

West Haven Voice

June 20, 2024

Vol. 29, Issue 12, 20 Pages

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

Voice Feature

An in-depth feature

**Zuppardi's
celebrates
90 years!**

See page 20



Graduation 2024



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Top -- the West Haven High School Class of 2024 processed into Ken Strong Stadium two weeks ago, and marched into history with commencement exercises. Valedictorian, Iris Chen addressed her classmates, joined by officials of the Board of Education and city. The usual pomp gave way to elation as the seniors threw their mortarboards into the air following the distribution of diplomas. See page 19 for more photos.

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Chase from West Haven Community House's Children and Youth Services program at Forest Elementary School finds gold at the end of his rainbow.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Students learn government

Mayor Dorinda Borer, right, talks local government with members of Bailey Middle School's Student Council and Interact Club at City Hall on May 24. The seventh and eighth graders were accompanied by council advisers Dina Jones, Tara Oliwa and Jess D'Amato and club adviser Molly Deptulski, all of whom are teachers at Bailey. The students learned how they can impact their community and make it a better place, said Jones, who also advises the Interact Club. Borer talked about her love of West Haven, the job of mayor and the many facets of city government. After a Q&A session with Borer, the spirited group of students rolled up their sleeves and cleaned up the nearby Green.

On this Date

1991 - The German parliament moves to Berlin. Bonn had been the capital of West Germany until the country's reunification in 1990. The "Hauptstadtbeschluss" (capital decision) stipulated that the seat of government and the parliament also be moved to the "new" capital Berlin.

1975 -- The film Jaws is premiered. Steven Spielberg's thriller about a rogue great white shark terrorizing a summer resort town is often regarded as one of the greatest films of all time.

1963 -- The "Red Telephone" is instituted. The hotline between the U.S. and the Soviet Union was established following the Cuban Missile Crisis.

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Next Issue Date:
July 4, 2024



Center for Disability Rights

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Center for Disability Rights is presenting a summer self-empowerment camp for High School Juniors and Seniors with disabilities. Participants will learn how to advocate for themselves; and develop skills to take more control over their own lives. The first three days will be in a workshop setting, and the final two days will be field trips and outdoor activities. Lunch will be provided on the field trip day. Participants are responsible for bringing their own lunch the other days. Refrigerator space is available.

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**Please send the \$50 registration fee check made payable to CDR-CT to 369 Highland Street,
West Haven, CT 06516 or to our Venmo: @CDR-CT**

Deadline for signups: July 12th, 2024

Forum detailed small business resources

Mayor Dorinda Borer and the city's Economic Development Commission presented the first forum of its kind for small-business owners at West Haven High School on Tuesday, June 11.

With more than 100 business owners in attendance, the forum consisted of speakers from local, state and federal

agencies sharing the resources available for businesses to thrive.

As part of the program, Borer launched the city's new ARPA Small Business Grant program. Small businesses that apply for a grant can receive up to \$10,000 for facade improvements or HVAC and outdoor dining upgrades.

The grant program is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act.

Eleven speakers, including Borer, gave business owners "high-level information" on available grants, loans and technical support through PowerPoint presentations on a range of topics to support better economic outcomes for

small businesses.

John McCarthy, who owns West Haven's popular Rock House School of Music, said: "My wife, Cathy, and I were very impressed with the Small Business Forum. There are so many resources available that we had no idea about. As small-business owners of the

Rock House School of Music and the nonprofit Teach Kids Music, we are going to take advantage of these resources to grow our business and help enrich our community. Thank you for holding this informative event!"

Speakers included West Ha-
See Forum, page 7



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

West Haven Economic Development Director Stephen Fontana speaks at the city's first Small Business Forum at West Haven High School on Tuesday, June 11.

Combine and get in on the surprise.



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CONGRATS, CLASS OF 2024!

The University of New Haven proudly hosted **four commencement ceremonies** while conferring **3,500 degrees** and welcoming more than **12,000 guests** to campus over three days in May.



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**POWER
ON**

Dear Felicia

Well, honeybunch, it seems summer is in full swing even before its offishull opening on or around June 21. As Iyam scribing this missive, the weather talking heads are calling for thunderstorms and all the wind and rain one could expect with high humidity. It seems that in jest a few short weeks we've gone from early April to the Dog Days.

With the middle o' the month comes high school graduations, and that was setch in this burg. Ken Strong Stadium was decked out for the swan song of the Class of 2024, and things seemed to go off perty much without a hitch.

Judging from the smiling faces, the pomp and ceremony was spiced with the usual frivolity - we always liked a good frivol - and the young adults become the latest alumni. Now they go off to whatever they plan, college, the military, the workforce. Good luck to them. We hope they fulfill all o' their dreams in the long and short term.

Sammy Bluejay came by to mention that the high school project, which was nominated for an award by the Connecticut Building Congress, came in second place, beaten out by a project in the Cranbury section of Norwalk.

Gilbane Construction nomi-

nated the project for the Team Award. It gives kudos to projects showin' how the private and public sectors as well as all the people involved in setch projects can work together.

Coming in second place was not a bad showing, and Sammy sez that the people involved in the project, from the school system to the individuals involved, are proud o' what they accomplished. Sammy's only commint was that it was nice to see the city cited for something positive for a change. That doesn't happen too often in these parts.

More good news for the city came in the amended ordinances for smoke shops and convenience stores.

With the new Beach Street finished, and other things hoped for over there - as well as what seems to be a proliferation of the stores - the city is limitin' where they can be and effen they can be open for 24 hours. The latter has to do with convenience stores.

Nelly Nuthatch was here t'other afternoon and din't understand what was being done. I explained to her that whilst the city is trying to develop areas and put on a good face, these types of businesses don't help the overall "look" of the city. That might seem a bit harsh to some, but that's the sum and total of it. And 24-hour stores can be problematic

in their own special way.

We have a sub-culture that seems to come out in the dark of night, and find places in the city to perch. It's been a well-known secret for years and having businesses open at that time only helps a bad situation. So, effen convenience stores wanna open up for all-day service, they can apply for a special permit. Easy peasy.

We can see the need for a few, especially around gas stations, but there ain't no reason to have stores open all day.

I guess the second part of the new regulations will limit where certain types of stores - like cannabis outlets - can open in the city, and it'll be rather strict, but all for the right purposes.

Effen the city is gonna turn a corner and git more gentrified in its business selections we gotta be able to keep it so the city is attractive. Again, some might call it harsh, but what it really is saying is "we have to deal with the reality of perception."

With the opening of Beach Street earlier this month - seeing as how we mentioned it - Cobina decided to git in her gassamobuggy and traverse the new thoroughfare. The foist thing one notices is the speed humps that have been installed thereon. There are several of them and all of them are attempts to stop what used

to be a problem over there - speeding. Needless to say it was interesting watching some of my fellow drivers git used to the new hurdles. You gotta be on yore toes and be alert. Some were more alert than others, but methinks it'll only be a one-time "miss" for most. Don't wanna bottom out the vehicle by not paying attention.

The roadway is much higher, and it is noticeable. We hope that certain landscaping things will take place cuz it's not very attractive right now. Things hafta grow in, I guess.

The bike/walk path has been extended, and that seems to be a good thing for bikers and walkers who are taking full advantage of it. At least that was the case when Cobina was out.

The biggest thing that I was worried about, and I live near that area, was what was gonna happen when the choppers came in with their noise. Motorcyclists coming in a swarm has been a summer problem here for decades, and Beach Street seemed to be the favorite artery to make an entrance.

Well, so far anyway, there have been no tell-tale signs (read racket) from incoming motorcyclists.

All's quiet on the Eastern Front of the shore. Again, it's still early, but the last two weekends seem to be somewhat calmer.

Of course, there are the motorists with the rolling boom boxes who seem to think everyone and their dog wanna hear the musical offerings coming from their vehicle. But that is just a sign that summer is here, and things are "summery."

The biggest query that seems to come outta most people is what or when is something going to happen with the Debonair.

Whilst things seem to be looking up in that neighborhood, the former motel is falling prey to the elements every day. We know Herronner has made this a priority, so we hope in the next few weeks, or at least by the change of seasons, some news will come about that once bustling tract.

More good news! It seems the Borough of Allingtown will finally git its branch library back. That was announced this week. One million kopecks were allotted for the project, and after a four-year-plus hiatus, the residents will git their branch back.

We won't get too excited about this news until we see more about it. You remember that the idea being floated around was that the Allingtown Fire Department - or West Haven Fire Department - Allingtown - and the library branch would share a building on

the Post Road. A site was picked and it was hoped that the plans could be put into motion.

We shall see what's gonna happen. The FD needs a new headquarters we are told, and sharing a building ain't a bad idea. Of course, we keep gettin' a visual in our noggin of some library marm shushing the firetrucks as they barrel outta the headquarters next door.

This is good news for a project that has seen nothing but disappointment over the last few years - and not a lotta support, either. Let's keep our fingers crossed things turn out all right.

And more good news! We see that Zuppardi's - one of the city's many contributions to what is called "New Haven-style pizza," is celebrating its 90th anniversary. Good for the family.

It's nice to see that a long-time business in our community is still run by the family that founded it. Setch things are not as common as they once were.

We know that people come from all over to Zuppardi's when they do a "New Haven run" for pizza. Best wishes to the family for 90 years of great food and great service to yokels like Cobina.

It's been two more weeks, and nothing seems to be happening at the Haven. One wonders what in blazes the Haven Group, the erstwhile developers of the ill-fated upscale mall. Iva Lootey is making noises that the lack of communication is getting to some in the administration.

We've always known that the group treats the city like the provinces and will deign to make announcements when it sees fit.

Tennyrate, with a new team of people in the Development Office at the Actors Colony, maybe some new tactics can find out just whatinell the group is thinking. Mother Nature is not-so-slowly taking over the once residential neighborhood as we speak. In fact, it's quite a nice vista across the harbor.

There is some word the land will be parceled out, like I said. And Cobina's bones are telling her that we will see some high-end condominiums on some of the property.

That means we've come full circle. High-end condos were something the city didn't want down there in preference to commercial development.

I dunno what is planned or when it will be announced, but maybe the new group in City Hall will be able to force some news outta the developers. Let's hope.

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

Cobina

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Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I am a resident on one of the side streets off Ocean Avenue. The signs that says, "For West Haven Beach Permit Parking Only." (Drivers) go up the street halfway then they stop. And then they are like that throughout the entire neighborhood on any side streets off Ocean Avenue. Unfortunately, my house is at the top at one of these streets with no signs present.



ELEANORE TURKINGTON Representatives in your area. According to Melli Garthwait, Councilor-at-Large, "I have requested these signs for Kelsey Avenue, Arlington and Grove."

For the past two seasons, people who would park in my area would leave garbage behind, or park close to people's driveways making it challenging to get in and out of driveways. One time a group of college students were seen urinating outside of their car prior to them going down to the beach.

"WHPD's Traffic is going to get back to me on them, as the signs are a bit misleading, since we have the new digitally paid parking. These signs mention a permit"

Why can't we have these signs going up and down the entire length of our streets? We shouldn't have to accommodate those visitors who don't want to pay at the parking lot?

Christopher E. Vargo

City Council District 8

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

I have a gripe! My husband and I dine out quite often. We are very confused about the tipping regulations. Do we have to tip the cashier when we occasionally pick up our

WH Resident

Dear WH Resident:

Your parking concerns were directed to the Council

Dog license renewals due in June

Residents who own dogs at least 6 months old must renew their licenses from June 1-30 or face a \$1 monthly fine, City Clerk John W. Lewis said.

State law requires dog owners to submit a current rabies vaccination certificate when applying for the new dog tags. Expired certificates are not accepted.

The fee for the two licenses, which are available in the city clerk's office at City Hall, 355 Main St., is \$8 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$19 for other dogs.

Residents can also send vaccination records and checks in a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Office of the City Clerk, P.O. Box 526, West Haven 06516.

Dog license renewals are also available online: <https://searchiqs.com/iqsdogrenewal/?CC=CTWHA>.

orders at the cash register? How about details on this new concern to those of us who enjoy eating out?

activity complaints...city tree limbs hanging over private property and neighbor's weed overgroth onto neighbor's fence.

gripes,comments and issues to gripevineatwh@yahoo.com or mail your gripes and comments to Gripe Vine 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven, 06516.

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If you need more writing space, complete your Gripe on a separate piece of paper and submit with this form. Your identity will be kept confidential with Eleanore Turkington, Gripevine Columnist. You can also e-mail your gripe to gripevineatwh@yahoo.com or use the online form at westhavenvoice.com/gripevine.

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Beach Street reopening

After a year of watching and waiting, the Beach Street reconstruction project, called "Phase 2" by the city was opened to traffic. With more than 100 in attendance, including state and city officials as well as many residents, one of the city's main arteries was again available to traffic.

More than a decade in the making, Beach Street became a concern following two major storms, Tropical Storm Irene and Superstorm Sandy hit the coast in 2011 and 2012, respectively.

Following severe flooding that washed out the road as well as exposing sewer and water lines below the surface, the idea to raise the height of the roadway was discussed.

Two areas were particularly problematic. The area from First Avenue toward the Water Pollution Control plant was prone to flooding after major storms. Many times, the section was closed to traffic because of flooding. That area was raised in a Phase 1 project and is now several feet above where it was originally. This has been successful. Getting Phase 2 off the ground was a bit more problematic.

Like many things that have to do with such projects, getting the wheels of government to turn faster is a complicated process. Money was allocated, but the project never seemed to get off the ground. Finally, it began last year. This was a larger area to cover, from Sandy Point to Morse Avenue.

This area was prone to flooding and the exposure of the below-ground infrastructure a decade ago made the delays more concerning. The city was one storm away from a breach of water and sewer lines.

The June 1 ceremony put all the worries to rest. The new roadway boasts not only a new height, but safety structures like "speed humps" to control motorists during the long stretch.

The bike/walk path has been redone and extended to Monahan Place/First Avenue, and new lighting and improvements have been made at the April Street boat ramp.

A side note: motorcyclists used to enter the city from this area in clusters, creating a noise problem. These new speed humps might be a blessing for the area residents.

Mayor Dorinda Borer announced other improvements would be forthcoming. Meanwhile, a developer is now able to complete the construction of a restaurant in the area where Chick's Drive-in once stood. The project, which includes four condominium buildings, will now move toward completion with the restaurant.

It is hoped the opening of the thoroughfare will prod the sale of another piece of property in need of rehabilitation, the former Debonair Motel. Once that tract is improved or developed, Beach Street will be a fine gateway to the city's shoreline.

In what has become her trademark when it comes to such events, Mayor Borer did not forget those who came before her. She invited both former Mayors Nancy Rossi and Edward O'Brien to share in the festivities. Indeed, Rossi was invited to the recent "topping off" at the new Washington School.

It was a long time in coming. Beach Street is now open to traffic, and a decade-plus project is, finally, off the boards.



A war only in politicians' minds

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

The war on contraception that wasn't

We don't know who they are or where they are. All we know is that some place or other, a shadowy group of powerful Republicans is meeting to figure out how to ban contraceptives.

For all we know, they also might be scheming to cover up what really happened at Area 51 and to obscure the identity of the real assassin of JFK.

If the Bilderbergers aren't involved, they should be. The Democratic charge that Republicans are somehow working to cut off access to contraception is so ludicrously unfounded that it amounts to an outlandish conspiracy theory. Yet this allegation undergirds the Democratic effort to pass a sweeping new "Right to Contraception Act" through Congress.

Sure, contraception is already legal in every state and no one is trying to ban it, but you can't be too careful. The contraception act is supposedly a -- ahem -- prophylactic measure.

The political play clearly is to offer legislation with numerous provisions that Republicans can't support and then when they vote against it, as all but two Republicans did in the Senate, to say: "See? We told you so. Republicans hate contraception so much

that they blocked the 'Right to Contraception Act.'"

The Democratic maneuver generated the desired headlines all over the media about Republicans opposing a bill to protect contraception.

A key piece of the Democratic fear-mongering is that Justice Clarence Thomas said in his concurring opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* that *Griswold v. Connecticut*, which established the constitutional right to contraception, should be overturned. This doesn't mean that Thomas himself is hostile to contraception or supports bans of it -- only that he thinks *Griswold* is constitutionally defective.

It's an enormous leap to go from this stray remark to any serious threat to contraception. For the Thomas view to be effected in the real world, the Supreme Court would have to take up a landmark contraception case, which isn't in the offing; he'd have to get four other votes to overturn *Griswold*, when that isn't assured; and the justices would have to not find another constitutional source for a right to contraception, even though Thomas himself held that out as a possibility.

All that said, let's assume against all expectations that the *Griswold* decision is rendered a smoking ruin by Thomas and his colleagues sometime soon. Where in these United States would a serious Republican official

propose to restore Connecticut's Comstock law that was at issue in that 1965 case and prohibit anyone from using "any drug, medicinal article or instrument for the purpose of preventing conception"?

Even if Republicans are quietly harboring an intention to do this, they'd be swiftly and decisively rebuked by voters if they ever tried to act on it, and that'd be the end of the war on contraception.

Again, though, all that is theoretical, not to say utterly fantastical. In reality, even the Trump administration spent roughly \$1.8 billion on domestic family planning in fiscal year 2020.

The source of the GOP opposition to the Democratic contraception legislation is sincere and doesn't reflect any secret agenda. Republicans consider the bill, correctly, a Trojan horse (no pun intended, really) for radical measures that couldn't pass on their own. The legislation would wipe away conscience protections, make it impossible to cut off contraception funding to organizations like Planned Parenthood that provide abortions, and define contraception so broadly that it could cover abortifacients.

With Senate Democrats desperate to make the most of their post-*Dobbs* political advantage on abortion and related issues, there's no room

See Lowry, page 15

Forum: *City opens dialogue with businesses*

Continued from page 3

West Haven Economic Development Director Stephen Fontana, Community Development Administration Manager Mark J. Bisaccia and grant writer Olivia Bissanti.

"This is an exciting time to be in West Haven, an exciting time to be in business," Fontana said. "There's a lot of resources out there to help people. Our goal is to try to help you navigate all that. If you need a place to start first, think of us."

Also speaking were Moraima Gutierrez, the U.S. Small Business Administration's deputy district director for Connecticut; Val Gomez, the Connecticut Small Business Development Center's business adviser; Kenyetta Banks, the Women's Business Development Council's program manager; Larry Rush, the conservation and load management manager of residential for United Illuminating's parent company, Avangrid; Sheila Hummel, the state Department

of Economic and Community Development's director of small business, community development and capital projects; Kobey Smith, the Greater New Haven Chamber

of Commerce's small business support specialist; and Steve Johnson, Workforce Alliance's business services coordinator.

The forum concluded with an open discussion.

For information on West Haven's ARPA Small Business Grant program, visit the city's website at <https://www.cityof-westhaven.com/1396/ARPA-Small-Business-Grant>.



Mayor Borer warning on severe heat; city cooling centers open

The first major heatwave of the year has prompted state and city officials to issue an "Extreme Weather Protocol" through June 22.

"In coordination with Governor Lamont's Office and with the Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security, I have ordered the opening of the City of West Haven Cooling Center's from Tuesday June 18 until Saturday June 22," Mayor Borer said in a statement issued Tuesday.

West Haven Cooling Centers include:

Main Library Hours: 9:30-8, Monday-Thursday; 9:30-5, Friday & Saturday; Closed Sundays. The library is at 300 Elm St., and can be contacted by calling, (203) 937-4233.

Ora Mason Branch Library Hours: Noon-8 Monday; 9:30-5 Tuesday-Friday; Closed on weekends. Ora Mason is at 260 Benham Hill Road, (203) 933-9381.

West Haven Senior Center Hours: 9-4 Monday-Friday; Closed on weekends, at 201 Noble St. (203) 937-3507.

Those visiting another town or city and need cooling, all statewide cooling centers can be found by calling 2-1-1.

"It is recommended that those individuals with a history of medical or breathing problems, including the very young and elderly, are to be aware of these elevated heat and humidity conditions, and take all precautions to ensure outside activities are limited," Borer's statement read. "Please ensure everyone has extra hydration, wearing of Loose fitting & light-colored clothing when possible, and staying out of the direct sunlight are highly recommended. Be aware of these similar recommendations for your pets as well."

The Emergency Operations Center will continue to monitor these conditions and update as needed.

Take Care of Yourself and Check on the Most Vulnerable: Check on your neighbors, especially the elderly, young children, and those with respiratory illnesses to ensure they remain hydrated and have adequate cooling in their homes.

~~ Infants and young children are sensitive to the effects of high temperatures and rely on others to regulate their environments and provide adequate liquids.

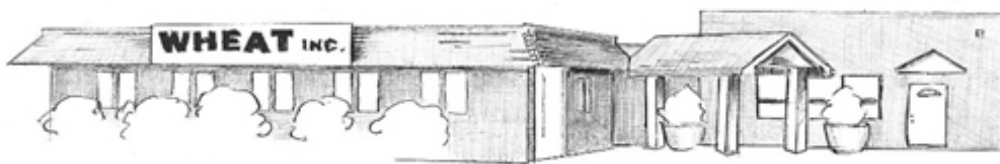
~~ People 65 years of age or older may not compensate for heat stress efficiently and are less likely to sense and respond to changes in temperature. People who are overweight may be prone to heat sickness because of their tendency to retain more body heat.

See Heat, page 17



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

More than 100 West Haven businesspeople attend the city's first Small Business Forum at West Haven High School on Tuesday, June 11.



WHEAT is now open Mondays too.

Our pantry is open:

Monday - 5:00-7:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday - 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 fp@wheatpantry.org.

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DOT confab to detail I-95 rebuild plans

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) will begin construction this summer on the I-95 Interchange 43 Improvements Project. Before construction kicks off, CTDOT will be hosting a construction open house on Wednesday, June 26, from 5-7 p.m. at the West Haven City Hall in the Community Room at 355 Main St.

The open house will begin at 5 p.m., followed by a formal presentation at 6 p.m. by CTDOT team members about the status of the design and construction phases of the project. The formal presentation will also be available virtually on Zoom at 6.

"The purpose of this project is to reduce traffic congestion, enhance traffic flow, and increase safety at I-95 Interchange at Exits 43 in West Haven," said Connecticut Department of Transportation Project Manager Steven Hebert. "We encourage the community and the traveling public to attend this open house to learn more about the project and share their concerns with the construction team."

The project involves reconstructing I-95 at Interchange 43 and replacing two bridges carrying I-95 that are in poor condition—First Avenue and over the MetroNorth Railroad tracks.

The design phase of the project is currently in progress and will be completed summer 2024. Construction of the new bridges is expected to start shortly after completion of the design phase and will continue until 2027.

During the demolition of the existing bridges and construction of the new bridges, the I-95 Northbound Interchange 43 entrance ramp will be closed. Traffic that enters I-95 northbound at this location will be rerouted onto other state-owned roadways in the West Haven and New Haven, utilizing the I-95 Northbound Interchange 44 entrance ramp. Detours will begin in spring 2025 and will be in place for the remainder of construction.

Individuals with limited internet access can listen to the meeting by calling (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID 954 6392 3175 and Passcode 300184.

Non-English language closed captioning will be available on Zoom. The recording will also be posted immediately following the meeting in the list of CTDOT virtual public meetings at portal.ct.gov/ctdotVPIMarchive.

Individuals with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS).

Individuals with limited internet access may also request that project information be mailed to them within one week by contacting Steven Hebert at steven.hebert@ct.gov or (203) 389-3154.

Language assistance may be requested by contacting the CTDOT Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least five business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.

For more project and open house details, visit i95westhaven.com.

Submitted Photos

Library gets 2 donations

The West Haven Library kicked off its Capital Campaign on Friday night, May 17 with a \$100,000 donation from the Heffernan Family for the Allingtown Library project. In attendance were members of the Friends of the Library, Village Improvement Association board members, and staff. Pictured from left to right are Library Director Colleen Bailie, Board president Bill Heffernan along with family members Katie Farrell, Betsy Davis, and Nancy Skerritt.

The library hopes to raise \$2 million dollars to assist with the building of a new Allingtown library after closing Piantino Library when the city sold the building in September of 2020. Be on the lookout for more programs and fundraisers for this project!

The Friends of the Library also were presented their proceeds of \$2,000 from the Rotary Auction last month by President Elect Alan Olenick to Friends president Michael Invernale.

Pictured left to right is Library Director Colleen Bailie, Friends president Michael Invernale, and Rotary president elect Alan Olenick. All proceeds from the Rotary paddle raise will go towards the summer reading programming for the summer at the library.



'Make Music Day' returns to Grove, June 21

ArtsWestCT announces the plans and lineup for West Haven Make Music Day on June 21, a third annual family-friendly event. Internationally, Make Music Day celebrations are held in nearly 5,000 places around the world, including West Haven's Old Grove Park. Here, the focus will be on creating instruments from recycled materials and jamming outdoors with local musicians. West Haven families and agencies are asked to help collect clean, empty containers with lids to bring to the event.

The day's schedule is free and open to the public as follows:

~ 1 p.m. -- Wellness Hour, courtesy of The Hut & AT Sangha Yoga - live cello music paired with the option to practice gentle, restorative yoga or just sit back, listen and relax. Bring a mat if you wish.

~ 2 p.m. -- "Songs of Summer"-themed community playlist by DJ Steve Wallace courtesy of Sounds Unlimited - submit requests on ArtsWestCT's Facebook Page @westhavenarts. Chalk drawing, hula hooping, Bucket Drumming Village and Food trucks: Taste of Grill and More Than Dough.

~ 3 p.m. -- Make Your Own Instrument out of recycled materials collected by community organiza-

tions, sponsored by the West Haven Early Childhood Council with assistance from local musicians.

Instructors from Teach Kids Music will offer mini-lessons on various instruments.

Stop by the Welcome table to pick up a door prize ticket to win a free instrument. A number of organizations such as Surfside Veterans and the West Haven Library will be tabling and sharing community resources.

~ 4 p.m. -- Community Tap Dancing - courtesy of West Haven choreographer Zaneta Nicholson. Puma, certified therapy dog from Pet Partners, makes an appearance.

~ 4:30 p.m. -- Peace Jam with Elaine Kolb, Bring your freshly-made instruments or borrow one of hers.

~ 5 p.m. -- World Music Day remarks, followed by Elaine Braithwaite on electric violin.

~ 5:30 p.m. -- Young recording artist LeSaint teases out new releases.

~ 6 p.m. -- FATE - Fernanda & the Ephemerals, featuring jazz vocalist Fernanda Franco who led the Early Childhood Council's Parents Cafe in May.

~ 6:30 p.m. -- Prize drawings, followed by Tad G's

Poundfit fitness class based on drumming. Transition to support Shaded Soul concert on the main stage.

~ 7 p.m. -- Make Music Day concludes.

West Haven's Make Music Day celebration is supported in part by the West Haven Rotary.

Special thanks to the Arts Council of Greater New Haven, ArtsWestCT's fiscal agent, and to the City of West Haven for co-presenting the event again this year. Make Music Day was featured in the Summerfest 2024 insert mailed to West Haven homes and businesses. Attendees are encouraged to stay on for the kickoff to the West Haven Parks and Recreation Department's summer concert series, which will present Shaded Soul at 7.

Make Music Day is intended to be a rain or shine event. Unless there is a severe weather warning, organizers will still aim to gather under the shelter of the bathhouse to make instruments with families out of recycled materials and jam with local musicians from 3-5 p.m. Everyone is asked to please put safety first before venturing out that day and check the ArtsWestCT Facebook page @westhavenarts for updates.



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'Walk' gets newest members added



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

During the Phase 16 dedication of the brick Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park on Saturday, the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard leads the procession of city and state dignitaries while carrying the American flag to the William A. Soderman Memorial Flagpole for the ceremonial raising. The honor guard is composed of members of the West Haven Fire Department, the West Shore Fire Department and the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown.

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

A legion of veterans and their families from across Connecticut, joined by city and state leaders and members of West Haven's Veterans Council and three fire departments, turned out late Saturday afternoon to help dedicate 47 bricks as part of Phase 16 of the Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park.

The patriotic crowd, many wearing red, white and blue, gathered along the Walk of Honor on Long Island Sound as Mayor Dorinda Borer delivered poignant remarks dedicating the new bricks.

"I know you agree with me when I say it feels really good to stand under that American flag," said Borer, speaking in front of a black granite memorial in commemoration of World War II Army Pfc. William A. Soderman. "And we do so because of all of you, all of our veterans here — and all that we're honoring here tonight. You've made this possible for us."

The mayor continued: "I'm deeply humbled by the presence of so many veterans and their families who have come to these hallowed grounds from all corners of Connecticut and beyond to participate in the solemn dedication of Phase 16 of the Veterans Walk of Honor.

"Thank you all for your service — our Army, our Navy, our Air Force, our Marines, our Coast Guard. Thanks to each and every one of you."

Borer then gave a shoutout to retired city Human Resources Commissioner Beth A. Sabo, who is now a volunteer in the mayor's office.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to Beth Sabo for overseeing the construction of all phases of the Walk of Honor since its dedication in May of 2007," Borer said.

Rick Spreyer, the mayor's chief of staff, served as the master of ceremonies.

The seaside ceremony also featured remarks by Veterans Council President Dave Ricci, a Marine Corps vet who served in the Vietnam War. Ricci is also the president of West Haven Vietnam Veterans Inc.

"Today is a day of remembrance for all the military personnel that never made it home," said Ricci, before asking those in attendance to raise their hands if they had served in the armed forces, including the Coast Guard and the Merchant Marine.

He closed his remarks with words of thanks: "If you have food, thank a farmer. If you have food on your table, thank a trucker. If you can eat in peace, thank a veteran."

The 25-minute program commenced with a procession of local and state officials and West Haven fire chiefs and officers and followed with a flag-raising by the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard, composed of members of the West Haven Fire Department, the West Shore Fire Department and the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown.

Among the dignitaries were West Haven Democratic Rep. Bill Heffernan, 10th District Republican Councilman Steven J. Johnstone, Secretary Herbert Hill of West Haven's Board of Fire Commissioners, Chairman Robert Bruneau of West Shore's Board of Fire Commissioners, Commissioner Frederick Brown of Allingtown's Board of Fire Commissioners and West Haven Municipal Veterans Rep. Rich Deso, the president of Surfside Veterans.

The event included the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by West Haven's own Grace Kelly Nowak, a prayer by Vertical Church Outreach Pastor Paul Bronson and the singing of "God Bless America," also by Nowak.

The program concluded with a wreath-laying at the base of the William A. Soderman Memorial by West Haven Vietnam Veterans members Rick Foley and Mark Levine, followed by taps played by retired West Shore Lt. Kevin McKeon.

After the ceremony, families lined the Walk of Honor to search for bricks they purchased in honor of loved ones, both living and deceased. Each \$75 brick has a personalized message engraved in charcoal lettering.

In November 2006, the Veterans Council began the first of 16 campaigns selling bricks to memorialize vets on the 100-yard walkway between the Soderman and Vietnam Veterans memorials.

About 3,000 bricks have been installed to date, including 51 for Phase 15, which was dedicated May 27, 2023.

Phase 1 of the Walk of Honor was dedicated in May 2007, along with a memorial to Korean War veterans.

In May 2008, Phase 2 of the walkway and the Soderman memorial were dedicated.

Soderman received the Medal of Honor after he distinguished himself in December 1944 while defending an important road junction near Rocherath, Belgium.

See Walk, page 12



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Photo courtesy of the CBC

Members of the West Haven High School Construction "Team" representing members of city boards, commissions and offices and private sector builders and contractors show off their trophy, given by the Connecticut Builders Congress at its recent awards banquet at AquaTurf in Southington. The team won the second-place trophy, being nudged out by Cranbury School Project in Norwalk. The "Team Awards" honor the work done between those of the public and private sectors in making projects successful.



High School project awarded by CBC

West Haven High School was awarded second place in a state building association competition.

The Connecticut Building Congress made the announcement earlier this month, announcing its 28th annual Project Team Awards.

West Haven High School was given the Award of Merit, getting beaten out for the top First Place honor by Cranbury Elementary School in Norwalk. Gilbane Construction, the major contractor in the rebuild of the high school submitted the project.

The Connecticut Building Congress annually recognizes outstanding building projects that exemplify project team excellence and represent the best practices in teamwork by project owners, architects, engineers, constructors and trades.

Each year, CBC recognizes

projects whose team members have met or surpassed goals and achieved higher project quality through this close collaboration.

"The West Haven High School's renovation, a \$130 million transformative endeavor, was the largest school project of its time as it revolutionized the city's only public high school," the CBC said in its announcement. "Collaboratively executed by Gilbane Building Company, Antinozzi Associates, the City of West Haven, and the School District, the project was completed on time and within budget. The 270,000 SF "renovate as-new" initiative modernized the 1963 facility into a state-of-the-art educational space with advanced STEM classrooms, a media center, and community spaces. Managed in four phases, it allowed continuous

operation for over 1500 students, integrating new science and athletic facilities."

According to the CBC, "The design emphasizes security, community engagement, and offers after-hours public access, positioning the school as a vital community hub."

The project was cited for being \$2 million under budget

when completed, despite the fact eight classrooms and other upgrades were made that were not in the original plan. "The project faced many challenges," said Building Committee Chairman Ken Carney, "but we were able to bring in a state-of-the-art project with several additions that were not in the plans."

Those additions included classrooms and other amenities not originally envisioned in the design phase of the project.

"It was literally at 'team effort' and shows what could happen when the public and the private sector work together toward a common goal," Carney said finally.

Class of '64 plans reunion

The West Haven High Class of 1964 is planning its 60th reunion for Sept. 7, noon to 4 p.m. at Biagetti's Restaurant, 77 Campbell Ave., on the patio. It will include a buffet dinner with music and dancing. A formal invitation will be sent to all classmates via email. Please RSVP by June 3 to Judy Oberempt at nana2446@aol.com or (203) 934-9504.

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Photos by Michael P. Walsh

Above -- People line the Walk of Honor to search for bricks they purchased in honor of loved ones, both living and deceased. City resident Right -- Ryan Walsh, 14, finds bricks dedicated to his grandfathers, Marine Corps Cpl. John M. Walsh, who served in 1955-58, and Air Force Airman 1st Class Paul C. Varsanik, who served in 1961-65.



Walk: 47 names added to memorial

Continued from page 10

On July 1, 1984, Bradley Point Park's flagpole was dedicated in memory of Soderman, who died in 1980.

Also in 2008, 14 grave markers signifying every war in U.S. history and peacetime were dedicated. The markers are mounted on granite posts.

In addition to overseeing the construction of all phases of the walkway, which was built by City Point Construction Co. of West Haven, Sabo supervised the design and placement of the granite Korean War and Soderman memorials, which were made by Shelley Bros. Monuments of

Guilford.

In May 2015, the dedication of Phase 8 included the dedication of a granite stone in memory of Veterans Council President Lorelee "Lori" Grenfell, who died in 2015 at age 60. The memorial was crafted by Giordano Bros. Monuments of West Haven.

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Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

The Malley Murder Part I

For years there have been sightings reported of the ghostly image of a young woman in a Victorian style white dress, who has been seen walking on the beach near Savin Rock's Old Grove...

In 1881, most West Haveners made their living from farming, shipbuilding, fishing, or working at the two local buckle factories.

This was during a period when streetlights and indoor illumination were just turning to gas power, telephones and electricity were still somewhere off in the future, and public water had just recently been introduced to the little community.

And for most, travel was done by use of the New Haven and West Haven Horse Rail-

road or by foot, as horses and carriages were only within the reach of the well-to-do.

Then as now, the area surrounding Savin Rock was a busy place during the warmer months—for in those days, the Savin Rock amusement area was experiencing a period of rapid growth. People came to The Rock from neighboring communities, and even surrounding states, to enjoy the food and fun that had made Savin Rock a well-known summer destination. Some would stay for weeks at a time in The Rock's fine hotels.

And then as now, from time to time people would tragically turn up dead in the area around The Rock.

But one particular tragedy overshadowed all those others, and a legend grew around

the Malley Murder case, also known as the Jennie Cramer murder mystery.

What? You never heard of it? Well, the story goes like this:

Just as the sun was rising on a hot Saturday, August 6, 1881 an oysterman named Asahel Curtiss was bailing the water out of his boat before heading out for his day's catch on Long Island Sound.

Suddenly, something caught his eye: he paused from his work at the sight of a white object, which was stuck on a nearby sandbar and was swaying back and forth with the incoming tide. Curtiss waded out through the water to investigate.

What he found on the sandbar was the lifeless body of a well-dressed and remarkably

pretty young woman.

Curtiss carried the young woman's body from the water and carefully laid it on the sandy beach. By this time, he had been joined by S.L. Marsden, who had been watching the recovery of the body from his house, and had come to help. Curtiss, who had previously recovered other bodies from the Sound had noticed something strange about this one: the girl's eyes were closed, not open; her hands were open, not clenched, and when he turned her over, no water came from her mouth. This, plus the fact that she had been lying face down gave Curtiss the idea that perhaps the young woman might not have drowned, but might have died by some other means.

To be continued.



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

The Malley Murder case was one of the most sensational cases ever in the New Haven area, and put the resort borough of West Haven in the state and national headlines. The Malley name was well known in the business and social community as the Edward Malley Co. was one of the largest dry goods merchants in the Elm City.



Grant funds new recycling carts

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

The city is rolling out new recycling carts for residents.

The free 65-gallon carts will begin arriving at residents' homes in mid-June. Residents do not have to go to City Hall to pick up their new cart.

Mayor Dorinda Borer said residents should start using their new carts as soon as they receive them. The collection schedule will remain the same, she said. The carts will replace the smaller bins currently used for residential recycling.

Borer said the new carts have wheels for easy maneuvering and attached lids to keep recyclables dry and secure. They will also keep city streets safer and cleaner as scattered debris will be limited, she said. According to city officials, residents can keep

their old bins for home use but will no longer be able to use them for the recycling program. The smaller bins cannot accommodate a potential new automated process.

Residents who want to discard their old smaller bins can do so by placing the old smaller bins on the curb on their regular trash day starting July 8.

"This is a great opportunity to modernize our waste hauling system," Borer said. "In addition to increasing our recycling capacity, there are aesthetic and safety benefits. The carts have lids, meaning we will no longer have litter and debris blowing around our streets."

In combination with American Rescue Plan Act funding, the city has received a grant from The Recycling Partnership, a national nongovern-

mental organization that advances the circular economy by building a better recycling system in communities nationwide.

Borer said West Haven was selected to receive grant support because of its dedication to advancing recycling in the community. The mayor asks that residents continue to do their part by placing only recyclable materials in their carts, including glass bottles and jars, aluminum and steel cans, food and beverage cartons, paper products, such as newspapers and flattened cardboard, and empty plastic bottles and containers.

Residents can find more recycling information by visiting <https://www.cityof-westhaven.com/266/Recycling-Info-Carts> or calling the Department of Public Works at (203) 937-3585.



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Contributed Photo

Heritage Festival kickoff

From left, Greater New Haven Italian American Heritage Committee Treasurer Sal Decola, committee member Mike Luzzi, Mayor Dorinda Borer, and newly sashed honorees Celia Pinzi and Mark Consorte are all smiles at the committee's Kickoff Dinner at Cielo Banquet Hall on May 15.

The fundraising dinner recognized Consorte, a longtime social studies teacher and department head at West Haven High School, as the grand marshal of the 2024 Greater New Haven Italian American Heritage Festival and Pinzi, the owner of West Haven Funeral Home, as the recipient of the committee's Laura Luzzi Award for outstanding public service.

West Haven is the host community for the festival, which is scheduled from noon-4 p.m. Oct. 12 on the Green.



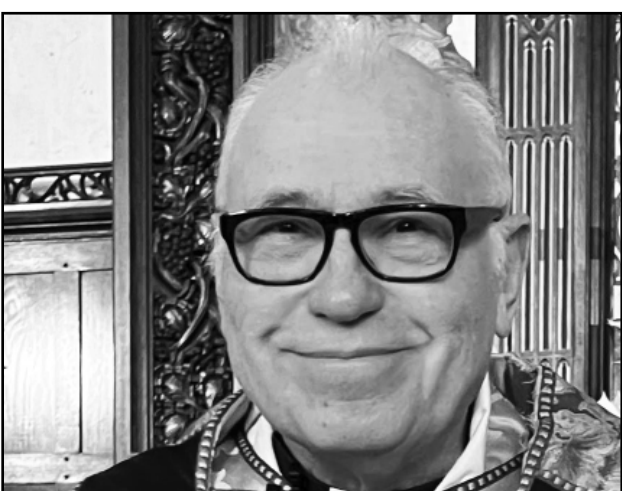
Photo courtesy of Dan Shine



Retirees award scholarships

The West Haven Police Retired Officers Association recently presented 2-\$500 scholarships to high school seniors going into Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement. in 2024. Pictured from left, Retired officer Al Lindblom with niece Ayva Caruso, who's attending Sacred Heart in the fall. Center is Treasurer Bill Conlan. Also pictured is Olivia Trenchard attending UNH, with her grandfather Retired Officer Ron Zuk. Vice President John Jarvie looks on. The presentations were made at West Haven Police Department. The Retired Officers Association supports the community and all law enforcement, in efforts to recruit and encourage a career in law enforcement.

New vicar takes the helm at Holy Spirit



THE REV. THOMAS JACKSON

One of this city's oldest churches has a new priest. The Rev. Thomas C. Jackson is the new Vicar of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit. As Vicar, he will serve on a quarter-time basis leading a congregation that was organized in 1723. Today it worships in the brownstone church facing the Green and is set within the West Haven Historic District.

Fr. Jackson will celebrate the Eucharist here at 9 a.m. two Sundays a month. On other Sundays at 9 a.m. the church offers Morning Prayer with hymns and a homily. In addition to presiding during worship and assisting our lay leaders in administering this parish, he plans to hold office hours once a week and provide pastoral care in his new role. Since November he has been frequently preached and led worship at CHS as the supply priest.

"I am looking forward to serving in this diverse

worshiping community as we find our way through these dark and troubling times," he said. "We welcome the same people some churches shun, offering a community of diverse races, ages, and orientations. This is a safe place to nourish your spirit whether you are Black or White or Asian or Latino or transgender or straight or lesbian or gay. All are welcome at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit."

"We are blessed and fortunate to have Fr. Thomas Jackson join us as our new vicar. We are grateful to have him at the helm of our parish family and look forward to a fruitful and meaningful time with him. We treasure our diversity and welcome all at the Church of the Holy Spirit. We value Fr. Tom's commitment to diversity," Senior Warden Kati Guthrie Tilove said.

See Priest, page 15



Submitted Photo

Students of the Month

St. Lawrence School's monthly student recognition breakfast took place Monday, May 20, with staff and family members on hand to celebrate the accomplishments of their children. First row: (Gr.3) Calyse Edwards, (Gr.3) Mikhail Njie, (Gr.2) Akeiza White, (Gr.1) Gianna Rayas, and (Gr.2) Vivian Andrade and (Gr.4) Jake Nicolelli. Second row: (Gr.6) Isabella Delaney, (Gr.7) Lacy Miraldi (Gr.2) Audrey Carter, Principal Frank Arnone, (Gr.5) Ashlyn Johnson, (Gr.4) Mia Rayas, (Gr.5) Axel Teng, not pictured (Gr.2) Duy Tran and (Gr.8) Malcolm Thompson.

Priest: *New vicar begins ministry*

Continued from page 14

In the past, Jackson served as the priest at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in New Haven and The Episcopal Church of St. Cyprian's in San Francisco. He also worked as the Episcopal Chaplain at the Stanford Hospital and Medical Center in Palo Alto, CA as well as community chaplain at the Los Gatos Hospital in that California community.

He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Mary Wade Home, which offers a full continuum of residential and medical care for senior citizens.

He was a co-founder of the New Haven Land Trust and what is now the New Haven Pride Center.

While working for a regional utility, he founded Hazwaste Central and the Whitney Water Center. He has served on the Boards of the Connecticut Audubon Society, the Long Island Sound Taskforce, and the St. Thomas Day School as well as on the vestries of several Episcopal Churches.

His career began as an award-winning environmental journalist and continued with work in development

at a national ocean conservation group. He also served in public relations roles for government and for-profit organizations. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific and an EMBA from the University of New Haven.

Summer Concerts kick off at Old Grove

The West Haven Summer Concert Series will kick off Friday night in Old Grove Park with R&B favorites and pop hits performed by Shaded Soul Band.

The free concert is scheduled from 7-9 p.m. and presented by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

To check if a concert has been rescheduled because of rain, go to Park-Rec's website at <https://westhavenct.myrec.com/info/default.aspx>.

Lowry: *War in some minds*

Continued from page 6

for good-faith objections. No, it's all demagoguery, all the time. "Thanks to Donald Trump and the right-wing MAGA Supreme Court, Americans now have to question whether or not they'll have access to something as basic and widely supported as birth control," Democratic Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said.

Of course, they don't have to question any such thing, but Democrats want them to question it, based on innuendo and shoddy, politically motivated reasoning.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Photo by Meari Avery

Open House

The West Haven Historical Society celebrated its annual Open House at the Poli Mansion, 686 Savin Ave., last weekend with history buffs from all over the area visiting. This year's focus was on local businesses and industries with exhibits and artifacts.



Youth Soccer completes spring season

To end the West Haven Youth Soccer League spring season, the RQ Tax & Accounting Cheetahs played the Golden Warriors. Avalyn Wilder scored five goals.

Ria Sharma played an outstanding game. LilithBelle Warcholic was tough on defense. Mariah Casteel scored. The Cheetahs also played the Red Strikers.

Vivian Andrade made outstanding plays and had a fantastic game overall.

Avalyn Wilder scored multiple goals, and LilithBelle Warcholic and Marwa El-Filali also scored. Jaelyn Aviles and Ria Sharma played an overall awesome game and tough defensive.

P&B Express matched up against a tough Porto Funeral Home team.

Shavier Medley had a breakaway goal and Tobin Cavalier got past his defender to score. Meanwhile, Tyler Franklin and Daryl Lminggio both scored. P&B Express also played against Keenan Funeral Home.

It was a great game with the score going back and forth, before Tobin Cavalier scored. Thanush Urolano had a put back goal and Cian Sullivan also scored.

Eli's Orange won against the George Ellis Company, with amazing defensive plays made by Zaggy Oliveira and Giovanni Wilson. Midfield-

ers Xander Estes and Adhan Beyah both played hard both defensively and offensively throughout the game.

This teamwork allowed goals to be scored by Mohamed Naas, Dylan Soc, Zaid Abdulkarem, and Anthony Villeda Villeda.

The U14 girls travel Team ended the season with a battle against Southington on Saturday where Luciana Cappetta and Stella Porto showed great passing skills throughout the game, which led to a goal by Porto.

But, the girls fell short, 2-1. Sunday, the girls hosted Orange, which ended in a 3-1 loss.

A competitive game result-

ed in excellent defense skills from Arianna Throm and Alivia Reilly. Celeste DiNallo was aggressive in mid-field, while Kylie Gibbons put one in net for West Haven

The West Haven U11 boys travel team close out the final stretch of the season with four games, going 3-1.

The young Westies started the stretch with a hard-fought 4-3 win against Hadaam-Killingworth.

Ryan Abukah and Roland Green notched goals, and Jaxon Cruz was very strong between the posts.

The boys next hosted New Haven, winning 6-4. Matteo D'Elia was strong in the mid-field, along with Julian Castel-

lon and Ethan Fonseca. Jax Guarino put in a lot of hustle, and Joey Ruiz, Collin Gibbons, and Seth Empric played well in the back.

The lone loss of the regular season came against North Haven, with the boys falling, 3-2. Adam Lamkhanter and Luca DeCresenzo both scored in the loss.

The final game of the season saw the boys face-off against New Haven again, and again they were able to find a way to win.

Ben Trenchard and Jacob Rader broke up a number of plays in the back and passed well to spring attacks. Taha Ozhan put in a valiant effort in midfield.



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Photo by James Asmus

Business Alliance donates beach wheelchair

West Haven Business Alliance owner Michelle Caprio, left, joined by member David Tammaro, second from left, donates a beach wheelchair on behalf of the alliance to the Department of Parks and Recreation on May 29.

With Caprio and Tammaro are, from left, Park-Rec Director Mark E. Paine Jr. and Pool and Waterfront Coordinator Margaret Ruggiero and West Shore Deputy Fire Chief Raphael Zayas.

Caprio, a lifelong Westie who started the alliance as a way of giving back to the community, said the new wheelchair will support the independent mobility of disabled beachgoers at West Shore's Dawson Avenue Beach.

The \$1,100 wheelchair has four 12-inch wheels that allow it to roll on beach sand and was the idea of Tammaro, a West Haven resident and business owner.

The wheelchair is accessible at the beach's lifeguard stand from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., said Ruggiero, who supervises Park-Rec's lifeguards. It is stored after beach hours at West Shore fire headquarters, just across the street on Ocean Avenue.



Heat: *Borer* advises on severe heat

Continued from page 7

~ People who overexert during work or exercise may become dehydrated and susceptible to heat sickness.

~ People who are physically ill, especially those with heart disease or high blood pressure, or who take certain medications, such as for depression, insomnia, or poor circulation, may be affected by extreme heat.

Stay Cool: Keep your body temperature cool to avoid heat-related illness: Stay in air-conditioned buildings as much as possible. If you must be outdoors, try to limit your outdoor activity to the morning and evening.

~ Find an air-conditioned shelter. (Call 2-1-1 for a list of cooling centers). Do not rely on a fan as your primary cooling device. Avoid direct sunlight.

~ Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. Take cool showers or baths.

~ Check on those most at-risk several times a day. Pets that cannot be brought indoors should be provided ready access to water and shade to keep them cool.

Stay Hydrated: Because your body loses fluids through sweat, you can become dehydrated during times of extreme heat:

~ Drink more water than usual. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink more fluids. Drink from two to four cups of water every hour while working or exercising outside. Avoid alcohol or liquids containing high amounts of sugar.

Call 211 for heat info!

Request for Proposal

RFP: Ora Mason Library Mural
Proposal Due By: 6.27.24 at 4pm

Village Improvement Assoc. dba West Haven Library

Send proposals to mtonelli@westhavenlibrary.org or Ora Mason Library Attn: Library Mural 260 Benham Hill Rd. West Haven, CT 06516

All questions should be submitted no later than June 21, 2024

Project Overview:

Mural located on the front left side (the recessed portion of the front exterior) of the Ora Mason Library, 260 Benham Hill Road, West Haven. Mural would be painted over brick exterior.

Project Goals:

To bring better visibility to the Library
To remind passersby of not only our location but our values.
To provide a visual reminder in the form of a work of art which would live on for years to come.

Scope of Work:

The wall area to be painted is approximately 20' x 5' – a long rectangular space that is high enough on the building to clear the large garden addition which sits in front of the building.

CITY OF WEST HAVEN

Including: CITY OF WEST HAVEN FIRE DISTRICT
ALLINGTOWN
CENTER FIRE DISTRICT
WEST SHORE FIRE DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given to all persons liable for payment, to the City of West Haven, of property taxes and sewer use on the **Grand List of October 1, 2023**, that the **first installment payment is due and payable July 1, 2024**. After **August 1, 2024**, interest will be charged on the installment due from July 1, 2024, at the rate of one and one-half percent per month, (subject to a minimum interest charge of two dollars on each delinquent installment of each bill) as prescribed by law. The General Statutes of the State of Connecticut which apply to the levy and collection of property taxes will be enforced against all persons neglecting this notice. The office of the Tax Collector will be open in City Hall, 355 Main Street, Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. and a drop box is available outside the tax office weekdays 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. City Hall will be closed on July 4, 2024 for Independence Day.

Eric Murillo
Tax Collector

Members of the public are invited to

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

State Project No. 0156-0184 Bridge No. 03612

City of West Haven and New Haven

June 27, 2024 at 6:00pm

Register: <http://portal.ct.gov/DOTWestHaven156-184>

YouTube Livestream: <https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpimarchive>

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the community an opportunity to learn about the proposed project and allow an open discussion of any views and comments concerning the proposed improvements. A Question & Answer (Q&A) session will immediately follow the presentation.

The purpose of the project is to address the structural condition of the bridge associated with the substructure.

Right-of-way impacts associated with the proposed project are not anticipated.

Construction is anticipated to begin spring 2027 based on the availability of funding, acquisition of rights of way, and approval of permit(s). The estimated construction cost for this project is approximately \$60,000,000. This project is anticipated to be undertaken with 80 percent Federal funds and 20 percent State funds.

Please register for the Virtual Public Information Meeting at <http://portal.ct.gov/DOTWestHaven156-184>. Registration is required to participate. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the meeting.

Members of the public can submit comments and questions during the two-week public comment period following the meeting. Please direct comments and questions by July 11, 2024 to: DOTProject0156-0184@ct.gov and (860) 594-2020 or Brianna Ritacco, Transportation Supervising Engineer, at (860) 594-3205 or brianna.ritacco@ct.gov

ACCESSIBILITY

This meeting will also be livestreamed on YouTube, and closed captioning will be available. Non-English translation options will be available on Zoom and YouTube. The recording will also be available on CT-DOT's YouTube Virtual Public Information Meeting playlist: <https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpimarchive>

Persons with limited internet access, use the call-in number (877) 853-5257 and enter Meeting ID 830 1670 9754. Persons with limited internet access may also request that project information be mailed to them within one week by contacting Brianna Ritacco, at (860) 594-3205 or brianna.ritacco@ct.gov.

Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS).

Language assistance may be requested by contacting CTDOT's Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least five business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.

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

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ADULT SUMMER READING CHALLENGE!



Explore West Haven, try new things at the library, and help renew and beautify our environment by completing activities on our Adult Summer Reading BINGO board!

Pick up a BINGO board at 300 Elm Street or 260 Benham Hill Road starting June 17th! Every completed BINGO board returned to the library is an entry into a raffle.

Participate anytime between June 17th and August 31st! For more information, please contact the library at (203) 937-4233 ext. 2

King Crossword

ACROSS

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

DOWN

1	Canyon	21	Toy car brand	41	Capital of Italy
2	Oodles	22	Cartoon frame	42	Ballet attire
3	Campus mil. group	23	Photo, for short	43	"-- first you ..."
4	Old Ford model	24	Conceit	44	Roundish do
5	Pocket breads	25	Steal from	46	Devilish laugh
6	Works the soil	26	Existed	47	Airport screening org.
7	Carry-- (travel bags)	27	Jump		
		28	Pinnacle		
		29	Hog haven		
		30	"Nova" aier		

June 20, 2024

MAGIC MAZE • CLOSE TOGETHER

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

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

Bananas	Clustered	Layers	Sardines
Bevy	Couples	Pages	Shingles
Bricks	Dead heat	Parking lot	Stitches
Buddies	Family	Pickets	

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Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Answers to this week's puzzles

King Crossword
Solution time: 23 mins.
Answers

Weekly SUDOKU
Answers

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

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

are in a pound?

7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What cultural phenomenon is celebrated on May 4?

8. TELEVISION: Rhoda Morgenstern is a sidekick in which 1970s TV sitcom?

9. SCIENCE: What is the process called when iron is coated with zinc?

10. U.S. STATES: What is the only vowel that is NOT the first letter of a state?

1. GEOGRAPHY: Which country's native name is Cymru?

2. HISTORY: Which country is the first to recognize same-sex marriage?

3. MOVIES: Who voices the character of Frozone in the animated movie "The Incredibles"?

4. FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient in baba ganoush?

5. LITERATURE: The movie "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" is based on a short story written by which American author?

6. MEASUREMENTS: How many grams

Answers

1. Wales.
2. The Netherlands.
3. Samuel L. Jackson.
4. Eggplant.
5. F. Scott Fitzgerald.
6. 454 grams.
7. "Star Wars" movies.
8. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
9. Galvanization.
10. E.

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Answers to this week's puzzles

King Crossword
Solution time: 23 mins.
Answers

Weekly SUDOKU
Answers

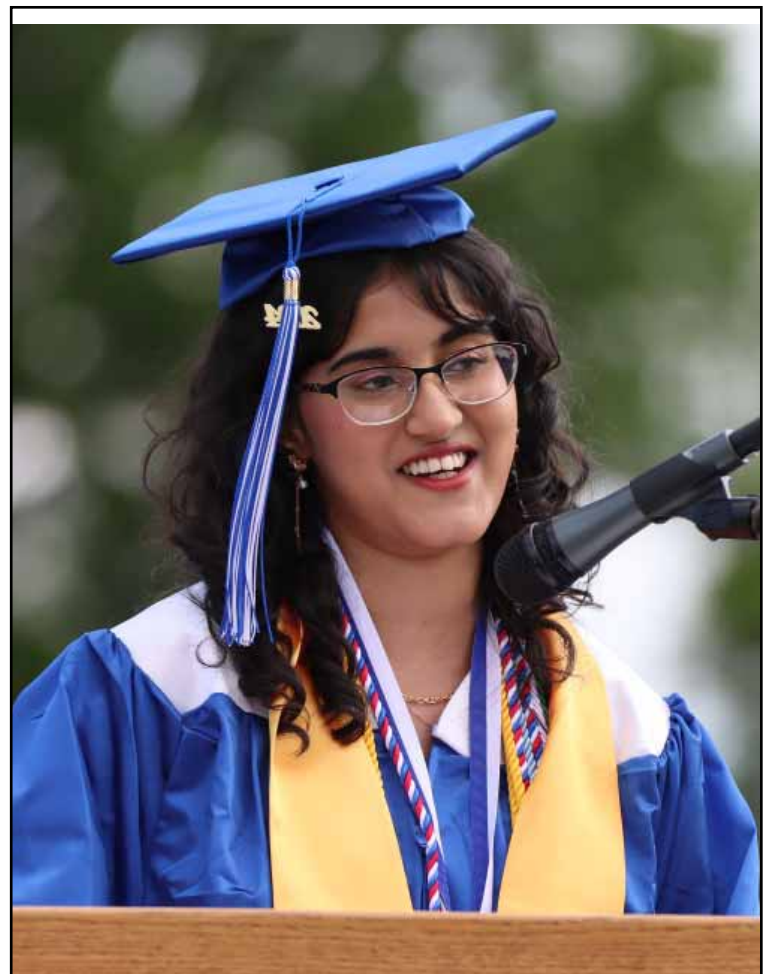
2	7	4	6	5	1	3	9	8
3	1	8	4	9	6	2	7	5
4	9	8	3	7	2	1	4	5
5	3	1	8	4	9	6	2	7
6	9	8	3	7	2	1	4	5
7	5	3	4	9	6	8	7	2
8	2	7	6	4	9	5	3	1
9	6	5	9					1

Class of 2024 walks into history!



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Clockwise from above -- Members of the WHHS Class of 2024 that are entering the military, lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The members of the WHHS Class of 2024 Top Twenty stand for the National Anthem. Salutatorian, Mahnoor Mustafa addresses the 2024 WHHS Graduating Class. Below -- Principal Dana Paredes addresses the Class of 2024. Nala Diarrassouba sings the National Anthem at the WHHS Graduation ceremony.



Zuppardi's celebrates 90th

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

Zuppardi's Apizza, West Haven's first family of apizza, celebrated 90 years in business Monday with music, Italian ice and pizza, of course.

Mayor Dorinda Borer joined generations of Zuppardis in the tented parking lot of the historic pizzeria at 179 Union Ave., where Borer read and presented a framed 90th anniversary proclamation to Cheryl Zuppardi Pearce and Lori Zuppardi, co-owners of Zuppardi's, as other family members looked on.

Zuppardi's has been serving New Haven-style apizza, pronounced "abeetz," since 1934. The fourth-generation business is one of the oldest family-owned pizzerias in the U.S. and was featured on ABC's "Good Morning America" in February.

The Zuppardi sisters were accompanied by hundreds of friends and supporters, including local and state officials, who turned out to pay tribute to a family that, through thick and thin, has been there for their customers, their city and their business community.

Borer, who was joined by the sisters for her remarks, lauded the family and its flourishing pizzeria business.

"It's more than just about pizza; it's the memories you've created," said Borer, who called the sisters "two very strong businesswomen." "You're part of the fabric that's woven into our community."

The mayor continued: "Zuppardi's Apizza is an institution of West Haven and a cornerstone of the Union Avenue neighborhood. With the Zuppardi family growing and the business thriving, both in West Haven and other loca-

tions, Zuppardi's continues to lead our city and its business community toward a brighter future."

New Haven-style pizza historian Colin Caplan, the principal of the food tour company Taste of New Haven, served as the event's master of ceremonies, and the Rev. Jose A. Mercado, the pastor of St. John Vianney Church in West Haven, gave an Italian blessing.

"You're the most beautiful women in pizza I know," said Caplan, referring to the Zuppardi sisters.

State Office of Tourism Brand Director Ellen Woolf spoke about the nationally known Zuppardi's brand.

In addition to its flagship location in West Haven, the Zuppardi family operates a frozen pizza business that distributes to large retailers and ships across the country.

The Zuppardi's pizza truck and mobile business has been catering Connecticut pizza connoisseurs for nearly 10 years.

The family also operates satellite locations, including a takeout space in Ansonia.

Along with Borer, among the dignitaries marking the milestone and speaking at the four-hour celebration were state Sen. James Maroney, D-Milford, and state Rep. Bill Heffernan, D-West Haven, who presented the Zuppardi family with a General Assembly citation on behalf of West Haven's delegation.

The family also received a citation from Heffernan on behalf of Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz and certificates of special recognition from aides representing U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and U.S. Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro, D-3.

Also in attendance were Orange First Selectman James M.



Photo by Michael P Walsh

Mayor Dorinda Borer reads a proclamation to Zuppardi's Apizza co-owners Lori Zuppardi, left, and Cheryl Zuppardi Pearce marking the pizzeria's 90th anniversary celebration at 179 Union Ave. on Monday. Looking on is the event's master of ceremonies, New Haven-style pizza historian Colin Caplan, the principal of the food tour company Taste of New Haven.

Zeoli and North Haven First Selectman Michael J. Freda, a native of West Haven.

Reading the city's proclamation, Borer chronicled the story of the famed pizzeria: "Zuppardi's time-honored recipe of Neapolitan-style abeetz traces its roots to the town of Maiori on the Amalfi Coast of southern Italy, where founder Dominic Zuppardi honed his trade as a master bread baker in the early 1920s.

After coming to America in 1924 and working as an in-demand baker of artisan Italian breads and abeetz in New Haven, he opened Salerno's Bakery on Donnelly Place in 1932.

Two years later, Dominic moved his business to Union Avenue in West Haven. His son, Anthony, followed in his footsteps, taking over Salerno's in the late 1940s, expanding the menu of the bakery's

already-popular pizza to feature his homemade Italian fennel sausage, and propelling the business, officially renamed Zuppardi's Apizza in 1947, to new heights.

"Since 1934, every Zuppardi's pizza pie has been handmade and cooked to perfection in its seasoned brick oven — just like Dominic and Anthony used to make."

The Zuppardi sisters, in their remarks, thanked their many loyal customers and praised their many hardworking employees for carrying on the family's legacy.

As the sisters introduced their children one by one and shared their integral roles in the family business, employees served hungry guests three kinds of pizza slices — mozzarella, tomato sauce with grated Pecorino Romano cheese and fennel sausage —

from the Zuppardi's pizza truck and its offspring, the pizza trailer.

Other employees sold 90th anniversary T-shirts for \$10, with all proceeds benefiting the Closer to Free Fund for Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven Hospital.

Cheryl Zuppardi Pearce's oldest son, Craig Pearce Jr., is a manager at Zuppardi's in West Haven; her daughter, Cheri Pearce, is an instrumental part of the frozen food business; and her son, Anthony Pearce, is a co-owner of Zuppardi's in West Haven.

Lori Zuppardi's daughter, Brittany Ormrod, is a co-owner of Zuppardi's in West Haven. Her son, Jimmy Ormrod, owns the Zuppardi's pizza truck and trailer, Zuppardi's at The Hops Co. in Derby and Zuppardi's Slice Shop in Ansonia.



Photograph by Robbin Watt Hamilton

Juneteenth marked

The Heavenly Stars were among the many performers at the City's Annual Juneteenth Celebration at Brent Watt Park in Allingtown on June 8. Hundreds from near and far attended the event to commemorate the ending of slavery in the United States. Speakers for the day included City Councilman Mackie McMillian (D-5), who delivered the invocation, Mayor Dorinda A. Borer and State Rep. Trenee' McGee (D-116).