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This week's top story

With a final state regulatory hurdle passed, the state's largest health care system is getting even bigger.

The state Office of Health Care Access [approved Yale New Haven Health Services Corp.'s acquisition of New London-based Lawrence + Memorial Corp.](#) The approval comes a year after the deal was [first announced](#).

The merger came under scrutiny of the governor because of the massive size of Yale New Haven, which with annual operating revenues of \$3.4 billion, accounts for more than 27 percent of the total for hospitals in the state. The next closest competitor is Hartford Health Care, which has revenues of \$2.5 billion.

Gov. Dannel Malloy stepped in to delay the merger due to pricing concerns, but his office said that with Yale New Haven agreeing to certain cost and access provisions, the deal was green lighted to go through.

Quick Hits

Energized spending – Orange-based United Illuminating Co. is planning a [\\$49.9 million upgrade](#) to its distribution network. Ratepayers are expected to foot the bill if the plan is approved by state regulators.

Summer slump – The month of July was less than stellar for home sales in Connecticut. New home purchases were [down 15.6 percent year-over-year](#).

I'll drink to that – Bar cars are returning to the New Haven line on Metro-North. The cars were retired in 2014, but the [CT Post is reporting](#) that Gov. Malloy will be announcing their return next week.

Quote of the Week

"We could do without a bully, we need someone to be more compassionate, more transparent."

New Haven resident Barbara Fair [in the New Haven Register](#) criticizing the the recently retired police chief, Dean Esserman.



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2016 Middlesex County Business to Business Expo
Tuesday, October 11, Radisson Hotel Cromwell
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. | Executive Evening 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



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Headlines from the region

- [Blumenthal, Murphy comment on 9/11/1](#) (CT Post)
- [Cosmetics entrepreneur, former Meriden resident, interviewed](#) (Meriden Record-Journal)
- [Cromwell boat club backs dock lease renewal](#) (Middletown Press)
- [Democrats back away from mileage tax](#) (Rep-Am)
- [State's minimum pricing law has much-debated history](#) (New Haven Register)



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Upcoming local business events

Robert Leduc, president of Pratt & Whitney will be the featured speaker at the Middlesex Chamber's member breakfast on Sept. 16. [\[more\]](#)

The Greater New Haven Chamber is hosting its Annual Business Leadership Awards Luncheon on Sept. 29. [\[more\]](#)

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