

# West Haven Voice

February 8, 2024

Vol. 29 Issue 3 20 Pages

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

## Voice Feature

*An in-depth feature*

Hamilton earns  
1st Award  
of Distinction

See page 2



# First mayoral 'Conversation' makes 'Connection' with 9th District crowd

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

More than two dozen 9th District residents turned out at Haley Elementary School on Jan. 30 to participate in Mayor Dorinda Borer's "Conversation & Connection" series.

Borer has been meeting with residents in each of the city's 10 districts and giving updates on all things West Haven.

At each meeting, the mayor is joined by the district's City Council member, members of the Board of Education and other city officials.

"Each forum is a one-stop shop for questions and input," Borer said. "Residents are hungry to connect with their elected officials, and the goal is to be an accessible administration."

Since taking office in early December, Borer has made it a priority to improve communication across the city, both internally with department heads and externally with residents.

At Haley, Borer was accompanied by Councilwoman Kathleen Mueller, D-9, and answered questions from engaged residents on topics ranging from city finances and taxes to economic development initiatives and quality-of-life issues.

Several residents in turn pitched ideas and solutions to Borer on many of those pressing matters facing the city, including making trash and recycling pickups more efficient.

During the interactive meeting, Borer and Mueller were joined by Board of Assessment Appeals member Suzanne Mink and school board members Kimberly Kenny and Heather Shea, who talked about Haley's new playground, which is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the new Washington Elementary School, which is under construction.

See Meeting, page 11



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Mayor Dorinda Borer, right, answers questions from 9th District residents in the Haley Elementary School cafeteria Jan. 30 as part of her "Conversation & Connection" series.

# Three schools awarded for 'Distinction'

By Michael O'Brien  
*Special to the Voice*

Three West Haven elementary schools – Edith E. Mackrille, Forest, and Seth G. Haley – have been named Schools of Distinction for the 2022-23 school year.

Connecticut schools are named Schools of Distinction when their performance and/or growth, as measured by the Connecticut Next Generation Accountability System, places them within the top 10 percent of all schools across the state.

Edith E. Mackrille was recognized for High Growth and High Performance

for all students in ELA and Math, and High Growth for high-needs students in ELA and Math.

"I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the esteemed staff of Mackrille School for the well-deserved recognition bestowed upon them for a School of Distinction," said Mackrille Principal Taryn Driend. "The tireless efforts and unwavering dedication they consistently exhibit toward the students at Mackrille have always been apparent to both me and those within our community. This prestigious award not only acknowledges their commitment to excellence in education

and dedication to our students, but it is also a testament to the outstanding work that characterizes the staff's collective efforts.

Working alongside such a remarkably talented group has been a source of immense pride for me. I extend my sincere congratulations to every member of the Mackrille staff for achieving this noteworthy accomplishment. May this serve as an inspiration for us to persistently strive towards providing the pinnacle of education for our students. Together, we will continue our journey of excellence."

Forest School was recognized for

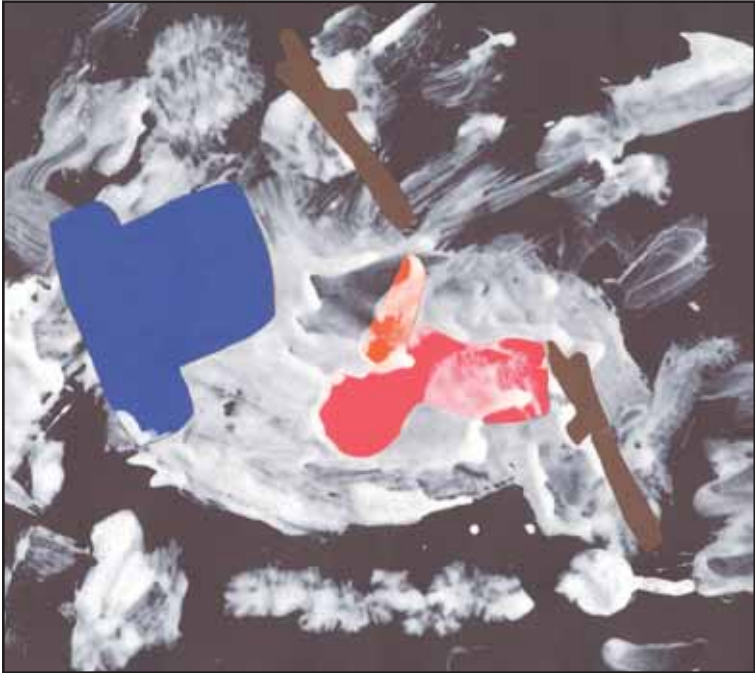
High Growth for all students in Math, and High Growth for high-needs students in ELA and Math.

"I am proud of the hard work and determined effort that our staff and students of the 2022-23 school year exhibited," said Forest Principal Thomas Hunt. "Being designated as a 'School of Distinction' by the State of Connecticut is a testament to their passion and commitment to teaching and learning.

It's satisfying that as a Title I school, our designation recognized our student's progress toward proficiency. Our students work hard and are very

See School, page 12

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Nyasia Benjamin, age 3, is a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., and is predicting warmer weather to melt all the snowmen!

## On this Date

**1971 -- The NASDAQ holds its first trading day.** The National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations was the world's first electronic stock exchange.

**1960 -- The first 8 stars are added to the Hollywood Walk of Fame.** More than 2400 five-pointed stars have since been embedded in the sidewalks of Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street to honor stars of the entertainment industry.

**1950 -- The Stasi, East Germany's notorious secret police, is established.** The "Staatssicherheit", which was dissolved in 1990, is considered one of the most repressive intelligence agencies in the world.

**1910 -- The Boy Scouts of America is founded.** 3 years earlier, British General Robert Baden-Powell had founded the Scout movement in England.

**1879 -- Sandford Fleming proposes the use of time zones.** The later introduction of Universal Standard Time, which is based on time zones, revolutionized time keeping.

**661 -- Rashidun Caliphate end.** Then the largest empire in history, it ends with the death of its leader, Ali.



ROBIN WATT HAMILTON

## Heritage panel names Hamilton 1st 'Distinction'

The West Haven Black Heritage Committee has chosen former 5th District City Councilwoman Robbin Watt Hamilton as the first recipient of the Ernestine Jackson Citizen of Distinction Award. This honor replaces the previously named African-American Citizen of the Year and honors the life Jackson, who was a charter member of the Black Heritage Committee in 1996. Ernestine Jackson died last April at the age of 96.

Hamilton was raised in Allingtown. She is the middle child of Eva Watt and the late Richard Watt. She was elected to represent the 5th District by the West Haven City Council in 2016, following the death of her brother Brent Watt, who was first elected to the seat in 2011. During her tenure on the Council, Hamilton was chosen by her colleagues to serve as Majority Leader.

"Robbin Watt Hamilton is an obvious choice," said Committee President Steven R. Mullins. "She has given so much of herself for the benefit of all West Haven residents from every walk of life," he said.

A financial clearance specialist by profession, Hamilton has been employed by Yale New Haven Hospital for past forty-five years. She is a communicant of the former Living Word Ministries, now Vertical Church, where she is active in many of the church's outreach programs, such as the Dream Center. She also serves on the Connecticut Mission of Mercy Free Dental Foundation and the West Haven Black Heritage Committee.

The award will be presented on Thursday, Feb.29 at 11 in the Harriet C. North Meeting Room, second floor of West Haven City Hall. Also during the ceremony several high school students will receive Achievement Awards from the Committee. A reception will follow at the lower level of City Hall.

For more information, please call Mullins at (203) 824-4262.

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Next Issue: February 22, 2024

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## Mystery Photo



Photo courtesy of West Haven Historical Society

Can you identify this landmark from a postcard provided by the West Haven Historical Society?

Send an email to [info@whhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@whhistoricalsociety.org)

First correct response will win a copy of *Images of America West Haven*. A full explanation of the photo will appear next week.

# Bond rating upgraded by Standard & Poor's

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

S&P Global on Jan. 24 raised its long-term credit rating to BBB+ from BBB on the city's general obligation bonds while assigning a "positive" outlook, Mayor Dorinda Borer announced.

"The rating upgrade to 'BBB+' and positive outlook reflect the city's strong financial performance in 2022 and anticipated for 2023, following the adoption of stricter financial management practices," S&P said in its bond credit analysis.

"The city continues to implement improvements to internal controls toward curing deficiencies that led to its current Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) Tier IV designation. Moreover, the city is no longer relying on municipal restructuring grants to balance its budget."

Borer said the report is

"extremely important and exciting news for our city for many reasons, including a long-term savings on the city's borrowing, but also sends a message to potential investors that West Haven is on a strong road to recovery."

"The investment that MARB has made in West Haven has paid off," Borer said.

"The MARB first hired an auditor and then a consultant who both identified weaknesses in the internal controls and financial structure, but the MARB then took it a step further and hired a consultant to assist the prior administration with addressing those weaknesses. Everyone worked together, past and current, which contributed toward the upgrade."

In addition to the rating upgrade, the positive outlook designation is attributed to the new Borer administration, based on the work that has

been completed in the past month and the plans for the path forward.

In its analysis, the New York agency touted the leadership of the new administration, which took office in early December.

"With a new management team, West Haven expects to continue its conservative budgeting practices, raising revenues and leveraging ongoing economic developments," S&P said. "City administration expects to maintain structurally balanced operating results while continuing to rebuild reserves to stronger levels."

In its report, S&P specifically provided positive feedback in recognizing an overall change, a new management team and changes in department structure, including the Building Department.

S&P also noted Borer's revitalized work with a consortium of regional

mayors, a more collaborative relationship with the MARB and a focus on personnel restructure, including grants and economic development.

Ronald M. Quagliani, the city's newly elected treasurer who ran on Borer's ticket, was thrilled at the announcement.

"This is welcome news,"

Quagliani said. "I am appreciative of all the hard work that has been done by many to get us to this point. We are committed to build on this momentum by continuing the work and collaborations with our partners for ongoing improvement with tangible results."

## Annual storm system report out today

The 2023 annual report for the city's Municipal Separate Sanitary and Stormwater System will be available Feb. 15 for public review and comment.

The "MS4" report can be viewed on the city website at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/> or in the engineering office on the third floor of City Hall.

Anyone wishing to comment on the report

can send it by mail to the Office of Engineering, City of West Haven, 355 Main St., West Haven 06516.

Comments by email can be sent between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays to City Engineer Abdul Quadir at [quadir@westhaven-ct.gov](mailto:quadir@westhaven-ct.gov).

Comments are due no later than March 21. Anyone with questions can call Quadir at (203) 937-3577

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# Dear Felicia

Well honeybunch, here we are in February already, cruising outta winter. From the looks o' things, we won't git too much snow over the next few weeks; and once we git outta this month, March is usually not too much of a threat. Though, we can remember some snowstorms in March. Tennyrate, while is damp and cold, methinks most people are awaiting the warmer climes of later in the year.

Here in the Asylum by the Sea, things are getting off to a great start effen yew ask the right people. Cobina is a bit less impressed -- jest seems like same old, same old to me. Thing on the political side seem to be settling in, though as we move toward the next big event, the sitting of new town committees in both the majority and minority parties.

Sammy Bluejay was here t'other afternoon, and sez things hafta be settled about who runs the two parties over the next couple o' years.

It is the late-winter folderol we see jest after the mayoral race every two years. Sammy is not sure whot's gonna happen in the Demmie side. Whilst there are some that say the Dorinda faction o' the party has control of the "levers of power," thing sseem to be a bit less cut and dried as they've

been in the past. Maybe it's true that some o' the factions are getting along better than in past years. I dunno.

The Demmies have seven representatives from each of the 10 districts on the town committee, whilst the GOP side has six from each district. They had seven for a few years, but when back to the more traditional six a while back.

The big query before the house is who is gonna take the chairmanship o' the party this go-round. Michael Last has been warming the seat for about six years, but has been heard saying he'd like to concentrate on more fun things. As yew might know, Last is the prexy of the Southern Connecticut Pop Warner League, and was the head honcho of the local Pop Warner outfit until he took this other post.

Dealing with coaches, football moms and dads and other setch people is probably a bit more satisfying than dealing with politicians, though Lawd knows sometimes the maturity level of the latter is about the same as the kiddies in uniform.

So, Cobina wouldn't be surprised effen he is not chairman in the next sitting, but, then again, wouldn't be surprised effen he takes another term. There's a difference be-

twixt saying it might be time to leave, and actually doing it. We shall see.

Over on the GOP side, don't expeck too much change from the rut that party has been in for the last 30 or so years. We don't expeck that too many new names will be added to the roster of the great and the good in the party. And, we wouldn't be surprised effen Davie Riccio takes the chairmanship again.

But we don't expeck much change in the modus operandi of the party, either. It's still a coffee klatch of the same people, not doing much in the interim, and then scrambling to git a candidate for the next election, only to be drubbed by the majority party.

The last time the GOP was any political force in this burg George Herbert Walker Bush was the occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Davie had sent us word a few month back that the state GOP was impressed by some of the advances and had given the locals an award. That was before the debacle of the November election.

As I said at the time, the closeness o' the election in '21 was a vote "against" someone -- that being the erstwhile Mayor Rossi. This last event shows that to a T.

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Well, William Heffernan was sworn in as the rep in District 115, and the world is back to normal. The guy takes a nice picture. He looks very distinguished in his new seat. Heffernan staved off a field of three as I told yew last time, and won rawther handily.

As we said in our editorial page this week, Willy comes from a longtime political family. His grandfather was a former mayor and was treated very badly, we think, back in the early 1970s. Cobina knew him and his lovely wife. His uncle Mike was the probate judge for many years after the retirement of the venerable Judge Fisher, but we're dating ourselves.

Willy should do well in the House, but we still think that drive to and from Hartford will get really old, really fast. It'll be interesting how he adjusts to the back-and-forth and horse trading that goes on amongst the various politicians. I guess we'll see soon enough.

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Nelly Nuthatch was by the manse and related that with the budget process in its beginning stages, the lack of a full roster of personnel is putting pressure on everyone, including the thoid floor. The city has about 23 or so positions that hafta be filled by people who're qualified in those positions and disciplines -- all the way from a compliance officer to the Finance Director.

That means that departments are being manned by interim people, and they are doing things they don't normally hafta do. Now, that could be a good thing.

Sometimes, the people in the under positions are in a better position to determine what is needed and what can wait as it regards budgeting.

A few of the nattering class in the Actors Colony have said that the new Herronner is taking on too much. We ain't sure effen that's a statement o' concern or criticism. Until they get a full crew in that tottering ship at 355 Main St., one would hafta guess that any mayor would "take on too much" trying to do the jobs of the people who're missing.

It'll be interesting to see effen people in the remaining positions and committees step up until things are settled. Experience tells Cobina it'll be a mixed bag. There will be some who'll revel in the excitement and wanna show their stuff, while others will sit back and do what is required, but not much more. We shall see.

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I hafta say the Haven is getting to be like that nagging itch yew have in the middle o' yore back and can't get to. Once yew think it's scratched by any means possible, it comes back and is much

more annoying. That's kind o' the way that is feeling about this.

We see that the developers are still playing close to the vest on what is happening over there. It's been about a month since the last o' the buildings was taken down, and it is quite a view effen yew have time to look. But little is known as to what is going on regarding the sale.

Herronner is none too thrilled with the stonewalling. But these people have always treated the city like they were deigning to bring their excellence to the provinces, and how dare we ask questions.

Of course, the rumor mill is going fast and furious with talk of a plot here or there sold or in the process, how there is gonna be housing put down there, how none of the plans for parks and walking spaces will come about... the usual stuff. Nobody really knows, according to Madame Olga, and she's been peering in her crystal ball for months trying to figger it all out.

Something tells me we're gonna have some news very soon -- no inside info, jest a hunch. I think the Haven developers wanna git outta town asap and are working to make that happen. We jest wish they would do what they're supposed to and let us poor provincials know what in blazes is going on.

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Robbie Raven fluttered by and sez that the new condos over on Morse Avenue and Beach Street (or is it Beach Street and Morse Avenue) are moving along. I told yew last time the last building seems to be under construction, and a few families have moved into the foist buildings.

What is being awaited over there is the opening of the new and improved Beach Street, which we're told is about a month away. Robbie went by and sez that the roadway is all graded and looks perty. The only thing needed is a good layer o' asphalt and things will be complete.

That's good news for the developers cuz the condos were only the foist part of the projeck. The restaurant in the remaining part needs to start -- but can't until the roadway is open.

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Finally, there's nuthin' new on the Jimmies-NEBCO front, I'm afraid. At least, nothing is beeing said out in public.

We are still hoping that cooler heads will prevail and the matter can be settled outta court. But Cobina is convinced that Jimmies has not done itself any business favors with this latest foray into the courts. We shall see, but I think locals have had it.

With that bit o' chatter I'll close mitt luff und kizzez,

*Cobina*

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# GRIPEVINE

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

I drive through West Haven every day and I am wondering when the Ward-Heitman museum will reopen and share its memories with the people in this city. Many cities in Connecticut stand with pride in offering our early American history. Why can't West Haven do this?

*Regular Visitor to WH*

**Dear Regular Visitor to WH:**

Please be sure to pick up a copy of The West Haven Voice on your next visit to our city and read what my readers and I learned about the Ward-Heitman House in today's issue.

Many thanks to Catherine Bushman, President of the Ward-Heitmann House Organization. We can learn the Ward-Heitmann House is the oldest surviving building in West Haven. It may have been built in early 1684 but certainly was on the site in 1725. The house was built by Ebenezer Clark. He sold it to

John Humphreville who had married Clark's sister Rebecca. The house remained in the Clark Family until 1788 when it was bought by Sea Captain Thomas Ward. It remained in the Ward Family until George Ward sold it to Susan Perrin in 1861. She eventually sold it to Louisa Ward Heitmann, George Ward's sister in 1858, Louisa's daughter. Louisa's daughter Henrietta Heitman inherited the house in 1897.

She was engaged in several business ventures and added the north side to the house using it as a dance school. The house passed out of the Ward-Heitman Family when it was purchased by Charles Elliot Pickett in 1910. In the twentieth century the house had a number of owners and for a time, housed an antique store and later a tea room.

The Milano Family owned the house from 1949 to the early 1990s, when it was left to the National Trust for Historic



**ELEANORE TURKINGTON**

Preservation. The Trust sold it to the Ward-Heitmann House Museum Foundation in 1995

and it was restored to become a museum. In 2003. The Ward-Heitmann House was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Currently, its roof is in need of repair and the Ward-Heitmann Museum Board is working on raising funding for a new roof. Chief O'Brien kindly authorized the WHF Fire Department's resources to assess the possibility of putting a trap on the roof to prevent further damage. After an assessment it was decided that it wouldn't be safe to put a trap on the roof due to its poor condition.

The WHHM is accepting donations at Verm o@ward-heitmannn

Comings up in Gripe Vine Jeffrey and Donald Street complaint...Highland Avenue parking and update on speeding school buses.

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You can send your gripes, comments and issues to gripevineatwh@yahoo.com or mail them to Gripe Vine 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516. Please include your name, address and phone number, kept in strict confidence with me.

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The Ward-Heitmann House needs several repairs, and Eleanore Turkington has the lowdown on what is planned.

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## Jobs must be filled

In the first edition of the year, this publication ran a full-page advertisement from the city, looking to fill more than twenty full- and part-time positions. The scope of the positions that need to be filled is -- at first glance -- staggering. From Assistant Building Officials to Planning Director to a director of the city's Water Pollution Control facility, the city is missing some very consequential staff.

We know the administration of former Mayor Nancy Rossi allowed attrition in City Hall to cut costs, but the scope of the positions left vacant is astounding. It is no wonder little got done in the last years of the administration. There was no one around to complete the tasks. In the same vein, it is understandable the Municipal Accountability Review Board was frustrated with the lack of professional administrators in key city offices.

The lack of competent help does a disservice to the residents of the city because being in the market for so many applicants put the leverage in the hands of those who apply. The city is, in other words, dealing from a position of weakness. The administration of Mayor Dorinda Borer wants top-notch, competent individuals to head these various offices.

In a story that appeared in the last issue, the mayor said dealing with day-to-day brushfires takes an inordinate amount of time. With no one in place to mind the departmental stores, we are not surprised. Someone must be in charge, and right now it is all on the third floor.

We hesitate to say the administration should hire people with dispatch as that would indicate a certain amount of haste. We want good people in city positions, at fair salaries, with the expertise needed to get the individual jobs done. That may take time, but we hope not too much time.

For example, to implement the long-awaited financial resurgence of West Haven, a City Planner and fully staffed Building Department are necessary. To get the financing available on both a state and federal level, a Grants Coordinator and writer are needed. Both are currently lacking.

Finally, the Water Pollution Control facility has been a burr in the saddle of many administrations, going back the 50-plus years of its existence on Beach Street. After millions of dollars in repairs spanning decades, the facility needs someone to lead the operation. We look with anticipation over the next several months to see these many jobs filled by the mayor and her staff. The residents of the city need leadership to get out of the decades-old morass in which we have been mired. That only comes through the efforts of qualified people.

## A new Heffernan serves

We offer our best wishes to State Rep. William Heffernan on his election to the seat of the 115th Assembly District, Jan. 23. Heffernan was sworn in and has taken up his duties.

Heffernan comes from an old West Haven family steeped in politics and service. His grandfather was mayor from 1971-1973, succeeding Alexander Zarnowski. His uncle was a longtime Probate Judge. The Heffernans have never shied away from service.

He is the prototypical gentleman-politician, serving his community as a longtime firefighter, and then representing his fellow citizens in the halls of the State Capitol. We hope he brings a fresh outlook and common sense to a body that sometimes forgets who it represents.

We wish him well as he takes his place in Hartford.



## 'Master of the Air' great!

By Rich Lowry  
Syndicated Columnist

Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks have once again done a public service.

Like "Band of Brothers" and "The Pacific" before it, the new series "Masters of the Air" is a profound act of devotion to the memory of the men who won World War II, this time focused on the air war in Europe.

Telling the story of a nation's history will always depend on popularizers more than academic historians (especially when the latter don't like their country's history very much), and Spielberg and Hanks are better popularizers than anyone has cause to expect.

"Masters" tells the story of the 100th Bomber Group of the 8th Air Force, known as the "Bloody 100th," not for the destruction it wrought, but the punishment it took in some of the most hazardous duty of the war.

No one has ever reproduced the story, the machines, the conditions and the missions of this aspect of the war as accurately and carefully before, and we can assume, no one ever will again.

Ten years in the making with a \$250 million budget, this is a production at the very highest level of technical proficiency. The B-17s -- the long-

range bombers known as Flying Fortresses, or "Forts" for short -- steal the show. They are lovingly reproduced and often look like something out of a painting.

Which doesn't obscure their deadly purpose or the deadly business of flying one over hostile territory.

If nothing else, "Masters" brings home the experience of flying in a tin can breathing through primitive air masks in below-zero temperatures, while getting shot at by German anti-aircraft guns and trying to fend off ferocious assaults from much faster German fighters.

It is as terrifying as it sounds.

Relying on Air Force records, the show's makers have obsessively reproduced the exact position of each plane and its precise fate during missions. As the screenwriter John Orloff has explained, they felt a factual rendering was mandatory; this wasn't "Star Wars" -- a made-up conflict involving fictional people -- but real battles in which Americans gave their last full measure of devotion.

Orloff notes that about three months after its arrival in England, 34 of the 100th's 36 crews had been shot down. The tour of duty was 25 missions, but the aviators made it through just 11 on average.

In contrast to the British who bombed at night, the U.S. engaged in daylight bombing that was supposed to be precision in nature. Without protection from fighter planes, which wasn't available at the beginning, this made the B-17s sitting ducks. Sometimes the missions involved hitting industrial sites, sometimes they targeted cities themselves and German morale, sometimes they were designed to bait the Luftwaffe into combat so it could be degraded.

With the introduction of the long-range P-51 fighters that could properly defend the B-17s, the balance of the air war shifted decisively in 1944.

There's been a long-running debate about the morality and efficacy of the Allied bombing campaign. There's no doubt that there was a real moral cost to the campaign and its wanton destruction. Unfortunately, though, there was no easy way to take down a totalitarian power that had come to dominate the European continent, and for a long time, strategic bombing was our only serious means to attack the Nazis directly.

As for the efficacy, if nothing else, the campaign diverted massive Nazi resources to air defense. But it achieved more than that.

See Lowry, page 7

# Capone remembered for generosity

*Ed Note: The passing of local businessman Wayne Capone, Jan. 26, shocked many in the West Haven Community. His friend Mark Palmieri remembers his lifelong friend in this tribute.*

**By Mark Palmieri**

*Guest Contributor*

The sudden passing of businessman Wayne Capone shocked not only his many family, friends, associates, and patrons, but the community at large that knew and respected him.

Capone was best known as the owner and operator of Stowes Seafood at 341 Beach St. The Stowe's name was a legendary one in a city that had many fine restaurants. Originally at Bayview Place, opened by his grandfather in the Roaring 20s, it was a mainstay business for decades. Capone grew up learning the business from his grandfather and uncles.

In 1977, Wayne and his wife Karen married and decided to travel the USA in their station wagon with their basset hound Amber in search for a new beginning. After traveling for a

few months, they realized the only place that made the grade was their hometown in West Haven. They returned and decided to carry on the family business, opening Stowe's in 1982, and carried on the storied tradition.

West Haven was and always will be the couple's home with Wayne's legendary football days, including the miraculous interception from the defensive lineman and touchdown against the Notre Dame Knights, which led to the 1972 state championship and classic West Haven lore.

Wayne played a major role in starting the city's lacrosse team along with his good friends. Wayne always joked that his reason for starting lacrosse was to "run around and hit people with a stick," but Don't let this fool you; he will always be remembered for his kind and loving spirit.

Capone kept up his childhood friendships with The "Park Street Crew" with many nights spent reminiscing with them. One of Wayne's favorite things was retelling sto-

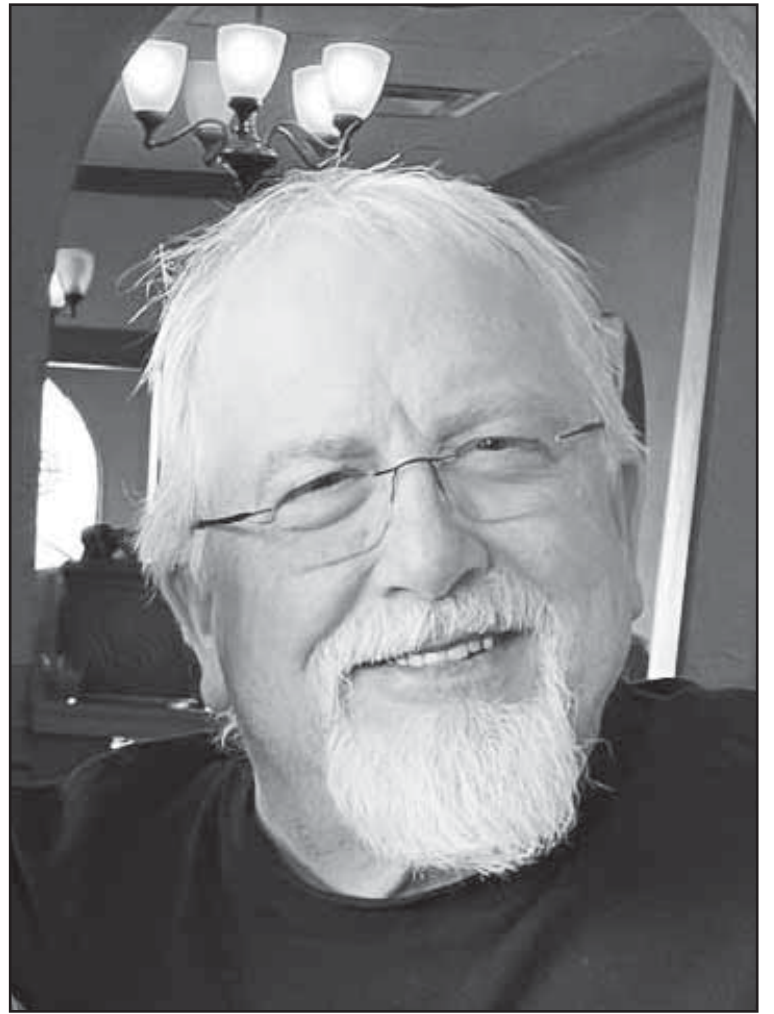
ries about growing up in the Morse Park area with his lifelong friends.

To Wayne, everyone was family. Most importantly, his three children, Sarah Capone, Ashley Capone, and Zach Capone were his world along with his three grandchildren, Lily, Ella, and Ian. His greatest joy in life was being a husband, a father, and a poppy.

Wayne often referred to his Stowe's crew, John Biondi, Travis McCarter, and Chris O'Brien as his sons. The Stowe's family is so special with over 42 years of memories. Every guest who walks through the door can simply feel how extraordinary this family is and will be forever.

Wayne had big hopes for West Haven, always dreaming of the city becoming a restaurant hub. Wayne loved frequenting West Haven businesses and supporting the town in any way possible. From endless donations to mentoring West Haven restaurant owners, Wayne loved

See Capone, page 9



WAYNE CAPONE

## Viet Vets seek names; deadline is extended

Current and former city residents who served in the Vietnam War are sought by the West Haven Vietnam Memorial Inc. Committee to have their names inscribed on a new section of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Bradley Point Park.

To qualify for name recognition on the memorial "wall," Vietnam veterans must apply and meet the following requirements:

- Applicants must live or have lived in West Haven. Veterans living in West Haven must provide proof of residence, such as a utility bill.

- Applicants must have served in-country during the Vietnam War.

- Applicants must have been honorably discharged from military service. A DD214 form (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) is required.

- Applicants must share potential costs, if any.

The committee does not have a formal application. Veterans must mail all documents, which are due **April 1**, to West Haven Vietnam Veterans, City Hall, lower level, 355 Main St., West Haven 06516.

Those with questions can call Bill at (203) 521-2356, Steve at (475) 655-2993 or Paul at (203) 500-2159.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial includes a black granite wall inscribed with the names of those from West Haven who served or gave their lives in Vietnam from 1959 to 1975, along with three white flagpoles draped with the American, Connecticut and prisoner-of-war flags.

The memorial, dedicated Nov. 12, 2003, also includes a black granite map of the four battle districts of Vietnam bearing the inscription "All Gave Some, Some Gave All," as well as five bronze insignia markers atop black granite posts representing each branch of the U.S. armed forces.

## Lowry: *New series is great!*

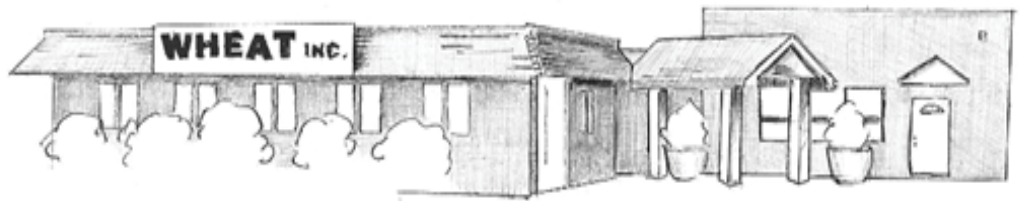
Continued from page 6

"By 1945," military historian Cathal Nolan writes, "the bombers would destroy Germany's transportation systems and demolish most vital war industries, especially oil supply and refining, and effectively end fighter production."

He continues, "Neither Germany nor Japan could by the end of their respective wars move military supplies, complete production or deploy weapons and divisions as they wanted, even inside their homelands."

Young American men gave their all in harrowing conditions to make this contribution to victory. "Masters" is their story as it deserves to be told.

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WHEAT's pantry is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2:00-4:30 pm. All CT residents are welcome, no appointment needed. Photo IDs and proof of address are not required. Visitors can come once a month to receive food and should bring their own grocery bags if possible.

WHEAT is looking for dedicated and compassionate volunteers to work Monday evenings in our pantry! If interested, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Fiona Pare, at [fpare@wheatpantry.org](mailto:fpare@wheatpantry.org).

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## Legal Notice

The West Haven Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, in the West Haven City Hall, Harriet North Room, 2nd Floor, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT at 6:00 PM to consider a text change to Table 39.2 Key-P, and Article 3, Section 49.1 of the West Haven Zoning Regulations.

### AMENDMENT TO TABLE 39.2 KEY-P & ARTICLE 3-SECTION 49.1 ENTITLED MARIJUANA FACILITIES

This proposed text change to Table 39.2 Key-P of the West Haven Zoning Regulations is to include a Retailer of Cannabis Use by Special Permit in the Regional Business District (RB). The proposed text change to section 49.1 of the regulations establishes the following requirements:

- **49.1.C: A Retailer of Cannabis shall be permitted in the Regional Business District (RB) by Special Permit and Site Plan Review.**
- **49.1.D.2. is amended to exclude a Retailer of Cannabis from this section of the regulation.**
- **Section 49.1.D.2.1 is added to the regulation to allow a Retailer of Cannabis on a site not less than 250 feet from residentially zoned land as defined as defined in the City of West Haven Zoning Regulations.**
- **Section 49.1.D.5 of the zoning regulations is amended by including Section 49.1.D.2.1 in measuring distance as required by this regulation.**



Photos courtesy of CT House Dems

State Rep. William Heffernan takes the oath of office administered by Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas. House Speaker Matt Ritter. Looks on.

## Heffernan takes oath in Capitol ceremony

State Rep. William "Bill" Heffernan (D-115) was sworn in last week at the State Capitol for his first term representing the 115th District. Heffernan won a special election on Jan. 23 to replace Dorinda Borer, who resigned after she won her race for West Haven Mayor in November. The swearing-in ceremony took place in the House Chamber on Jan. 26.

"I'm happy to welcome Rep. Heffernan to the Connecticut General Assembly. I know he's no stranger to public service, but I'm thankful he chose to run for public office and continue to serve in a different aspect," said House Speaker Matt Ritter.

New colleagues were quick to welcome the new representative into the House.

"I extend my sincerest congratulations to Rep. Heffernan and look forward to a busy and productive session ahead," Rep. Jason Rojas said. "He is a retired firefighter and serves on the board of the West Haven Community House and the public library. His life experience will be a welcome addition to the House of Representatives. We are pleased to have him as a member of our caucus!"

Mayor Dorinda Borer had some fine words for her successor. "Rep. Heffernan has demonstrated his commitment to West Haven and public service for decades, so there is no doubt that will continue at the State Capitol as an advocate for our great city," said Mayor Dorinda Borer. "Residents of the 115th House District are in great hands since Rep. Heffernan knows the needs of our community, which is a really good foundation for being a state representative. He will be able to help, and I look forward to collaborating with Rep. Heffernan as part of the West Haven delegation."

Heffernan, meanwhile, promised to do his job to the best of his ability.

"I am truly honored that the people of West Haven's 115th District chose me to represent them," said Heffernan. "I have big shoes to fill with the departure of my predecessor, Dorinda Borer, and I will do my best to represent this district. I want to thank my wife and family for supporting my campaign for state representative. Now let's get to work for the 115th!"

Heffernan owned and operated Alpha Carpet from 1990 to 2015 and Johnny's Grille (owner/partner) in West Haven from 2004-2019 (and permittee from 2010-2019).

He served as a consulting producer on the TV series "Tacoma FD," which can be found on Netflix. He was a career firefighter in the West Haven Fire Department, retiring after 28 years at the rank of lieutenant, and now serves as Department Historian, an honor bestowed in January 2023.

Among the many organizations Heffernan belongs to, he currently serves on the Board of Directors for the West Haven Community House (2010 – present), serves as president of the Village Improvement Association, as vice president of the West Haven Historical Society, and as treasurer of the Friends of West Haven Library.

Heffernan's oath was only the beginning. Following the swearing-in ceremony, the work began.

He will serve on the Human Services, Commerce, and Veterans committees for the 2024 Legislative Session.

### Meetings:

- Sunday:**  
9:30 am Breakfast - \$3 Buffet  
10:00 am Topic Meeting
- Monday:**  
12:00 pm Living Sober Topic Meeting
- Tuesday:**  
12:00 pm As Bill Sees It Topic Meeting  
8:00 pm Beginners Topic Meeting
- Wednesday:**  
11:00 am "Jimmy's Lunch" - \$3  
12:00 pm Topic Meeting
- 1st Wednesday:**  
6:00 pm Executive Board Meeting  
7:00 pm Members' Meeting
- 3rd Wednesday:**  
5:30 pm District 15 GSR Meeting
- Thursday:**  
12:00 pm Free to be Me Topic Meeting  
7:00 pm "Shot-Gun" Big Book - UPSTAIRS
- Friday:**  
12:00 pm 12 & 12 Step Group Meeting  
8:00 pm Heroin Anonymous Topic Meeting
- Saturday:**  
7:30 am Breakfast - \$6+ Made to Order  
8:30 am Men's No Nonsense, No Smoking, No BS Topic Meeting  
1:00 pm Saturday Live Topic Meeting
- 1st Saturday:**  
6:00 pm Dinner - \$10  
7:00 pm Old Timer's Speaker (25+ years)
- Last Saturday:**  
5:00 pm Potluck Dinner  
6:00 pm "How We Did It" Anniversary Meeting - Coins & Cake!



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West Haven, CT 06516

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West Haven, CT 06516

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# Capone: Family and city were his first loves

Continued from page 7  
being around Westies and did everything possible for the people he loved.

Wayne and his soulmate Karen loved traveling, not only throughout the United States, but through Europe as well, backpacking for their honeymoon. Over the years,

Wayne and Karen fell in love with cruising through the Caribbean.

Their adventures are showcased beautifully in the trea-

sure trove of knick-knacks covering the walls of Stowe's, collected in the 20-plus years of cruising.

"It was his sense of humor,

the way he just loved this place and everything about it, and it showed in everything he did: from the food being the freshest and the best he could find to the customers, who just come here to see him and have some seafood, to our crew, who is beyond the best.

You look around and see pieces of his life in every inch of this place," his wife, Karen Capone recounts.

He loved his community.

"He grew up here. Our roots are here. We love this city, we love the people in this city, and our customers are like family to us. Home is home. Our family and our heart are here in this little building."

Wayne was welcomed into paradise on Jan. 26, met by his lifelong friend, Dave Cappetta, Mom, Janet Capone, Dad, Anthony Capone, and his uncle, Pete Capone.

Everyday he was quoted saying "just another day in paradise." "It is what it is," and our favorite "I am what I am." He ended every night at the end of the day simply saying "arrivederci."

Wayne impacted everyone he ever met and will be deeply missed by his crew, family, and friends.



Wayne Capone (Captain) In front of his and his wife Karen's business Stowe's Seafood on 341 Beach St. Wayne's grandfather, Cedric Stowe, started the business on Bayview Place in 1927.

## Elevate Your Love Story this Valentine's Day



Any Occasion Creation Florist



Idiom Boutique



Derek Simpson Goldsmith

### The Shops at Yale



@TheShopsatYale

- Any Occasion Creation Florist**, 1090 Chapel St. Fresh floral designs and custom arrangements.
- Derek Simpson Goldsmith**, 1094 Chapel St. Handmade pieces. 20% off inventory through Feb. 29.
- Gilden's Jewelers**, 55 Whitney Ave. A full-service jewelry store offering a variety of watches.
- Idiom Boutique**, 1014 Chapel St. Thoughtfully curated selection of local artisan pieces.
- J.Crew**, 29 Broadway. Everyday necklaces, statement earrings, and jewelry for events.
- Lou Lou Boutique**, 23 Broadway. Fashionable and affordable designer jewelry and gifts.
- Walker-Loden**, 258 Church St. Affordable handmade pieces, most are locally made.

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](http://TheShopsatYale.com).

# Library relaunches the Bookmobile



Photo by Michael P. Walsh and Alan Olenick

Left above -- Officials relaunch the West Haven Public Library's bookmobile and mobile services in the parking lot of the West Haven Community House on Monday. From left, State Librarian Deborah Schander, West Haven Public Library Executive Director Colleen Bailie, Mayor Dorinda Borer, West Haven state Rep. Bill Heffernan (D-115), Libraries Without Borders US Executive Director Nina Safane, West Haven outreach librarian Melissa Marguy and Community House Executive Director Amy Guay-Macfarlane. Left below-- Students from the Community House check out the offerings. Below -- Meanwhile, the officials take time to get pictures of the kids doing some looking around.



By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

State Librarian Deborah Schander and Rep. Bill Heffernan (D-115), joined Mayor Dorinda Borer and West Haven Public Library officials Monday to relaunch the library's bookmobile and mobile services.

At the morning event, Borer commended and congratulated the library for receiving a grant from the State Library in partnership with the nonprofit Libraries Without Borders US to enhance its mobile presence and outreach services.

The relaunch was held in the parking lot of the West Haven Community House and was attended by Libraries Without Borders Executive Director Nina Safane, library Executive Director Colleen Bailie, outreach librarian Melissa Marguy and Community House Executive Director Amy Guay-Macfarlane.

The library is a partner of the Community House and is governed by the Village Improvement Association, of which Heffernan serves as its president.

The Pauline Z. Smith Bookmobile is 10 years old and has been equipped with new books, decorations and shelves, along with Wi-Fi connectivity.

Bailie said the traveling public library aims to reach as many residents as possible with improved services, such as offering library cards "on the fly."

"We look forward to expanding our outreach further with more items being held in our bookmobile, mobile hot spot access and the capability of pop-up library services all throughout West Haven, especially in Allingtown while we strive to build a new location," Bailie said. "Stay tuned for more locations to find our van and Melissa providing the best in library services."

Schander said: "Utilizing the bookmobile allows the library to expand its existing community partnerships and connect West Haven residents to library offerings. The relaunch involved mapping community partners and key locations for service around the city and outfitting the van to provide easy access to a wide range of books, internet capacity and other library services.

"The van can both bring resources to new locations around the city and can serve on its own as a temporary satellite location wherever it goes."

The Village Improvement Association plays a critical role in guiding the city's library system in "providing unlimited access to opportunities and resources for self-improvement, cultural awareness and pure enjoyment for patrons."

## Did you Miss Christmas?

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Business Hours: Tues-Fri 9-5pm, Sat 9-1pm,  
or by appointment

*Leslie Jewelers*

# Meeting: 1st confab opens up dialogue

Continued from page 1

For nearly two hours in the school cafeteria, Borer discussed the status of the state Municipal Accountability Review Board, which oversees West Haven’s finances, and the city’s upgraded credit rating and “positive” outlook by bond rating agency S&P Global.

The mayor talked about filling key city positions, including a new economic development director, and extending the Building Department’s weekday hours by an hour in the morning.

Borer also discussed projects funded by West Haven’s American Rescue Plan Act spending plan, a proposed six-month moratorium on new smoke shops in the city, and infrastructure enhancements to prevent beach erosion and improve water quality.

The mayor shed light on the status of the 26-acre waterfront development formerly known as The Haven and a taproom proposed by New England Brewing Co. at the waterfront site of the former Savin Rock Conference Center.

Borer also touched on potential redevelopment opportunities at the former Masonic Temple and Stiles Elementary School buildings, along with a long-overdue renovation of the West Haven Animal Shelter, which has been closed since 2020.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

From front left, Board of Education members Kimberly Kenny and Heather Shea, Councilwoman Kathleen Mueller, D-9, and Board of Assessment Appeals member Suzanne Mink participate in Mayor Dorinda Borer’s “Conversation & Connection” series.

# Borer seeks moratorium on more smoke shops

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

Mayor Dorinda Borer is calling for a six-month moratorium on new smoke shops in the city.

In a Jan. 22 memo to Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman Christopher M. Suggs and Assistant City Planner Cathy Conniff, Borer requested that the commission evaluate the restriction of additional smoke shops in West Haven, evaluate and identify the criteria that allow businesses to operate 24/7, clarify the definition of “convenience store,” and evaluate “light noise” through business facades, such as neon signs.

In the memo, Borer said: “In the interim, I’m requesting that the Commission, effective immediately, put a moratorium on Smoke Shops, regardless of current Zoning regulations, for a period of 6 months until new regulations for restriction are established. No application should be accepted, considered, or approved until further notice.”

Years earlier, the city took similar steps to address the number of nail salons in a condensed area of downtown. West Haven currently has at least 18 smoke shops, according to information provided by the assessor’s office. Borer said it would be a legal challenge to close existing shops but would press for “serious consequence” if repeated violations are found.

The mayor is also asking that regulations be considered to address unwanted lights that have sprung up on some of the city’s busiest roads, including but not limited to neon signs and LED lights on the exterior of all businesses. Borer described the light pollution of such lights as “aesthetically unpleasing, distracting and not a representation of the image we are trying to change.”

# American JOB CENTER

FEBRUARY 13TH  
FEBRUARY 29TH  
12:00PM - 2:00PM

Stop by the library and talk to representatives from the American Job Centers to learn about the resources, services, and help they offer to job hunters!

WEST HAVEN  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
300 ELM STREET



Need Help But Don't Know Where to Start?

Stop by the library and talk to representatives from Bridges to learn about the resources, services, and help they offer to seniors!

February 12th  
February 28th  
12:00PM - 2:00PM

Food Stamp Help

Application Questions

CT Homecare

Referrals

300 Elm Street  
West Haven Public Library

# Schools: 3 get cited for 'distinction'

Continued from page 1  
proud of their gains."

Seth Haley School was recognized for High Growth for all students in Math, and High Growth for high-needs students in ELA and Math.

"Seth G. Haley School staff and students are proud to be recognized as a School of Distinction for the 2022-2023 School Year," said Haley Principal AJ Palermo. "The staff worked throughout the winter to identify students' strengths and weaknesses and then utilized both whole and small-group instruction to address these weaknesses. We consistently progress monitored and adjusted our strategies. We taught the students test-taking tips, such as using scrap paper efficiently, rereading, and double-checking their answers. We also relied heavily on a growth mindset approach. Research shows that increasing one's growth mindset can help keep students motivated when they face challenges and hard work.

Photos courtesy of Michael O'Brien

The Staffs of Forest, Seth Haley and Edith Mackrille schools celebrate their institutions' designation as "Schools of Distinction by the Connecticut Next Generation Accountability System.



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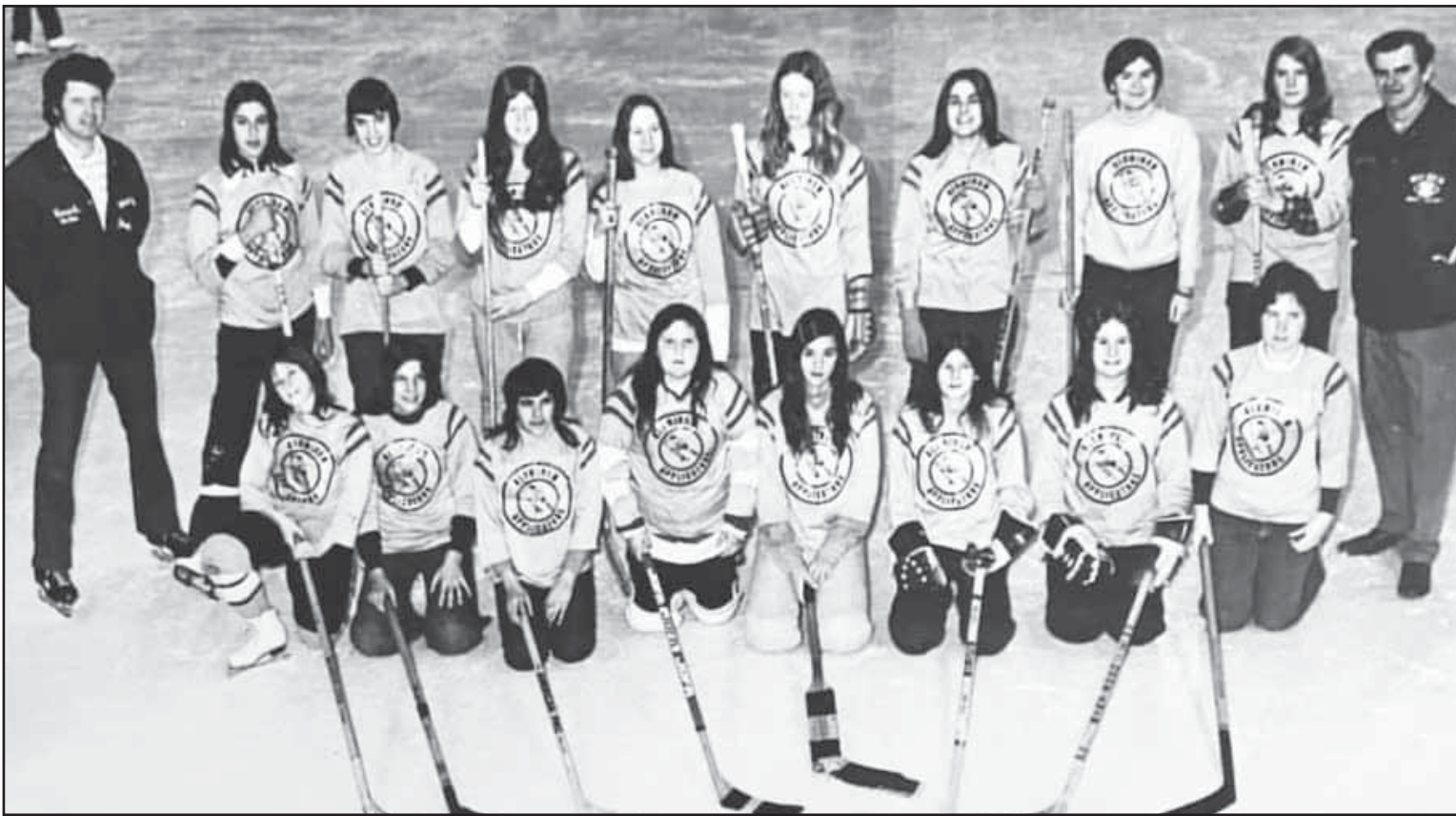
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# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine



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

Long before there was a varsity sport, girls hockey took to the ice at the Edward L. Bennett Rink with house teams and an All-Star group named after Rink Director William "Bud" Conlan.

Every story begins somewhere: This story begins on the frozen surface of Lake Phipps; And it begins along a dammed-up stream, on a spot known as Hubbard Pond; And it begins at Connecticut Pond on Lake Street; And it begins on West Haven Green, flooded and frozen each winter, to give the townspeople a place

where they could gather to skate, and find a cure for their Cabin Fever.

It was inevitable that some of the boys would gather in these places to play hockey. Some of the girls, perhaps sisters of these boys, and filled with daring and a competitive spirit, would join them in these informal gatherings.

And it was also inevitable that, like the boys, the girls would want a hockey league of their own: One where they could play real, organized, disciplined hockey. The year was 1972, and those girls were Kathy Lenahan, Maureen McDaniels, Theresa Dixon, Linda McCarty, Ruth Maher, Maryellen DiBianco, Karen Card,

Sue Ruggerio, Karen Crouse, Patty Yates, Carol Franco, and Sue Passander.

According to one of those girls, one who is now entering her Golden Years, the girls who started girls' hockey either had brothers or a boyfriend who played hockey on a team. The initial idea of starting a girls' team just came up in conversation once when they were all together.

Hockey was not considered a "Girls' Sport," but many of the girls had a somewhat rebellious streak; they'd already played with brothers and friends, and so they went forward with enthusiasm. In fact, most of the girls played one sport or another, every month of the year. Before long, there was a sign-up sheet

posted on the wall at the Bennett Rink, and it began to fill up with names.

Early equipment for the girls was limited to skates and a hockey stick. In the beginning at least, most of the girls wore the figure skates that they already had.

The league was composed of four in-house teams, sponsored by Johnny Walsh's, Whitey Bensen, West Haven Police Department and Aluminum Applicators. The best players moved up to become part of Conlan's All Stars. As time went on, most of the girls became "rink rats," and could be found at Bennett Rink six or seven days a week.

Our thanks to Maryellen DiBianco Launder, Bea McCurry and Mike McCurry.

## FINANCIAL Repair

If you're struggling with a poor financial skills, Hala Urban from New Haven Bank is here to help! Stop by the West Haven Library so we can help you take control and give you the steps needed to become financially stable.

Here's how New Haven Bank can benefit you:

- Help Reducing Debt
- Assist in Improving Credit
- Saving for a Big Expense

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**300 ELM STREET**  
**FEBRUARY 22ND**  
**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

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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.

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West Haven Library

# Virtual Adult Yoga


**FEBRUARY 17TH**

**300 Elm Street, West Haven, 05616**

**10:30am - 11:30am**

Join The West Haven Library as we go virtual! Come take a class with a YouTube Yoga Instructor of your choice! Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat.

To register, email [reference@westhavenlibrary.org](mailto:reference@westhavenlibrary.org) or call us at (203) 937-4233



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**FREE!!**

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FEBRUARY 24TH

MARCH 9TH  
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West Haven Public Library  
Connie Sacco Room

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## At a Glance

### 2nd tax installment now overdue, includes fees

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

The second installment of city tax bills — real estate, personal property, motor vehicle, sewer — was due Jan. 1, and payments after Feb. 1 are considered delinquent and subject to interest, per state law.

The 2022 supplemental motor vehicle bills are for vehicles registered after Oct. 1, 2022, and were also due Jan. 1.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Assessment appeals heard

The Board of Assessment Appeals will hear appeals of real estate and personal property assessments on the 2023 grand list by appointment during March.

The board will also hear appeals of motor vehicle assessments on the 2022 supplemental motor vehicle grand list that received a tax bill due Jan. 1.

Any property owner who wants to appeal an assessment must submit a written application to the board.

The assessor's office must receive the completed form on or before Feb. 20.

Download an application at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/5968/Board-of-Assessment-Appeals-Application-PDF>.

Applications are also available in the assessor's office on the first floor of City Hall, 355 Main St., or by calling the office at (203) 937-3515.

Staff members will answer questions about the appeal process.

### Assessor's office accepting tax relief applications now

The assessor's office is accepting applications by appointment for tax relief programs for elderly and disabled homeowners.

West Haven residents can apply for the programs, based on their 2023 taxable and untaxable incomes, weekdays from Feb. 15-May 15 in the assessor's office on the first floor of City Hall, 355 Main St. For an appointment, call (203) 937-3515. No walk-ins.

The state offers a tax reduction benefit depending on income and marital status through the circuit breaker program. To qualify, the applicant or spouse must be 65 or older by Dec. 31, 2023, or permanently and totally disabled as defined by Social Security.

Income limits, including Social Security, are \$53,400 for married applicants and \$43,800 for a single applicant. Those eligible for the program must reapply every two years.

To qualify for the West Haven tax freeze program, the applicant must be age 70 by Dec. 31, 2023, and have lived in the city for at least 20 consecutive years with nobody under age 25 living in the home. The program will freeze the city portion of the resident's taxes only for the upcoming year.

Income limits, excluding Social Security, are \$50,000 for married applicants and \$35,000 for a single applicant. Those eligible for the program must reapply each year.

The assessor's office is also accepting applications until Oct. 1 for additional veterans exemptions. The maximum income is \$53,400 for married applicants and \$43,800 for a single applicant.

For veterans who are 100% service connected, income limits are \$24,000 for married applicants and \$21,000 for a single applicant. Social Security and veterans disability payments do not count for 100% disabled veterans only. All other ratings must include veterans disability payments and Social Security.



**Lodge to honor Barr 80th**

Annawon Lodge, 115 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of West Haven will host an 80th birthday celebration for Past Master Willam K. Barr, commonly and affectionately known as 'Railroad Bill' in numerous West Haven circles.

The pasta dinner will be held at the Lodge, 263 Center Street, West Haven on Sunday, February 18th at 3:00pm. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Raffle prizes will be available. Checks can be made out to the AF & AM of CT Master's Fund..

Barr, a past President of the West Haven Rotary Club is recovering well at a Milford convalescent facility after being stricken some weeks ago. Proceeds will go to assisting him financially during this time period.

For more information, contact Steven R. Mullins, PM at (203) 824-4262.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

**Cancer scholarship gets boost**

From left, Mayor Dorinda Borer joins Doug "the Rake" Ruickoldt to present a \$14,000 check on behalf of the West Haven Breast Cancer Awareness Program to West Haven High School Principal Dana Paredes on Jan. 29 to benefit the Susan A. Ruickoldt Scholarship Fund as program committee Chairwoman Beth A. Sabo looks on.

The donation was made possible by the annual Dubel's Golf Tournament, Westies Nutrition and the West Haven Youth Soccer League and will support the scholarship fund for the next 21 years, Sabo said.

*Donna's Destinations presents...*

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26TH | UNCASVILLE, CT**

**COST: \$45** CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: WEST HAVEN SENIOR TRIP ACCOUNT

<p><b>COST INCLUDE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roundtrip Coach Transportation</li> <li>- <u>8:30 AM</u> Depart from Veterans Memorial Parking Lot (91 Bull Hill Lane - West Haven)</li> <li>- <u>3:00 PM</u> Depart from Uncasville, CT</li> <li>- Enjoy dining, slots, quality time with friends, and so much more at the Mohegan Sun Casino!</li> </ul>	<p><b>FOR MORE INFORMATION:</b></p> <p>Donna, Program Coordinator at the West Haven Senior Center 203-937-3507 201 Noble Street West Haven, CT 06516</p>
---	--

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**PAYMENT IS DUE BY FRIDAY, FEB. 23, 2024**

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**MOVIE MATINEES**

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**CONNIE SACCO ROOM**  
**\*REGISTRATION REQUIRED\***

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

# Westies: *Lady hoopsters inch toward berth*

Continued from page 19

In a hard-fought contest, the Westie Sharks used a last-minute goal by Julianna Montano to defeat their rival Hamden, 2-1, in Hamden.

The victory was a big one for the Westie Sharks as the team improved to 6-7 on the year.

With the game even at one and the final seconds ticking away in overtime, Montano took a pass from Alfano and scored from the point for the game-winner.

The goal capped a thrilling game which also saw Gonzalez score at the 14:56 mark of the second period off another assist from Alfano.

Evelyn Twarowski made 26 saves in the win, including seven in overtime.

West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy fell to 6-8 with a 7-0 loss against East Catholic in West Haven. The Westie Sharks could not get going offensively and East Catholic led 2-0 after one period. Evelyn Twarowski made 15 saves in the first two periods, while Megan Losito made 12 saves in the final period.

WH/SHA fell to Stamford/Westhill/Staples, 3-1, at home.

Despite 21 saves from Evelyn Twarowski, the Westie Sharks fell when Stamford/Westhill/Staples scored twice in the final two minutes, including the go-ahead goal with 1:19 to go.

West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy snapped its two-game skid with a 4-3 victory at.

Olivia Twarowski and Gonzalez led the Westies with a goal and an assist apiece. Losi-

to made 17 saves in the win, including seven in each of the last two periods.

Despite overcoming a two-goal deficit, West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy fell to Hand 3-2 in West Haven.

Evelyn Twarowski made 30 saves in the loss as the Westie Sharks fell behind early, and they could not get the late score to even the contest.

Trailing 2-0 in the second period, the Westie Sharks scored twice in one minute to even the contest. Julianna Montano scored with 8:45 left in the middle period on a penalty shot, and Welch scored off an assist from Azzarone to even the game at two.

Hand answered with the eventual winning goal with 5:12 remaining as West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy fell to 7-10 on the year.

The West Haven boys' basketball team saw its seven-game win streak come to an end with a 77-41 loss against cross-town rival Notre Dame at West Haven High. With the loss, the Westies fell to 9-4 on the year.

With West Haven trailing 12-9 and within striking distance, the Green Knights put the game away with a 46-16 run in the second and third quarters, including a 20-0 run to end the third quarter.

West Haven scored the first five points of the game, capped by an Ethan Griffin dunk, but the Green Knights closed the quarter on a 12-4 run.

A 3-pointer by Adam El Kharraz got West Haven within three points.

Notre Dame used a 7-0 run

for a 20-11 lead, before a dunk by Abdou Toure increased the Notre Dame lead to 31-16 with 1:08 left in the half.

The Westies got within 33-21 in the third quarter on a pair of free throws by Bennett Scott, but the Green Knights closed the third quarter on a 20-0 run, highlighted by dunks from Toure and Landon Krygier.

Toure led all scorers with 29 points. Isaiah Jackson led West Haven with 11 points, Griffin had six, and Scott, Jayce Perry, and Clifton Jones each scored five.

The race for the postseason is getting shorter for the West Haven girls' basketball team. With a handful of games remaining and still needing a pair of wins to qualify.

The Westies could not take that step, falling to a tough Hamden team, 61-39, at West Haven High. Noelle Lawrence led the way with 14 points, while Isabella Fiorillo scored 13 points in the loss.

Lawrence scored 10 of her team-high 14 points in the third quarter, and Fiorillo added four in the same time frame.

West Haven inched closer to the postseason with a 54-44 victory over Cheshire. With the victory, the Westies improved to 7-10 on the season.

Fiorillo led the way for West Haven with 13 points, six rebounds and four steals. D'Lyana Dixon had 12 points, and Ella Morgan had a big day as well with 10 points, 10 rebounds, seven assists, and five steals.

Arianna Titus and Morgan led the first quarter run with

four points apiece, while Dixon hit a pair of 3-pointers and finished with seven points in the second quarter. Fiorillo also had five points in the second quarter.

Fatoumata Keita finished with eight points, including six in the fourth quarter.

The West Haven boys swim team fell to Sheehan/Lyman Hall, 87.5-77.5, at Sheehan.

Andrew McLarty won the 200 free in 2 minutes, 10.03 seconds, Nate Charron won the 100 back in 1:03.27, and Edward Fagnani won the 100 breast in 1:40.80.

The 400 free relay team of Jeffery Flores-Copa, McLarty, Charron, and Benjamin Proano won in 4:21.59.

West Haven fell to 0-7 with a 92-78 loss at Waterford.

Charron won the 200 free in 2 minutes, 30.19 seconds, Fagnani won the 100 breast in 1:49.54, and the 400 free relay team of Brandon Sihaphong, Flores-Copa, Charron, and McLarty also posted a victory.

West Haven dropped to 0-8 with a 95-67 home loss against Fitch Co-Op at home. The Westies placed first in just two events.

Fagnani won the 100 breast in 1 minute, 41.80 seconds, while the 400 free relay team of Isiah Correia, Mathew Loo, Fagnani, and Yousaf Khan was also victorious.

West Haven fell, 93-75, at Shelton. With the loss, the Westies dropped to 0-9 on the year.

McLarty won the 500 free-style in 5 minutes, 58.86 seconds, and Flores-Copa was victorious in the 100 back in

1:14.04. The 400 free relay team of Proano, Ivo Dedo Frias, McLarty, and Johnny Chen also came away with a victory.

West Haven fell to Milford, 93-69, at West Haven. Flores-Copa won the 100 backstroke in 1 minute, 12.60 seconds, Charron was victorious in the 100 breast in 1:14.87, and the 400 free relay team of Sihaphong, Flores-Copa, McLarty, and Proano won in 4:21.93.

West Haven dropped to 0-8 with a 95-67 home loss against Fitch Co-Op at home.

The Westies were only able to place first in just two events.

Fagnani won the 100 breast in 1 minute, 41.80 seconds, while the 400 free relay team of Isiah Correia, Mathew Loo, Fagnani, and Yousaf Khan was also victorious.

West Haven fell, 93-75, at Shelton. With the loss, the Westies dropped to 0-9 on the year.

McLarty won the 500 free-style in 5 minutes, 58.86 seconds, and Flores-Copa was victorious in the 100 back in 1:14.04.

The 400 free relay team of Proano, Ivo Dedo Frias, McLarty, and Johnny Chen also came away with a victory.

West Haven fell to Milford, 93-69, at West Haven. With the loss, the Westies dropped to 0-10 on the year.

Flores-Copa won the 100 backstroke in 1 minute, 12.60 seconds, Charron was victorious in the 100 breast in 1:14.87, and the 400 free relay team of Sihaphong, Flores-Copa, McLarty, and Proano won in 4:21.93.

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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,  
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Furniture, Straight Razors, Shaving Items, Political Items,  
Comic Books, Sports Cards, & Autographs....

& THE LIST GOES ON!



# Legal Notices



## Emergency Reporting System (ERS) Administrative Authority

Iris Diaz Commissioner City of West Haven Fire Dept Allingtown Commission	Robert Bruneau, Chair, Chairman West Shore Fire Dept Commission
Bruce Sweeney Commissioner West Haven Fire Dept Commission	Raymond Collins III Vice – Chair West Haven Police Commission
Deborah Wright Commissioner West Haven Police Commission	Christopher Suggs Secretary West Haven Police Commission

The Emergency Reporting System (ERS) Administrative Authority is now accepting Applications for the position of Director – City of West Haven 911 Communication Center (PSAP)

Application, Job Description and Qualifications can be found on the Police App website: [www.policeapp.com](http://www.policeapp.com) listed under departments as West Haven ERS.

## Voice Classifieds

# (203) 934-6397

### LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of **Democratic** party-endorsed candidates for the town of **West Haven** for election as Members of the Town Committee from the **Democratic Party – Districts 1-10** on file in my office at 355 Main Street, West Haven Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution.

The number of Town Committee members to be elected, under party rules, and numbers of names of candidates included in the certificated from each political subdivision specified, is as follows:

NUMBER TO BE ELECTED	NUMBER CERTIFIED	POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
7, from each District	1st District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	2nd District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	3rd District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	4th District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	5th District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	6th District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	7th District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	8th District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	9th District – 7	7 from each District
7, from each District	10th District – 7	7 from each District

A primary will be held **March 5th, 2024** in each of the above political subdivisions in which candidacies numbering at least 25% of the number of Town Committee members to be elected by such party in such political subdivision are filed in accordance with §§9-32 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes by persons other than party-endorsed candidacies not later than 4:00 p.m. on January 31, 2024 provided the number of such candidacies, plus the number of endorsed candidates for such political subdivision, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than such 25% in any subdivision, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions, and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Sherri Lepper, **Democratic**, Registrar of Voters, 355 Main Street, West Haven.

John Lewis, Municipal Clerk of West Haven

### LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of **Republican** party-endorsed candidates for the town of **West Haven** for election as Members of the Town Committee from the **Republican Party – Districts 1-10** is on file in my office at 355 Main Street, West Haven Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution.

The number of Town Committee members to be elected, under party rules, and numbers of names of candidates included in the certificated from each political subdivision specified, is as follows:

NUMBER TO BE ELECTED	NUMBER CERTIFIED	POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
6, from each District	1st District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	2nd District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	3rd District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	4th District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	5th District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	6th District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	7th District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	8th District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	9th District – 6	6 from each District
6, from each District	10th District – 6	6 from each District

A primary will be held **March 5th, 2024** in each of the above political subdivisions in which candidacies numbering at least 25% of the number of Town Committee members to be elected by such party in such political subdivision are filed in accordance with §§9-32 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes by persons other than party-endorsed candidacies not later than 4:00 p.m. on January 31, 2024 provided the number of such candidacies, plus the number of endorsed candidates for such political subdivision, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than such 25% in any subdivision, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions, and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Jo Ann Callegari, **Republican**, Registrar of Voters, 355 Main Street, West Haven.

John Lewis, Municipal Clerk of West Haven

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**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			

1 Pt. of a sen-  
tence  
5 Skirt edge  
8 Some GIs  
12 Nest setting  
13 Commotion  
14 Inter –  
15 Admin. aide  
16 Prepared  
18 Fake fireplace  
fixture  
20 Baker Street  
sleuth  
21 Competent  
23 Roman 151  
24 Started  
28 Editor Wintour  
31 Prior night  
32 Wrap up by  
34 Martini ingre-  
dient  
35 Painter  
Chagall  
37 Coexisted  
39 Chinese  
chairman  
41 "Not so fast!"  
42 Pub game  
fodder  
45 Honor  
49 Matured  
51 Jazzy James  
52 Robert of  
"The  
Sopranos"  
53 Census stat  
54 Winter fall  
55 Suffix with  
song or gab

56 Chic, to  
Austin Powers  
Catches  
some rays

**DOWN**

1	Men-only	woodwind	43 Actor's quest
2	– Major	22 Fund	44 Driver of "Logan Lucky"
3	Porgy's love	24 Jewel	46 Sicilian peak
4	Air travel	25 Eggs	47 Thames town
5	Negotiating a price	26 Little home	48 Gulleets
6	Tokyo, once	27 Amassed	49 Conceit
7	Closet invader	28 "Life of Pi"	
8	Spanish dish	29 Diarist Anais	
9	Pink wading bird	30 "Life of Pi" director Lee	
		33 New Mexico resort	

10 Funny –  
(2003 Derby  
winner)  
11 Utters  
17 Sinbad's bird  
19 Slender  
20 Fund  
24 Jewel  
25 Eggs  
26 Little home  
27 Amassed  
28 "Life of Pi"  
29 Diarist Anais  
30 "Life of Pi"  
director Lee  
33 New Mexico  
resort

36 Frolic  
38 Most recent  
Tin Man's  
need  
42 Pre-weekend  
yell

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**MAGIC MAZE** ● SAME BEGINNING,  
MIDDLE AND END

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

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

Albania	Essence	Sensors	Sunsets
Alfalfa	Expense	Smokestacks	Swimsuits
Copacetic	Gorging	Snapshots	Treatment
Dredged	Reservoir	Snowshoes	

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Answers  
to this week's  
puzzles

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

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
Answers

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

1. "The Hunger Games"  
2. Canada  
3. Allstate  
4. A slip of the tongue.  
5. Jamaica.  
6. Kangaroo.  
7. "Thomas the Tank Engine."  
8. A minute.  
9. C.S. Lewis.  
10. Sun Protection Factor.

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**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

show?

8. MATH: What is 1/60 of a degree?  
9. LITERATURE: Who wrote the book series  
"The Chronicles of Narnia"?  
10. ACRONYMS: What does the acronym  
SPF stand for?

1. MOVIES: Which movie has the tagline,  
"May the odds be ever in your favor"?  
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which country possesses  
Baffin Island?  
3. AD SLOGANS: Which company's slogan  
is, "You're in good hands"?  
4. LANGUAGE: What is a common saying  
for the Latin phrase "lapsus linguae"?  
5. MUSIC: What country was home to reg-  
gae singer Bob Marley?  
6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is an ex-  
ample of a macropod?  
7. TELEVISION: Gordon, Percy, James, Toby  
and Emily are characters on which children's

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# Westies qualify for hockey berth

West Haven's boy' hockey team is headed to the postseason. Behind 28 saves from Javed Ullah, two goals from Thomas Porto, and a goal and an assist from Madera, West Haven topped Glastonbury, 4-0, at the Edward L. Bennett Rink.

With the victory, the Westies improved to 8-6 on the season.

After a scoreless first period, the Westies took control of the contest with three goals in the middle period. Porto gave West Haven a 1-0 lead just seconds after a West Haven power play expired when he scored in front of assists from Madera and Leo Mazuroski 42 seconds into the period.

West Haven held a 34-28 shot advantage in the game and had plenty of scoring opportunities in the second period. Haygen Axelrod was denied from the point 2:38 in, Bruno was turned aside from the slot 4:35 in, and Madera was turned aside in front with 3:06 to go.

Just seconds later, Bruno scored on a one-timer off a pass from Marcus Burrows. Brady Price also added an assist on Bruno's goal for a 2-0 lead.

Madera increased the lead to 3-0 with just under a minute to go in the period. Picking up a loose puck in neutral ice, Madera crossed into the zone and ripped a shot from the slot with 55 seconds remaining in the period.

Burrows had two golden opportunities to increase the lead in the third period, but his one-timer was turned aside with 5:02 to go, and his breakaway attempt was shot wide 32 seconds later.

Porto sealed the victory with an empty-net, short-handed goal with 54.2 seconds remaining.

Javed Ullah was on in goal from the start, making 10 saves in the first period, 11 in the second, and seven more in the third for his first shutout of the season.

They set up the qualifier two games earlier. Behind one goal and an assist apiece from Brody DiNuzzo, Yousaf Ullah, and Mike Madera, two assists from Jayden Spreyer, and 25 saves from Javed Ullah, West Haven topped Lyman Hall, 4-2, at home.

The win was West Haven's third in a row and helped West Haven improve to 7-5 on the year.

The first period was evenly matched with West Haven holding a 10-9 shot advantage. The Westies had solid scoring opportunities, but they fell behind 1-0 with 2:01 remaining in the opening period.

The deficit was a short one as DiNuzzo scored on a one-timer in front of assists from Spreyer and Yousaf Ullah on the power play with 1:08 remaining in the period.

The Westies took the lead for good with three goals in the second period. Jason Alling put the Westies on top 2-1 after Madera and Brady Price were stopped on an odd-man rush. Madera then sent a pass to Alling, who scored from the point 1:28 into the second.

West Haven then used its special teams to secure the win. Yousaf Ullah scored West Haven's second power play goal of the game off an assist from DiNuzzo 2:50 into the second, before the penalty killing unit came up big.

Coming up with a big defensive play, the Westies capitalized when Spreyer fed Madera on a 2-on-1 break and Madera scored a short-handed goal 1:51 later for a 4-1 lead.

The Westies had chances to increase the margin, but Justin Bruno was denied from the slot with 1:40 left in the second, Price was stopped with a pad save 35 seconds later, and Spreyer was denied from the slot in the final seconds.

Looking to clinch the bid to the postseason and inch closer to a berth in the Southern Connecticut Conference tournament, West Haven knew it was going to be in for a tough match against rival Hamden.

Hamden made sure it was going to be tougher for the Westies to qualify as the Green Dragons turned in a dominant performance to defeat West Haven, 4-1, in Hamden. With the loss, West Haven fell to 7-6 on the year.

Despite early opportunities in the game, West Haven could not convert as DiNuzzo was stopped twice in front two minutes apart.

Less than a week after topping Amity/Cheshire/North Haven on the road, the West Haven/Sacred Heart Academy girls hockey team was looking to do it again. Unfortunately for the Westie Sharks, that never materialized.

Despite scoring the first goal of the game, the Westie Sharks were unable to score again, and fell to the Blades, 2-1, at the Edward L. Bennett Rink Monday afternoon. The loss dropped the Westie Sharks to 5-7 on the year with their third straight loss.

Hailey Azzarone gave the Westie Sharks a 1-0 lead off an assist from Taylor Alfano just 1:05 into the contest.

The Westie Sharks never scored again and saw two first period goals by Lucy Dickenson prove to be the difference in the contest. Evelyn Twarowski made 16 saves in the loss for the Westie Sharks.

See Westies, page 16



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Celebrations were in order as the West Haven hockey team celebrates its 4-0 win over Glastonbury with their fans. The win clinched a CIAC playoff berth with just a few games left on the regular season schedule. Meanwhile, Devils' Coach Jess Moriarty and her players react to a buzzer beating, three-point shot versus Cheshire. The win inched the Lady Devils closer to a playoff invitation.

## Westies excel at SCC Sectionals



Photos by Todd Dandelske

West Haven's indoor track team competed in the Southern Connecticut Conference's Sectional meet at Floyd Little Athletic Center in New Haven. Clockwise from above -- Paige Davis leaps for the victory at the SCC Sectionals with a jump of 17 feet 7.25 inches. Joaquin Baldonado tosses the shot put for 39 feet - 7 inches. Christian Mullins clears the hurdle in the 55m hurdles at the SCC Sectionals. Seth Robinson starts the 300m at the SCC Sectionals.

*See more high school coverage on P. 19*

