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The logo for Alcam Writing & Admin., LLC features the word 'Alcam' in a stylized font above 'Writing & Admin., LLC' in a smaller font. To the right is a cartoon drawing of a rabbit holding a pen.

More of the Best of the Valley

January 19, 2018

Standard & Poor's reaffirms Ansonia's AA bond rating

ANSONIA - Mayor David S. Casseti announced this week that international bond rating agency Standard & Poor's has reaffirmed Ansonia's AA bond rating with a stable outlook.

"Ansonia is maintaining an above average rating at a time when many Connecticut municipalities are seeing their ratings lowered," said Casseti.

"Standard & Poor's reaffirmation speaks to the strength of Ansonia's finances, dynamic management, and conservative budgeting practices."

Casseti thanked his financial team, including Comptroller Rich Bshara and financial advisor Barry Bernabe, along with the city's Board of Aldermen and Board of Apportionment and Taxation.

"Success like this would not be possible without a strong team, unified in its vision for Ansonia," he said.



Ansonia's bond rating was initially upgraded to AA in August 2016. The rating was recently reassessed on the occasion of the city's sale of bonds to finance city projects approved in the 2016 referendum, including the construction of a new police station.

"This is objective evidence from a well-respected, international agency that Ansonia's finances are stronger than ever," said Corporation Counsel John P. Marini. "Ansonia is maintaining one of the highest bond ratings in the Naugatuck Valley, just two notches below perfect."

"The practical impact of the rating is that Ansonia can continue locking in very competitive interest rates, thereby saving taxpayer money," he said.

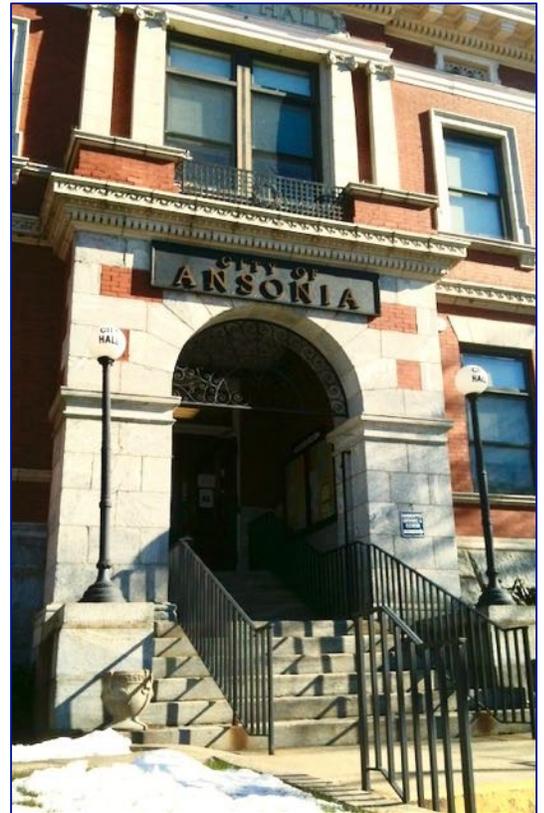
The official summary report from Standard & Poor's referenced "strong management," "strong budgetary flexibility," "very strong liquidity," and a "very strong debt and liability contingency position" as factors in the reaffirmation of the rating.



Standard & Poor's outlook for the City of Ansonia was also favorable, stating as follows:

"The stable outlook reflects S&P Global Rating's opinion of Ansonia's strong budgetary flexibility and favorable debt and liquidity profile, supported by its strong management conditions. "

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By Patricia Villers

Regular readers of my blog, The Valley Voice, have seen many cardinals and blue jays that I photograph through the window. I recently started putting eggshells out for the blue jays - a hint given me by a friend - and they seem to have become "trained." They arrive at about the same time in the morning and appear to be looking around for the tasty "treats." I know blue jays are considered aggressive birds, but I enjoy seeing the vibrant colors of their feathers.

Standard & Poor's reaffirms Ansonia's AA bond rating

Continued from P.1

According to the report, "We expect the city to maintain its strong reserves through its conservative budgeting practices and positive financial performance on a budgetary basis. We therefore do not expect to change the rating within the two year outlook horizon."

Ansonia now looks forward to a 2018 city-wide revaluation that is projected to see the grand list increase by over \$90 million due to an increase in business investment and accompanying rise in property values, as reported by the Ansonia Assessor's Office.

"Mayor Cassetti's leadership has placed Ansonia on track for long-term financial stability and economic growth," said Marini. "This is the result of four years of hard work and strategic planning."

Please click on the page to read a full-size .pdf of the report

This has been taken from a press release from the City of Ansonia

The collage displays five pages from an S&P Global Ratings report for Ansonia, Connecticut, General Obligation. The pages include the report title, a table of contents, and various sections such as Ratings, Rationale, and Outlook.

Ansonia S&P Report, P.1

Ansonia S&P Report, P.2

Ansonia S&P Report, P.3

Ansonia S&P Report, P.4

Ansonia S&P Report, P.5

Travel back in time on a winter day at the David Humphreys House



Photos Courtesy John Poole - Derby Historical Society

ANSONIA - The Derby Historical Society recently hosted its annual Twelfth Night celebration at the David Humphreys House at 37 Elm St.

In Christian tradition, Twelfth Night is a festival marking the feast of the Epiphany on the 12th Day of Christmas.

The central fireplaces offered a bit of warmth in the drafty 1698 house. Visitors were treated to a variety of homemade foods, hot cider, and more treated the visitors.

The house is the birthplace of David Humphreys, a Revolutionary War hero and aide-de-camp to Gen. George Washington.



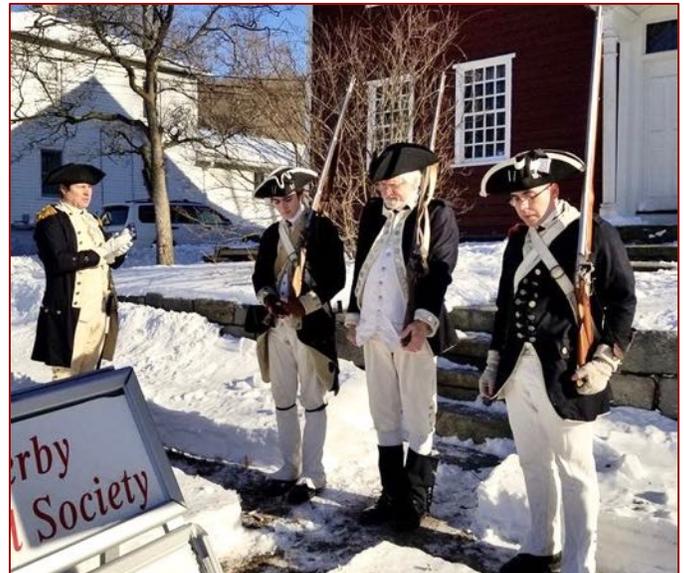
Not only the house resembles the 1700s, the styles of the day do so too. The talented docents are dressed in 18th century costumes; The Rev. Daniel Humphreys (Humphreys' father portrayed by Duke Misiewicz) appeared as a colonial minister.

The **6th Connecticut Regiment** was on hand and they looked like authentic soldiers in the Continental Army.

Even Col. David Humphreys (David Loda) appeared as a period officer and a gentleman. The colonial past indeed came alive on Twelfth Night.



The Derby Historical Society, a regional historical society, is dedicated to preserving, maintaining, and celebrating the rich and varied history of the Lower Naugatuck Valley. Visit it at <http://www.derbyhistorical.org/>



David Humphreys House - exterior restoration update

ANSONIA - The Derby Historical Society is undertaking a multi-year project for the long-term sustainability of colonial Derby's most prominent home. The exterior restoration of the David Humphreys House is continuing, and the Valley-Voice would like to update readers on status of the 1698 house located at 37 Elm St.



Phase Three NORTH WALL
2018 -2019

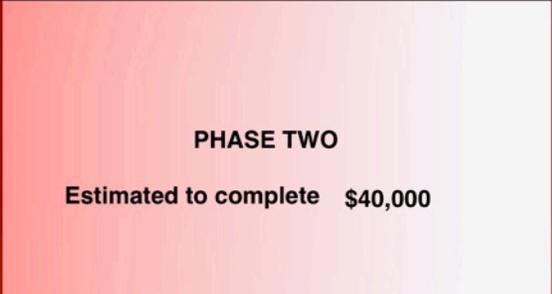
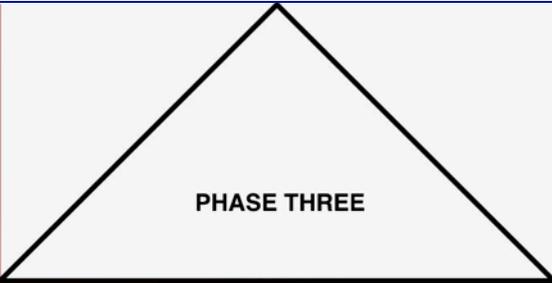
- Insulation of North Wall
- Sheathing and siding
- Window restoration
- Cornice Restoration North
- Wall Paint

Phase Two NORTH WALL
2018 -2019

- Insulation of North Wall
- Sheathing and siding
- Window restoration
- Cornice Restoration North
- Wall Paint

Phase One WEST WALL
2016 – 2017

- East site drainage
- Foundation Sill replacement and repairs
- Insulation of West Wall
- Sheathing and Siding and Trim
- Window Restoration
- Cornice and Portico Restoration
- West Wall Paint.
- Crawl Space Encapsulation



Community Fundraising Contributions to Date: \$31, 460

This effort is made possible through the generous support of charitable foundations, businesses and individuals.

