

Welcome to the Twentieth Annual East Haven Fall Festival!

It's hard to believe, but this year brings the **twentieth** installment of the East Haven Fall Festival. The first Festival in 1992 was the result of a cooperative effort between the office of then-Mayor Henry J. Luzzi and the East Haven Chamber of Commerce. An independent non-profit organization, East Haven Fall Festival, Inc., was formed to coordinate the venture. From the beginning, the Fall Festival has featured live entertainment, restaurant booths, a business expo (now known as the Business Showcase), rides for small children, games and activities offered by local civic groups, and an arts and crafts exhibition. As time went on the Festival grew from a two-day to a three-day event, with additional features like the Community Classic Road Race, the Fall Festival Classic Car Show, and the Teen Corner.

The Fall Festival has become one of the most popular events of its kind in the region. Over the years the Festival has proudly presented nationally renowned musical performers such as Livingston Taylor, John Sebastian, The Drifters, the Coasters, the Five Satins, the Shangri-Las, Jay Siegel and the Tokens, Leslie Gore, Johnny Maestro and the Brooklyn Bridge, Little Anthony and The Imperials, the "New" Rascals, Shirley Alston Reeves, Lou Christie, Richard Street of the Temptations, and the Jr. Walker All Stars, all free of admission charge.

This milestone twentieth celebration of the Fall Festival is worthy of a new level of entertainment, and the committee is proud to have arranged just that with our featured act on Saturday night, Ambrosia. This famous 1970s and 1980s band garnered five Grammy Award nominations with hits like "Holdin' on to Yesterday," "How Much I Feel," "The Biggest Part of Me," and "You're the Only Woman." Ambrosia, still featuring three of its four original members, is expected to draw a large crowd from across the region - so get your spot on the Green early on Saturday!

As always, the Festival also provides a stage and spotlight for many talented local musicians and performers, from area rock, jazz, dance and singing groups, to East Haven's award-winning school musicians.

The Festival committee deeply appreciates the generosity of our many sponsors, who have consistently supported us in both good and difficult economic times; the efforts of countless volunteers; the indispensable help of the Chamber of Commerce; the work of the Town departments involved in the event; and the support of the community at large. I also extend our gratitude to Mayor April Capone, her staff, and the members of the Festival planning committee, all of whom have worked so hard to make this year's event another success.

Even as we reach this plateau of longevity, the Festival committee mourns the recent loss of one of its most dedicated members, AnnLynne Carlson. AnnLynne coordinated the Arts and Crafts portion of the Festival for many years. Her tireless effort, love of community, and positive outlook epitomized the spirit of the East Haven Fall Festival, and she is sorely missed.

On a personal note, it has been my privilege to serve as the President of the Fall Festival corporation since the beginning. I am deeply indebted to all of my fellow committee members over the years, and to the people of East Haven, for making it one of the most enjoyable and rewarding experiences of my life.

We hope you enjoy the Twentieth Annual East Haven Fall Festival!

Sincerely
***Michael A. Albis*, President**
East Haven Fall Festival, Inc.