000 souls in the past, and the police and logistical costs were on the high side.

That, rather than the number of outsiders, was the reason things were altered in the past. It was gonna cost the city some bucks to put things on come July 3, with overtime and the like. Sooooo, put it when the Festival is on or later in the year, and the costs come down.

The council, according to Sammy looked at every nickel and found the bucks needed to put the show on at the traditional time and place.

The big question is what's gonna happen to the thousands that go to Beach Street? That thor-

oughfare has been closed off for more than two weeks cuz of the road-work being done. It's gonna be months before the projeck is finished, and holiday or no, each weekend lotsa people used the beaches over there, the most being around July 3.

The road being closed means there are detours through neighborhoods. One jest wonders effen those people are gonna traverse through the detours and the neighborhoods, tying up traffic even worse than ever. Cobina was of a mind to visit friends on July 3, but given the inflow and outflow of traffic for the 'works, she's gonna park the gassamobuggy and stay at home.

Still, for those who like the fireworks every year, it's good to see them back. It's one of the big traditions in this burg and one that shouldn't be trifled with.

Another tradition in my neighborhood is the local use of boom-booms in the days leading up to and after July 4. Hon, sometimes it seems like we're reenacting the Battle of the Marne - with-

out the taxicabs. Things don't seem to quiet down until late at night.

~~~~~  
 With the roll around of July thoughts are moving toward the Savin Rock Festival, which we are hearing is in full planning for the end of the month. It's gonna be here before yew know it, and the Old Grove Park will be buzzin' with thousands of people. It's not what it was a few decades ago, insofar as there seems to be fewer local organizations taking part, and the Baby Contest is no longer part of the plans as far as I kin tell - that was always a big thing.

Still, it should be chock full of things to see and bands to hear, and all kinds of other things that make the community what it is. With the dog days of summer setting upon us, people will be looking to git to the shore and enjoy the breezes, and the sounds.

The Wag noted that the DJs that used to be down at the Captain Tony Deck aren't there anymore. Whilst Cobina doesn't have foist hand knowledge of why, the organization of setch an undertaking used to be handled by people in the Actors Colony, and then by volunteers, scheduling the music, and making sure people show up. That has been getting harder and harder over the years, and one wonders effen that spelt the end of the longstanding tradition. I'm sure we'll find out one way or t'other.

~~~~~  
 July in odd-numbered years also means the biennial meetings of the Democratic and Republican Town Committees to endorse their slates of candidates. Nelly Nut-hatch was here the other afternoon, and some scenarios seem to be the "consensus wisdom" on what will happen over the next few days.

On the Demmie side, things are in flux with the decision by Mrs. Rossi not to seek a fourth term. Right now, Ed O'Brien, former chief executive, and Councilman Victor Borrás seem to be the two candidates vying for the standard to bear. That is, unless one person enters the race.

Nelly sez (and this is what she is hearing from Demmies) that Dorinda Borer is expected to announce her candidacy. Word on the street is that with the new salary of \$108,000, the office is

much more attractive than it was before. That might entice her to decide to make the run. By the time yew git this mis-sive the determination might already be made.

Demmies were expecting her to make a decision in the days leading up to the caucus, and then the whole shooting match takes on a new "calculus." Supposedly, Ed O'Brien has said effen she runs, he will drop out. That remains to be seen, but that is what Demmies are saying out loud.

Of course, they are hoping she will run to keep the Demmies in power. Borer is a rather popular gal with her finger in a lotta pies. The fack that she is rather important in Hartford these days may or may not have a bearing on whether she runs, but the big money is hoping she'll put her chapeau into the arena.

~~~~~  
 Over on the GOP side, the conventional wisdom believes that the RTM is gonna go with Paige Weinstein as the candidate. She seems to have swayed the members of the panel to her side, and the fack that she might have her own war chest of cash ain't a little part of the equation. Still, she has no name recognition, and will have a hard hill to climb in that regard - a thing she herself admitted when she visited her a few weeks back.

Steve Mullins and Barry Cohen are the other two announced candidates, and there is no reason to think they aren't gonna have their petitions out on the street forcing a primary before the ink is dry on the GOP slate form. Mullins thinks he's the best candidate for the job, and has a lotta name recognition both inside and outside o' the political sphere.

Cohen, on the other hand, was the candidate the last time, and is lookin' to pick up where he left off in '21. He only lost by 30-plus votes, and it was an election rife with "irregularities." Sooo, naturally, Cohen thinks he deserves another bite of the apple.

In fack, again this ain't Cobina talking, many think effen push comes to shove, and there is a primary for the GOP nod, Cohen has the tilt in his favor cuz of his last attempt at the office. People know who he is, like it or not. So, the other

See Felicia, page 5

## SHORT ON CASH??

# TURN YOUR UNUSED GOLD INTO CASH

HIGHEST PRICES PAID!

HIGHEST PRICES PAID!

- No Item Too Large Or Small
- 10k, 14k, 18k, Dental, Sterling
- On Site Testing While You Wait
- Licensed Buyer For Over 30 Years
- Immediate Payment
- Any Condition

## Leslie Jewelers

Friendly Service  
Provided Here!

27 Wagner Place  
**203-933-3291**

Family Owned  
And Operated

Visit us on the web - [www.lesliesjewelers.com](http://www.lesliesjewelers.com)





**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**  
There are four street lights out on Altchuler Boulevard between Dunkin Donuts and Palace Street. They have been out for over a year.

I contacted the United Illuminating Co., which said they weren't theirs. I contacted West Haven Public Works, and Public Works said the same. Who is responsible? This is a heavily travelled street especially during summer with concerts, West Haven Days, etc. How do we get this taken care of quickly?

*Concerned Citizen*

**Dear Concerned Citizen:**

Well, readers, let me tell you. I experienced frustration with a capital F when I tried to make my call to the United Illuminating Co. First, It took me three tries to get a United Illuminating phone number from 411 phone information.

Then when I finally reached the UI number, it rang 30 times. I counted and no one answered. So, I tried to get another phone number from 411, tried that number and it was all automatic...no human voice. Finally, I tried 411 again and received a number for the UI office in Orange.

The young person who answered was polite, but, I am afraid, not too helpful. She was just doing her job, recording my complaint, and passing it on. That was two weeks ago. No response from anyone. Now, I know the Voice appears twice a month, so be patient with me. I am not letting this go! We UI customers are "paying through the nose" and we deserve prompt service..

Believe me, this gripe is not going to go unanswered. And those of you in that neighbor-



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

hood, as soon as you see the lights go on email me, please.

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

What is the problem with My Ride Drivers? Most are nice and helpful. Some are rude and lazy to help the se-

niors. Hire others please!

*Treated Badly*

**Dear Treated Badly:**

Perhaps after reading your comments today, you will see an improvement in courtesy. Please let me know if you do or don't.

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

Could you find out why there won't be any DJs and dancing on the deck at the West Haven Boardwalk this summer? It was a great way for people to gather, get a little exercise and enjoy the summer season.

*Music Lover*

**Dear Music Lover:**

I was able to get a prompt reply from Councilwoman Meli Garthwait. "Here are the concert schedules for this

summer."

**Thursday Night Summer Concert Series:**

- 7 p.m. at Old Grove Park
- July 13 -- Downtown 7.
- July 20 -- Rick Ryes.
- 7 p.m. West Haven Green:
- Aug. 3 -- Rubber City.
- Aug. 10 -- Silver Street.
- Aug. 17 -- Christian LaUoz-deoro.

~~~~

Gripe Vine Readers if you have a gripe, issue or comment, send them to gripevineatwh@yahoo.com Please include your name, address and phone number, kept in strictest confidence with me. You can also mail your gripes, etc., to me at Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516.

Farmers Market opens for new season today

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

The Tony Inzero Farmers Market will open its 2023 season today next to the Oak Street Beach parking lot off Captain Thomas Boulevard.

The market, nestled on the right side of the beach lot, will include state farmers selling homegrown fruits and vegetables and crafters selling wares from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays through Oct. 14.

It will feature artisan breads by Hoffman Unlimited LLC, sauces and jams by Chile King LLC, and salts, oils and vinegars by Dash N' Drizzle.

Saturday, the Start of the Season celebration will include food trucks and live entertainment.

This season, the farmers market is partnering with ArtsWest-CT to showcase a variety of entertainment, such as live performances and unique demonstrations, at the Saturday markets.

The market will also include more than 20 different vendors, crafters, organizations and food trucks during the season.

The Thursday markets will feature What the Truck?! BBQ, in addition to ice cream at both markets.

Parking is available in the Oak Street municipal lot and on Palace Street. Oak Street is on the senior shuttle route and the CTtransit route. In addition, a van will run from the West Haven Senior Center, 201 Noble St., to Oak Street at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays.

The Department of Elderly Services will start distributing reusable farmers market cards to eligible city residents around the second week of July. Residents 60 and older who meet income requirements are eligible for \$24 vouchers in the form of electronic cards. For information on the Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program, call the department at (203) 937-3507.

The farmers market is sponsored by the city and has operated since 2000. It was dedicated in 2010 in memory of Anthony F. "Tony" Inzero, a leader in the downtown business community who co-owned Flower Affair on Campbell Avenue.

Dear Felicia

Continued from page 4

candidates are gonna hafta fight that advantage.

The bit question, and one being asked even by Demmies, is could the GOP find it in itself to gather 'round a candidate once the voting is over and the winner decided? In the past most GOPers took their ball and went home, giving the election to the other side - been that way for a long time. If the GOP is gonna just play dead after the primary, then it might have squandered its best opportunity to win since George H. W. Bush was at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

With the bit o' chatter, we'll close mitt luff und kizzez,

Cobina

GRIPEVINE

Do you have a complaint or issue? Fill out this coupon and mail it to Gripevine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven, CT 06516.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ DATE _____


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 gripevineatwh@yahoo.com or use the online form at westhavenvoice.com/gripevine.

Live streaming available at no additional cost



Burials ~ Cremation ~ Pre Planning



Philip M. Appell
Funeral Director & Managing Partner
phil.appell@carriageservices.com

At Keenan Funeral Home we work with every family's budget to give your loved one the dignified memorial they deserve.



Sarah L. Rivera
Funeral Director
sarah.rivera@keenanfunealhome.com

330 NOTCH HILL ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD 238 ELM STREET, WEST HAVEN

(203) 481-3217 (203) 933-1217

KEENAN FUNERAL HOME

www.keenanfuneralhome.com

Start to pay attention

In the next few days, the two major parties in West Haven will determine which names will head and fill their respective slates for the upcoming November mayoral election. The Democratic and Republican Town Committees will meet and endorse those each 60-member panel wishes to be on those slates for mayor, city council and various under-ticket positions.

Those votes will trigger a series of events that may – or may not – result in September primaries. With names still being discussed in the Democratic Party, that likelihood will advance or diminish, depending on the names presented. At this writing that issue is still fluid. Two are known, former Mayor Edward O'Brien and Eighth District Councilman Victor Borras. Should State Rep. Dorinda Borer enter the race, the calculus in that party will, most likely, change.

The Republicans, meanwhile, have three announced candidates, and the likelihood of a primary is all but certain, given the entrenched positions of those individuals. In order of announcement, Paige Weinstein, a city businesswoman, former Planning & Zoning member Steven R. Mullins, and 2021 GOP standard-bearer Barry Lee Cohen have announced.

Once the endorsed candidates are presented by the town committees, the process of petitioning for placement on the primary ballots commences. Those petitions will be filed by to the city clerk and then certified against voting lists. Those reaching the threshold will be put on the primary ballot. The primary winners will then be those slated for the November election.

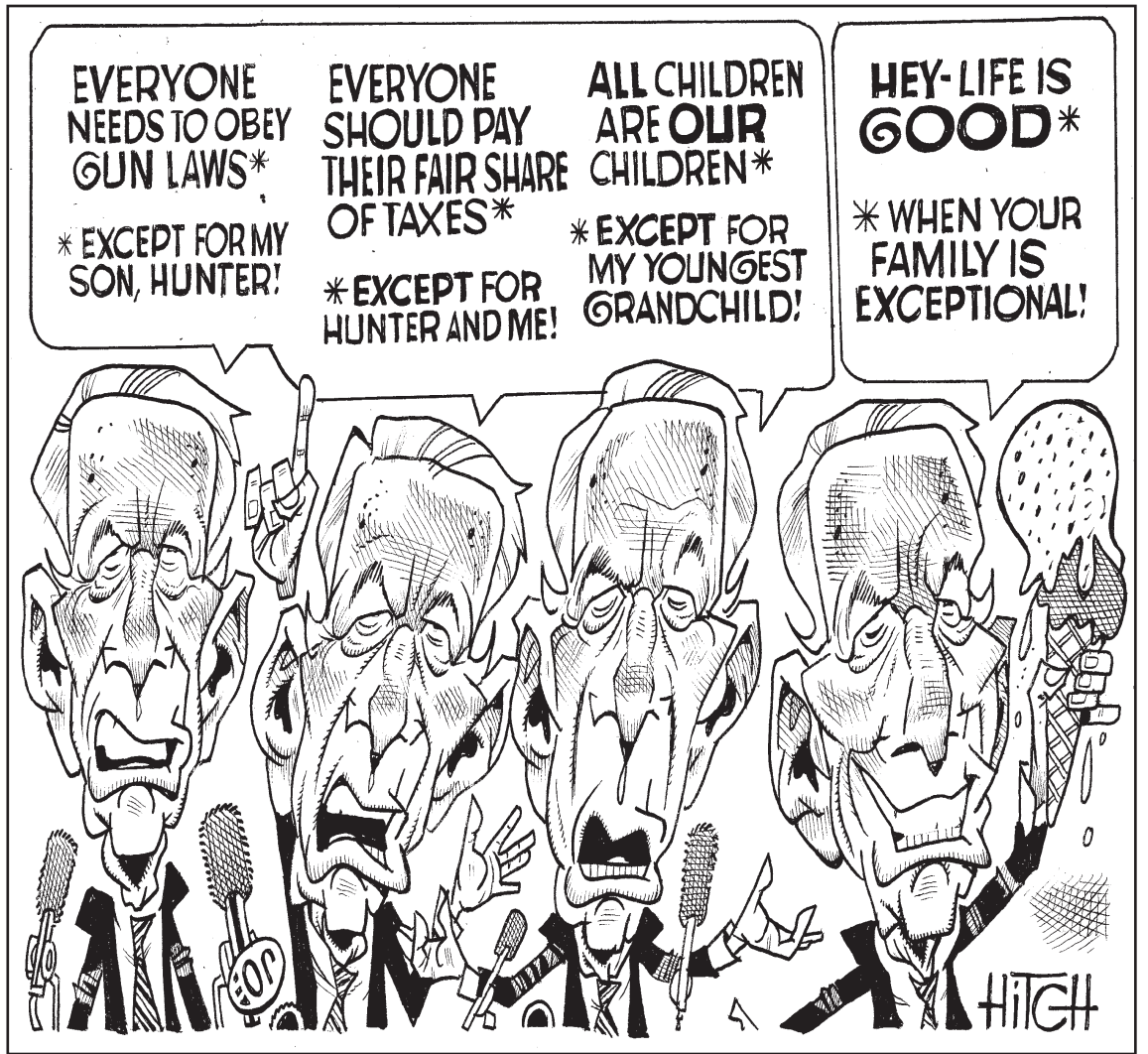
Why is this important to the average West Havener? That answer is simple. Who leads the municipal government over the next two years will be important to the future of the city. The exit of Mayor Nancy Rossi from fourth-term consideration has put the entire process in as wide-open a position as voters have seen in many years. The chance to greatly effect change in the city is real.

It is not our position to endorse one party against the other, but we are in hopes the election in November results in something other than a super-majority of one political party. It is no secret the city's 32-year run as a one-party city has done great harm. Entrenched party rule, with no consistent or effectual opposition, leads to the sloppiness and lack of controls that forced us into state receivership over the last six years. The uphill battle the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) has had in changing the culture in City Hall is because – at least in part – to one-party rule. A more balanced membership between the executive and legislative branches will provide a check and balance so lacking over the last several decades.

That means city voters must pay attention. The issues facing the city are too great. Continuing as we have is no longer feasible. That means candidates and their positions, rather than their party affiliation must be the prime reason to vote for an individual. This year provides an excellent opportunity to vet candidates based on ideas, not whether a "D" or "R" is beside the name.

West Haven is at a crossroads. It has seen ineffectual leadership at all levels of government for too long.

Politics, rather than what is good for the city, has been the driving concern. That can only change if the voters pay attention, listen to the options, and vote accordingly.



Russia 'getting to Denmark'

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

On the one hand, events in Russia two weeks ago were stunning -- the leader of a mercenary group declaring against the country's military leadership and, for 24 hours, marching on Moscow.

On the other, they were about what you'd expect in a Russia that, across the long centuries of its existence, has never managed to achieve Western standards of self-government.

Everything we need to know about Russia was made clear by its brutish, cynical and incompetent invasion of Ukraine. But the blowback from the invasion in the form Wagner Group leader Yevgeny Prigozhin's brief armed revolt fills out the picture.

Revolutions, attempted rebellions, assassinations and coups dot the Russian historical landscape. This isn't unusual in old nations. What makes Russia different is that it is dealing with them to this day.

England had a no-kidding war between the king and parliament ... more than 350 years ago. Boris Yeltsin had a battle with the parliament that resulted in the parliamentary building getting shelled by tanks ... in 1993.

If Prigozhin hadn't turned

back, Russian tanks might have been battling in the streets of Moscow once again.

"Getting to Denmark" is the phrase social scientists use for achieving the modern standard of government.

"For people in developing countries," Francis Fukuyama has written, "'Denmark' is a mythical place that is known to have good political and economic institutions: It is stable, democratic, peaceful, prosperous, inclusive, and has extremely low levels of political corruption. Everyone would like to figure out how to transform Somalia, Haiti, Nigeria, Iraq or Afghanistan into 'Denmark'."

Russia has never gotten to Denmark, either, although if it ever succeeded in taking back the Baltics by force, at least it'd be geographically closer.

Russia's distance from the Western standard is why a country that is a member of the U.N. security council and the G20 and considers itself a great power could have a crisis with a distinct Third World flavor. An ambitious military leader who has a personal following making a bid for power is what we expect in places like Paraguay, Ecuador and Honduras. Except none of them have nuclear warheads; Russia has 6,000 of them.

Establishing a norm of the

peaceful transfer of power is one of the most valuable achievements of the modern West. Otherwise, history tells us, rival contenders for power will kill one another and cut paths of destruction through their societies. The most extreme example is the Western Roman Empire that dissipated enormous resources on constant internal battles for power, setting the predicate for its fall.

Opacity, conspiracy, double-dealing, and lies are endemic to human nature, and all politics. But the West manages to circumscribe them somewhat through accountable government, the rule of law, and norms around transparency. In Russia, it's different. It may be a very long time before we know everything that was going on with Prigozhin's revolt, if ever.

In a speech last year, Vladimir Putin railed against the West's "undivided dominance over world affairs" and blamed it for holding down what it regards as "second-class civilizations."

The sense of bristling defensiveness in that statement is understandable. A couple millennia after Athens and a couple hundred years after the modern democratic revolution, Russia still has a de facto

See Lowry, page 7

Cannabis and teens: not so benign

By Dr. Randall Dwenger, MD

A Guest Column

In recent years, policies and attitudes regarding marijuana have been shifting, with more than 37 states permitting marijuana for medical purposes and over 20 states now legalizing cannabis for recreational use. While we are adapting to the new normal of marijuana's growing presence in our communities, the shift in perception that marijuana is now "safe" is alarming. But for teens and young adults whose brains are still developing, there is no new news. The increase in availability, the increase in potency of cannabis products, and the increase in marketing efforts that appeal to teens – all put youth and their developing brains at increased risk.

The changes in marijuana laws have spawned huge growth in the businesses of cannabis. According to a report by New Frontier Data, a cannabis market research firm, legal cannabis sales in the United States reached \$17.5 billion in 2020, a 46 percent increase from 2019. Some experts are predicting that cannabis sales will grow to \$41.5 billion by 2025.

The cannabis industry's explosive growth is very evident in the Northeast. In Connecticut, adult-use cannabis sales began in January 2023 and totaled \$5 million. By May, the value more than doubled. As of June 2023, New Jersey legal marijuana sales reached \$180 million. And in New York state, cannabis is expected to generate \$4.2 billion in revenue annually. Of course, these are just the publicly reported sales figures. There has been a huge surge in illegal sales as well – from unregulated specialty shops and from vendors and dealers "on the streets." In fact, New York City is home to over 1,400 unlicensed stores with just four licensed retailers.

It is no surprise that marijuana consumption is trending upward in the United States. There were approximately 28 million marijuana users in 2012, in 2020 that number grew to 47 million. While 2022 statistics are still being compiled, it is expected that 52 million Americans will have consumed cannabis. One study reported that 2.5 million teens between 12 and 17 years old consume marijuana regularly with 30.5 percent of 12th graders reporting cannabis use within the past year.

The consumption increase is tied to both ready access to the product and omnipresent marketing. Cannabis businesses use social media and digital advertising to promote their products and normalize cannabis use, targeting the youth demographic while circumventing advertising restrictions on cannabis products. But it is not just on the internet. On a recent trip through Western Massachusetts, cannabis dispensaries seemingly had a monopoly on the billboard market, with signs competitively flaunting their "Voted Best in the Berkshires" status, and medical dispensaries asking: "Why Wait for Better Health?" The ubiquitous presence of these advertisements perpetuates a rising sense that this product is safe for all – which is far from the case.

Legalization has heralded the introduction of high-potency marijuana with significantly higher THC concentrations, the primary psychoactive compound in cannabis. Compared to the marijuana of the 1990s which had about 4 percent THC concentration, today's strains commonly boast THC levels of 15 to 30 percent, although some are as high as 95 percent. Additionally, the variety of products and formulations – including candy-like edibles, lollipops, THC-infused sodas and seltzers, waxes, dabs, and glass-like products called shatter – seem designed to attract young people.

Despite the changes in legalization, accessibility, acceptance, and perception, there is **no new news** in the neural development department. The science of brain development has not

See Teens, page 17

Lowry: *Russia immobile*

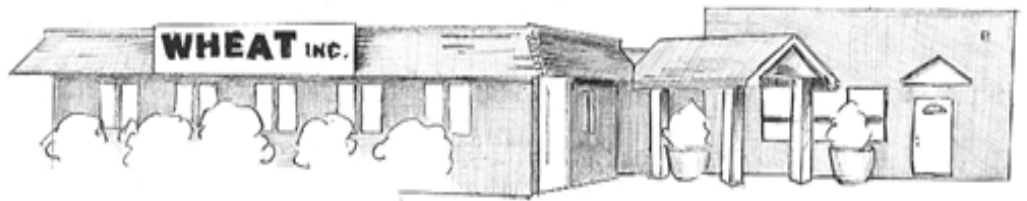
Continued from page 6

tsar. Whereas we read about poisonings in history books telling the story of medieval Europe, they still happen in Russia. If he's going to maintain his sense of dominance, Putin isn't ultimately going to defeat Prigozhin in an election or simply fire or reprimand him; he's going to have to kill him.

The West may be naive, feckless, foolhardy or self-destructive, but its model of stable, accountable, democratic government is a great advance in human welfare. Without it, you get a Vladimir Putin reportedly fleeing his capital in fear and a Yevgeny Prigozhin likely to experience an unfortunate fall out of a window sometime soon.

Russia has only ever been able "to get to Russia," and it shows.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
(c) 2023 by King Features Synd., Inc.



WHEAT's pantry is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2:00-4:30 All CT residents are welcome, no appointment needed. Photo IDs and proof of address are not required. Visitors can come twice a month to receive food and should bring their own grocery bags if possible. If not, WHEAT has grocery bags available. Please call or email us with any questions about WHEAT's services.

Food donations can be dropped off any time our office is open: Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 am and 4:30 pm. Monday, Friday and weekends by appointment.

WHEAT

674 Washington Ave., West Haven

203-931-9877

wheatcharity@sbcglobal.net

WHPD town hall addresses areas of public concern

Approximately 70 citizens attended last week's meeting at the West Haven Police Department to discuss topics ranging from staffing to residents' concerns.

Chief Joseph Perno and several command ranking officers were available for a two-and-a-half-hour session., which included eight of 13 members of the City Council, two state representatives and all three Republican mayoral hopefuls.

Topics of conversation included, the July 3 fireworks, youth violence on the Boardwalk, traffic, illegal dumping, lack of police pensions, and continuing staffing issues.

Perno discussed the ongoing problem with staffing and the lack of a police pension plan that will retain hires in the local department.

The problem has been highlighted by the Police Commission and Perno over the years. The decision a decade ago to go to a 501(k) rather than stable pension has caused an exodus from the department once officers get enough experience to transfer elsewhere. Current staffing is below the minimum levels expected in a city and department of West Haven's size.

When it came to other topics, the ongoing problem with after-hours activity at the city's shoreline was discussed. The presence of an after-dark culture along the shore, particularly with homeless residents and others has plagued the area for years.

Police staff is overworked and understaffed.

Discussion veered into the possibility of a curfew for underage teens was suggested. That comes under the purview of the City Council, which would have to pass an ordinance in order to implement such a move.

Perno explained, while the beach is supposed to be closed at sunset city officials have not taken the steps to implement action after closing.

Should the City Council take up questions of a curfew or closure of city parks and beaches, the PD will have the legal backing it needs.

Manwhile, in order to give some means of security, cameras and call boxes are planned for the near future.

Photos courtesy of Steven R. Mullins

Police Chief Joseph Perno addresses the crowd as Police Commissioner Paul Butler looks on. The crowd had many questions fielded by Perno and city officials.



TROPICAL CARIBBEAN
Authentic Latin Cuisine

Presents
Thursday Night Live!
West Haven Summer Concert Series

7 PM at Old Grove Park
June 23 - Freeplay
July 13th - Downtown 6
July 20th - Rick Ryes

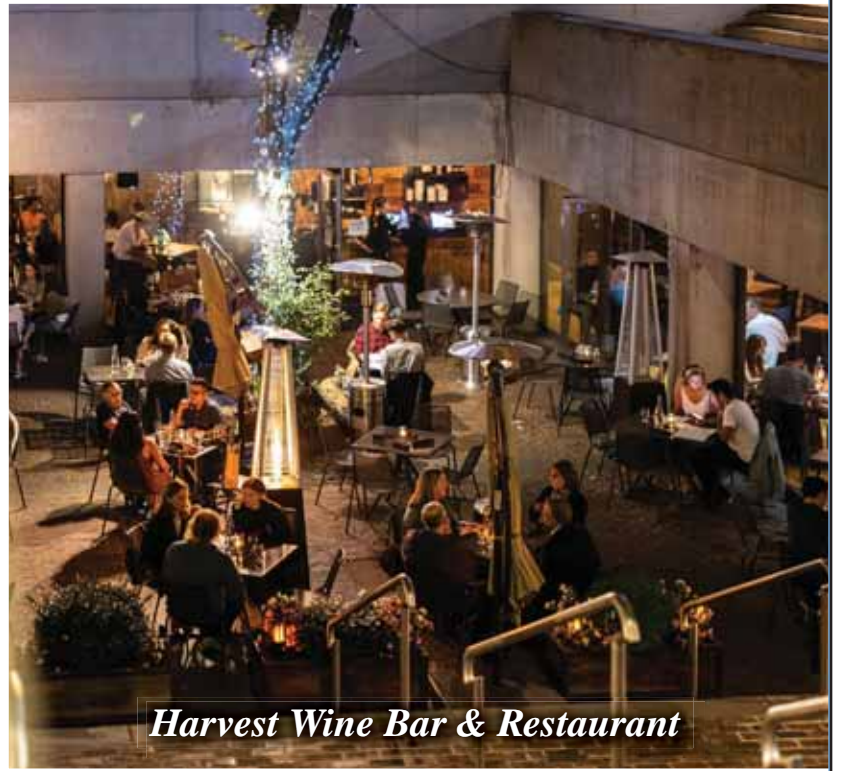
7 PM at The West Haven Green
August 3rd - Rubber City
August 10th - Silver Steel
August 17th - Cristian La Uoz De Oro

Dine Alfresco

In Historic Downtown New Haven



Sherkaan Indian Street Food



Harvest Wine Bar & Restaurant



College Street

The Shops at Yale




 @TheShopsatYale

Union League Café • Midpoint Istanbul • Anchor Spa
 South Bay Mediterranean Kitchen • Villa Lulu • Pacifico
 Book Trader Cafe • Crêpes Choupette • B Natural Kitchen
 Harvest Wine Bar & Restaurant • Claire's Corner Copia
 Maison Mathis • Sherkaan Indian Street Food & more!

A unique collection of more than 65 local boutiques, national brands, cafes, restaurants & attractions with convenient parking in historic downtown New Haven. Plan your experience at [TheShopsatYale.com](https://www.TheShopsatYale.com).

'Igniting Talent' boosts careers

By Dan Atkinson
Voice Writer

High school can be stressful enough for students even before they begin considering what they want to do after graduation and which career paths and options are available to them. Additionally, they may not understand what careers could match up with their interests and preferred working environment.

Fortunately, the career-readiness program Igniting Talent, founded by the Joe Abate Charitable Foundation, is giving juniors and seniors from West Haven High School

(WHHS) the opportunity to participate in multiple "micro-internships" at local businesses. By doing so, the students get the opportunity to perform hands-on internship in these fields and determine if they want to pursue certain careers.

Aylin Espinoza, a recently graduated WHHS student, and employees at the city's design-build remodeling firm Baybrook Remodelers Inc. all saw the benefits of Igniting Talent up close in late April. During her internship, Espinoza had the opportunity to explore her interest in interior design and directly assist with

computer designs for projects. Meanwhile, Baybrook gained a hard-working intern who embraced the opportunity to learn new skills.

Meghan Abate was inspired to start the foundation in memory of her late husband Joe. The two had regularly discussed how difficult it is to know what you want to do as a senior following high school and the different career options available to you. Abate, an ESL teacher at WHHS, wanted to make Joe's dream of students having the ability to explore different career paths in their community and

gain an understanding of career options available to them a reality.

Igniting Talent began three years ago and was created in partnership with school counselors at WHHS and the business community. It allows juniors and seniors uncertain of their future after high school the opportunity to explore different professions and participate in up to three micro-internships, with each one lasting two weeks. Internship opportunities are identified based upon a student's personal interests and personality and career assessment tests.

The fact that our interns can have hands-on, real-life experiences while completing their internships really sets our program apart. Students become immersed in their career and different positions during their micro internship," Abate said. "Our interns have expressed appreciation that they're gaining valuable knowledge and experience which allows them to make choices in which career field may be best for them."

If a student has interest in continuing to work in a particular field following their internship, program leaders will create a pathway for them to enter it. This can include identifying certain training or academic requirements they may need to meet to become employed, as well as potential compensation and career growth. Through the foundation, Igniting Talent can award the student a scholarship to use for schooling or training. Abate said multiple students have committed to pursuing a career path after their internship.

Espinoza chose to participate in Igniting Talent because she had been unsure of what career she should pursue after high school.

"Throughout my life, I didn't know what I wanted my career path to be. I didn't know what kind of jobs there were in the world," Espinoza said.

Espinoza was eventually assigned to do a micro-internship at Baybrook Remodelers because of her interest in interior design. Espinoza said she has always enjoyed designing her room and providing others with ideas for designing theirs.

Baybrook Remodelers founder Ken Carney said the firm's leadership team chose to participate in Igniting Talent after two close friends explained the program and its benefits. Baybrook recognized that allowing students to do internships at their firm would be a beneficial way to serve young people in West Haven.

While interning at Baybrook, Espinoza's main tasks were to organize files and add machines and cabinets to the computer designs of a few projects Baybrook was in the process of working on. An example of this was her using 3D technology to design a kitchen space.

Espinoza said she enjoyed her internship and Baybrook's working environment.

"What I enjoyed most about the experience was being able to do tasks at my own pace and all the friendly people

See Program, page 16



Submitted Photo

Igniting Talent participant Aylin Espinoza (far left) poses with Baybrook Remodelers, Inc. staff during her time at the city-based company. Shown are (from left), Megan Abate, part of the Abate Charitable Foundation, which sponsors the program, Mark Homberg, Ken Carney, and Steve Flood.

S O S

Starting today we are having our annual

Silver on Sale at 50% off special

Choose from Earrings, Chains, Pendants, Bracelets, Anklets and Rings

If it's Silver, it's on Sale

Leslie Jewelers

Visit us online at www.lesliesjewelers.com

Or at our new location - 27 Wagner Place | West Haven, CT 06516 | 203.933.3291



Submitted Photos

Above -- Sandy Point and the impact of the dredging was a big part of the discussions. Right -- Rep. Dorinda Borer hears from Harbor Master Robert Pimer.

Harbor: *Dredging impact*

Continued from page 1

commercial activity, but everyone involved should be weighing in on the timing and plans for this project," Rep. Borer said. "We will be successful only if everyone is rowing in the same direction."

Along with Rep. Borer, the meeting included: Abdul Quadir - City Engineer, Joseph Salvatore - CT Port Authority; Craig Martin - Senior Project Manager, Navigation Section US Army Corps of Engineers; United States Army Corp of Engineers Project Manager; Lisa Winter - New England District's Senior Coastal Engineer; Bob Pimer - West Haven's Harbor Master; Tommy Green & Meli Garthwait - 2nd District Councilwoman; Mark Paine - Director of Parks and Recreation; and Bill Lucey - Save the Sound.

Two key players on the West Haven team are parks and recreation director Mark Paine and West Haven Harbormaster Robert Pimer.

"We're excited to see the planning for the New Haven Harbor dredge project progressing," Paine said. "It's vital to our area to maintain safe waterways, and New Haven Harbor is both an active commercial port and recreational boating hub with marinas at West Cove, City Point, and the Quinnipiac River. We're working directly with the Army Corps of Engineers on the project, specifically with a salt marsh enhancement directive."

Paine wants to ensure feedback is given to the Army Corps that the material be placed in a location it will accrete and stay put, as erosion and washouts would be detrimental to both the habitat and re-sedimentation of the navigation channel with materials previously removed. He explained what happens along our beaches during strong storms, and is working with the Army Corps to help them understand some of the local wind, wave, and current energy dynamics that can be difficult to model.

"We're excited by the prospect of having more healthy marsh area around the Sandy Point area," Paine said. "Old Field Creek, now a vibrant marsh with self-regulating tide gates, empties right into this area, providing productive tidal flats all along this nationally recognized and important shorebird nesting area."

Pimer, who has been navigating the waters his whole life, was appreciative and felt the meeting was very beneficial. "I think our meeting with the Army Corp was very productive," he said. "The concerns Mark Paine and I have about dumping the spoils in the proposed area is that it has the potential of destroying the Sandy Point Estuary. The Army Corps seems open to our ideas regarding a better possible area; that would enhance our beachfront community and would preserve the April Street boat ramp and the West River, which serves over 400 boaters in the West Haven area."

Abdul Quadar, who has been serving as the city engineer, emphasized the purpose of the dredging:

"Dredging the harbor channel will be beneficial as larger ships will be able to dock at the harbor, which will reduce time, costs, and emissions, thus benefitting the environment."

Borer has set up a standard meeting schedule for continued communication.



Cybersecurity That Protects Your Business.

We are a Milford based information and security technology company that works in collaboration with clients to support their infrastructure and data security needs for today and tomorrow.

We are global defenders in a world where good wins.



Manage



Defend



Respond

Learn more today at [Vancord.com](https://www.vancord.com).

Photo courtesy of Jessica Rose

Honoring patron

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit and the Rev. Charles Kamano welcomed Annawon Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of West Haven to Mass this past Sunday as the Masons celebrated the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. The official Feast Day is June 24. Freemasonry venerates two patron saints. St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. Collectively they are known as the "Holy Saints John of Jerusalem." Pictured at before the church's high altar are: Past Master Dennis Frosolone, Worshipful Master Christopher Belous, Father Charles Kamano, Past Master Steven R. Mullins and Past Master John McManus.



City woman graduates GWCC with Board of Regents award

West Haven resident Patricia Hall, a recent graduate of the 2023 Gateway Graduating Class, has received the Board of Regents Medallion for Academic Excellence. She held a grade point average of 4.0 for a consecutive 60 credits.

Patricia along with two other students received this award out of 800 graduates participating in the ceremony for the 2023 graduating class. She now holds a degree in Business Administration, Accounting Option.

Also, during Awards Night at the college, Hall received an award for Academic Achievement for outstanding scholastic performance in business administration; accounting option.

She has lived in West Haven for 14 years and is the wife of Peter Hall. She studied and participated in this endeavor for over 11 years balancing a full-time position as Senior Quality Assurance Specialist at Schmitt Sussman Enterprises for over 34 years. In addition,

she is the mother of West Pointer Major Richard Brantley, who is a JAG in the United States Army.

She also finds time to volunteer with various pet rescue programs and serves as a full-time wife as well.

Patricia is the daughter of Eleanore Myers Turkington. Her father has been deceased for many years.

Submitted Photo

City resident Patricia Hall completed her degree at Gateway Community College, holding a 4.0 GPA. The wife, mother and professional woman was awarded the Board of Regents Medallion during graduation.





TITAN ENERGY
Creative energy solutions

WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU SAVE \$ ON YOUR ENERGY

Contact us for a custom quote on your electric and/ or natural gas.

We'll also let you know if you qualify for a FREE energy audit.

Contact:
MICHAEL HORTON
Ph: 203-464-3163
Fax: 860-436-3459
mhorton@titanenergyne.com

2275 Silas Deane Hwy., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 | titanenergyne.com



CT DCP Registration HCA-000807

Home care by Aides and Companions can be a low cost alternative to more expensive assisted living programs. We work to ensure our clients stay safe and healthy at home. We can help to identify needs before they become difficult and expensive to resolve.

Unlike most home care agencies, Aides and Companions Personal Care Aides receive monthly "in-service" training to help keep their skills honed. Most are graduates of state-certified training programs as well.

OUR SERVICES

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Live-In Care | Showering - Dressing Assistance |
| Daily/Weekly Visits | Doctor's Visits |
| Overnight Care | Respite Care |
| Activities of Daily Living | Long Term - Short Term Service |

CT Agency on Aging Provider

65 Elm St, West Haven
(203) 777-1234

info@Aidesandcompanions.com
Aidesandcompanions.com



Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

The Lone Sailor

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide

Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;

And all I ask is a windy day, with the white clouds flying,

And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the seagulls crying.

-John Masefield

What do an old block of ice, a statue by the sea, and a home with a lighthouse and tugboat—on a hilltop far from any shore—have to do with one another? Well, it's like this...

Italian immigrant John DeGrand arrived in America as a five-year old named Generoso DiGrazio in about 1900; he be-

came a naturalized citizen in 1941. He married Josephine Martino in October, 1926 and they had three children. DeGrand was driven to make his fortune in the Land of Opportunity, but he couldn't read or write, and he barely spoke any English. And furthermore, when it was necessary he signed his name with an "X" or a scribble. But DeGrand's drive to succeed was a strong one, and by 1928 he had settled in West Haven and started his own business selling ice, coal, oil and vegetables from a horse-drawn wagon. In early photos, we see him as a young man with serious eyes and a determined set to his chin.

One snowy day, John DeGrand was making his rounds

with his horse and wagon, when he came across an automobile and driver who were stuck in a snowbank. With the help of his horse, DeGrand freed the automobile from the snow. The driver identified himself as representing the Southern New England Telephone Company, and handed DeGrand his business card; "Stop by my office when you have a chance," he said. Suddenly, John DeGrand found himself providing moving services for his new friend's business, storing and shipping telephone company material. And as the years passed, the two businesses would grow and flourish together.

John DeGrand's son Nicholas DeGrand was born in 1933, the third of three children. At his birth, the doctor exclaimed, "Oh, what a big boy!" And so it was that Nicholas's nickname during his growing years was Big Boy. By this time, the family had settled near the intersection of Forest Road and the Boston Post Road in Allingtown, in a Sears Roebuck house built by the hands of John DeGrand. Out behind the house was a garage that housed their four horses: for John DeGrand, this was the preferred mode of transportation, and he never held a driver's license.

Nicholas attended Forest School and then West Haven

High School. Upon his graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and changed his name to Martin Nicholas DeGrand, because he liked the name. His time in the service was spent in Groton, Connecticut and Iceland during the Korean Conflict and the Cold War; he served from 1951-1956.

Upon completion of his years of service to the Navy, Marty DeGrand returned to the family business, driving trucks for his father; within a couple of years, he had assumed full control of the family business. In keeping with his father's tradition, Marty DeGrand was one of those quiet helpers who keep a community moving along. Stories are still told of people whom Marty pulled out of snow and mud, or the time when West Haven Green's Christmas Tree died and he sent a truck and

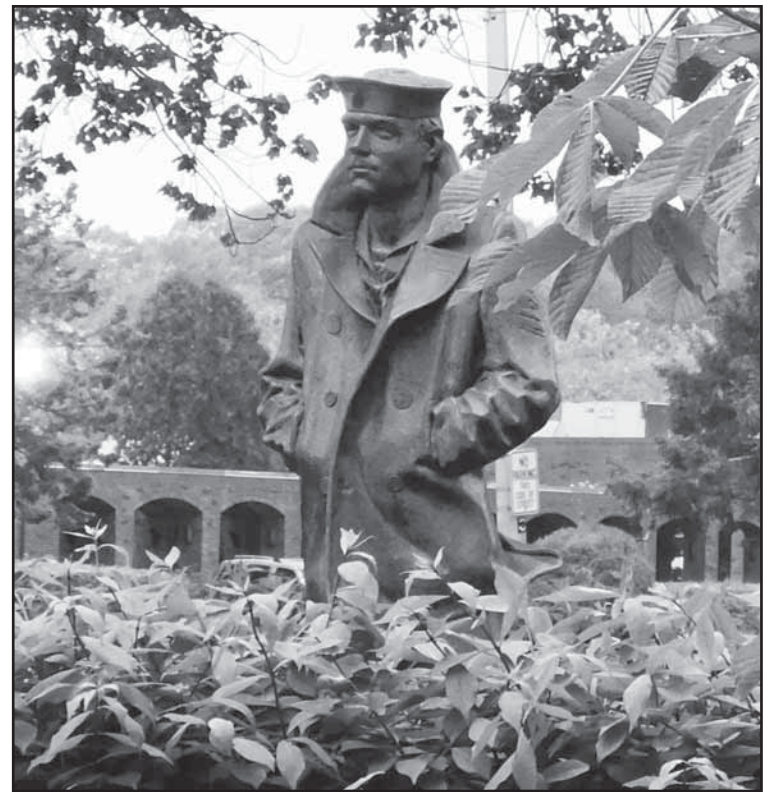
See Historian, page 16



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



Marty DeGrand (left) with the late Charlie Davidson.



The Lone Sailor at Old Grove Park.

READING IS POWER

MONDAY
JULY 17, 2023
5:30 - 7:30 PM

- Learn about why some students struggle with reading.
- Get an introduction to the Science of Reading
- Learn the best strategies for teaching your child how to read.
- Get FREE resources!

Deadline for registration is **WEDNESDAY JULY 12, 2023**

Register Now

(203) 937-4233 ext. 3
 reference@westhavenlibrary.org

Please make sure to specify if you would like to attend virtually or in person

ATTEND VIRTUALLY THROUGH ZOOM OR AT THE WEST HAVEN LIBRARY 300 ELM STREET

West Haven Funeral Home

In this age of corporate-owned funeral homes, we are a family owned and operated establishment, proudly serving our community since 1965.

We provide a level of dignity, respect, personal care and attention to detail that is second-to-none. In your time of need, allow us to honor your loved one — not because this is our business, but because this is our way of life.

Funeral Directors:

Celia Pinzi, Michael Dion & James Stricker

Pre-Arrangements & Pre-Financing Available

662 Savin Avenue, West Haven, CT 06516 · Phone: (203) 934-7921

Email: office@westhavenfuneral.com · www.westhavenfuneral.com

Teens: *Cannabis use has dangerous effects*

Continued from page 7
 changed. The teenage brain remains particularly vulnerable to the impact of marijuana. The prefrontal cortex – the region of the brain associated with judgment, decision-making, impulse control and “executive functioning” – is the last to develop, generally not fully developed until the age of 25. Drugs such as marijuana interfere with the brain’s development at this important stage, and legalization or increased accessibility and acceptability will not change that.

Cannabis use in teen years is also associated with depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders. A recent study from Columbia University found that teens who use cannabis recreationally are two to four times more likely to develop psychiatric disorders such as depression and suicidality than those who don’t use cannabis at all.

Conversely, many may use cannabis to mask or numb their feelings of depression, anxiety, or suicide – leading to delays in seeking and receiving help for their underlying mental health issues.

Additionally – especially with the higher-potency products – we are seeing an increased incidence of cannabis-induced psychosis, with users experiencing frightening degrees of paranoia and confusion. Although there is unclear data linking cannabis use to schizophrenia, the data is clear that the adolescent brain is highly vulnerable in the late teens and early 20s.

Young people are going to encounter cannabis and people who use cannabis. The proliferation of cannabis dispensaries in our neighborhoods makes it impossible not to. While the change in perception of this drug as safe makes it easier to look the other way and dismiss casual marijuana use as a rite-of-passage or commonplace, teens and their families need to be aware of the effects of marijuana on their health and well-being.

It is often said that the first thing to do when you come to a medical emergency is to take your own pulse. When it comes to teenage cannabis use and attitudes about use, that means for adults to honestly examine their own use.

A 2019 study from the

University of Washington found that children of chronic users of marijuana were 4.5 times as likely to use marijuana and 2.75 times as likely to use alcohol versus children of nonusers.

The adage “Practice what you Preach” will have a powerful influence on your teen’s behavior.

But it is also important to *preach*. It is important to tell our teens that we care about their brain development and their mental health and that we don’t want them using cannabis. Frank, open, and honest conversations are needed between teens and parents, teachers, coaches, and health care professionals. These conversations should be an opportunity to talk to and listen to our teens about their expectations, values, and attitudes about marijuana use and the use of other substances. If we don’t, we run a big risk of more teens falling victim to our country’s bigger drug crisis as marijuana is frequently implicated as a “gateway drug” – a first venture into the use of more dangerous substances, including cocaine, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, and opioids.

~~~~  
 Dr. Randall Dwenger MD, Chief Medical Officer at Mountainside treatment center, is board-certified in both Psychiatry and in Addiction Medicine. His 30-year career path has included a

variety of experiences, including developing and managing a detox center, directing an Adolescent Chemical Dependency program, and extensive work with veterans through the Veterans Administration.

## Rep. McGee applauds passage of tax credit for touring companies

State Rep. Treneé McGee (D-116) applauds the passage of the theater tax credit legislation included in the biennium budget for fiscal years 2024-2025. The legislation will provide a 30% tax credit to Broadway touring productions.

“I am thrilled that this legislation passed the House of Representatives and am grateful for the bipartisan support,” said McGee. “This is such a great economic opportunity for Connecticut to fiscally support the arts by incentivizing artists who share their art form with residents over the competitive markets around us. A special thanks to Anthony McDonald of the Shubert Theatre, Steve Sigel of the Garde Arts Center, Frank Tavera of the Palace Theater, and David Fay of the Bushnell for lending their support and helping champion this legislation.”

This legislation establishes a new tax credit for production companies eligible for pre- and post-Broadway productions and live theatrical tours performed at qualified facilities in Connecticut. The credit equals 30% of the production’s eligible expenditures which may include but not limited to costume, set design, lighting, food and lodging for the crew, and other transportation needs. Taxpayers may apply the tax credit against the personal income tax or specified business taxes. The bill caps at \$2.5 million the total amount of these tax credits allowed per fiscal year.

The biennium budget passed the House of early Tuesday. It now heads to the Senate for a vote.



West Haven’s only newspaper circulating twice a month to more than 20,000 readers

Your Partner For Success



West Haven Voice

842 Boston Post Road  
 West Haven, CT 06516

Alan Olenick  
 Sales Director

[sales@westhavenvoice.com](mailto:sales@westhavenvoice.com)

203-934-6397

Visit our website

[westhavenvoice.com](http://westhavenvoice.com)

Facebook: @WHVoice

Twitter: @whvoiceads



# From the Desk of ... Bill Riccio, Jr.

Congratulations Class of 2023! For those of you who are ending your collegiate careers, we hope you find a life's work that will be fulfilling, and become contributing members of your community and family.

For those ending their high school careers, we hope you find that niche that will make your life have meaning, whether it be in a college setting leading to a professional life, or entering the working world and using the skills you have acquired through your scholastic careers.

You are living in a time where conformity is more the order of the day than in any time in the recent past. Forces controlled by groups of elites, particularly in the political and academic spheres are asking for submission, rather than agreement.

Are you adult enough to handle these pressures and fight off the temptation to subsume your will to the mob? In other words, are you an adult ready for real life?

If you believe your "unalienable" rights are de-

rived from the government, and not Nature or "Nature's God," you are not ready for the real world.

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

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

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

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

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

If you need safe spaces to shield you from people or

arguments with which you disagree, and are unable to articulate those objections, you have been robbed of an education and are unprepared for the real world.

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

If you see slavery as the overriding event that negates everything the United States aspires to, you are immature and need to read and learn more before entering the real world.

If you see the world as an Us v. Them proposition, you have been poorly taught and poorly mentored and must understand differences that exist between people.

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

If you think tearing down

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

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

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

function in reality. Education is the learning of objective facts and truths, and being able to discern those things that are neither objective nor true.

If you see the world from a totally subjective point of view, or are willing to blind yourself thinking you are morally right and everyone who disagrees is evil, you are incapable of dealing with the world, and have been poorly trained.

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

Good luck!



Once the hoopla of graduation is over, are graduates ready for what comes next?

## WEST HAVEN PUBLIC LIBRARY MOVIE MATINEE

**MAIN LIBRARY**  
300 ELM ST.  
WEST HAVEN, CT 06516  
(203)937-4233

**SATURDAY, JULY 8TH**  
**CONNIE SACCO ROOM**  
**1PM-3PM**

[www.westhavenlibrary.org](http://www.westhavenlibrary.org)

## WestieBlue.com

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

Complete coverage of all sports teams from Youth Sports to Alumni

Photos Videos Player of the Week WH Championship teams  
Future Westies Alumni Hall of Fame WH News and Notes  
Team Leaders Statistics Coaches Information Coaches Corner  
And more

Your Everything WEST HAVEN Sports site

Contact Mike Madera  
Phone: (203) 530-1322  
Email: MikeWestieBlue@aol.com





Marty DeGrand wowed the neighborhood when he fashioned the homestead on Benham Hill Road, complete with lighthouse-style tower.

## Historian: *DeGrand was unique*

Continued from page 13

flatbed trailer to Vermont to bring back a giant Christmas tree—at no cost to the city—but only on condition of anonymity.

By now, the latest DeGrand generation lived near the top of Benham Hill, close to the family business, and close to Benham Hill Firehouse, where Marty served as a volunteer fireman. As his son Tom recalls, the family would be seated around the table at dinner, and Marty would hear the sirens of a fire truck coming up the hill past the house. “He was a fast runner—he’d jump up from the dinner table, sprint out the front door, and jump onto the truck as it went by!” And off to the fire he would go.

Ever the sailor, Marty DeGrand decided that he wanted to place a lighthouse on his property, and nobody could persuade him otherwise. Besides, it was his wife’s wish to be able to see the water from their home, and this was not possible. Marty hired a crane to come to

the house and was hoisted up in the air until he could see the water; and that was how he determined the proper height for the structure. Thus, a lighthouse was erected, and along with it a tugboat alongside. Although the lighthouse still stands, the tugboat was recently removed by the current owner.

Another one of Marty DeGrand’s inspirations was also a result of his time in the Navy and his love of the sea: He decided to purchase a statue known as “The Lone Sailor,” and donate it to the city at a site in Old Grove Park. That statue was placed there to much fanfare in 2000.

Marty DeGrand passed away a few years later, but he is warmly remembered by those of whom he knew, and those of the community to whom he gave so freely of his time and talents.

*Our thanks to Tom DeGrand and Arlene DeGrand Painter, for their assistance with the preparation of this story.*

## Program: *Interns learn by experience*

Continued from page 10

there. The biggest lesson I learned from it is to take your time on tasks.”

Espinoza did a lot of hands-on work with architect Mark Homburg and developed a close relationship with him. She praised his kindness and ability to clearly explain projects with patience. Homburg discussed what he taught her.

“I tried to teach Aylin some basic fundamentals in the design-build industry, such as how to look at a project and organize all the pieces in order to better understand all the potential complexities.”

Carney praised Espinoza’s ability to quickly learn design programs and assist with complicated tasks.

Abate said that Baybrook offered Espinoza and other interns experiences in a career path that Igniting Talent previously had not offered. She said the firm was very accommodating with work plan ideas and scheduling and encouraged interns to be independent.

Baybrook’s flexibility and embrace of Igniting Talent’s mission motivated Abate and the foundation to present Carney and his staff with an official certificate of appreciation and along with designating Baybrook as a “Career Launcher.”

“We are so grateful for how welcoming and supportive Ken and his staff were towards interns,” Abate said. “Providing them with a Career Launcher certificate was the least we could do to express this.”

Homburg and Carney believe that Igniting Talent is doing essential work and are looking forward to their firm continuing to participate in it.

“I think doing such a program is invaluable to a young person. Being able to experience a career before graduation can only have a positive impact,” Homburg said. “I think companies should feel the need to be part of this type of program as integral members of their community. It’s a pleasure working with young people, and I look forward to being involved (with the program) in any way.”

Espinoza decided to not pursue a career path in interior design and or related positions because she is not interested in working an office job. However, she decided to work at a daycare in Branford where she interned, an experience Espinoza described as amazing.

Abate said the Igniting Talent program is currently working with four other area high schools. She hopes the foundation can continue bringing it to other school districts during the next year.

Abate has a clear vision for what she wants Igniting Talent’s legacy to be.

“The Joe Abate Foundation hopes to see the program reach many students and provide a pathway to their future careers for years to come. All students deserve the opportunities to explore (career pathways) with support and resources and gain confidence in their abilities to succeed.”

## Council: *Literacy focus of June event*

Continued from page 3

Paw Paw to Sesame Street, My Journey,” served as a reminder to all attendees of the valuable lessons shared during the event. They also encouraged further engagement with family literacy and served as a catalyst for ongoing discussions about the significance of storytelling within families.

The event organized by the West Haven Early Childhood Council, with Dr. Loretta Long as the guest speaker, fostered a sense of community and brought together individuals from various backgrounds. By promoting family literacy and emphasizing the importance of preserving family history through stories, the event had a profound impact on participants, empowering them to pass down their own narratives to future generations.

Overall, the presentation by Dr. Loretta Long, accompanied by the distribution of signed copies of her book, provided an uplifting and memorable experience for all those in attendance. It served as a reminder of the power of storytelling and reinforced the notion that family literacy is a vital aspect of nurturing strong family bonds and cultural heritage.



### Grassy Hill Auctions

CASH \$ For Your Items!!

**ESTATE SALE SERVICES**

**&**

**ATTIC & BASEMENT CLEANOUTS**

**Jude M. Dichele & Bill Pastore**

**Owners**

**(203) 868-1816**

**GrassyHillAuctions.com**

**Call Before You Throw Anything Away!**

**Always Buying**

Antiques, Collectibles, Old/Vintage Toys, Musical Instruments (Saxophones, Trumpets, Violins, Flutes, Clarinets, Trombone & SO MUCH MORE), Advertising Items, Wristwatches (Broken or Not), Pocket Watches, Tools (Machinist, Woodworking, & MORE) Doorstops, Clocks, Oil Paintings, Old Signs, Old Photographs, Old Postcards, Brewery Items, Hunting & Fishing, PEZ Dispensers, Costume Jewelry, Broken Jewelry, Gold & Silver Jewelry, Gold & Silver Coins, Military Items, Swords & Bayonets, Helmets & Patches, Medals & Uniforms, Pocket Knives, Lighters & Pipes, Fountain Pens, Mechanical Pencils, Fraternal Order Items, Religious Items, Industrial Items, Winchester Items, Sikorsky Items, Pratt & Whitney Items, Cold Items, Native American Items, Vintage Electronics, Slot Cars, Toy Trucks, Matchbox & Hotwheels, Barbie's, Folk Art, Statues, Bronzes, Trains, Cameras, Mid Century Modern Furniture, Straight Razors, Shaving Items, Political Items, Comic Books, Sports Cards, & Autographs....

**& THE LIST GOES ON!**

**Voice Classifieds**

**Buy It! Sell It!**

**Find It!**

**(203) 934-6397**



# Health officials issuing tips for indoor air quality

Last week's second air quality emergency, due to continuing wildfires in Canada has prompted health officials to remind residents not only to stay indoors, but take some precautions to make sure the air inside their homes is not as problematic as outside.

The air quality alerts were the second issued by health officials as fires in Quebec continue to rage unabated. West Haven was hit with smog-like conditions as was much of the East, and officials fear there will be similar instances while the fires continue.

In order to be safe indoors, with air quality that will aid those with pre-existing conditions, officials are asking the public to take the following steps:

**Batten Down the Hatches** – Close your windows, turn on the air conditioning and avoid using bathroom and kitchen fans as well as clothing dryer units that bring in outside air. This is also a good time to check on your home's air filters, which should be replaced every 1-3 months. Consider using high efficiency air filters (HEPA) for maximum effectiveness.

**Air purifiers** – Portable air purifiers are designed to clean the air in a single room. The best purifiers have a HEPA filter and a large fan that can push air through a fine mesh to trap particles. Check the filter's MERV (minimum efficiency reporting value), which ranges from 1 to 16. The higher the value, the better the performance of the filter.

**Vacuum...later** – Avoid vacuuming during periods of poor outdoor air quality, which can stir up particles in the air inside. Dust areas around the home with a damp rag and wear a mask if needed.

**Monitor the Humidity** – In addition to preventing out-

door air from entering the house, this time of year can lead to increased moisture, humidity, and eventually mold in the home. An indoor digital humidity monitor can give a quick and accurate measurement of a home's humidity. For greatest comfort and to best reduce the bacteria and odors, humidity levels in the home should be kept between 40 and 55 percent. A humidity monitor can be purchased for less than \$15.

**Beware of your Air** - Run air conditioning systems from

May through the end of October and keep the fan setting on "Auto". Leaving the fan setting on "On" runs the system continuously and can cause moisture condensed on the air conditioner coil to be blown back into the home.

With the wildfire season sometimes stretching into October, and the fact the more than 500 fires so far counted seem to have no end in sight, officials are telling residents to keep these tips in mind, should other emergencies be determined.



## The Family Restaurant

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

**Try Our Omelettes - Starting at \$5.00!**

**Our Menu Includes:**  
Salads, Grinders, Wraps, Burgers, Pasta, Greek Items

*Dine In or Take Out*



**LUNCH SPECIAL**  
FREE CUP of SODA  
WITH PURCHASE OF A SUB OR CLUB SANDWICH

**142 Campbell Ave**  
(formerly Cafe Haven)  
**(203) 934-4407**

# Banks, credit unions have differing goals, and business model

By Daniel Mateo,  
USALLIANCE Branch Manager

As individuals and businesses seek financial institutions to manage their banking needs, understanding the differences between credit unions and banks becomes crucial. Credit unions and banks operate in the financial landscape with similar objectives: to provide financial services to individuals and businesses. However, they differ significantly in their structures, ownership, and underlying principles.

One fundamental distinction is their ownership and governance. While banks are typically for-profit entities owned by shareholders, credit unions are not-for-profit organizations owned by their members meaning each customer is also a partial owner, enjoying the benefits of a cooperative financial institution. Another key difference lies in the services and products offered. Banks tend to boast their offering of a wide range of financial services, including checking accounts, savings accounts, loans, mortgages, and credit cards.

Credit unions also focus on delivering a wide range of similar, if not the same, services. However, with credit unions, the emphasis is on serving their members' needs, which leads to often offering competitive rates and lower fees so that members get the most out of their funds. Furthermore, credit unions often participate in community development initiatives and offer educational programs to enhance financial literacy among their members. These initiatives demonstrate their commitment to the local community's growth and financial well-being.

For those looking for an alternative to traditional banking, with their focus on member ownership, personalized services, and community involvement, credit unions are an excellent choice.

## Legal Notices

Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I,

EDY G OSORIO  
73 VANTAGE RD  
HAMDEN, CT 06514

Have filed an application placarded 06/23/2023 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT WINE & BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at 551 MAIN ST WEST HAVEN CT 06516

The business will be owned by:  
ORALE TACOS WEST HAVEN LLC

Entertainment will consist of: No Live Entertainment

Objections must be filed by: 08-04-2023

EDY G OSORIO

## At Your Service

**EMMETT'S AUTO SERVICE**  
REPAIRS AUTO BODY TOWING 24 HRS

**EMMETT MAHER**  
OWNER



184 Campbell Ave      203-934-3100  
West Haven, CT 06516      emmettsautoct.com

**GB Masonry**  
Stone Walls \* Sidewalks \* Pavers  
Chimneys \* Brickwork \* Flagstone  
Stone Siding \* Stucco  
Fully Insured -- Quality Work!  
17 years Experience  
Jimmy-- 203-206-1159  
gbmasonrystone@gmail.com

**YORK LAUNDRY**  
321 York St.  
West Haven

**Special: Wash-Dry-Fold**  
1.25/lb

**Open Daily 5:30 am - 11:30 pm**

To advertise here, call 203-934-6397 for rate information



**CALL YOUR AVON LADY**  
Looking for Avon?  
Call Phyllis Franco,  
(203) 932-9367.  
And I will drop of a brochure.  
Over 30 years' experience.  
Friendly Service.

**FOR RENT**  
**Harborview Condominiums**  
Commercial space available  
In this professional building.  
Desk/Space from \$295/month.  
Full office with waiting area  
\$695/month, includes off-street  
parking, Use of penthouse meet-  
ing room, janitorial services  
Call us for an interview.  
**(203) 932-6455.**  
Fran x 301

**GUTTER CLEANING**  
Jay's Gutter Cleaning. Minor  
repairs, tree work, hedge-  
trimming, power washing,  
Insured. Free estimates. Call  
(475) 238-2199.

**PLUMBING PROBLEMS???**  
Leaky pipes, Leaky Faucets,  
Leaky Showers, Running Toilet,  
Drain Cleaning, Leaky Hot Water

**PIANO LESSONS**  
**BY COMPUTER**  
Since 1992, in your home  
when we can.  
Beginners welcome,  
reasonable rates.  
Details, References.  
In West Haven: 203-479-4467

Heater, Garbage Disposals, Dry-  
er/Washers, Laundry Lines, Dish-  
washer Lines, Gas Stoves, FULL  
PLUMBING REPAIR SERVICES,  
(203) 584-6868.

**SEEKING NEW STUDENTS**  
Grammy-nominated musician/  
piano teacher Judy Pancoast now  
accepting new students to start in Sep-  
tember in West Haven. All ages. Email  
mamanook@comcast.net for all the  
details.

**DRAIN CLEANING**  
Leaky pipes, leaky faucets, leaky  
showers, running toilet, garbage dis-  
posals, clogged tubs & sinks, dish-  
washers, hot water heater-30 gal., or  
40 gal., gas stoves. Save money – get  
your water heater cleaned and flushed  
out. PLUMBING SERVICES, (203)  
584-6868

Art Painting Instruction  
Acrylics or oils \$30 for a 3 hour  
session in West Haven  
Call Edith at 203 232 4384 edi-  
threynolds.com

**FOR SALE**  
Looking for good homes!  
Savin Rock Amusement  
Park. Many framed pho-  
tos, Old Savin Rock and  
Coney Island Post Cards.  
Private showing.  
  
(203) 988 7883

**J's Lawn Service**  
Accepting new clients/custom-  
ers for summer lawn care. Also,  
spring cleanup and lawn prepa-  
ration. For estimates call (203)  
435-3319. Veterans and senior  
discounts available.

**MTS GARAGE DOOR**  
Quality Installations and Sales  
Free Estimates  
203-544-3642  
Email Mtsdoorct@gmail.com

**FOR RENT**  
Time share available week  
of Aug. 27-Sept. 3. Cape  
Cod, 2 brm. \$900. Call (203)  
214-3896.

**FOR SALE**  
Brand New- Kirby Vacuum  
w/shampoo system \$350  
Gordon Ramsy Lg Deep  
Fryer \$40  
Stok Portable gas grill \$40  
2 large coolers Rubbermaid  
& Coleman \$10 each  
Soda club Soda Maker \$40  
Full size comforter- Bed in  
a bag \$75  
Lg & sm gas can \$15

Call 203-795-8715 Ask for  
Ann

**West Haven Elk's Lodge**  
**Hall Rentals**  
  
150 person capacity  
Low Prices  
Bar and Kitchen  
facilities available.  
  
Great for all functions  
Free Parking  
  
203-671-4322/203-933-1537

**TAG SALE**  
153 Dawson Ave.  
10 am-5 pm  
July 7

**DIGITAL NAVIGATOR PROGRAM**

Don't get left behind in an increasingly digital world!  
The library will provide a laptop and a hotspot (internet access from home) as well as one-on-one tutoring to help you become a digital citizen.  
No experience necessary!  
Schedule your appointment today!  
(203) 937-4233

West Haven Library

**Look for us -**  
**the 1st and 3rd**  
**Thursday**  
**each month!**  
  
**In Print**  
**and**  
**Online!**  
  
westhavenvoice.com

**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    | 13 |    |    |    |    | 14 |    |    |
| 15 |    | 16 |    |    |    |    |    | 17 |    |    |
|    |    | 18 |    |    | 19 |    | 20 |    |    |    |
| 21 | 22 | 23 |    |    |    | 24 |    |    |    |    |
| 25 |    | 26 |    | 27 |    | 28 |    | 29 | 30 |    |
| 31 |    | 32 |    | 33 |    | 34 |    | 35 |    |    |
| 36 |    |    | 37 |    | 38 |    | 39 |    | 40 |    |
|    | 41 |    |    | 42 |    | 43 |    | 44 |    |    |
| 45 | 46 |    |    |    |    | 47 |    |    |    |    |
| 48 |    |    | 49 |    | 50 |    |    | 51 | 52 | 53 |
| 54 |    |    |    | 55 |    |    |    | 56 |    |    |
| 57 |    |    |    | 58 |    |    |    |    |    | 59 |

1 Chewable stick  
4 Parisian river  
9 Chaney of horror films  
12 Links org.  
13 Leek's kin  
14 Rage  
15 Food's freshness period  
17 Hardly any  
18 Call — day  
19 Papa Hemingway  
21 Boot camp reply  
24 Swelled heads  
25 Curator's concern  
26 Mayo ingredient  
28 "Bullitt" director Peter  
31 Leeway  
33 Hirohito's title (Abbr.)  
35 Aspiration  
36 Rapper's headgear  
38 "Chandelier" singer  
40 Stimp's pal  
41 Christmas  
43 Aged, in a way  
45 As a whole  
47 Perch  
48 Zodiac feline

49 Novel storage area?  
54 Buddy  
55 Kate's sitcom partner  
56 Aussie hopper  
57 Fine, to NASA  
58 Property claims  
59 Chopper

**DOWN**

1 Family docs  
2 "Yeoch!"  
3 Actress West  
4 Sentimental sort  
5 Blow up  
6 Sundial numeral  
7 Type of checking  
8 Vigor  
9 Biography  
10 Raw materials  
11 Salamander  
16 Fleur-de-  
20 Ham's dad  
21 Three feet  
22 Slangy suffix  
23 Tot's reading material  
27 Baseball execs  
29 Fencing  
30 Fax  
32 Manhandle  
34 Football, slangily  
37 Worldwide  
39 Comes up  
42 Dangerous bacteria  
44 Sports fig.  
45 Exile isle  
46 Sleuth Wolfe  
50 Flamenco cheer  
51 Historic period  
52 Bagel topper  
53 Nemesis

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**MAGIC MAZE • POPEYE**

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

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

|           |          |          |           |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Ahoy      | Muscles  | Sailor   | Tattoo    |
| Bluto     | One-eyed | Sea Hag  | Toot toot |
| Brutus    | Pappy    | Spinach  | Wimpy     |
| Hamburger | Pipe     | Swee'Pea |           |

© 2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

Answers to this week's puzzles

**King Crossword**  
Answers

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
Answer

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

Answers

1. Endora.  
2. The Orea.  
3. Tobacco.  
4. A doe or nanny.  
5. Hannibal Hamlin.  
6. Brandy.  
7. Verona, Italy.  
8. Venus (Martiner 2).  
9. 1981.  
10. Moscow, Russia.

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: What is the name of Samantha's mother in the "Bewitched" comedy series?  
2. MOVIES: What is the name of the shark-hunting boat in the film "Jaws"?  
3. SCIENCE: What is the most lethal consumed plant in the world?  
4. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a female goat called?  
5. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who served as vice president in Abraham Lincoln's first term as president?  
6. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of alcohol is traditionally used in a drink called a sidecar?





Photos by Mary Sireci and Steven R. Mullins

Above -- From L-R City Councilman and Lions Club member Victor Borrás, City Councilman-at-Large Gary Donovan, United State Senator Richard Blumenthal, national anthem singer Morgan Neff, 16, Lions Club Vice President and Master of Ceremonies Steven R. Mullins, picnic founder and honoree Antonio Lorenzo, Grille Master and honoree Gerard Grate, Lions Club President and Branford Town representative Carolyn Sires, VA volunteer services coordinator John Daniels. sitting Honoree and Korean War Army veteran Joe Grate and VA volunteer coordinator Rhiannon Oakes following Blumenthal and Donovan's awards presentations. Right -- Volunteers prepare to distribute hundreds of meals to VA patients and staff.



# Lions Club hosts annual VA picnic

In 2007, two Vietnam War veterans came up with the idea of serving their fellow military veterans at West Haven's Veterans Administration Hospital facilities.

Antonio Lorenzo and the late Anthony Pelliggi, both Army veterans and Lorenzo's wife Courtney McKenna started an annual Fourth of July Bar-B-Q for VA patients and staff.

"A lot of these veterans don't have families and rarely get visitors," Lorenzo said. "We felt that we had to do something to show them that they're appreciated."

Gerard Grate, co-owner of Joe Grate's Sons Pig Roast and Bar-B-Q has donated his time and culinary talent to the cause for over a decade. During that time, nearly 5000 meals of ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, salads and fruit have been served.

Members of the West Haven Lions Club were on hand to help serve meals to veterans and staff.

Lions Club Vice President Steven R. Mullins served as master of ceremonies during an awards presentation before the barbecue began. United States Senator Richard Blumenthal and West Haven Councilman-at-Large Gary Donovan presented citations to Grate's father Joe Grate, 89, a Korean War Army veteran. Also honored were Lorenzo and Gerard Grate for their years of dedicated service to the picnic.

The national anthem was performed by Morgan Neff, 16 of Newton. Music was provided by DJ David Chambers.



Photo by Steven R. Mullins

Lions Club Secretary Ginette Cary and Lucia Lorenzo unload hot dogs.



**HINDING TENNIS**  
 57 E Industrial Rd Branford, CT, 06405  
 203.285.3055 info@hindingtennis.com  
 hindingtennis.com



**A COMPANY YOU CAN TRUST**  
**LET US HELP YOU WITH YOUR RECREATIONAL NEEDS**  
 HINDING TENNIS IS FULLY LICENSED AND INSURED



Submitted Photo

## Summer fun

Summer got off with a bang for local youngsters as the West Haven Public Library began its vacation events. The Ora Mason Branch saw a full house attend its recent Ice Cream Social and Magic Show. The library system has many programs set for the summer months, and invites all youngsters and parents to the events.



## 'Animal Warriors' at Vets Museum

The West Haven Veterans Museum and Learning Center will be having a presentation, *Animal Warriors Throughout History*, told by Judy Smith, on Saturday, July 15, at noon. Smith was a resident of West Haven for 34 years and has been a private tutor for ESL and elementary school students.

She was previously an ESL teacher at the University of New Haven at the Language School and volunteered at the Louis Piantino Library for over 15 years.

Smith has published a children's book, "The Day the Earthworms Took Over." In her presentation, she will talk about the many types of animals that have been used in the military over the years.

There is no charge for the presentation, but donations are welcome.

## Downtown 6 plays Grove

The West Haven Summer Concert Series will continue at 7 p.m. July 13 in Old Grove Park on Palace Street with Downtown 6, "Connecticut's premier dance cover band."

The "Thursday Night Live!" concert is free and presented by the Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce and the West Haven Department of Parks and Recreation.

Starting this month, brush will be picked up in the first and third weeks of each month.

## Senior Center sets Aqua Turf bus trip

The West Haven Senior Center is offering a bus trip to the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on Sept. 12 for an afternoon of '60s and '70s classics performed by Rainere Martin as Donna Summer and The Brass Attack Band.

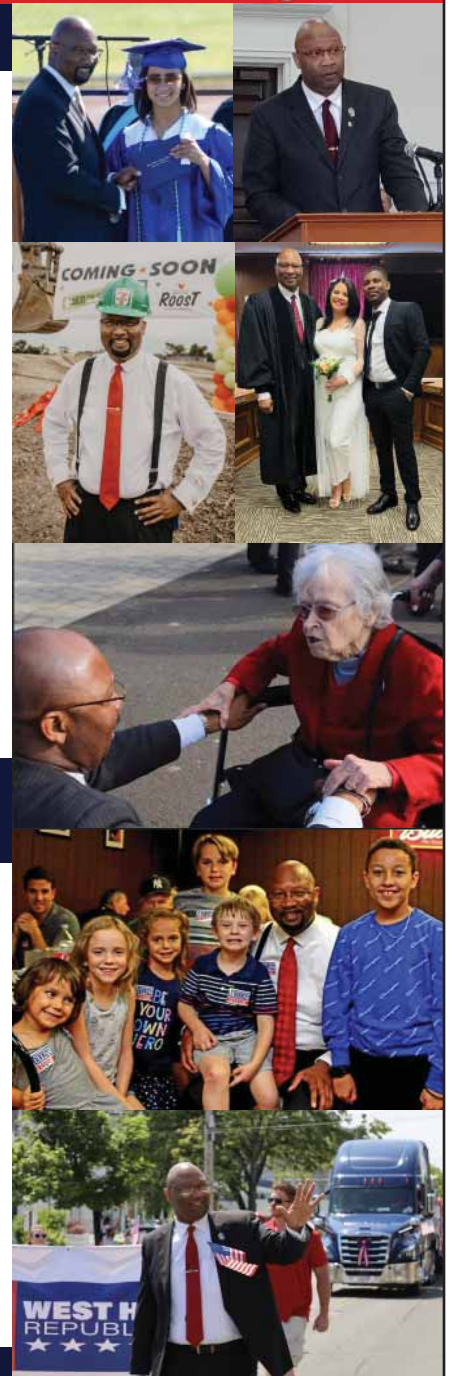


### Steven Mullins is:

- Striving to equip West Haven police, firefighters and 911 dispatchers with the necessary resources they need to protect the citizens of West Haven
- Working towards improving West Haven's business climate by hiring a qualified, full-time city planner that will work closely with the Economic Development Commission and assist him in marketing our City to usher in new, quality businesses to grow our grand list; creating more jobs opportunities for West Haven residents.
- Partnering with the MARB in getting West Haven's fiscal house in order and putting an end to the culture of corruption that has infested the walls of West Haven City Hall.
- Fixing infrastructural matters, such as, but not limited to, pot holes, blight & litter..
- Providing funding to the Board of Education, to enhance and encourage the teaching of the whole child approach, so all students can excel using their God-given talents; be they academic, arts related, trades related or sports related.
- Reaching across the aisle to work WITH dedicated citizens, whether they be Democrat or Republican to improve the quality of life in our City and make it the place to get a great job, get a great education, get married in, raise a family, retire and live out all of the great aspects of life.

### Steven Mullins has given a quarter century of service to the people of West Haven:

- Planning & Zoning Commissioner, sixteen years. Chairman & Vice Chairman, six years
- West Haven Justice of the Peace, twenty-four years
- Allintown Volunteer Firefighter, nineteen years
- President, West Haven Black Heritage Committee, seven years
- Past Master, Annawon Lodge, #115, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of West Haven, 2018
- Vice President, West Haven Lion's Club, three years
- Communicant, Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit
- Husband and father of two teenage children.



Paid for by: Mullins for West Haven, 2023, Douglas Turcotte, III, Treasurer. Approved by: Steven R. Mullins