

The Westword

2025-2026 Staff

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Note from the editors June 2026

Dear Readers,

Thank you for your continued interest in the Westword. We are honored to be the student voice of the Westhill community. We are thrilled to share this edition with you.

As the end of the year approaches, we are proud to present the final issue of The Westword for the 2025-2026 school year. At 38 pages, this is the largest issue we have published in years, and it represents months of hard work, creativity, and dedication from our staff.

This issue captures many of the conversations, events, and changes that have shaped the Viking community throughout the year. In News, writers examine topics impacting both students inside and outside of Westhill, from rising gas prices and parking concerns to discussions about the school schedule and future of the New Arrivals Program. Our Feature and Special Report sections take a closer look

at the construction transforming our campus and the upcoming change in district leadership.

Readers will also find a variety of stories throughout our Las Noticias, Limelight, Viewpoint, and Sports sections, covering everything from the 2026 World Cup and the Grammys to March Madness and other current events. One of the highlights of this issue is our special supplement, filled with Senior Wills, where graduating members of our staff and outside the Westword leave behind their final thoughts and words of advice.

For me and many of the editors, this issue carries special meaning. It is not only the final issue of the year, but also our final issue as a member of the Westword. Being a part of this newspaper has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time at Westhill. It has given me the opportunity to tell important stories, work alongside students in a team, and help document the mo-

ments that makes Westhill a true Viking community.

I want to thank every writer, reporter, editor, and photographer who contributed to this publication, and a special thanks to advisors James Laber and Michael von Wahlde. Their hard work made these 38 pages possible. I also want to thank you, the reader, for supporting student journalism and taking time to engage and slip through the stories we share.

As I turn the page to the next chapter, I am confident that the Westword will continue to grow and thrive. I hope you enjoy this final issue as much as we enjoyed creating it.

Sincerely,

Tamara Hill
Editor-in-Chief

Announcements

Congratulations to our 2026-2027 Westword Staff!

Isabela Pinto - Editor-in-Chief
Aleeza Ata - Associate Editor-in-Chief

Leah O'Meara - Managing Editor

Charlotte Flood - Managing Editor

Editorial Policy

The Westword will be guided in the publication of material by a concern for truth, human decency, and human benefit. It is published during the school year by The Westword staff, along with the Communications and Journalism classes. Letters to the Editor, advertising requests, comments, criticism, or suggestions are always welcome. The views expressed in Viewpoint do not necessarily represent the opinions of The Westword.

Front cover contributed by **Tamara Hill ('26)**
Back cover photos by **Stamford Public Schools**
(top), **Michael 2026** (bottom left), &
Kate Tobin (bottom right) /
Editor-in-Chief & Contributors.

What's inside

7 News Parking at St. Leo's

11 Feature Hidden Talents: Security Guard and Teacher

26 Scatterbrain Spring Words Crossword Puzzle

31 Limelight Is Rock and Roll Dead/Dying?

33 Viewpoint Iran War: Pros and Cons

35 Sports Women's March Madness

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