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Letters to the Editor



To submit a letter: Letters to the Advisor should include the writer's name, address and phone number. The writer's signature should appear at the end of the letter. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters will be accepted through Wednesday at 5pm. We will extend the deadline if circumstances allow and providing we have space available. Letters must be no longer than 400 words due to space limitations. The Advisor does not edit letters which are published as they are received. If a letter is questionable, the writer will be contacted for verification. The Advisor reserves the right to not publish letters that may be personally offensive.

In Response to Letter to the Editor Concerning "Failing Leadership"

To The Editor: June 10, 2026

This past week, I happened to see a letter to the editor entitled "Failing Leadership is to Blame".

The writer states that there has been a failure to grow our base of business here in town.

As North Haven's First Selectman it was 16 years ago that I chose not to hire an Economic Development Director and to do it myself based upon my career in bringing in new business as a former President and CEO of my companies and save the town approximately $100,000 per year over those 16 years. I would like to take a moment to summarize just a few of the businesses that I have been directly involved in bringing into town as the Economic Development Director:

• 297 State Street was a 300,000 square foot empty building when I took office and now there is a major company there called Stord with hundreds of employees.

• The Yale Medical epicenter which was a barren parcel of land that is now one of the leading medical epicenters in the state.

• The old Marlins was an empty 140,000 square foot building when I took office, and we relocated a new company, C Cowles and company there from another city.

• We took a 168-acre vacant parcel of land that was paying the town $47,000 a year in taxes and brought Amazon here when other cities and towns wanted it badly and now they are the largest taxpayer in town paying almost $5,000,000 per year in taxes, and they are the largest employer in town.

• Medtronic is a company that I also have great relationships with, and they continue to expand as our second largest taxpayer.

• We repurposed the entire old North Haven Shopping Center by working closely with the owner of the property to have a vibrant plaza there.

• Over on Universal Drive, we have brought in Home Goods, Cinemark, Chik Fil A, Panera Bread, a new hotel and a variety of restaurants there.

• Also, on Universal Drive we brought in Ferraro's Market, Torito's Mexican Restaurant, the Hartford Health Care Center, Burlington, At Home which filled almost 100,000 square feet of retail space, and I am currently working on delivering another restaurant there at the end of that plaza.

• On Powder Metals Drive we have transformed that area with new businesses coming in including two wonderful companies, Ground Works and Ercolano Cleaning and Restoration Services.

• The addition of a beautiful plaza which was on an empty parcel now features a Starbucks with a drive through, Five Guys, and Jersey Mikes adding to that empty parcel of land.

• We transformed a vacant parcel of land on Washington Avenue, worked closely with the wonderful owners and now have Forbes Fuel and Pats Pizza there.

• In front of Amazon, a new 7 Eleven with a 4,880-grocery store is opening up soon with me working with a developer from New York and that will also feature two additional businesses coming in the next year.

• I am working to bring an exciting project to North Haven on Elm Street that will generate approximately $2,500,000 in new tax revenue to the town to create a new destination for our town.

Other new businesses that we have brought in and that have come to town are the Sly Fox Restaurant, Thai Yummy Express, Seven Brew, America's First, Planet Fitness, and a new Asian Restaurant opening up near Stop and Shop.

Also, the newest addition to town will be Harvest Beverage Distribution Facility on Corporate Drive and Gas Burgers at 277 State Street.

There are many more that I could mention. I have had the pleasure of having relationships with developers, commercial real estate agents, major companies, retailers, restaurants, property owners all over town including state street helping to bring in our brewery there and other businesses. I am also a guest speaker at many major economic development meetings and seminars.

I would like to also point out to the writer of that "letter to the editor" that I am a two time award winner as the Economic Development Municipal Official of the year both at the regional level and the state level and I am currently the Chairman of the Comprehensive Economic Strategy System for the Greater New Haven Region.

If any of our residents have any questions, please feel to call me at 203-239-5321 if you would like any other information.

Sincerely, Michael Freda

Let Freedom Ring!



North Haven: Celebrate with us on Sunday, July 19 at 2 PM on the North Haven Green as we commemorate the day North Haven first learned of the signing of the Declaration of Independence!

On July 17, 1776 the Connecticut Journal, a weekly newspaper published in New Haven, first printed the announcement that the Declaration of Independence had been signed in Philadelphia. From Philadelphia news of the event spread across the colonies, eventually reaching our area on July 17th. The North Haven Historical Society & Museums, in collaboration with the Town of North Haven, the North Haven Congregational Church, St. John's Episcopal Church, and the North Haven Mayflower Society, will honor that historic time with ringing church bells, marching and music by Lancraft Fife and Drum, and a reading of the Declaration of Independence by First Selectman Freda and Third Selectman Cohen. Master of Ceremonies Sally Buemi will preside over the afternoon and provide some historic background about the occasion. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the beautiful North Haven Green as we celebrate our nation's founding. This event is free and open to all; for more information, please call (203) 239-7722 or email us at nhhistsoc@gmail.com.

Arts Collaborative Invites Community To Vote for its First Official Logo

The **North Haven** Arts Collaborative is inviting the community to help shape its future by voting in its first-ever Logo Design Contest, now live on its website.

After receiving creative submissions inspired by the spirit of North Haven, the Collaborative has selected a group of finalists and now it's time for the community to weigh in.

"The idea behind North Haven Arts Collaborative is to bring our community together, and what better way to do that than to have our logo designed and chosen by the community it represents?" asked Chris Fuller, Treasurer of the North Haven Arts Collaborative. "We're excited to see which design people connect with most."

Community members are encouraged to visit the website, review the finalist designs, and cast their vote using a ranked choice system, selecting their top three favorite logos. This approach ensures the winning design reflects broad community support.

Vote here: https://www.northhavenartscollaborative.org

Voting is open now through June 30, with the winning logo to be announced on July 6.

The North Haven Arts Collaborative, launched earlier this year, is a nonprofit dedicated to supporting local artists, expanding opportunities for students, and bringing creative programming and events to the community.

"This is a fun and meaningful way for people to get involved early," Fuller added. "We hope everyone takes a few minutes to vote and be part of building something special for the arts in North Haven."

The North Haven Arts Collaborative is a community-based nonprofit organization focused on promoting and supporting the arts in North Haven, Connecticut through education, programming, and partnerships that bring people together and celebrate local creativity.

Mayor Adam Sendroff Revises FY 26-27 Budget Proposal to Provide Tax Relief

Hamden: Mayor Adam Sendroff has revised the Mayor's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, using supplemental state aid to reduce the proposed mill rate from 54.43 to 53.94, a reduction of 0.49 of a mill.

Hamden is receiving a total of $3,799,474 in State Supplemental Aid in the State budget passed by the Legislature which the Governor signed last week. Of this total, $2,227,363 is supplemental education aid that will recur next fiscal year as part of the Educational Cost Sharing Grant. There is also a one-time municipal aid grant of $1,572,111.

Mayor Sendroff is recommending that the $2,227,363 supplemental education aid is put toward tax relief. Increasing the non-tax revenue by this amount will reduce the mill rate by .49, nearly half a mill from the original budget proposal for FY 2026-2027. The proposed allocation of $2,558,394 in the Mayor's proposed FY 2026-2027 budget to the Board of Education exceeds the amount of supplemental education aid, allowing us to use this revenue in the operating budget for a mill rate reduction.

Mayor Sendroff said, "I would like to thank Hamden's State Delegation, Senate President Pro-Tempore Martin Looney, Speaker of the House Matt Ritter, and Governor Ned Lamont for their efforts to increase municipal aid in this legislative session. Hamden's mill rate is very high, and any assistance to reduce the tax burden is appreciated."

For the $1,572,111 in supplemental municipal aid, Mayor Sendroff is proposing to place it in our undesignated fund balance. He feels strongly that it should not go into the operating budget because it is non-recurring revenue. Adding this money to our fund balance will contribute to the stabilization of our fiscal condition and ultimately save taxpayers money when we look to borrow again for capital needs such as road paving.

For further information, please contact the Mayor's Office at (203) 287-7100 or by email at mayor@hamden.com.

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Items Requested to Replenish Food Bank

North Haven: The Department of Community Services Food Bank is currently seeking assistance in replenishing several much-needed items, including pasta sauce, flavored rice, baked beans, canned chili, canned fruit, cookies, Pop-Tarts, peanut butter crackers, and cheese cracker snacks.

An Amazon wish list has been created to allow donations to be shipped directly to Community Services.

To access the wish list, select "Registry & Gift List" on the Amazon home page, click "Find a Registry," and search for "North Haven CS Food Bank."

Donations can also be made directly through the following link: https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/22SWBOJQ9FKB4

In addition, donations may be dropped off at the Department of Community Services, located at 5 Linsley Street, during business hours Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm.

For questions regarding donations, or for residents interested in accessing the food bank, please contact Robert Snurkowski at the Dept. of Community Services, Mon.-Fri. at (203) 239-5321 ext. 8502.

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FOR SALE: Lennox China Brookdale 8 dinner plates, soup bowls, small plates, 8 coffee cups and saucers, bread plates $150; (203) 537-1711 •

WANTED: Collector wants to buy early historic New Haven County related items, maps, books, engravings, paintings, paper items or actual products; (203) 915-7662 •

FOR SALE: Two brand new, unused Anderson double-hung insect window screens $30 ea. or $50 both; (203) 239-8060 •

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HAMDEN

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS HAVE PERSONAL ITEMS BEING STORED BY THE TOWN OF HAMDEN AFTER A LAWFUL EVICTION ACCORDING TO THE GENERAL STATUTES OF THE STATE OF THE STATE OF THE STATE OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT 47A-42-C

NAME(S)	ADDRESS	EVICTION DATE
Rodney Horton	1349 Dixwell Ave #5	3/17/2026
Leyda Caliz	269 Park Rd	5/14/2026
Raymond Jackson Patisa Crook	630 Mix Ave #5N	5/7/2026
Alexander McArthur	760 Mix Ave #4M	5/7/2026
Irfan Usman	760 Mix Ave #3H	5/20/2026
Lashay Paige, Montel Brunson	193 Butler St 1R	5/20/2026

Anyone wishing to reclaim their belongings must do so by 4:00 pm, Tuesday, June 30, 2026. Call Ace Van & Storage at 203-271-1555.

Items not claimed by that time will be sold at auction on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 9:00am at Ace Van & Storage, 210 Realty Dr. Cheshire, CT.

Auctions will be by lot only, with a minimum bid of $25.00. Bids must be paid in full by cash at the conclusion of the bidding process. Successful bidder must have items cleared by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 1, 2026.

Items not sold will be disposed of immediately after the auction. Anyone owing fees to the Town of Hamden is prohibited from bidding in this auction. Anyone purchasing orders must have appropriate transportation for immediate removal.