

## **2008 FALL FESTIVAL HEADLINERS ANNOUNCED**

### ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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**Contact: Mayor April Capone Almon (468-3204)**

**Fall Festival President Michael Albis (468-7146)**

Mayor April Capone Almon has announced the featured entertainment scheduled for this September's seventeenth annual East Haven Fall Festival.

This year's Fall Festival will be held on the Town Green from Friday, September 5, through Sunday, September 7. The Festival is co-sponsored by the Town and the East Haven Chamber of Commerce, and is coordinated by the independent non-profit corporation, East Haven Fall Festival, Inc.

"I'm looking forward to my first Fall Festival as mayor, and I'm very excited about the entertainment the Town and the Festival Committee will be presenting," said Mayor Capone Almon. "We are thrilled to announce that the main attraction of this year's Festival will be Richard Street, a lead singer for the Temptations during three decades of the group's history. Richard now performs with a group that will bring the classic sound of the Temptations to the East Haven Green."

Richard Street joined the Temptations as lead tenor vocalist in 1971 and continued in that role until 1995. During his tenure he performed many hundreds of shows with the group in dozens of countries worldwide, and was present for the group's induction into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame in 1989. Some of the hits of the Temptations featuring Richard as lead vocalist include "Take a Look Around," "Ball of Confusion," and "Papa Was a Rolling Stone," which earned the group three Grammy Awards. At the Fall Festival, Richard and his current group are expected to perform Temptations classics such as these as well as other hits of the era.

The featured act on Friday evening will be Souled Out, a music ensemble known as the East Coast's premiere Motown and soul show. The group returns to the Festival after its past, very popular appearance on the Town Green.

In addition to the headline entertainment, Fall Festival, Inc. President Michael Albis said that the weekend will feature a variety of entertainment with a local flavor. The Spectacles featuring the Sin Sisters, a versatile group with local roots and a devoted area fan base, return to the Festival to open the festivities on Friday evening. Saturday afternoon's musical lineup will include the award-winning East Haven High School Yellowjacket Marching Band under the direction of Michael Martino; the talented young singers of Karen Wagner's local school of voice; and Bad Apples, a trio of young East Haven natives who will be returning to their hometown to perform their original music following a nationwide summer tour.

Saturday evening's entertainment begins with the music of Rhapsody, followed by the ever-popular oldies group Yesteryear, and culminating in the featured performance of the weekend. "We expect to have one of the largest crowds in the history of the Festival on hand on Saturday night to hear Richard Street and his group perform the songs he helped the Temptations make famous," said Albis.

Sunday will bring more great music, beginning with the jazz sounds of Jim Lawson's Big Band, a Festival tradition, and continuing through the afternoon with the music of Timeless.

Demonstrations by dancers, karate students, and others local performers will intersperse the schedule throughout the weekend. More details will be announced as the event draws closer. "Through the help of Mayor Capone Almon, the Fall Festival this year for the first time will have its own web page on the Town's new website to promote and provide information about the event," said Albis.

Mayor Capone Almon and Festival President Albis both stressed the importance of the generous sponsors whose support makes it possible to present great entertainment free of admission charge. Businesses who have already committed to sponsor this year's event include Goody's Hardware, Town Fair Tire, McDermott Chevrolet, Stop & Shop, Webster Risk Services, Quality Mechanical Corporation, Group Benefit Administrators of Connecticut, Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield, Webster Bank, Rossi Law Offices, Torello Tire Company, Inc., Minuteman Press, Clancy Funeral Home, The Cleaning Company, Inc., Luchs Consulting Engineers, Better Bedding, Internal Medicine of East Haven, and DMR Properties. In addition, the Town and the Festival Committee are deeply indebted to D.S.P. Electric and Precision Construction Technologies, which have agreed to provide their services free of charge in the massive effort of installing the electrical service needed on the Green for the event.

Mayor Capone Almon closed by saying, "Thanks to the sponsors and the overwhelming participation of the people of East Haven, there is no better community event in the region than our own Fall Festival. One of my greatest honors and pleasures as mayor will be to host this event and share a wonderful weekend with our townspeople and our neighbors."