



Photo by Russ McCreven

## Summer fun

Monday's milder temperatures and a temporary respite from humidity had residents flocking to Savin Rock and the shoreline to enjoy cool breezes and exercise. Walkers, bikers and rollerblade enthusiasts traversed the Boardwalk for some afternoon/evening fun.

Photo courtesy of Dan Shine

## Morning glory

Even if the best things in life are free, the payment is getting up with the birds. Voice columnist Dan Shine captured this sunrise over Prospect Beach during his early morning walk. It certainly presents a vista that the best paintings cannot match.



# Festival 36 '17 edition kicks into gear July 27

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

Elements, "the ultimate Earth, Wind & Fire tribute," will headline the 36th annual Savin Rock Festival, performing a deluge of hits spanning the musical genres of rhythm and blues, soul, funk, disco, pop and rock.

The event, which pays homage to the legacy of Savin Rock Park, will also feature its second beer garden — complete with live music — since the festival began in 1982.

The four-day festival will kick off July 27 in Old Grove Park with a midway of games, rides and music — and, of course, boatloads of mouthwatering seafood.

It will open at 5 p.m. with welcoming remarks from Mayor Edward M. O'Brien and the national anthem sung by Caitlin Morrissey.

Santana tribute group Sacred Fire will perform at 5:15 p.m., followed by party rock band The RumRunners at 7:15 p.m.

The festival, sponsored by the University of New Haven, is July 27, 5-9 p.m.; July 28, 5-10 p.m.; and July 29-30, noon-10 p.m.

Marena Amusements will offer wristbands for unlimited rides for \$30, 24 tickets for \$24 and 12 tickets for \$10. Otherwise, tickets cost \$1 each.

On July 28, Turbulence, "Connecticut's favorite party band," will perform at 5:15 p.m., followed by the History of Rock & Soul Starring Pauly and the Goodfellas at 8:30 p.m.

Pauly and the Goodfellas, "the ultimate show from the gangstas of soul," is "North America's premier musical comedy adventure," said concert promoter Mark Gravino, owner of East-West Productions LLC of East Haven.

A number of civic and fraternal organizations and nonprofit groups will have informational booths set up, and the food court will have a row of area vendors serving up the fare — fried seafood, split hot dogs, frozen custard — that catapulted old Savin Rock to notoriety as "the Coney Island of Connecticut."

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**Attention Art Instructors!**  
The West Haven Voice is in need of late summer and fall weather pictures. Instructors can drop off or email color and black-and-white pictures to: info@whvoice.com.

Photo by Diane Dietman

### Rescheduled gig

Latanya Farrell sings rhythm and blues hits Monday night in Old Grove Park as part of the West Haven Summer Concert Series. The concert was rescheduled from Friday night because of rain.



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Libraries across the state of Connecticut are facing many threats to their funding; unfortunately, the West Haven Public Library is no exception. Due to budget constraints, the Library has had to make the difficult decision to alter its operating hours. This decision was not made lightly, and is intended to maximize our availability to you, our patrons, and our ability to provide the excellent programming and services you have come to expect.

Effective July 1, 2017, the West Haven Public Library will be open during the following hours:

	Main Library	Ora Mason Branch	Louis Piantino Branch
Monday	10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Tuesday	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Thursday	10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Friday	10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.	10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Saturday*	10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.	CLOSED	CLOSED

\*The Main Library will be closed on Saturdays from July 1st through September 2nd.\*

We know that this will be a difficult adjustment, and we appreciate your patience and support during this transition. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Executive Director, Colleen Bailie, at [dir@westhavenlibrary.org](mailto:dir@westhavenlibrary.org).

Thank you,

**Your friends at the West Haven Public Library**



# Festival: *City talent, heritage on display*

Continued from page 1

On July 29, the West Haven High School dance team and the Top Hat Dance Academy will perform at noon and 12:15 p.m., respectively, followed by alternative rock group Clockwork at 1 p.m. and country cover band Boondocks at 2:30 p.m.

Rubber City, powered by a horn section that rivals such bands as Chicago and Tower of Power, will go on at 4 p.m., followed by "music that'll move ya" by Ball in the House at 5:30 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., Elements will re-create the sounds and sensations of Earth, Wind & Fire, the critically acclaimed '70s and '80s group that was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2000.

"Get your feet ready," Gravano said, "for a 90-minute show anchored by a 12-piece band and laced with such timeless classics as 'September,' 'Can't Hide Love,' 'Boogie Wonderland' and 'Fantasy.'"

If it rains, Pauly and the Goodfellas and Elements will play in the Carrigan Intermediate School auditorium, 2 Tet-

low St.

On July 30, Simply Dance will perform at noon, followed by classic rock band Stratus at 1 p.m., oldies group Vinnie Carr at 2:30 p.m., pop rock group Sister Funk at 4 p.m. and R&B band Nu Groove at 5:30 p.m.

At 8 p.m., the festival will close with a two-hour concert by The Wayouts, "Connecticut's freshest and most diversified cover band."

The West Haven High School Band Parents will hold a craft fair July 28, 4-8 p.m.; July 29, noon-8 p.m.; and July 30, noon-6 p.m.

To help with expenses, the Savin Rock Festival Committee will sell T-shirts and other merchandise in the hospitality tent. It will also charge nonresidents \$10 for parking.

The beer garden, which is cash only, will pour three craft, domestic and imported draft beers, as well as a hard cider and a wine. It will serve beer July 28, 5-9 p.m., and July 29-30, 1-9 p.m.

O'Brien applauded the committee's contributions in planning the 2017 festival.

"The proud heritage of Savin Rock lives on in West Haven thanks to the hard work of the festival committee," O'Brien said. "All the committee members have devoted their time, talents and energy to ensure another quality festival for the enjoyment of all."

West Haven's flagship festival was established by the Chamber of Commerce to bring organizations, clubs, businesses and families together for a summer festival.

From the dawn of the Savin Rock House hotel in 1838, "the Rock" had long been a resort hub until it was officially incorporated as an amusement park by the Savin Rock Park Co. Inc. on Memorial Day 1925, when it opened to 300,000 visitors and 66,000 automobiles.

For the next four decades, the popular seaside park captured the hearts and imaginations of "Rock rats" of all ages with its distinctive sights, sounds and smells. "The playground of New England" shuttered Sept. 21, 1966, to pave the way for the Savin Rock Urban Renewal Project.

Attendees are reminded that a city ordinance prohibits domestic animals on certain parks, beaches or recreation areas. The fine is \$50 per of-

fense. Also, per the Police Department, backpacks, bicycles and glass containers are prohibited, and coolers are subject to search.



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## THERE'S MUSIC IN THE AIR!

If it's summertime in West Haven, it's time for the Savin Rock Festival. Time to relax and hear the music. The University of New Haven is a major sponsor of this year's festival, which runs from July 27th to July 30th.



University of New Haven's Associate Vice President of Public Safety & Administrative Services Ron Quagliani (center) presents City of West Haven Mayor Edward O'Brien (left) and Savin Rock Festival Co-Chairman John Lewis (right) with the University's donation to the Savin Rock Festival.



University of New Haven

A Partner in the Community



# Dear Felicia

The summer is trooping along, honey bunch. A certain acquaintance let Cobina know that in other parts o' the country school is starting at the end of the month, particularly down south. And a sure sign that summer is heading into the Dog Days is the Savin Rock Festival coming next week. It jest seems like yew and I were hailing the fact that June 1 was rolling around. Before yew know it, the leaves are gonna start turning and we'll be complaining about how cold it's getting and not that it's hotter than Hades outside.

Nelly Nuthatch reminded me that this is the thirty-sixth festival, and it is hard to believe that many of the good people who made that opening pitch for the event have gone onto "a farther shore and greater light," as they say.

Tennyrate, things will start percolating down at the Grove with rides going up and stands and tents popping up like mushrooms all over the

grove. Yew and I aren't gonna be around 36 summers from now, that's for sure, but in the 40-odd years we've been corresponding back and forth, we've seen a lotta changes around here. Some were good, most not so good. But the festival was one of the good ones.

As Iyam writing this week's missive, I have before me a letter writ by Vic Hogfeldt to the persona who is supposed to be the arbitrator of his case against the school system. In it, he's letting the arbitrator know that in no way does he accept the fait accompli of an arbitration hearing cuz he never asked for nor approved one from his attorney.

The school system, believing the school bored is incompetent to know the extent of the issues involved in Vic's case has been pushing for the arbitration cuz the powers that be wanna git rid o' Vic yesterday. He's been a canker sore on the persons of the powers, particularly since he brought up all that dirty laundry that

seems to be part of his union's history...or so he sez.

Vic wants a hearing before the entire Bored and in an open setting. That's especially not what is wanted by the powers. Hogfeldt can bring up things that will buffer his case. Remember, as I've been saying for a while, look at the time line.

Hogfeldt was a good teacher according to his observations before he had the run-in with the teachers' union. After the teachers' union kerfuffle things started to go south, with his case being put into some type of remediation program cuz all of a sudden he's a lousy teacher.

A jury looking at that bit of evidence is probably gonna look askance at powers saying they were jest doing their job getting rid of bad wood. That begs the question of how he stayed so long and with such good reviews.

Stay tuned, it's gonna get even more interesting.

But there is more controversy outta the school system. It seems that more money than was necessary was taken outta salaries for heath care, and that teachers are owed some overages. Well, there seems to be a snag in the reimbursements, and more than a few teachers are getting annoyed.

Cobina doesn't have all the info yet, but what we've been able to cobble together is that not a little pile of kopecks is owed to the teachers, and the delay came after some as-

surances were given that the matter would be handled in a prompt manner. When I git more info, I'll let yew know.

And lest yew think it's not a matter of discussion, the high school renovation project is in prep work we are gold by Nelly, and things are supposed to start over there. No one is sure when the infamous G-wing is supposed to git the wrecker's ball, though. The news has been all over the lot for weeks on that score.

Effen I hear anything definite, I'll let yew know.

Sammy Bluejay sez that a real difference of opinion is occurring betwixt members of the opposition and the O'Brien administration concerning last week's MFAC meeting on the city's financial health. The 45-minute meeting of which our esteemed editor heard the entire tape recording, had the MFAC people liking the fact the city went into debt to pay off the debt.

They also liked the fact that bond for the high school was done and the City Council put in a balanced budget ordinance. We shall see effen that works this year, I guess as it's the first budget it's under.

The controversy comes as to what was said regarding the state's financial condition and the fact that the state still don't have a budget, and some are figuring we're gonna go through July without one. The city derives about 38 percent of its total rev-

enues from state sources.

The opposition in the form of Mike Last, who is running on Nancy Rossi's ticket, is that the state was concerned and not so sanguine about the city expecting so many dollars. The city give the impression, he says, that all is hunky-dory cuz it's only put in about two-thirds of what it was told to expect.

The fact the state don't have a budget, means the city better be looking for ways to cut expenses and doing it now, the MFAC panel did say. We hoid it. Better to make contingency plans now than get caught with one's bloomers down later.

There is reason for concern, and Sammy seems to think that despite the happy talk and the positive spin the city seems to be putting on the meeting (they did like the fact the city bonded for the debt, etc.), he's willing to bet that city officials are getting more and more worried as the budget debacle continues in Hartford. I dare-say our guys and gals ain't the only ones. The matter of state funding has probably turned into a crap shoot with the standoff in the Capitol. Stay tuned.

Meanwhile, Iva Loothey has let it be known that he has failed in trying to find out when the Haven project is gonna begin. Iva has hoid about the possible coming to agreement concerning the final properties over there, and that it might actually jumpstart the project, which the city needs desperately effen it's gonna show some progress for anything.

Once again, the third floor of the Actors Colony has that matter on its plate whilst it is concerned with other matters. The Haven could be a rather tetchy subjeck come the primary in September effen nothing happens over there. So far, no backhoe has been placed near the spot as has happened elsewhere in the past, but effen it languishes, it ain't beyond the realm of possibility.

Effen anything happens, I'll keep you posted.

Cobina hasn't mentioned Beach Street in a while, but it's still there, and it's still got the same vacant buildings for sale. The Debonair, the former Chick's and the former Captain's Galley are still vacant and still going to seed. As I've said before, I am surprised Chick's didn't go faster. In the year-and-a-half since it closed I thought some restaurant type would build on the business of the late businessman, but instead it jest stands there. Nature does have its way with setch locations.

With that bit o' chatter, I'll close this time till next, mitt luff und kizzez.

*Cobina*

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# Gripevine

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

The controversy between pedestrians and cyclists along the shoreline walkway is a perfect example of our inability to solve problems with each other in a way that is beneficial to all who enjoy the path. It also demonstrates our lack of respect for the rules and each other.

The solution is quite simple. Those who walk should stay on the left and cyclists should ride on the right at a speed that is appropriate for that path. The path is not part of the Tour de France! I have ridden along the path and it is very frustrating to be on the right and not be able to navigate a safe ride. Suggesting that cyclists ride out on the boulevard is not a good idea. That road has become part of the Indy 500 and is dangerous for biking.

If pigeons had to walk on the left and eagles fly on the right the problem would not exist. So much for human ability to follow the rules these days!!!

*Faithful Reader*

**Dear Faithful Reader:**

Gripe Vine receives complaints, bike riders vs. pedestrians quite often. I am inviting my readers interested in this to write and let me know your thoughts on this issue.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

When is the slide at the Savin Rock Trail Playground going to be repaired? It has a large slit in it and could become a dangerous situation for the children using it.

*Grandma*

Dear Grandma:

I asked Francis Withington the city's complaint officer to look into your complaint. His reply, "Parks Superintendent Joe Montagna repaired it last week; it's all set."

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

The trash barrels in the parking lot at 2-44 Beach St. need to be updated. They should be securely placed in a central location visible with trash and recycling options. Trash containers must have secure lids so trash does not blow all over the lot and beach. It's time to stop using the 55 gallon drums for trash bins or get them better tops and secure them!

*A Resident Who Cares*

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

There is a broken rail at the Savin Rock Trail. Is there a time frame on fixing this? Placing cones only shows an awareness of this problem. It's a major hazard as it drops down six feet to the ocean.

*Afraid*

**Dear Afraid:**

The rail has been repaired.

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

There is an employee at a restaurant on Campbell Avenue who has a loud defective muffler and he is reckless. He constantly drives late at night



**TURKINGTON**

down Leete Street, Washington Avenue and William Street and wakes up the whole neighborhood. Can this noise be stopped?

*Sleepless*

**Dear Sleepless:**

I have notified Francis Withington, complaint officer for the city of your gripe. He replied, "I will forward this information to the West Haven Police Department to investigate."

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

There is a house on Prospect Street that appears to be abandoned. It is in need of repair or paint or demolition. Perhaps the homeless would consider this property a possibility for a temporary refuge.

*Fix It Up*

**Dear Fix It Up:**

The city has been notified of this condition. The city's Complaint Officer, Francis Withington received this issue and has indicated that this property has to go to corporate counsel for further sanctions.

**Gripe Vine Readers:**

As promised, each week in Gripe Vine, I plan to discuss various aspects of riding a motorcycle in the state of Connecticut. Since many of you have complained of loud,

speeding "bikes" on West Haven streets, you might find it interesting to read of the state of Connecticut requirements. Meanwhile speed limit signs from the state of Connecticut are still awaited.

Coming up....Campbell and Post Road intersection gripe... more Beach Street blight questions...lighting on Capt. Thomas Boulevard...bicycle riders hassling motorists..cancelled concert griper..Colonial Park gripe...sea shells on beach complaint...speed bumps on Beach Street..traffic light at Capt. Thomas Boulevard and Kelsey Avenue gripe..blinking traffic light at Central Avenue and Route 34 ,boat ramp inquiry, graffiti on Beach Street...repaint road line.

## GRYPE VINE

Do you have a complaint or issue? Fill out this coupon and mail it to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 666 Savin Avenue, West Haven, CT. 06516

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If you need more writing space, complete your gripe on a separate piece of paper and submit with this form. Your identity will be kept confidential with Eleanore Turkington, Gripe Vine Columnist. You can also email your gripe to gripevine4wh@aol.com

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**Piantino Branch (1 Forest Road): Mon.—Fri., 12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Kids under the age of 18 are welcome to enjoy a free lunch at the library!

After lunch, be sure to check out the library's many fantastic resources for children and teens.

**This program lasts until August 11, 2017.**



# Savin Rock Festival 36

It is hard to believe it has been 35 years since the first Savin Rock Festival took place at West Haven High School's Ken Strong Stadium and adjacent fields. Next week, the 36th renewal of the festival begins on July 27.

It was a concept that was brewing among the city's business and civic leaders for many years, finally coming to fruition. The original idea came from the leadership of the West Haven Chamber of Commerce, and it was that organization that shepherded the idea to reality and kept it going when it seemed the political powers-that-be were willing to see it die.

Some three decades-plus later, it is a festival that is eagerly awaited by the public, and one that is permanently tied to the Old Grove Park, site of much of the old amusement park.

It was the amusement park and of West Haven as a resort community for much of its history that was the reason the Savin Rock Festival came into being. In the years since the city saw the destruction of that stretch of buildings housing amusements, rides, and shows in 1966, a new attitude arose among many swaths of the community. In those years just after the park became a memory there was a strong feeling among many the city should forget its past and move on to a new – and uncertain – future.

Problem was a new generation had grown up by 1982, and it wanted to know about the things it had heard from an older generation. It heard about the Virginia Reel, the Skyblazer, and the Laff in the Dark, but all it had to connect with it were stories and aging photographs. The West Haven they heard about might as well have been a thousand miles away. They wanted to know more. Now almost two generations later, the need to preserve and promote the city's history is as important as ever.

The festival was born as a weekend event, heading by the Chamber and its leadership, but dependent on the many civic and fraternal organizations that got on board. That first festival saw an estimated 50,000 people fill various parts of the high school's athletic fields. This was the era before the Fitzgerald Complex and its fenced-in ballparks, lights and synthetic surfaces. The eventual reconstruction of the facility into a multi-purpose sports complex we know now commenced about five years after the festival began (1987) and was going to displace the summer event.

For a long while city officials were reticent to move the festival to the best venue – the Old Grove Park. Savin Rock Renewal contracts prohibited certain sales and it was feared allowing over-the-counter food and other sales would put the city behind a legal eight-ball. Eventually though, an agreement was reached, and since that time, the festival has had permanent digs at Old Grove Park.

Since that time, the festival has attracted in excess of 100,000 people a year, and become a highlight of the summer season. Nightly concerts, shows put on by various local talent, and a food court that spotlights some of the best the city has to offer has made it a popular place to be on the last weekend in July.

Many of the people who were instrumental in the foundation of the Savin Rock Festival are no longer with us. But, their mantle has been taken up by a newer generation – and the same city that once worried about violation of a contract now sponsors the organizing committee. As in past years, the University of New Haven have contributed sponsorships that have made the annual fundraising efforts easier.

The festival has remained a celebration of a community's storied past – and its people. Be sure to pick up the Program Guide which was produced by the Festival Committee with help from us at *West Haven Voice*. We also helped launch their new website at [www.savinrockfest.org](http://www.savinrockfest.org).



## Nationalist, not bellicose

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

Imagine that President Donald Trump gave a speech praising a strong Europe.

Imagine that he called forthrightly on Russia to stop its aggression in Ukraine and join the community of responsible nations.

Imagine that he embraced the mutual defense commitment, so-called Article 5, of NATO.

Imagine that he extolled the role of women in our society.

Imagine that he said we share the hope of every soul to live in freedom.

Imagine that he celebrated the free press and ceaseless innovation, and a spirit of inquiry and self-criticism.

That's the speech that Trump gave in Warsaw during his European trip for the G-20. It was easily the best of his presidency -- well-written and moving, soaked in Polish history and grounded in Western values. And yet it has been attacked for, as one liberal outlet put it, sounding "like an alt-right manifesto."

The address also got a lot of praise, but the criticism was telling. Some of it was from commentators who simply can't abide Trump, but a lot of it reacted against core elements of the speech.

It was unabashedly nationalist. Not in a bumptious way, but one that acknowledged the importance of "free, sovereign and independent nations." Trump used Poland's story to augment the theme.

He talked of a Polish nation that is "more than one thousand years old," that en-

dured despite its borders being wiped out for a century, that withstood a communist assault on its freedom, its faith and its very identity.

It emphasized the importance of culture. Trump called Poland a "faithful nation." He talked of the sermon Pope John Paul II preached in Warsaw in 1979, when a crowd of a million chanted, "We want God." He said that large economies and fearsome weapons aren't enough for our survival; we need "strong families and strong values," and "bonds of history, culture and memory."

It argued that we must demonstrate civilizational self-confidence, the will to defend our values.

Finally, it unapologetically invoked "the West," which, Trump noted, writes sympho-

nies, rewards brilliance, values freedom and human dignity, and has created a truly great community of nations.

All of this strikes the ears of Trump's progressive critics the wrong way. They believe that nations are best constrained by multinational or supranational institutions like the EU.

They think that all the non-material things that lend our lives meaning -- God, family, national loyalty -- are atavistic, overrated or best not spoken of too much. They find the idea that the West might be beset by a crisis of confidence ridiculous (having apparently missed the past 10 years of European misgovernment: economic misery caused by the common currency, de-

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Published by Suburban Voices Publishing, LLC  
 666 Savin Avenue, West Haven, CT 06516  
**Phone:** 203-934-NEWS (6397)  
**Fax:** 203-937-7529

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## Letters

### Bonding right now is just irresponsible

Yes. Most of us want to see the long-delayed West Haven High School project finally begin. I have been dedicated to the youth of our city for over 35 years and understand the need to create the best schools possible. But bonding \$133 million for this project before understanding the impact that the state's failure to pass a budget will have on West Haven is irresponsible.

If the State and Ed O'Brien can finally balance a budget without another large tax increase, then I will be first in line to applaud the start of our High School "renovate-as-new" project.

Many questions remain unanswered but what we do know, as cited in the governor's "Resource Allocation Plan" is that he will "sharply reduce municipal aid, zero-out discretionary grants, and cut education grants (ECS) by hundreds of millions." If not corrected, this will force a major tax increase on West Haven taxpayers. How high are Ed O'Brien and his supporters on the City Council willing to let taxes get?

Ed O'Brien has not balanced one budget since being elected in 2013. Spending is out of control when POLITICAL CRONIES GET RAISES WHILE TAXPAYERS PONEY UP MORE DOLLARS. Once again we have been put in a position that forces us to borrow more money to pay for another deficit increase.

As things stand now we don't even know if the state will be shifting \$4.5 million of teacher pension payments onto West Haven taxpayers. That's \$4.5 million and growing each and every year. The

### Lowry:

Continued from page 6 stabilizing waves of refugees and indigenous terror attacks that have rocked France and Britain).

Finally, amazingly enough, they find the West itself an offensive and exclusionary concept.

Trump warned in his speech of fighting for centuries to maintain our freedom, only to lose it to "a lack of pride and confidence in our values." The unhinged reaction to his address -- which once would have been considered clearly within the mainstream of American thought and rhetoric -- shows how this, alas, is not an idle worry.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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Democrats who control our state legislature can't seem to agree with Governor Malloy or even with each other on a path forward to a State Budget.

We continue to place a larger and larger burden on the backs of future generations. West Haven already has the second worst bond rating of any of the 169 municipalities in Connecticut. This money isn't free and these kinds of decision only make things worse.

The path to success for West Haven is not election-year showboating, but sustained efficient management. Wasteful spending must end. We must consolidate city government to make it more efficient and

less costly for taxpayers and we must find a way to grow our local economy.

*David Riccio*

**Republican Councilman  
Candidate for Mayor**

### Bystander thanked for quick thinking

My name is Richard Williams. On July 10, I was at the church luncheon at West Haven Green. I was choking on some chicken and could not breathe. A man named Jim Dixon came to my rescue and gave me the Heimlich maneuver and saved my life.

I would like to give him my sincere thanks and appreciation by way of this letter. I have incredible gratitude for his swift action in saving

me that day. I'm crying now thinking of how incredible it was he was there at that time to save me. I would love for the mayor to give him some sort of medal or key to the city.

He was very smart and fast in his knowledge of the situation. I was dying and he saved my. My sincerest thanks to Jim Dixon. God Bless you.

*Richard Williams*

### Letters policy

The West Haven Voice takes all letters from responsible parties. Deadline for letters is 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication. Letters are subject to the same editing as all other copy for clarity, grammar and space. Letters are printed on a space-available basis. Letters can be emailed to [info@whvoice.com](mailto:info@whvoice.com), or sent to West Haven Voice, 666 Savin Ave., West Haven 06516. Those with questions should contact us at (203) 934-6397.

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# MFAC lauds city for bond issues

By Michael P. Walsh  
 Special to the Voice

City Finance Director Kevin McNabola discussed West Haven's improving financial condition during a meeting of the Municipal Finance Advisory Commission July 12 at the state Office of Policy and Management in Hartford.

During the 45-minute meeting, the eight-member commission of municipal finance experts, who operate under the umbrella of OPM, painted a more rosily fiscal picture for the city than its previous meeting with McNabola last year.

After McNabola outlined a number of long-term strategies for controlling city expenditures, the commission applauded the City Council for recently adopting bonding ordinances for the amended \$17.35 million financing of West Haven's cumulative general fund deficit and the \$133.25 million reconstruction of West Haven High School.

The advisory commission, also known as the MFAC, also commended the council for approving a balanced budget ordinance. "I think it was a really good move," Commissioner Kathleen A. Clarke-Buch said of the ordinance, which the council adopted July 25, 2016.

The measure requires McNabola to provide council members with quarterly financial reports, including year-to-day reports of actual financials.

The MFAC singled out the fact that West Haven has grappled with its current fiscal problems because the former City Council failed to approve an earlier deficit reduction plan.

Commissioner John H. Schuyler said that if the city had initiated the deficit bonding sooner, "you would be out of the woods by now."

Commission Chairman Thomas S. Hamilton added, "It seems pretty clear that (deficit financing) is the only real avenue to fix your problem, and the key thereafter is balanced budgets."

McNabola said he's optimistic the bonding ordinances, coupled with the economic boom of The Atwood, The Haven and other developments on the horizon, will give the city's bond rating a positive outlook.

The nearly completed Atwood is an \$18 million, 90,150-square-foot housing and retail project on Route 1. The demolition phase for The Haven South, a \$200 million, 250,000-square-foot luxury

See MFAC, page 14

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## Historian's corner

By Dan Shine  
Voice Columnist

Our area has many locations with mysterious names that bear reference to days gone by: Long Wharf, Campbell Avenue, Wind Sock Road, Bull Hill Lane, Annawon Avenue, Sawmill Road, Captain Thomas Boulevard, and others. What were their stories? Well, here's one:

In the late 19th Century, West Haven's expanding service to the shipbuilding industry created a strong demand for a great many ship masts and large amounts of planking and timbers. At that time, our forests still offered large stands of old-growth forest and tall timber. In fact, when the first white settlers came here in the 1630s, they found 96 percent of Connecticut covered in old

growth forest. About half of those trees were American chestnuts, and it was common to find immense oak trees and majestic pines. Within 200 years, these forests had been reduced to cover only 20 percent of Connecticut, and a variety of ecological problems had begun to spring up.

But still, lumber was needed for housing and shipbuilding and so trees were felled and dragged with chains over the dirt roads by teams of draft horses with heavy harnesses. They were taken to the old red sawmill which stood by the stream that passes today's Interstate 95, at Exit 42.

There, logs were cut into planks and timbers using a pit saw, as records indicate, and it was done like this: two men called Sawyers positioned

themselves, one above and one below a horizontally-placed log. They held opposite ends of a whipsaw, which was drawn up and down through the log with the normal reciprocating motion.

For the Sawyers, it was miserable, backbreaking work; and by necessity it was very exacting, since the planks and timbers had to follow uniform dimensions in order to be useful. And especially for the sawyer below, it was dusty work. However, a day of ripping oak trees into boards would produce a useful by-product—buckets full of oaken sawdust that was gathered and burned to aid the process of curing bacon.

The first saw pit had been devised in the 13th Century, and was eventually replaced

by the use of water power: in the 1500s, a Dutch inventor realized that by applying a pitman arm—or crank—to the shaft of a waterwheel he could create the reciprocating motion necessary to saw the wood without the work of sawyers. However, existing records do not indicate whether or not water power was ever used in the West Haven sawmill.

After the logs were processed into lumber, much of it was sent to the H.H. Richards Lumber Company on Water Street. From there, the Richards brothers sold the wood necessary for the construction of many homes and ships. Eventually, both the sawmill and the lumber yard ceased their operation in the early 20th Century.



## Around Town

### Doo-Wop Dance

The West Haven Italian-American Association will hold its annual Hawaiian Luau at 85 Chase Lane on Saturday, Aug. 5, at 6:30. A sit-down Hawaiian dinner, with open bar, will be served at 6:30, followed by Vinny Carr's music from 8 to 12. Cost is \$45. For reservations call Frank Consorte, (203) 676-6379 or Bob DeFonce, (203) 934-1762.

### Senior trips offered

Join the Allingtown Senior Center on the following scheduled trips: All trips leave from Savin Rock Conference Center.

Tuesday, July 25, -- Mohegan Sun \$25 per person; Bonus Free Buffet and \$15 wheel bet.

Bus leaves Savin Rock Conference Center at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 15 -- Legends Show at Foxwoods Casino featuring Frank Sinatra, Cher, Rod Stewart, Elvis and Michael Jackson. For those who want show tickets your cost is \$47. For those who do not wish to see show your trip cost is \$25. Everyone on the bus gets free meal, \$10 slot bonus.

Payment must be made to "West Haven Trip Account" by Friday, August 4th. Bus leaves Savin Rock Conference Center at 8:15 a.m.

Monday, Aug. 21 -- "Holiday Hill" Statewide Senior Outing 9:00 a.m.-4: p.m. at Candee Road, Prospect. Cost \$33 per person. Bus cost will be paid by our trip account.

Sign up by Aug. 7. Bus leaves Savin Rock Conference Center at 8:30 a.m.

Flyers with details for all these trips are available at the office 201 Noble St. West Haven Senior Center or call Miriam at (203) 937-3507 for more information

### F. Seniors

F. Seniors and Friends offers the following trips to the public. All trips leave First Avenue commuter lot:

Quincy Market and St. Anthony's Feast - Saturday, Aug. 26. Bus leaves at 8 a.m., \$48 per person;

Maine Lobster Dinner and Kennebunkport - Sunday, July 15. at 7:30 a.m. Choice of four dinners, \$98 per person;

Big E - Sunday, Sept. 24. Leaves at 8 a.m. \$56 per person.

To book trips, call Fred Mongillo, (203) 389-5808 or (203) 927-4249.

### Musicians needed

Nutmeg Symphonic Pops Orchestra and Chorale needs musicians and singers. The orchestra rehearses Saturday mornings at 9:15 at Carrigan Middle School and the chorale rehearses Wednesdays at 5:30 at St. Louis Church, classroom wing. The orchestra is seeking string instruments, trombone, trumpet, French Horn, oboe, and the chorale needs all voices, especially men. Please call Dino Ciaburri at (203) 812-0606 or Linda Ciaburri at (203) 812-0607 if you are interested.

### Coin Show

The Liberty Coin Show is back at the Elks Club, 265 Main St., on the third Sunday of the month. Buy and sell your coins. The organizers invite hobbyists to be part of the many displays. Food and beverages are on the menu. For more information, call Parry Carpinella, (203) 248-1053.

### Haley Loans

The Seth Haley Memorial Loan Fund of West Haven provides eligible college students with loans of up to \$2500 to help students finish their post high school education. Any West Haven resident attending post-grad school is eligible. Call (203) 934-0396.

or Gert Beckwith at (203) 934-6921 or write to 92 Lake St.

### Cat food drive

The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. will be sponsoring a cat food drive on Sunday, July 22, 2017 from 10-2 at the Agway Store, located at 66 State Street, North Haven. GNHCP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, comprised solely of volunteers. Please bring unopened canned or dry cat food which will benefit feral cats. For more information, please contact us at gnhcp1@gnhpc.org or at (203)782-CATS (2287).

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Sports Sports Sports Sports Sports

# HS football rules see 11 changes for 2017 season

By Bill Riccio, Jr.  
Connecticut State Rules Interpreter

When high school football fans attend their favorite games this fall, some new changes will be seen in the rules that will be readily apparent in some ways, and not so in others. In all, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) made 11 changes at its annual meeting in Indianapolis in January. The rules go into effect on Aug. 1.

In small rules changes, what is allowed to be printed on game balls has been specified as more advertising has come into the sport. The new rule says: Commercial advertising is not permitted on the ball. The only permissible items on the ball are the ball manufacturer's name and/or logo; school name, logo and/or mascot; conference name and/or logo; state association name and/or logos; and NFHS name and/or logos.

For years, the rules committee has attempted to keep up with new styles in jerseys, while making sure dark and white shirts are easy for officials to delineate during games. The rewritten rule 1-5-1b(3) further clarifies that the jersey of the home team shall be a dark color clearly contrasting to the white jersey required for the visiting team.

Home game jersey specifications were further revised to provide schools and manufacturers additional clarification regarding the current trend of utilizing lighter gray shades. The implementation date of 2021 affords schools and manufacturers the opportunity to ensure that newer dark jerseys will clearly contrast with white. The requirement for contrasting colors to white is not a new rule, and this new clarification will allow changes to be made during normal replacement cycles.

In a pre-game change only applicable to officials, rules now allow someone other than the game's umpire to accompany the referee to coaches meetings prior to the contest. In past years, the umpire was the designated officials.

This change now permits any of the game officials to accompany the referee to meet with the head coach for equipment verification.

Rationale: Member state associations may determine the game official who is to accompany the referee during the required pre-game meeting with each head coach.

Blindside blocks have been called over the last several years when they are initiated with head or shoulder rather than hands-extended as initial contact. The rules refinements over the years are an attempt to limit contact that might cause con-

See Rules, page 13

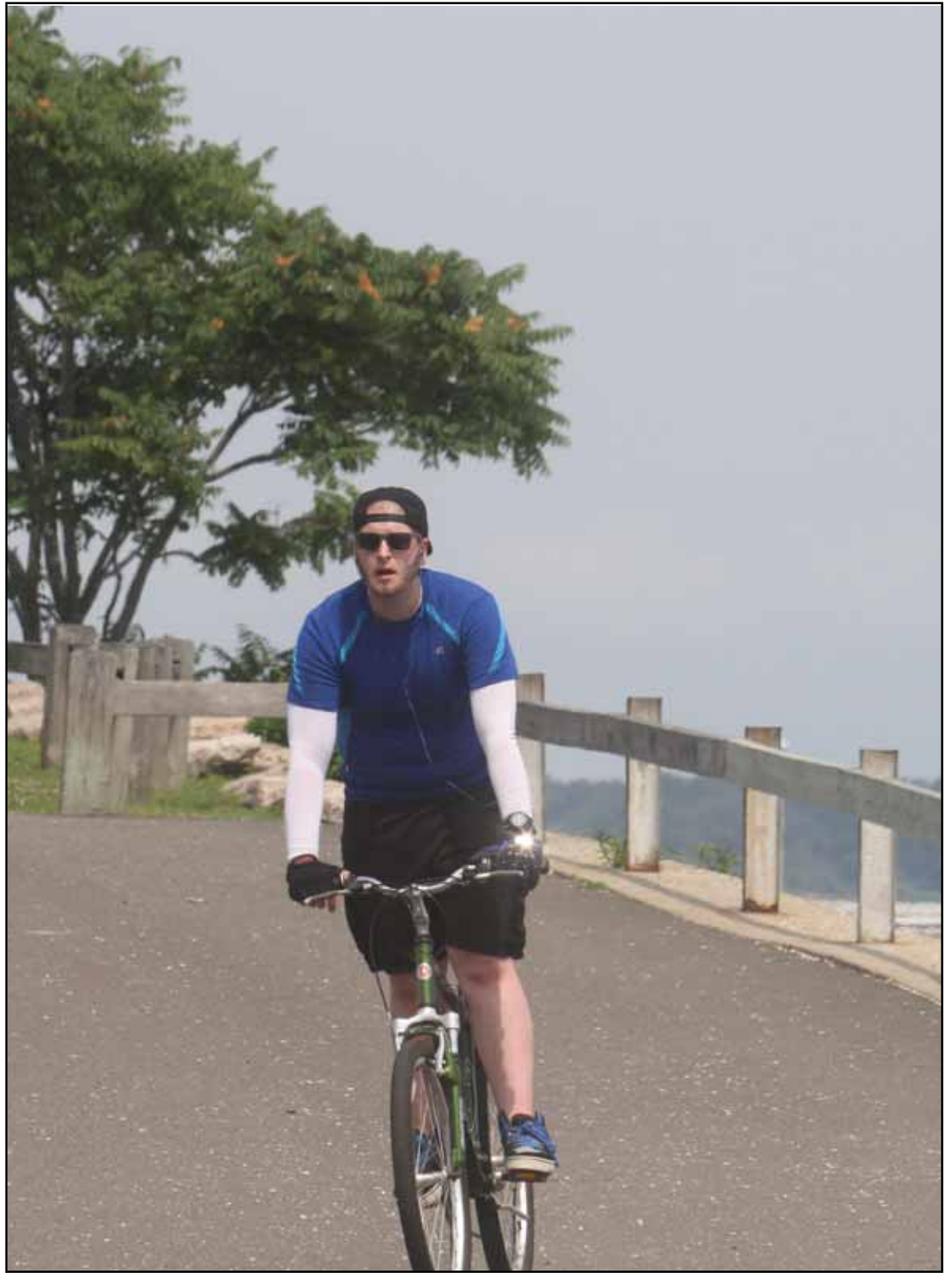


Photo by Russ McCreven

## Getting outside

It was a day to be outdoors, Monday, and that's what hundreds did as cool temperatures and cooler breezes were the order of the day. Higher humidity is expected back this week as the area is expecting the third heatwave of the season.

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# Rules: *NFHS further refines safety rules*

**Continued from page 11**  
cussions. This year the rule was further defined.

2-3-10 (NEW), 9-4-3n (NEW), 9-4 PENALTY: Added a new definition for a blindside block and specifies a penalty for an illegal blindside

block. Continuing with the focus on risk minimization, the committee created a definition for a blindside block. This block involves contact by a blocker against an opponent who, because of physical positioning and focus of concen-

tration, is vulnerable to injury. Unless initiated with open hands, it is a foul for excessive and unnecessary contact when the block is forceful and outside of the free-blocking zone. A further safety rule was the elimination of the "pop-up"

kick. With the advent of more artificial surfaces, kickers have popped up kicks by bouncing them immediately off the turf in an attempt to get to the ball or hit the receiver after it has gone the required 10 yards. The rules committee has eliminated this play.

"A pop-up kick is a free kick in which the kicker drives the ball immediately to the ground, the ball strikes the ground once and goes into the air in the manner of a ball kicked directly off the tee. Such kicks will be penalized as a dead-ball free-kick infraction," the rules committee stated.

In other minor changes, a revision clarifies that illegal participation fouls by the receiving team occurring during the kick are now enforced under post-scrimmage kick fouls, penalizing the team from the end of the kick, rather than the previous spot, which would give the ball back to the kicking team..

A rewrite of 2-32-16 expands the definition of a defenseless player by incorporating specific examples. The committee adopted specific examples of a defenseless player. By adding these examples, the committee continues to focus on risk minimization and responded to requests on the annual NFHS football rules questionnaire

from participating coaches, game officials and state association representatives.

The committee added a new option to the offended team to start the clock on the snap for an accepted penalty inside the last two minutes of either half. The referee continues to have the authority to start or stop the clock if a team attempts to conserve or consume time illegally.

A new rule specifies that the ball is declared dead if a prosthetic limb comes completely off of the runner. A few years ago, the rules committee allowed players to have prosthetic devices as the technology improved and was safer for other players.

Other changes include a stipulation that it is encroachment to strike the ball or the snapper's hand/arm prior to the snapper releasing the ball. This has always been the call, but now the rule reflects the way it was called.

Finally, a new rule removes non-contact face guarding as a foul for pass interference. Players will now have to make contact impeding a pass receiver for pass interference to be called.

This change has been one advocated by coaches for a while, and is in line with rules in the NCAA and NFL rules codes.

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# Sporting Life

By Mark Vasto

By Mark Vasto  
Syndicated Columnist  
This time it didn't matter -- and nobody cared.

The Major League Baseball All-Star Game has long been considered the best all-star game of all professional sports in America. While the NBA has carved out a nice little niche with the slam dunk competition, baseball's mid-summer classic, with its fan voting, home run derby and representation of players from every team, has managed to remain relevant during a day and age where it takes a strait-jacket to get somebody's attention.

They've played the game 88 times, and each league, the American and the National, has won 43 times and split two ties. The All-Star Game used to carry considerable weight back in the days before inter-league play, which began in 1997. Up until then, you never got to see your favorite players square off, save for spring

training or the World Series. While interleague play became a necessity out of common sense -- the fans in St. Louis wanted to see the Yankees play at Busch Stadium more than once a generation -- people were sure the All-Star Game would lose its luster.

Perhaps it was that fear that led to making the game "count" after the disastrous 2002 game, which was called a tie after 11 innings due to lack of pitchers. The powers that be championed a decision that had the winning league get home-field advantage in the World Series. It was a decision that was almost universally panned. For one thing, managers didn't necessarily play to win the game anymore. They were more interested in getting the most participation from their bench. So baseball, nimble as ever, decided to revert back to making the game a simple exhibition again (after 13 years).

And what did this year's

classic teach us? That baseball is almost impossible to not play seriously. Every player seemed to be giving his all ... the pitchers were bringing the heat (the average speed of a fastball in the game was 97 mph), fielders were diving after balls in the outfield and batters were hacking away at first pitches. In classic fashion, the game was won in extra innings when Robinson Cano hit a laser into the bullpen leading off the 10th. The night previous, Aaron Judge, the guy that everyone is pinning their hopes on being the next great player, hit 47 home runs in the derby ... in the game, he went 0-3, striking out once, just like 23 others did that night.

Sports Illustrated did the math. In the AL's 2-1 win, 79 players came to bat and 31 of them either struck out, walked or hit a home run, meaning 39 percent of the time, the ball wasn't even put in play. That's the way today's game is played ... every pitcher seems

to throw 100 mph, every home run is of Ruthian proportions. In the end, just like this year's All-Star Game, it didn't matter: baseball is still something

worth watching.

*Mark Vasto is a veteran sports-writer who lives in New Jersey.  
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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

City Finance Director Kevin McNabola, left, discusses West Haven's improving financial condition before the Municipal Finance Advisory Commission July 12 at the state Office of Policy and Management in Hartford.

## MFAC: *Lauds city's funding measures*

Continued from page 10

fashion outlet mall on Water Street, is about to happen, city officials said.

According to McNabola's "Moving West Haven Forward" presentation, the administration of Mayor Edward M. O'Brien eliminated more than \$3.2 million of nonrecurring revenues in the fiscal year 2017 budget and reduced the tax collection rate from 98.7 percent to 98.5 percent to reflect the previous year's actual percentage.

Other highlights of the presentation included a reduction of \$1.6 million in the fiscal 2017 budget by not filling six full-time positions in the Police Department; a savings of more than \$1.3 million in health care costs through restructuring; and a realization of \$623,588 in cost avoidance on electricity by extending the city's electricity contract.

McNabola credited the administration with implementing advanced tax collections that generated \$7.2 million and \$6.7 million in revenues in the fiscal 2015 and 2016 budgets, respectively, helping to strengthen the city's cash flow position.

The MFAC, appointed by Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, is responsible for reviewing proposed regulations regarding the standards for municipal audit reports. The commission also works with OPM-referred municipalities to improve their fiscal conditions.

### Timmy Maia Experience plays concert

The West Haven Summer Concert Series continues in Old Grove Park at 7 p.m. Friday with Top 40 music performed by Timmy Maia Experience.

The two-hour concert is free; the rain date is Monday at 7 p.m.

For rescheduling information, go to the Department of Parks and Recreation website, [www.whparkrec.com](http://www.whparkrec.com), or call (203) 937-3677 after 4 p.m. the day of the concert

### Farmers market open on Green

The Tony Inzero Farmers Market is open for its 18th season on the Green.

Through Oct. 28, the expanded marketplace at Main Street and Campbell Avenue will feature state farmers selling homegrown fruits and vegetables from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

It will include crafters selling their wares and an internet radio station DJ playing hit music.

The Thursday markets will showcase food trucks galore, dishing up baked potatoes, fried dough, Italian ice, kettle corn, lobster rolls and pulled pork.

### 2017 records to be destroyed

Notre Dame High School of West Haven will destroy records for students who graduated or transferred in the year 2007. Please note that we are NOT destroying transcripts! Those will be kept on file! Any student that wants a copy of his records for that year must request a copy in writing to the Office Coordinator at Notre Dame High School, 1 Notre Dame Way, West Haven, 06516.

The request must include the student's full name, address while in attendance, present address, birth date, and grade level completed. All requests must be in writing; no telephone requests will be accepted.

Records will be destroyed after Aug. 18.

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### For Rent

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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 James Bond, e.g. "Nip/—" 4 Pizzazz 12 Afternoon affair 13 Curved mold-ing 14 San --, Italy 15 Grecian vessel 16 Diploma 18 Prejudiced person 20 Meadow 21 On the right track 24 Book of maps 28 "Beauty is only --" 32 Region 33 Wrestling win 34 Llamas' range 36 Set of parts 37 Choir voice 39 Chicago-style, as pizza 41 Rage 43 Unsigned (abbr.) 44 Favorite 46 Shul VIP 50 Exemplar of

**DOWN**

1 Half a ticket 2 Actress Gilpin 3 Masculine side 4 Fat-fried tortilla 5 "That's awful!" 6 Third letter 7 Ship's back-bone 8 Lesser substi-tute 9 Albanian money 10 Parisian pal 11 -- sequitur 17 Shell game need 19 Possess 22 Tear 23 Jason's wife,

**in myth**

25 Norse trickster 26 Blackbirds 27 Rogen or Meyers 28 Hot tubs 29 Scot's gar-ment 30 Really enjoying 31 Hammerhead part 35 Accessory for 29-Down 38 Parentless child 40 "CSI" evi-dence 42 Kitten's com-ment 45 Diplomacy 47 Suffered from a cut 48 Alpha follower 49 Pruritus 50 Hammarskjold of UN fame 51 Doctrine 52 Get a glimpse of 53 As well 54 Comedian Philips



## MAGIC MAZE ● — DUCK

by Linda Thistle

5				7			1
	3		1	2			
7		4	6				9
1			4				3
2			7				5
8	4	3					6
9				8			3
	7	9			1	4	
6			5	8			

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

## Puzzle Card

USE A CLOTH COVERED TABLE!

**CHALLENGE YOUR FRIENDS** to arrange eight soda straws so that they will form four equilateral triangles and one square. Our Puzzle Card shows how it's done.



**DON'T RUN OUT OF GAS** solving this AlphaMath puzzle! You must replace the letters in the signs with the digits 0, 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. Try to get the highest possible total.



Our answer: C=7, A=4, B=0, M=3, P=9, T=1, L=8, T=0, S=9 = 1089

**LINK-UPS!** Here's a list of 12 short words divided into two columns. Turn them into six longer words by linking them together. To do this, draw a line from one word in the left column to one word in the right column.

BEST  
COB  
FACT  
GALL  
DEB  
HEAR

ION  
TENS  
OWED  
BLED  
EON  
ATE

Answers: Bestowed, cobbled, facton, galleon, debate, hearthen.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

5				7			1
	3		1	2			
7		4	6				9
1			4				3
2			7				5
8	4	3					6
9				8			3
	7	9			1	4	
6			5	8			

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

## Answers to last week's puzzles

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

OVER	UTAH	DVD
DIRE	PESO	IOU
DIA	GNOSIS	ALE
AUNT	PELTS	
ADDIN	DICE	
RUIN	PEACOCKS	
AKA	DONNE	TIE
BETHESDA	BILE	
RICE	BACON	
HAITI	BEAR	
EBB	DIAPHRAGM	
ABE	EDGE	EVER
DES	ROSE	LETS

— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

1	3	4	8	5	6	7	2	9
8	5	9	7	1	2	3	6	4
7	2	6	3	4	9	1	8	5
5	8	2	6	9	3	4	7	1
9	4	1	5	2	7	8	3	6
6	7	3	4	8	1	5	9	2
2	1	8	9	7	4	6	5	3
3	9	7	1	6	5	2	4	8
4	6	5	2	3	8	9	1	7



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