# West Haven Voice

June 6, 2024 Vol. 29, Issue 11, 24 Pages West Haven's only independent news source

By and For West Haven

#### **Voice Feature**

An in-depth feature

West Haven's Top 20 seniors feted

See page13



# Beach Street project gets gala opening

By Michael P. Walsh Special to the Voice

With more than 100 people looking on, Mayor Dorinda Borer cut a "Westie blue" ribbon suspended across Beach Street on Friday evening to mark the grand reopening of the shoreline road after a yearlong state-bonded road-raising project.

A half-hour before the ribbon-cutting, a slate of speakers, including Borer, Gov. Ned Lamont's chief of staff, Jonathan Dach, and members of the Sandy Point Neighborhood Association, commemorated the occasion at the Sandy Point Beach & Bird Sanctuary near Second Avenue with testimonials praising the many people who helped bring the years-in-the-making project to fruition.

In her opening remarks, Borer told those gathered that the road raising spanned three administrations and thanked former Mayors Nancy R. Rossi and Edward M. O'Brien for helping to shepherd the project. Borer also thanked the city's state and federal delegations for securing the funding.

"In addition to coastal resiliency, building a beautiful corridor, we also took the opportunity with the funding to build a platform that not only provides vehicle safety but pedestrian safety, cycling safety as well," said Borer, who was joined by West Haven state representatives, City Council members and other city leaders, along with Board of Education, police and fire officials.

Borer continued: "We've added speed humps, signs, widened the bike lane, and put in aesthetics to make the project something that those from around the state would want to visit.

"Today we're standing in a section that we can all be very, very proud of. And in West Haven, we are a very proud community. I want to take the opportunity to thank all the residents for your patience during this project, and I know that all good things come to those who wait."

Deputy Chief William S. Johnson IV of the West Haven Fire Department followed by speaking about the hazards first responders faced on Beach Street during Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011 and Superstorm Sandy in October 2012.

Councilwoman Michelle Coletti, D-2, a co-founder of the non-profit Sandy Point association who served as its inaugural president in 2021-23, talked about her positive working relationship with the city to solve the neighborhood's coastal

challenges and improve its quality of life.

475-355-8320

Councilwoman Meli Garthwait, R-at large, who like Coletti See Beach Street, page 21





'Topping Off'

Photos by Michael O'Brien

On Thursday, May 23, the West Haven Public School District celebrated a "Topping Off" Ceremony for the new Washington Elementary School, in which a beam signed by Washington students, staff, and others, was placed to celebrate the completion of the building's exterior steel structure.

Prior to the placement of the new beam, guests signed it upon their arrival. Among those in attendance were Superintendent Neil C. Cavallaro, Washington Principal Alicia Limosani, Board of Education members Bob Guthrie, Kim Kenny, Patricia Libero and Rosa Richardson, former Mayor Nancy Rossi, current Mayor Dorinda Borer, and more.

After everyone signed the beam, Superintendent Cavallaro addressed the crowd of roughly 20 people with a few remarks. The beam was then lifted by members of the Gilbane Building Company and placed parallel to Brown Street.





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### West Haven Voice Page 2 Thursday, June 6, 2024



Ava Rose Latty, age 5, a student at the West Haven Child Development Center, Inc., is predicting sunny weather.

#### Contact

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Next Issue Date: June 20, 2024

1984 -- The video game Tetris is published. Russian computer engineer, Alexey Pajitnov, created the puzzle game. With over 100 million copies sold, it is one of the most successful video games in history.

On this Date

1982 -- Israeli forces invade Lebanon. The 1982 Lebanon War was triggered by the attack on Israeli ambassador, Shlomo Argov, in London on June 3. Thousands of civilians died during the war, which lasted three years.

1946 --The National Basketball Association (NBA) is founded. The NBA, which comprises teams in the United States and Canada, is considered the world's premier men's professional basketball league.

1944 -- On D-Day, 160,000 Allied soldiers land in Normandy, France.

The World War II invasion of Normandy established a new major front against the Germans in the west and helped Soviet forces facing the bulk of German troops in the east. Germany capitulated on May 7, 1945.

1930 -- Frozen food is sold in retail stores for the first time. 18 stores in Springfield, Massachusetts took part in a trial to test consumer acceptance. Clarence Birdseye is considered to be the father of the frozen food industry.

#### Farmers Market vendors sought for new season

The city is seeking craft, farm and food truck vendors to participate in the Tony Inzero Farmers Market, which will open its 2024 season July 6 next to the Oak Street Beach parking lot off Captain Thomas Boulevard.

The market, nestled on the right side of the beach lot, will include state farmers selling homegrown fruits and vegetables and crafters selling homemade wares from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Thursday and Saturday through Oct. 12.

It will also include food trucks.To participate in the semiweekly market, download an application at https:// www.cityofwesthaven.com/ DocumentCenter/View/6196/ Farmers-Market-Application-2024-PDF.

Applications are available for pickup in the mayor's office at City Hall, 355 Main St., where they are due June 17.

Completed applications must be emailed to Tracie Slater, the market's manager, at tslater@westhaven-ct.gov or faxed to (203) 937-3705.

For more information, call Slater at (203) 937-3510.

#### **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS** 233 Spring Street West Haven

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**WEST HAVEN** 

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## Annual parade honors city's fallen heroes

By Michael P. Walsh Special to the Voice

Grand Marshal Gerald "Jerry" Cafferty steered West Haven's Memorial Day parade Monday morning while riding shotgun in a black Mustang driven by city resident Kevin Gardner.

Cafferty, a decorated Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War in 1970-71, led the more than 40-unit procession of veterans, bands and dignitaries, including Mayor Dorinda Borer and state Attorney General William Tong, along Campbell Avenue despite damp condition.

Cafferty, 75, was tapped by the West Haven Veterans

Council, which helps the city organize the parade, for his years of service to the military, his fellow vets and his community.

The 90-minute event, in memory of the deceased members of the U.S. armed forces of all wars, is the oldest parade of its kind in southern Connecticut.

The parade featured the Connecticut Army National Guard's 102nd Army Band, the New Haven County Firefighters Emerald Society Pipes & Drums, the East Rock Brass Band, the West Haven High School Band and the Harry M. Bailey Middle School Band.

In addition to veterans

cased the traditional contingent of youth organizations and sports leagues, dance and Scout troupes, fraternal organizations and service clubs, local and state leaders, police officers and firefighters.

It included cheerleaders from the West Haven Seahawks, a fleet of Jeeps from the Connecticut Beach Cruisers, and members of the West Haven High cheerleading and dance teams.

After the parade, a wreathlaying ceremony was held at the World War I Armistice Memorial on the Green.

The wreath was laid by Veterans Council Vice President

groups, the procession show- Al Beck Sr. and Treasurer Steve Carney as veterans, including Cafferty, saluted. Retired West Shore fire Lt. Kevin McKeon followed by playing

> Rick Spreyer, the mayor's chief of staff, served as the master of ceremonies, and the West Haven High School Band

performed patriotic renditions of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful."

Borer delivered remarks lauding America's war veterans who made the supreme sacrifice. West Haven Vietnam Veterans member Mark Levine also spoke.

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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Grand Marshal Gerald "Jerry" Cafferty steers West Haven's Memorial Day parade up Campbell Avenue on Monday morning while riding shotgun in a black Mustang driven by city resident Kevin Gardner. Cafferty, a decorated Army veteran, served in the Vietnam War in 1970-71.

# 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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**WEST HAVEN VOICE** Page 4 - Thursday, June 6, 2024

# telicia

Howdy do, sweets. It's been a while since we communicated so there is plenty of stuff to report. Of course, before that, here we are in June already. It seems like we were just shoveling the last of the snow off the veranda, and here we are setting up the lawn chairs. Tempus does in fact fugit... especially when you're as long in the tooth as we two are, no?

Here in the Asylum by the Sea things are starting to heat up for the summer. There's plenty of stuff happening, and everyone is anticipating the warmer weather. As of this writing, however, the chill in the air doesn't wanna go away jest yet, and that rainy pattern we were in since last year seems to be continuin'.

And it's time for Cobina's Law to be reiterated as ittiz every year: The skimpiness of one's bathing attire seems to be in direct proportion to the girthiness of said wearer.

Some people git offended when I bring up this annual dictum, but I've never seen it to fail. More substantial people seem to wear less substantial bathing suits.

We've had some warm days, and even some thunderstorms, but then we git back to 50-something degree weather and a chilly wind. Watch, it'll be hot and humid for quite the while and all of a sudden.

The biggest news in these parts is that after soooo many months of waiting, Beach Street finally reopened last week about two months after it was planned. The aforementioned rainy weather was the official cause of the delays with puddles and setch holding up the progress.

There was some hope the road would be open for the Memorial Day holiday, but that didn't happen. The big event happened the last day of May with the usual fanfare.

Sammy Bluejay was in t'other afternoon, and the developers over there at the corner of Beach and Morse Avenue are happy things can finally progress with the new restaurant they plan. And from whot Sammy was able to ascertain, the delay has caused some changes in the plan, but he seemed to hear that they were changes for the better.

Now, you and I know that development plans never finish the way they were proposed. There are always revisions and alterations, but we hear the new alterations will present more amenities than originally proposed and will be quite something. We shall

We do know the developers are chomping at the bit to git started, and had to wait until the roadway was open before they could start any kind of construction. Sometimes developments are like the army: Hurry up and wait.

I mentioned it the last time, but it seems that Rock Street is now completely shutdown with no traffic in or out for the foreseeable future. The official line is there is a sinkhole developing over there - not the foist time that has happened in that stretch (the last on Capt. Kangaroo Boulevard a few years back). So, until they can git to it, the street was cordoned off with sawhorses and now with a swinging gate, jest to make sure.

Those who wanna patronize Jimmies haft use the entrance/ exit to the auxiliary parking lot, and either park there or wend their way to the main lot. But, the question before the house is how this is gonna affect the NEBCO development in thee old Savin *Rock Conference Center?* 

That project has had its own set of setbacks over the two years since it was originally approved, and is still in litigation with Jimmies. This is probably a minor problem compared to the slow turn of the justice system, but another headache we are sure for both the city and the developer. Things jest never go as planned.

We might as well make this report complete with a troika of issues regarding developments and developers. Here we are turning the page on another month and what in blazes is happening on the former "Haven" site is still a mystery. It's been more than three months since the final buildings were down, and Mother Nature has taken over the land, greening it up with flora, but no word as to what is happening, or effen anyone is interested in buying all or part of the site.

There was some talk of a single buyer way back a year or so ago, when the demolition foist started, but nothing has been heard since. Herroner has been in discussions with the Haven Group, the NYC bunch that first had the idea to put a high-end mall on the site (since nixed).

But they are playing their cards close to the vest, and, truth be told, treating the city like the provinces, letting things out only when they think it is time to discuss. The only good thing is they are paying taxes on the land, and that is at least a small comfort.

We jest hope it ain't another ten years before we find out what is planned for the site. Remember, in one iteration or t'other this thing has been going on since 1997 (when foist announced as the Water Street Project) and ten years since the "Haven" was announced. And so it goes....

The Wag called t'other day and had a question that has been on the minds of several of us in the last little while: when did traffic laws become optional? The second question is: are the constabulary membership aware of the blatant way people are ignoring the law?

Running stop signs, passing on double lines, weaving in and out of traffic, red lights seen as optional, you name it, we've all seen it. People seem in a rush to go nowhere. Cobina happened to be traversing the state thruway earlier this month and going with the flow, but there are yahoos who insist on going 100 miles an hour and weaving between cars. They won't hurt themselves if they git into an accident, but others will be hurt, that's certain.

It jest seems like with everything else, there are people who jest won't follow the rules, and they git away with it more and more. Maybe with the summer coming around, and the constabulary being a bit more visible things will change, but we won't hold our collective breath.

The school year is jest about over and graduations and promotions to the next grade will be taking place as they have been since forever. The big news is that Washington School had its "topping off" ceremony, something you can see in these pages.

Of course, it was the means

of a photo op for the local dignitaries, and meant that the final steel girders were put into place.

Nelly Nuthatch sez that the word about the burg is that the new building is running at or ahead of schedule and is – at the current rate – gonna be finished next May, jest like planned.

The current students are housed in the Molloy School Building on Meloy Road (yeah, that's right), and then will be transferred over when things are completed.

A projeck that finishes on time...not something normal in these parts, that's for sure.

Iva Lootey stopped by to tell me that things were quiet with the fire districk elections and they lacked all the drama that once upon a time was part and parcel of the annual event. Things wen off without a hitch, and things got back to normal.

Iva was reminiscing about the old days when Consolidation of the departments was a big isshew, and budgets were always the subject of a referendum in the early parts of May. That has not been the case for some time. In fack, the districk elections used to be proxy wars betwixt the various factions of the Democratic Party for the most part.

Whether it was Roper v. Allen v. Johnson, or Morrissey v. Borer v. Picard in more recent times. The entire exercise was a prelude to what type of war was gonna happen in the party. Those days seem to be gone. Things are still factionalized but they seem to be more under the radar than before.

The last real blowup was the five-year move toward Allingtown deciding to give up its special taxation districk status and becoming part of a new department under the city. That was done after the charter revision about a dozen years ago, that finally allowed the city to git involved with fire districks at all. It was verboten up to that time.

Now it is done, and Allingtown residents that clamored for city involvement are now (at least some of them) having buyer's remorse. They don't have the input they once had, and the districk commission is jest a rubber

Meanwhile, the topic of consolidation, while brought up by MARB every so often, is a dead

It's gonna take a major event for this issue to come off the back burner, and most people don't see that happening anytime soon. With the relative calm that the recent budget/fire commission cycles show, the days of proxy wars might be over for good.

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

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### ripevines

#### **Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

What is being done about all of the out-of-state registered vehicles of people living in West Haven? A lot of tax dollars being lost!!

#### Dear BG:

I contacted West Haven's Assessor, Ann Marie Gradoia CCMA, who promptly responded to your questions with, "Thank you for your inquiry. Addressing out-ofstate registered vehicles is a priority for both the mayor and me.

In March, the Mayor and I met with a company to discuss the process and pricing for identifying these vehicles.

With the recent approval of the mayor's budget by MARB, we have issued an RFP to hire a company to identify vehicles that are not properly registred in West Haven. We plan to start this project sometime this summer.

Thank you again for your interest.

Ann Marie Gradoia Dear Eleanore Turkingtoon,

I am contacting you because of numerous potholes on my street. I have called Public Works and they keep saying they will have someone come ouut and look at them. They are on the corner of Rangely Street and Enright. These holes need to be filled. The erosion is also in the gutters



**ELEANORE TURKINGTON** and the curbing is also broken up. This street hasn't been paved in years.

Fed Up

#### Dear Fed Up:

I notified two Council people in your district and Dawn Callahan, 6th District, suggested you contact Public Works, with whom you have had no success. However you can try Public Works again at sandella@westhaven-ct.gov and komfort@westhaven-ct. gov this way your name will be on record twice for your complaint. Please get back to me if you don't see your complaint completed.

Gripe Vine Readers: I have received a number of complaints from residents in the Ocean Avenue (Beach area) of illegitimate parking on side streets with clearly marked signs prohibiting beach parking on residential streets. Gripe Vine has notified

#### 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.



this area of these occurrences. Watch Gripe Vine for results of these complaints.

Coming up.. Overhanging city tree limbs

Council representatives in Meadowbrook Road.. and fencing gripe between neighbors and much more

> You can send your gripes, comments and issues to

gripevineatwh@yahoo.com or you can fill out the coupon near my Gripe Vine column and mail if to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516

# GRIPEVINE

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

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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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# Opinion

Thursday, June 6, 2024

Page 6

# Established 1997

**Editor** Bill Riccio, Jr

**Sales Director** Alan Olenick

#### Are you ready for adult life?

Congratulations Class of 2024! For those of you who are ending your collegiate careers, we hope you find a life's work that will be fulfilling, and become contributing members of your community and family

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

You are living in a time where conformity is more the order of the day than in any time in the recent past. Forces controlled by groups of elites, particularly in the political and academic spheres are asking for submission, rather than agreement. Are you adult enough to handle these pressures and fight off the temptation to subsume your will to the mob? In other words, are you an adult ready for real life?

If you believe your "unalienable" rights are derived from the government, and not Nature or "Nature's God," you are not ready for the real world.

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

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

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

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

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

If you need safe spaces to shield you from people or arguments with which you disagree, and are unable to articulate those objections, you have been robbed of an education and are unprepared for the real world.

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

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

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

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

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

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



### People of color and Joe Biden

By Rich Lowry

Syndicated Columnist

What's wrong with people of color?

The progressive journalist Thomas Frank wrote a muchdiscussed book in 2004 titled, "What's the Matter with Kansas?" Right now, some other like-minded journalist might be thinking of writing a book called "What's the Matter with People of Color?"

For Democrats, the presidential polling among Latinos and African Americans ranges from concerning to extremely disturbing, as President Joe Biden sheds support to Donald Trump. The Republican was so bold as to hold a campaign rally that drew thousands in the South Bronx, a heavily Hispanic and Black area where Republicans may be rumored to exist but are rarely actually seen.

A New York Times poll in March had Trump beating Biden among Hispanic voters 46-40, while a Wall Street Journal poll last month found that 30% of African-American males say they are definitely or probably going to vote for Trump. Other surveys show less stark results, but something is going on, especially with Hispanic voters.

If nothing else, we are seeing the foolhardiness of Democrats believing that all minorities -- with a dizzying array of national backgrounds and socioeconomic and demographic characteristics -- could be lumped together as "people of color" and corralled into the Democratic coalition with woke political appeals. That might work on college campuses; it doesn't work in the rest of the country.

The problem for Biden is that Hispanics are too much like the rest of America. In Cygnal polling, 69% of Americans say the country is on the wrong track, and 72% of Hispanics think the same. Hispanics care about the economy as much as — in fact, more than — anyone else. Whereas 30% of the country says inflation and the economy is the top issue, 42% of Hispanics say it is.

All of this means that only 37% of Hispanics view Biden favorably, essentially the same percentage as among whites.

Changing Hispanic attitudes toward immigration is a big part of the picture. A CBS poll in Arizona found that 52% of all voters think recent immigrants have made life worse. What outrageous xenophobia, you say? Well, 40% of Hispanic voters think they've made life worse, too (a slim plurality, 42%, say they've made it better).

While the Left thought that Hispanics would enjoy getting called "Latinx" and seamlessly fit into its victim-industrial-complex, Trump "the bluecollar billionaire" probably has more in common with the average Latino working-class

male than any member of the (exclusively Democratic) Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

The division of the electorate among class lines, long evident among whites, now appears to be showing up among Hispanics. Ruy Teixeira of the American Enterprise Institute cites a YouGov poll that found Biden leading by 1 point among working-class Hispanics and 39 points among college-educated Hispanics. Working-class Hispanics tend to be more moderate or conservative than their collegeeducated counterparts and are more pessimistic about the economy and concerned about inflation. As Teixeira notes, about 78% of Hispanic voters are working class, and even higher percentages in Arizona and Nevada, states where Trump is leading.

There appears to be a trend among Hispanic voters. Hillary Clinton won them by nearly 40 points in 2016, while Biden carried them by 23 points in 2020 and could go lower this year. The move among Black voters is more provisional and less pronounced, but still real and obviously worrying to Democrats given their investment in advertising directed at these voters and Biden's recent fevered commencement address at Morehouse College.

It's best to think of the Latino and Black voters telling
See Lowry, page 7

### WHHS team presents Eco-Story at center

Thirteen West Haven High School students selected to participate in the University of Connecticut's inaugural 2023-24 Eco-Digital Storytellers (EDS) program presented their "Shoreline Saviors" StoryMap at the Eco-Digital StoryTellers Showcase on May 16 at the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford.

UConn's program engages high school student-teacher teams in creating community-focused digital media environmental stories with support and guidance from undergraduate near-peer mentors and university faculty.

It was West Haven High School digital media and journalism teacher Jennifer Cummings' idea to apply for her class to be included in the UConn EDS program. Her 13 students - Rawasy Almaksoudi, Zariah Batts, Nazaya Brantlev. Mariah Foster, Melany Garcia, Cinthya Genis, Camille Godfrey, Shacqwan Kingston, Agatha Lima-Freitas, Tristan Ortiz, Samantha Peralta, Mia Rubirosa, and Connor Tuttle went on multiple field



The members of the West Haven High School EDS team presented their report at the Connecticut Science Center, May 16.

trips to UConn to get training in video production and environmental research.

The "Shoreline Saviors" StoryMap features Haven's Shoreline Resilience **Eco-Restoration**  Project and includes an overview, along with some history, the project's goals, how the community was engaged, and how to volunteer.

Once funding is secured to construct the project, 1.5 acres of public shoreline along one of the highly trafficked stretches of the boardwalk across from Old Grove Park will be restored to a native coastal plant and dune habitat with ADA-accessible pathways, gathering spots, and interpretive signs featuring

environmental education.

As part of the StoryMap, the students produced a short (embedded in the StoryMap) and a long video designed to promote the project. They conducted interviews with the public and those involved in developing the project, including Mayor Dorinda Borer; project leaders Marilyn Wilkes, Vice-President, Land Trust of West Haven, and Mark Paine, Director of Parks and Recreation Department; LaLani Perry,

Chairman, Economic Development Commission; project designers Michael Koontz, Senior Urban Design/Waterfront Planning Practice Leader, GEI Co nsultants, Inc., and Laura Schwanof, Landscape Architect/Ecological Practice Leader, GEI Consultants, Inc.; and Juliana Barrett, Extension Educator Emerita, Coastal Habitat Specialist, UConn's Connecticut Sea Grant Program, among other top dignitaries in the field.

### At a glance

#### Juneteenth celebration Saturday

West Haven's fourth annual celebration of Juneteenth will take place on Saturday, June 8, at Brent Watt Park, 24 Tile Street in Allingtown. Admission is free for all ages. The festivities will take place between 11-3 with entertainment, food, and vendor booths. Entertainment includes the Heavenly Stars singing group, Saxophonist David Davis, Drummer Gamaliel Moses, Rita Rose Entertainment, Dancer Nadia Bellamy, Sounds Unlimited and Mix Master Steve Wallace.

Free parking is available at the University of New Haven Isadore Street entrance. Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved black Americans. The rain date for the festivities is Saturday, June 29, during the same hours.

For more information, explore WestHavenJuneteenth. splashthat.com.

#### Radon test kits still available from city

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

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

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

Lillis said testing for radon is recommended every two years. The city Health Department has received a limited number of free radon test kits from the state Department of Public Health.

To receive a test kit, West Haven residents can call the Health Department at 203-937-3660. A sanitarian from the department will help place the kit in the home, Lillis said.

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

~~ Mike Walsh

#### Lowry: Biden's polling

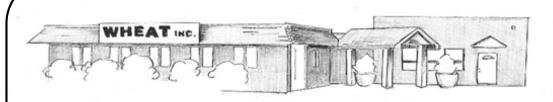
Continued from page 6

pollsters that they support Trump as very much potential voters -- Trump will have to continue to make his case, and the Republican National Committee find ways to reach them and turn them out.

But, as the Republican political analyst Patrick Ruffini points out, if culturally conservative non-whites break away from the Democratic coalition it would be a boon for the GOP.

What's wrong with people of color? This year they could prove too politically independent-minded.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2024 by King Features Synd., Inc.



#### WHEAT is now open Mondays too.

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Monday - 5:00-7:00 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday - 2:00-4:30 pm.

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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.

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**WEST HAVEN VOICE** Page 8 - Thursday, June 6, 2024

# Allingtown honors borough's war dead

A wreath laying ceremony was held on Memorial Day morning at the Allingtown

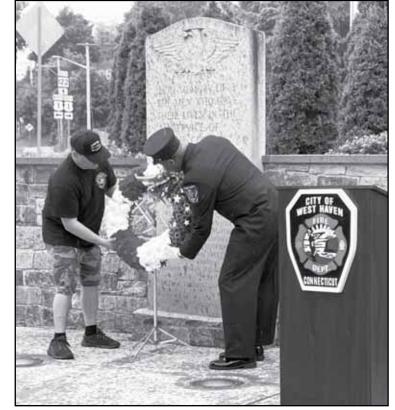
The ceremony, organized by the Allingtown Volunteer Fire Association commemorated the lives of Allingtown veterans that were killed during war. It also honors the lives of all deceased Allingtown firefighters.

Firefighter Steven R. Mullins served as Master of Ceremonies. The rites began with a marching procession from the Admiral Street Headquarters It was lead by the Surfside Veterans Association and Boy Scout Troop #821 carrying a large American Flag. The procession also included career and volunteer firefighters and City and State officials. The Scouts hoisted the flag up the pole as retired West Shore Fire Department Lieutenant Kevin McKeon played Call to Colors. The flag was then lowered to half staff.

Andrew Vallerio, a member of the Surfside Veterans Association laid a wreath at the war memorial, assisted by Mullins. Lieutenant Sam Manuel laid a wreath firefighter monument.

McKeon played taps following the wreath-layings. Devotions were delivered by Father Bruce R. Bellmore of the Church of the Resurrection in Ansonia. He is a past Captain of Engine Company #1 in the Center District. Remarks were delivered by Mayor Dorinda A. Borer and City of West Haven Allingtown Fire Chief Michael Terenzio. Mullins, who has been part of the ceremony since his childhood noted that Borer is the first sitting Mayor to attend the func-

Others in attendance were, State Rep. Trenee' McGee (D-116), City Councilman Edward "Mackie" McMillian (D-5), Fire Commissioner Fred Brown, City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown Deputy Chief Michael Esposito and Volunteer Chief and Center District Commissioner John Carew.



Photographs by: Ryan Orozco

Assisted by Master of Ceremonies Firefighter Steven R. Mullins, Andrew Vallerio of the Surfside Veterans Association lays a wreath at the Allingtown war monument.



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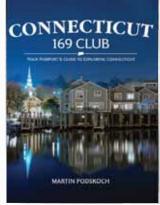


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Photo by Michael O'Brien

#### NHS induction

May 21, West Haven High School hosted its National Honor Society Induction Ceremony in the Auditorium. In total, 58 senior members were recognized, 48 junior candidates were inducted into the prestigious organization.Senior Alison Frazer, the current President of the West Haven High School Chapter, moderated the event and welcomed the audience of family and friends before the program began.

Photo by Michael O'Brien

#### Junior Honor Society

On Wednesday, May 15, Bailey Middle School hosted its National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) induction ceremony in the West Haven High School Auditorium. In total, 137 students in grades 7 and 8 were inducted into the prestigious organization.



# City marks Emergency Services Week

By Michael P. Walsh *Special to the Voice* 

The city marked the 50th anniversary of National Emergency Medical Services Week on May 21 with Mayor Dorinda Borer issuing proclamations to first responders and city employees receiving lifesaving training.

After opening remarks by West Haven Emergency Management Director Rick Fontana, Borer welcomed emergency medical services, fire officials and city employees to City Hall for the special observance and hands-on training.

Borer delivered remarks before presenting National EMS Week proclamations saluting the members of the city's three fire departments — West Haven Fire Department, West Shore Fire Department and City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown - as well as the members of the West Haven Police Department and American Medical Response of New Haven.

National EMS Week ran from May 19-25.

"West Haven is a HeartSmart city, and in keeping with that HeartSmart city initiative, we want to make sure that everybody is up to date in our training," said Borer, who thanked

Fontana for leading the training and for hitting the ground running since taking over as the city's EMD in February.

The mayor continued: "We're also going to talk about Narcan: 1,500 deaths in Connecticut in 2022 because of opioid overdoses. I know you all know a family that lost a loved one and the devastation that comes with this opioid crisis. And that's just 2022 statistics; we don't even have 2023 statistics yet.

"So this is a great time to do all of this training because it is EMS Week, and we want to recognize our EMS workers."

Reading West Shore's proclamation, Borer said, "National EMS Week is an opportunity to recognize the dedication, sacrifice and professionalism of our EMS first responders who serve on the front lines, often risking their own safety to ensure the health and wellbeing of others."

Fontana followed by demonstrating an automated external defibrillator and answering employees' questions.

The city recently installed grant-funded AED kits and Narcan emergency overdose kits in many municipal buildings and public places around West Haven.

Each Lifepak AED kit contains gloves, a face mask, scissors and a razor, as well as a Narcan overdose kit with two 4-milligram nasal sprays. Narcan is a brand name for a device that delivers the opioidoverdose antidote naloxone.

After the ceremony, held in the Harriet C. North Community Room, about 100 employees broke into small groups in the second-floor hallway to receive training from more than

20 paramedics and EMTs in performing hands-only CPR, using an AED and administering Narcan.

The first-of-its-kind training for city employees consisted of two hourlong sessions.



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

In the second-floor hallway of City Hall, EMTs from American Medical Response of New Haven train city employees in performing hands-only CPR. Employees also received training in using an automated external defibrillator and administering Narcan, a brand name for a device that delivers the opioid-overdose antidote naloxone.

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A wooden case and two empty bottles of beer from Wehle Brewery, which was located in rear of where Railroad Salvage once stood on Campbell Avenue, across the street from NDHS and. Second photo is a Garden tool called a Circulator manufactured by B. Dickerman Manufacturing Co. of West Haven, probably from the early 20th century.

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# Historical Society sets open house for this weekend

"West Haven's Business History: A Look at the Past, A View of the Future" is the theme of the upcoming Open House exhibit planned by the West Haven Historical Society. The display will be on view at the Poli House, corner of Main St. and Savin Ave., Saturday, June 8, from 10-3, and Sunday, June 9, 11-3. Admission is FREE.

The Open House will feature the Business History of the city from its earliest days of the l8th century through the l9th and 20th centuries, when West Haven became an industrial, manufacturing, and commercial hub. It will also include a look at recent business developments in the 21st century and what those circumstances may indicate for the future.

Many vintage photographs, maps, artifacts, and advertisements from the Historical Society's collections will be exhibited along with numerous promotional items of various old businesses in West Haven that no longer are part of the local economic scene. A group of newspaper advertisements will also be displayed highlighting the diverse local businesses, commercial, and manufacturing enterprises located in West Haven. The ads are from the large newspaper collection of the society which includes the West Haven High School *Rostrum*, the *West Haven Town Crier* and other local papers.

A Children's Corner will provide opportunities for kids under age10 to show their talents with an enjoyable and fun activity related to the theme of the Open House.

Of special note will be artifacts from several long forgotten West Haven businesses: Clark's Dairy, the Wehle Brewery, and the B. Dickerman Manufacturing Company. Those artifacts have not been seen for many decades and the items are among society's Special Collections.



#### Animal Shelter donation

Addilyn, a 7-year-old, and student at Seth Haley ran a lemonade stand Memorial Day weekend to raise money for West Haven Animal Shelter. With the help of the community Addy was able to raise more than \$100 and donated in excess of 180 pounds of dog food. She dropped her donation off to Officer Morgan Ruggiero. She is the daughter of Kage and Alexis Distasio



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**Page 12** - Thursday, June 6, 2024 **WEST HAVEN VOICE** 





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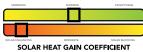


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## WHHS Top 20 students get recognition

On Friday, May 10,WHHS
Principal Dana Paredes
honored the Top 20 students
in the Class of 2024 with a breakfast celebration at West
River Hall.

Anagboso (UConn; Biological Sciences); 5) Camille Godfrey
(Bentley University; Business
Management); 6) Madison
Scillia (UConn; Political Science); 7) Jamie Kerzner

The ceremony featured words of encouragement from Superintendent Neil Cavallaro and Board of Education members Kim Kenny and Bob Guthrie, as well as their favorite teachers, as voted on by the students, Jen Cummings (English), Terrie Hartsoe (Science), Joanne Poffenberger (Science), and Scott Schevling (Math).

Class Rankings (College Attending in the Fall; Major): 1) Iris Chen (Yale University; Chemical Engineering); 2) Mahnoor Mustafa (Amherst College; Biology);3) Sophia Basaen (Boston College;

Sciences); 5) Camille Godfrey (Bentley University; Business Management); 6) Madison Scillia (UConn; Political Science); 7) Jamie Kerzner (Quinnipiac University; Sports Management); 8) Alyssa Coppola (Worcester Polytechnical Institute; Mechanical Engineering); Olivia Trenchard (University of New Haven; Medical Laboratory Science) 10) Taylor Alfano (Endicott College; Pre-Med); Javon Huang (Northwestern University; Economics/ Political Science); 12) Alison Frazer (Vanderbilt University; Public Policy Studies); 13) Matthew Loo (Yonsei Underwood University International College; 14) Collin Engineering); Charron (Purdue University;

Nursing);4) Dana Davis- Charron (Purdue University;

WEST RIVER HALL

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Photo by Michael O'Brien

West Haven's Top 20 students in the Class of 2024 were feted at a breakfast at West River Hall.

#### **Westies Care seeks nominees**

Westies Care is seeking qualified applicants for its 2024 Westies Care Awards. All high school seniors who are West Haven residents who meet these criteria are invited to apply: Planning to attend a College/University; Planning to enlist; Earned a minimum of 100 Community Service Hours; Completion of application with essay.

Selected honorees will receive a monetary award along with proclamations from state and local officials. Please contact Phil at Phil.liscio@westiescare.org for further information and an application.

#### 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.

#### **Historical Society plans Open House**

The West Haven Historical Society will host an "Open House at the Poli House, on Saturday and Sunday June 8, 9, at the 686 Savin Ave. headquarters. Hours for Saturday are 10-3, with Sunday hours from noon to 3. Old West Haven businesses are the focus of this year's major exhibit.. Admission is free.

Mechanical Engineering); 17)
15) Jeffery Flores-Copa (UC
(Quinnipiac University; Pre- 18)
Law); 16) Andrew McLarty (Qu
(UConn; Engineering) Ent

17) Eshwar Balakumar (UConn; Accounting/Finance);
18) Diana Jurado Aleman (Quinnipiac University;
Entrepreneurship); 19) Angie

Juarez (University of New Haven; Chemical Engineering); 20) Allison Pastore (UConn; Pharmaceutical Sciences).

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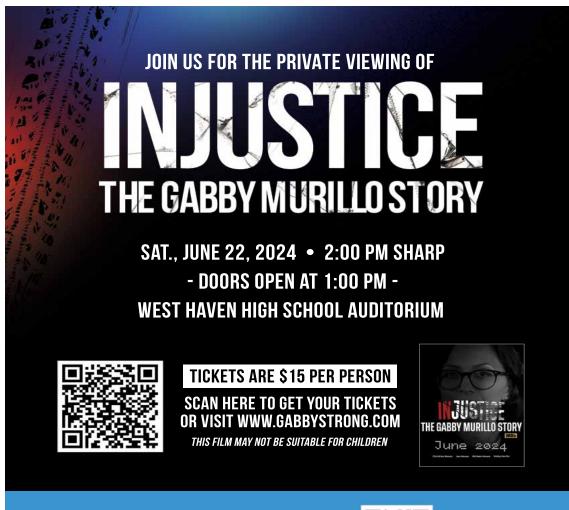
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#### Senior Tribute Concert

West Haven Band performed their Senior Tribute Concert under the direction of Donata Lupacchino. As the year winds down toward graduation, seniors are being honored in all extra-curricular activities.

Photos by Todd Dandelske



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# G 2

#### Historian's corner

#### By Dan Shine

#### Buddy's Barber Shop

Sometime during the years just before 1920, Ray Thomas opened Thomas Garage on Washington Avenue; it was a place where he fixed flats, charged batteries, and sold nineteen-cent gasoline to owners of Model T Fords and the like.

At about the same time, an Italian immigrant named Giuseppe "Buddy" Cambino started barbering in a tiny building located next door to the garage, and right behind Pfaff's market. It was inevitable that a friendship would develop between the two men, and that many hours would be spent together in that barber shop.

In those days, life didn't offer as many diversions for men, so barber shops and hardware stores became their hangouts. Among the loafers who could be found idling their afternoons away in barber shops were all types of reprobates—and it mattered not whether those reprobates

needed a haircut—often all they wanted was an opportunity to exercise a peculiar form of peer pressure best known to adult males.

Now, any student of humanity recognizes that there is a profound developmental difference between males and females: For instance, from the time they are two or three years old, little girls already play at being women, and growing up is the thing that they yearn for. By contrast, middle-aged males can typi-

cally still be found passing the time with adolescent play: taking risky dares, subjecting others to strange practical jokes, emitting crude and noxious noises, and giving each other wedgies. No matter which side you view this male-female contrast from, what you observe might be somewhat amusing.

So back to our story: by the 1930s, Buddy's Barber Shop was frequented by many of the local males; it was a place where the air was laced with smoke from Buddy's pipe, and heated by a pot-bellied stove; and the shop was generally filled with tall tales and the choicest local gossip. Ray Thomas, well on his way to becoming a quirky old curmudgeon of legendary stature, was one of Buddy's most frequent "guests."

One afternoon, when Ray entered the barber shop, the other men were ready to ambush him. They bet Ray that he couldn't touch his finger to his nose and walk out the door of the barber shop. Ray laughed and assured them he could.

He accepted the dare, put his finger to his nose, and prepared to walk out the door.

"Not so fast, Ray," someone said. The men guided him over to the pot-bellied stove, wrapped his elbow around the stove's smoke pipe, and placed his fingertip on his nose. "Now you're ready to walk out the door." Impossible--right? Not for Ray Thomas. A moment later, he could be seen dragging the stove through the barber shop door, with hot coals spilling from the stove's open front. For the men, the hilarity of tricking



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

Ray had backfired; now they had to deal with the consequences, and put out the burning coals and cinders, which had set the barber shop on fire. Meanwhile, Ray Thomas stood out on the sidewalk next to the stove, smoking his pipe and smiling wryly; he was quite pleased with himself, for he had fought the odds, he had persevered, and through diligence and hard work, he had won the bet.

Ray Thomas and Buddy Cambino remained friends and neighbors for a few decades after that—both lived on Sawmill Road, and both worked on Washington Avenue—and many other pranks were pulled along the way. And although they both departed this life many years ago, it is fitting that they should be remembered through such humorous tales, so many years later.



Buddy's Barber shop, run by Giuseppe "Buddy" Gambino stood on Washington Avenue, steps away from Thomas's Garage and behind Pfaff's Market. Getting a haircut was a time to catch up on some reading, and meeting up with friends.





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# West Haven Voice Signature of the second sec

Thursday, June 6, 2024

Page 16

# Southington ends Westies' run In the blink of an eye, the was ready to pounce in the singled, before a wild pitch in left to end the frame. Haven's Class LL first round

season has ended for the West bottom half. Haven baseball team. Tied at one with the state's top team, West Haven watched as Southington scored six times in the sixth inning to top No. 24 West Haven, 7-1, in the Class LL quarterfinals at Southington High School Saturday afternoon.

West Haven (12-11) had just evened the game in the top of the inning when Evan Jones led off with a double to right, moved to third on a sacrifice by Cam Cruz, and scored on a single to left by Jose Padilla. A double play grounder ended the inning, and Southington

A leadoff single and a walk ended the day for West Haven starter Hudson Axelrod, who was terrific through five, allowing just a second inning run. Connor Hume relieved and a 3-run home run, a triple, and a sacrifice fly gave Southington a 5-1 lead.

Jey Scanlon was hit by a pitch to start the seventh, but West Haven could not muster a rally.

The Westies had limited scoring chances in the game, the best being in the first inning when Cruz was hit by a pitch with one out and Padilla

had a pair of runners in scoring position. West Haven did not capitalize.

Cruz had a two-out single in the third, but went no further, forcing the Westies to relay on Axelrod and their defense.

Brady Price and Mike Madera made running catches in the outfield and Padilla made a nice running grab in the third to keep West Haven down just a run. West Haven made numerous big plays, but none better than in the fourth when Price made a diving catch in center for the second out and Madera made a running catch into the fence deep

Behind a complete-game, 3-hit effort from Lucas Forgette, West Haven topped No. 25 Norwich Free Academy 2-1 in the second round of the Class LL state tournament Wednesday afternoon.

Forgette allowed just a first inning run, before he mixed his pitches well and used the stellar play of his defense to pick up the win. Jones was stellar in the field with eight assists, including starting a key double play in the sixth, while Price and Madera combined for five putouts in the outfield, several on the run.

After NFA took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first, West Haven answered immediately in the bottom of the inning with a pair of runs.

Jones led off with a single, moved to second on a sacrifice by Cruz, and scored on a single by Padilla. Ray Gilbert followed with a double to plate Padilla for a 2-1 lead.

That was all the offense on the day and Forgette made the runs hold up. With the bases loaded in the second, Forgette got a fly ball to Price in center to end the frame.

Forgette helped himself in the third with a pair of pickoffs, before Price, Jones, and Madera each made stellar plays in the fourth for a quick inning. Forgette got three ground ball outs to Jones in the fifth, before he ran into trouble in the sixth.

All season long, West Haven

Haven's Class LL first round contest at Newington was no different.

Scoring four times in the fifth inning to overcome a three-run deficit, West Haven upset No. 9 Newington, 7-5. in Newington. West Haven improved to 11-10 with the win.

Gilbert had three of his team's eight hits, including a pair of doubles, and drove in three runs and scored twice. Padilla had one hit, drove in a pair, and scored twice, Jones had one hit and scored twice, and Price had two hits and one run batted in.

On a night to honor the seniors, West Haven knew it was going to be in for a tough contest facing O'Brien Tech's ace Ryan Sheehy.

Despite Sheehy's completegame two-hitter where he struck out 13, West Haven prevailed, 3-1.

Jones and Padilla picked up the lone West Haven hits, and Axelrod tossed a complete game, allowing one earned run on six hits, while walking one and striking out three.

Axelrod was impressive, retiring 11 in a row until a two-out single in the seventh inning.

A team which always fights to the end, the West Haven softball team again did so in the opening round of the CIAC Class LL state tournament. Unfortunately, for the Westies, they came up short.

Despite rallying in the seventh inning, No. 28 West Haven See Westies, page 18

has battled to the end. West

**Photo by Todd Dandelske** 



The 2024 West Haven girls tennis team seniors were honored on senior night. Other senior night photos may be seen on page 17. The WHHS boys tennis team's senior night was canceled due to rain and not rescheduled.



#### Letters of Intent

West Haven student-athletes recently signed Letters of Intent to play for several college teams. Parents and administrators were on hand to celebrate the event. Those shown are: Front Row -- Arianna Titus, Mia Rubirosa, Isabella Fiorillo, Amber Militrano, Matt Pagan, Joaquin Smith. Back Row -- Bernett Scott, Chase Supan, Demarco Eady, Emanuel Gordon, Joaquin Baldonado, Arianna Izzo.

# Farewell Class of 2024 Photos by Todd Dandelske









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Photo by Todd Dandelske

Taylor Alfano prepares to fire to first to complete a double play versus Enfield. West Haven's season ended with a 3-2 heartbreaker to Enfield.

# Westies: Seasons end for varsity squads

Continued from page 16

fell at No. 5 Enfield, 3-2. West Haven ends its season at 8-13.

Mia Rubirosa led the West Haven offense with three hits and two run scored, while Holly Waibel, Olivia McDonnell and Natalie Gallo each had one hit apiece.

Rubirosa took the loss in the pitching circle, tossing six innings, allowing one earned run, while striking out seven and walking four.

Trailing 3-1 in the seventh, West Haven had one last rally in the season. Rubirosa led off with a triple and scored on Waibel's single to left.

McDonnell singled with one out, but West Haven's rally came to a close when Gallo's line drive was turned into a game-ending double play.

West Haven inched closer to playing in the postseason with a 5-3 victory over East Haven on Senior Night at Biondi Field. With the win, West Haven improved to 7-12.

Taylor Alfano, Natalie Gallo, and Sarah Davey each had two hits in the contest. Davey drove in three runs, Gallo drove in two and scored twice, and Alfano scored twice in the victory.

Rubirosa picked up the win in the pitcher's circle as she tossed a complete game, allowing six hits and three earned runs, while striking out 13 and walking three.

Behind a 16-hit attack, including five from Rubirosa, West Haven rallied twice to defeat Fitch, 13-7, at Biondi Field. West Haven improved to 8-12 on the year.

Rubirosa was the star of the game as she also drove in two runs and scored five, while striking out seven in the pitching circle to pick up the win.

McDonnell and Gallo each had three hits, drove in a run, and scored once, while Waibel, Alfano, and Alyvia Ginsberg each drove in a pair.

The West Haven boys lacrosse team won its first postseason game in the history of the program with a 14-7 victory over Platt-Maloney at Ken Strong Stadium. West Haven improved to 8-9 on the year.

Marcus Burrows led the offense with six goals and one assist, A.J. Iannotti scored four times, and Yousaf Ullah had three goals in the win. T.J. Levenduski made 10 saves as West Haven held a 47-21 shot advan-

tage in the game.

West Haven scored four times in the opening quarter with Burrows wrapping a pair of unassisted goals around tallies from Brandon Doody and Iannotti.

The Westies scored six times in the second quarter as Ullah opened the scoring and Burrows followed with three more unassisted goals. Iannotti scored off an assist from Kaiden Powell and Burrows scored his fourth of the quarter with 11.2 seconds remaining.

Iannotti and Ullah scored in both the third and fourth quarters, with James Olsen assisting on Iannotti's goal in the third, and Burrows assisted on Ullah goal in the third.

After winning its first postseason contest, the reward for West Haven was playing topseeded Fairfield Prep. The Jesuits showed why they are the top team with a 21-3 victory in Fairfield.

Burrows scored all three West Haven goals, one in the first quarter and two more in the fourth. Ronnell Banks had an assist, Cole Hill won seven of 10 faceoffs, and Levenduski made 10 saves as West Haven was outshot 31-9.

The West Haven boys tennis team improved to 12-5 with a 4-3 road victory over Foran. The Westies won all three doubles matches to pull out the victory.

Top-seeded Ali Hamza and Caden Mateo defeated Patrick Butler and Karthkeya Lakogi, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, second-seeded, Javon Huang and Woobin Kim topped Liam Bancock and Devin Dai, 6-2, 6-4, and third-seeded David Guadarrama and Jordan Smith won over Travis Dub and Sully Riley, 9-7.

West Haven's only victory on the singles side came when Miguel Torres defeated Ryan Puvarance, 6-3, 6-0.

Foran's Arush Puri defeated Brandon Sihaphong, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the second slot, while third-seeded Tristan Odorino defeated West Haven's Eshwar Balakumar, 6-4, 1-6, 6-3, and fourth-seeded Oscar Lin won over Johnny Chen 6-4.

West Haven defeated Career 7-0. With the victory, West Haven improved to 13-5 on the year.

In singles action, Torres defeated Jaylen Lopes, 6-1, 7-5, second-seeded Balakumar topped Abraham Perez, 6-0, 6-0, third-seeded Chen topped Sy'Air Shakurr, 6-0, 6-0, and fourth-seeded Kim won by default.

In doubles action, top-seeded Hamza and Mateo and second-seeded Guadarrama and Huang both won by default, while third-seeded Daniel Davis and Smith topped Abraham Perez and Sy'Air Shakurr, 8-1.

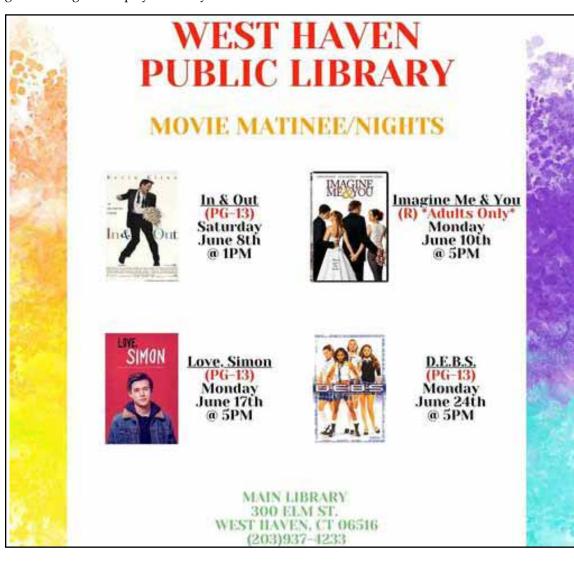
West Haven closed the regular season with a 7-0 loss at Branford High School

The stay for West Haven in the Southern Connecticut Conference tournament was a short one as the seventh-seeded Westies fell to second-seeded Amity, 7-0 in quarterfinal action at Amity High School Saturday morning.

In singles play, Thomas Sirincharto defeated Torres, 6-0, 6-0, second-seeded Ethan Hass topped Sihaphong, 6-1, 6-2, third-seeded Joey Kapel defeated Balakuma.r 6-2, 6-1, and fourth-seeded Rohan Hebbar topped Chen 6-0, 6-0.

In doubles play, top-seeded Ben Glassman and Harvel Koblentz topped Hamza and Mateo, 6-1, 6-0, second-seeded Alishay Balsara and Dariush Raissi defeated Guadarrama and Huang, 6-0, 6-0, and third-seeded Jordan Hass and Jacob Storeyard topped Davis and Smith. 6-0, 6-0.

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



# U14 girls claim Clinton tourney

In May 25-26 action, P&B Express played against Vio's Sports Plus in an epic rematch, with Vio's falling, 9-3. P&B Express dominated the game from the start. David Barajas-Solorio scored a couple of goals and Adam Zambrano-Perez scored on a pull back. Tyler Franklin and Tobin Cavalier both had goals as well. RQ Accounting and Tax Services Cheetahs played the Health Nation Gold. Mariah Casteel and Stella Lombardi were tough on defense, blocking many shots. Avalyn Wilder scored five goals. Marwa El-filali ran coast to coast scoring two goals. Lilithbelle Warcholic scored, Vivian Andrade and Myah Sanchez all scored as well.

The RQAccounting & Tax services Cheetahs also played Connex Credit. Stella Lombardi was aggressive on defense. Vivian Andrade played an overall outstanding game. Katie Samaniego scored in the win. For the Connex Credit Union Dragons, Alice Burns exhibited exceptional footwork, leading to multiple goals. Galya-Angel Nkwenti demonstrated superb communication skills, capitalizing on an incredible pass from Burns to secure another goal. Charlotte Sebas and Gianna Fries showed aggressive defensive tactics that were instrumental in the game.

The Seacrest Retirement Center Strikers played Health Nation LLC. The Strikers took this one 8-3. Melody Feliciano stood out this week, communicating well with her teammates, and scoring two goals for the Strikers. Alexandria O'Brien demonstrated outstanding teamwork and passing skills with a total of two goals on the day. Zaria Morris led the team with a total of three goals while also hustling back on defense to help make some important stops.

The Gunning Law Firm played P&B Express in a tough match. P&B Express were outplayed but managed to score a few goals. Adam Zambrano-Perez had an open goal and Amine Alijate scored. Shavier Medley also scored.

The U14 girls travel team took home the championship win at the Clinton Invitational Tournament. The girls were victorious over Madison, Haddam-Killingworth, and Guilford on Saturday and Sunday. Arianna Throm played fantastic defense for the Westies and Olivia Petrie protected the goal.

Naomi Shubin, Lynnie Chesson, Kylie Gibbons, Luciana Cappetta, and Kylee McCoart all scored for West Haven throughout the weekend. Fantastic teamwork lead the girls to the championship game, where they defeated Madison, 1-0.

The U11 Boys Travel Team also took part in the Clinton Tournament, being challenged and playing up an age group in the U12 bracket. The Westies opened the weekend with a tough 4-3 come-from-behind win against Hamden.

Down 2-0 at the half, Jax Guarino started the comeback when he opened the scoring for West Haven. Ben Trenchard played excellent defense, and Ethan Fonseca added a needed goal for West Haven. The boys faced two tough opponents in Madison and Clinton, and lost to both older teams. Taha Ozhan worked hard in midfield, as did Joey Ruiz. Luca DeCresenzo tried to get the offense going, and Jaxon Cruz made some outstanding saves in both games. Julien Castillo and Adam Lamkhantar worked hard for their team.

Sunday morning, the Westies faced off against the Westbrook in a must win game to secure a spot in the semifinals. The boys came out hungry and ready to play. Roland Green was superb in the attack, and Jaxon Cruz not only had the shut out in goal, but added a goal of his own to the tally. Seth Empric, Collin Gibbons, Ben Trenchard, Joey Ruiz, and Jacob Rader anchored the backline in the 6-0 win.

Sunday afternoon, the boys faced off against Clinton in the semifinals, falling 4-1. Despite losing to them the day before, the Westies came out and played hard and aggressively. Rader and Gibbons were once again stellar on defense. Ryan Abekah challenged the Clinton defense, and scored the first goal Clinton had given up that weekend. Guarino continued to hustle on both sides of the ball, and Matteo D'Elia held down the midfield.

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- ~ <u>3:00 PM</u>
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PAYMENT IS DUE BY FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2024

Page 20 - Thursday, June 6, 2024 WEST HAVEN VOICE



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Mike Madera leaps to pull down a drive on the warning track versus Southington. despite some great defensive plays, the Westies' season eneded at Southington, as the top-ranked team in the LL State Tournament pulled away with a 7-1 victory. See page 16 for details.

**Submitted Photos** 

#### A day on the briny

Rich Deso of the West Haven Veterans Commission and President of Surfside Veterans joined veterans Robert Chapin, Peter "Doc" Wright and Andrew Villiro, on the Black Mariah V with Veterans Angler Charters, run by Capt. Kathy Graham. The non-profit group offers vishing trips to local veterans.





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# Beach Street: City artery open to traffic

#### Continued from page 1

represents the Beach Street district, also spoke, along with association co-founder and former Assistant City Planner Dave Killeen and President Kathie Hebert, who chairs the association's Beautification Committee.

Garthwait thanked project contractor Laydon Industries LLC, Killeen talked about the project's design elements to protect the waterfront, and Hebert discussed how the project drove the Sandy Point association's formation.

Christopher Marone, a principal of CDM Holdings LLC, which owns the former Chick's Drive-in restaurant property and is developing the site at 183 Beach St., talked about The Tides, the company's new townhome condominiums, and its plans for a new restaurant, complete with a beer garden, a courtyard and firepits.

As Marone spoke, an excited Borer and CDM principal Michael Del Vecchio held up the restaurant's preliminary renderings for all to see.

Borer then introduced Dach, who called West Haven's 3 ½ miles of publicly accessible shoreline "Connecticut's best public beach" and "a hidden gem of the state's shoreline" to enthusiastic applause from the crowd.

"Keep your shades on because this is only the beginning," said Dach, referring to the city's promising future.

With a line of people standing behind the mayor and Rossi and O'Brien flanking her, Borer led the crowd in a spirited countdown — "1, 2, 3!" — before cutting the ribbon with a pair of oversize scissors.

Once the ribbon fell to the pavement, Borer took the crowd for a short community walk across the road to the newly paved Morse Park municipal parking lot, where a DJ played music and dessert trucks served complimentary coffee, "cakecups" and ice

After the ceremony, the picturesque shoreline road officially reopened to vehicular and pedestrian traffic for the first time since May 2023.

The freshly paved and landscaped road includes new concrete sidewalks, wooden roll fencing and wooden guardrails, as well as new concrete stairs, concrete handicappedaccessible ramps and wooden pedestrian bridges so people can access beach areas.

The road also features a new crosswalk of stamped concrete that resembles red brick pavers in three spots: near Morse Avenue, in front of Morse Park and near Second Avenue.

Other improvements in-



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Mayor Dorinda Borer, holding oversize scissors, cuts the ribbon with former Mayors Nancy R. Rossi, center left, and Edward M. O'Brien, center right, to mark the grand reopening of Beach Street on the city's shoreline Friday evening after a yearlong state-bonded road-raising project.

clude a paved two-way bike lane beautified with newly planted seagrass on the beach side of the road and a graveled parking lot decorated with wooden flower boxes at Sandy Point.

The Beach Street improvements are complemented by new paving, lighting and fencing at the April Street boat launch and parking lot, just up the road near First Avenue.

Like all other beach lots in West Haven, the boat launch is now a Premium Parking "Pay for Parking" site for nonresidents. Parking is free for city residents.

Premium Parking, based in New Orleans, is West Haven's contractor for digitally driven paid parking.

According to City Engineer Abdul Quadir, the two-phase Beach Street project consisted of raising an approximately 3,900-foot stretch of the road.

Phase 2 consisted of raising a section of Beach Street up to 11 feet above sea level, from the Water Pollution Control Plant at 2 Beach St. to Morse Avenue, to protect the area's flood-prone neighborhoods.

Safety improvements were implemented because of the road's change in width to restrict flooding, including the installation of speed humps to slow traffic and the posting of signs to reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph, per the Board of Police Commissioners.

Borer said the finished project has also spurred interest in economic development along the vibrant Beach Street corridor.

In May 2020, Borer, then a West Haven Democratic state representative, announced \$5.2 million in state funding for Phase 2. At the time, the money joined \$3.5 million in federal and local funding for Phase 1, including \$2.94 million from the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program and \$560,000 from the city.

Former state Rep. Stephen D. Dargan, D-West Haven, obtained \$1.5 million in state funding for Phase 1, which was completed in 2021 and raised Beach Street up to 7 feet from Monahan Place to the wastewater treatment plant. Like Phase 2, the project included new concrete sidewalks, wooden guardrails and a two-way bike lane on the beach side.

Just over a decade ago, the area, including more than two dozen homes, was 5 feet underwater during Superstorm Sandy, city officials said.

On Oct. 29, 2012, the treatment plant was inaccessible to staff members and emergency vehicles for nearly 12 hours due to extensive flooding from Sandy.

Thanks to federal and state funding to help Connecticut municipalities mitigate flooding in the wake of the superstorm, the city has taken steps to make its shoreline more resilient to tidal flooding and coastal storms, including dredging the Old Field Creek salt marsh off Beach Street and installing a new tide gate system on the Cove River.

According to Borer, future Beach Street improvements are also in the works, including a new Cape Cod-designed pumping station near East Avenue. 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.

# West Haven Voice Classified

Thursday, June 6, 2024

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coast now ac- cepting new students to start in Sep- tember in West Haven. All ages. Email mamanook@comcast.net for all the details.

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#### **ACROSS** 1 Haunting 6 Seizes 11 Cancels 12 More apt to seep 14 April 1 gags 15 Consult 16 Scrooge portrayer Alastair 17 Feudal work-19 Oahu, for one 31 36 37 38 (Abbr.) 20 Nobel Prize subj. 22 San Francisco's - Hill 23 Sufficient. 52 informally 24 Philosopher Kierkegaard 26 Droning reed

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46 Med. plan

option

June 6, 2024

Fermi 2 Captivate 3 Skedaddle 44 Bamboozles 4 Sorts

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#### SOFT MAGIC MAZE ● **THINGS**

X J H E Y C Z X U S Q T N L J G E C Z X D V T R P N N L F J HRBECANYWICVTFR PMARSHMALLOWS)UE NLBEWRSRCKMIGPR F E I C B O E N B N F Z X R E LWEUUYLHESORPEM EOSFRWDLTTRTMDH ELFDOWNDIATJTWS CLINGEDBEPEIAOA

EYSELPPUPTREKPC Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: THE WOOL OF A SHEEP

Cotton candy Kittens

Marshmallows Snow Dryer lint Feathers Pillow Powder puff Puppies

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### Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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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: ◆◆

7. ASTRONOMY: The asteroid belt lies

1. TELEVISION: What subject does Walter White teach at the beginning of "Breaking

2. GEOGRAPHY: Which three countries make up the Baltic states in Europe? 3. MUSIC: What is the title of The Beatles' first album?

4. LITERATURE: Prince Edward Island is the inspiration for which novel series? 5. HISTORY: Which Roman emperor built a wall across northern England to deter

6. MOVIES: Which movie first featured the character Lisbeth Salander?

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between which two planets in our solar 8. U.S. STATES: Which state's coast was

dubbed the "Graveyard of the Atlantic" because so many ships wrecked there? 9. FOOD & DRINK: What does the term "a la carte" mean?

10. SCIENCE: What is the process called when a gas changes into a liquid?

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10. Condensation. 9. According to the menu.

8. North Carolina. 7. Jupiter and Mars. 6. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo."

5. Hadrian. 4. "Anne of Green Gables."

3. "Please Please Me." 2. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

1. Chemistry.

Answers

#### Answers to this week's puzzles



Solution time: 21 mins. **Answers** 

King Crossword

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Answer

Meekiy SUDOKU

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See translations at/Veas las traducciones en/ناعتامجرتلابظنا cityofwesthaven.com/266/Recycling-Info-Bins.com



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