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Letters continued from previous page

Stop the Misinformation & Personal Attacks

To The Editor: June 4, 2026

I am writing in response to what has unfolded following the June 2nd budget meeting.

During that meeting, a resident made claims about a private conversation with members of the Board of Education, claims that were clearly refuted in real time. Rather than acknowledging that, he returned to the podium demanding an apology, insisting he had not attacked the individual or her family. The record tells a different story.

His prior public comments at the May 7th Board of Selectmen meeting included direct, personal attacks on her husband. This pattern, spreading misinformation while targeting individuals and their families, is corrosive to the trust and civility our town depends on.

I have since become aware of content circulating online involving this same family. What struck me was not only the lack of basic respect toward adults, but the deliberate targeting of a child. That is a line no one in public discourse should cross, and it has been crossed.

I have been involved in public life in this town for over 65 years. In all that time, I have never seen a 12-year-old child used as a target in a political dispute. Not once.

We can disagree. We can debate vigorously. That is democracy working as it should. But we do not drag children into political fights. We do not make families the targets of personal attacks.

Local government, public safety, and our schools deserve serious, substantive conversations among adults. North Haven has real issues that warrant our full attention. The ongoing campaign of misinformation and personal attacks is a distraction from all of it and it is doing genuine harm.

It is time to raise the level of discourse in this town.

Stop the misinformation. Stop the personal attacks. And leave the children out of it.

Peter Criscuolo, Jr., North Haven

Failing Leadership is to Blame

To The Editor: June 4, 2026

North Haven is dealing with a total budget disaster. These new Budget cuts are divisive and have neighbors pointing fingers at each other. But the true blame belongs to First Selectman Freda, Representative Yaccarino, and Senator Cicarella. Their lack of leadership, failure to invest in our town or grow our business economy, and chronic inability to bring home state funding hurts all of us, no matter your politics.

First Selectman Freda has not done his job to build a strong commercial tax base that shields taxpayers. And after May's rejected vote, Freda and the Board of Finance chose to punish our schools with a cruel $1.7 million cut. We are losing 28 critical school positions, stripping teachers from classrooms, wiping out seventh-grade world language, and blocking vital special education roles. Meanwhile, the town side was left basically unscathed. This was a choice. They put the pain on classrooms on purpose, pushing stressed parents to feel forced to vote "yes" just to stop the bleeding.

Some say we can't get state funding because our leadership is in the minority in Hartford. That doesn't hold water when you look at our neighbors. Other towns with Republican leaders are actually delivering.

Under Republican Mayor Cervoni, Wallingford secured $1,154,298 in extra state funding, fully funding their schools while lowering their tax rate increase. Seymour brought home $942,558, and East Haven grabbed over $1.14 million to patch local gaps without raising property taxes. Even North Branford beat us out with $587,485. Meanwhile, North Haven's leadership scraped together a measly $441,491. Our state delegation has zero leverage in Hartford, and North Haven is starving because of it.

This lack of effective leadership hurts everyone. Parents worry how kids can learn in crowded classrooms without needed resources, while seniors on fixed incomes face higher taxes because our leaders failed to bring in new businesses or secure funding. If they grew our economy, put forth investment in our town and brought in state cash like our neighbors, our seniors wouldn't be burdened, town services would be intact, and schools would thrive. Everyone wins.

This begs the question: if our Republican leaders openly admit they cannot secure state funding or kickstart economic growth like our neighbors do, why do we keep electing them? They are consistently failing us. Our kids deserve a future, our seniors deserve financial dignity, and North Haven deserves leaders who deliver.

Regards, Lisa Leamon, North Haven

Clean Energy Task Force Looking for New Members

North Haven: Are you concerned about our changing climate? Interested in helping North Haven residents, businesses, and our town government save energy and lower utility bills?

Want to help us to move to a clean energy economy? GREAT! You are just who we've been hoping would join us on the North Haven Clean Energy Task Force because we are looking for more members.

As a town-sponsored task force, we work closely with the town and residents to promote and provide opportunities for energy conservation and clean energy. We have had many successful campaigns, including promoting Home Energy Solutions energy assessments, with 40% of North Haven residents participating. We have also led campaigns to educate residents about home solar options and heat pumps, and connected them with local vendors to install these clean energy technologies so they can realize savings immediately. There is more work to be done!

Even with the clean energy setbacks at the federal level, there are many energy efficiency and clean energy rebates and services available in Connecticut.

To find out more and get involved, please contact Kenny Foscue at kfosc@snet.net or call (203) 589-1512.

North Haven Resident To Represent Connecticut At Miss Volunteer America



North Haven: Gia Iwanec, Miss Connecticut Volunteer to represent the State of Connecticut in Jackson, Tennessee this June at the Miss Volunteer America pageant.

Iwanec will compete alongside 50 other contestants from around the United States for title of Miss Volunteer America. The competition consists of four equally weighted phases of competition including personal interview, talent, fitness and wellness, evening wear and on-stage question.

The Miss Connecticut Volunteer organization is a scholarship-based pageant promoting volunteerism, education and empowerment amongst young women and is part of the Miss America Volunteer Organization. The national platform is S.E.R.V.E. Scholarship, Education, Responsibility, Volunteerism and Empowerment. Throughout Gia's year of service, she has worked diligently educating and inspiring the next generation of volunteers. In addition, her personal platform is "Get Into Action – Happy Mind, Healthy Body" educating individuals on the importance of taking care of both the mind and body and vowing to "Do more today than you did yesterday". Gia has traveled into rehabilitation centers and classrooms across Connecticut earning her two townwide proclamations in North Haven and Wolcott and an Official Statement from the State of Connecticut proclaiming June 4th 2026 as "Get Into Action – Happy Mind, Healthy Body" Day. During COVID when in person visits were not allowed, Gia launched "Storytime with Gia". Virtually appearing in classrooms across Connecticut provided students with a sense of normalcy earned her the honor of being named as a "WTNH New Channel 8 Wednesday Warrior".

Gia also serves as an ambassador to the national philanthropies: St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and The Salvation Army.

Gia has been involved in pageantry since the age of 5. A competitive dancer for 15 years of Eastman Dance Company and continued in her collegiate dance journey as a member of the Quinnipiac Dance Team. Earning her Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Quinnipiac University, Gia is now an Assistant District Manager at ADP and continues her love of dance as a dance instructor at Gloria Jeans Studio of Dance and head dance team coach at Daniel Hand High School.

If you would more information about the Miss Connecticut Volunteer organization, how to become a contestant, to book Miss Connecticut Volunteer for an appearance or to follow her journey to Tennessee please follow @missctvol, @getintoaction_gia

North Haven Lions Club

THIRD SATURDAY

The North Haven Lions Club invites the community to take part in its THIRD SATURDAY Service Project on June 20, from 10am-1pm at the North Haven Congregational Church (28 Church Street, across from the Town Green). We changed the date as The Pride event will be celebrating June 13th on the Green and using our parking lot.

This monthly initiative supports local charitable causes and strengthens community bonds. During the event Lion Club members will be collecting non-perishable food donations to benefit local food pantries and the North Haven Food Bank. Requested items include canned vegetables and fruit. Recycled glasses and pet food are also needed. These donations will help combat food insecurity and provide essential support to North Haven families in need.

Since 1952, the North Haven Lions has been dedicated to serving the local community through impactful service projects and charitable initiatives.

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