

West Haven Voice

September 1, 2022

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West Haven's only independent news source
By and For West Haven

Voice Feature

An in-depth feature

Fireworks highlight
Labor Day weekend
See page 10



Rossi disputes Haven demise

As if the saga of the Haven Project needs more drama, the announcement by State Rep. Dorinda Borer, (D-115) and other members of the legislative delegation that the project is dead, was disputed by Mayor Nancy Rossi, this week. Rossi insists no confirmation of such a plan has been transmitted to her by the Simon Group, and she is proceeding apace. That said, there are indications that whatever the next phase is, the concept of an upscale outlet mall might be off the table.

Last week, a newscast on New Britain-based WVIT NBC 30, declared the Haven project dead with Borer making the announcement. Along with Borer was Rep. Charles Ferraro (R-117), who along with his colleague said the city should move on to another plan. Borer has said in published remarks the city should see the reality and move toward a new plan.

Both cited a May meeting with state and city officials where it was indicated the project was doubtful – that, according to Rossi. While the legislators are tolling the end of the plan, Rossi contends she has heard nothing to convince her the project is off the table – yet.

When asked about the legislators' contentions concerning the May session, Rossi was adamant.

"The most recent meeting was the end of May, while many doubts were presented at that time, no person affiliated with the Simon Group/Haven ever indicated the project was dead. The administration has never been informed of the projects demise," she said.

When asked why Borer made such an announcement, the mayor directed us to Borer. Rossi did admit, however, the del-
See The Haven, page 14

Photo by Michael O'Brien

Vacation's end!

Scenes like this one at Carrigan were repeated at all schools in the West Haven system, Monday, as the summer vacation ended and the new school year began. Sixth graders at Carrigan flooded the entrance plaza, accompanied by parents and siblings.



Photo by Dan Shine

Celebrating Ukraine Independence

On Aug. 24 Ukraine marked its 31st anniversary of renewed independence as a free and democratic state. In observance of this, West Haven lit its new Cove River Bridge in yellow and blue, the colors of the nation's flag, and declared that day Ukrainian Independence Day. Support for the nation in its six-month war with Russia has been strong in the city. See page 14 for a related photo.

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The artist known as Camila G., a student in the West Haven Community House After-School Program, sees bright, sunny weather with a good breeze for flying a kite.

Contact

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Next Issue Date: September 22

On this Date

2004 -- 350 people and children are killed in a massacre in Beslan, North Ossetia. Armed Chechen rebels took over 1000 people including school children at a school. The rebels demanded international recognition of an independent Chechnya. The hostage crisis lasted for 3 days and ended after Russian troops stormed the school.

1985 -- The Wreck of the sunk ship Titanic is found in the North Atlantic Ocean. A French-American expedition group found the wreck, which sunk on 14 April 1912 on her first voyage from Southampton, UK, to New York City, U.S.

1979 -- Pioneer 11 makes its closest approach to Saturn. The NASA built space probe was the first probe to encounter Saturn - it flew by the planet at a distance of 13,000 miles (21,000 km). After its flyby, the probe went on a trajectory to go outside the Solar System. All contacts with it were lost a few weeks later.

1952 -- Life magazine publishes parts of the Old Man And The Sea. One of American author Ernest Hemingway's best-known works, within a few days of the publication, 5 million copies of the magazine were sold.



Photo by Alyssa Maddern

Senior Center painter honors master

West Haven Senior Center member David Dulko shows his "Mona Lisa" oil painting at the Noble Street center Aug. 25. Dulko, who takes the center's watercolor class taught by MaryLou Horan, worked on the portrait for more than a week at his Smith Street home, where he spent several hours a day painting the faintly smiling woman, a famous portrait by Leonardo da Vinci.

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Bulk trash pick-up slated for Sept. 12-16

By Michael P. Walsh

Special to the Voice

The final bulk trash pickup week of 2022 is Sept. 12-16.

West Haven residents are reminded to separate metals, recyclables and regular trash from bulk trash and put them out no more than 24 hours before pickup. Violations carry a \$100 fine per daily offense, Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy said.

Residents are also reminded to "Put a Lid on It!" and use lids on all trash cans. Rain-soaked trash costs West Haven 10 times more at the dump, said McCarthy, adding that using trash can lids will save the city money by reducing the weight of trash and cost of tipping fees.

Bulk items include couches, chairs, tables, carpeting, padding and fencing, which may not exceed 6 feet in length. No building materials, tires, mattresses, propane tanks or hazardous waste are accepted.

Options for disposing of building materials include renting a dumpster or bringing the materials to a disposal facility for a fee.

Tires can be brought to Town Fair Tire, 63 Boston Post Road, Orange, for a fee of \$2.75 per tire.

Mattresses can be disposed of for free in a container at the

city's highway maintenance garage, 1 Collis St. Mattresses must be dry.

Hazardous waste can be dropped off for free at HazWaste Central, 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven. HazWaste is open Saturday mornings through October.

Propane tanks can be brought to Taylor Rental, 304 Boston Post Road, Orange, for a fee of \$10.60 per tank.

The amount of bulk trash per collection is limited to 6 cubic yards, which is equal to a pile of trash about 6 feet long, 6 feet wide and 4.5 feet high.

Homeowners are required to rent a dumpster or hire a junk removal service at their expense if trash exceeds 6 cubic yards. Otherwise, trash exceeding 6 cubic yards will be left at the curb, and a \$100 fine per daily offense will be imposed, McCarthy said.

To prevent a potential fine, property owners should familiarize themselves with the city's trash guidelines at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/260/Bulk-Trash-Pickup>.

To prevent a potential fine, property owners should familiarize themselves with the city's trash guidelines at Public Works.

Bulk trash must be gener-

ated by the customer at the residential unit where it is collected. Trash will not be collected if it is generated by anyone other than the resident of the home.

Bulk items must be separated and orderly. Do not place them next to a mailbox or utility pole or close to a fence, McCarthy said.

Also, do not place bulk items in front of a vacant lot or home — they will not be collected, he said.

In addition to bulk trash, the city picks up metals, including household appliances, also known as white goods, and toilets. To schedule a pickup on their curbside collection day, residents must call the Highway Department at 203-937-3644 or 203-937-3585. Appliance doors must be removed.

Grass bags are picked up until Nov. 18, and leaf bags are picked up from Oct. 1-Dec. 31. The bags are picked up on residents' weekly collection days. Grass clippings and leaves must be in separate biodegradable paper bags and will not be accepted if they are in plastic bags.

The city also picks up brush that is cut into 3-to-6-foot lengths and tied in small bundles, no more than 70 pounds. Logs and stumps are prohib-

ited.

Residents can bring grass clippings as well as bagged leaves and untied brush to the compost site, 1 Kimberly Ave., from 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays and 6:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays. The first cubic yard of compost is free with proof of residence. Additional compost

costs \$25 per cubic yard. Residents must bring buckets and shovels.

For a \$50 fee, the Department of Public Works will deliver up to 2 cubic yards of compost to homes in West Haven.

For electronic items, include **See Trash, page 7**



Happy New Year, neighbors.

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I wish all my neighbors a healthy, happy and safe New Year. Here's to this year bringing you nothing but the best.

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University of New Haven



Dear Felicia

Well sweetie pie, by the time yew read this missive the kiddies will have kissed good-bye to summer 2022, and be back in their respective classrooms. School started in these parts Mondee last, and yew could tell cuz the street corners were filled with students waiting for buses, and the buses were seen all over town. Naturly, the boyz and gurlz weren't – generally speakin' – in favor of the end of summer vacation, but yew could rest assured that moms all over town were. It's kind o' sad to see the end of the summer vacation, though. It reminds a body that the year is moving on, kwite quickly effen yew think about it, and before we all can say "Tis the season," it'll be Christmas and the beginning of 2023.

What really feels different this year is it finally looks like we can really git back to normal. No more shadows of Chinese flu menace, and the vax

crowd has been tamped down by the announcement that vaxes are no longer required. Everybody is equal again, no more enemies – at least in this regard. Soooo, let's get one with it. Hurray for Normalcy – as Warren G. Harding coined.

Of course, the beginning of the school year takes a back seat to the big news of the day, week, month, year. Jest as anyone with two brain cells figgered out a while back, the Haven Project is now belly-up. Or, to put a fine permt on it based on a press release that came from the Simon Group (the developers) two or so years ago, there will be no buying of your 2022 Christmas gifts, or any other year at the Haven.

The slow walk toward inevitable collapse came to an end with the announcement on a local NBC affiliate that the project is dead. According to Sammy Bluejay, who

is monitoring the commints hither and thither, the fact that the project is dead ain't the big part o' the story that people are talking about. What they wanna know is why State Rep. Dorinda Borer and the state delegation were the ones making said announcement.

Some were wondering why the social media set was on fire over who made the announcement. But, methinks what really stuck in people's craw was Herronner made herself the heavy in the story. She is the one that tried to talk tough about putting the Simon Group's feet to the fire, and she did a photo-op walking up Water Street, threatening blight citations back earlier this spring.

Soooooo, with the collapse of the projeck, she should have been the one to break the news to said population – as if said population wasn't already aware something was amiss. That was one reason people were/are upset. T'other reason, according to Sammy, is the fack that the developer let it be known that they were pulling out in May, a full three months before the announcement. Why did it take so long to let people know? Why was the rumor mill allowed to churn out the grist that keeps the wags in this town crowing?

The company is using the catch-all excuse that Covid did its dastardly deed and wrecked the chances of getting things off the ground. Yeah, OK. Let's cut through the Chinese flu excuse and just understand that malls ain't what's making money these days. Store chains are rarely opening new locations, but they are closing old ones.

The Haven was supposed to be a high-end outlet mall. As we said years ago, the high-end outlet malls in Clinton and Westbrook are barely holding on, losing tenants, and not having the traffic they once did. Why would people want to put a mall into operation now? And we won't git into the traffic and the access problems.

Suffice it to say that the projeck was slow walked from the time it was announced. Remember, then-Mayor Ed O'Brien put permits and fees that were to come from the construction as "revenue" in several budgets, only to find those fees elusive.

Now the Simon Group is gonna level the acreage and try to sell off the land. Sammy sez he heard the developer put \$41 million into the thing so far, it's hoping to get back betwixt \$33-35 million. We shall see.

What happens next? Stay tuned. Already the rumor mill is churning out possible buyers.

In our last ishuh, the topic of vagrancy at the Old Grove and environs came up. People have complained about several problems down there having to do with what some call the "night life" of the place. Well, Nelly Nuthatch was flying over the area early one morning last week and noted that members of the constabulary were visible and keeping watch over the area to keep the vagrancy problem down. Now, the matter has been a concern for years, and has had spotty enforcement.

As yew might expeck, the opinions on the success of the surveillance runs the gamut. Some are saying the city has not done enuff for years and is only making a weak attempt now cuz of the publicity, whilst others are wondering what the city is doing to help the people who are camping out there at night. Damned effen yew do, damned effen yew don't. This is one topic where we can say no matter what happens, somebody will complain about it.

Fun, fun, fun! Robby Raven stopped by and noted that the city's fireworks display is gonna happen this Labor Day weekend. Signs have been posted, and the hoopla has continued. It'll be interestin' to see what happens. The os-

tensible reason the city gave for moving the fireworks from July 3 to Labor Day weekend was the smaller "local" crowd it would attract.

By having it later in the summer the traffic would be not so heavy. The people on the beach would be better behaved, and there wouldn't be as much of a need for the constabulary to be out in as great a force. Nobody really believed that. It all had to do with dollars and cents.

Y'see, with the city still in austerity budgeting, having people on double- or triple-time would be a dent to the expenditure side, even though the fireworks themselves are paid for by donations. There are still things the city has to dole out cash for. So, despite the quotes to the contrary, this was a budgetary move more than anything else. Will we go back to July 3? Who knows?

Tennyrate, Cobina lives within earshot of the display, and will hear the bang and blast of it all from her domicile, whilst trying to keep her kitty cat from climbing the walls. She also intends to be indoors rawther early as to avoid the traffic toward the beach that usually happens.

Jest a couple o' tidbits: When will the walkway at Bradley Point be reopened? The walk has been sealed off and the landscaping – such as it is – seems to be done. When are we gonna be able to traverse the walk?

Bulk trash is in a week or so. Each quarter they have bulk trash, and each quarter the city announces that televisions will not be collected. As sure as there are green apples, yew can see many TV screens along the curb, and they stay there for weeks before the owners git the message that it ain't gonna be picked up. It's interesting when bulk trash happens cuz it's an amazement the amount of "stuff" people put out each time. The sheer volume of it along the street boggles the mind.

Whatever happened to the Enterprise Zone along the West River that was announced almost two years ago? Is this another grand announcement that's gonna wallow in the mud of nonmovement like other projects?

The new brewery/restaurant is moving along, and the big stickler in the issue -- there always is one -- is the "display" of artifacts from the Savin Rock Amusement Part. The new building will not house the museum that was earmarked for that purpose, and things will be displayed along a corridor in the new place. That's a step-down from a museum, no?

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

Cobina

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Dear Gripe Vine Readers:

I have been made aware of a dangerous situation at Enright and Rangely Street. "Well, its going on four months now and still no action by the WHPD on this issue. (Please read further and you will see the WHPD has been making an effort to watch this area.)

This intersection at Enright and Rangely Street is a school bus stop and kids will be returning to school. The Stop sign has to be enforced on Rangely Street going down the hill before a kid is killed.

Continuing comments, "There was a near miss last week when a car blew through this stop sign. THIS IS A

SCHOOL BUS STOP intersection and a child almost got hit. Where are the West Haven cops?"

Another reader commented, "The WHPD actually had a car sitting on Enright Street recently, assuming for this issue. The only problem is that the police car was in plain view with its lights on, easily seen."

Readers, I have notified Councilman Peter Massaro of these complaints. Let me know if there is any improvement here. I agree, a dangerous situation.

Dear Eleanore Turkington:

The blight along the shoreline between Washington and Second Avenues continues to



ELEANORE TURKINGTON

get worse and gives our city a rundown appearance. While it is unfortunate that not much seems to be happening at the

old Debonnaire and Chick's eye sores, our leaders have the ability to address the rundown skate park property. It's disgraceful that this underutilized parcel is allowed to get worse year after year.

Many cities across the country have developed parks for the intensely popular sport of Pickle Ball, which appeals to all age groups. I suggest that our leaders take a look at the blighted skate park and improve our city by tearing it down and constructing new pickle ball courts. Besides quantifying that part of our shoreline. It will be welcomed

recreation for all residents.

George Gorham

Dear George Gorham:

I have notified the Council member, Meli Garthwait, for your district to investigate this area. Watch for results in Gripe Vine.

~~~

You can submit your gripes, comments, issues and suggestions to [gripevine4wh@aol.com](mailto:gripevine4wh@aol.com) or mail them to Gripe Vine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516. Please include your name, address and phone number, kept in confidence with me.

## Sandy Point Association sets confab to organize

The Sandy Point Neighborhood Association is seeking additional members as it makes preparations towards becoming a non-profit organization (501(c)(3)) over the coming months. Interested parties should attend the Association's upcoming Annual/Organizational Meeting on Saturday, Sept. 10 at 3 p.m., in the Elks Lodge (lower level), 265 Main St., to learn more and to join the effort.

The Sandy Point neighborhood boundaries encompass all homes, apartments, condos and businesses located in the area bounded by Beach Street on the south, Brown Street on the north, Washington Avenue on the west, and First Avenue on the east, in West Haven.

The Neighborhood Association was formed a year ago, and since that time, it has held numerous cleanups throughout the area; has worked as a neighborhood advocate on significant neighborhood projects like the Beach Street Road Elevation project and the proposed spending of city grants on major park improvements; has planned several social functions; and has begun to work on reducing speeding in the area and trying to eliminate illegal dumping.

The Association has also taken a lead role as a steward for the Sandy Point Bird Sanctuary.

"The Bird Sanctuary is a focal point for our neighborhood, and we take great pride in protecting the ecology of this unique environmental area", commented Association President Michelle Coletti.

The Association was initially formed to build networks of volunteers to improve communications and the quality of life in this neighborhood. Interested residents, property owners and businesses are welcome to join – or learn more about the Association's mission – by visiting the Association's website, [www.SandyPointNeighbors.org](http://www.SandyPointNeighbors.org).

## GRIPEVINE

Do you have a complaint or issue? Fill out this coupon and mail it to Gripevine c/o West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, 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, Gripevine Columnist. You can also e-mail your gripe to [gripevine4wh@aol.com](mailto:gripevine4wh@aol.com) or use the online form at [westhavenvoice.com/gripevine](http://westhavenvoice.com/gripevine).

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## The Haven Project, RIP?

What everyone believes, was announced last week, but Mayor Nancy Rossi's administration is not so sure. The 25-year attempt to redevelop the lower Elm Street area was given a death knell by Rep. Dorinda Borer (D-115) in a declarative statement on a local television newscast. Listening to the mayor, however, the project is still on the boards, and more demolitions were approved and paid for by the developer.

According to the report, the developers are looking to level the remaining structures in the area and will attempt to sell the property for between \$33-\$35 million. Insiders are saying the company may have spent as much as \$41 million and is selling at a loss.

The company has filed for permits to continue demolition, and fees for eight more buildings were received.

According to Borer, the decision to halt the plan was made in a May meeting between city officials and the city's state delegation. It is known the Simon Group was looking for more help from the state. The announcement posed its own questions and concerns. While Borer says the project is dead, Rossi is saying she knows no such thing.

The first question regards who made the announcement. Dorinda Borer, not Mayor Nancy Rossi, made the disclosure, which we believed was a bad decision by City Hall. Rossi indicated there was no announcement by her because there was no announcement to be made. When asked about the Borer pronouncement, the mayor referred the question to back to Borer.

The May meeting, the session where the Simon Group allegedly announced its intention to scuttle the project, is not as cut-and-dried as some would think, according to the mayor. Rossi insists while doubts were raised, no declaration was made by a member of the Simon Group indicating the project was dead. The dispute seems of a piece with the entire history of the project.

The entire Haven saga is one of a city desperate to get something accomplished and willing to deal from a position of weakness to get something - anything - done.

The Simon Group from the outset has been unwilling to be a cooperative "partner" in the venture, refusing to give simple answers to questions about tenants, construction timelines, and other information. Even when demolition began in 2020, it seemed to be a grudging response to city leaders' pressure. The 2014 presser to announce the deal has been its high-water mark.

West Haven, meanwhile, used the 2005 *Kelo v. New London* decision (one of the worst decisions by the then-liberal Supreme Court) to force sale of properties, taking people's homes away from them. Those homes continue to stand today as a monument to at least four city administrations' failed attempts to add to our tax base. The homes may be razed, but the failure remains. This confusion adds to that legacy.

The original "Water Street Project" was announced in September 1997. It was changed to the West River Project and the West Farms Project only to be shelved for lack of interest. The Haven project centers around a mall in an era when over-the-counter sales are declining in favor of online purchases.

It remains to be seen what comes next. We hope a commercial venture of some sort is built on the property. What we don't want to see there is housing, which will further tax our resources, while adding nothing to the tax base.



## Garland entering abyss

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

Does Attorney General Merrick Garland know that he is investigating the man most likely to be the opponent of the president he serves? Does he realize that the intense political pressure campaign that he's under to indict that man has been plainly visible to everyone? Does he care?

If we can't know where Garland is ultimately heading in his probe of Jan. 6 and the documents seized from Mar-a-Lago, all indications are that he is preparing the ground for an indictment of Donald J. Trump.

The former president is inflammatory and mendacious as a matter of course, but in this case, it is the mild-mannered former judge who came within a hair's breadth of a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court who is rehearsing for the role of arsonist.

An indictment of Trump would be one of the most consequential acts by the Justice Department in decades, and Garland has a flagrant conflict of interest and is likely to have to use an adventurous legal theory to try to nail Trump -- at the same time, the legitimacy of his institution is increasingly in doubt.

This is not a promising formula. An attorney general shouldn't consider the prospect of reaping the whirlwind

and think, "Bring it on."

The Jan. 6 committee, elected Democrats, and the media have been braying for Garland to move against Trump. President Biden himself has reportedly told aides in private that Garland should indict Trump. "Garland Faces Growing Pressure as Jan. 6 Investigation Widens," The New York Times reported earlier this year.

It would take truly cursed independence and enormous moral and political courage not to take the path of least resistance and give in to these voices. Garland appears to be bending, presumably on his way to breaking.

It is amazing that he's gotten this far without feeling a prick of conscience about his own status.

I have no use for special counsels as a general matter, but how can an attorney general make highly sensitive determinations that will quite probably affect the state of play of the next presidential election without realizing he has a profound conflict of interest?

It'd be one thing if Trump had shot someone on Fifth Avenue -- a clean, no-doubt crime that wouldn't require any novel theories or difficult-to-probe contentions about his state of mind to prosecute.

In contrast, Trump's Jan. 6 offenses involve alleged crimes, like obstructing Congress or defrauding the U.S.,

that are going to involve tricky questions about his motives and where the legitimate exercise of his powers ends and the supposed criminality begins.

Needless to say, the country is not prepared to adjudicate such questions in a calm, high-minded manner. It will be the O.J. Simpson trial meets the Hiss-Chambers case, with a presidential race not in the background, but very much in the foreground.

The fact of the matter is that while Trump's moral blameworthiness for Jan. 6 is not in doubt, his legal culpability is. It's easy to write an op-ed or say on cable TV that Trump incited an insurrection. As a legal matter, though, Trump didn't come close to crossing the line to incitement, which has very specific and high standards under law.

Even his infamous Georgia phone call looks different on the close reading it would get as part of any court case -- by the end of the call, his lawyers were only asking that the secretary of state's office tell them why their count of suspected fraudulent votes was off.

In an environment of ever-spiraling political conflict, it's difficult for anyone to exercise forbearance -- to realize the most emotionally satisfying course isn't necessarily the correct one and to be constrained by the public interest,

See Lowry, page 7

# Letters, we get letters!

## Concerned by Savin Rock plans

I am very concerned that decisions being made by City Hall regarding the placement of a huge building and manufacturing plant at Savin Rock are not in the interest of the Citizens of West Haven.

In many instances to date, rule changes have and are being made to our Planning and Zoning regulations to allow for the erection of this manufacturing plant on our most precious Savin Rock shoreline. The proposed structure, if allowed, would completely dominate the now beautiful landscape. The planned structure is so large that it would overshadow Savin Rock itself, infringe on the Boardwalk, and generally degrade the coastal atmosphere.

The information that has been provided on this project has been both limited in its scope and, in many cases, misleading. The city has made numerous rule changes, variances, and allowances to smooth the path for this project without transparency to the public.

Hearings and discussions are being held without adequate information for informed decision-making and public awareness.

The developer's intention to use some artifacts of Old Savin Rock from the Savin Rock Museum to decorate the entrance hallway is no justification for allowing such a large manufacturing building to be placed at Savin Rock.

To allow these artifacts, currently in storage, to be used as pawns in a plan that diminishes, and dishonors Savin Rock and the neighboring coastline is contradictory from both an environmental and historic perspective. Further, this cherished memorabilia from the family-oriented Savin Rock should not be given to the developer to use in a location available only for folks who are aged 21-plus.

This memorabilia deserves a home of its own that is accessible to community members of all ages.

It is true that Savin Rock Conference Center, in its current state of disrepair, is a blight that needs to be addressed. As the City has been unable to maintain a viable enterprise there, commercial development may be warranted to make this piece of valuable real estate an asset to the community. Something smaller in scale and impact should be considered for this location.

There are many sites in West Haven that are suitable and available for a brewery that intends to manufacture, sell, and ship goods.

West Haven should not have to sacrifice its most valuable asset in this deal.

I urge New England Brewing Co. and city officials, with more input from citizens, to explore other options for the location of this development and would welcome a brewery to West Haven on other city-owned property.

The public needs to ask a lot more questions and be given a lot more information before this brewery is allowed to take over the Savin Rock shoreline.

*Dolores Libow*

## Primary victory a team effort

This primary victory was hard won and was without a doubt a team effort. Thank you to the voters of West Haven, not just for voting, but for the persistence and determination many voters showed in exercising their right to vote regardless of the obstacles.

This year, with redistricting and other measurers, many residents polling locations changed without notice. But West Haven residents have an indomitable spirit and a desire to make our voices heard. It is why I am proud and honored to represent the residents of West Haven and the 116th District. I have dedicated my life to lifting up our voices and finding solutions to the issues we face every day.

Thank you again to the voters for putting your faith in me and propelling me forward towards the general election this fall. Serving as your state representative is an incredible honor, and a privilege.

I hope to have for many years to come. As we move towards the general election, I'm forward to seeing and speaking with you as we door knock throughout the 116th.

*Trenee McGee*

## Lowry: *Garland's abyss*

Continued from page 6

even if that enrages his or her own side.

Merrick Garland can still err on the side of statesmanship. He looks set, though, to choose the abyss.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

*(c) 2022 by King Features Synd., Inc.*

# Obituary

## Lorraine Comette

Our sister Lorraine, passed away on July 12, 2022 in Mission Texas (formally of West Haven).

She was born on July 3, 1936, in New Haven, CT and was the daughter of the late Dorothy (Hershman) and Harry Newman.

After graduating from Hillhouse High School, Lorraine went to work for Blue Cross, and was employed there for many years.

After retiring, she enjoyed

her many trips to the casinos.

She is survived by her husband, William, her son, Steven and three grandsons. Lorraine also leaves behind her loving sisters, Myrna Kampner, Judie (Durk) Hines, Eleanor Silvers and Marcella Newman.

She is predeceased by her brother Harold Newman and brothers-in-law Arthur Kampner and Alan Silvers.

Lorraine will always be loved and remembered by all the special people that were a



part of her life.

## Trash: *Last bulk collection, Sept. 12-16*

Continued from page 7

ing TVs, the final e-waste drop-off day of the year is Sept. 17.

Residents can drop off electronic recyclables — typically anything that contains a circuit board or needs a battery — from 8 a.m.-noon at the highway maintenance garage.

The city is partnering with Take 2 Inc. of Waterbury, a state-approved recycler and collector of universal e-waste devices, to collect residential electronic items on a quarterly basis.

The collection is free for residents who have such items as computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, modems, computer mice, tablet computers, TVs, VCRs, DVD players, photocopiers, fax machines, scanners, video game machines, digital media players, personal digital assistants, stereo equipment, telephones, cellphones, cameras, microwaves and other small appliances.

Anything that has refrigerant, including air conditioners and dehumidifiers, is not

accepted. Those items are considered white goods, and residents are asked to schedule a pickup on their curbside collection day by calling the Highway Department.

For details, visit <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/263/E-waste-Drop-off>.

For the e-waste drop-off, residents are asked to heed the following guidelines:

- Stay in your vehicle.
- Vehicles will be spaced out. Event workers will remove electronics from your vehicle. There should be no interaction between residents and workers.
- No mattresses or box springs will be disposed of at the moment.
- No smoke detectors, ballasts or hazardous waste — lighter fluid, liquids, paint — will be accepted.
- Electronic items left curbside will be tagged with information on the e-waste schedule and must be removed, or face a potential fine.

Saturday, September 17th  
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm  
West Haven Public Library  
300 Elm Street

# BASEMENT HYMNS

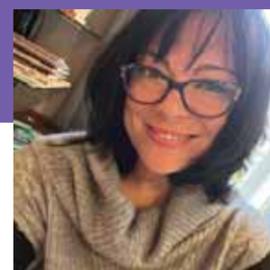
## Poets on Addiction & Recovery for Recovery Awareness Month



**B. Fulton Jennes**  
Poet Laureate, Ridgefield, CT



**Andrea Abi-Karam**  
Author of VILLAINY (Nightboat, 2021)



**Joan Kwon Glass**  
Author of NIGHT SWIM (Diode, 2022)



**James Diaz**  
Founder of Anti-Heroin Chic



Funding by COA & NEA

To register, contact the library at (203) 937-4233 or [reference@westhavenlibrary.org](mailto:reference@westhavenlibrary.org)

**NOTICE TO WEST SHORE FIRE DISTRICT**

**NOTICE TO WEST SHORE FIRE DISTRICT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids for the purchase of Rope Rescue equipment as detailed in the specification will be received by the West Shore Fire District, 860 Ocean Ave West Haven, CT. 06516 until September 22, 2022 at 2:00pm. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 860 Ocean Ave, West Haven CT. at 2:00pm on September 22, 2022 Full Bid specifications shall be obtained on the West Shore Fire Districts website [www.westshorefd.com](http://www.westshorefd.com)



The VA Medical Center is slated for a massive upgrade in its clinical and surgical facilities.

## VA hospital plans new clinic tower

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has selected the joint-venture team of LEO A DALY and Perkins&Will to design a \$395 million state-of-the-art new surgical and clinical care tower that will modernize existing hospital infrastructure and deliver state-of-the-art surgical services and support facilities at Connecticut's Veterans Administration (VA) West Haven Medical Center. The multi-phase design and construction project will provide a new surgical platform, surgical ICU and new laboratory space. IMEG Corp. will perform mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering for the project.

"The JV team is proud to support the critical mission of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in providing healthcare to the nation's millions of Veterans. Our work at the VA West Haven Medical Center will help the VA meet evolving demands for services, improve aging infrastructure, and keep pace with the rapidly changing technology and models of care," said LEO A DALY Managing Principal Bill Kline, FAIA.

The VA's Strategic Capital Investment Planning process prioritized the project in 2018 recognizing the need for modernization facilities, many of which are more than 50 years old.

The current surgery platform needs to grow to meet the increased patient population and advances in medical care and technology. Existing operating rooms are undersized for modern equipment requirements and do not have the infrastructure to accommodate newer smart technologies.

"This project is not just about designing a facility. It is an opportunity to connect the campus and transform the patient and staff experience which ultimately is about delivering improved care," said Tatiana Escobar, AIA, Health Practice Leader at Perkins&Will.

The JV Team brings extensive experience working with the VA and the design of innovative health facilities nationwide. LEO A DALY has more than 70 years of VA experience and expertise in space-constrained, existing operational healthcare campuses. The firm's past work includes the post-Katrina rebuild of the VA Biloxi campus and the seismic upgrade of VA West Los Angeles.

# Every Child Deserves A HEAD START In Life!

**Are you a parent looking for a high-quality pre-school in West Haven? We Are Here For You**

Head Start is a high-quality school readiness program for children ages 3 to 5 from income eligible families. The program gives children a "Head Start" in life by supporting their growth and development in a positive learning environment.



**SNAP Benefits eligible for enrollment**

**West Haven Community House**  
[www.whcommunityhouse.org](http://www.whcommunityhouse.org)  
**203-934-5221 Call Today!**

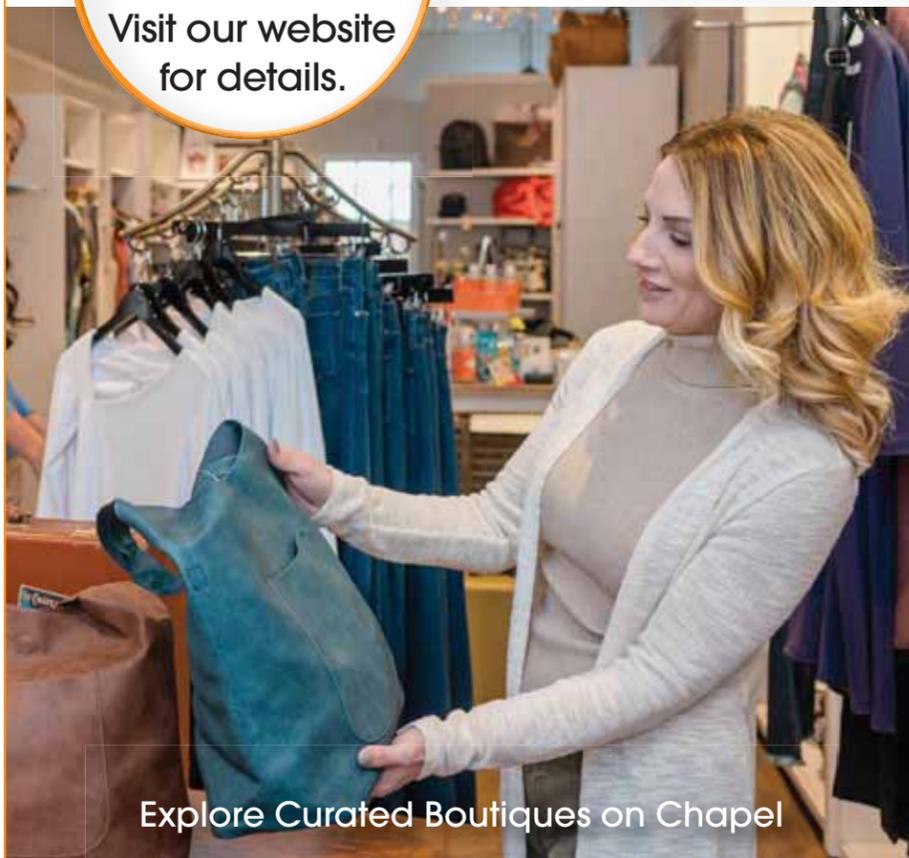


# Shop New Arrivals for Fall & Back-to-School



Shop Popular Brands on Broadway

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dwell New Haven • Lou Lou Boutiques • Derek Simpson Goldsmith  
Neville Wisdom's Fashion Design Studio & more!

A unique collection of more than 65 local boutiques, national brands, cafes, restaurants & attractions with convenient parking in historic downtown New Haven. Plan your experience at [TheShopsatYale.com](https://www.TheShopsatYale.com).

# Fireworks highlight city's celebration of Labor Day

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

The 2022 Savin Rock Fireworks Spectacular is set to launch off Bradley Point at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Mayor Nancy R. Rossi announced.

The display, billed as "They Will Be Heard on the 3rd," is presented by the Savin Rock Fireworks Committee.

The rain date is Sunday.

In early June, the city decided to move the fireworks from July 2 to Sept. 3 — the same date as last year's Labor Day weekend display — to give West Haven's biggest event "more of a local flavor."

"The Savin Rock Fireworks Spectacular is a meaningful

event for all of us who live in West Haven," Rossi said. "It is a special opportunity to come together as friends and neighbors to celebrate our city by demonstrating the best of the American community spirit."

For this year's pyrotechnics show, the city is focusing less on attracting out-of-town visitors and more on attracting West Haven residents, a strategy aimed at decreasing crowds to reduce overtime costs for police and public works crews, organizers said.

At 4 p.m. Saturday, police will close Captain Thomas Boulevard and Ocean Avenue, from Kelsey Avenue to South Street, to give the festivities

more of a block party feel.

The roads will reopen around 11 p.m., according to police.

A fleet of food and dessert trucks will line the Savin Rock side of Captain Thomas Boulevard, near Dyke Street, and dish up fried dough, lobster rolls, meatball bombs and tacos, as well as ice cream and kettle corn.

Before the fireworks light up the sky over the West Haven shoreline, E'Band will perform R&B hits on a portable stage in front of Savin Rock from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Residents and nonresidents should take note that "No Parking" signs will be posted on both sides of Platt Avenue from Ocean Avenue to Randall's Restaurant; Dyke Street from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Educational Way; Kelsey Avenue from Captain Thomas Boulevard to Graham Avenue; Ocean Avenue from South to Ivy streets; and the even side of all side streets off Ocean Avenue from South to Ivy streets.

Also, "No Parking" signs will be posted on the north side of Connecticut Avenue; the even side of all side streets off Ocean Avenue to Highland Avenue; the even side of Highland Avenue from Arlington to Linden streets; and the even side of all side streets off Beach Street to Thomas Street.

Police can ticket and tow vehicles violating the traffic plan at the owner's expense. Violators are subject to a \$100 fine.

Residents and nonresidents should also take note that police will strictly enforce all beach regulations, which are posted at each access point along the shoreline, as well as the following restrictions:

- All bags will be subject to search before entering the beach area.
- No alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the beach.
- No disorderly or obscene conduct will be tolerated.
- No open fires or cooking will be allowed on the beach.



Photo by Andrew Kosarko

Rockets burst over Long Island Sound off West Haven's Bradley Point at the Centennial Fireworks on Sept. 3, 2021.



Leslie Jewelers is moving on or about November 1, 2022

After 40 year's owning a business on Campbell Ave., we will be moving to **27 Wagner Place, West Haven** (next to *Hi Fashion Cleaners*) only 3 blocks away.

Come see us for all your jewelry needs at our new home after November 1. Until then, we are still at our present location in Downtown West Haven

You can still reach us at (203) 933-3291  
or email [lesliejewelers@aol.com](mailto:lesliejewelers@aol.com)



## City wants input on new proposal

The city needs input from residents to help craft the West Haven Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Be part of the process and let your voice be heard.

Tour the virtual meeting room and take the survey at <http://vmr.betaftp.com/WestHavenBikePedPlan/>.

## City joins program to cut waste costs

The South-Central Regional Council of Governments is working with West Haven and other member municipalities to launch pilot projects under the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Sustainable Materials Management Grant program.

As the capacity for waste disposal in Connecticut has significantly decreased because of the closure of the Municipal Innovation and Recycling Authority's waste-to-energy facility in Hartford, food waste diversion and unit-based pricing programs are options to reduce the waste stream and to ease the financial burden on municipalities, including West Haven.

"The state has warned us of a looming cost crisis in waste management, and this is the state's solution to manage this crisis," Mayor Nancy R. Rossi said.

Public Works Commissioner Tom J. McCarthy added: "The city of West Haven has been working on this issue for three years, and we feel confident that this is the best solution available for the residents. We are asking for cooperation for a nine-month project funded by the state."

According to SCRCOG, projects will involve implementing unit-based pricing and food waste diversion pilots to provide data on municipal waste disposal cost reduction strategies.

Eight of SCRCOG's 15 municipalities have advanced to phase two of the SMM grant application process.

In order for the municipal pilots to be successful and for SCRCOG to lay a foundation for permanent programs in as many of its communities as possible, SCRCOG proposes to provide support and assistance for the projects.

Six of the eight SCRCOG municipalities that submitted SMM applications have been approved for the grant. In addition to West Haven, the municipalities that will pilot unit-based pricing and food waste diversion programs are Bethany, Woodbridge, Guilford, Madison and Meriden.

The West Haven pilot project will include the curbside co-collection of municipal solid waste and food waste in different colored bags.

After being sorted, the bags containing municipal solid waste are hauled to a waste-to-energy facility or out-of-state landfills, while the food waste is hauled to a biodigester or a composting facility.

SCRCOG aims to identify areas of the pilot programs that can lend themselves to regional solutions, including a coordinated program launch, common instructions and mes-

saging, shared sites for sorting of bags, shared hauling routes, and the development of aerated static pile composting sites at convenient locations created by the conversion of existing municipal brush and leaf composting sites in the region.

For detailed information on the West Haven pilot program, see the SCRCOG FAQ

at <https://scrcog.org/municipal-services/solid-waste/>, the West Haven Food Waste Pilot FAQ at <https://www.cityofwesthaven.com/DocumentCenter/View/4668/Food-Waste-Pilot-FAQ-PDF>, and the West Haven Co-Collection Pilot Program website at <https://www.reducehethrash.com/westhaven>.



the pilot program calls for food waste to be separated from regular trash, according to officials. The new measure is a way to cut costs.

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Photo by Michael O'Brien

### Welcome Back!

Schools all over the city welcomed back their students with signs and posters as the summer vacation came to an end and the 2022-23 academic year began. All of the city's elementary, middle and West Haven High School opened to full-day sessions, getting the student body right into the swing of things.



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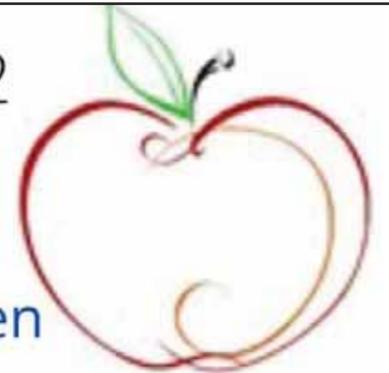
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## September 23, 24, and 25, 2022

HOURS: Sept. 23rd 5 pm - 9 pm Sept. 24th 11 am - 9 pm  
Sept. 25th 12 pm - 5 pm



First Congregational Church of West Haven

# APPLE FESTIVAL

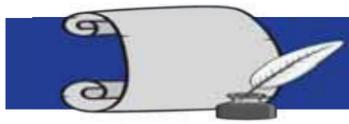
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### Festival Emcee - DJ Dan Chudoba "DJ Dan on the Beach"

Bounce House Schedule: Sept. 23rd no bounce houses;  
Sept. 24th 12 pm - 8 pm; Sept. 25th 12 pm - 5 pm





# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

## The Lucinda Sutton

In past Historian's Corners, we have touched very briefly upon the history of the four-masted schooner *Lucinda Sutton*. Thanks to some special help from Bill Lang, we are able to more fully recount her life and her fate.

Henry Sutton was a shipowner and a ship chandler: These are merchants who supply goods for ships. They stock up on all the essentials that meet the needs of various vessels. These items include leather goods, galley supplies, lanterns, hooks, brooms, mops, varnish, tallow, etc. At age 29, Sutton had branched out from his grocery business, and had begun owning seagoing vessels, which were sort of the eighteen-wheel trucks of the late Nineteenth Century. Along the way, he became quite successful.

In all, he had seventeen ships built for his commercial purposes, and the *Lucinda Sutton*—named for his wife—built in 1891 was the largest of them, measuring 225 feet long, and capable of carrying 2500

tons of cargo. Equipped with hundred-foot masts, she had a steam engine on board to hoist the ship's enormous sails, spars and anchors, as well as to load and discharge cargo. Construction was handled by the Gesner and Mar Shipyard on Water Street, where her gargantuan profile eventually dwarfed the neighboring houses.

Once the construction was completed, the launching of such ships were colorful and exciting events: Crowds numbering in the thousands were common, and the launching of the *Lucinda Sutton* was no exception. Long before the appointed hour, the dusty streets around Water Street were all choked with hacks, coupes, beach wagons, express wagons, horse railroad cars and fine private teams destined for the big show. And out on the water were a mass of sloop yachts, sharpies, cat boats and row boats, filled with those parties who wished to witness the event.

And there were bands, speeches and plentiful

libations to make the day more interesting. And thus the ceremony went on and on through the heat of July 21, 1891. Finally, a group of laborers with iron wedges knocked away the keel blocks and with a slow creaking sound, the *Lucinda Sutton* began to slide down the launching ways, which had been generously slushed with grease.

It was not uncommon for ships to be launched into the West River's shallow channel only to become stuck in the mud, and the *Lucinda Sutton* was no exception: Throughout the ceremony, over three hundred souls had been on deck; however, some of the more experienced thought it prudent to return to shore before the launching: They were the lucky ones. Those who remained on board had to wait to be removed from the ship via wooden ladders. Then, the great ship remained stuck in the mud and waited for time and tide to set her free, three days later.

The *Lucinda Sutton* sailed

successfully for the next twenty-five years, during which time she suffered two collisions and a generally deteriorating condition. Leaking badly, the ship was sold in 1916, and subsequently ran aground in the treacherous waters off the central coast of Argentina and was stranded. The ship's life ended as it had begun, stuck in the mud. It was declared a total loss. But one man's loss can be another man's windfall. Much of the ship's cargo of lumber washed up on shore, was gathered up and used in the construction of a bathing spa at Monte Hermosa. In time, this facility turned into a popular little seaside resort.

This is just one small story out of many which deal with West Haven's long association with the sea.



Dan Shine is a columnist for the West Haven Voice, and local history buff

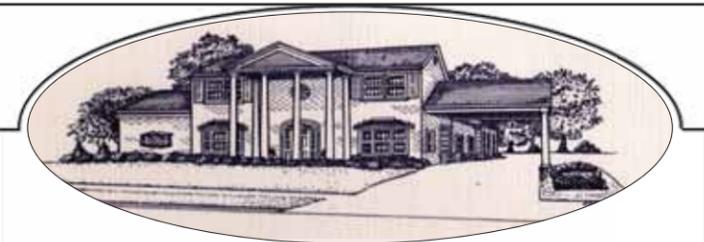


LAUNCHING OF "LUCINDA SUTTON," GESNER AND MAR SHIPYARD, WEST HAVEN, 1891

The launching of the *Lucinda Sutton* was a big event in the Town of West Haven, which was proud of its shipbuilding reputation.



H.H. Richard's home at 81 Main St., now owned by Mary Ann Starke.



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Photo by Dan Shine

## Celebrating Ukrainian Independence

On Aug. 24 Ukraine marked its 31st anniversary of renewed independence as a free and democratic state. In observance of this, West Haven lit its new Cove River Bridge in yellow and blue, the colors of the nation's flag, and declared that day Ukrainian Independence Day. Support for the nation in its six-month war with Russia has been strong in the city. See page 14 for a related photo..



## The Haven: *Future of project disputed by City Hall*

Continued from page 1

egate might be privy to information the administration has not received.

"As no person in my administration has ever been notified of the conclusion of the project. Rep. Borer may have attended meetings or have phone conversations, my administration was not privy to," Rossi said.

She said, also, had any decision been made regarding the project's halt, she would have made that known to the public.

"Had any member of the Simon Group/Haven indicated the project was terminated, my administration would have indicated as much to public. These types of large construction projects tend to have many twists and turns along the way. At this time, since no member of the Simon Group/Haven has indicated such.... No Announcements!" she said.

For the last two weeks, rumors of the project being canceled circulated throughout the city, with the culmination of last week's bombshell newscast. Reports say the developer is looking to clear the property, razing the remaining buildings, and then looking to sell the land to another developer, asking for between \$33-35 million.

Rossi would not confirm any of the "tips," saying they were inaccurate. However, she did indicate in her answer some possibility the reports are true.

"In the last week I have visited the site on multiple occasions with representatives of the Haven Group, also with *interested parties* (emphasis ours) in an effort to move this project along. Should the Haven Group not wish to move forward, at the same time my administration will be holding this project to all blight/zoning standards and will be seeking compliance,"

she said.

Who the "interested parties" are has been the subject of some speculation among the city's political class for the last week. Rossi said the administration would continue to work with the Simon Group on the project as it moves ahead.

Meanwhile, the city received payment for demolition permits on the property. Rossi indicated eight buildings would be demolished, and the developer would have to apply for new permits with each round of demolitions. The current price received was \$4,400.

Just before deadline, Rep. Borer sent answers to the questions we sent Mayor Rossi. In her assessments, Borer gave a timeline as she understood it.

"After hearing concern back in January that the Simon Group and the city may be waiting on the State to help move the project forward, I attended a City Council meeting to clarify there was nothing pending at the State; i.e. permits, funding etc. and suggested blight fines start to try to force the Simon Group to the table as they had not responded to the numerous requests to come before the City for an update. Corporation Counsel subsequently said that the city was working on an interlocal agreement with the Simon Group for the Haven project and that if it didn't come through, they would begin blight fines.

"In April after seeing comments in the paper that the city had not heard from the Simon Group, I sent an email to Corporation Counsel asking status and if the blight fines started. He indicated that the Simon group would be seeking more funds from the State for demolition. It is at that point State Representative Ferraro and I both said we could not support that, and

we asked for a meeting with the Simon Group. We asked a state official to sit in order to entice the Simon Group to the table.

"In that meeting the Simon Group and the investors on the call asked for more funds. We collectively - the city and the state members -- said we could not support that. The Simon Group said the path forward with building the mall was limited as they did not have the tenants lease nor the funding in place. We asked if they would entertain building something else and gave suggestions and they said they only focus on malls.

"When the meeting closed Corporation Counsel said the city would follow up with the Simon Group for official next steps.

"I sent a follow up email to Corporation Counsel suggesting that the city not wait for official notice and begin to prepare and organize to recapture any funds."

When asked by the comments were made to the NBC affiliate, Borer responded it was happenstance, and she gave her opinions, as did Ferraro.

"NBC FB (Facebook) contacted me recently to ask the status as they indicated they had reached out to the mayor. I provided them with the mayor's email address and suggested they email her and continue to try to speak directly with the city leaders.

They circled back with both me, and Rep. Ferraro and asked if we could also comment on the status as we understood it. We again provided an assessment as we understand it. Our goal has been to work bipartisan and united when it comes to West Haven but will defer to him and other delegation members for any additional comments.

In responding as to wheth-

er the Simon Group had definitively said the project was dead, Borer referred to history.

"I understand wanting to have a concrete official notice from the Simon Group saying they are not moving forward with the mall before making an announcement. However, we know through history that the Simon Group does not communicate well, it has been some time and now seeing permits begin to be pulled to help with a potential sale or shift, any hope of a mall being built should be eliminated.

"The challenges faced were multi-faceted and on the developer's end. I believe the city and the state have

exhausted all efforts to help support the project, but at this point it is best to recognize they are not building the mall and openly talk about next steps. Whether the Simon group sells or partners we should put the mall chapter behind us and as a community look towards the future.

"The site is large, it is on the wharf-which will be dredged in 2024. and has great potential for something new. It is an opportunity for a reset.

"It should be noted that any new project would have to go through all new city regulatory approvals, e.g., P&Z, ZBA etc. A potential development cannot change without that."

## Flag-raising, vigil to mark 9/11 rites

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

West Haven will observe the 21st anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on 9/11 with a flag-raising ceremony at 6:30 p.m. at the Bradley Point Park flagpole, followed by a candlelight vigil at the city's 9/11 memorial.

The solemn service will begin with a presentation of the colors by the West Haven Police Honor Guard and the flag-raising by the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard and the New Haven County Firefighters Emerald Society Pipes & Drums.

The flag-raising will honor the memory of the nearly 3,000 people who died in the attacks.

Remarks by dignitaries, including Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, will follow.

Louis P. Esposito Jr., Rossi's executive assistant, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

At 7 p.m., the candlelight vigil will take place at the Richard S. Gabrielle Sept. 11

Memorial on the boardwalk next to the former Savin Rock Conference Center, 6 Rock St.

Members of the West Haven Rotary Club will distribute candles and programs at the granite monument, which was paid for by the service club in 2002. It was designed by Harold J. Schaller of H.K. Peacock Memorials Inc. in Valhalla, New York.

Gabrielle, 50, of West Haven, was killed during the attack on the twin towers in New York's World Trade Center complex. An insurance broker at Aon Corp., he was last seen on the south tower's 78th floor.

Declared Patriot Day by Congress in 2002, the city will fly flags at half-staff in recognition of the National Day of Remembrance.

The vigil will feature taps played by retired West Shore Fire Department Lt. Kevin McKeon and Celtic folk performances by Irish singer-songwriter Liz McNicholl, including "The Bravest," a tribute to the heroes of 9/11.



Photos courtesy of Michael Last

The 11U Seahawks tune up for the season with a scrimmage against the Springfield, MA Tigers. The teams begin their 2022 schedule this Saturday at Veterans Field.

## Seahawks open season; league marks 56th year

The Ray Tellier Midget Football League is celebrating its 56th season. The league's West Haven Seahawk football teams will open the new season on Saturday, at home, at Veterans Memorial Park on Bull Hill Lane. League officials are smiling over the fact participation in the football and cheerleading programs increased on every level this year, resulting in more squads.

On the football side the two flag football teams (5 & 6 years old) will begin on Saturday morning at 8:00am with games against Danbury and Naugatuck.

The 8U team (7/8) will host New Haven at 9:00am. The Seahawks have two 10U football teams (9/10) and will host New Haven's two 10U teams at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., respectively. The 11U team will host the Danbury Trojans at 3 (West Haven is the defending 10U New England Regional champions from last year). The game expected to be exciting. The day will conclude with the 13U (12/13) Seahawks taking on Brockton, MA at 5.

Please check schedules, results, and standings at [www.west-havenseahawk.com](http://www.west-havenseahawk.com).

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Photo by Brian Hayden

### Girls summer basketball champions

The Gray Team, the champions of the Department of Parks and Recreation's Girls Summer Fun Basketball League, show their trophies at the Veterans Memorial Park courts on Bull Hill Lane on Aug. 22. Front row, from left, are Aria Cannon Perry, Emily Palma, Payton Oliverio, Gabriella Jeune and Taliah Boykin. Back row, from left, are Savahna Neieves, Luna Montanez, Maria Valentina Muriel, Justice Butler, Amayia Ortiz and coach Jared Butler. The team defeated the Gold Team 26-24 in overtime and finished the season 7-1. The league, supervised by Park-Rec program coordinator Brian Hayden, just capped its 22nd season.

## DeMaio, Cuzzo head up Diamond Club honorees

The Southern Connecticut Diamond Club will hold its annual Hall of Fame Induction dinner to honor those who have contributed to baseball in the area.

It will be held on Thursday, Oct. 13, at Monticello's Restaurant, 577 S. Broad Street, Meriden.

Hors d'oeuvres will be at 5:30 p.m. Dinner follows promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Those being inducted include Donna Caldeira of New Haven, long-time volunteer for the Dom Aitro Little League program; Bob Cuzzo of West Haven, long-time coach and volunteer for West Haven Little League; "The Coach" George DeMaio of West Haven, local broadcaster of high school sports; Tony GolinoINO (posthumously) of New Haven, former high school and local athlete; Steve Reilly of Derby, volunteer high school assistant coach and longtime volunteer broadcaster and assistant broadcaster of Connecticut High School and American Legion baseball games; and Dave Ryan (posthumously) of Milford, former American Legion baseball coach in Orange for almost two decades.

Dave Pittman of New Haven will be inducted as the recipient of the Andrew Gassira Memorial Umpire Award.

Harry O'Neill, long-time coach and volunteer for the Hamden Fathers Baseball/Softball Association, will be inducted as the recipient of the Tony Mentone Memorial Distinguished Service Award.

Tickets can be purchased by contacting Rose Mentone at rmentone@comcast.net on or before Oct. 6. Tickets are \$60 per person and include a family-style dinner. Children's meals are available at a price of \$25.

If you prefer to pay by credit card, go to our website at: <http://www.southernctdiamondclub.org/hall-of-Fame.html> and press Add to Cart to order tickets either through PayPal or by credit card.

### Board to hear assessment appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals will meet from 6-7:30 p.m. Sept. 12 in the assessor's office on the first floor of City Hall, 355 Main St., to hear appeals of motor vehicle assessments on the 2021 grand list.

Any owner of a city-registered vehicle can appeal the assessment.



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# Hidden Gems

Continued from page 19

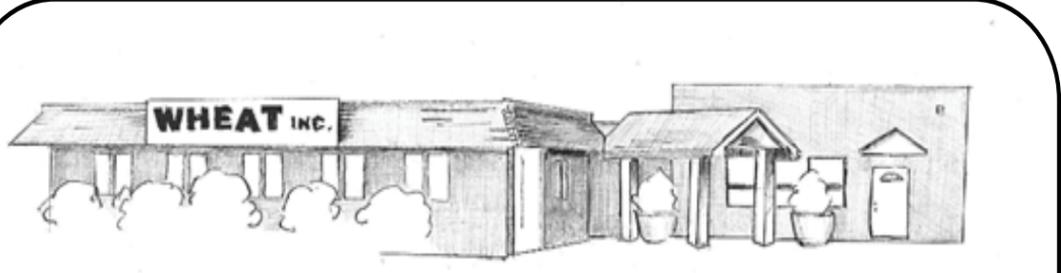
duce. As anyone can tell you, fresh local produce trucked in is fresher than whatever the supermarket can provide; even when they're bragging about local produce, how long did it have to sit in a warehouse or at a distribution center?

What's more, the Farmers' Market farmers seem to be selling at a savings as to what I've seen elsewhere.

"We'll be bringing in pumpkins, gourds, Indian corn and other fall decorations," Karen explains.

The Farmers' Market is open 10-3 Thursdays and Saturdays at Oak Street. It will be open through October, so plan on getting those dog sweaters and pumpkins...and in getting a head start on all that holiday shopping.

You'll be supporting local businesses, and get that ocean view as a bonus.



WHEAT's pantry is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2:00-4:30 Residents only need to bring a photo ID and two current pieces of mail (bills, lease, official letters, etc) and two or three grocery bags. Please call or email us to find out how to get food if you cannot come in person.

WHEAT is giving out food twice a month.

Donations can be brought on Tuesday and Wednesday between 9:00 and 4:30; Thursdays between 1:00 and 4:30. Please drive to the white overhead door to unload donations.

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**Dawson s vsm! everything must**  
**goeCall pwt tRpAEm**

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**Clipper Creek 3evlap**  
**Car Charger**  
**Model DvEppawwWt**  
**CSA JwP Plugán! Tvs! 3p**  
**1VS1! pTwt! N1 Ms ATdJw**  
**I RNU for immediate pickup in**

**West , avenm**  
**Call pwt tRTwWt**  
**P3UMW4k PROW81MS...**  
Leaky pipes, Leaky Faucets,  
Leaky Showers, Running Toilet,  
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**RpN4JYtwor pwt PUWt R4Nm**

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**dishwashers! hot water heatera w**  
**galrh or Tw galrh gas stovesmSave**  
**money - get your water heater**  
**cleaned and flushed outmP3UMW4**  
**4k S1 RV4C1 S! pwt PUYtRYRY**

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**, all Rentals**  
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**3ow Pricesm**  
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**facilities availablem**  
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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    |    | 13 |    |    | 14 |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |    | 20 |    |    |
| 21 | 22 |    | 23 |    |    |    | 24 |    |    |    |
| 25 |    | 26 |    | 27 |    | 28 |    |    |    |    |
| 29 |    |    | 30 |    | 31 |    |    | 32 | 33 | 34 |
| 35 |    |    |    |    | 36 |    |    | 37 |    |    |
| 38 | 39 | 40 |    |    | 41 | 42 |    | 43 |    |    |
| 44 |    |    |    | 45 |    |    |    | 46 |    |    |
| 47 |    |    | 48 |    |    | 49 |    | 50 | 51 |    |
| 52 |    |    | 53 |    |    | 54 |    |    |    |    |
| 55 |    |    | 56 |    |    | 57 |    |    |    |    |

**DOWN**

|    |                  |    |              |
|----|------------------|----|--------------|
| 6  | Loose            | 32 | Deep-fried   |
| 7  | Paris summer     | 33 | news-paper   |
| 8  | Flamenco         | 34 | ad           |
| 9  | Elk's horn       | 35 | Gloomy       |
| 10 | Wheel cover      | 36 | Zing         |
| 11 | Cheer            | 37 | Acted badly? |
| 12 | Cat calls?       | 38 | Caravan      |
| 13 | Shelter          | 39 | Column style |
| 14 | Sluggish         | 40 | beast        |
| 15 | Williams         | 41 | Emulate      |
| 16 | A son of         | 42 | Lincoln      |
| 17 | Book jacket      | 43 | Donnybrook   |
| 18 | promos           | 44 | Batter's dry |
| 19 | Sudden gush      | 45 | spell        |
| 20 | Unpaid TV ad     | 46 | Big wind     |
| 21 | Hostel           | 47 | Notion       |
| 22 | Little, in Lille | 48 | Decay        |
| 23 | Worldwide        | 49 | Ram's ma'am  |
| 24 | Pulsate          | 50 | Trio after Q |
| 25 | UFO crew         | 51 |              |

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## MAGIC MAZE • NYMS

D T R P M E A N O N Y M K I F  
M D B H P Y W U S A Q E O M K  
M Y N O T P Y R C I H R F M D  
B Z N M Y N O R A P Y O Y Y X  
W Y U O Y S O Q M O P N M N N  
M L J N R N H F D Y O Y C O A  
Y W V Y Y E O T S D N M Q T P  
N L K M I H T R U O Y O F E E  
C B Z Y W V U E T S M R L M Q  
M Y N O N Y S N H E P N M O L  
J I H F E P A M Y N R E P Y H

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: A WORD OF LIKE MEANING

|           |           |          |           |
|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Acronym   | Eponym    | Hypernym | Paronym   |
| Anonym    | Heteronym | Hyponym  | Pseudonym |
| Antonym   | Holonym   | Meronym  | Retronym  |
| Cryptonym | Homonym   | Metonym  |           |

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

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## Answers to this week's puzzles

**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

|    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 1  | Beach accessory               |
| 6  | Altar promise                 |
| 9  | Wd. modifier                  |
| 12 | Blazing                       |
| 13 | At once                       |
| 14 | Singer Rawls                  |
| 15 | Lightweight wood              |
| 16 | Old Pontiac                   |
| 18 | More tightly packed           |
| 20 | "Star Wars" royal             |
| 21 | Photo, for short              |
| 23 | "Fresh Air" ailer             |
| 24 | Party beverage                |
| 25 | Unforeseen problem            |
| 27 | Say                           |
| 29 | Elk's horn                    |
| 31 | Wheel cover                   |
| 35 | Playful sea critter           |
| 37 | Only                          |
| 38 | Barber's tools                |
| 41 | Aug. and Sept.                |
| 43 | Knock                         |
| 44 | Region                        |
| 45 | Halloween sprite              |
| 47 | Young shopping center regular |
| 49 | Milk dispens-                 |

**DOWN**

|    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| 6  | Loose            |
| 7  | Paris summer     |
| 8  | Flamenco         |
| 9  | Cat calls?       |
| 10 | Sluggish         |
| 11 | A son of         |
| 12 | Book jacket      |
| 13 | promos           |
| 14 | Sudden gush      |
| 15 | Unpaid TV ad     |
| 16 | Hostel           |
| 17 | Little, in Lille |
| 18 | Worldwide        |
| 19 | Pulsate          |
| 20 | UFO crew         |
| 21 | Deep-fried       |
| 22 | news-paper       |
| 23 | ad               |
| 24 | Zing             |
| 25 | Acted badly?     |
| 26 | Caravan          |
| 27 | Column style     |
| 28 | beast            |
| 29 | Emulate          |
| 30 | Lincoln          |
| 31 | Donnybrook       |
| 32 | Batter's dry     |
| 33 | spell            |
| 34 | Big wind         |
| 35 | Notion           |
| 36 | Decay            |
| 37 | Ram's ma'am      |
| 38 | Trio after Q     |

**Weekly SUDOKU**

**ANSWER**

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

1. (Fore) 2. Pear() 3. (Gamble) 4. (Star) 5. (Gamble)

## Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

**UP IN THE AIR ABOUT TRAFFIC**

TOLL BOOTH traffic is heavy, as this helicopter view shows. But it is in less disarray than it appears.

All of the white blocks in this design are reasonably parallel. If you find this hard to believe, hold diagram sideways at eye level, and sight from side to side.

**ADD-A-LETTER** fore or aft to find new words:  
1. Add F to a mine product for a golfer's cry.  
2. Add L to a fruit for a sea treasure.  
3. Add G to a slow walk for a dice-y move.  
4. Add E to a movie celeb for a steady gaze.

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# HIDDEN GEMS

*Cooperative Effort between the Voice and the West Haven Economic Development Commission*

**By Christine Gallo**

*EDC Member*

The constant sea breeze ruffles the water which stretches out to the teal horizon and beyond. The sun spangles it with diamonds. The trees along our shoreline rustle quietly in their greenbelt against the brown-sugar sands, Could anything improve this scene - say, a nice extra just a couple of times a week?

I'm thinking (and if you know me you know this)...re-tail.

Like the holiday pop-up shop that attracted such attention last December, West Haven's Farmers' Market has a variety of products on offer, most handmade and/or locally produced. It's small business at its finest, with an ocean view.

This year the market has featured homemade breads and baked goods, locally bottled olive oils and marinades, jewelry of every style for every taste, candles, soaps and closet/car diffusers, and decor and trinkets from boho woodwork to opalite marbles.

Nonprofits and other service providers also set up, proffering information (and various and sundry freebies - how I love my freebies!) Knowledge is always power, and you can become pretty potent depending upon what you want to know. Take MarieLourdes Derisse, for example. She's an insurance broker specializing in Medicare counseling. Anyone approaching this milestone - and anyone who has already navigated the incredibly complex Medicare landscape - can attest under oath to the Derisse's statement that Medicare is «so very complicated». Contradictory information and misinformation is rife; even the government website and the SSA don't always give clear answers - or give answers later cast in doubt by different information. Derisse is an expert who has the answers and she's always happy to help. She's been a fixture at the market since it began in early July; if is approaching 65, approaching her "Medicare Life" station is a sound idea..

Vendors of things whimsical and utilitarian, savory and sweet, and those things you buy for gifts and those you just want to keep for yourself - are gathered under the trees.

A sampling one market day at the hot, humid tail end of August led first to long-time marketeer Katie Becker. Origi-

nally from Orange, Katie has lived in West Haven for 20 years and works hard to support the community, appearing at various festivals and pop up shops - and she's been part of the Farmers' Market for six years. "I really want to support my community," she says. Becker is known for her jewelry and keychains. Her most popular this year are proving to be the cosmic collection, necklaces and bracelets that celebrate images from the space telescope with colorful clouds and puffs and patterns of color. Becker's other big sellers are Italian millefiore glass pieces in a myriad of colors, shapes and sizes. She also has stainless steel, non-tarnishing unisex chain necklaces with charms or beads. Becker smiles: "I live here; I want to do my part to make it even prettier."

Ameira, a student at the University of New Haven who does henna skin designs, is nearby. She also creates her own stickers and handpainted wooden alphabet decor. Ameira has been working at her craft for seven years. When she saw an advertisement for the Farmers' Market online, "I am familiar with the area, so I figured I would try it and see." as she's been at different farmers' markets and knows the territory.

Opposite we see some remarkably colorful curtains waving languorously in the ocean breezes (pure silk, and not just for the tent - luxuriously for sale) . Nancy Todd, owner, designer and maker at Imaginancy Creations, is ensconced within the tent, surrounded by her handiwork. A biology teacher who really ramped up her output during the pandemic, Todd leans to the natural world for many of her designs. Earrings featuring artichokes, dinosaurs, owls, mushrooms, puppies, hot peppers, bunnies? She's got them, and many more. She also sells some plants, as well as plant-themed items.

As a dog walker and sitter, Todd's inventory also includes plenty o'pup (cat/ferret etc.) accoutrement. Dog sweaters (even ones for larger dogs, which are difficult to find), dog summer coverups (basically very fashionable, non-sticky pooch sunscreen), pet hammocks, pet throws. and costumes. Is a ferret costumes on your wish list? This is your vendor. Todd will do custom orders, so you can conjure up your own ferret (or labradoo-



**Above -- Dog Sweaters For Breeds of Many Sizes available at West Haven Farmers' Market. Below -- Creator Nancy Todd, one of the Farmers' Market vendors, beside handmade 100% pure silk curtains - just one example of the goods for sale at the market**

dle) costume or coverup.

There are also handmade decorative items and ornaments made from Maine coast seashells and milkweed pods from West Haven's own shorefront (as a childrens' book author, Todd has quite the backstories for these - check these out).

Nearby we come to EB Essentials, another colorful enclave stuffed with handmade goods. When Edith Bostick retired, "I didn't want to just stay home," she says. "I always had a knack for sewing, so I began sewing..." Bostick sure did sew... around her we have high-quality baby burp cloths, baby "love" blankets (baby showers coming up?), and reading pillows - pillows with a pocket for a book, notebook or computer tablet (back-to-school gift, anyone?)...EB Essentials also specializes in handmade bracelets of all

sorts, produced by assistants Sky, Elle and Amelia, who are always there at the market with Bostick. We're talking inspirational bracelets, kiddie bracelets, lava rock bracelets, and themed bracelets. Not enough accessories for you? Sky also makes cloth headbands. and there's a huge selection of different kinds of scrunchies and hair ties (the latter also packaged for gifting, but you may just want to keep them for yourself), as well as satin scrunchie keychain fobs and keychain pompom fobs available in too many hues for any rainbow to compete. Bostick's enterprise has been a regular at the market; stop by and meet the makers, and don't forget to give a greet to roadie Dexter "DB" who helps them set up and dismantle every market day.

Before I close, I hear you barking, big dog...where are

the Farmers at said Farmers' Market? There are two large farm stands, set up adjacent to the boardwalk promenade. Both have been involved with West Haven's market for years. John Marcucio is a twelve-year veteran. Daughter Barbara and assistant Karen explain how Marcucio, who does different markets, was approached by the city years ago. "It's a nice area, and he wanted to help the community," Barb and Karen say. "People thank us for being here."

Most of the produce is organic, and all fruit and vegetables, as well as honey, are from local Connecticut producers. The usuals are available: corn, tomatoes, peaches, lettuce, cukes. But one can also get garlic, jalapeno peppers, Italian plums, white peaches, cider, pickling cucumbers and other less-common local pro-

**See Hidden Gems, page 17**

## Westies prep for opener



Photos by Todd Dandelske

### *Scrimmage Bunnell*

West Haven is preparing for its Sept. 9 against city rival Notre Dame at Veterans Field. The Blue Devils traveled to Stratford to match up with Bunnell. The controlled scrimmage emphasized execution and situations, preparing for game decisions. The rest of the fall sports teams prepared for their own scrimmages as they, too, have been in the preparation mode.

