



# Chapel West News SUMMER 2023



(Left to right) Kathleen Krolak (New Haven Development Office), Mayor Justin Elicker, Sonal Soveni (owner of The Table & Gallery), Anthony Giano (Chapel West Director of Operations), Michael Schaffer (C.A. White)

## Grand opening of The Table & Gallery at 1209 Chapel Street

The Table & Gallery is an innovative, multi-sensory atmosphere that promotes a collective experience through food, film, art, music, and books. The aim is to stimulate each sensory experience associated with seeing, hearing, tasting, and feeling, transcending traditional boundaries. Each medium applies a personal meaning and symbolism to these expressions. Recognizing the profound impact of these expressions on human narratives. The menu is carefully curated around the Artist's background,

cultural heritage, and food that inspired and nourished the Artist's journey—as a result, creating a collective and captivating experience that brings you into the Artist's world. Each plate is presented like a canvas, where the art of plating takes center stage. As you savor each bite, you'll immerse yourself in a symphony of tastes, a gastronomic journey that mirrors the expressive nature of art. —[thetableandgallery.com](http://thetableandgallery.com)



Founder/owner Sonal Soveni with mentor Sue Phillips, CEO of Scenterprises, [SuePhillips.com](http://SuePhillips.com)



Entertainment provided by Early Worm, a Brooklyn-based alternative folk trio consisting of Will Curry, Liam O'Malley and Henry Nelson. Their performance at The Table & Gallery opening was their first debut appearance in New Haven.



## Sandi Siedel joins Chapel West's Board of Directors

Sandi has worked at C.A. White Inc, for over 25 years and heads up their Property Management Division. She oversees over 200 residential units in downtown New Haven as well as approximately 600,00 square feet of commercial space in the New Haven area. Sandi has held an officer position for over 15 years with the CT Chapter of IREM

Institute of Real Estate Management) , including President. Sandi earned her CPM, (Certified Property Manager) designation in 2006 and currently maintains her Real Estate License. She was awarded the CPM of the year in 2007. She received her B.S. in Business Management from Central Connecticut State University.



## Ralph DiLauro's "Psychadellic Boutique" Group W Bench business thrives after 55 years

Ralph DiLauro was born in West Haven CT, but grew up and worked in New Haven's Hill neighborhood. He attended art school in 1966 at the L.A. Art Center upon leaving the National Guard. DiLauro's inspiration for opening the Group W Bench stemmed from his time taking in the cultural beauty of 1960s Berkeley California.

The business first opened in 1968 on Howard Street, moving later to Edgewood Avenue, then Dwight Street, and finally its current location at 1171 Chapel Street. DiLauro eventually took over an adjacent space on Chapel Street Group W left vacant by a tailor, and later decided to blow out a connecting wall to increase the store's size.



DiLauro aims to buy his stock and store items from local artists and smaller, personally known vendors. Visitors over the years include actress Julia Roberts, Jack White (The White Stripes), and funk musician George Clinton. The business rebounded surpris-



ingly well from reopening after COVID restrictions. "People just showed up, they were tired of being locked in." —Summarized from 2020 article from the *New Haven Independent*, [www.newhavenindependent.org/article/group\\_w\\_bench](http://www.newhavenindependent.org/article/group_w_bench)