

# West Haven Voice

September 19, 2024

Vol. 29, Issue 18, 20 Pages

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

## Voice Feature

*An in-depth feature*

**The high school season is underway**

**Beginning at page 20**



# Bocce tournament returns to city!

Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Police Chief Joseph S. Perno, right, helps bocce competitor Carly Schwartz of Team West Haven Inc. carry the Special Olympics torch during the opening ceremony of the Special Olympics Connecticut Unified Sports Fall Festival bocce competition at the Old Grove Park courts Saturday. Standing at attention holding an oversize American flag is the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard, which presented the colors. Behind the torchbearers are police escorts, from left, Officer Abdoul Aremu, Capt. Joseph Romano and Officer Rozimara Ramos. See page 8 for more.



# Kross' story personalizes 9/11 tragedy

By Michael P. Walsh

*Special to the Voice*

Mayor Dorinda Borer recognized FDNY 9/11 survivor Mickey Kross and read his moving story during a candlelight vigil at the city's 9/11 memorial Sept. 11.

Kross, a retired New York City Fire Department lieutenant who now lives in West Haven, responded to the attack on the twin towers in New York's World Trade Center complex and survived the collapse of the north tower.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Kross' firehouse, Engine Company 16 on Manhattan's East 29th Street, was dispatched at 8:50 a.m. to the trade center complex. After reporting to a fire command post in the north tower's lobby, Kross, then 55, and his firefighters headed for another command post on the 23rd floor.

Kross then received orders to evacuate. He was descending stairwell B on the north tower's fourth floor when he heard a loud roar and the building collapsed.

A few hours later, sheltered by the stairway, Kross was among 12 FDNY members and two others who emerged relatively unscathed.

Kross later donated the black FDNY lieutenant helmet he wore on 9/11 to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at ground zero.

West Haven observed the 23rd anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks with a flag-raising ceremony at the Bradley Point Park  
See 9/11 page 10



Photo by Andrew Kosarko

Retired FDNY survivor Mickey Kross bows his head as Mayor Dorinda Borer relates his personal story during the city's annual 9/11 candlelight ceremony.

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Michael from the West Haven Community House After School Program is getting ready for the upcoming pumpkin season.



### Duo on pier Sept. 22

Chris Skeens and Joe La-Dore will perform from 9:30-11 a.m. Sept. 22 at the Oak Street pier, off Captain Thomas Boulevard, as part of the city's Acoustic Sunday Morning Concert Series. Grab a coffee and a beach chair and chill out to covers of all genres — with the unique sound of a custom-made cajon drum! — played by West Haven's favorite smooth-sailing duo.

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### On this Date

2010 -- Oil rig Deepwater Horizon is declared sealed. Thought to be one of the biggest accidents in the oil and gas industry, the Deepwater Horizon spill or the BP oil spill began on April 20, 2010, when an explosion destroyed the rig and killed 11 people.

2006 -- A Military coup overthrows the elected government in Thailand. Forces loyal to General Sonthi Boonyaratglin overthrew the elected government of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and dissolved the parliament and the constitution.

1983 -- Saint Kitts and Nevis gain their Independence from the British Crown. The first Europeans set foot on the Island country in the West Indies in the late 15th century during an expedition led by Columbus. In 1713, the control over the islands was passed from the French to the British.

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Next Issue Date:  
October 3, 2024

# Tucker named to state's opioid panel

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Gov. Ned Lamont has appointed Councilwoman Katherine Tucker to serve on the state's Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee.

Tucker, a Democrat representing West Haven's 7th

District, is a board-certified advanced practice registered nurse and the clinical program director of outpatient programs at Yale New Haven Hospital's Heart and Vascular Center.

She was notified of her gubernatorial appointment in a

Sept. 6 letter from Lamont.

"I have the honor and privilege to appoint you to the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee, as an individual representing municipalities, to serve a term ending on September 5, 2026, and until a successor is appointed and has qualified," Lamont said in the one-page letter.

Tucker was recommended for the appointment by Mayor Dorinda Borer.

"I want to congratulate Councilwoman Tucker on her appointment by Governor Lamont," Borer said. "Kathy has what it takes to properly advise this committee to ensure that Connecticut's opioid settlement money flows to the communities that need it most. I know she will serve our state and our city well."

Borer said the state and its municipal health departments are receiving the settlement money as part of a nationwide settlement reached with drug-makers and pharmaceutical companies for their roles in the national opioid crisis.

West Haven Health Director Maureen B. Lillis said her department will use its portion of the settlement money to fund the city's overdose awareness campaign and to help stop opioid addiction in West Haven.

Tucker has been a nurse for three decades. She earned a doctorate in nursing practice from Sacred Heart University and bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from Quinnipiac University.

A lifelong Westie, Tucker began her inaugural term on the

City Council in March 2022 and has been a champion for health, education, social justice and equality.

Tucker was named West Haven's African American Citizen of the Year in 2023 and is a former member of the city's Board of Health.



Submitted Photo

West Haven Councilwoman Katherine Tucker, D-7.

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# GRAVEYARD LANTERN TOUR

Saturday, October 19  
5-7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Tours begin at the Poli House at 686 Savin Ave.

University of New Haven theater students are collaborating with the West Haven Historical Society on the annual Graveyard Lantern Tour. This spooky local event, which "resurrects" several long dead West Haveners who are buried in the graveyards in the center of town. Join the West Haven Community and get ready for Halloween!



University of New Haven  
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POWER ON

# Dear Felicia

Howdy do, sweet! Here we are in the middle o' September already. Things are getting back to normal. The kiddies have settled into their school routines, and summer is waning and will officially be over next week. But there's still one right o' summer that has to be played through, and that's the Apple Festival, sponsored by the First Church parish. That seems to slam the lid on summer each year, and effen mem'ry suits, there were some years the event brought the chill of fall with it.

I remember one year it was quite cold on the old Green and effen yew weren't bundled up, you'd feel it. Still at this time 'o year the mornings are chilly and the days get almost hot. Enjoy the festival, and the weather whilst we can. Heaven knows we'll be bolting the windows and turning on the heat soon enuff.

Here in the Asylum by the Sea things have been a bit quiet. Politically, things are really quiet. Methinks the boys and girls that run our politics are working on the national election and staying away from the folderol that normally goes on in these parts.

I did notice that Ray Collins III, who is running as a GOPer in the 117th district, replacing Charlie Ferraro who is retiring after a good run, is advertis-

ing on the Internet. Yeah, even Cobina has to be on the web to see what's going on in certain areas, and she noticed that Ray has some spots.

Of course, Ray got himself in trouble earlier in the summer and had to resign as a member of the police commish after a two-decade run. When that creep that tried to drown his kids was in lockup, Ray went in there and did what I think a lotta people wished they could. Still, it was not a good look.

Do I think that'll hurt him? Nah. Like I said most people would've taken the opportunity effen it arose. So, as a campaign issheu it's not much of a much. Ray has gotta do what Charlie did and what his father, who held the seat at one time did - knock on doors and wear out the shoe leather.

Meanwhile, like I said, much of the under-ticket electioneering seems to be under the radar. Of course, as far as the other two districts in the city, they are held by Demmies, and have been since Fred and Barney were tooling around in Bedrock, so a "rose garden campaign" as they used to be called, is probably what is in the cards.

~~~~  
As yew'll see this in the middle o' the week once it's posted, you will note that the city is going

through another "Bulk Trash Week." I can tell yew from experience in my own area o' the city, people have been revving up fer this since the middle o' last month. It's amazing what people get rid of on Bulk Trash Week, and it usually extends well beyond the week itself.

But as Sammy Bluejay pointed out over tea last week, whilst the city posts the "hows" and "whys" of what will be acceptable and what won't, dollars to doughnuts there are gonna be more than a few people who will put out trash that cannot be collected, and will be upset when it's not picked up.

F'rinstance, boob tubes have not been picked up by trash haulers ever in my recollecting, and the city makes it known in all its publicity about the week that TVs are not to be put on the curb. Of course, now the TVs ain't the big pieces of furniture they were in our day, they are more just screens, but those screens have things in them that need special handline. Still, yew will see TVs on the curb, and they may be there for weeks before the homeowner or renter determines they are not going to be picked up. Same goes for other items the city can't or won't pick up. It must frustrate the hauler and the people in charge of the cityside. Effen we've learned anything, people don't pay attention much, and then are upset because of what they don't know.

~~~~

I made mention to you in the last missive that Cobina is hearing rumblings about Quigley Stadium again. Nelly Nuthatch told me she's heard the same and that an organization that has a big stake in the city is looking at Front Avenue in general, and it's not who you think it might be. As the saying goes, right church, wrong pew.

But the subjeck has come up cuz the West Haven Twilight League, which is a tenant over there, has heard the same rumors. Trouble is, that same rumor has been going around for years, yet this time it seems to have a bit more staying power. Nelly was reminiscing about the last time the city proposed getting rid of the stadium, and then it had the old stands and looked quite better than it does these days.

In fack, that situation was quite a big story in town, and it probably cost Azelio "Sal" Guerra a thoid term in City Hall. Back then in 1989, the old Allingtoun families were still around, and they were livid that one of their assets was gonna be put on the chopping block. There was a big rally in the stadium, and that ws really the event that seemed to put Clem Evangeliste on the map as the GOP contender.

The rest as they say is history. Clem was elected in a tight race, and eventually put the city into insolvency with a budget that double-counted funds. It was quite the mess. The GOP hasn't recovered since. Those families, for the most part aren't around anymore, and the whole area has taken on a new feel. Effen Quigley Stadium or Front Avenue go on the block, Cobina doubts there will be much of a brouhaha.

But staying on that area, when Nelly was discussing that we ventured to the "Enterprise Zone" that was delineated along the Front Avenue corridor. By my recollection, that was before COVID made the scene and is four or five years ago now.

That was gonna offer tax incentives and land tracts to medical research and like biotech operations. Here we are some years later and not much has been done. One or two businesses that were in the city already have benefited from the perks - and good for them - but like much of what happens when there is a big ballyhoo about something, not much happens. Pressers are called, big plans are announced, and then it's put on the back burner.

Staying in Allingtoun, Nelly had a few more observations. The library and the fire brigade were supposed to coalesce into one building op-

eration with the station on one side and the library on t'other. Nelly sez that the plan is still being worked on, and supposedly, there might be some type of announcement sooner rather than later. With new people in the development offices, one wonders effen they are still getting their feet wet. We shall see soon enuff.

Finally, there is the former Forest Theater site. That was used as a staging area when the new look along the Boston Post Road was being built, and with the exception of the former drug store that closed, the area looks quite spiffy. Now, one wonders effen anything is ever gonna be put on that site. The chatter seems to be that eventually something will be done, but, like anything else, the construction would have to fill a need or whet an appetite to get occupants. Barring that, we might see the area continue in its present state. Brick and mortar sites hafta have real tenants or they might just be ghost towns. Big cities are learning that in real time.

~~~~  
*'Twas nice to the Special Olympics bocce tournament back at the Old Grove Park over the weekend. It brought back many memories of the 1995 World Games, when this area worked very hard to make the visitors to the Greater New Haven area very welcome. There was a bit of that this time, too.*

*The competitions went on and the public enjoyed the intensity the athletes showed in their events. And effen yew don't think bocce is a big deal to some people, yew've never been down there on a summer's even when some big contests are being competed. It could get heated.*

*Still there was none of that, but there was good fun and good cheer all over the venue. Nice to see the event back after a nine-year hiatus. There are some things that just seem right, and the city hosting that event is one of them.*

~~~~  
*Cobina is still not happy about them tearing down the old Washington School, but she is marveling at the way the new building is going up. I mentioned this to yew back in the midsummer. I know a lotta the components are prefabricated, and it gives the whole feel of the construction as a bit of a big Erector Set.*

Tennyrate, while we sometimes wonder effen any construction is going to happen in these parts (see above) this seems to be going along about as smoothly as could be, and the May 2025 deadline seems to be quite workable. That alone is something to be marveled at. We shall see.

~~~~  
Mitt luff und kizzez,  
*Cobina*

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**Gripe Vine Readers:**

In my last column I received a response from West Haven's mayor, Dorinda Borer, relating to an improvement to the city's Senior Center. Complaints arrived from readers who felt a cleanup of the facility, additional seating in the lobby and improvements in the refreshment and recreational areas.

Included in the response from the mayor were indications of a move in 2025 to the Malloy School, improvements to both the condition of the center as well as additional lobby seating and a new Bingo machine and ice machine.

Following publication of this information I received the following letter from a reader:

**Dear Eleanore Turkington:**

The former Noble School, located at the corner of Noble Street and Washington Avenue, is the site of, among other things, educational and



**ELEANORE TURKINGTON**

daycare services for preschool children.

During the morning rush and throughout the day, families are attempting to escort their small children into the building. Parking is extremely limited on the Noble Street side and prohibited along the southbound Washington

Avenue side of the building, with police enforcement of the parking ban. Families must therefore park across Washington Avenue from the school and risk walking across Washington Avenue to drop off or pick up their children. The risk here is the presence of speeding and/or distracted drivers, of which there are many. Sooner or later, someone is very likely to be injured or killed.

Before that happens, why can't speed bumps be installed? Of course that would take time. Meanwhile, it would also be wise and quick to install a stop sign on Washington Avenue northbound and southbound at the corner of Blohm Street, to regulate the flow of traffic. A greater police presence on behalf of these young families would also make a lot of sense. We hope that you can find

a sympathetic and responsive ear at city hall before this inevitably becomes a tragedy.

*Concerned Parents*

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You may send your gripes to [Gripevine4wh@yahoo.com](mailto:Gripevine4wh@yahoo.com), or mail them to West Haven Voice, 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven 06516. Please include your name, address, and phone number or email address, kept in strict confidence with me.

## VFW post sponsoring scholarship essays

VFW Post 9422 is sponsoring several scholarship programs for West Haven, Connecticut students in grades 6-12. Each of the scholarship programs incorporates a patriotic theme. Prizes are progressive and awarded at local, district, state and national levels.

West Haven Memorial Post 9422 will award \$100 to the winner from each school that will then advance to the district level.

Patriot's Pen - This scholarship program is a youth essay open to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. The theme for this year's essay is "My Voice in America's Democracy?"

Entries may earn more than \$5,000 to be used to further the student's education.

The deadline for submission to the Post is October 31, 2024.

Voice of Democracy - This scholarship program is an oral essay open to 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. The theme for this year's essay is "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"

Entries may earn more than \$35,000 to be used to further the student's education.

The deadline for submission to the Post is October 31, 2024.

Information and a scholarship application can be found on the VFW website:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>

Or contact: VFW West Haven Memorial Post 9422, 233 Spring St. West Haven 06516, Angelo Narduzzo, Scholarship Program Chairman, (203) 887-1967, [angelonarduzzo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:angelonarduzzo@sbcglobal.net).

## Pumpkin Patch planned Oct. 5

Sisters with a New Attitude support group is sponsoring a Community Pumpkin Patch at Glade Street Park on Saturday, Oct. 5, from noon-4. Pumpkin Picking, a sack race, face painting and arts and crafts will be part of the attractions. The event hopes to offer a fun time to those children who lack the transportation or funds to attend such events outside the city.

Donations are being accepted and may be sent to: [swananew-esthaven00@yahoo.com](mailto:swananew-esthaven00@yahoo.com), please put in the subject line: pumpkin patch.

## Sight support group meets monthly

"Our Journey of Sight" is a low-vision/blind support group meeting at the West Haven Public Library, 300 Elm St on the third Friday of each month. The time is 10-noon. For more information, contact Richard Howard, (203) 214-7631.

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## City welcomes tourney

After a nine-year hiatus, Special Olympics Connecticut came back to West Haven. The return of its annual Unified Sports Fall Festival and its Fall Festival bocce competition came back to the Old Grove Park bocce courts last weekend. It certainly brought back memories to many hundreds of Westies who helped make the city part of the Special Olympics World Games in 1995.

For those many who remember the time leading up to the 1995 games, several cities participated in the preparation, and none more so than West Haven. It was there that a special bond grew between the Special Olympics organizers and the city's residents. The last time the bocce tournament was held here was 2015.

While the Special Olympics, state, regional and international, are geared for those with special needs, the competition is no less fierce, focused, and intense than one would expect in any tournament play. The rules are the rules, and the players abide by them.

Hundreds came out last weekend to be part of the opening ceremonies and the competition itself and rekindled the relationship the city has with these athletes and their families.

The city did itself proud, giving a great venue with wonderful support to those competing. It was a day of pride not only for the athletes, but for the city, which, once again, showed it welcomes all and sundry to enjoy our shore and what the city has to offer.

The city's new slogan, "West Haven: the shore and so much more" really stood up.

Congratulations to the organizers, who came back to West Haven, and a special thanks to the people behind the scenes in various city departments who made it all possible for the competitors.

It was a special weekend, indeed, and one we hope is repeated in years to come.

## History shapes now

Last week, the city remembered. As it has done for more than two decades, September 11, or 9/11 as it is called, was commemorated by ceremonies on the Boardwalk. It is there that the attack on that date in 2001 memorializes those first responders who perished, along with the city's only victim, Richard S. Gabrielle.

It has been 23 years since that day, and a generation of residents have grown up in its aftermath. Like many historic events, this seems like just that, an historic event to those residents. That is why keeping remembrances such as what happened last week is important.

Historic events transform lives, those of us who remember 9/11 were changed in some ways, our way of life was altered in great and small particulars. The events of that date and others must be remembered so those growing up later may understand its significance, and how it changed the world forever.

Too many people like to believe they are unaffected by world events, but we all are changed. The new generations must understand that. Historic events such as 9/11 are not events that stand alone.

The world changed after 9/11 and those changes went beyond the single event. New generations must learn about those events and the events that followed. Only then can they fully grasp the reasons the world is the way it is today.



## Where is our National honor?

By Rich Lowry  
*Syndicated Columnist*

What happened to national honor?

Famously, a message from President Theodore Roosevelt's Secretary of State, John Hay, electrified the 1904 Republican convention: "This Government wants Perdicaris alive or Raisuli dead."

Ion Perdicaris, a wealthy Greek-American, had been kidnapped in Morocco by a bandit named Ahmed al-Raisuli. Hay's line served as a U.S. ultimatum to bring the affair, after the United deployment of the U.S. Navy to Morocco and drawn-out negotiations, to a conclusion.

We've come a long way from the time when the kidnapping of one American, whose citizenship was actually a little murky, elicited a thunderous reaction as a matter of national principle.

Needless to say, no one is ever going to mistake Joe Biden for TR, one of the most compelling figures in American history, but the president couldn't be a better representative of our attenuated sense of national honor.

A terrorist group killed and kidnapped U.S. citizens and is still holding them in horrific conditions, and the U.S. government has been doing a tap dance between the terrorists and an Israeli government fighting and bleeding to try to save them.

U.S. officials condemn Hamas, yet there is none of the righteous fury one would expect of a government whose citizens have been subjected to such grotesque mistreatment.

When Hamas murdered Hersh Goldberg-Polin in cold blood, President Biden blamed Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu for his recalcitrance in negotiations -- even though Hamas took the hostages, Hamas has refused to release them, Hamas has a policy of killing them if there is some chance they could get rescued, and Hamas threatens to do the same again.

We've imposed no significant consequences on Iran for its sponsorship of a terror group with American blood on its hands.

We are mealy-mouthed and skittish, a super power constrained by its unwillingness to fully take its own side in a fight.

We should feel a profound sense of national embarrassment, but Joe Biden doesn't embarrass easily. He left U.S. citizens behind in Afghanistan and has failed to neutralize a rag-tag band of rebels who continue to disrupt shipping in the Red Sea despite the presence of the U.S. Navy.

Back in 1904, when Perdicaris was released and saw U.S. vessels in the water outside Tangier, he exulted at "such proof of his country's solicitude for its citizens and for the

honor of its flag."

Biden is now falling short not just of the TR standard, but that set by Lord Palmerston, the great British foreign secretary, under much less provocation. In 1850, Palmerston sent the Royal Navy to vindicate the interests of David Pacifico, a British citizen and Jew born in Gibraltar, who was seeking recompense from the Greek government for the destruction of his property.

Responding to his critics, Palmerston delivered a nearly five-hour speech describing the question in the matter as, "whether, as the Roman, in days of old, held himself free from indignity, when he could say *Civis Romanus sum* [I am a Roman citizen]; so also a British subject, in whatever land he may be, shall feel confident that the watchful eye and the strong arm of England, will protect him against injustice and wrong."

Of course, the sentiments of Hay and Palmerston are from long ago. It is likely that Joe Biden and the people around him feel about those attitudes the way John Kerry felt after Vladimir Putin went into Ukraine the first time in 2014: "You just don't, in the 21st century, behave in 19th century fashion."

National honor, in any robust sense, presumably strikes them as atavistic and chauvinistic, too simplistic and

See Lowry, page 7

# Biden plan can change investing

By John Stanford  
Guest Column

The White House could soon finalize a proposal that would shift the venture capital investment landscape in fields like renewable energy, quantum computing, national security, and life sciences. If the plan moves ahead, high-tech entrepreneurs may not be able to raise the capital needed to develop the cutting-edge technologies of the future.

The proposal centers on the 1980 Bayh-Dole Act, which allows universities, federal labs, and businesses to file patents for any discoveries they make with the help of federal funding. Prior to the law, any patents resulting from taxpayer funding automatically belonged to the government, and billions of dollars' worth of research simply gathered dust.

Translating these early-stage discoveries into tangible products that benefit the public is no easy feat. For instance, converting a novel chemical compound created in a university lab into a life-saving medicine could easily cost over \$2 billion -- which is why firms often depend on the help of venture capital investors.

How do venture capital firms decide which opportunities to invest in?

There are many considerations, but patents and other forms of intellectual property are often the determinative factor. On average, patent-owning firms are 47% more likely to secure venture capital funding.

Without secure patent rights, the already risky process of creating a breakthrough invention based on early-stage federally funded research could become practically intolerable for many visionary start-ups and the venture capitalists they rely on.

That's precisely why the new proposal has alarmed many venture capital investors who specialize in high-tech, patent-intensive fields.

The plan encourages federal agencies to relicense patents linked with government funding if the price of a resulting

product is deemed "unreasonable." The plan hinges on Bayh-Dole's "march-in" clause, which empowers the government to ignore exclusive patent licenses in extremely rare circumstances specified in the law. None of those circumstances relate to price.

From the venture capital perspective, the guidance risks turning federally funded patents into liabilities rather than opportunities. If exclusive patent licenses can be voided on a whim, it's practically inevitable that many venture capital firms will seek out less risky investment opportunities.

Officials have touted the march-in measure as primarily a drug pricing reform. But life sciences is far from the only sector the proposal would affect. Fields like quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and renewable energy benefit significantly from federally funded research -- and companies in those industries would face the same, if not greater, risk of losing venture funding.

After months of warnings from pioneering start-ups and the venture capitalists that support them, more than two dozen members of Congress, including nine Democrats, have signed a letter asking the president to rescind the march-in plan. The lawmakers cautioned that the plan "will hamstring U.S. innovation to the advantage of our competitors and adversaries."

They're right. The march-in proposal signals to venture capital investors that the patent rights behind federally backed inventions may no longer be secure. Without venture capital -- which backs companies that account for 80% of the nation's private-sector R&D spending -- America's innovation potential will be wasted. Consumers will lose access to beneficial technologies, including life-saving drugs, as a result.

Fortunately, officials in Washington still have time to withdraw the plan before it erodes the investment relationships that visionary entrepreneurs and venture capital

investors have worked for decades to build. Let's hope they do.

John Stanford is executive director of Incubate, a Washington-based coalition of early stage

life-science investors. This piece originally ran in RealClearMarkets.



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WHEAT is looking for dedicated and compassionate volunteers to work Monday evenings in our pantry! If interested, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Fiona Pare, at [fpare@wheatpantry.org](mailto:fpare@wheatpantry.org).

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## Lowry: *National honor*

Continued from page 6

unyielding for the demands of our complicated times. Hamas, though, isn't playing by 21st-century rules. It is acting by the same bloody-minded imperatives of barbarians from any time or place. We may think we are responding with great subtlety and sophistication, but we shouldn't be surprised if they consider us weaklings and fools.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.  
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# Special Olympians make return

By Michael P. Walsh  
Special to the Voice

More than 150 athletes competed in the Special Olympics Connecticut Fall Festival bocce competition at the city's Old Grove Park courts Saturday and Sunday.

The 2024 Unified Sports Fall Festival tournament, presented by Mohegan Sun, showcased Special Olympians from several teams statewide, including West Haven, Hamden, North Haven, Westport and New Milford.

The opening ceremony, held on the grounds of the historic shoreline park Saturday morning, included a presentation of the colors by the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard and the singing of the national anthem by West Haven High School sophomore Barrett Welch.

It also included remarks by Mayor Dorinda Borer, master of ceremonies Lisa Kovlakas, a member of the Special Olympics Connecticut board of directors, and Katie Dennett, Special Olympics' director of partnerships and corporate relations. Kovlakas is ESPN's manager of strategic partnerships and corporate citizenship.

Borer thanked Special Olympics Connecticut for choosing West Haven as the host site and organizing the bocce competition. The mayor also welcomed the hundreds of athletes and their families to the city.

"We're going to be cheering you on!" said Borer, who received a framed certificate of thanks from Kovlakas on behalf of Special Olympics Connecticut President and CEO Michael B. Mason.

The ceremony was attended by state Rep. Bill Heffernan, D-West Haven, and Councilmen Gary Donovan, D-4, and Mackie McMillian, D-5.

As DJ Steve Gourdier played Tina Turner's "The Best," bocce competitor Carly Schwartz of Team West Haven Inc. carried the Special Olympics torch into the venue with West Haven Police Chief Joseph S.



Photos by Michael P. Walsh

Above --An enthusiastic, fist-pumping Team West Haven Inc. is joined by, from right, state Rep. Bill Heffernan, 5th District Councilman Mackie McMillian, Mayor Dorinda Borer and 4th District Councilman Gary Donovan. Left -- A Special Olympics Connecticut athlete throws a bocce ball during the bocce competition at the Old Grove Park courts.



Perno. The torchbearers received a police escort by Capt. Joseph Romano and Officers Rozimara Ramos and Abdoul Aremu.

"Let the Games begin," Kovlakas proclaimed.

The city last hosted the bocce competition nine years ago. The courts, six in all, were donated and constructed by Spe-

cial Olympics Connecticut for the Special Olympics World Games bocce competition in July 1995. In addition to the bocce competition in West Haven, sailing took place at The Wadawanuck Club in Stonington, softball at the Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Club in East Hartford and golf at Sleeping Giant Golf Course in Hamden.

On Sept. 28-29, the croquet competition will take place at the Ocean House in Rhode Island.

Special Olympics Connecticut provides year-round sports training and competitions for more than 12,000 athletes of all ages with intellectual disabilities and Unified Sports partners — their team-

mates without disabilities.

Through the joy of sport, the Special Olympics movement transforms lives and communities statewide and in 190 countries worldwide by promoting good health and fitness and inspiring inclusion and respect for people of all abilities, on and off the playing field.

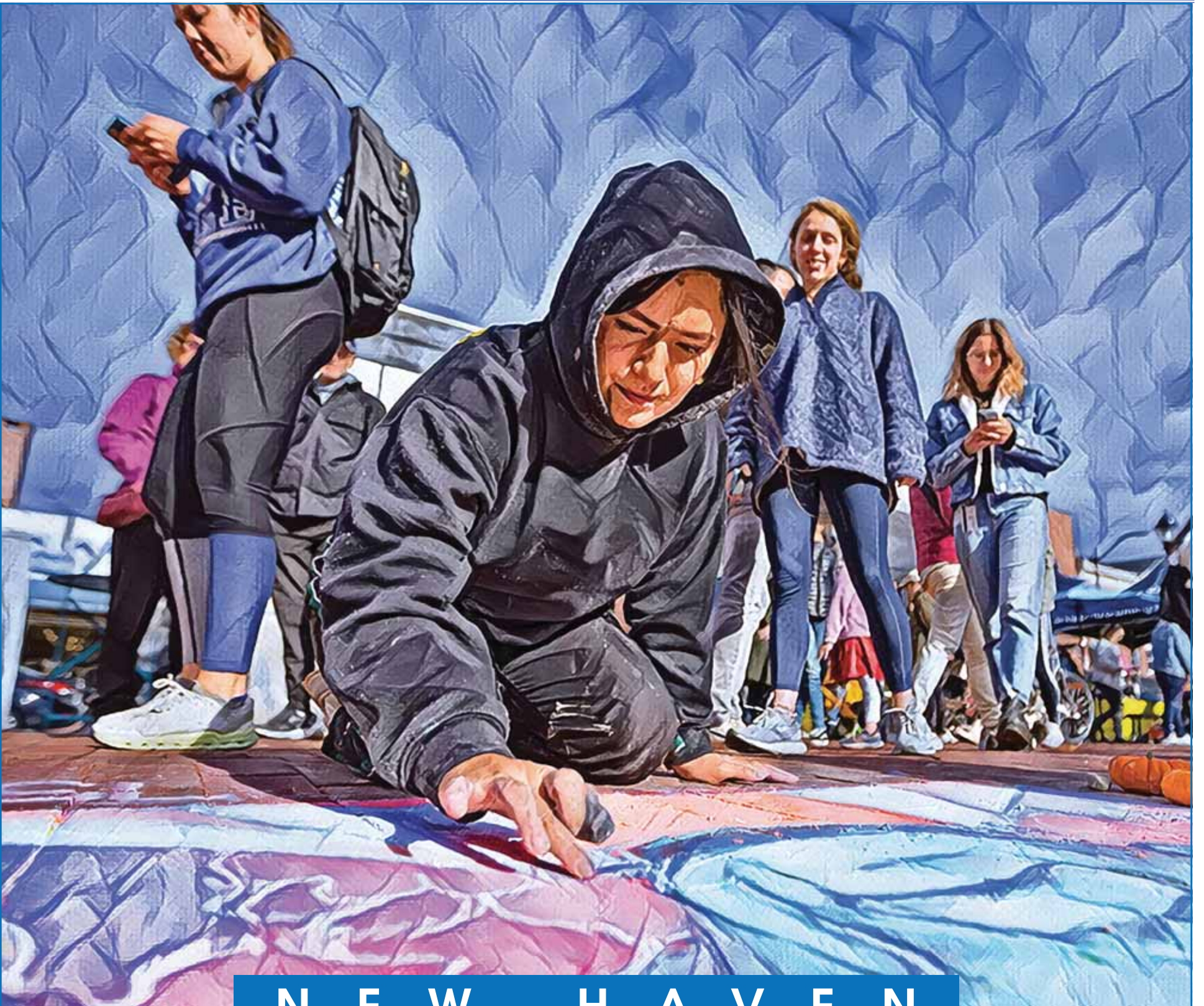


Submitted Photo

## Class of '74

The West Haven High School Class of 1974 recently celebrated its 50th reunion weekend. The class enjoyed a first night at the West Haven Elks, followed by a dinner at Lorenzo's, and a class picnic at Painter Park. On hand was a special visit by the West Haven Blue Devil.





**N E W H A V E N**

# Chalk Art Festival

Join The Shops at Yale for the 7th Annual New Haven Chalk Art Festival from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Saturday, October 12th (rain date 10/13).

More than 65 amateur and professional artists will compete for \$2,800 in prizes, including \$1,000 to Hull's Art Supply & Framing. Enjoy live jazz, free kettle corn, craft activities, a Family Fun Zone with a professional art instructor, free parking, and much more!

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Photo by Andrew Kosarko

People hold candles at the Richard S. Gabrielle Sept. 11 Memorial on the boardwalk to mark the 23rd anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Members of the West Haven Rotary Club distributed the candles at the granite monument, which was paid for by the service club in 2002. Gabrielle, 50, of West Haven, was killed during the 2001 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.

## 9/11: *City remembers*

Continued from page 1

flagpole, followed by the candlelight vigil at the Richard S. Gabrielle Sept. 11 Memorial on the boardwalk next to the former Savin Rock Conference Center.

Members of the West Haven Rotary Club distributed 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. An insurance broker at Aon Corp., he was last seen on the south tower's 78th floor.

Rick Spreyer, Borer's chief of staff, served as the master of ceremonies of the flag-raising and vigil.

The flag-raising by the West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard honored the memory of the nearly 3,000 people who died in the attacks and included remarks by city and state leaders, including Borer and Reps. Charles J. Ferraro, R-West Haven, and Bill Heffernan, D-West Haven.

It also included the national anthem and "God Bless America" sung by West Haven High School senior Zoe Powell.

The vigil featured a presentation of the colors by the West Haven Police Honor Guard, taps played by retired West Shore Fire Department Lt. Kevin McKeon and a remembrance prayer by Vertical Church Senior Pastor Ken Vance, as well as Celtic folk performances by Irish singer-songwriter Liz McNicholl, including "The Bravest," a tribute to the heroes of 9/11.

It also included a wreath-laying and a performance of "Amazing Grace" by the New Haven County Firefighters Emerald Society Pipes & Drums.

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

## Troop wins 'T' Cup

Troop 821, sponsored by the City of West Haven Fire Department - Allingtown, participated in a camping trip at the Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford. During the week-long outing, the all-Girls troop representing West Haven was awarded the Tantaquidgeon Cup named in honor of Chief Harold A. Tantaquidgeon of the Mohegan Tribe. The "T" - Cup as it is frequently referred to as is bestowed on the Troop that leads the camp in Scout Spirit and Enthusiasm and is considered as the troop that performed as "Best in Show."

Troop 821 is brand new to the Webster Scout Reservation, and in fact are brand new to Scouting in America. The Award literature states; "This troop has only been in existence for about a year, and have taken to the program like "ducks to water". They have enthusiastically jumped into every aspect of camp and are willing to give of themselves, like real team players".

The T-Cup Trophy has been given to the department and will proudly be displayed in a prominent location at Fire Headquarters.

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# 148 vets honored in city ceremony

By Michael P. Walsh  
*Special to the Voice*

Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, state Veterans Affairs Commissioner Ronald M. Welch and Mayor Dorinda Borer rolled out the red carpet for the city's Vietnam War-era veterans during a ceremony at West Haven High School on Monday night.

In front of a patriotic crowd in the school auditorium, the "West Haven Vietnam-era Veterans Awards Ceremony" honored 148 West Haven veterans, men and women, who served in the U.S. armed forces from 1961 to 1975.

Hundreds of family members applauded as the veterans — some wearing military uniforms, some fighting back tears — received a citation for their service from Bysiewicz and Welch, and a certificate of appreciation from Borer for "your contributions to the nation in the U.S. armed forces and your bravery during the Vietnam War era."

Vets also received a commemorative "Vietnam Veteran" pin from the lieutenant governor and the commissioner.

The more than two-hour ceremony included poignant remarks by Bysiewicz, Welch, Borer, and West Haven Democratic State Reps. Treneé McGee and Bill Heffernan.

"We are here to recognize and celebrate West Haven's Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans," Bysiewicz said. "Please give them a round of applause!"

The lieutenant governor continued: "We are so honored to be here in the company of a generation of men and women who had to go through a very difficult and challenging period in our country's history and in the presence of people who actually served in Vietnam, who had to endure some very big challenges, like pounding monsoon rains, very intense urban combat, stifling jungle heat and exposure to toxic chemicals, like Agent Orange.

"Also, it was a very difficult time in our country's history because, sadly, the American people were divided in their opinions about the war, and sadly and wrongly, they often took their displeasure with the war out on the people who were sacrificing and risking their lives to guard the very precious freedoms that we are so blessed to have in our country."

Bysiewicz, who thanked Borer and City Hall employees for organizing and hosting the event, also underscored the two qualities of Vietnam veterans: resilience in the face of great difficulty and danger and a continued commitment to service.

The ceremony commenced with a presentation of the colors by the West Haven Police Honor Guard and followed with the singing of the national anthem by West Haven High sophomore Paige Kenny.

Army veteran Edward Wolkovitz led the crowd in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and read "My Guardian," a poem he wrote two years ago about his experience in Vietnam. The specialist first class served in the 9th Infantry Division in southern Vietnam's Mekong Delta during the Tet Offensive.

Borer thanked Bysiewicz and Welch, as well as McGee and Heffernan, for the good work they do for Connecticut's veterans.

The mayor also thanked West Haven Municipal Veterans Rep. Rich Deso and the members of West Haven Vietnam Veterans Inc., which was represented by President Dave Ricci, who served in the Marine Corps, and Treasurer Steve Carney, who served in the Army.

"Tonight, with great reverence, we celebrate you, our Vietnam veterans, and commemorate the valor of a generation of men and women who served with honor," Borer said. "I join the residents of our great city in paying solemn tribute to you, our proud veterans — men and women who left their families to serve courageously in the era of the Vietnam War. Today and every day, we strive to be worthy of your sacrifice."

The mayor continued: "The Vietnam War is a story of patriots. Through more than a decade of combat over air, land and sea, they upheld the highest traditions of the armed forces, and more than 58,000 sacrificed all they had and all they would ever know in service to their country.

"Our hearts break and continue to break for the mothers, the fathers, the siblings and the friends of all that did not see their loved one return."

According to Bysiewicz, 612 state residents died in the Vietnam War, including three from West Haven.

Borer also paid tribute to those who were prisoners of war and those who served and never returned home. National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed annually on the third Friday of September, "and that's why we chose this week to honor you," the mayor said.



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Photo courtesy of Steven R. Mullins

## Supplies for new year

Members of the West Haven Lions Club presented school supplies to West Haven Youth and Family Services Director Diane Deitman before the start of the school year. West Haven Lions and New Haven Bank Donate School Supplies. From: Left to Right are Lions Club President Steven R. Mullins, Deitman, New Haven Bank Customer Relations Representative Ann-Marie Delisser, New Haven Bank Head Teller Paul Gwladzowski and Lions Club Vice President Richard Deso.

## Christine Ruggiero marks 100th birthday

West Haven Senior Center member Christine Ruggiero receives a citation in honor of her 100th birthday from Mayor Dorinda Borer during a celebration with fellow members Sept. 10. Borer recognized the centenarian and "avid bingo player" for "leading a remarkable life." Reading the citation, the mayor said, "Your rich legacy is a source of inspiration for all Westies and is rooted in the heart of the American spirit."





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# Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

This week we present a young girl's memories of a long-ago summer day, spent at Savin Rock. Our thanks to Valerie Forte for this story, written by her mother, the late Loretta BonTempo Forte:

On Derby Avenue across from the Maltby Lake falls stands a brick building that was a landmark to those of us who resided near-by.

It was the Doherty and Scott Garage, and Mr. Doherty and Mr. Scott, the proprietors, lived in side by side houses and were our neighbors, in the early 1920s. Mr. Scott lived in a large stone house and Mr. Doherty's fine house was brown.

As children we would walk up to the garage, there was no traffic then, and we'd pull our 'express' wagon to bring them fresh fruit or vegetables from our garden. My older brothers also did errands for the ga-

rage owners.

Mr. Scott and his wife were especially kind and his appearance always reminded me of Santa Claus. They had no children of their own, that we ever knew, and I think they were especially fond of my brother Peter, and me, because we were little and I was sweet and shy.

One warm summer day Mrs. Scott called my mother and asked if they could take Peter and me to Savin Rock. We would have the opportunity to ride through West Haven in their large Packard car. We quickly washed and put on our best clothes, my hair was tied back with a huge bow.

I remember seeing beautiful big houses along the waterfront, and we learned that our destination was Wilcox Pier Restaurant! THE place to go! We had heard of the delicious

ice cream that was elegantly served there. I know now that they were probably known for a more lavish cuisine, but we didn't care – and it was a wonderful warm day for a special treat – something we had also heard about, but never had, an ice cream soda!

Before our stop at Wilcox's, however, we were taken to the "flying horses", of course, I didn't know that the horses actually 'flew' up and down, and I was a small child, so I didn't actually ride a horse, I will now admit, I sat in one of the fancy big seats. My brother Peter, who was a year younger, rode a horse that bobbed up and down. Peter was more outgoing, so while Peter gleefully rode up and down, up and down, I sat and enjoyed my Merry-go-Round experience sitting next to the understanding Mrs Scott.

Wilcox's was known for the long pier that extended from the back porch of the restaurant for what seemed like miles and miles, or so it seemed to me on that day, out over the water. Peter ran ahead, we walked fairly far out, while I, fearing we'd fall off, (although there were rails on each side) held tightly to Mr. and Mrs. Scott's hands.

I said that I was loving everything, and made sure to say "yes, Ma'm" "No, thank you, sir", but I was glad when they finally said we'd sit on the porch and have our ice cream sodas.

We sat at round tables and our sodas were delivered. I don't know WHAT I expected, but a tall, cold, frothy glass with a straw and a long spoon was brought to each of us.

I sipped it once, I sipped it twice...tears came to my eyes. It tasted of chocolate but very 'sharp'! I was not used to the fizz of the soda water that made it seem that way! I reached for my spoon and ate some of the ice cream, I would rather have died than admit I was not entirely pleased. Peter, however, must have had the same anticipation for that sweet treat, and being more outspoken, he exclaimed, "this burns!"

The Scotts were dismayed that anything could be wrong with our sodas. I was embarrassed that Peter had revealed a flaw in our special excursion day so when they asked me how my soda was, I said, "It's good!" Peter tried to sip his again, but the bubbles "burned his nose", so Mrs. Scott tasted Peter's soda and pronounced it to be fine.

So I tried mine again, and



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

again, and finally I proclaimed, "Mine burns too!"

Mr. and Mrs. Scott looked at us, then looked at each other, and decided to call it a day. We returned to the beautiful Packard touring car that they had and rode home.

Ma and Pa were waiting to greet us and hear about our exciting day.

They were a little surprised to hear from us that our first glorious day at Savin Rock had come to a "'bitter' end! Peter exclaimed, after we had thanked Mr. and Mrs Scott and waved good-bye, that they had bought us a treat that burned! That is my memory of my trip to Savin Rock, and a treat at Wilcox's and my first Ice cream soda.

Loretta BonTempo Forte



Savin Rock Amusement Park, 1908  
Wilcox's Pavilion and Carousel, 1908. Located on Beach Street at the head of Summer



Wilcox Pier arcade, and the famous Savin Rock Carousel.



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Photo by Todd Dandelske



## Unassisted!

Jaylyn Powell scores the first of her two goals on a penalty kick, in the Blue Devils' 3-2 loss at Lauralton. The Westies still are looking for that first win at press time.

# Youth Soccer kicks off fall season

The second weekend of games of the Fall season of the West Haven Youth Soccer League saw some great weather and some great games. The WH Federation of Teachers played WH Professional Firefighters, with the Teachers winning, 8-2. Adam Ourgani led the way, blocking multiple shots and demonstrating exceptional leadership skills. Mason Zielanski was relentless on defense, continuously disrupting the opposition. Alex Contreras' impressive footwork, speed, and fearless play allowed him to make a significant impact. The Top Hat Dance Academy Princesses took on Porto Funeral Home, with the Princesses taking the win, 3-2. P&B Express and Seacrest Retirement Center played to a 3-3 draw in a back and forth battle.

Elsie Encarnacion State Farm Insurance dominated the field with an impressive 8-1 win over Baybrook Remodelers. Marc Philogene and Rodger Rodriguez led the charge with three goals each, while Elias Quick-Kwadijk and Anthony Gambardella each added a goal to the tally. Aaron Alli's pinpoint assist was instrumental in securing the team's victory, while Aiden Garcia Rodriguez stood strong on defense, preventing Baybrook Remodelers from gaining any momentum. The Crushing Tigers, playing with unity and determination, showcased their teamwork and skill in this commanding performance. The Seacrest Retirement Center Dragons lost a tough battle to Connex Credit Union 1-0, and American Family Care beat RQ Accounting and Tax Services by the same score.

The Gunning Law Firm had a match against Keenan Funeral Home Gray Wolves Saturday morning. Shavier Medley of The Gunning Law Firm hustled down the field to score a contested goal. While Denzel Ortega had a wide-open finish that he buried. Keenan Funeral Home was too tough, and The Gunning Law Firm lost the game. Physicians Physical Therapy tied Cappetta's Italian Imports, 2-2. The York Business Center Lightning Fairies took on West Haven Police Local 895. Charlotte Murray was a determined goalie for the second half of the game, blocking many shots. Hamidat Tidjani had an overall great game as both a defender and forward. Riley Onde blocked every shot taken as goalie for the first half and scored in the second half. Savannah Gilchrist, Laila Clayton, and Bianca Dinallo scored as well.

The Keenan Funeral Home Gray Wolves, had a great showing as they played against Thorough Restoration with goals scored by Idris Green and Zayden Jordan. Excellent defensive play by Luca D'Elia and Oliver Hemming helped secure a win for the Gray Wolves. Frankie's of West Haven fell to George Ellis Company, 4-2. Taco Town and Stars Ice Cream played a tough game, with the Fightin' Tacos winning, 3-1. The Milano & Wanat Navy Sharks won 1-0 against Wizard Painting. Jude Charles had the lone goal. Jalen Hoskie Jr played amazing defense and Cyncere Harris showed great hustle. The final two

games of the recreational weekend saw the University of New Haven Chargers take on the Law Office of Paul V. Carty and Stowe's Seafood playing Mad Mike's Cheesesteaks. Both games ended in 3-3 ties.

The Vio's Sports Plus West Haven U14 girls travel team were on the road in North Branford Saturday, where they took home a 4-1 win. Alessia Colletta, made some strong plays up and down the field. Francesca DeMartino, Luciana Cappetta, Madison Marion, and Allyson Hernandez-Arce all scored for West Haven. The Elite Soccer Camps West Haven U12 Boys Travel team hosted Southington Sunday afternoon, and defeated their league rival, 6-2. Roland Green had a first half hat trick, and Mason DaSilva played some excellent passes to launch counterattacks. Jaxon Cruz was once again strong in net, while Seth Empric and Collin Gibbons held down the back line.

The West Haven Youth Soccer League kicked off its fall 2024 season on Sept. 7 with a full schedule of games. The Gunning Law Firm U14 girls opened the season on the road in North Haven. Kylee McCoart had some solid plays for West Haven, but the Westies fell short, 4-0. On Sunday, the girls traveled to Madison where they put up a good fight but ended in a 5-0 loss. Luciana Cappetta and Celeste DiNallo worked hard in midfield, while Josylyn DaVila took charge of the defense.

The Elite Soccer Camps U12 boys travel team opened the season with two wins. On Saturday, the Westies hosted rival Guilford, and beat them, 5-3, in a back-and-forth battle. Adam Lankhantar opened the scoring and added a second later in the game. Ryan Abekah was a threat throughout the game, finding the back of the net as well. Colin Gibbons and Seth Empric were stalwarts on defense, and Mason DaSilva made some key passes from the midfield. Ethan Fonseca and Joe Ruiz were both solid on and off the ball for West Haven.

On Sunday, the boys traveled to Ansonia and won, 5-0. Roland Green slotted home the first goal, and Jacob Rader added one as well, getting the assist from Luca DeCrescenzo. Jaxon Cruz had the shut-out in goal in the first half and added to the scoring in the second half. Taha Ozhen kept the shut-out going in goal in the second half. Jax Guarino was stellar in midfield and on the backline, and Ben Trenchard played strong defense. Matteo D'Elia and Julian Castillo dictated play from the middle of the park.

Taco Town team put in a great effort for the first game of the season despite coming up short in a 6-2 loss against Stars Ice Cream. Daimeon Griffin scored for Taco Town. Mateen Latif played great on defense while Gavin Lenihan hustled on offense. Eli's Orange won against the WH Professional Fire Fighters this past Saturday. The kids were happy to be back on the field with goals scored by Abdsalam Naas, Diego Ocegüera, Tyreese Leach, Abdulrahman Naas, Adhan Beyah, Xander Estes, Joshua Roman, Muhammadsaif Vahora. Holding down the defense with

some great plays were Adhan Beyah and Xander Estes. Top Hat Dance Academy fell, 4-3, to a skilled RQ Accounting & Tax Services. Baybrook Remodelers tied George Ellis Company 3-3, and the WH Federation of Teachers and the Law Office of Paul V. Carty played to a thrilling 5-5 draw.

Porto Funeral Home played a great game against Vio's Sports Plus this past Saturday. The kids brought life into the game and had so much fun playing. Goals were scored by Axle Carrozza, Vincent Iannucci, Connor Bova, and Elijah Seneca. Thorough Restoration defeated Seacrest Retirement Home, 2-1, and Connex Credit Union defeated American Family Care by the same score. The University of New Haven Junior Chargers lost a nail biter to Stowe's Seafood, 1-0.

There was an exciting season opener for the Cappetta's Italian Imports Strikers as they took on Frankie's of West Haven. The game began with Brooklyn Papa showcasing her athletic ability and unwavering stamina as she pursued the ball up and down the field. Papa was consistently creating opportunities for her teammates and Isabella Echeandia Ramirez capitalized on this, as she scored a goal in the first half and showed off her skill on the defensive side of the ball as well during this match up. These girls were eager to start the season, and it looks like it's going to be a fun Fall for the team. P&B Express opened their season against Keenan Funeral Home on a solid note, with Masen Smith and Xavier Munoz-Montano both scoring multiple goals in the first match of the Fall campaign.

The Milano and Wanat Navy Sharks won 4-0 against Physicians Physical Therapy, as Jalen Ora and Will Marmelstein each scored a goal in the win. Jude Charles distributed the ball to his team mates unselfishly. Carter Conelli played great in goal and on defense. Elsie Encarnacion State Farm Insurance opened the season with a thrilling 7-2 victory against Wizard Painting. Rodger Rodriguez set the tone early by scoring the first goal, followed by Marc Philogene's incredible four-goal performance. Rodriguez continued to shine with two assists and two additional goals, while Seth Feliciano and Nicholas Goncalves anchored the defense, keeping Wizard Painting at bay. Anthony Gambardella's three assists further fueled the team's momentum. The Crushing Tigers, as they proudly call themselves, showcased their unity and determination, dominating the field from start to finish.

York Business Center opened the season against West Haven Police Local 895 with Laila Clayton playing an all-around great game and taking multiple shots at the net. Savannah Gilchrist was a fearless goalie for the second half of the game. Riley Onde scored four goals, with an assist from Tahrielle Boyd. Bianca Dinallo scored three goals and was a tough goalie for the first half of the game. In the final match of the weekend, Mad Mike's Cheesesteaks defeated the Purple Princesses, 3-1.

# Eight new inductees for '24 Hall of Fame

The West Haven Hall of Fame Committee has announced its newest inductees to be honored, Saturday, Nov. 23 at Amaranthe's Sea Cliff, 62 Cove St., New Haven.

The new soon to be inductees include Joseph Morrell, Sr. (Tinker Blake Community Service Award), Kelly Last McLaughlin, Tommy Lawrence, Todd Williams, Tom DeMorro, Kelly Stratton, Nicole Pacapelli, and Diana Pimer Ross.

With eight new members, there will now be 211 inductees in the prestigious club since the start two decades ago.

Known for his work in volunteering for the community, Morrell has quite an impressive resume. Morell was a founding member and vice-president of the New Haven Night Hawks traveling sports club, as well as a founding member of the West Haven Dugout Club.

Morrell dedicated time as a member of the West Haven Penalty Box Club, as well as a member of the New Haven Hill Section Reunion Committee.

Morrell was involved in Shore Haven Jr. Baseball for 43 years, 15 as a coach and 28 as the commissioner of the league. The Shore Haven baseball complex is named after Morrell.

Pacapelli is a 2010 graduate and was a four-sport athlete at West Haven High. As a four-year varsity letter winner and team captain for soccer, Pacapelli was a two-time All-SCC Quinnipiac Division honoree, a two-time New Haven Register All-Area honoree, and a Connecticut High School Coaches All-State selection.

Pacapelli was a team captain and three-year letter winner in basketball, a two-year letter winner in track, and she ended her high school sports career lettering in lacrosse.

Pacapelli played one year of collegiate soccer at Stonehill College, before transferring to the University of New Haven. During her three-year career at New Haven, Pacapelli was a two-year captain and helped lead the program to 31 wins as she started all 55 games of her career.

Pacapelli capped off her career with an All-Northeast-10 Conference selection, All-East-Region Selection, and an All-New England Selection.

DeMorro is a 2003 graduate who starred on the football field and on the basketball court as the team's point guard for three years. A 3-year varsity starter in football and captain in 2002-2003, DeMorro was known for his elite skills and sure hands.

Offensively, DeMorro was a threat each time the West Haven passing attack got going. Defensively, DeMorro holds the single season interception record with 10 in 2001, and career interception record with 24.

DeMorro was named to the New Haven Gridiron Club Levi Jackson All-Area Team, Connecticut Post All-Area Team, and was a Connecticut High School Coaches Association All-State Selection. The football star was also named the New Haven Register Area Most Valuable Player, was named to the New Haven Register All-Area and All-State teams, and he was part of the 2002 state champion team.

DeMorro went on to play at the collegiate level at Santa Monica College, where he was also a member of the track team. The West Haven star was part of the 2003 conference champions, playing in the California Beach Bowl.

Lawrence is a 2009 graduate who starred on the baseball diamond, leading the Westies to the state title that same year.

A 2009 Preseason Perfect Game All-American, Lawrence did not disappoint as he finished the campaign with several individual awards to go with the state title. Those 2009 honors included Under Armour All-American, New Haven Register All-Area Most Valuable Player and All-State, Hartford Courant All-State and Most Valuable Player, and Connecticut Post All-State and Most Valuable Player.

Lawrence was an All-Southern Connecticut Conference selection his sophomore through senior seasons, and was a key figure in the 2009 state championship team on the mound, where he finished with a team-record in strikeouts with 124.

Lawrence went on to play collegiately at the University of Maine, where he was the America East and ECAC Pitcher of the Year in 2013, was selected to the America East First Team in 2013 and 2014, and was on the All-New England First Team in 2013.

Lawrence went on to play in the Cape Cod League, before playing for several professional programs, including the Tampa Bay Rays.

Pimer Ross is a 2011 graduate who starred in swimming and track and field, while also playing four years in the band. Swimming for coaches Bob Pimer and Erin McCauley, Pimer Ross is the first in school history to earn two All-State swimming titles in one season.

See Hall of Fame, page 17

*Donna's Destinations presents...*



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| <p><b>ITINERARY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roundtrip Coach Transportation</li> <li>~ <u>8:30 AM Monday, November 4th:</u><br/>Depart from Vertical Church Parking Lot (225 Meloy Road - West Haven)</li> <li>~ <u>12:00 PM, Wednesday, November 6th:</u><br/>Depart from Atlantic City, NJ</li> <li>- 3 Day / 2 Night stay at the Resorts Casino Hotel; enjoy it's amenities like their indoor pool &amp; a cardio fitness room!</li> <li>- <b>2 Meals Credits</b>, up to \$20, at any meal outlet as well as <b>\$20 Slot Play!</b></li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FOR MORE INFORMATION:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donna, Program Coordinator<br/>at the West Haven Senior Center<br/>203-937-3507<br/>201 Noble Street<br/>West Haven, CT 06516</p> |
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Photos by Todd Dandelske

Above -- Matthew Hunter celebrates his goal in the Westies' 3-0 victory over the Amity Spartans. Left --Youssouf Keira gets the header versus Amity. The win was the first for the Devils in the early season.

# Westies: *Boys' soccer drops Amity, 3-0*

Continued from page 20

Close led West Haven with seven kills, while Payne and Marquis each had five kills. Payne also had four aces.

West Haven fell to 0-6 with a 3-0 loss at Sacred Heart Academy Friday evening. The scores of the contest were 25-22, 25-12, and 25-12.

The girls soccer team opened the season in exciting

fashion. While it did not produce a win, there was an exciting comeback and a stellar individual performance.

Trailing 4-1 in the second half, the Westies rallied to tie Hamden, 5-5, in the season opener for both teams at Hamden High.

Senior Jaylyn Powell was the star of the game for the Westies as she scored all five

West Haven goals, including four second half tallies to bring West Haven to a draw after falling behind early.

Freshman Kylie Gibbons, junior Ericka Tighe, sophomore Amiyah Jones, and senior Annabelle Pasacreta all had assists for the Westies.

Freshman Lulu Sebas made three saves.

West Haven fell to 0-1-1 with a 5-1 loss against Sacred Heart Academy. The defeat came in the home opener for the Westies.

After scoring all five of her team's goals against Hamden in the season opener, Powell scored West Haven's lone goal off an assist from Amiyah Jones in the second half.

Sacred Heart Academy scored three times in the first half and added two more in the second. Sebas made 15 saves in the loss for West Haven.

West Haven fell to 0-2-1 with a 5-2 loss at Jonathan Law.

Powell continued her torrid start to the season with her seventh goal in the first three games. Powell has scored seven of her team's first eight goals on the year.

Senior Aylin Soto also scored for the Westies, while Tighe had an assist in the loss.

Emily Vella scored three times for Law, while Abby Merenda scored twice. Gabby Rodriguez made four saves in the win for Law, while the Westies had eight saves in the

loss.

West Haven fell to Lualton Hall, 3-2, in Milford, dropping the team to 0-3-1. The Westies scored once in each half on tallies by Powell, but it was not enough in the defeat.

The boys soccer team opened the 2024 season against cross-town rival Notre Dame. The contest proved to be one-sided.

Behind three goals from Christian Habiniak, the Green Knights rolled past West Haven, 7-0, at Veterans Field.

Notre Dame held a 17-8 shot advantage in the game. Ned Ramos recorded the shutout for the Green Knights with six saves, while Yahzeel Beyley had 10 saves in the loss for the Westies.

West Haven fell to 0-2 with a 2-0 loss against Guilford in West Haven's home opener.

Guilford's Stephano Jarrin scored twice and the Westies could not capitalize on their opportunities, outshooting Guilford, 10-8.

Beyley finished with six saves for West Haven, while Jameson Benben had seven saves for the Grizzlies.

West Haven won its first game of the season with a 3-0 decision over Amity at home.

West Haven took a 2-0 lead in the first half as Bryan Monge scored an unassisted tally at the 23:18 mark, before senior Matthew Hunter scored off an assist from Monge at 28:30.

The Westies iced the game in the second half when se-

nior Walter Romero scored off an assist from senior Ethan Masoperh at 66:00 mark.

West Haven held a 15-7 shot advantage in the contest. Beyley made five saves in the shutout victory.

West Haven topped Hamden, 2-1, at Ken Strong Stadium. Trailing 1-0 after Hamden scored at the 24 minute mark, the Westies scored twice in the second half to pick up the victory.

Hunter got the Westies even when he scored off an assist from Bobby Severino at 66:32. Just 9:53 later, West Haven took the lead for good when Youssouf Keira scored off an assist from Aidan Panton at 76:25.

The Westies held a 12-7 shot advantage in the contest. Beyley made six saves in the win for the Westies.

The West Haven girls swim team opened the 2024 season with a meet in Milford against Foran. Winning just four events, the Westies fell to Foran, 84-76, in the season opener for both teams.

Freshman Sophia DeLauri won two events for the Westies, taking home the top spot in the 100 fly in 1 minute, 17.85 seconds, and the 100 breaststroke in 1:27.52.

Freshman Natalia Lowe won the 100 backstroke in 1:23.81, while the 400 free relay team of seniors Emily Guthrie, Caly Nyack, Olivia DeLauri, and Amanda Fagnani won in 4:56.11.

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Photos by Todd Dandelske

Left -- Emily Guthrie competes in the 200 Yard Medley Relay against Jonathan Law. Her Westies lost their opener, 84-76. Above -- Goalie Lulu Sebas and the Blue Devils defend the front of the net on a corner kick by Sacred Heart.

## Hall of Fame: *Eight enter as Class of 2024*

In 2010, Pimer Ross was named a team captain, was named to the New Haven Register All-Area team, and was a big part of West Haven's Southern Connecticut Conference regular season championship.

Pimer Ross was part of five program records in 2010, two individual and three relay events, was All-State in the 100 breaststroke and 200 IM, and was a Class LL State runner-up in the 100 breaststroke. In 2011, Pimer Ross was a USA Swimming Scholastic All-American.

Playing for Hall of Fame coach Modestine Vaughn, Pimer Ross was part of the record-setting 4 x 800 relay team in track and field. A 2011 team captain, Pimer Ross was a Connecticut Class LL State championship qualifier in the 1600 and 4 x 800 relay.

Pimer Ross attended Keene State College, where she was a 9-time NEISDA (New England Intercollegiate Swimming & Diving Association) Conference individual champion, and a conference record holder in the 200 IM, a record which still stands.

Last McLaughlin is a 2009 graduate who went on to study Exercise Science and Physical Therapy at Simmons College.

Last McLaughlin was a 3-sport star at West Haven as

part of the cheerleading, volleyball, and tennis teams. The talented Westie was also a 4-year band member.

A 4-year cheerleader, Last McLaughlin was named All-State in 2009, becoming the first All-State cheerleader at West Haven High School. Last McLaughlin was also an Academic All-State selection for cheerleading in 2009, and a Southern Connecticut Conference Athlete of the Month selection for cheerleading in December of 2008.

Last McLaughlin was a 4-year volleyball player who was named captain her junior and senior years, and was a 3-year tennis player and captain her senior season.

Last McLaughlin played in the CIAC girls doubles tennis tournament in 2009, and was named to the Division II All-Conference doubles team in 2009 with Shelby Harris.

Williams is a 1987 graduate who was a key player on West Haven's last boys basketball championship team that same year.

One of many key players on that championship team, Williams was a 1987 All-District selection, as well as a Second Team All-Area selection that same year.

Williams went on to star on the hardwood at Sacred Heart University, graduating in 1991 with 1,800 points and 700 re-

bounds. In 1990, Williams was a Second Team All-Conference selection, and a First Team All-Conference selection in 1991.

Williams continued to show off his basketball skills with the Harlem Globetrotters in 1993, before playing overseas through 2007.

Stratton is a 2000 graduate who was a 4-year soccer player and a member of the initial

girls lacrosse team her sophomore campaign.

A midfielder on the pitch, Stratton was a key player in directing the success of the team.

A goalie on the lacrosse team, Stratton was an All-Southern Connecticut Conference selection all three years. Stratton was an All-State selection as a senior, becoming the first girls lacrosse player to do so.

Stratton went on to play lacrosse at the University of New Haven.

For information regarding the induction ceremony, please contact West Haven athletic directors Joe Morrell and Mike Anquillare at [joseph.morrell@whschools.org](mailto:joseph.morrell@whschools.org) and [Michael.anquillare@whschools.org](mailto:Michael.anquillare@whschools.org).



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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

|    |                                  |    |                  |    |                   |                          |
|----|----------------------------------|----|------------------|----|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1  | Bit of butter                    | 50 | Hydrants         | 19 | Coach             |                          |
| 4  | "Dream on!"                      | 55 | Tic-tac-toe win  | 22 | Parseghian        |                          |
| 8  | Half (Pref.)                     | 56 | Totals           | 23 | Feeling no pain   |                          |
| 12 | "Kinda" suffix                   | 57 | Mine, to Marcel  | 25 | Curved moldings   |                          |
| 13 | Mandolin's kin                   | 58 | — de mer         | 26 | Ballet wear       |                          |
| 14 | Redact                           | 59 | Sheepish remarks | 27 | Sleep like —      |                          |
| 15 | LAX info                         | 60 | Swimmer Biondi   | 28 | Felonious flights |                          |
| 16 | Embraces among team members, say | 61 | Moody rock genre | 29 | Melville captain  |                          |
| 18 | Mideast peninsula                |    |                  | 30 | Hold sway         |                          |
| 20 | "Gee, ya think?"                 |    |                  | 31 | Icelandic epic    |                          |
| 21 | Nevada city                      |    |                  | 35 | Whole lot         |                          |
| 24 | Pansy part                       |    |                  |    | 35                | Trains, buses, etc.      |
| 28 | Floor coverings                  |    |                  |    | 38                | Entry                    |
| 32 | Luau dance                       |    |                  |    | 40                | CEO's deg.               |
| 33 | Paul Newman film                 |    |                  |    | 42                | Jump                     |
| 34 | Refine metal                     |    |                  |    | 45                | Glitz partner            |
| 36 | Male turkey                      |    |                  |    | 47                | Alaskan seaport          |
| 37 | "M*A*S*H" star                   |    |                  |    | 48                | Linguist                 |
| 39 | Pub vessels                      |    |                  |    | 49                | Chomsky                  |
| 41 | Sand castle site                 |    |                  |    | 49                | Present-day "carpe diem" |
| 43 | Clear the decks?                 |    |                  |    | 50                | "Terriff!"               |
| 44 | Gearwheel tooth                  |    |                  |    | 51                | Wyo. neighbor            |
| 46 | Mary Poppins, e.g.               |    |                  |    | 52                | Vitamin stat             |
|    |                                  |    |                  |    | 53                | Hollywood's Thurman      |
|    |                                  |    |                  |    | 54                | Acquired                 |
|    |                                  |    |                  |    | 55                |                          |
|    |                                  |    |                  |    | 58                |                          |
|    |                                  |    |                  |    | 61                |                          |

September 19, 2024

## MAGIC MAZE ● — COAST

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: RED-BROWN METAL.

|            |           |          |          |
|------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Adelle     | East      | Ivory    | Sapphire |
| Atlantic   | Forgotten | Malabar  | Sunshine |
| Barbary    | Gold      | Mosquito | West     |
| Coromandel | Gulf      | Pacific  |          |

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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**  
Solution time: 24 mins.  
Answers  
King Crossword

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
Answers  
Weekly SUDOKU

**COAST**  
Answers  
1. Naples.  
2. Siren.  
3. Rust.  
4. Phyllo or filo.  
5. Bruiser.  
6. Teeth grinding.  
7. "The Tempest".  
8. Seven.  
9. Kansas.  
10. Antarctica.

## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: Mount Vesuvius overlooks which modern Italian city?
- MYTHOLOGY: What kind of creature is half bird and half woman with an alluring song?
- SCIENCE: What is a common name for iron oxide?
- FOOD & DRINK: What kind of pastry is used to make baklava?
- MOVIES: What is the name of Elle's chihuahua in "Legally Blonde"?
- MEDICAL: What is a common name for bruxism?
- LITERATURE: Prospero is a character in which of Shakespeare's plays?

8. ASTRONOMY: How many stars make up the Big Dipper?  
9. U.S. STATES: Which state's nickname is The Sunflower State?  
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: Which is the only continent without bees?

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Answers

1. Naples.
2. Siren.
3. Rust.
4. Phyllo or filo.
5. Bruiser.
6. Teeth grinding.
7. "The Tempest".
8. Seven.
9. Kansas.
10. Antarctica.



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University of New Haven Fire Science Club • West Haven Emergency Management Office

## Westies drop opener, 28-6

The West Haven football team had high hopes entering the 2024 season. Just one game in, the Westies are forced to regroup.

Unable to capitalize offensively, and watching as Greenwich took advantage of big plays, fourth-ranked West Haven fell to fifth-ranked Greenwich, 24-6, at Ken Strong Stadium Friday evening.

Greenwich led 14-0 at the half and never looked back as they used two quick scores in the first quarter to set the tone. Both scores came within Greenwich's first ten offensive plays.

Matthew O'Donnell scored on a 32-yard scoring strike from M.J. D'Angelo for a 7-0 lead, before Greenwich immediately got the ball back on a West Haven turnover on the ensuing kickoff. The Cardinals turned that possession into a D'Angelo 23-yard touchdown run four plays later.

The Westies could not sustain any momentum and any threats were stalled by West Haven mistakes, including ten penalties.

West Haven's lone score came in the final two minutes when Coryon Harris scored on a 54-yard connection with Nick Conlan.

The volleyball team knew it was in for a tough match to start the season. Going against perennial state power Cheshire in the season opener for both teams is no easy task.

While the Westies battled, they could not get over the hump and fell to the Rams 25-21, 25-16, and 25-18 at Cheshire High.

Camila Queiroz finished with 11 assists, Sarah Davey had 14 digs, Avery Criscio had 12 digs, while Sam Close and Criscio each added four kills. Chloe Payne had three kills in the loss.

For Cheshire, Lauren Kilpatrick had 18 assists and Eva Catalonatto finished with 13 kills.

Looking to build off a strong showing in a loss to Cheshire in the season opener, West Haven hosted Lauralton Hall in the home opener for the Westies.

While the effort was there, West Haven again was shut out, falling to Lauralton 25-11, 25-18, 25-18 at West Haven High.

The season will have its ups and downs," Sullivan said after his team fell to 0-2. "We were faced again with a battle that is going to get us better prepared for the future. Tomorrow is a new day for new opportunities to get better."

Queiroz led the offense with 18 assists, Payne had 10 kills, Amani Dumbuya added 10 digs, and Davey had six digs.

West Haven fell to 0-3 with a 3-0 loss against St. Joseph-Trumbull at West Haven High. The 25-17, 25-14, 25-12 loss came in the team's home opener.

West Haven made 54 team errors in the contest for an average of 18 per game. The Westies had just 18 total assists, 18 kills, and 31 digs as a team.

Queiroz led the Westies with nine assists, four digs and three kills. Payne led West Haven with six kills, and Criscio had five digs and four kills. Davey, Dumbuya, and Jayden Braacker each added four digs in the loss.

West Haven is still in search of its first victory. Despite playing well, the Westies dropped a 25-13, 25-22, 25-21 decision at Foran.

The loss was West Haven's fourth straight to open the season, and the Westies are still searching for their first set win in the process.

"Queiroz ran the West Haven offense with 21 assists, while also posting eight digs on the defensive side. Davey also played well defensively with nine digs, Criscio had five digs, and Payne had four digs.

Kearlze Marquis led West Haven with six kills, Close added five kills, and Davey and Payne each had four kills.

West Haven fell to 0-5 on the year with a 3-1 home loss against Wilbur Cross. Although the Westies fell, they did pick up their first set win of the season in the 25-14, 17-25, 25-23, 25-18 loss.

Queiroz led West Haven with 19 assists, eight digs, and three kills. Criscio led the defense with 11 digs, Dumbuya had eight digs, Davey, Odalys Solorzano, and Braacker each had six digs, while Esther Ortiz had four digs.

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Photos by Todd Dandelske

Above -- Nick Conlan rolls out looking for an option with #50 Brian Oliver leading the way. The Westies lost their opener to Greenwich, 24-6. Left -- Marly Wilson goes up for the spike versus the Foran Lions. Below -- The West Haven Cross Country team starts its meet at Sheehan.

