

West Haven Voice

May 22, 2025

Vol. 30, Issue 10, 20 Pages

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

Voice Feature

An in-depth feature

Witherspoon leads
annual parade
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S'MARB-elous!!

7-plus year review board reign ends

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

After nearly eight long years, the state Municipal Accountability Review Board on May 15 voted to end its financial oversight of the city.

Mayor Dorinda Borer, who joined the Hartford MARB meeting remotely from her City Hall office, sat glued to her desktop computer as members of the bipartisan board commended her for "changing the culture" and "restoring long-term fiscal survival" in West Haven.

A floor down from the mayor's office, more than 100 city employees, including City Council members, Board of Education leaders, and police and fire officials, gathered and watched the momentous meeting unfold on two large monitors in the Harriet C. North Community Room. Residents also witnessed the meeting via a livestream on Facebook.

Before motioning for the final vote, MARB Chairman Jeffrey R. Beckham, the secretary of the state Office of Policy and Management, complimented Borer and declared, "The city has met the criteria to be released."

The mayor then spoke and thanked the MARB members for their guidance and support. She concluded her remarks by saying, "I am respectfully asking you to vote us out."

And the members did just that, voting unanimously to release the city from state oversight and setting off rousing applause at City Hall.

Many employees reacted to the historic decision by exclaiming words of joy, including "Finally!" and "It's about time!"

Once the meeting ended, Borer scampered down to the second floor and hosted a news conference to share the "exciting" news with the rest of the city and state. As she walked into the

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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

An emotional Mayor Dorinda Borer hugs Emergency Management Director Rick Fontana at City Hall after the city was released from financial oversight by the state Municipal Accountability Review Board on May 15.

O'Brien, Rossi reflect on MARB's exit

With the exit of the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) announced last week, the two predecessors of Mayor Dorinda Borer had their own take on the last seven-plus years, and the effects MARB had on the city.

For former mayor Edward O'Brien, the man who made the decision that led to city oversight, the exercise was worth the effort and did exactly what it was intended to accomplish. According to O'Brien he made the decision fully expecting the state to

come in and oversee municipal finances. That was the whole point.

"When I took office in December 2013, the City of West Haven faced a cumulative fund deficit of \$16,336,378 and was already under the oversight of the Municipal Finance Advisory Commission (MFAC). After consulting with MFAC and financial experts, it became clear that we could not simply cut our way out of the deficit. We were advised to either bond the deficit or develop a long-term restructur-

ing plan," he said. "I proposed a comprehensive restructuring initiative that would have refinanced all city bonds at lower interest rates. This plan would have eliminated the deficit entirely and saved the city approximately \$8 million in debt service costs, with only a six-month extension on the terms. Unfortunately, the plan was voted down by the City Council's Finance Committee, chaired at the time by Councilwoman Nancy Rossi, which left us with no

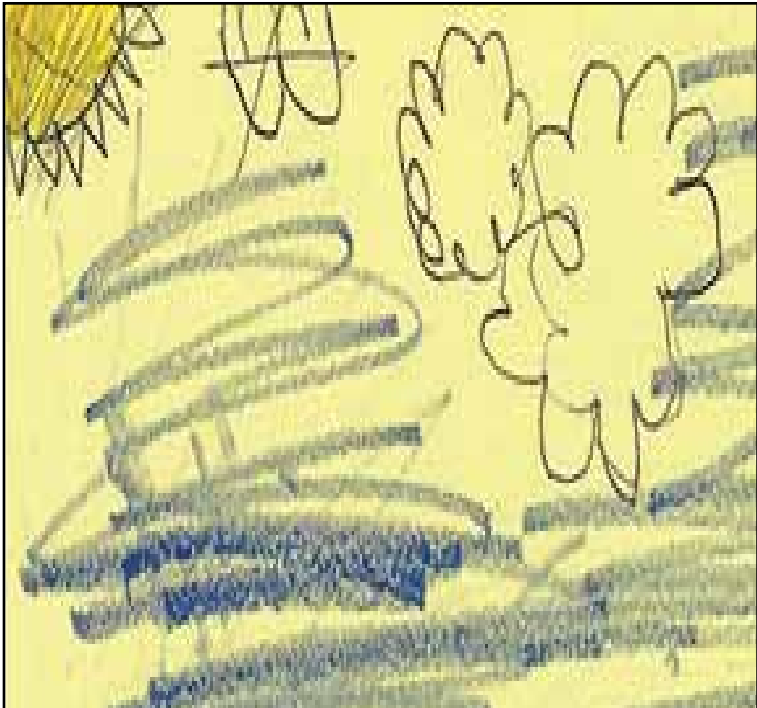
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Cloudy weather is predicted by a student in the West Haven Community House Head Start Preschool program. It looks like the Memorial Day parade will have clear skies.

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Next Issue Date: June 5, 2025

On this Date

2012 -- The world's tallest tower is opened to the public. At 643 meters (2080 feet), the Tokyo Skytree in Japan's capital city is also the second tallest structure in the world.

2010 -- The worst air crash involving a Boeing 737 kills 158. Air India Express Flight 812 overshot the runway on landing at Mangalore International Airport.

1980 -- The arcade game Pac-Man is released. The game featuring a dot-munching round yellow figure moving through a maze has become one of the best-known video games in history.

1960 -- The most violent earthquake in recorded history hits Chile. The Great Chilean Earthquake rated 9.5 on the moment magnitude scale. According to estimates, between 2230 and 6000 people were killed.

1906 -- The Wright brothers' flying machine is patented. The American aviation pioneers are credited with having performed "the first sustained and controlled heavier-than-air powered flight." (Fédération Aéronautique Internationale)



Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Colleen St. Clair Weatherspoon, a Navy veteran of the Grenada/Panama era, kneels beside the granite U.S. Navy insignia marker in Bradley Point Park on April 14. Weatherspoon, who served stateside from October 1983 to August 1991, will lead the city's Memorial Day parade as grand marshal when the procession steps off at 10:30 a.m. Monday along Campbell Avenue.

Veteran Witherspoon leads annual march

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

Colleen St. Clair Weatherspoon, a Navy veteran of the Grenada/Panama era, will lead the city's Memorial Day parade as grand marshal when the patriotic procession steps off at 10:30 a.m. Monday.

Weatherspoon, who served stateside during the U.S. invasions of Grenada in 1983 and Panama in 1989, will guide the more than 40-unit procession of veterans, dignitaries and bands along the 1.5-mile parade route, which follows Campbell Avenue from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Center Street.

Like her grand marshal predecessors, she embraced the recognition with typical grace and humility.

"I am so honored to be selected as grand marshal of the West Haven Memorial Day parade," said Weatherspoon, who serves as the commander of American Legion Post 196 of Milford, the East Shore post's first female at the helm. "I have watched this parade all my life, both as a little kid and then as a mom of three kids, watching them march in a variety of Little League or soccer teams through the years.

"Being a Navy veteran has always been one of my proudest achievements. Now I consider being grand marshal of a parade in my hometown one of my proudest moments."

Weatherspoon was chosen by the Veterans Council, which helps the city organize the annual parade, for her years of service to the military, her fellow vets and her community, the latter of which is the cornerstone of the qualifications for grand marshal, council President Dave Ricci said.

"Colleen St. Clair Weatherspoon served her country with honor during a pivotal time in our history," Mayor Dorinda Borer said. "She has continually advocated for all veterans throughout her life. As the first female commander of American Legion Post 196, she continues to lead with strength, dedication and a deep commitment to her fellow veterans. She makes West Haven proud."

The 2025 edition of southern Connecticut's oldest and largest See Parade, page 8

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Veterans Walk's 17th dedication slated

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

West Haven Veterans Council members and city officials will dedicate Phase 17 of the brick Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park at 5 p.m. Saturday.

This year's phase will also include the dedication of a granite memorial to veterans of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan and

the dedication of a granite memorial to nurses of the U.S. armed forces.

All veterans are invited to participate in the sea-side ceremony, which will feature a flag-raising, an invocation and a wreath-laying, as well as remarks by Mayor Dorinda Borer and Veterans Council President Dave Ricci.

The public is also invited. The rain date is June 7. Rick Spreyer, Borer's chief of staff, will serve as the

master of ceremonies.

In November 2006, the Veterans Council began the first of 17 campaigns selling bricks to memorialize vets on the 100-yard Walk of Honor between the William A. Soderman and Vietnam Veterans memorials.

The bricks, which cost \$75, have charcoal lettering for personalized messages.

About 3,100 bricks have been installed to date, in-

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File Photo by Michael P. Walsh

People line the Veterans Walk of Honor in Bradley Point Park to search for bricks purchased in honor of loved ones, both living and deceased, during the city's Phase 16 dedication of the Walk of Honor on May 25, 2024. About 3,100 bricks with personalized messages have been installed to date, including 72 for this year's Phase 17, which West Haven Veterans Council members and city officials will dedicate at 5 p.m. Saturday, along with memorial additions.

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Dear Felicia

Howdy do, sweets! Hard to believe, but here we are at the downside of May, looking into the Memorial Day weekend already. Of course, like most things that happened in the 70s – most not good – the holiday ain't what it was. Our great aunt Judy still called it Decoration Day decades after the name changed, and it's too bad it was moved. Having a day off on May 30 was nice, even if it was in the middle of the week, but, as I said, the 1970s saw many holidays get "streamlined" for what was thought a convenience.

Tennyrate, May 30 or the fourth Monday in May, Memorial Day itiz and in these parts that's a big deal. The Mystick Maidens of the Marsh are planning their next shindig to celebrate, and have determined the spot off Painter Park might be the best this go-round. But, we're still lookin' for a new Grand High Mystick Maiden. It's been a while. Covid did things to all of us, and we've left the position open since. Effen yew have any ideas as to who might fill the spot, let Cobina know. Meanwhile, invites have gone out to the usual suspects and it should be a grand ole time.

Well, it's happened, and there were smiles, tears and nods all around the Actors Colony last week when it was

determined the Municipal Accountability Review Board was going to – against the thoughts of Dylan Thomas – go gentle into that good night. That’s a nice way of saying, they’re outta here!

After more than seven-and-a-half years of oversight, fighting, and the like, we are now back to being the masters of our own fate. Let's just hope the politicians who run the berg have learned their lessons. It was the politicians who didn't have the backbone to do what had to be done over the last 30-plus years, and saw the city go into near-default twice. The MARB gave us tough love, but the problem was that tough love was on the taxpayers, not the politicians.

One politico was heard to say having the MARB come in was a good thing for the city and was something to be proud of. Huh? This just begs the question why tough decisions couldn't be made by the elected people in charge, and the residents had to put up with outsiders dictating what had to be done. If that's a good thing, somebody has to explain it to Cobina.

It just proves those in charge at the time weren't able – or willing – to do what had to be done, and were willing to abdicate their authority for the political cover. Remem-

ber, it happened when a new administration was coming into office on the Monday after the swearing-in. And, no one knew about it. So, what is there to be proud of, I ask?

~ ~ ~

As far other news is concerned, the City Council passed the budget and got its imprimatur from MARB, just before the big announcement. The boys and girls on the council did some interesting shimmying of the numbers, including a big cut in the education budget. Yet, Anne Heffernan, who was able to git the amendment through, assured any and all that she has "good sources" to tell her the money that was allocated will be filled in by state sources. Of course, she might have first-hand knowledge of that as her hubby is the delegate from the 115th assembly districk, ole Bill. There's a bit of a gamble in this gambit as recent history has seen many a flip during the state budget process, but there is less of one when it comes to educational output. The state assembly don't like to pick at school funds.

Meanwhile, the council, whilst making these alterations, did something that makes one wonder why it wasn't thought of before. Sammy Bluejay alerted me of this concept, and it is genius in its simplicity.

The council determined that despite the fact that the mill rate was cut about 10 mills, the recent

revaluation of property is a rise in the levy that each homeowner is gonna pay. It's been true since revaluation was made a thing. The more the value of the property, the higher the tax, even if adjustments are made.

Soooo, the council determined that it will allow taxpayers to quarter out their yearly taxes, rather than paying in July and January. Now, it was interesting in the public pronouncements about this it was stated another \$2500 is a tough thing to cobble together for July, one can glean two things: the average tax went up about \$2500, and that means the mill rate is a tad higher than "flat," meaning there would be no increase at all. No one should be surprised by this. As we said above, it's been going on for decades.

Nice of the council to give the quarterly option, though.

~~~~~

Whilst Sammy was talking about that, Cobina brought up a second concern. Y'see, the city really pays the bulk of its bills right after taxes are collected, so the question arises: Will this new quarterly thing give the city a steadier flow of incoming funds, or will it create a shortfall. The argument can be made either way, but one seems to think it might be leaning toward a steadier income, rather than a shortfall.

Sammy brought up the observation that he don't think the council would have woiked unilaterally on this without the nod from the third floor. 1) The council looks to the mayor's office fer guidance in these matters as a rule (the mayor did give a few suggestions as to where cuts or alterations might be made); and 2) One could presume the financial mavens also on the thoid floor would have put their two cents in (literally) on this matter before it came to a vote. And, we haven't hoid a hue and cry about it since the option was passed. Ergo, one could make the argument the administration is at least somewhat supportive.

~~~~~

Nelly Nuthatch happened by, and made an observation that pleased the cockles of Cobina's heart. In the last issheiw of the papyrus, we noted the first anniversary of the mayor's institution of a blight consortium, made up of various departments. We said in the editorial that much needed to be done, and even mentioned a couple of places that still needed work.

Well, guess what? One of the places, Stevens Avenue was cleaned up the very day that the editorial came out. It was a pure coincidence. Cobina ain't one to take credit for things before they are published, but a nice coincidence.

Stevens Avenue in that stretch

betwixt West Spring Street and the overpass of I-95 has become a dumping ground for many a nocturnal depositor of junk. In the days of Eleanore Turkington, this spot came up probably the most as a spot where people just chucked their old furniture and refuse. Well, the city was taking care of it the very day the mention was made. Good to see!!

~~~~~

Speaking of 1-95, people are still waiting for the construction to begin on the two bridges, and the traffic problems that will then commence. The Wag was in t'other afternoon and sez that whilst the city and state had a press conference a few weeks back, the state works very deliberately (some would say slowly) in these matters, making sure every jot and tittle is in the right spot.

He did mention that a lotta people still don't know about it, and some were surprised to hear it. Cobina was up on the highway last week and noted the two bridges as she traveled, and then noticed that a landmark ain't in place anymore. In fack, it probably hasn't been there for a while, but it was the foist time she really noted it. The Atlas that used to be the logo of the moving company is no longer looking toward the highway.

That's too bad in a way. It was something that was there for more decades than we can count...at least since the late 1950s, and it isn't there anymore. Funny, how you don't see things and then when yew realize they are gone, you miss them.

~~~~~

A month or so ago, a kerfuffle was in the making with a body wanting to have the city keep up Quigley Stadium, and now we have a reason why. Iva Lookey was by and mentioned that high school baseball games are no longer played at the Front Avenue site cuz drug paraphernalia was found in one corner of the outfield, and it was considered a hazard.

This is not a good thing and makes one wonder about the Night Culture that seems to skulk about in the berg. We've always known about the nocturnal goings on that are at the shore, especially in the summertime. We even know about the "night life" that seems to arise in the center of town. Now we know that in every dark corner of the city there is some type of stuff going on, and it's creating hazards for the rest of us.

That stadium is used by high schools and leagues. Nobody wants to see a venerable place like that get turned into a place where nefarious deeds are carried out. Maybe a few extra lights and motion detectors are what is needed.

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Behind the stacks

Welcome back to Behind the Stacks! Let’s take a sneak peek at what’s coming up here at the West Haven Library!

Feeling competitive? Join us this Saturday, May 24th for an all-ages chess tournament! This event is a fundraiser hosted by the Connecticut State Chess Association (CSCA). Proceeds from the tournament help the CSCA to offer free chess classes at libraries and other non-profit organizations. West Haven residents can participate for a reduced entry fee of \$20, and there will be medals, trophies, and cash prizes for participants to win. Registration is required and must be done online before May 24th. Please call or stop by the library if you would like help registering!

Looking for something to do over the summer? Join the club! Really - we have several clubs and groups that meet at the library on a regular ba-

sis. There are currently five ongoing book clubs: three at the Main library and two at our Ora Mason branch. We also have a monthly support group called Our Journey of Sight for blind and low-vision individuals and caretakers to share advice, learn about resources, and socialize. Want to share some tips and tricks with other crocheters or cross stitchers? Try out our Crochet and Cross Stitch Clubs where you can bring in your current project to work on and chat and exchange ideas with your fellow crafters! Are your skills more culinary than crafty? Join our Cooking Club! There is a different theme each month for participants to experiment with—bring in a dish that fits the theme and try out others’ recipes. The theme for June will be Indian food!

The library will be hitting the road this summer as our Outreach Librarian, Melissa,

will be at various West Haven locations throughout the season! On Mondays you can spot the bookmobile at the Glade Street apartments and the Laundromax on the Post Road. Tuesdays we will be at the CT Mobile Food Bank; and Wednesdays you can find us at the Charlotte Bacon playground and W.H.E.A.T.! Remember—our bookmobile services can be essential for elderly or homebound patrons who are unable to physically make it into the library.

We’ve got plenty of events for the little ones as well! Torch Tales, LLC will be hosting two Live-Action-Roleplay (LARP) story-telling events for children in grades 1-3 and 4-6. Dress up, make decisions, and decide where the story goes! Kids of all ages can join us on the Town Green on June 18th for the Summer Reading Kick-off Picnic and enjoy snacks, bubbles, chalk, face painting, water balloons, and more! Finally, teens can have a bunch of tasty treats during our

Teen Taste Testers program! Challenge yourself and your friends to a blind taste test of different brands of snack foods.

As always, we have a lot going on at the library this month! There is a lot more to look forward to this summer, so make sure to check out our program listings on our website or stop by the library to learn more! Make sure you also keep an eye out for us in the Memorial Day Parade this weekend and say hi!

Fireworks Committee plans fundraisers

“They will be heard on the Third!” The Savin Rock Fireworks Committee is fundraising for the display in West Haven on July 3. The committee raises the funds by seeking donations from area businesses and by holding fundraisers. Next fundraiser is the Cornhole Tournament (June 8 -- TCB).

For reservations for any of the events contact Sandy at (203) 934-3161. If you would like to make a donation, send a check made out to Savin Rock Fireworks to P.O. Box 216, West Haven 06516.

WHHS Class of ‘56 and Honor Society

The West Haven Class of 1956 is planning its 65th reunion for May of next year. The event will include marking the anniversary of the founding of the National Honor Society Chapter, which happened in 1955.

For those who wish more information, call Dino Ciaburri at (203) 809-4578.

GOP 9th confab set for June

The Nine District Town Committee delegation has scheduled a meeting for the first Thursday of each month to search for new Republican Party members, and those who might want to get involved in the district, and town committee work. The meetings are scheduled for the Republican Town Committee Headquarters, 315 Morgan Lane and will be chaired by Anthony Vartuli. The next meeting is June 6. Those interested may attend or get more information by calling DTC Chairman David Riccio at (475) 254-2361.

Support group for sight impaired

“Our Journey of Sight,” a low vision/blind support group meets monthly at the West Haven Public Library 300 Elm St, from 10 to noon on the third Friday of the month. This is not a regulatory group, but a group that provides a monthly speaker, and support each other during members’ journey of visual loss.

Dog owners reminded of licensing

June is Dog Licensing Month, and residents who own dogs at least 6 months old must renew their licenses by June 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 of 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, 355 Main St., West Haven 06516. For dogs that have last year’s tag number, license renewals are available online: <https://searchiqs.com/iqsdogrenewal/?CC=CTWHA>.

Class of ‘64 plans ‘Get-Together

The WHHS Class of 1964 is hosting its first “Get-Together” on Saturday, Sept. 13 from noon to 4 at Biagetti’s Restaurant, 77 Campbell Ave. Cash bar and dinner is \$50, with walk-ins at \$60 (cash). For infomration contact Judy Oberempt. at nana2446@aol.com or (203) 934-9504.



Outreach Librarian Melissa Marguy is shown in the library’s Bookmobile as she’s getting ready to deliver books to homebound and elderly patrons living in West Haven.

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A Memorial Day Prayer

Memorial Day was begun as a way to honor the Civil War dead in the 1880s. Known as Decoration Day until fairly recently, it is a way for the nation to remember all those who fight for the nation, and especially those who pay the ultimate price.

With our fighting men and women in harm's way, this Memorial Day takes on a special meaning. It will be a bittersweet reminder that many thousands are away from home, serving the nation in far-off lands. We think of no greater editorial opinion than expressing the hope they return to us safely.

We make that opinion known by means of a hymn known to us all, though slightly changed to include all the services. *The Navy Hymn*, known also as *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*, was written by Englishman William Whiting. It became the U.S. Navy's hymn soon after, and no service in the Academy Chapel at Annapolis concludes without its singing. It was revised in the Missionary Prayer Book in the 1930s to the version we show here. Sung to John B. Dykes stirring tune, *Melita*, it is a favorite of all denominations, and gained a bittersweet resurgence during the days following the assassination of President John Kennedy.

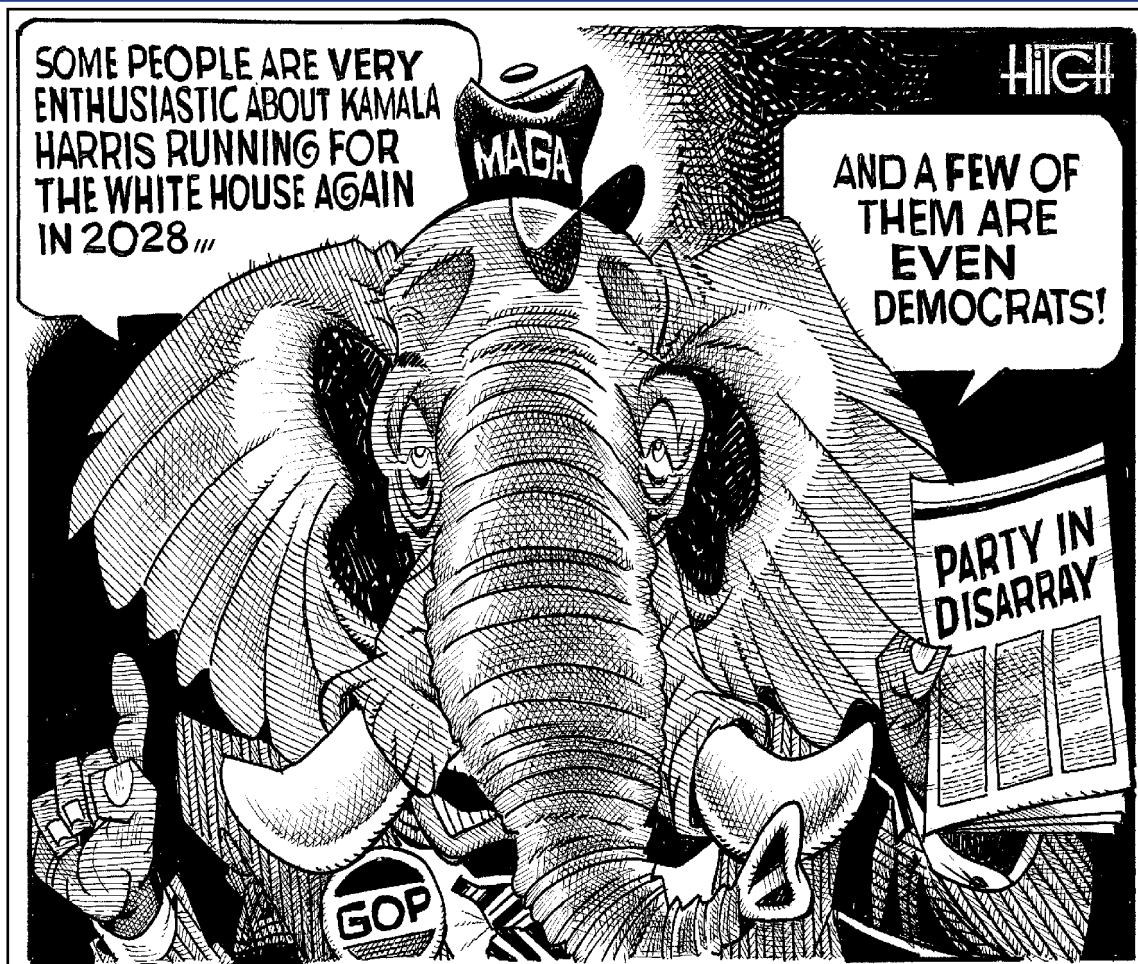
We present it in an ecumenical version as the hope of all, no matter what creed or religion one follows:

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O God, the Lord of hill and plain
O'er which our traffic runs amain,
By mountain pass or valley low:
Where ever, Lord, Thy brethren go,
Protect them by Thy guarding hand
From every peril on the land.

O Spirit, whom the father sent,
To spread abroad the firmament:
O Wind of Heaven, by Thy might
Save all who dare the eagle's flight,
And keep them by the watchful care
From every peril in the air.

Almighty God of Love and Power,
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea. Amen.



Trump and China the trade war

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

The on-again, off-again trade war
Never mind.

President Trump's 145% tariffs on China ran smack into Stein's law, the late economist Herb Stein's famous axiom that "if something cannot go on forever, it will stop."

What was effectively an instant embargo on the biggest importer into the United States wasn't sustainable, and sure enough, it's not going to be sustained. The U.S. and China have mutually agreed to back off a tit-for-tat trade war that quickly spiraled into territory that meant wanton economic destruction for both sides.

The U.S.-China trade relationship wasn't built in a day, and it couldn't plausibly be ended over a few days via presidential Truth Social posts, either.

During a 90-day pause, the U.S. is taking its tariffs down from 145% to 30%, while China is dropping from 125% to 10%. If it always seemed likely that there'd be a fig-leaf deal with China, there isn't even a fig leaf here -- just a promise to keep talking and perhaps fashion one later.

The problem with tariffs is that they are a way of harming a foreign trade partner via imposing pain on your own businesses and consumers. The 145% tariff was hitting Beijing hard but also was due to im-

pose severe costs on U.S. concerns dependent on Chinese manufacturing.

Small businesses were looking at potential extinction and retailers warning of empty store shelves. When the president of the United States is musing about little girls having to do with fewer dolls, it's not a reassuring signal about the direction of U.S. economic policy.

We've imposed embargoes on foreign countries before -- for instance, the so-called ABCD encirclement that cut Japan off from raw materials during the early stages of World War II. But we were about to go to war with Imperial Japan, whereas one hopes we won't be engaged in active hostilities with China any time soon.

While markets are relieved that the 145% tariffs are off for now, we aren't in a great place. A 30% tariff on China, plus the other tariffs that are in play around the globe, mean we still have lurched into the highest U.S. tariff regime since the 1930s.

Earlier this year, there was a surge of imports in anticipation of Trump's tariffs, in the phenomenon known as front-loading. Then, imports were basically shut off as the 145% tariffs took hold. And now there will be more front-loading to avoid what comes next.

An on-again-off-again-on-again approach forces U.S.

economic actors to deal with wildly gyrating uncertainty for no good reason. Who knows what will happen in 90 days? The Soviet Union was governed by Five-Year Plans; now, we are governed by 90-Day Pauses.

Trump prides himself on his deal-making, but he hasn't gotten anything from the U.K. or China over the last week that he couldn't have achieved with much less disruption. We could have gotten an outline of a trade deal with the Brits by working with them behind closed doors, and we could have gotten a 30% tariff on China by imposing one at the outset, rather than 145%.

There is no doubt that China is a hostile power and bad economic actor, and we should be putting our relationship on a different basis. The risk is that Trump has, by tariffing everyone, friend or foe, made it harder for us to deepen relationships with our allies and isolate our adversary.

As Robert Atkinson of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation points out, the current tack will also hamper the most strategically important, technologically advanced U.S. firms that are all globally integrated.

The Trump tariffs will increase their costs by making imported inputs more expensive, while limiting their foreign markets by inviting foreign

See Lowry, page 7

Pollution plant needs leadership, \$\$\$

By Richard Hebert
and Bonnie Posick
Research by Kyle Rich

West Haven residents have been vocal about the city’s revaluation of their property and the impending tax increases. But at the same time, the Water Pollution Control Authority on Beach Street has a problem and it’s about to hit the fan.

In the mayor’s 2026 budget, the sewer use rate is recommended to increase by a manageable 4.71 percent, from \$488 per unit to \$511 per unit (one unit generally equals one household). An addendum at the bottom of the “Sewer Use Fee Calculation” document further states, “Upgrades to the Sewer Plant were neglected for several years leaving investments to infrastructure at a critical juncture. It is imperative that we invest in the necessary upgrades for the purpose of our sewer, our clean water, our regulatory requirements and the health of our residents.” What this document fails to elucidate is the urgency of this need. When will this long-standing problem be addressed?

Prior to 2016, solid waste in West Haven was managed entirely by the staff of the city’s WPCA. Liquid was removed from the material and the city’s incinerator burned the resulting sludge. In April of that year, the incinerator broke down and the city’s waste was trucked out of state as a temporary measure, at the cost of \$1,000 per 6,000-gallon truckload plus transportation expense. When a facility in Naugatuck had the capacity to accept the waste, it was trucked there. A repair initially estimated to take three weeks has been stalled for nine years. In this year’s budget, for the first time ever, the cost of trucking solid waste to Naugatuck is in a separate account, “Sewer Sludge Hauling - Removal.” Previously, the money the city paid to Synagro, the operator of the Naugatuck plant, and reported as “Electricity” expense, was buried in that account, leaving taxpayers in the dark regarding the real cost of disposing of their waste.

A West Haven Biosolids Study by CDM Smith, which was commissioned in 2022, became available in draft form in June 2023. A table contained within the document, entitled

“Comparison of Sludge Handling Alternatives” makes it clear that the most cost-effective method for disposal is incineration, the method that the city has used previously. Even with an estimated construction cost of \$20.4 million (or more, at this point in time), the city stands to save its taxpayers a tremendous amount of money over the long term. According to the study, the price to continue to haul the city’s waste to Naugatuck is estimated to quadruple in the future. Gasification, an alternative that has been mentioned by city staff, would potentially cost \$56 million up-front, and would require the city to hire outside staff to manage the process. In addition, gasification has failed in Linden, New Jersey, when its ability to remove polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) did not meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements.

According to an Oct. 14, 2023, story in the *New Haven Register*, “City officials told the Municipal Accountability Review Board of planned multimillion dollar upgrades to the city’s wastewater treatment plant that they hope to address quickly to avoid ballooning costs in the future or potential environmental catastrophe, but time is ticking on the permits.”

The permit that the city obtained to upgrade the incinerator to meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards was set to expire by 2024 and, according to City Engineer Abdul Quadir, getting another permit would be “almost impossible.” At various times, Quadir has given the public the impression that the state is holding up the permitting process. In response to an inquiry as to the status of the permits, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Air Management, Engineering Division, provided a long list of items that West Haven has to comply with or implement for permits the city needs to obtain.

Although this issue was identified as being time sensitive, two additional years have passed and we are no closer to having an operational incinerator than we were in 2023. In the FY 23-24 capital budget, the administration did not make any bonding requests

for the incinerator upgrade. In FY 24-25, finally, there was a capital request for bonding for the incinerator rebuild: \$3 million in FY 25-26 and \$30 million in FY 26-27. Yet no progress was made.

On April 2, the Water Pollution Control Commission held a public hearing on its 2025-2026 budget. In addition to the commissioners and city staff, six members of the public attended. What we learned was appalling. Despite the city’s best efforts to hire someone, there is no plant

operator and no staff member on-site who regularly report to the commission. The plant administrator occasionally attends commission meetings, but the members of the commission are frustrated by the lack of communication and action. More urgently, the cost to truck waste to the facility in Naugatuck rises every year. According to the WPCA Chairman Bill Canning, “We can’t kick the can down the road any further.”

The mayor’s 2026 budget includes bonding requests for

the incinerator project: \$4.5 million in fiscal year 2026, then \$16 million in each of the following two years. However, no one is actively seeking a permit for the project and no decision has been made about its scope. The \$179,000 CDM Smith study addressing this situation was completed, but no action has been taken, according to Chairman Canning.

If bonding for the incinerator project is approved by the City Council and the Municipal Accountability Review

See WPCA, page 13

| Technology | Construction Cost | Annual Cost of Constr. Capital (\$/yr) ¹ | Operational Costs (\$/yr) | | Total Annualized Cost (\$/yr) | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|--------|--|
| | | | Current | Future | Current | Future | |
| Hauling + Disposal | \$0 | \$0 | \$1.4M | \$6.6M | \$1.4M | \$6.6M | |
| Incineration | \$20.4M | \$1.2M | \$1.1M | \$1.9M | \$2.38M | \$3.2M | |
| Anaerobic Digestion | \$38M | \$2.3M | \$2.7M | \$3.7M | \$5.0M | \$6.0M | |
| Drying | \$38M | \$2.3M | \$2.2M | \$3.0M | \$4.5M | \$5.3M | |
| Drying + Gasification | \$56M | \$3.4M | \$2.5M | \$5.3M | \$5.9M | \$8.7M | |

1. 20 year project life, 2 percent interest rate

2. Current sludge hauling/disposal costs estimated as estimated current sludge flows (12,775 WT/yr) * cur (\$100/WT)

3. Future sludge hauling/disposal costs are estimated at the future sludge flows (2 X 12,775 or 25,550 WT future sludge costs (\$250/WT). There is uncertainty that both the sludge quantity will double and the co will more than double from \$100/WT to \$250/WT.

West Haven honors our veterans for their unwavering courage and selfless sacrifice for our nation, for us all.

Dorinda Borer

Mayor, City of West Haven




Grand Marshal

Colleen St. Clair Weatherspoon

★ ★ ★

JOIN US TO HONOR OUR VETERANS

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Dedication of Veterans Walk of Honor Bricks & Monument Additions



2025 Memorial Day Parade

Saturday, May 24 | 5 p.m.

Bradley Point Park

Monday, May 26 | 10:30 a.m.

Parade Route, Capt. Thomas Blvd. to Center St.

Lowry: *Chinese checkers*

Continued from page 6
retaliation for Trump’s tariffs.

This is not a winning formula, and if China gets an upper hand as a result, there will be no easy do-over.

~~~~~  
Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.  
(c) 2025 by King Features Synd., Inc.



City Photo

## Mental Health Awareness Fair

Health Director Sheila Carmon and Mayor Dorinda Borer check out Bridges Healthcare's Wellness on Wheels vehicle at the Mental Health Awareness Fair in front of City Hall on May 8. The WOW mobile clinic provides residents with accessible, street-side health care treatment. Staffed with a nurse practitioner and a medical assistant, WOW offers physical exams, health screenings and tests, mental health screenings, and addiction screenings, referrals and follow-ups. The program aims to eliminate barriers for those without access to health insurance or facing difficulties reaching and obtaining health treatment. The four-hour fair highlighted a range of mental health services for residents, including services for children.



# MARB: Panel ends city's financial oversight

Continued from page 1

room to thunderous applause and cheers, the visibly emotional mayor was met with hugs from co-workers amid bursts of confetti.

Taking the stage for the press conference, Borer, who was a West Haven state representative when MARB oversight began in late 2017, proclaimed: "West Haven, we did it! The future of West Haven is bright!"

The mayor then thanked West Haven's "incredibly talented" employees and the city's "resilient" residents for staying the course during the oversight process.

Borer also thanked Gov. Ned Lamont for "being there every step of the way."

Although the city's \$18 million bond deficit triggered MARB oversight under the former administration, Borer touted the city's posting of three straight credit rating upgrades and balanced budgets

since taking office in December 2023.

The board applauded Borer and her crack finance team for turning the city around faster than expected.

Borer then lauded and introduced Finance Director Michael Gormany, who thanked the mayor, her team and his staff, saying, "This has been a long journey, and this is a great day!"

During the half-hour MARB meeting, members also praised Borer's corporation counsel, Paul J. Dorsi, and her chief of staff, Rick Spreyer, for helping to right the ship.

The board determined that the city was eligible for oversight release based on satisfying its audit results, bond ratings, and financial plan and practices.

In 2022, the MARB escalated its oversight to Tier IV, the board's highest level of oversight, requiring the financially distressed city to present all

budgets to the MARB and its West Haven subcommittee for approval.

Since taking office 17 months ago, Borer has fostered a more collaborative relationship with the board, making it a top priority of her administration.

She said that one of her main goals for running for mayor was to "lift the city out of a negative cloud that had hung for too long."

Under Borer's leadership, the city has taken extraordinary steps to tackle the many issues that led to an increase in MARB oversight, including internal control issues, staffing shortages in the Finance Department and audit delays.

The Borer administration has worked closely with the board and a third-party consultant to improve its financial management practices and internal control functions, such as the hiring of several key financial management positions that had been vacant, includ-

ing a finance director, internal auditor, payroll manager, risk manager, and senior and junior accountants.

West Haven has also hired two third-party consulting firms to help identify and address its internal control issues, leading the city to make changes in its procedures and to institute new policies, including bank reconciliation, audit trail reporting and payroll segregation of duties.

According to the MARB, the city has satisfied the completion of no audited operating deficits in the general fund for the two most current consecutive fiscal year audits and has satisfied the completion of a general fund balance of at least 5% in the two most current consecutive fiscal audits.

In fiscal 2024, the city posted a general fund surplus of \$6.44 million.

That increased its fund balance to 11.02%, and a general fund surplus of \$6.77 million

in fiscal 2023, increasing its fund balance to 7.93%.

The city has also satisfied that it has received an investment-grade or higher long-term bond rating from at least one rating agency and that the rating has improved or remained unchanged since its most current designation.

In its MARB-approved financial plan, the city has projected a fund balance in each of the plan's three consecutive fiscal years by meeting operating result criteria and fund balance criteria in its fiscal 2024 audit.

In each of the plan's three fiscal years, the city has met its projections based on recurring revenues and expenditures with no one-time revenue found in its approved five-year plan.

In the plan's third year, the city has also met a positive fund balance projection of at least 5%, projecting an 11.29% fund balance.

# Parade: Navy vet leads holiday march

Continued from page 2

Memorial Day parade has no rain date and will feature three marching divisions and a military division, as well as special accommodations for disabled veterans.

The procession will include an eight-seat golf cart carrying former grand marshals that is adorned with a star gracing the names of those deceased. Other veterans will ride on a float.

It will also include a flyover by a C-130 Hercules, a four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft operated by the Connecticut Air National Guard.

Weatherspoon will lead the procession on foot with the West Haven Police Honor Guard.

The 90-minute parade, in memory of the deceased members of the U.S. armed forces of all wars, will showcase the city's legion of veterans groups, including West Haven Vietnam Veterans, Surfside Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9422.

The procession, headlined by the Connecticut Army National Guard's 102nd Army Band, will include the West Haven High School and Bailey Middle School marching bands, the East Rock Brass Band, and the New Haven County Firefighters Emerald Society Pipes & Drums, as well as bands from the Rock House School of Music.

It will include members of the West Haven High cheerleading and dance teams, cheerleaders from the West Haven Seahawks, and members of the Mulkerin School of Irish Dance.

The procession will also spotlight the traditional contingent of youth organizations and sports leagues, dance troupes and Scout troops, fraternal organizations and service clubs, local and state leaders, police officers and firefighters.

After the parade, a wreath-laying ceremony will take place at the World War I Armistice Memorial on the Green.

Weatherspoon was born to Raymond and Kathleen Bowler St. Clair and grew up with her two brothers on Prospect Avenue in West Haven's West Shore neighborhood. She graduated from West Haven High in 1982.

In October 1983, Weatherspoon enlisted in the Navy at age 17. She completed basic training eight weeks later at the Naval Training Center in Orlando, Florida.

After boot camp, she was stationed at Naval Station Mare Island in Vallejo, California, where she worked on a tugboat crew moving nuclear submarines in and out of a drydock.

She was then promoted to the rating of torpedo man's mate and was stationed at the MK 48 Torpedo Intermediate Maintenance Facility on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, where she assembled and tested warhead and exercise submarine torpedoes.

On Oct. 25, 1983, the United States invaded the Caribbean island of Grenada, followed by the Central American country of Panama on Dec. 20, 1989. In Grenada, Operation Urgent Fury, which lasted eight

days, the U.S. intervened to secure the evacuation of American students and restore democracy after a coup that ousted Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. In Panama, Operation Just Cause, which lasted just over a month, the U.S. invaded to capture dictator and Gen. Manuel Noriega, who was accused of drug trafficking and suppressing democracy.

Weatherspoon was honorably discharged from the Navy in August 1991.

She received the Good Conduct Medal and the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

After the Navy, Weatherspoon returned to her native West Haven and worked as a sales coordinator at Bayer HealthCare from 1993 to 2007.

She earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from Albertus Magnus College in 2002.

From 2007 to 2022, Weatherspoon worked as a senior marketing project coordinator at Medtronic, a medical equipment manufacturer.

Since July 2023, she has worked as a furniture, fixtures and equipment planner at Yale New Haven Health System.

Weatherspoon lives on White Street in the center of West Haven and is a member of Elks Lodge 1537.

She and her former husband, Marine Corps veteran and West Haven police Sgt. Eric Weatherspoon, have three children — Jordyn, Donovan and Morgan Weatherspoon — and a 1-year-old granddaughter, Ivy. The couple had met and wed while stationed in Hawaii.





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**MOVIE NIGHTS**



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ADMISSION

- Inside Out 2 - 6/13
- Willy Wonka - 8/15
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★ Location: ★  
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Time:  
**8:15 p.m.**

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Photos by Todd Dandelske

**Seniors honored**

The WHHS Band, under the direction of Donata Lupacchino-Nelsen held its Senior Tribute Concert, a sure sign the school year is winding down.



West Haven's 2025 Summer Concert Series



CITY OF  
**WEST HAVEN**  
CONNECTICUT

*Presented by Mayor Dorinda Borer*

**Absofunkinlutely**



June 27 @ Old Grove Park

**Tre Paul**



Good Music, Good Fun!

July 11 @ West Haven Green

**TKM All Star Band**



July 18 @ West Haven Green

**Personal Touch**



August 1 @ Old Grove Park

**RHYTHM CITY**



August 8 @ Old Grove Park

**Vivid**



August 15 @ Old Grove Park

Summer Concerts are from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Rain date is the following Monday night at the same time and location



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Theater finales

The WHHS Children’s Theatre performed “The Fairy Tale Courtroom” for elementary students recently as the final performances of the year are ongoing. Meaan-while (far right) the West Haven High School Theater Workshop performed its senior class production, “The Unknown Experiment” last week directed by Seniors Holden Branham and Nina Hodgins.



West Haven Acoustic Sunday Morning Series

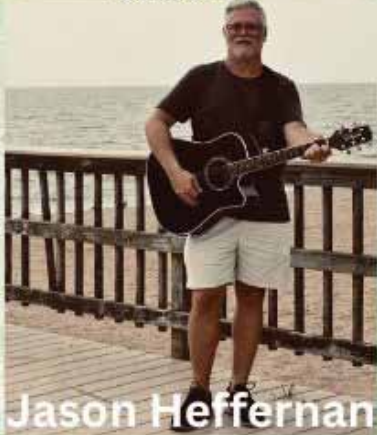
Presented by Mayor Dorinda Borer

Sundays 9:30-11:00 a.m. on the Oak Street Deck

June 1



June 29



July 6

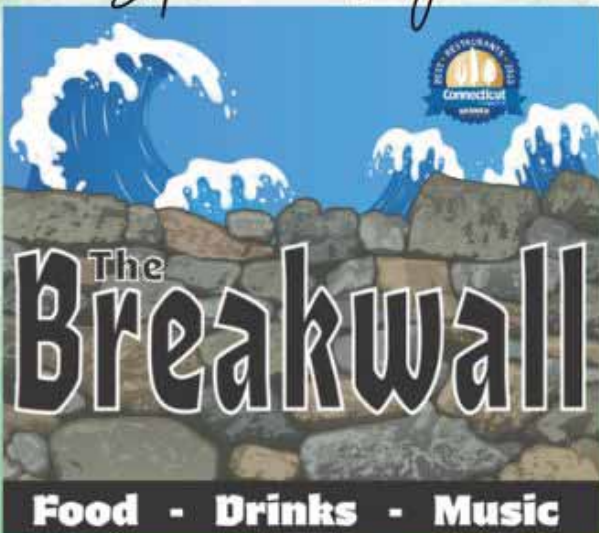


August 3



September 7

Sponsored by







Steven R. Mullins presents his 10th annual awards to WHHS frosh Bibi Hadi and Charles Sutton.

Photos by Rob Bleggi

# HS frosh cited by Mullins

Fair Rent Commission Chairman Steven R. Mullins visited West Haven High School recently, where he presented his annual “Commissioner Mullins Youth Leadership Award” for the tenth time to two outstanding freshmen.

Bibi Hadi has a strong passion for the law, leadership, and helping others. She has been involved in several school organizations, including the Debate Club, where she has won numerous tournaments, the Future Health Professionals Club, Vice President of the Medical School Engagement Club, the Student Government and many more.

Hadi has given to the wider West Haven community through volunteering at local community centers. A skilled public speaker, she was asked to speak at the Rotary Club, where she won a competition and advanced to the regional level.

Charles Sutton has a great deal of involvement at West Haven High School. He has demonstrated leadership by his commitment to community service through participating in the “Fantastic Friends Club,” assisting students with developmental challenges. In the wider West Haven community, he volunteers his time with the Shore Haven Baseball League. As a student athlete, Sutton played freshman football, contributing to the team’s undefeated season. His performance led to his promotion to varsity and ultimately dressing for the varsity team’s championship game.

Mullins presented each student with a framed certificate, a booklet of the United States Constitution and a check for \$100.

## AVFD plans rites

The Allingtown Volunteer Fire Association will host it’s annual Wreath-laying Ceremony at the Allingtown Green on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th at 9:00am.

A marching procession led by the New Haven County Firefighters Pipe and Drum Band, Scout Troop 821, dignitaries, veterans, career and volunteer fire personnel and others will depart from the Admiral Street Fire Headquarters

Wreaths will be laid at the Allingtown Veterans and Fire-figh

The public is invited to attend the ceremony. For additional information, contact Firefighter Steven R. Mullins at: (203) 824-4262..

RIDES

GAMES

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HELICOPTER RIDES

20



WEST HAVEN

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25

JULY 25-26

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Live and Let Die

Featuring Tony Kishman of “Beatlemania”

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CITYOFWESTHAVEN/SAVINROCKFESTIVAL.COM







# Dedication: *Phase 17*

**Continued from page 3**  
cluding 72 for Phase 17 and 47 for Phase 16, which was dedicated May 25, 2024.

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 a memorial in commemoration of World War II Army Pfc. William A. Soderman were dedicated. Soderman received the Medal of Honor after he distinguished himself in December 1944 while defending an important road junction near Rocherath, Belgium.

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

Also in 2008, 14 grave mark-

ers signifying every war in U.S. history and peacetime were dedicated. The markers are mounted on granite posts.

The walkway was built by City Point Construction Co. of West Haven. The granite Korean War and Soderman memorials 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. Subsequent dedications have been held amid much fanfare, attracting hundreds of veterans and their families from all corners of Connecticut.



File Photo by Michael P. Walsh

A view of the Veterans Walk memorials near the William Soderman Memorial at Bradley Point.

# Dear Felicia

**Continued from page 4**

*Whilst the outfield of the stadium is somewhat hidden by underbrush and trees, some carefully placed illumination might help. It will certainly keep some of the baddies out.*

~~~~~  
Jest so we’re keeping up with tradition, it has been another few weeks since last we noted the Bayview area where the Haven was supposed to be located is still laying fallow. In fact, during our chores and errands t’tother day, we saw crews cutting the grass and keeping the area somewhat nice.

Still, one wonders when and if the Haven Group is ever gonna announce something about the property. Here we are heading into the 28th year since the original plan was announced as the Water Street Project and 11 years since the “Haven” was announced and we are no more near some type of resolution than we were then.

Jest like Beach Street was a decade ago, we hafta keep on top of this thing, otherwise, it’s gonna be another blank space that just becomes part of the lore of the city. This has happened before, and it gives the berg a bad name as a place where nothing seems to happen.

Don’t believe me? Think Sawmill Road in the 90s. Remember the false starts and false flags that were announced and flown for that project. Things are there now, but it took quite a while. Then there’s the “Enterprise Zone” along Spring Street and Front Avenue. That’s only five years since announcement. Except for a few peripheral things, it ain’t the “bio-tech” bonanza it was cracked up to be.

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

Cobina

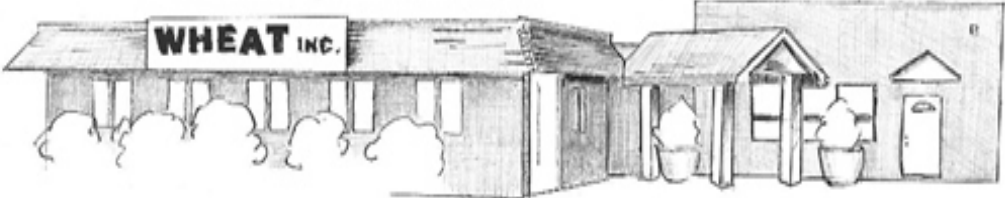
WPCA: *Treatment plant needs leadership, help*

Continued from page 7

Board, it will take approximately six months for an engineer to submit the permit application, then an additional 18 months for the city to obtain a permit. City Engineer Quadir estimates that it will take three years before the incinerator will be operational. In the years since the incinerator broke, the cost to repair it has increased from \$3 million to over \$30 million and that cost will continue to rise. The cost to truck the city’s waste to Naugatuck has risen from \$667,000 in 2019 to \$1.1 million in 2022 (CDM Smith study, 2023). That means the taxpayers have paid nearly \$8 million during this “temporary” shutdown, and this cost will also rise.

While it is wonderful that the city has secured \$10.4 million in funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to complete the “hardening” of the area around the treatment plant over the next two years, there is also an odor mitigation system that has been in need of repair since before 2022 and has been bonded for in both the 2022-2023 budget (\$1.2 million) and the 2024-2025 budget (\$1 million). This work has not been completed.

With no plant administrator and no emergent plan to repair the broken incinerator, chances are good that West Haven residents will have something a lot less pleasant than taxes to complain about in the next year or so.



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 in our pantry!
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WHEAT

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info@wheatpantry.org



Hlstorlan's corner

By Dan Shine

West Haven Veterans Museum Part I

Every story begins somewhere: This one begins in 1639 with the earliest organization of what would become the 102nd Infantry Regiment. Its initial role was to protect the New Haven Colony from attack by "savages, pirates and hostile forces."

By 1739, the unit became the 2nd Company, Connecticut Governor's Foot Guards, and was led brilliantly by military

hero Captain Benedict Arnold who, as we know, would later disgrace himself as a traitor and blacken his name forever.

In 1816, the New Haven Grays were formed from the units of the Second Regiment; from this period until the Civil War, their primary role was to maintain order in the city of New Haven.

In 1861, the Grays were called up to serve in the 27th Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry. Although they were a "90-day regiment"

they were engaged in the Civil War Battles of Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg.

In 1916 the unit was sent to the Mexican border in response to the actions by Pancho Villa.

In 1917 the Grays became part of the 102nd Regiment: They were sent to France, fought many battles in the Great War, and the Regiment was highly decorated. They brought along into battle a dog named Stubby, who was

the most highly decorated dog of World War I. Stubby's story will follow in a future column here.

In 1942 the unit became part of the 43rd Division; they were sent to the Pacific Theater, where they saw a great deal of action. After the war, in 1950, some of their number were sent to Korea, and others served as occupation forces in Germany. The unit continues to operate as part of the Connecticut National Guard, even unto this day. Its most recent action has been as part of Operating Enduring Freedom.

The New Haven Armory, located on Goffe Street, was developed in 1926, and served as home for Connecticut National Guard and Second Company Governor's Footguard. Ownership of the armory was transferred to the City of New Haven in 2009 when both guard units moved to other facilities and the armory was deemed surplus: The Grays artifacts were now without a home: They were removed for storage and packed most



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

unceremoniously into a leaky truck trailer.

Telephone (203) 934-1111
30 Hood Terrace (across from the railroad station)

Hours: Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m to 2 p.m.



Photos by Dan Shine

The West Haven Veterans Museum on Hood Terrace is making an effort to acquaint city students and youth in the history of service in the city, region, and state. With exhibits such as the New Haven Grays (above) and diorama's depicting other military operations, the museum is hoping for an uptick in school and youth organization participation. To help get things started, Dan Shine's grandchildren Luke and Ellie (below) examine the Chosin Reservoir Withdrawal exhibit, while friend Brandon Rylski looks at another diorama.





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Mayors: *O'Brien, Rossi relate MARB details*

Continued from page 1
viable alternative but to bond the deficit.

Following that vote, I negotiated an agreement with the State of Connecticut: if we bonded the deficit as advised, the state would provide West Haven with \$8 million in supplemental aid annually for two years—a total of \$16 million. The condition was that West Haven would enter review by the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) at Level 3, which meant “advice and consent” oversight, not a state takeover.”

By this time, O'Brien had lost the primary to Nancy Rossi, who won the mayoralty in 2017, and was inaugurated in December. O'Brien says the decision by the City Council's Finance Committee set the entire process in motion. Yet, when Rossi assumed office, she announced her surprise. O'Brien disputes this.

“To this day, I don't understand why my successor claimed to be surprised by the MARB's presence. In reality, she entered office with a surplus and millions in additional state support—

unlike the financial challenges I inherited,” he said.

O'Brien said his decision was a good one.

“My goal was simple: eliminate the deficit and avoid burdening the city with long-term financial uncertainty. Bonding the deficit allowed us to do just that, with less impact on the city's bottom line than continuing to carry it forward,” he said.

O'Brien summed up his thoughts now that MARB is exiting the scene.

“I stand by the decisions I made. They were difficult but necessary. Had we not accepted both financial assistance and expert oversight from the state, West Haven might still be burdened by structural deficits today. Now that we are on a stronger financial path and MARB is exiting it's critical that we stay the course. Every financial decision must be backed by thorough analysis and a clear understanding of its long-term impact. West Haven now has a fresh start. I sincerely hope future administrations will learn from the past so that history doesn't repeat itself,” he said.

Rossi, meanwhile, has some different recollections leading up to the MARB takeover.

“I was shocked,” she said. “I ha just been elected mayor and a week before I took the oath of office I was contacted by the *New Haven Register* informing me that Mayor Edward O'Brien had executed an \$18 million deficit bonding package. (He) was elected in 2013 and inherited a \$76 million deficit. Over the following four years, his administration added more than \$10 million in deficits. On my second day in office, I was notified by the Office of Policy and Management Secretary Ben Barnes that, by state statute, the deficit bonding...triggered West Haven into MARB.”

Rossi's three-term tenure was entirely under the MARB direction. The relationship between her administration and the panel was, at times, strained. She believes part of it was growing pains.

“West Haven was one of two municipalities to come under the state oversight in 2017. The MARB was new and creating bylaws and rules as the work

began,” she said. “I was a newly elected mayor with my first job being to control spending and balance the budget. In the early years both MARB and the city had tough jobs under brand new legislation and lots of pressure to be successful. The relationship got better as the city's financial position improved.”

Now that the seven-plus years of MARB is ending, Rossi is congratulatory toward the Borer administration for hitting this milestone.

“I am thrilled that the MARB has recognized West Haven's progress over the last 7.5 years. I want to congratulate the current administration for continuing the hard work I began when elected in 2017 and getting the city out from under state oversight. I see much potential and success in West Haven's future.”

The relationship between O'Brien and Rossi has never been cordial, and their recollections of the events that led to the state's taking over the city vary. However, the one thing they do agree on is MARB's leaving the city is something to be celebrated.

Golden Acres Farms marks 75 years

By Carrie Malangone
Resident Correspondent

Golden Acres Farms is proudly celebrating 75 years of growth, tradition, and community.

The story begins in 1910, when Giacomo Simone immigrated to the United States and worked in construction before returning to his homeland to serve in World War I.

In 1920, he returned to the U.S. with his bride and made New Haven, Connecticut, their home. In 1935, Simone purchased 11.5 acres on what is now Valley Street in New Haven.

His eldest son, Saverio “Solly” Simone, became the farm's manager at just 16 years old. Nicknamed the “Wax Bean King,” Solly, along with his siblings, helped cultivate a thriving farm known for its beans, lettuce, tomatoes, and celery.

In 1941, due to urban development and the rise of big business, the Simone family was forced to sell their New Haven farm. They soon relocated to the Allingtown section of West Haven, where Mr. Simone purchased 20 acres.

By 1949, Solly and his wife

Madeleine began building a home on 8 of those acres, and in 1950, Golden Acres Farms was officially born—starting with one greenhouse and a garden full of dreams.

Today, 75 years later, third-generation owners Deb and Michele Simone carry on the family legacy. Golden Acres Farms proudly marks its Diamond Jubilee with the support of State Reps. Trenee Magee, Bill Heffernan, and MJ Shannon, along with Michelle Caprio and DT Tammaro of the West Haven Business Alliance.

Local businesses including Westies Nutrition and Our Daily Bakes are also joining in the celebration. Golden Acres Farms is a cherished part of the community, providing many of the beautiful, pesticide-free flowers seen throughout the city.

Located at 201 Fresh Meadow Road in the Allingtown neighborhood of West Haven, the farm is open to the public daily from April 1 through June 30, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The family hopes residents will come celebrate 75 years of heritage and support a local, women-owned business that



Submitted Photo

Deb and Michelle Simone are flanked by State Reps. Bill Heffernan (D-115), and Trenee McGee (D-116), and an unidentified wellwisher.

continues to make West Haven bloom. Stop by, share in the joy, and beautify your space with fresh flowers and vegetables—grown with love and tradition

Senior Center plans two summer trips

Noah!
The West Haven Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to *Noah at the Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA* on Aug. 12-14. Live animals fill the stage and the aisles of the theater during the performance. The two-day trip begins with Donna's Destinations departing on Tuesday, Aug. 12, from the Vertical Church Parking Lot, 225 Meloy Road, and returning on Thursday, Aug. 14. Cost is based on per person occupancy and a detailed itinerary can be found at the West Haven Senior Center. Non-Residents & Non-WHSC Members are welcome! To reserve your spot and receive

further information, please call the West Haven Senior Center at (203)-937-3507!

A Day in Boston, MA

This begins on Tuesday, July 29. View the entire city of Boston at the Prudential Building, ride along and experience the well-known Boston Duck Tour, and have independent time to shop and have a delicious lunch at the famous Quincy Market! Donna's Destinations departs at 7 a.m. from the Vertical Church Parking Lot and departs from Boston, MA at 5 p.m. Cost is \$170 which includes roundtrip transportation driver gratuity, admission to the Prudential Build-

ing and ticket for the Boston Duck Tour; shopping and lunch at Quincy Market is independent. Non-Residents & Non-WHSC Members are welcome! To reserve your spot and receive further information, please call the West Haven Senior Center at (203)-937-3507!

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Just for you!

Soccer teams play in invitational tourney

The West Haven U12 Boys Travel team played a pair of games against the Elm City U14 Travel team, with the Westies winning both. On Friday, West Haven hosted Elm City and won 9-3 behind goals from Jaxon Cruz, Ryan Abekah, Ethan Fonseca, Roland Green, and Jax Guarino. Matteo D’Elia and Mason DaSilva sprayed through balls from center midfield and immediately pressured their opponents when West Haven lost the ball. Taha Ozhan hustled up and down the right flank, working hard in possession and defense. On Sunday, it was West Haven’s turn to be the visitors, but they were still able to pick up the 5-0 shutout win. Jaxon Cruz was solid in goal, and Seth Empric and Jacob Rader anchored the backline and were key in helping West Haven keep possession of the ball. Ben Trenchard, Collin Gibbons, and Joseph Ruiz all played well at the outside defense positions, stopping counter attacks and playing the ball wide and making overlapping runs into the attacking third of the field. Adam Lamkhantar scored a brilliant goal from a free kick, and Luca DeCrescenzo created a few great chances. Julian Castillo played well in both games this weekend, being dependable on both sides of the ball.

The West Haven U14 girls travel team had an impressive weekend at the Clinton Invitational Tournament. On Saturday, they tied Madison with a goal by Stella Porto. Olivia Petrie made several great saves in goal. The girls went on to defeat New Haven as Phoebe DiNuzzo held down the defense and Luciana Cappetta controlled the ball in midfield. Goals by Alessia Colletta and Gillian Wynus led to a 3-1 victory. In their final game of the day, they took on Guilford where they ended in a tie game. Allie Powers and Annabelle Fiorillo played solid defense for West Haven. On Sunday, the girls faced off against Guilford but came up short in a penalty shootout that ended the game. Joselyn DaVila worked hard in defense and Celeste DiNallo had an impressive showing in midfield.

The Batts Plumbing West Haven girls U10 team played four games at the Clinton Invitational Tournament on Saturday coming out on top for three of them. The Westies won against Clinton, 6-3, Guilford, 4-1, and New Haven, 6-5. Riley Onde and Bianca Dinallo lead the team producing a total of 16 goals, setting up numerous assists, and making excellent passes. Dinallo also made game chang-

ing saves as goalie against New Haven. Avalyn Wilder scored and used tremendous footskills to keep possession of the ball. LilithBelle Warcholic took multiple shots at the net and continuously ran the ball up field. Anna Howery scored, made an assist, and was a tough defender to pass. Katherine Samaniego, Hamidat Tidjani, and Angela Guerrero were aggressive defenders, rarely allowing any clear shots on goal. Aaliyah Castillo Ramirez was an amazing goalie, aggressively blocking almost every shot taken in multiple games, allowing in total only one goal to pass her. Mackenzie Vargas braved the goal against Clinton and took fierce shots as forward. West Haven’s first loss of the season was to HK 5-2.

The Connex Credit Union Golden Stars played a great game against the Gilded Gals. Ava Abner scored a goal off of a throw in from Irina Talamelli. Frances Skalkos came in with another goal for the team. Charlotte Sebas stood out with awesome defense. Batt’s Plumbing took on Frankie’s of West Haven. Angel Ramirez and Javier Sanchez both scored in the match. Cappetta’s Italian Imports took on Top Hat Dance Academy. The game was a defensive battle with Cappetta’s Daniela Vargas helping guide her teammates to get the shut out. On the offensive end Aria Kingsley got the ball up field, leading to the team’s only goal scored by Brooklyn Papa. RQ Accounting & Tax Services played to a scoreless draw with American Legion Post 71. Porto Funeral Home lost a nail biter to the WH Italian American Civic Association, 2-1, with the winning goal coming in the dying seconds of the game. The West Haven Federation of Teachers played against Stars Ice Cream, winning 7-2.

Adam Ourgani delivered a fantastic performance in goal. His agility and reflexes were nothing short of spectacular, stopping numerous shots and assisting his team. Youssef Ourgani demonstrated exceptional ball control, skillfully maneuvering through the opposition’s defense before unleashing a powerful shot for a goal. Zachary Novak anchored the defense with remarkable poise and strength. His calm and collected demeanor under pressure, combined with his ability to clear the ball effectively were a significant factor in the win. West Haven Police Local 895 defeated Nick’s Luncheonette, 3-2, and the George Ellis Company defeated Dayton Street Apizza by that same score. The University of New Haven

Chargers lost to the Law Office of Paul V. Carty 4-1, and in the final game of the weekend the Gunning Law Firm crushed Stowe’s Seafood, 5-0.

The Keenan Funeral Home Blue Devils played a hard game against the West Haven Elks Lodge. Idris Green, Luca D’Elia and Ace Hemming proved to be an incredible offensive trio providing the goals for the Blue Devils. The Blue Devils also had a great showing against Vio’s Sports Plus with Cash Papa and Dominic Ferris joining the Green-D’Elia-Hemming trio in scoring in the outing. Amar Elseed and Cade Hemming also provided much-needed defense.

The West Haven Elks Lodge played a great game against P & B Express. Finn Decker-Spitler played good defense, Wyatt Williams played strong on both sides of the ball, and Xavier Rios scored goals with help from Yael Tiburico. The Milano & Wanat Gold Dragons lost, 3-2 to Physicians Physical Therapy. Jimmy Luis Jr played great defense. Curtis Diaz did great in goal. Landon Alling and Will Marmelstein both scored in the loss. Baybrook Remodelers won against West Shore Family Dental. Ayah Lamkhantar scored a hat trick. Laila Clayton, Tahrielle Boyd, and Liliyani Amaro dominated the field making fantastic passes and taking shots at the net. They aggressively defended their goal, keeping the shut out.

The previous week, Baybrook Remodelers played a great game against Top Hat Dance Academy. Charlotte Murray played well in the goal, blocking multiple shots. Avalyn Wilder scored and added Liliana Murray two. Tahrielle Boyd and Liliyani Amaro were tough on defense. The West Haven Elks Lodge won a close game on Saturday against Keenan Funeral Home. Goals were scored by Josh Peters and AJ Negron. Noah Rios played in his first game and was active on defense. The Frankies of West Haven Crushing Tigers secured a 6-2 victory against Physicians Physical Therapy. Nass Almoatasem scored three goals in addition to Younes Elfilali, Yanni Bertrand, and Anthony Gambardella each scoring one goal. The team demonstrated exceptional unity, boasting a stellar defense and a goalie who was well-prepared to thwart all attempts.

The Milano & Wanat Golden Dragons lost 0-2 to West Haven Police Local 895 despite tremendous efforts of Will Marmelstein and Jalen Linen. The entire team played with no substitutions and gave it everything they had. Camer-



Submitted Photo

West Havens U10 Girls Travel Team won 3 out of 4 games at Clintons Invitational tournament beating Clinton, Guilford, and New Haven. The girls fell short 5-2 against Haddam-Killingworth.

on Douglas Rose showed improved hustle.

The Connex Credit Union Golden Stars saw tremendous offensive strides from Irina Talamelli against the American Legion Post 71, her determination was unmatched. Taylor Upchurch and Charlotte Sebas worked together to secure a goal, and another goal was made by Melody Feliciano. The girls were back in action, defeating RQ Accounting & Tax Services. Rogue Montanez, Nayeli Gritz, Irina Talamelli, Eva Rodriguez, and Saylor Upchurch all scored.

It was an invigorating game as the Capetta’s Italian Im-

ports Strikers took on Baybrook Remodelers in their second match up. The Strikers came out firing on all cylinders. Harper Albarado helped push her team upfield with her speed while Helena Tamarelli continuously blocked the opponent’s shots on goal. The girls played hard and the match ended in a 3-3 tie.

The West Haven U14 girls travel team were on the road in North Branford Sunday, taking home a 4-2 win. Olivia Petrie made several excellent saves in goal. Teamwork and passing skills lead to goals by Luciana Cappetta, Gillian Wynus, and Alessia Coletta.



Photo by Todd Dandelske

Celebration!

No. 31 Mike Luzietti celebrates his goal against ND Prep with Anthony Dimeglio. The spring sports season is winding down with tournament berths up for grabs.

Baseball team qualifies for postseason

The West Haven baseball team won its third straight contest and took one more step towards qualifying for the postseason with a 2-1 victory over Hand in Madison. With the victory, West Haven improved to 6-7 on the year and needed two more wins to qualify for postseason play.

Connor Hume picked up the victory with 6 1/3 innings of one-hit ball. Hume allowed an unearned run, struck out nine and walked three. Ryan Wilson recorded the last two outs for the save.

Coming off the win, West Haven was looking to build on that momentum. Unfortunately for the Westies, they ran into a tough Lyman Hall squad.

Limited to just one hit, West Haven saw its three-game win streak come to an end in a 6-0 home loss to the Trojans. West Haven fell to 6-8 on the year with the loss.

Hudson Axelrod had West Haven's lone hit in the contest. Axelrod also started on the hill for the Westies, allowing six hits and four earned runs in four innings of work.

West Haven inched closer to a state tournament bid with a 10-1 home victory over Branford.

With the win, West Haven improved to 7-8, and West Haven needed just one more victory to play in the postseason.

Brady Price tossed five shut-out innings, allowing just five hits and striking out two. Padilla led the offense with two hits, two runs batted in, and two runs scored.

West Haven qualified for postseason play. Overcoming a sloppy performance, the Westies rallied late to defeat Jonathan Law, 5-4, at Piurek Field.

Padilla and Jones each had three hits, Axelrod had two hits, and Murray scored twice in the victory. Jones also picked up the victory with two innings of shutout relief, allowing just two hits and striking out a pair.

West Haven did a lot with a little against O'Brien Tech. Despite having just six hits in the game, West Haven used a six-run second inning to post an 11-1 Senior Night victory in a game which was stopped after six innings due to the mercy rule.

Hume helped West Haven improve to 8-8 by tossing a complete-game two-hitter, striking out five, and allowing just one earned run. Lucas Forgette led the offense with two hits and two runs batted in, while Jacob Fowler drove in a pair of runs and scored twice, and Jones and Padilla each drove in a pair and scored once.

Trailing early, West Haven

showed true grit in rallying for a 10-3 victory over Foran in Milford. Jones had three hits and drove in four runs, including a three-run triple in a seven-run seventh inning as the Westies improved to 10-8 on the year.

Padilla had three hits, while Axelrod, Murray, and Hume each added a pair of hits. Forgette and Price combine on a seven-hitter, with Price pitching four innings of shutout relief.

The road to the postseason is got harder for the softball team. Dropping its seventh straight contest, West Haven fell to 3-9 with a 5-4, nine-inning loss against Sacred Heart Academy.

The Westies needed to win five of their last eight games to qualify for postseason play.

Natalie Gallo and Abigail Wynus led the Westies with three hits apiece, while Kaczmarek added a pair of hits. Gallo also scored twice in the loss.

The mountain to climb got taller. Needing to get back on the winning track, the Westies could not do so in an 11-5 loss to Lyman Hall.

The loss was the eighth in a row for West Haven, and it dropped the Westies to 3-10 on the year.

West Haven has seen its share of tough losses this season. The Westies suffered yet another in a 5-2, 10-inning loss to Sheehan at Biondi Field.

Wynus led West Haven with three of the team's four hits. Gallo went the distance, allowing four earned runs, while striking out seven.

West Haven fell on the road to Hamden, 10-8. Hamden scored eight runs in the third inning to help defeat the Westies.

Wynus led the Westies with three hits, five runs batted in, and three runs scored. Gallo drove in three runs, and Glover and Davey each scored twice in the loss.

West Haven scored 10 runs in the first three innings and held on for a 16-11 Senior Night victory over Platt Tech.

Wynus led the way for the Westies as she had two of the team's six hits, drove in two runs, and scored a pair. Glover drove in four runs and scored three times, Gallo drove in a pair and scored twice, Rowland drove in four runs and scored twice, and London Ryan drove in two runs and scored once.

The boys lacrosse team fell to Foran-Milford, 19-6, at Ken Strong Stadium in West Haven.

The Lions jumped out to a 7-2 lead after one quarter, and they increased the margin to 16-3 at the half. Thomas Porto led the Westies with one

goal and one assist, while A.J. Iannotti, Anthony DiMeglio, Brandon Doody, JustinSean Bruno, and James Olsen each scored once.

Kyle Guarino and Kaiden Powell each added one assist in the loss for the Westies. Xavier Nogue made six saves as West Haven was outshot 40-17 in the contest.

West Haven improved to 4-7 with a 6-5 victory over Danbury. Porto led the way with a hat trick, including the eventual winner with 1:02 remaining in the game.

The girls lacrosse team could not follow up on its earlier season victory over Jonathan Law. Traveling to Milford, West Haven fell to Law, 9-4.

Chloe Whelan led the Westies with three goals and an assist, while Delaney Johnston scored twice and had three draw controls. Aubrey Szostek made five saves in the loss.

West Haven fell on the road with a 16-3 loss at Brien McMahon.

Whelan led the West Haven offense with a pair of goals, while Mia Sky Roman scored once. Johnston recorded six draw controls, while Isabel Millard and Madden Evangeliste each had two ground balls.

West Haven fell to 1-12 with an 11-8 Senior Night loss against Hamden. Johnston recorded her 200th career point with a pair of goals in the loss.

Whelan had a big night with three goals and two assists, Elena Curtis added two goals and an assist, and Szostek scored once.

Johnston led the way with eight draw controls, while Whelan added six.

Juliana Gonzalez recorded three ground balls, and Isabel Millard added a pair.

The boys tennis team won its second match in a row and improved to 5-8 with a 4-3 win at East Haven.

In singles action, West Haven's top seed Brandon Sihaphong defeated Matteo Romero 8-1,

East Haven's second seed Matteo Martinez topped Ali Hamza 8-4, third-seeded Dhruva Garani won 8-3, and fourth-seeded Daniel Davis won over Angel Oruzco 9-8.

In doubles action, Steve Condo and Garth Collins topped West Haven's Sufyan Sayed and Ahmed Osman 8-1. The second seed of West Haven's Raihan Mirwais and Russel Basaen topped John Chabla and Mason Maciero 9-8, while East Haven's third seed of Francis Vera and Luis Tejada defeated Adnan Dost and Isaiah Correia 8-4.

West Haven fell to 5-10 with a 4-3 loss at Wilbur Cross.

In singles action, top-seeded Sihaphong defeated Felix

Boone 4-6, 6-4, 7-6, second-seeded Julian Theodore of Cross topped Hamza 6-4, 6-3, third-seeded Sahil Lemar of Cross won over Garani 6-0, 6-3, and West Haven's Davis defeated Vikram Dalal 6-3, 7-5.

In doubles play, top-seeded Adrian Sampedro and Ahilya Singh of Cross defeated Sayed and Osman 6-0, 6-1, second-seeded Oscar Grossman and Emeka Forman of Cross defeated Mirwais and Basaen 6-1, 6-2, and West Haven's third seed of Correia and Dost won over Ernesto Lugo and Santiago Hernandez 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

West Haven improved to 6-10 with a 4-3 victory at Foran. In singles action, Foran's top seed Tristan Adorno defeated Sihaphong 7-5, 7-6, Hamza topped Travis Dubielewicz 6-4, 6-2,

Garani of West Haven defeated Andrew Tang 4-6, 6-4, 7-5, and Foran's Kristian Foti won over Davis 7-6, 4-6, 1-0.

In doubles play, West Haven's top seed of Sayed and Osman defeated Deven Dai and Sully Reilly 7-5, 0-6, 7-5, Foran's Daniel Sanmartin and Hamit Akca topped Mirwais and Basaen 7-5, 6-3, and West Haven's Correia and Dost defeated Mike Doyle and Ivan Dai 6-2, 6-3.

The West Haven girls tennis team fell to 2-9 with a 4-3 loss against Lyman Hall of Wallingford.

In singles play, top-seeded Sophie Mazuroski defeated Grace D'Amico 6-3, 6-1, second-seeded Niamh Chesson fell to Sara Blazejowski 6-0 6-0, third-seeded Lisa Hennessey lost to Amy Sicilia 6-0 6-0, and fourth-seeded Michelle Ceja won over Ashley Dihlio 6-4 6-4.

In doubles play, top-seeded Haley Violante-Fletcher

and Jocelyn Otero defeated Natalie D'Angelo and Brooke Heidenas 3-6, 6-3, 6-1, and second-seeded Laurie Simeon and Cheyenne Lezcano were defeated by Mary Pires and Meredith Coughlin. Lyman Hall won the third seed as Mila Cruz and Karen Solano were defeated by Gwan Regan and Ella Lanzi.

West Haven fell to 2-10 with a 5-2 loss at Foran. Mazuroski defeated Sruthi Kommana 6-3, 7-5, Foran's second seed Wajih Khan topped West Haven's Chesson 6-3, 6-7, 6-1, third-seeded Hennessey topped Thao Pham 0-6, 6-4, 6-0, and Foran's Ella Klein defeated West Haven's Ceja 6-1, 7-5.

Foran's top doubles team of Sienna Mannino and Katie Vitaletti topped West Haven's Monserrat Acoltzi and Diana Morales 6-1, 6-0, Foran's second of Allie Ryan & Calli Barry topped Cruz and Jocelyn Otero 6-3, 6-0. Foran's third seed of Peyton Gottsegan and Agatha Correa defeated West Haven's Caitlin Pinedo and Martha Agustin 6-3, 7-6.

West Haven fell to 2-11 with a 6-1 loss against Jonathan Law. West Haven's lone victory came in singles play as top seed Mazuroski defeated Harshitha Kothapalli 6-2, 6-2.

Courtney Russo Defeated West Haven's Chesson 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, Law's Siya Patil topped Hennessey 6-1, 6-2, and Law's Rose O'Connell defeated Ceja 6-1, 6-3.

In doubles play, Law's top seed of Brianna Madelung and Kacey Pagaduan topped Morales and Violante-Fletcher 6-1, 6-0, Carol Jiang and Lasya Pydipati defeated West Haven's Hailey Dargon and Agustin 6-0, 6-0, and Law's Cora Aitkenhead and Isla McKeand topped Lezcano and Simeon 6-0, 6-0.

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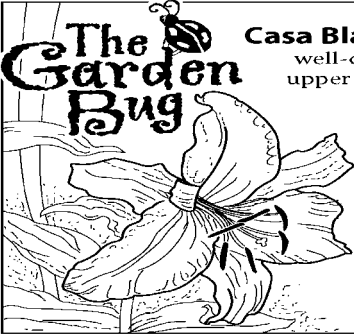
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Casa Blanca lilies are easily grown in well-drained soil, if located where the upper plant is in full sun and the roots are in shade. Mulch around the plants to keep the roots cooler. Remove flowers as they fade; cut plants back only after the leaves and stems have turned yellow. Its flowers are showy and very fragrant. The plants may need staking if exposed to strong winds.
- Brenda Weaver
Source: www.missouribotanicalgarden.org

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Here's what to watch and where to watch it for the week of May 26, 2025.
ON NOW: "Motorheads" (Season 1) -- Prime Video
26-May: "Cold Case: The Tylenol Murders" (Docuseries) -- Netflix
26-May: "Mike Birbiglia: The Good Life" (Comedy Special) -- Netflix
26-May: "CoComelon" (Season 13) -- Netflix
28-May: "F1: The Academy" (Docuseries) -- Netflix
29-May: "The Better Sister" (Limited Series) -- Prime Video
29-May: "And Just Like That ..." (Season 3) -- Max
29-May: "Dept. Q" (Season 1) -- Netflix
30-May: "Dog Man" (PG) -- Peacock
31-May: "Mountainhead" (R) -- Max
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1. Thunderbolts* (PG-13) Florence Pugh, Sebastian Stan
2. Sinners (R) Michael B.

- Jordan, Miles Caton
3. A Minecraft Movie (PG) Jason Momoa, Jack Black
 4. The Accountant 2 (R) Ben Affleck, Jon Bernthal
 5. Clown in a Cornfield (R) Katie Douglas, Aaron Abrams
 6. Shadow Force (R) Kerry Washington, Omar Sy
 7. Fight or Flight (R) Josh Hartnett, Charithra Chandran
 8. Until Dawn (R) Ella Rubin, Michael Cimino
 9. The Amateur (PG-13) Rami Malek, Rachel Brosnahan
 10. The King of Kings (PG) Pierce Brosnan, Oscar Isaac
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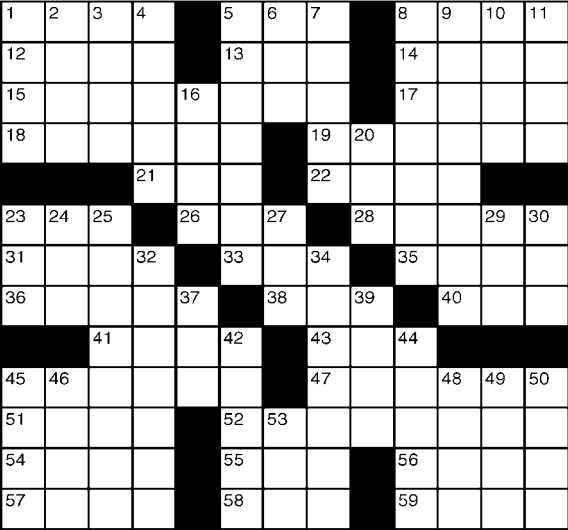
King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Eve's man
- 5 Agt.'s take
- 8 Summit
- 12 C&W artist McEntire
- 13 Geological period
- 14 Linguist Chomsky
- 15 Magnificence
- 17 Leslie Caron role
- 18 Next in line
- 19 Business goal
- 21 Poetic contraction
- 22 Feudal laborer
- 23 Rx writers
- 26 Actor McKellen
- 28 Cardio-boxing routine
- 31 Nest egg choices
- 33 Vat
- 35 Foolproof
- 36 Picture puzzle
- 38 Diner order
- 40 "Awesome, dude!"

DOWN

- 41 Muscat's land
- 43 Summer mo.
- 45 Spud
- 47 Scan again
- 51 Help a hood
- 52 French title
- 54 Go sightseeing
- 55 "— you sleeping?"
- 56 Mrs. Nick Charles
- 57 Antitoxins
- 58 Susan of "L.A. Law"
- 59 "Shoo!"
- 1 Golden Fleece ship
- 2 "Wild" actress Laura
- 3 "That's not — idea"
- 4 "Olympia" painter Edouard
- 5 Views slyly
- 6 French vineyard
- 7 Infield covers
- 8 Long-haired
- 9 Hairdresser
- 10 Creche trio
- 11 Send forth
- 16 Roman 602
- 20 Pensioned (Abbr.)
- 23 Soviet space station
- 24 Dad on "Black-ish"
- 25 1942
- 29 Hitchcock thriller
- 27 Gist
- 29 Bikini half
- 30 British ref. work
- 32 Java neighbor
- 34 Total nonsense
- 37 Perched
- 39 Calendar abbr.
- 42 Wanderer
- 44 Big smiles
- 45 Bits of butter
- 46 Reed instrument
- 48 Fair-hiring org.
- 49 Mystique
- 50 "Phooey!"
- 53 Mine material



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

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

| | | | |
|--------|-----------|---------|---------------|
| Apple | Cake | Meat | Roast lamb |
| Bacon | Cured ham | Pie | The good life |
| Banana | Fruit | Potato | Tomato |
| Bread | Luck | Reality | |

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1. ACRONYMS: What phrase does the acronym URL stand for?
2. MOVIES: What is the name of the ghost that haunts the girls' bathroom at Hogwarts ("Harry Potter" series)?
3. HISTORY: Which decisive battle ended the Revolutionary War?
4. LITERATURE: What is the pseudonym of the author Eric Arthur Blair?
5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which of the national parks is the most visited in the United States?
6. TELEVISION: Which medical series is based at Princeton Plainsboro Teaching Hospital?

Weekly SUDOKU

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

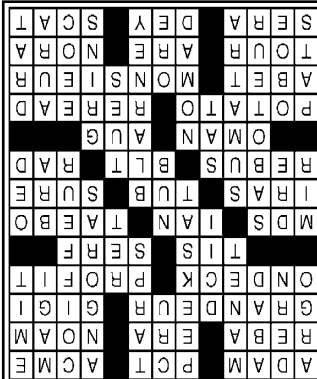
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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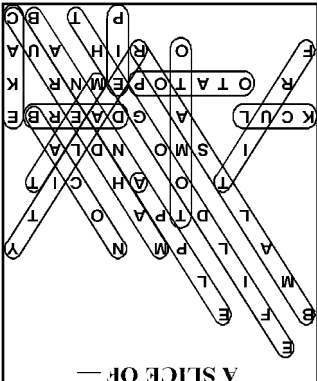
Answers to this week's puzzles



Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword



A SLICE OF —

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

7. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Denmark?
8. U.S. STATES: In which state is Glacier National Park located?
9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first vice president to die in office?
10. SCIENCE: What are elements like neon, helium and radon called?

Answers
1. Uniform resource locator.
2. Moaning Myrtle.
3. The Battle of Yorktown.
4. George Orwell.
5. Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
6. "House, M.D."
7. Copenhagen.
8. Montana.
9. George Clinton.
10. Noble gases.
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City Photo

WHHS students participate in Youth Service Bureau Day

Members of the West Haven High School Youth Committee participate in Youth Service Bureau Day at the state Capitol on April 29.

Committee members joined youth advocates and leaders from across Connecticut to highlight the importance of youth service bureaus in supporting young people and families.

One member participated in a Q&A session with multiple legislators, using their voice to represent West Haven and advocate for continued investment in youth services.

West Haven Youth and Family Services and the West Haven Prevention Council are proud of the dedicated group of students for their continued support and advocacy on behalf of the city’s young people.

Voice eyes re-up of youth sports

As part of its initiative to generate more information coming from the public, the Voice is seeking writer/correspondents for the various spring and summer youth programs offered in various sports.

Currently, only the West Haven Youth Soccer League sends regular, weekly information to the newspaper during its spring and fall seasons. Other sports have slowly faded over the years.

“It used to be we had to make room for youth sports throughout the seasons, but leagues have not kept up with the demand,” said Editor Bill Riccio. “We have had complaints about the lack of youth sports coverage and have to tell the parents and coaches that it is up to the league to have a publicist for that task.”

There are some leagues who have contacted the office, but have yet to furnish copy or photos for publication. We look forward to making that possible for teams and leagues.

Those seeking more information should contact the paper at (203) 934-6397.



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Photos by Todd Dandelske

Seniors honored

The end of the spring sports season and transition to the various tournaments continues for West Haven teams. But the end of the regular season means the seniors are honored by staff, teammates, friends and family. The baseball team (top) marked its senior night, while girls tennis (right) and softball celebrated their graduating seniors. The girls lacrosse team had a celebration prior to its game with Hamden.



WHHS sport
round-up may be
found on page 17