

West Haven Voice

September 17, 2026
Vol. 31, Issue 18, 20 Pages

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

Voice Features

An in-depth feature

**Paulie's Push
rolls through city**

See page 11



Photo by Andrew Chartier

Never Forget

Bugler Art Gilbert plays "Taps" concluding the city's evening vigil, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks in New York City, Washington, DC and Flight 93, which crashed near Shanksville, PA. One city resident, Richard Gabrielle, was killed when the twin towers collapsed. The vigil has been an annual event at the Gabrielle Memorial, near Savin Rock. See page 2 for more photos.



Time capsule buried, to be open in 2076

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice

As part of the city's yearlong festivities celebrating America's 250th anniversary, Mayor Dorinda Borer was joined by fellow Westies on Sept. 9 to bury a time capsule on the historic Green for a future generation to discover.

The burial of West Haven's "America 250th Time Capsule" commemorated the official signing of the Declaration of Independence, which was inked 250 years ago last month.

Borer said she chose Sept. 9 for the event because of its historical significance in America's founding. On Sept. 9, 1776, the Second Continental Congress officially changed the nation's name from the "United Colonies" to the "United States of America."

At the aptly titled West Haven Time Capsule Celebration, Borer was accompanied by 20 West Haven High School history students, who were chosen as

"Student Ambassadors of History" for the capsule's unearthing 50 years from now, on America's tricentennial on July 4, 2076.

Borer recited a "commitment oath" to the group of ambassadors, who pledged to watch over the capsule as "keepers" for the next half-century.

"They will be the ones to lead the next generation of Westies to unearth, discover and enjoy this piece of our shared history," said the mayor, who was also joined by state Reps. Bill Heffernan and Treneé McGee (D-West Haven), and City Council members Nancy Tagliatela (D-2), and Gary Donovan (D-4).

To ensure the capsule is safely found in 2076, Borer has commissioned an official declaration for display in the city clerk's office at City Hall.

The half-hour ceremony featured remarks by Borer and chief of staff Rick Spreyer, the master of ceremonies, and included the singing of the national anthem by Allie Johnstone and music played by DJ Bob De-

Pascale.

"We are gathered here tonight to bridge our past, our present and our future," said Borer, who thanked mayor's office volunteer Beth Sabo for leading the event and organizing the capsule's contents.

As dozens of students, residents and history buffs looked on, Borer, ambassadors and members of the West Haven Time Capsule Committee used gold-painted shovels to bury the capsule, taking turns throwing dirt into a 3-foot hole dug near a memorial stone commemorating the American Revolution. The monument sits on the northwest corner of the Green at Main Street and Savin Avenue.

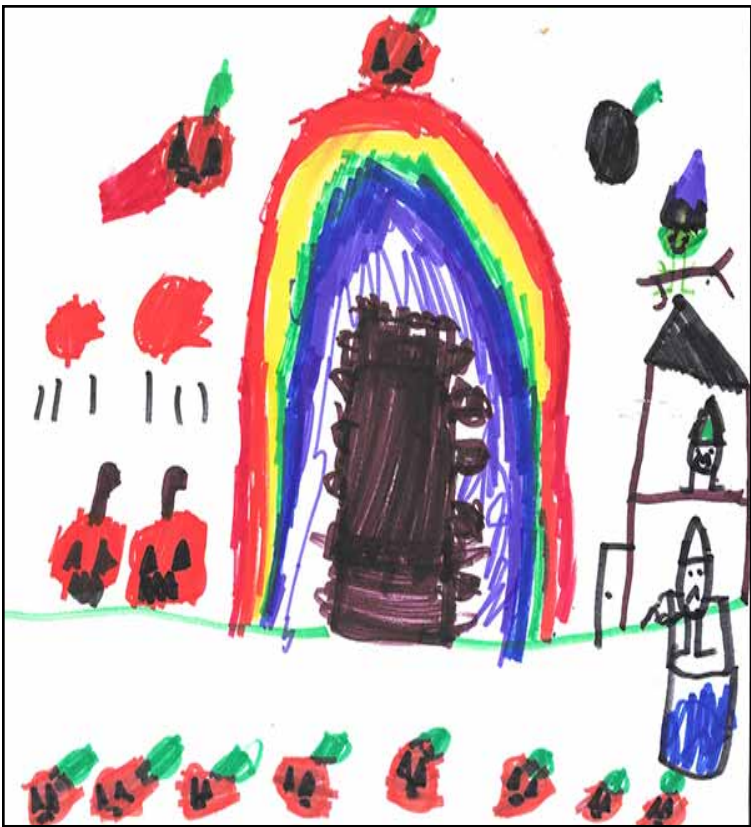
The breadbox-sized capsule contains everything from historical writings from the American Revolution and a flip phone to a COVID-19 face mask and modern toys.

On July 5, 1987, the memorial stone was dedicat-

See Capsule, page 12

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It is starting to feel like Fall outside and that means pumpkin season and Halloween are coming soon according to a student at the West Haven Community House Children and Youth Services After School program.

On this date

1978 – Camp David Accords are signed. The Camp David Accords were signed by Egyptian President Anwar El Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. The accords were the precursor to the 1974 Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty

1939 – Man runs 10,000 meters in less than 30 minutes for the first time in recorded history. Finnish runner, Taisto Mäki, broke his previous record by running the distance in 29 minutes 52 seconds.

1894 – A day after Japan wins the Battle of Pyongyang it defeats China in the Battle of the Yalu River. Also known as the Battle of the Yellow Sea, the conflict was fought between Japan and China during the First Sino-Japanese War.

1862 – Bloodiest Single Day of the American Civil War takes place. The Battle of Antietam was fought near the Antietam Creek in Sharpsburg, Maryland. At least 4000 soldiers on both sides died – the battle ended Confederate General Robert E. Lee incursion into the North. Many believed that the withdrawal of Confederate soldiers from the battlefield before the Union Army did meant that the Union had won the battle.



Photo by Tianna Greene

Marks 95th birthday

Longtime city resident Winniefred Vera Nacca celebrates her 95th birthday with Mayor Dorinda Borer on Sept. 4.

Nacca received an official citation from Borer for “the many lives you have touched over nine decades.”

Born Winniefred Vera, she grew up in Orange before moving to West Haven in 1955 with her husband, Vincent Nacca.

“May you continue to enjoy good health and much happiness as a nonagenarian and as a devoted wife, loving mother, cherished grandmother and dedicated volunteer,” said Borer, reading the citation.

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Next Issue Date
September 17

City remembers victims of 9/11 attacks

Photos by Andrew Chartier

Clockwise from right -- The West Haven Fire Department Honor Guard on Friday evening leads Mayor Dorinda Borer and other city and state leaders while carrying the American flag to the William A. Soderman Memorial Flagpole in Bradley Point Park for the ceremonial raising on the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Mayor Dorinda Borer delivers her remarks to the crowd remembering the sacrifices made by first responders on 9/11.

Chief James P. O'Brien of the West Haven Fire Department gives remarks



'Folks on Spokes' returns to area, Oct. 4

Bridges Healthcare will celebrate 35 years of bringing the community together to support mental health and addiction recovery when its Folks on Spokes & Step Forward Ride + Walk returns to Fowler Fields in downtown Milford on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 8 a.m.

As one of the longest running charity rides in Connecticut, this event attracts hundreds of cyclists, walkers and families to raise funds and awareness for mental health

and addiction recovery services that change lives and help build a healthier future for our community.

"We're very proud and excited to celebrate 35 years of the community coming together to raise awareness and critical funds for mental health and recovery," says Jennifer Fiorillo, Bridges CEO and President. "Participants at Folks on Spokes & Step Forward ride and walk demonstrates the commitment to ending the

silence and stigma that often surrounds mental illness, suicide, and addiction. Together we can create a community where no one has to face these challenges alone."

Experienced and new cyclists of all ages can choose from 5, 10, 20 or 40 mile routes and walkers can take part in the 5K —all are along the scenic Connecticut shoreline. Participants can ride or walk individually or as a team and fundraising is encouraged.

Registration is free for anyone who commits to raising \$100 by October 4, 2026.

In addition to the ride and walk, the event also features:

- ~~ A Remembrance Ceremony honoring lives lost to suicide, addiction and overdose while supporting those

continuing their journeys of recovery.

- ~~ Fully supported Rest Stops along the routes.
- ~~ A commemorative T-shirt for all registered participants.
- ~~ Music, food, kids' activities, and family-friendly entertainment.

See Bridges, page 8



Bridges Healthcare brings back the popular fundraiser, Folks on Spokes, Oct. 4. The event not only raises funds, but raises awareness of the agency's work.

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Dear Felicia

With the morning air getting jest a bit nippy, yew can tell that fall is jest around the corner. September brings two things that has to do with weather, cool mornings and humid days with jest enuff heat to make it uncomfortable. Last week, we had a taste of fall, and then back to the heat. Meanwhile, pigskins are the in air, and election ads are in the mail. Squirrels are taking advantage of the acorn crop that can be seen jest about everywhere in town, and life is getting back to normal too quickly.

Here in the Asylum by the Sea, many things are in motion. Foist off, effen you've been out in yore gassamobuggy along the main drag that bisects this berg, you've noted, Felicia, that some big-time milling is going on in preparation for repaving Campbell Avenue. As I write this missive, crews have been milling blocks-worth of pavement, making an obstacle course for drivers trying to not get any front-end damage when going over manholes and other "raised structures."

Of course, Cobina noted in her own travels that the milling does tend to slow a body down in his or her travels along the road. That does upset some, who wanna cruise along as if things were normal, and tailgate drivers trying to

be careful.

There was a letter sent out about the project, but the only thing one wonders is effen the entire 3-mile route of Campbell is gonna be paved. At the rate they're milling that could take about 3 weeks by my calculations. We shall see.

Jest one final note on the weather. Cobina has noticed that some forecasters are calling for a mild winter, whilst some are saying at cooling in the Atlantic could mean a very cold winter. The Farmer's Almanac is about to be on the newsstands, maybe we should jest see what it predicts. It's about as accurate as the people on the boob tube.

As noted it's "election season," and whilst it ain't a mayoral election, it is a state a fed'ral one for Congress. And, it's stitch when one takes a gander at the stuff that's coming out this way or that for whatever office. The incumbent says he or she is doing, and the wanna be says how incompetent the incumbent is. And we'll be seeing these adverts for the next little while, I'm afraid.

And, I know that Cobina has harped on this before, but what else does a old harpy like me have to do? The behavior of Sen. Chris Murphy, and everybody's favorite screwy aunt, Rosa DeLauro Green-

berg (I do that jest to tick off her peeps), has been quite something, to the effeck that national publications are taking notice.

Both have two temperaments, unreasonable, and off the wall crazy. In recent hearings Rosa has flipped her purple pate, going off the deep end, and embarrassing the people sitting next to her. Meanwhile, Murphy is jest a nawsty individual. This is the best we have to offer from the Nutmeg State?

Before we go any further, we had an error in the last missive, sweets. The artifacts from the Carousel and Savin Rock are not being kep' at the Veterans Museum, they are in storage. That begs the question, still, on what is gonna happen to the future of a Savin Rock Museum, to wit: will there be one?

The museum as yew remember was in the Savin Rock Conference Center that is now being transformed into the Kelsey. The building was closed in 2019, and the stuff taken out of the venue. The pieces were gonna be put on static display in the brewery that never materialized, leaving the question of the future.

Let's hope the powers that be can find a reasonable space for the artifacts. Meanwhile, Cobina still hasn't hoid from Mike Mercurian on the Carousel project. I

mentioned to you last time that he wanted the papyrus to do an update on the plan, that is nearing the 30-years-old mark, with nary a thing done.

Tennyrate, he was going to get some info our way so that the public will know the projeck ain't dead. That was more than a month ago, and we haven't heard hide nor hair about it. Soooooo, Mike, the ball is in yore court, m'friend.

The big talk on the avenue, besides the repaving, according to Sammy Bluejay is the public/private partnership the city is attempting to git Quigley Stadium up to snuff – a long "up to" effen yew git m'drift. In local papyri the city is putting the cost of rehab at about \$3 million. Wanna bet? With the cost of things nowadays, \$3 million is chicken feed, and won't go very far.

As I told yew the last time we discussed this, what is needed down on Front Avenue is an entire overhaul of the neighborhood. And, effen somebody does want to do something with the space, the parking situation is gonna hafta be addressed, and toot sweet.

As we mention in this week's editorial, the partnership idea is already stoking the city's grist mill with new material, and it's the age-old UNH buying the property, and allowing the city to use it when not in university use. This would make the school the "private" part of the public/private equation.

As pernted out, the current athletic facilities have to be upgraded, and the location of the North Campus venues are someone of a problem for almost the same reason: parking, and the fack they are in a residential neighborhood. So, that is stoking the fires of the talk about town.

Still interesting is the fack that Herronner wants to use this public/private synergy (thought I'd use a useless new woid) to move other projecks forward. Cobina can think o' one: the Piantino Library in Allingtown. Effen Andrew Carnegie can fund the main library's oldest section, maybe some modern-day robber barons and do the same for the Allingtown Branch. We shall see.

Public/Private partnerships might be the wave of the future, sweets. Maybe the formula could be tweaked to work on the former Haven project – with a new private partner. It's been a while since Cobina mentioned it, but it is still lingering untetched since the buildings came down so

many years ago.

Then, we see that the former Nobel School might be the next public/private projeck to get put on the boards.

Meanwhile on Beach Street, things seem to be moving along. Though Nelly Nuthatch was down in the area, and saw that the coffee shop that is supposed to open in the last of the Savin Rock buildings at the corner of East Avenue and Beach has had a rather interesting series of names. Not sure effen they've determined which one to use, but Nelly noted that earlier in the year the signs posted on the site had one name, and then a second name popped up.

There's a lotta work to complete on the site, soooo, getting excited about names might be a bit premature. Let's git the thing opened and then, we can worry about what it's called.

Whilst that is going on, across the street, the new pump station/bath house that is planned is moving along, though there must be a lotta groundwork (literally) that has to be done. Not much of a superstructure has been shaping up, but lotsa work along ground level is happening.

And jest to show that Cobina does move around the berg, we noted that work is being done on the new Community Center at the former Malloy School (on Meloy Road). Opening of the facility is supposed to happen in the coming weeks effen the signs are right.

One wonders what monicker is gonna be put on the building. This is ripe for a dedication, and one can think of a slew of people who might be so honored. Maybe the city should have a friendly contest to rename the building – unless the plan is to keep ole Miss Malloy's name affixed to the property.

Well, a filmmaker has determined to use li'l ole us as a backdrop for his crime drama, No Loose Ends. It's nice to know that our little corner of the universe is seen as having enough character and "characters" to be the scenery for setch a piece of celluloid. It'll be interesting to see how this all pans out, tell the truth.

It's nice for the city to be seen in a nice light, even if the plot of the story is about the dark side of humanity. That don't reflect on the scenes. Hope all goes well for the company.

Finally, we mentioned the last time the city is clamping down on e-bikes and e-scooters. Well, no sooner was it passed, t he signs went up, and things to be a bit quieter with the vehciles. Lets hope so.

Mitt luff und kizzez,

Cobina

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Behind the stacks

Welcome back to Behind the Stacks! We would like to extend a huge thank you to the City Council members, State Representatives, board members, patrons, and staff who showed up to celebrate the unveiling of our brand-new state-of-the-art Bookmobile! This 40-foot vehicle has a collection of books to browse and check out, Wi-Fi, and space for patrons to utilize internet access and on-location reference help. Keep your eyes peeled for us all around town and please stop by when you see us!

Summer may be over, but the library still has plenty of activities for kids of all ages to participate in as we head into the fall season. Children ages 4 and under can enjoy music, dancing, bubbles, and fun with all their toddler friends as Music and Motion returns to the Main Library on September 21st! Later that evening, grades K through 4th can celebrate the new school year with a fun evening at the Ora Mason Library! Enjoy a back-to-school story, play a silly round of school-themed, "Would You Rather?," and decorate your own pencil pouch to take home. It's the perfect way to celebrate the start of a new school year while creating creative and having fun with friends.

Children ages 5 through 12 can celebrate Hispanic Heritage month with a Fiesta Scavenger Hunt at the Main Library. Search the Graham Room for items you need for a fiesta or party. Solve the puzzle and win a prize! The scavenger hunt will run from Sept. 28 to Oct. 10. Of course, we can't forget our older youths, grades 6 through 12! On September 29th, teens can paint or decoupage their own personalized light switch cover to add a creative touch to their room!

Adults are invited to join the library for a special presentation on Sept. 22-Exploring the Archive: Fieldwork with Derek Piotr. Derek is a folklorist, researcher and performer whose work focuses primarily on the human voice. His work covers practices including fieldwork, vocal performance, preservation and auto-ethnography; and is primarily concerned with tenderness, fragility, beauty and brutality. In this lecture, Derek will walk you through the process of journeying everywhere from Iceland to Appalachia to record these songs from non-musicians, as well as the organization and development of the Archive as a web-based repository.

This month, we will begin hosting a monthly a suicide prevention and mental health support group for young adults coordinated by the National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI). This group is a peer support space for individuals experiencing thoughts of suicide and will meet on the last Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm. Use this safe space to connect with others who understand, share experiences and feelings, build coping skills and resilience, and explore pathways towards healing, hope, and purpose. No registration is required.

As many of you may have noticed, the parking lot at the Main Library has recently undergone some repairs. Because of this, the Friends of the West Haven Library have chosen to postpone their Fill-A-Bag book sale until Oct. 3. Now that the lot is back to full capacity, the sale is scheduled to be held outside, behind the library-weather permitting! Fingers crossed for clear skies, as the volunteers need to have good weather during hours of set up. The sale will run from 10am to 2pm, with the price of bags dropping from \$10.00 to \$5.00 during the last hour of the sale. In the event of inclement weather, the sale will be postponed until Oct. 17. We hope to see many of you there!

Sandy Point group plans confab

The Sandy Point Neighborhood Association (SPNA) will hold its 5th annual meeting on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 9 a.m. at the West Haven Public Library, 300 Elm St.

SPNA members and the public are invited to attend the meeting to learn about the group's accomplishments over the past year and to help shape the vision for the future of the area.

In 2026, members conducted monthly neighborhood clean-ups, maintained a native garden at the entry of Savin Rock Community School, assisted in the weeding and watering of the gardens at the Sandy Point Bird Sanctuary, and hosted the group's second annual "One Neighbor's Trash is Another Neighbor's Treasure" citywide yard sale.

They also sponsored a city Little League team and the upcoming "Westie Pawlooza" dog event to benefit the West Haven Animal Shelter.

Members advocate for the neighborhood by attending bi-monthly City Council meetings, monthly Water Pollution Control Commission meetings, and zoning meetings that are relevant to the area. They also provide leadership and communicate with city departments relative to the needs of the neighborhood.

Interested residents may join SPNA at <https://sandypoint-neighbors.org/membership> or by emailing sandypoint-neighbors@gmail.com for more information.



Executive Director Colleen Bailie and Outreach Librarian Melissa Marguy are joined by members of the Village Improvement Association, State Reps, and City Council members as they unveil the new WHPL Bookmobile!

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Public/Private plan alluring

A city landmark may get a much needed – and necessary – overhaul if a new concept advocated by the administration of Mayor Dorinda Borer is successful. Two weeks ago, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was posted by the city for the rehabilitation of Quigley Stadium. This is an incredibly positive step for an historic site and leads to possibilities – and some speculation – as to where it might lead.

Quigley Stadium was built and opened in 1947 as a home for the West Haven Sailors, a member of the Connecticut State League at a time when semi-professional teams played for many cities and towns. Teams like the Waterbury Brasscos and Meriden Insilcos (highlighting the industries that anchored those municipalities) were part of the league.

The Sailors, owned by tavern-owner Maurice “Mo” Quigley was looking for a new home for his team, and found one in Allingtown. The Sailors played at Donovan Field and like many teams played to packed crowds in an era before television took over, and major league sports were dominant. The new Municipal Stadium would seat about 4,000 and was designed specifically for baseball with stand wrapping around the diamond ending just past first and third base. It had something else: lights. This offered the possibility of night games for a team that played mostly on weekends.

The State League as many industrial leagues did. The post-war boom saw spectators finding other ways to spend their leisure time and crowds dwindled. When not in use as a baseball venue, Municipal Stadium operated as a football venue for West Haven High and Notre Dame, which opened its doors in 1946. In 1960, the city honored Quigley by naming the stadium after its biggest proponent.

The AA Eastern League West Haven Yankees and later the White Caps were residents of the stadium during the 1970s, but the ballpark was substandard to more modern venues, and the teams moved away. Though popular at the outset with large crowds, fans lost interest in the team when won-lost records were poor.

In the subsequent years, the stadium had more than one rehab, putting in new sod, eventually tearing down the ancient stands, and putting in a single bleacher. The Quigley Stadium Commission, which was a separate operating department budgetarily, was disbanded and the park came under the supervision of the Department of Public Works, which had, in turn, taken over park maintenance from the Department of Parks and Recreation in a streamlining effort.

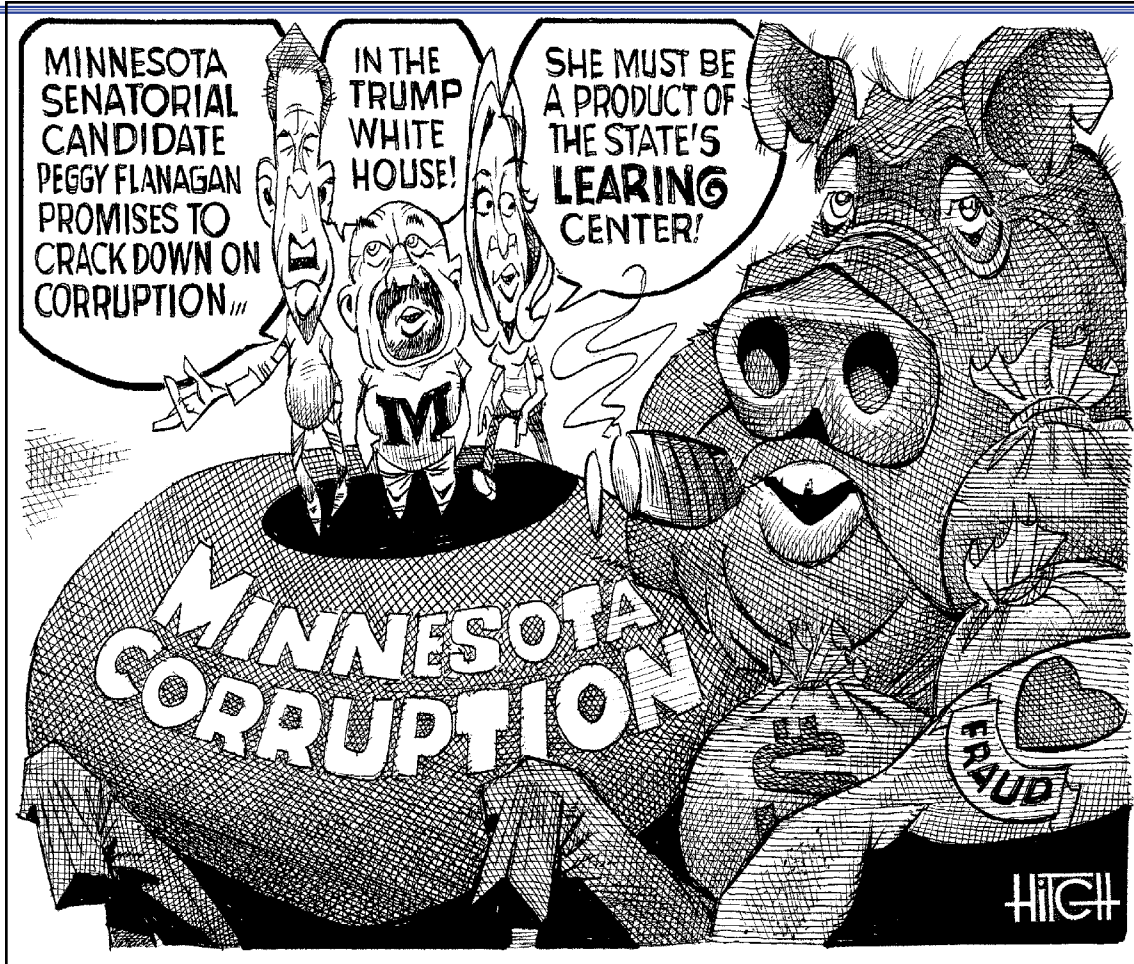
For assorted reasons, the stadium went into a period of neglect and disrepair, though an effort was made to give it another facelift. This newspaper chastised city officials in 2020 for allowing the stadium to become a “cow pasture” with weeds growing where grass once was. This caused some improvements, but the stadium needed more.

This new idea of a public-private partnership is one that can be beneficial not only to the park, but to the surrounding area. Front Avenue is full of neglect and needs an overhaul.

A public-private effort can upgrade the stadium, while improving the surrounding area. Such an effort has proved successful with the partnership between the city and Orange-based baseball academy, The Grind. The academy is working to improve Morse Park’s Little League fields for youth tournaments. So far, the improvements made have been remarkable.

There is talk – just talk – that the University of New Haven needs to upgrade its own facilities now it has gone to NCAA Division I competition. That has sparked speculation such a partnership is a vehicle for just such a move to the Front Avenue facility. Again, such talk has been around for more than two decades, and only time will tell how this develops.

Quigley Stadium, like any city asset, should be preserved and maintained. Let’s hope this works!



Kaepernick still unpersuasive

By Rich Lowry
Syndicated Columnist

Ten years later, Kaepernick remains unpersuasive

A decade later, Colin Kaepernick is as tiresome as ever. To mark the 10-year anniversary of his kneeling during the National Anthem, the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback is out with a new memoir, “The Perilous Fight.” (Get it?)

In an interview with NBC News in advance of the book’s release, which he clearly imagines as part of a vindication tour, he proved himself as committed to woke racial politics as ever.

He told NBC that his protests were about fighting “police killing black folks” and “systemic oppression.” He added that he was thinking – not very modestly – about the Montgomery bus boycotts, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King while he took a knee.

It’s certainly true that Kaepernick sacrificed his career to his protests, although he was a marginal player by the end. In his prime, Kaepernick was a top-notch athlete and electric performer. No one can take his exemplary 2012 and 2013 seasons away from him. In one playoff game in 2012, he passed for 263 yards and ran for 181, a single-game record for rushing by an NFL quarterback.

He couldn’t maintain this level of performance, though. In 2015, he lost his starting job

to journeyman Blaine Gabbert. He won it back for a time in 2016, although he got benched during one game after throwing for all of 4 yards. The 49ers went 1-10 when he started, and by one metric, he ranked 23rd out of 30 qualifying quarterbacks. So he was hardly the GOAT, instead once-very-good, now-mediocre. Then there was the issue that his style of play didn’t necessarily fit in most offensive schemes.

Layer on top of this the circus he’d bring to town with his kneeling and it’s understandable that teams didn’t find him an alluring proposition in 2017 when he was a free agent. There were myriad options available as backup quarterbacks who weren’t notorious for disrespecting the national anthem immediately prior to games.

TITLE: None of this would have mattered if Kaepernick had maintained his 2012 level of play; in that hypothetical, teams would have signed him even if he started to do the black power salute during huddles.

Kaepernick has now worked himself into a position where he’s compared NFL players to enslaved people (in an absurd Netflix documentary), and he’s bitter that he isn’t numbered among them as a 38-year-old who hasn’t played in 10 years.

Then there’s the substance of his advocacy. The high-

water mark for Kaepernick’s anti-police worldview came in the aftermath of the killing of George Floyd, when the NFL basically apologized for not listening to his supposed wisdom and the police were put on their back foot in many cities around the country.

The result was an increase in violent crime that, of course, disproportionately victimized black people. The country has now recovered from this idiocy -- based on the lie that the police indiscriminately kill black people -- and the country is much safer for the people who Kaepernick purports to care most about. If we ever go anywhere near his preferred policy of abolishing the police and prisons, we’d instantly create the worst crime wave in the country’s history.

Kaepernick is sometimes compared to Muhammad Ali. The legendary boxer sacrificed part of his career by claiming conscientious objector status during the Vietnam War. Ali was hated for a time, but his true greatness as a boxer, his incandescent charisma and his outsized place in the culture allowed him to transcend that political controversy and become a beloved American figure.

That is not going to happen to Colin Kaepernick, whose claim to fame is kneeling on the sidelines during some NFL games. He’s very dismissive of

See Lowry, page 7

Policy is harming independent medicine

By **Wayne Winegarden**
Pacific Research Institute

Independent physicians are disappearing. Increasingly, the doctors Americans see are employees of hospital systems or insurance conglomerates.

Government policy is a major reason for this wave of consolidation.

Medicare’s reimbursement rules, payment advantages for hospitals, and distortions embedded in the federal 340B drug discount program have weakened independent physician practices. The result has been a wave of acquisitions that’s pushed doctors into hospital employment and reduced competition among healthcare providers.

Sandy Point clean-up, set Sept. 19

The Sandy Point Association is sponsoring its annual fall cleanup of the Sandy Point Bird Sanctuary, on Saturday, Sept. 19 at 11 a.m. The rain date is Sunday, Sept. 20.

Trash bags, trash pickers, gloves, snacks and bottled water will be provided. Staff from Audubon CT and CT DEEP will provide volunteers with background on the importance of this cleanup to nesting shorebirds, many of which are federally or state threatened. Ample free parking will be available in the Sanctuary parking lot, located at Beach Street and Third Ave. Ext.

Every year, large amounts of trash and debris wash up on the barrier beach, shoreline, and marshes of the sanctuary. The fall clean-up effort is aimed at removing debris, following the nesting season for birds, many of which are threatened or endangered, Sandy Point Association organizers say. The clean-up will provide an opportunity to thoroughly remove debris from all sections of the sanctuary, while providing access to the shoreline and tidal flats.

Center offers tickets for concerts

The West Haven Senior Center has a few tickets available for two upcoming 2 p.m. shows at Elim Park’s Nelson Hall in Cheshire. Bee Gees Gold the Tribute on Friday, Oct. 23. Cost is \$85 and is due Oct. 9. Tickets are also available for the Rat Pack tribute show on Thursday, Nov. 5. Cost is \$70 and is due Oct. 16. Costs for both shows includes transportation, lunch on site and tickets to show.

Non-Residents and non-Senior Center Members are welcome. Departure for both events is at 11a.m. from 225 Meloy Road (Vertical Church parking lot). To reserve your seat and for more details call the West Haven Senior Center at (203) 937-3507.

Farmers Market Thursday, Saturday

The farmers market is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Thursday on the Green, at Campbell Avenue and Main Street, and every Saturday next to the Oak Street Beach parking lot, off Captain Thomas Boulevard.

The market features homegrown fruits and vegetables, baked goods and homemade crafts through Oct. 10.

Parking is available on Campbell Avenue and in the City Hall municipal lot, 355 Main St., as well as in the Oak Street municipal lot and on Palace Street. Oak Street is on the senior shuttle route and the CTtransit route.

The farmers market was dedicated in 2010 in memory of Anthony F. “Tony” Inzero, a leader in the downtown business community who co-owned Flower Affair on Campbell Avenue with Betty DelVecchio for many years.

Inzero was a founding member and longtime president of the West Haven Business Association who spearheaded a variety of events and programs to drum up business for fellow merchants, including the first farmers market in 2000.

Inzero, who lived in Hamden, died in 2009 at age 59.

Lowry: *Kaepernick tiresome*

Continued from page 6

the enduring change wrought in the NFL by his protests and the tumult after 2020. The league has painted the words “End Racism” in end zones. Kaepernick rightly considers these pointless messages performative, but so was his scorn for the anthem of his own country a decade ago.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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In 2012, fewer than one-third of physicians were affiliated with hospitals. Today, nearly six in ten are. Between 2018 and 2026, hospitals acquired almost 33,000 physician practices and added roughly 181,000 physicians to their payrolls.

Hospitals are snapping up physician practices with an assist from the federal government.

Medicare physician reimbursement has fallen by roughly 33% in real terms since 2001, even as the cost of operating a practice has climbed. Unlike hospitals, physician practices do not receive automatic inflationary updates from Medicare.

Medicare also pays more for outpatient services when delivered in hospital outpatient facilities rather than physician offices or ambulatory surgery centers. Those disparities encourage hospitals to acquire physician practices and then bill for the same services at higher hospital rates.

The 340B program compounds those distortions. Under the program, eligible safety-net hospitals can purchase drugs at discounts and bill insurers and Medicare at full price, retaining the spread.

Many hospitals have transformed 340B into a significant source of revenue. Between 2010 and 2024, they added more than 17,000 contract pharmacies to their 340B distribution networks. Spending on discounted 340B drugs reached \$100 billion in 2025, up from \$5 billion in 2010.

Some independent physicians have responded to these structural disadvantages by partnering with outside firms for financing, administrative support, technology, and other business support. These

management services organizations, or MSOs, can enable physicians to resist hospital acquisition and focus on practicing medicine.

Some state lawmakers are wary of MSOs because they’re often backed by private equity firms and other corporate investors. They worry financial interests could exert improper influence over patient care.

In response, some states are revisiting “corporate practice of medicine” laws, which generally require physicians -- not corporations -- to own medical practices.

The rationale behind these laws is straightforward -- medical decisions should be made by physicians, not corporate executives or investors.

But hospitals -- the primary drivers of corporate consolidation -- are often exempt from these rules. Further, restricting physician practices from partnering with MSOs does not eliminate the financial pressures driving consolidation.

Oregon recently enacted restrictions on how physician practices may partner with

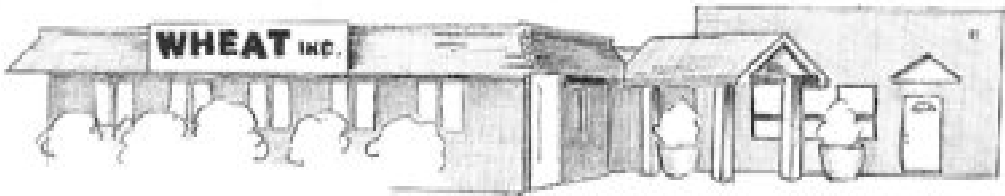
MSOs. Other states are considering similar proposals. But many of these proposals go beyond protecting physicians’ clinical autonomy and instead dictate how medical practices may organize and finance themselves.

California has charted a better path. In 2025, the state enacted legislation that preserves physicians’ clinical autonomy and prevents non-licensed entities from controlling medical decision-making, rather than broadly restricting how independent practices structure their business relationships.

If policymakers want to preserve independent medicine and reduce healthcare consolidation, they must address the financial distortions pushing physicians into hospital systems.

Congress should index Medicare physician reimbursement to inflation; adopt site-neutral payments so Medicare pays the same amount for the same service regardless of setting; and reform 340B so it supports vulnerable patients

See Policy, page 16



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Movie troupe begins shooting

By Dominic Konareski
Voice Writer

No Loose Ends was filming in multiple West Haven locations over the course of Labor Day weekend, as the production crew and actors didn't let a spot rain shower shuffle their schedule.

The West Haven Voice was granted exclusive access to the filming sets and actors during their time at the Savin Rock coastal community.

No Loose Ends is a 1990s-inspired proof-of-concept film directed and produced by the duo of Greg P Wyld Moyer and Bobby Garrafa. The film, which is in the style of a mini-TV-series listed as a P Wyld Films production, does not yet have an official release date just yet, with Greg being the director of Photography, Cinematography and also taking the producer role. Meanwhile, while also being a director and producer, Bobby Garrafa takes up an acting role, extending his on-screen resume.

Producer Moyer told the said-*that No Loose Ends* will be a series with "the feel of a twist on *The Sopranos*."

Garrafa, a Massachusetts native, has acted in recent movies such as *She Cries Murder*, *The Family Tailor* and *Nadia's Request*.

In an exclusive interview, Garrafa said that he was into old mafia films and TV shows, leading him to have an ultimate goal of making a true crime concept movie himself.

"I've always had it in me that I wanted to put it together (a crime movie), but I never had the right tools or the right people," said Garrafa.

Spending countless days in hotels traveling in pursuit of dreams, Garrafa was able to get a team assembled.

"I'm very grateful and very thankful," said the smiling 33-year-old when talking about his production crew, actors, and everyone involved who helped him get to this point.

Being able to put everything together as a director and producer, Garrafa said that acting was his first love – but taking on all these different roles for *No Loose Ends* has allowed him to develop a love for all the different techniques the roles require one to have.

Born in 1992, Garrafa said movies are like a piece of home to him, while also adding that he feels that the 1990s is the last era of pureness, happiness and originality before social media and technology took over.

The movie, which holds its era as accurately as possible, showcases actors using beepers and original 1990s suits and articles of clothing.

See Movie, page 15



The cast and crew of *No Loose Ends* took a group photo on one night of shooting along West Haven's shoreline. Photo courtesy of Dominic Konareski

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Local songwriter finds a niche



Photo courtesy of Dominic Knoareski

Local songwriter Dominic Poindexter has seen his songs make their mark on various Internet sites.

By Dominic Konareski
Voice Writer

“Staying true to themselves and reminding themselves that they are capable of executing their visions to their liking,” is what local West Haven singer and songwriter Dominic ‘Dom Lucid’ Poindexter said to the West Haven Voice.

Dominic Poindexter, a native of West Haven and a graduate of the Class of 2023 at West Haven High School, has expanded his career as a musical artist since getting his diploma. Originally beginning to write and post songs during his freshman year, Poindexter said the COVID-19 lockdown during the end of his freshman year would end up allowing him to discover a true passion of making and producing his own music.

“Once COVID hit, it really gave me the time to come back to myself and allow me to figure out what I really wanted to do,” said Poindexter.

Although starting when he entered high school, Dominic did see some growing pains that would end up leading to eventual self-growth.

“When I first started it in high school, I didn’t really have the confidence,” said Poindexter, who kept his talents largely veiled and only allowed a few into that part of his life. It was only after he graduated in 2023 that he would open his passion for many to see, saying, “I gotta let this blossom, I can’t keep being scared and keep it to myself.”

Now 21-years-old, the Westie has his own Spotify and Apple Music page with his name, Dom Lucid. He specifically chose that name due to him always having an interest in lucid dreaming since he was a kid, and since lucid is taken as meaning clear and pure, Dominic wanted people to know that his music is of both natures.

When it comes to being his biggest influence, Dominic credits the late Juice WRLD, with Lou Reed as a close second.

A Thousand Times, along with *Chaser & Runner* are credited as two of Dominic’s most popular songs, according to Spotify. When it comes to Dominic himself, he said *Blue Side of the Sea* is one of his favorite songs.

Blue side of the Sea, which was released on June 9, is one of Dominic’s favorites because of the process. After writing it and recording it in a studio, he would later have his little brother help him make a music video. Dominic also said it was a very good release of creativity that he had bottled up.

Allowing himself to keep all doors open, Dominic doesn’t have one set genre as he wants to avoid labels and be able to produce any and all type of music he wishes. He said he likes to label his music as “Satoria,” which comes from the Japanese Zen Buddhist word satori, which means sudden enlightenment.

“Whatever comes out, comes out it’s like a stream of consciousness,” said Dominic about his music.

He writes and produces all of his music, curating his art through his own collective “Ourwrldnotyours/satoria Records” alongside his best friends and fellow artists “Driveninsane” (Talib Davis) and “Nicky G” (Nick Gutierrez), both of which Dominic credits as his biggest supporters and motivators.

Overall, Poindexter credits his West Haven background to helping him become the music artist that he is today. Dominic said he found a new appreciation of his city after graduating high school and that he is proud to have grown up and continue to be a resident of West Haven.

He also said that being down the Savin Rock portion of West Haven has allowed him to appreciate the little things about the city such as taking walks along the boardwalk and knowing the historical significance of the area.

“Little runs to Dunkin and breakfast at Elm Diner, little stuff like that. I honor that and try to put that back into the art,” said Poindexter.

Dominic Poindexter has already released several songs and an album this year, with much more expected in the near future for the city resident.

Bridges: **Bike event**

Continued from page 3
tainment.

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Registration is open online through October 1, 2026. Fees are \$50 per cyclist, \$35 per walker, \$15 for youth under 18, and children 6 and under are free. Registration will also be available day-of at an increased rate.

To register, sponsor the event, volunteer, or learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/BridgesRideWalk2026>.

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Veneto continues his annual ‘push’

By Michael P. Walsh
Special to the Voice
City first responders rolled out the red carpet and welcomed former United Airlines flight attendant Paul “Paulie” Veneto and his airline beverage cart to West Haven on Sept. 1.

Veneto, 67, of Braintree, Massachusetts, lost several colleagues when United Airlines Flight 175 was flown into the south tower of New York’s World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

Leading up to the 25th anniversary of the attacks, Veneto once again honored his friends by pushing his beverage cart — decorated with photos of all four 9/11 flight crews — from Boston to Manhattan’s ground zero.

The annual trek, called Paulie’s Push, benefits the families of his former colleagues and Power Forward 25, a nonprofit organization that helps people with addiction.

This year’s “final” push departed from Boston on Aug. 15 and averaged about 20 miles a day.

On Sept. 1 in West Haven, as part of his over 200-mile journey to New York City, fire and police officials gave Veneto a hero’s welcome at the Kimberly Avenue bridge before leading him to West Haven Fire Department headquarters on Elm Street.

Veneto pushed his beverage cart alongside four other carts pushed by firefighters amid a procession of emergency vehicles and the Paulie’s Push motor home. Each cart is emblazoned with the airline name, logo and flight information of the four planes that crashed on 9/11.

American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the World Trade Center’s north tower, and United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the south tower. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, and United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

At fire headquarters, Veneto was greeted by Mayor Dorinda Borer, Chief James P. O’Brien and other public safety officials, as well as none other than FDNY 9/11 survivor Mickey Kross.

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

In front of the firehouse, Veneto delivered moving remarks and recounted the bravery of 9/11 flight attendants and passengers as firefighters

See, Paulie, page 14



Photo by Michael P. Walsh
Former United Airlines flight attendant Paul “Paulie” Veneto, center, pushes his airline beverage cart alongside carts pushed by, from left, West Haven Fire Department Deputy Chief William S. Johnson IV, Mayor Dorinda Borer, Police Chief Joseph S. Perno and City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown volunteer firefighter Dylan Reaburn on Captain Thomas Boulevard on Sept. 1. Veneto, 67, of Braintree, Mass., lost several colleagues when United Airlines Flight 175 was flown into the south tower of New York’s World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.



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West Haven Public Safety & Health Services EXPO

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

Capsule: *Artifacts to be unearthed in '76*

Continued from page 1

ed by the West Haven Historical Society at the spot where British Adjutant William Campbell saved the Rev. Noah Williston of West Haven's First Congregational Church from certain death at the hands of British soldiers and Hessian Jager mercenaries during the British invasion of New Haven on July 5, 1779.

Two months ago, Borer and the committee — Sabo, former 5th District Councilwoman Robbin Watt Hamilton, Donna Rzasa and Historical Society President Susan Walker — requested suggestions for the time capsule, which greatly contributed to the buried items.

"This capsule represents the heart, soul and history of our community," the mayor said. "Thanks to the fantastic suggestions sent in by all of you this past July, we've packed this capsule with a unique snapshot of time."

In his remarks, Spreyer encouraged attendees to write a "West Haven wish."

"Jot down your hope for the future on a piece of special biodegradable paper, and it'll

be buried right along with the time capsule," he said. "Over time, that paper will break down and nourish the soil and the plants growing above it, so your wish literally helps West Haven grow."

Those leaving a wish received a West Haven-branded pen and a commemorative time capsule key chain.

All wishes were placed by Borer and Sabo atop the capsule before it was fully buried.

During the ceremony, Borer also displayed the contents of a time capsule that was recently unearthed at the former

Edgar C. Stiles Elementary School on Main Street.

Buried on May 19, 1991, the capsule contained a note from then-Principal Helen Dorsi featuring the names of students and teachers, letters from students, and newspaper articles and toys of the era, including a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle.

The event also included a trio of food trucks that served up eats and sweets on the Main Street side of the Green: Louise's Homemade Food & Baked Goods, Crave and Waffles on Wheels.





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Photo by Michael P. Walsh

From left, West Haven Mayor Dorinda Borer and Time Capsule Committee members Robbin Watt Hamilton, Beth Sabo, Donna Rzasa and Susan Walker pause with gold-painted shovels after throwing dirt to bury the city's "America 250th Time Capsule" on the northwest corner of the Green on Sept.



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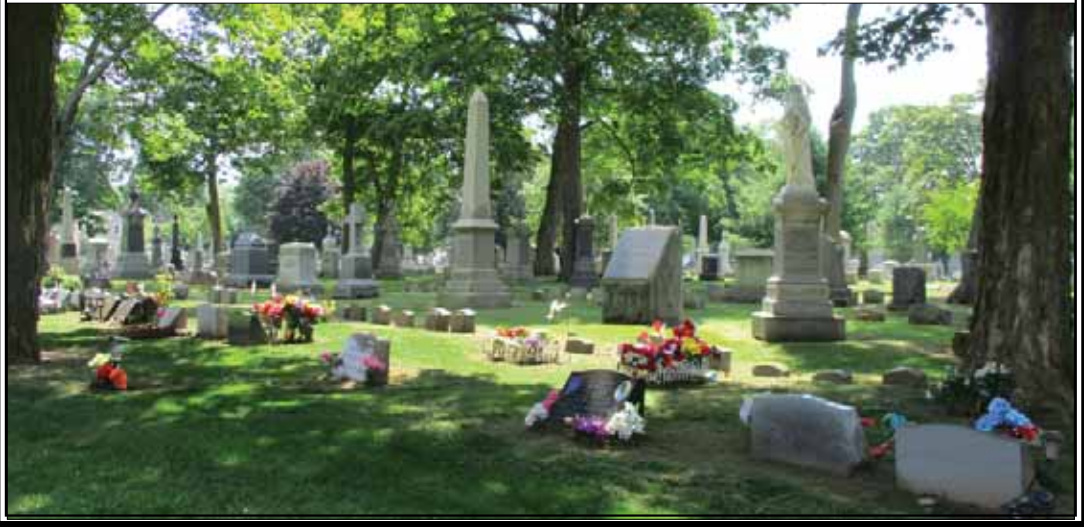
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Historian's corner

By Dan Shine

Water Street

In 1638, the first white settlers entered what they would call the West Side by fording what would become the West River: To this day, an artist's mural depiction of this event remains on the wall of the Post Office on Campbell Avenue.

In the years that followed, a farming community would develop along an area that would eventually become known as West Haven, Borough of Orange, and later the Town of West Haven, and still later, The City of West Haven.

In 1869, the original Kimberly Avenue Bridge was built across the mouth of the West River to accommodate a horse railway: This facilitated transit and commerce between New Haven and West Haven. And here begins our story.

Today, not far from the Kimberly Avenue Bridge, there stands a deserted area surrounded by chain link fences: While now that land is nothing but an expansive weed-grown lot, for decades and generations it was a magnet for West Haven's commerce and skilled labor. The streets involved were First Avenue, Water Street, Elm Street, Main Street and Richards Place.

So, what were those factories and shops, where skilled hands worked diligently for so many years, and what did they produce? Well, it's like this...

Charles E. Graham was the only surviving son of James Graham, who was active in Connecticut politics and made his fortune in manufacturing. The family once owned a large portion of Kelsey Hill, and indeed, Graham Manor Road is named for them.

Charles Graham was one of the founders of the West Haven Manufacturing Company, located in a brick building at the corner of Elm Street and Water Street. It was there that they produced hacksaw blades and power-driven hacksaw machines. The company employed a workforce of 200 up until 1920, when it was bought out by the Miller's Falls Company and relocated away from West Haven. That factory building remained standing until just a few years ago.

Just across Water Street stood the Advance Doll and Toy Company, founded by John Ardolino, and which was active during the 1950s and 60s, with 160 employees producing imaginative, revolutionary dolls named Walking Wanda and Talking Winnie. These dolls were very popular, but eventually, mass-produced, more sophisticated competition brought about the end of Advance Doll and Toy Company in the late 1960s.

Next door to Advance Doll and Toy Company and for decades was Earl Scheib, Inc., home of the \$29.95 automobile paint job. The sign on their building remained long after the company had moved on.

Immediately adjacent to Kimberly Avenue Bridge was once located Connecticut Refining/Benzoline, which provided heating oil to local homes and businesses.

It is difficult for us in these times to imagine a day when workmen walked off to their tasks each morning, over the dirt streets of West Haven; there they performed their labors in a place where great wooden ships with hundred-foot masts towered over near-

by homes, and much of the community relied on the sea for its livelihood.

At the far end of Water Street, where it intersects Main Street, there was Gesner and Mar Shipyard, which operated two shipways from 1861-1891, and which at the time was the most important industry in town. There they built three and four-masted schooners, as well as steamships. So closely did our community identify with the sea during that period that the tall flagpole on the Green was actually a mast and spar that was removed from a ship that was being overhauled in the shipyard.

In later years, the shipyard was taken over by Ruben Green and called Green's Shipyard. When that business failed, the Yale Flying-Boat Service took over the site in the 1920s and engaged in the construction and repair of sea planes. In the 1930s and 1940s, the business on that site was known as West Haven Shipyard, Inc. Today, along the water's edge, a row of rotting pilings bears mute testimony to an industry that once was.

In 1849 Henry Richards opened his own business on Water Street, operating a coal and lumber yard known as the H.H. Richards Company. Their advertisements proudly stated that H.H. Richards sold "pine, spruce and hemlock timber, plank boards, clapboards, shingles, pickets, laths, worked and dressed lumber."

That business would continue until 1939, when the buildings and lumber yard were consumed by fire.

During that period, Henry Richards was a leader in the community, establishing the Republican Party, and serving as an advocate of the Abolitionist movement.

In those days, typically those who owned and operated businesses in West Haven made their homes in West Haven as well. The Richards family adhered to that principle. In fact, today you can still see "Harborview," the home of Benjamin F. Richards at 65 Main Street, corner of First Avenue. Built in 1892 for his bride, it was a showpiece of that age, with custom trim and cabinetry which used the finest woods, similar to those on the better sailing ships of that era. It should be noted that Benjamin Richards had by then branched out into the sale of insurance, real estate, "modern built houses," and "a fine list of rents for prompt paying tenants." That home, also a showpiece in itself, was designated a "Historical Treasure of West Haven" by the West Haven Historical Society in 2018.

George W. Lyons, Sr. was born in New Haven in 1894 and initially received formal education only up through the eighth grade. Following that, he worked as an apprentice in an iron and steel mill. He was then able to resume his educa-



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

tion through evening courses at Yale Business School; in addition, he took correspondence courses in engineering. Whether he knew it or not, he was laying the foundation for what would be his great success.

In the mid-1920s, after gaining considerable experience in the architectural iron business, he was able to resume his education through evening courses at Yale Business School; in addition, he took correspondence courses in engineering. Whether he knew it or not, he was laying the foundation for what would be his great success.

See Historian, page 15



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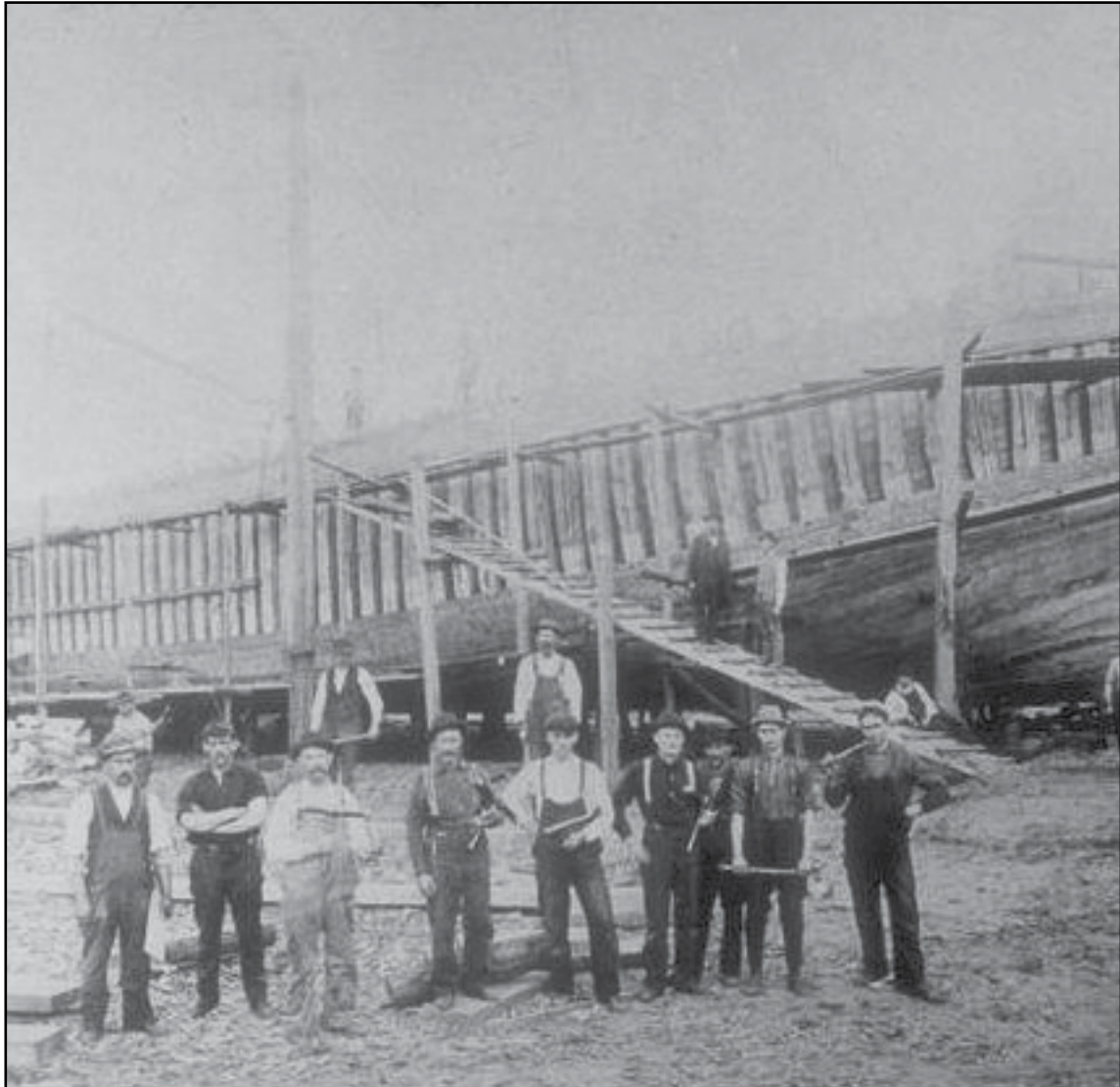
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Through the 19th Century shipbuilding was a big part of the Borough of West Haven's economic makeup.

Movie: Cast appreciates city, surroundings

Continued from page 9

“I made sure I emphasized the 90s,” said Garraffa, who had every detail down to the smallest extent accurate. From the newspapers used, beepers and clothing, Garraffa wanted to showcase the old school ‘gritty’ concept of the 1990s.

When asked “Why West Haven?” Garraffa explained his deep connection with one of Connecticut’s oldest settlements.

“My movies originally started in Connecticut, so I feel like what happened allowed me to start my career. I feel like I should give back,” while adding that for West Haven, specifically it was a bit different.

Amongst his busy travel schedule, Garraffa came through West Haven on multiple occasions and was drawn in by the West Haven beaches.

“It was absolutely beautiful,” Garraffa said when referring to the West Haven shoreline, which would lead him to making calls and getting a plan in place to film.

Getting the film going, actors such as Ralph Bracco, John Fiore, Robert Funaro and Pauly Popolizio to star in it, *No Loose Ends* carries an actor resume with film and TV names such as *The Sopranos*, *Law & Order*, and *The Irishman* alongside its talent.

With Garraffa wanting the movie to depict the era as much as possible, he brought Anthony Arillotta on board for an acting role.

Arillotta, who is a former Boss of the Springfield, MA branch of the Genovese Family, has been one of the most vocal voices since his departure from mob life.

Arillotta has his own wine company and a 248-page book, *South End Syndicate*, where he chronicles his rise to being a Genovese Family boss. Acting in *No Loose Ends* is just the latest endeavor for Arillotta, who has changed his life around for the better while also bringing awareness to the life that once defined him.

Arillotta said he was happy to come on board *No Loose Ends*, while noting that he is somewhat familiar with the West Haven area due to him often visiting New Haven for pizza.

“I’m always in New Haven. I love the restaurants out here,” said Arillotta, who would go on to say

Paulie: Veneto continues to honor colleagues

Contineud from page 11

and officers from West Haven’s three fire departments and Police Department looked on, many visibly emotional.

Veneto was then accompanied by four new “pushers,” including Borer, Police Chief Joseph S. Perno and Deputy Fire Chief William S. Johnson IV, and proceeded from Savin Avenue to Captain Thomas Boulevard, making stops at Bradley Point Park and Savin Rock Park.

Standing behind a lectern in the Bradley Point parking lot, Borer read and presented Veneto with an official proclamation recognizing his philanthropic work and declaring “Paul ‘Paulie’ Veneto Day” in West Haven.

“On this day, September 1, 2026, the City of West Haven and its courageous first responders are proud to have Paulie push his beverage cart across our community, passing through our historic Savin Rock shoreline and giving our residents the distinct privilege to stand alongside him, honor the heroes of 9/11 and support his noble cause,” said Borer, reading the proclamation.

The mayor continued addressing city residents.

“I urge all residents to join me in welcoming Paulie, honoring the memory of the flight crews of September 11 and supporting his life-changing philanthropic work.”

A crowd of public safety officials, including City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown Deputy Chief Keith T. Flood, and residents applauded as Veneto humbly thanked Borer and first responders for their support and hospitality.

“Thank you, I don’t know what to say,” said Veneto, who received a West Haven Fire Department Paulie’s Push 25th anniversary banner from O’Brien and Johnson.

Veneto added: “I’m just a guy pushing a cart. This

New Haven pizza is the best.

When asked to come on board for *No Loose Ends*, Arillotta said, “Count me in,” while also mentioning he has no dreams about acting.

“I never did it before (acting) and it’s not something I ever thought I would be doing,” he said.

Actors Ralph Bracco, Glenn Mate, Sr., Frank Forzano, and even a prominent figure in West Haven related their experiences between filming.

Ralph Bracco, appeared as a Tony Pro mobster in Martin Scorsese’s 2019 *The Irishman*, and playing as Neil Dellacroce in *Kingpin: Gotti*, with his character of Frank in *No Loose Ends* being just the latest mobster-related character he is playing on the big screen. Bracco got introduced to Bobby Garraffa after being contacted by him with a role already in mind.

“I felt that it would be a good fit for me to play this character,” Bracco said.

When it comes to getting set as a mobster character, Bracco said it is something that comes fairly easy for him, saying,

“This type of character is something within the comfortable wheelhouse of mine and something that I enjoy playing,” he siad.

Bracco, born in the Queens, said that he grew up watching films in the 1970s and 80s that have helped him ‘feed’ off of how a character should be when playing that particular role.

He added he especially likes how *No Loose Ends* is taking place in the 1990s and how accurately it depicts what he calls the “hey-day” of the mafia.

When it comes to true crime and being a first responder as a whole, actor Glenn Mate, Sr., knows a thing or two about that.

Mate, who is playing a law enforcement official in *No Loose Ends*, said he was a police officer and a career firefighter before retiring and getting into acting.

Mate finds himself again acting in law enforcement, after taking up the role of Sgt. Preston in *She Cries Murder*. Mate related he was a write-in for *No Loose Ends*, as he once again works with Garraffa in what continues to be a growth of friendship.

“I’m very grateful to have the opportunity,” he said before getting into character.

With Mate having experience as a real-life law en-

forcement officer in a local hometown police department, he was able to explain how he’s able to use real-life techniques in front of the camera.

“The terminology and choreography anywhere from the stance, language and demeanor really exemplifies the character,” he said.

Frank Forzano appears in *No Loose Ends* fresh off of *The White House Is Fake* (2026), and *Who Hired the Hitman* (2025), he also appeared in *She Cries Murder* (2026) alongside Mate.

Forzano takes up the role as well as a law enforcement officer. He came on board after working with Bobby on several previous roles, which led to the proposal for him to be in *No Loose Ends*. Forzano has enjoyed filming in West Haven, noting how beautiful the beaches are,

“I was thinking I should come here more often, not just for movies,” said Forzano.

Forzano said that acting is something he had always wanted to do but took the more responsible approach and worked a 9-to-5 instead.

His message to those who want to pursue their dreams is simple, yet very deep: Forzano said, “If it’s meant for you, you should go for it.”

One name on the end credits list will catch the eyes of many West Haven residents as West Haven’s own Mayor Dorinda Borer is taking an extra role. Mayor Borer has held extra roles in several movies that have had West Haven as part of the backdrop

“The way this all came together is that Ed Cohen, who is a scout for filming locations in Connecticut, came to me,” said the mayor, who originally met Cohen several years ago at the state capital while she was a representative.

Borer did note that although she is taking up a small role in *No Loose Ends*, that this won’t be the start of a secondary career and that her primary focus is working for the people of West Haven as their mayor.

No Loose Ends is utilizing the old Masonic building for the filming, along with the Oak Street Beach and a local West Haven diner as well.

Although no release date is available just yet, cast and crew are excited for what’s to come and the eventual public reception upon its release.

year is special — I was able to accomplish what I set out to do. Thank you all for doing this!”

In the background, as he concluded his remarks, hundreds of American flags blew in the wind near Long Island Sound at Savin Rock’s “Field of Flags.”

The sea of flags represents the 343 New York City firefighters who died in the line of duty on Sept. 11, along with more than 451 active and retired FDNY members who have died of 9/11-related illnesses, including cancer. Nearly 3,000 people died in the at-

tacks.

Paulie’s Push continued from Bradley Point’s Veterans Walk of Honor to Milford’s Woodmont borough.

At the pedestrian bridge near Sea Bluff Beach’s Charlotte Bacon playground, the West Shore Fire Department took over beverage cart duty, with Chief Rafael Zayas, Capt. Collin McBurney and Lt. Rebecca DeFrance pushing carts alongside Veneto to department headquarters on Ocean Avenue and beyond.



Paul “Paulie” Veneto heads up Elm Street with his local entourage of city officials and first responders during his annaul trek

Photo by Michael P. Walsh

Historian: *Industry at home on Water St.*

Continued from page 13
ness, Lyons decided to go into business for himself, for he had recognized an unfulfilled opportunity that he was prepared and equipped to capitalize on: The wooden basement entrance to his house was peeling and rotting and continually in need of maintenance and repair. What could he do to solve this problem and make a living from the solution? After experimenting with a braking press, welding torch and some twelve-gauge sheet steel, he had produced a prototype of the metal outside basement door which is so commonplace today!
As a direct result the Bilco Company was incorporated in 1926 and production began immediately.
During the Great Depression, Bilco’s workforce was reduced to only include Lyons and his two sons. In that period of semi-idleness, product improvements were developed:
Lyons added and patented safety devices and improved the overall sophistication of the door design

itself. Also, by design, Bilco doors were intended to be installed by contractors or even by the home handyman, and this strengthened their position in the market. By now, imitators had come along to provide “me-too” products, but they could not compare with the more advanced Bilco products—thus Bilco maintained their products’ position as leader in their field.
As World War II drew to a close, Bilco realized significant growth and outgrew their New Haven location. Thus, in 1953, Bilco moved into a new, much larger manufacturing facility at Water Street in West Haven. That building, formerly owned by the defunct Steelcraft Power Boats offered five times the previous floor space available to Bilco and promised to be Bilco’s for many years to come.
Bilco remained a family operation for decades, and today has relocated back to New Haven, after a stay in West Haven totaling 62 years. During that period, many West Haven families found their employment

and livelihood within the walls of The Bilco Company.
Hallock’s is a long-established name in West Haven’s business history, with roots tracing back to the H.P. Hallock Company, which was established as a manufacturer in 1940 with its principal office at 30 Water Street. Later, Hallock’s operated as an appliance store at 1 Main Street. That business was in operation there until the redevelopment of that neighborhood began.
Near the northwest corner of the currently vacant lot, there once stood Nick’s Diner, which was a West Haven favorite for many years. That building was razed as part of the redevelopment project, and Nick’s moved to a location on Sawmill Road, much to their great success.
Today, all is quiet where once stood a multitude of West Haven businesses and homes. It is our sincere hope that one day, West Haven will restore this very visible area to its once-vibrant and successful status!



Lrgy -- Bilco Overhead Door originated in West Haven and called Water Street home for generations. The decision to tear down the entirety of the Water Street Project area meant the firm had to find a new location. It moved from its ancestral home to New Haven.
Below Left -- A view of Main Street turning into Water Street, the Gesner & Mar shipyard. Below -- Benzoline around 1958, and the oil tanks that stood until demolition of the Water Street area took place earlier this decade. The photo dates from the 1970s.



UNH partnerships finalized with private industries

The University of New Haven announced today the execution of Master Partnership Agreements with four leading companies, Sailion, Medtronic, Sheffield Pharmaceuticals, and ARBURG, marking a significant expansion of the University's industry engagement strategy through its Elevation Center.

The agreements bring together organizations representing advanced manufacturing, medical technology, pharmaceuticals, and emerging technology sectors, creating new opportunities for collaboration between industry leaders and University faculty, students, and research centers.

The new partnerships represent a shared commitment to solving real-world business challenges while creating meaningful opportunities for student success, workforce development, applied research, and industry innovation.

Through The Elevation Center, companies can access the full breadth of University resources through a single point of engagement, enabling customized collaborations aligned with their strategic priorities.

"While each of these partnerships is unique, they all share a common goal: connecting companies with the talent, expertise, innovation, and resources they need to succeed," said Paul Lavoie, vice president of corporate partnerships, and innovation and executive director of The Elevation Center at the University of New Haven.

"Whether a company needs engineering support, chemistry expertise, AI applications, marketing insights, workforce solutions, or supply-chain intelligence, The Elevation Center serves as the front door to an ecosystem that can help solve those challenges."

The University expects these partnerships to generate a range of initiatives, including applied research projects, internships, workforce development programs, technology adoption initiatives, supply chain consulting, business

Policy: Hurts patients

Continued from page 7

rather than hospital expansion.

Protecting physicians' clinical independence is essential. But making it harder for independent practices to survive will ultimately leave patients with fewer choices, less competition, and higher costs.

Wayne Winegarden, Ph.D., is Senior Fellow in Business and Economics at the Pacific Research Institute and Director of PRI's Center for Medical Economics and Innovation (medecon.org). This piece originally ran in the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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Westies: Volleyball takes opener, 3-0

Continued from page 20

home loss against Mercy. The Westies trailed 1-0 at the half, before Mercy pulled away in the second half.

The volleyball team opened the year with a 3-0 home victory over Amistad. The Westies won by scores of 25-11, 25-12, and 25-9.

Liz Aquino ran the offense with 19 assists, Gulianna Ruggerio had an all-around solid effort with nine kills, eight digs, and three aces, while Gabrielle Hines was stellar with 12 aces and seven kills. Isabella VanBrederode added six kills in the win.

West Haven fell to 1-1 with a 25-12, 21-25, 25-14, 25-27, 15-3 loss at Shelton. Aquino had 25 assists and four digs, Ruggerio had 18 kills and 14 digs, Hines added nine kills and three digs, Katheryne Macz had nine digs, Nathaly Siguencia Tenesaca added seven digs, and Estefanni Sotoj Ortiz had six digs.

West Haven improved to 2-1 with a 3-0 victory over Jonathan Law. The Westies won by scores of 25-19, 25-16, and 25-18.

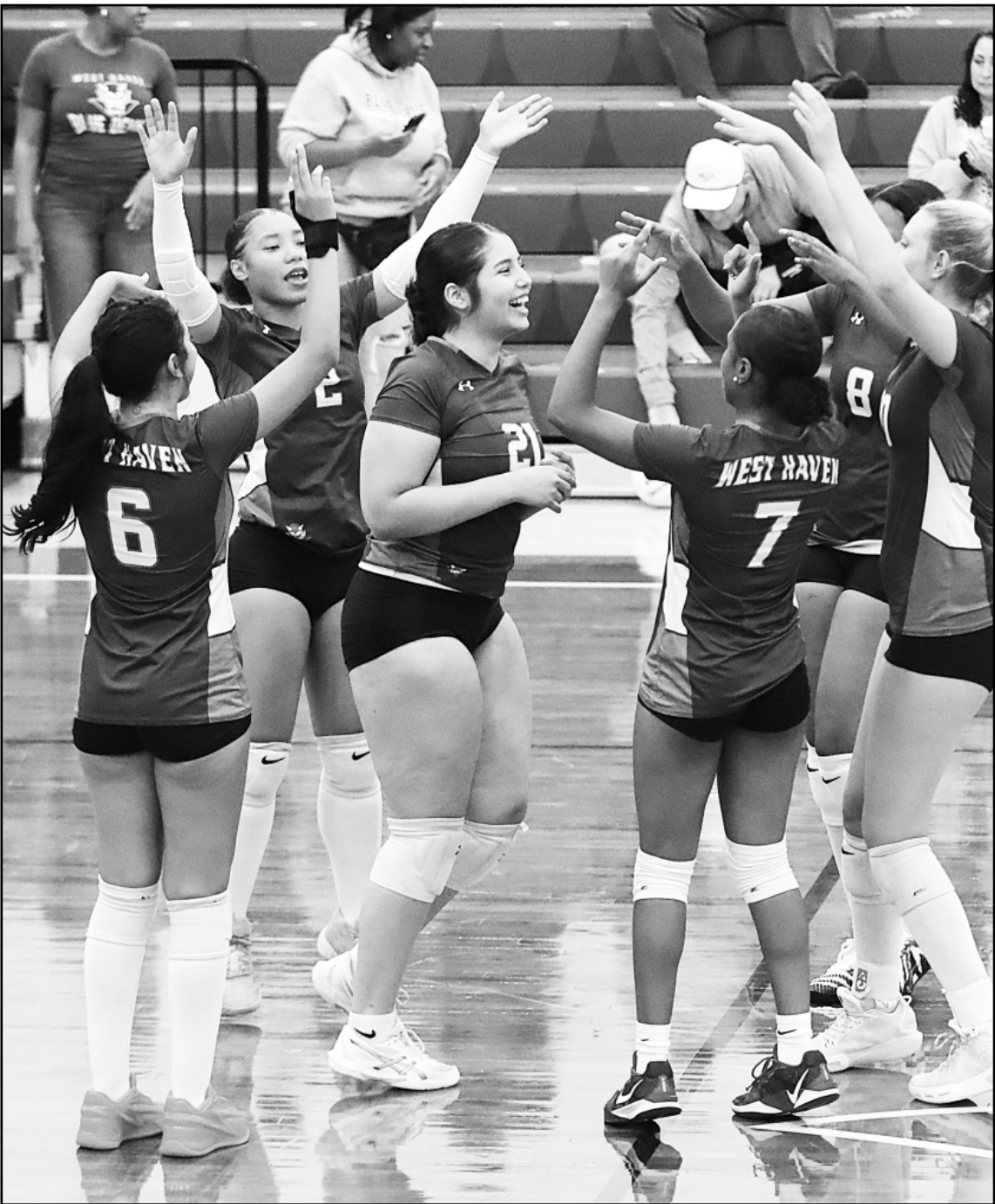
Aquino led the way with 23 assists, three kills, and three digs, while Ruggerio had 15 kills and 15 digs. Hines added nine kills, and VanBrederode had five digs.

The West Haven boys cross-country team opened the season against Notre Dame – West Haven, Hillhouse, Branford, and Sheehan.

Afdal Wattara placed first in 9 minutes, 24.5 seconds, junior David Chen was third in 9:56.8, sophomore Antoni Vasquez was fourth in 10:16.2, and freshman Santiago Licon was fifth in 13:21.0. Senior Ben Proano finished in 19:48.4

Photos by Todd Dandelske

The fall high school sports season opened last week, with several teams playing the first regular season contests. Clockwise from top right -- The Blue Devils' volleyball team celebrate an ace by No. 21 Luciana Macias Loor in its 3-0 sweep of Amistad. Amar Sanounou makes a mover around a Cheshire defender. The Westies tied the Cheshire Rams, 1-1, at home. Isabella VanBrederode gets the dig versus Amistad. Mohamed Naas gets the header against Cheshire.



Bocce tourney returns to city this weekend

A popular bocce tournament is coming back to West Haven.

Nearly 300 athletes are gearing up to compete in the Special Olympics Connecticut Unified Sports Fall Festival Bocce Competition at the city's Old Grove Park courts Saturday and Sunday.

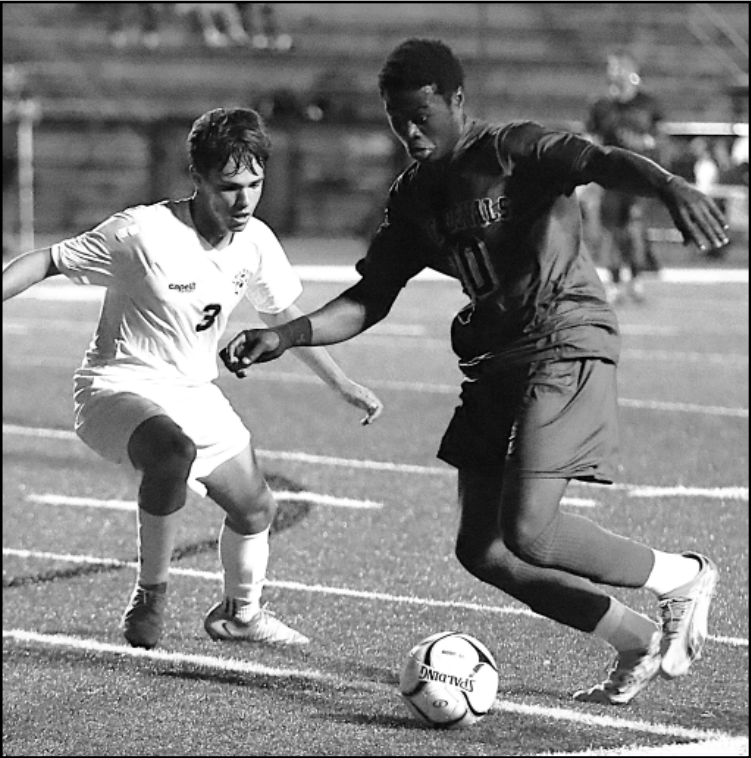
The bocce tournament is open to the public and presented by the Mohegan Tribe.

The opening ceremony is set for 9 a.m. Saturday and will take place on the shoreline boardwalk in West Haven, the host site for the third year in a row.

The ceremony will feature a torchbearer escorted by members of the West Haven Police and Fire departments and remarks by Mayor Dorinda Borer and Special Olympics organizers.

The city's six bocce courts were donated and constructed by Special Olympics Connecticut for the Special Olympics World Games bocce competition in July 1995.

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 teammates without disabilities.



Youth sports costs may lead to tennis option

By Dale Evans
US Tennis Association

For millions of American families, sleepaway camps, travel leagues, and organized sports programs during summer vacation are getting harder to afford.

The average overnight summer camp costs \$1,250 for just one week. Playing youth basketball now costs more than \$1,000 a year. Youth soccer runs nearly \$1,200. It's no surprise that six out of 10 families say youth sports strain their budget.

Most sports, anyways. But a few -- most notably tennis -- are vastly more affordable, especially at the USTA National Tennis Center.

To get started, players need a racquet and a few balls -- about \$30 worth of equipment total. That's it.

No team, league, uniform, or club membership necessary. With roughly 270,000 tennis courts across the United States

-- many of them open to the public -- there's a good chance one is nearby.

And if not, a backyard wall, driveway, or local park will do just fine for most practice sessions.

That flexibility is especially important during the summer months. Unlike many activities that require advance registration or organized schedules, the barrier to entry for tennis is low.

Players can rally for an hour after dinner, on a Saturday morning, or while traveling. There's no waiting for a season to start and no minimum number of players required.

That accessibility is why so many Americans are giving the sport a try and the exact reason the USTA National Tennis Center remains a public facility. While the share of kids ages 6 to 17 in team sports or sports lessons fell nearly five percentage points between 2017 and 2022, the number of

Americans ages six and older playing tennis has grown by 34% since 2019.

Tennis is also uniquely adaptable.

Wheelchair tennis has become one of the fastest-growing adaptive sports in the country, but accessibility extends well beyond that. Players with visual impairments can use specially designed audible balls and modified court formats, while deaf and hard-of-hearing players can participate with visual cues and adapted instruction.

Flexible rules, court sizes, and equipment help ensure that people of different ages and abilities can enjoy the game.

A middle schooler and a grandparent can share the same court, the same game, and the same memories. Few activities offer that kind of connection across generations.

The health case for tennis is equally compelling. Just three

hours a week on the court can reduce cardiovascular disease mortality by 56%. One study found that people who play tennis regularly live about 10 years longer than sedentary individuals -- more than any other sport studied, including running, cycling, and swimming.

Those health benefits are especially important today and emphasized at the National Tennis Center through P.A.C.E.S. for school groups and Black History Month Cardio Tennis for families. The average American teenager spends seven hours a day behind a screen, while only about one in five adolescents meets the recommended 60 minutes of daily physical activity. That gap has consequences for physical health, mental health,

and social development. Tennis offers a simple antidote: time outdoors, movement, and face-to-face connection, all in a single activity.

But the deeper reason tennis sticks is that it doesn't feel like exercise. It combines fitness with competition, friendship, and fun -- and that combination is what turns a healthy activity into a lifelong habit. The best thing parents can give their kids this summer isn't a week at sleepaway camp or a packed travel schedule. It's a racquet, a court, and someone to play with.

Dale Evans has been Director of Tennis Programs at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York since 2022. He is an RSPA Master Professional and Certified Racquet Sports Executive.

Youth Soccer squads open the fall season

The West Haven Youth Soccer League opened its fall season this past weekend, with all the teams seeing action on Saturday. Wizzard Painting team came out with very happy feet to start the season off as they beat Stars Ice Cream, 6-2. Juan Carlos Arteaga, Ahmad Tidjani, and Jojo Stokes each scored in the win. Lorenzo's Ristorante Italiano Orange Tangerines won, 5-0, against the Law Office of Paul V. Carty. Abdulmalik Shafter had a hat trick. Jalen Hoskie played standout defense. Adam Mohammadi had two goals and two assists, and George McGaffin III showed great hustle.

Physicians Physical Therapy played Milano & Wanat to a 3-3 tie on opening day. Milano & Wanat was the first to score, but Wyatt Williams of Physicians Physical Therapy scored on a break away. Milano & Wanat scored two more goals, but Shaviner Medley tied the game for Physicians Physical Therapy. First Congregational Church of West Haven won their first game of the season against Pinky's Embroidery & More, 6-1. Henley Jackson scored her first goal, while Zoe Schenkle played great defense and Bella Provo made seven key saves in goal.

Top Hat Dance Academy had a great first game against Porto Funeral Home. Charlotte Sebas and Ava Abner showed great defense throughout the whole game. Viola Henniger had some great plays on both sides of the ball. The West Haven Police Union Local 895 Red Dragons opened up the season with a 4-1 victory over Shoreline Wellness Center. Idris Green and Ace Hemming scored. Dominic Ferris played great in goal and Liam Rodriguez had a great game at mid-field.

In travel team action, the West Haven U14 boys travel team hosted Ansonia Saturday afternoon, winning 6-0. Enzo Cordova, Aaron Azana, and Jaxon Cruz all combined for the shut out, supported by Jacob Rader, Ben Trenchard, Collin Gibbons, Seth Empric, and Joseph Ruiz on defense. Roland Green, Adam Lamkhanter, Ryan Abekah led the offense.

NOTICE TO WEST HAVEN TAXPAYERS

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Attention is directed to the Assessment Date of taxable personal property in the City of West Haven on **OCTOBER 1, 2026**. Connecticut State Statute 12-41 requires all persons (residents and non-residents) of taxable personal property in the City of West Haven to file with the Assessor a sworn declaration of all such personal property owned or leased by them on the **1st day of October 2026**.

Personal property consists of non-registered and out of state registered motor vehicles; furniture; fixtures; computer equipment and all other electronic data equipment; construction equipment; manufacturing machinery and equipment; farm and mechanic's machinery and tools; consumable supplies; and all other taxable property not specifically mentioned used in a business or to earn income.

Personal property declarations will be mailed to all existing businesses at the end of September. *All existing businesses are encouraged to file on-line.* Forms can be downloaded from the Assessor's section of the city website at www.cityofwesthaven.com

The declaration must be returned to the Assessor's Office on or before **NOVEMBER 2, 2026**. **Failure to file such a declaration by November 2nd will result in an additional 25% assessment penalty and a value determined by the Assessor.** The Assessor's Office at City Hall is open Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

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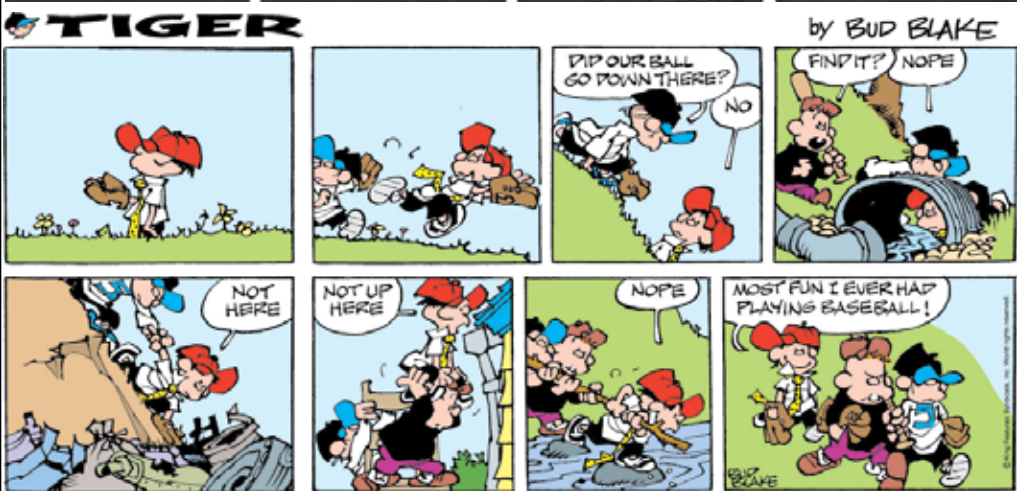
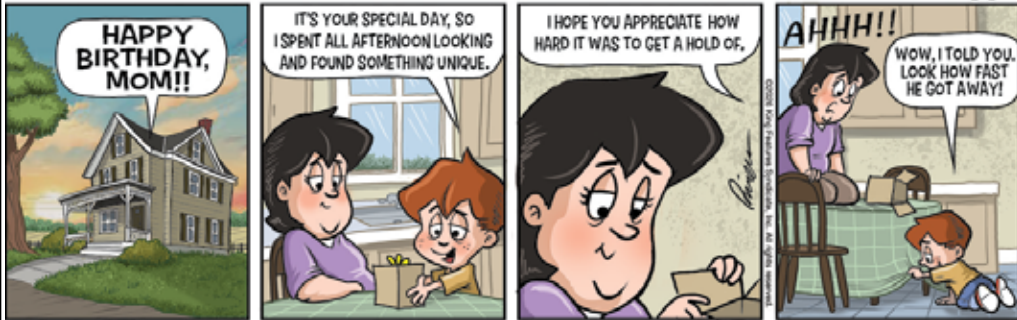
Photo by Todd Dandelske

Battle for possession

West Haven and NDWH players look to make a play on a corner kick. West Haven's girls soccer team opened its season on the short end of two games, 3-1, against cross-town rival Notre Dame, and a 4-0 loss to Mercy.



Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTONOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Number is smaller. 2. Cap is different. 3. Shutter is smaller. 4. Mailbox is lower. 5. Tree is missing. 6. Wall is not as wide.

King Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Ashley and Wynonna
 - 6 Consumer protection agcy.
 - 9 Catchall abbr.
 - 12 Track star Bolt
 - 13 Tic-tac-toe win
 - 14 "The Matrix" character
 - 15 Refuse an offer
 - 16 Seattle suburb that's home to Microsoft
 - 18 Credit rating publisher
 - 20 Skin soother
 - 21 Corp. money exec
 - 23 Overly
 - 24 Part of LGBTQ
 - 25 Hit on the noggin
 - 27 Japanese fish dish
 - 29 Tranquil
 - 31 Sort of dive
 - 35 Police ID
 - 37 Employ
 - 38 Hairnet
 - 41 Moray, for one
 - 43 Past
 - 44 Plane-related
 - 45 Country song?

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11
12						13				14		
15						16			17			
		18			19			20				
21	22			23				24				
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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				

- 47 Archbishop Tutu
- 49 Stag
- 52 Altar affirmative
- 53 Reuben bread
- 54 More practical
- 55 Aachen article
- 56 Rowing need
- 57 Birch's kin
- 5 Stuffed shirt
- 6 Gift giver's words
- 7 Low digits
- 8 Atlantic fish
- 9 — Holmes (Sherlock's sister)
- 10 Mortise partner
- 11 Encryptions
- 17 "Butterfly" singer Carey
- 19 Medicated
- 21 "60 Minutes" ailer
- 22 Nemesis
- 24 Fill in — blank
- 26 Explosive sound
- 28 Bed cover
- 30 Wee bit
- 32 Tiara stone
- 33 Work unit
- 34 Old Olds
- 36 Census info
- 38 "Sexy" Beatles girl
- 39 "— say more?"
- 40 Director Welles
- 42 — apso (small dog)
- 45 Novelist Seton
- 46 Airline to Tel Aviv
- 48 Spanish gold
- 50 Born
- 51 Blunder

DOWN

- 1 Roast beef au —
- 2 "Suits" net-work
- 3 "Shark Tank" star — John
- 4 Flintstones' pet

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Trivia test

- by Fifi Rodriguez
- 1. TELEVISION: What is the name of Jon Snow's dire wolf in "Game of Thrones"?
 - 2. HISTORY: Which Civil War general literally used "scorched earth" tactics in his march from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia?
 - 3. MOVIES: Which 1960s movie has the tagline, "A man went looking for America, and he couldn't find it anywhere"?
 - 4. GEOGRAPHY: Which body of water includes islands known as the Seychelles?
 - 5. CHEMISTRY: Which element's symbol is Sn?
 - 6. LITERATURE: What is the length of a traditional sonnet?
 - 7. GEOLOGY: What is a common name for calcium carbonate?
 - 8. FOOD & DRINK: Which fast-food chain goes by the name Hungry Jack in Australia?
 - 9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president gave radio addresses that were described as "fireside chats"?
 - 10. ASTRONOMY: What is the shape of the Milky Way?

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

King Crossword

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Blue Devils' miscues lead to opening loss

By Mike Madera

Special to the Voice

Cheshire senior kicker Tim Reinhard was feeling good in warm-ups, drilling kicks through the uprights from 50 yards away. Reinhard felt he would get his opportunity during the game.

Reinhard came through, capping a furious second half rally by the Rams, when he nailed a 44-yard field goal with 1 minute, 55 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter to lift Cheshire to a 15-13 victory over West Haven in a Southern Connecticut Conference contest at Ken Strong Stadium in West Haven Friday evening.

After trailing 13-0 at the half and accumulating less than 20 yards of offense in the first half, Cheshire turned the game around in the third quarter by taking advantage of two West Haven miscues.

On West Haven's first offensive snap of the third quarter, the ball sailed out of the end zone for a Cheshire safety. The Rams then marched 44 yards in six plays and got within 13-10 on a Michael Chopak 15 - yard touchdown run, and the conversion run by Shane Jerome.

Just two plays later, the Westies again snapped the ball out of the end zone, and Cheshire was within 13-12 with 9:09 left in the third quarter.

"We knew we had to play them a certain way and we did," West Haven coach Tom Unger said. "I am proud of my team for doing that. The second half, you know sometimes the lights get big when it happens. We bounced back a little bit. I knew, unfortunately, when they got the ball with four and a half minutes left, their kicker was kicking fifty, sixty-yard field goals in warm-ups."

West Haven had an opportunity to extend the lead, but was stopped on downs at the Cheshire 29 with just under 10 minutes remaining.

The Rams began their winning drive with 4:58 remaining, using a big 20-yard completion by Jerome to keep the drive going, then watching as Reinhard blasted the game-winning field goal with less than two minutes to go.

West Haven had one final drive, and quarterback Landon Gartner marched the Westies to the Cheshire 32, before two straight incompletions ended the rally.

Cheshire could not get going offensively in the first half as West Haven held the Rams to just 11 yards of total offense in the game's first 24 minutes. Cheshire had six possessions, five ending with a punt, and the other ended with halftime.

While the Westies had 168 first half yards, they tallied a bulk of those yards on chunk plays. Haven N'sumbu scored twice in the first half for the Westies, the first coming on a 47-yard burst through the middle with 6:34 left in the opening quarter for a 7-0 lead.

West Haven had great field possession during the opening half, but it was a 10-play, 71-yard drive which led to a 7-yard touchdown run by N'sumbu with 1:13 left in the second quarter for a 13-0 advantage.

"There were so many positives," Unger said. "Haven N'sumbu missed all of last year with an ACL injury. His nickname is Nightmare. He is a nightmare for other teams on defense, and he runs the ball hard. Darryl Small ran the ball really well in the first half. He cares so much."

N'sumbu ran for 92 yards and two touchdowns, while Small ran for 73 yards in the loss for West Haven.

The West Haven boys soccer team opened the 2026 season with a 1-1 tie against Cheshire. After the Rams scored in the game's opening minute, West Haven's defense tightened and did not allow another tally.

The Westies evened the game on a goal by Santiago Morales off a free kick in the second half.

West Haven improved to 1-0-1 with an 8-0 home victory over East Haven. Yaril Guerra scored twice, while Bricatson Laurent, David Hancel, Joel Goodlow, Ismail Sanounou, Youssouf Keira, and Cadian Jones-Gaywood each scored once.

The girls soccer team opened the season with a 3-1 loss against Notre Dame-West Haven. West Haven then fell to 0-2 with a 4-0

See Westies, page 17



Photos by Todd Dandelske

Top -- Sophia Empric controls the ball for the Blue Devils against the Green Knights in the first week of regular season play. West Haven took a 3-1 loss. Left -- Ben Proano competes for the Blue Devils in their opening meet. Be;pw == Gulianna Ruggerio goes up for the spike against Amistad, which the Lady Devils won, 3-0.

