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Green Thoughts

BY ANNE W. SEMMES

"The kind of ecological forestry that we're doing, the conservation forestry rebuilds everything." Laurie Wayburn, co-founder and president of the Pacific Forest Trust that has pioneered an effort to incentivize private forest landowners for climate action, so described in a 2023 documentary film, "Beyond the Trees."

Greenwich Police Dept. Honored with NEACOP Community Policing Award

BY SENTINEL STAFF

On Tuesday night, Nov. 19, Greenwich Police Chief Jim Heavey accepted the NEACOP Community Policing Award on behalf of the Greenwich Police Dept.

The award was presented by Groton Police Chief L.J. Fusaro, Jr., who serves as Vice President of the New England Association of Chiefs of Police (NEACOP). The ceremony was held during the banquet that culminated the organization's annual regional training conference. This year's training was held in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

The association explains on its website, "NEACOP has for a number of years evaluated police departments throughout the six New England States for their efforts in community policing. This was originally a work of the New England Community Policing Organization, but that agency ceased to exist several years ago.

"NEACOP, aware of how important community policing is, especially in the New England states, decided to take

on this process and continue to recognize the best agencies in our region. The award is not given for a program, but rather the entire agency's efforts in achieving a successful community policing program. The agency and its members have embraced a community policing policy that is present in its work and interaction with the community.

"NEACOP has a committee of recognized Police Chiefs in Community Policing and academics at Roger Williams University, RI and Norwich University that scrutinize each applicant to decide on awarding those that are the best. The committee is limited to three awards, but will limit it further if they feel that that fewer have reached the goals they set."

Heavey told the *Sentinel*, "We received the award because of our numerous community outreach programs, from our Citizens Police Academy to our two Explorer posts, our Women's Self Defense Class, and our numerous crime prevention programs offered by



Vice President of NEACOP, Groton Police Chief L.J. Fusaro, Jr. awards NEACOP Community Policing Award to Greenwich Police Chief Jim Heavey. Photo by Norwich Police Chief Patrick Daley

our Community Impact Section. We do toy drives for Barbara's House, we do food drives for Neighbor to Neighbor, and for many years we have run our signature 'Battle of the Badges' blood drive for the Red Cross" "The award also highlights our very successful Organized Retail Criminal Activity Team

(ORCA). The ORCA team connects with local businesses then works with the bike team on Greenwich Avenue to make numerous arrests for fraud and larceny."

The GPD previously won the NEACOP Community Policing Award in 2017.

COLUMN

The Rise of the Brussels Sprout



BY ICY FRANTZ

When I was young, I would sit planted at the dining room table, late into the evening, hovering over my dinner plate comprised of the remaining portion of my dinner.

Brussels sprouts.

I eyed those small, green, mushy rounds for hours - a stubborn standoff - with me wishing and praying for them to disappear...just not into my mouth.

Back then, I was not allowed to get up until my plate was clean, and so I waited, freedom beckoning me. Finally, I would surrender, swallowing those bitter bugger's whole - hoping that I could ignore the assault on my taste buds and then washing them down with a cold glass of milk.

Which brings me back to man and change.

Growing up, I really liked food, everything except Brussels sprouts.

But here's the thing about Brussels sprouts - they have made a glorious comeback. In today's words, they have been rebranded. They have reinvented themselves.

Gone are the soggy cousins of the cabbage and, in their place, the wonderful menu staple that is the darling of almost everyone I know, including me.

"Let's definitely get the

Please turn to page 6

*Happy Thanksgiving!
There will be no paper next week.*

Greenwich Files FOI Complaint Over Emergency BOE Meeting, Questions Legality and Minutes

BY STEPHEN JANIS

A complaint filed with the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission by the town of Greenwich alleges that Democratic members of the Board of Education (BOE) and Acting BOE Chair Karen Hirsh convened an improper emergency meeting with less than one hour's notice and submitted minutes that did not accurately reflect what occurred during the disputed meeting last month.

The document, obtained by the *Sentinel*, was filed in response to an emergency meeting on October 21 held by Democratic members to appoint a new board member, Jennifer Behette—a move Republicans opposed.

According to the complaint, "At approximately 10:45 a.m., Ms. Hirsh issued a notice for a purported 'emergency meeting' of the BOE at 6:30 p.m. that evening, the purpose of which was to 'act upon the filling of a Board vacancy.' Exhibit E (BOE Meeting Notices and transmittal e-mails). A few minutes later, at approximately 10:48 a.m., Ms. Hirsh issued a modified notice for a purported 'emergency meeting' of the BOE at 11:30 a.m. that morning, i.e., on forty-two (42) minutes' notice, for the same purpose."

All four of the Democrats on the BOE attended the October 21 meeting. Only one Republican member was able to attend.

The action was labeled a power grab by First Selectman Fred Camillo.

The Board of Selectmen appointed Paul Cappiali at their regularly scheduled, properly noticed meeting on October 22. Cappiali was subsequently sworn into office and certified to the Secretary of the State of Connecticut by the Town Clerk of Greenwich. Democratic members of the Board of Education have refused to recognize Cappiali.

The complaint follows weeks of legal wrangling over the competing appointments.

Democrats justified calling an emergency meeting by arguing that the upcoming budget process required selecting a new member immediately.

Republicans countered that the meeting was not an emergency, noting that the board had months to install a new member after Karen Kowalski, the former chair and a Republican member, resigned in July.

The impasse has left the Board of Education in legal limbo for weeks, with two competing board members and no resolution in sight.

Along with the complaint, the Commission released its decision to deny the town's request for an expedited ruling. The town had argued for a speedy decision due to the board's ongoing commitments.

"Until the Commission decides this matter, the Town and the BOE risk having to unwind all business conducted by the BOE from October 21, 2024, through the date of any Commission decision," the complaint states.

On Wednesday the Freedom of Information Commission denied an appeal filed the town seeking an expedited decision on the complaint. The board said it would not have enough time to meet the January deadline cited by the town in the filing.

The board said it could hear the matter as early as February.

New Details and Allegations

The complaint outlines in detail how maneuvering by Democratic members might run afoul of the state's Freedom of Information laws.

Among the issues raised is their justification for an emergency meeting.

The Democrats deemed the meeting an emergency, arguing that the eight-member body should be fully staffed before the upcoming school capital and operating budget process begins.

The lawyer representing the town, Benjamin Bianco, countered that their justification did not meet the requirements of the law governing public meetings.

Connecticut's Freedom of Information Act requires 24-hour notice before a meeting of any public body. To call an emergency meeting, "the situation must be unexpected, and it must demand immediate action," the law states.

Bianco wrote that since the board had three months to make the appointment, it did not fulfill that requirement. Furthermore, he argued that since the budget process is planned well in advance, the upcoming meetings to approve it did not constitute an emergency.

He also raised concerns that allowing any public body to convene an emergency meeting under questionable circumstances could prompt other boards to use the same justification.

"If this excuse is ultimately endorsed by the Commission, it is hard to imagine what reasoning—whether purely political or otherwise—would not then satisfy the emergency provision."

Inaccurate Minutes?

The complaint also raises a more troubling allegation: that the minutes filed by the BOE did not accurately reflect what was said during the October 21 meeting.

The minutes posted on the town's website include a statement that the board had to call an emergency meeting because the Board of Selectmen had scheduled a meeting to make their own appointment the following day.

However, the complaint alleges that this comment was not made during the meeting—which was posted on YouTube.

"The minutes were accepted by a BOE vote on October 23, 2024, over the objection of Mr. Mercanti-Anthony and Ms. Walsh due to the inaccuracies in the posted minutes versus the reality of the video recording," the complaint states.

The complaint also questions a subsequent October 24 meeting by the board when the four Democratic members voted to confirm the appointment of Behette made on October 21.

"At this meeting, which was attended only by the BOE Member Respondents and Ms. Behette, the BOE Member Respondents voted to ratify the appointment for Ms. Behette," the complaint states.

"Ms. Behette was directed to abstain from voting for the ratification. To the extent that Ms. Behette was not a proper BOE member prior to this meeting, no quorum was present and, thus, no BOE vote could be valid."

The *Sentinel* asked all four Democratic members of the board for comment.

Chair Karen Hirsh said her members were focused on the budget process.

"The Board of Education remains focused and committed to its primary responsibilities: addressing the needs of our students and staff, advancing the work of the Board, and finalizing the FY 25-26 operating budget," Hirsh said in an email.

"Regarding the recent complaint filed by Fred Camillo and the Board of Selectmen with the Freedom of Information Commission, the Board will not provide comment or opinions on any ongoing legal matters at this time other than to say that it is up to the Commission to determine whether the meeting violated FOIC notice requirements."

Remedies and Relief

The town is asking the board to provide several remedies if it decides the meeting was not in fact an emergency under the definition of the law.

Among them, to immediately nullify and overturn the appointment of Behette while the Commission investigates the legality of the emergency justification.

The complaint also asks the board to rule that the emergency meeting violated the state's Freedom of Information law and seeks to nullify any actions taken by the board after Behette's appointment.

Finally, the complaint asks the Commission to direct the BOE to file minutes that accurately reflect what was discussed during the meeting.

Read the source documents online at GreenwichSentinel.com

Thank you to Bob Capazzo for Veterans Photos

BY BETH BARHYDT

The *Greenwich Sentinel* would like to extend its heartfelt gratitude to Bob Capazzo for his terrific photographs of last week's Veterans Day Walk, which we proudly published. Bob's ability to capture the spirit of our community is unparalleled, and his lens tells a story far beyond what words can convey.

Bob Capazzo is not only a talented photographer but also a cherished *Sentinel* of Greenwich. As a recipient of the Greenwich *Sentinel* Award, Bob exemplifies what it means to serve our community with dedication and passion. His work is a testament to the values we celebrate—connection, compassion, and a deep respect for our town and its people.

Rain or shine, Bob is always there. Whether it's capturing

the joyous moments of a local parade, the solemn reverence of a memorial ceremony, or the vibrant energy of a community event, he shows up. His commitment to documenting the life of Greenwich ensures that future generations will have a visual history to treasure.

The photographs of the Veterans Day Walk reflect his unique artistry conveying the unity of Greenwich's residents honoring those who served our nation. His images remind us of the power of remembrance and the importance of community.

From everyone here at the *Sentinel*, thank you, Bob, for your unwavering dedication and your gift of storytelling through photography. You make Greenwich a brighter, more connected place, and we are proud to call you a true *Sentinel* of our town.



Photos of Veterans Day last week were courtesy of Bob Capazzo.

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Assistant Registrar of Voters Position Opens

By BETH BARHYDT

The Office of the Registrar of Voters in Greenwich is seeking a new Assistant Registrar of Voters following the departure of the current assistant after three years of service. Registrar Fred DeCaro described the opening as a unique opportunity, noting the demanding but rewarding nature of the role.

DeCaro acknowledged the increased workload stemming from the introduction of early voting. "None of us anticipated how much effort it would require," he said, adding that changes are being planned to streamline processes for the coming year. The role's compensation has been upgraded, reflecting its critical

importance to the election process.

The position offers a salary range of \$68,000 to \$75,000 annually, with additional overtime opportunities. The Assistant Registrar must meet specific statutory requirements, including residency in Greenwich and six months of prior enrollment in the Republican Party, as required under Connecticut General Statutes. The role includes robust benefits and opportunities for professional development.

"This isn't just an administrative job," DeCaro explained. "We're looking for someone who has a passion for accuracy and enjoys the satisfaction of seeing elections run

smoothly."

Responsibilities include maintaining voter registration records, preparing election equipment, and ensuring compliance with state and federal election laws.

The new hire will step into the role during a pivotal time. DeCaro highlighted several changes on the horizon, including the introduction of new voting equipment in 2025 and a centralized statewide voter registration system. "This is the perfect time to join us," he said. "Next year is a municipal election year, providing a quieter environment to learn the ropes before the high-pressure demands of a gubernatorial or presidential

election."

DeCaro emphasized the collaborative atmosphere of the Registrar's Office. While the Assistant Registrar must align with the Republican Party, politics are left at the door. "Our focus is on customer service," DeCaro said. "Every voter, regardless of affiliation, is our top priority."

Applications are being accepted until Dec. 4. The job posting is on the Town website.

"This role is not for everyone, but for the right person, it's incredibly fulfilling," DeCaro said. "We want someone who's curious, eager to learn, and ready to contribute to our long-standing reputation for excellence."

Those Decorative Winter Hanging Baskets Are on Their Way

By ANNE W. SEMMES

With the hospitality of the Sam Bridge Nursery, the volunteering artistry of those Japanese ladies, and the support of Greenwich Green and Clean (GG&C), those Winter Hanging Baskets will soon grace Greenwich Avenue and surrounds.

"They will arrive the day after Thanksgiving," said Kanako MacLennan, GG&C executive director.

MacLennan welcomed this reporter inside the Sam Bridge Nursery greenhouse provided to GG&C since 2016, with new supportive raised tables gifted to aid those artist ladies. Piled on one table were four different greens of Douglas fir, white pine, cedar



and juniper. "This is Phase Two of the Winter Hanging Baskets Assembly," said MacLennan, "The first Phase we met at Mary Hull's house the middle of October creating over 250 red ribbons in two days."

Mary Hull has presided over the summer and winter hanging baskets project for decades, with now two dozen and more Japanese ladies' volunteering. On this

Tuesday some 15 were working away. "Some come for a few hours, some come for the entire day, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.," told MacLennan. With the work beginning this past Monday, by the end of Wednesday 120 baskets would be built.

Those winter baskets come with a bit of ivy after the removal of the summer begonias, to be filled to bursting with greens, red berries, frosted pinecones and red bows. "It takes some 20 minutes, some 30 minutes, and on their first day, an hour," MacLennan said to build a basket.

MacLennan introduced Chieko Dunne who's been building baskets for GG&C for 19 years. "Since 2005," said Dunne. "Since I moved here - my husband's

American and grew up here." MacLennan herself had started as a hanging basket project volunteer with GG&C seven years ago to become its executive director.

She then introduced the two co-chairs of this year's Hanging Basket Project: Kozue Sato and Tomomi Kawamura. "These two ladies are succeeding from two other ladies."

And on basket hanging day Sam Bridge Nursery steps up. "After Thanksgiving," said MacLennan, "There are usually two trucks that go down the Avenue early in the morning. Each truck has three people. One driver, one holding up, one person hanging. We are very grateful for what they do."



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"Beyond the Trees" Film at the Bruce with Ways to Protect Private Forests

By ANNE W. SEMMES

On Sunday afternoon there were some 65 viewers of a prize-winning documentary film, "Beyond the Trees" in the Bruce Museum's Auditorium. The film addressed the critical need for restoring private-owned forests for climate action, and featured Californian Laurie Wayburn, co-founder and president of the Pacific Forest Trust (PFT), who was present. Since PFT's founding in 1993, Wayburn has overseen the conservation of more than 350,000 acres of forestland in California, Oregon, and Washington.

[Note that 73-percent of Connecticut's forest land is privately owned.]

Wayburn comes with conservation genes inherited from her late father Edgar Arthur Wayburn, long serving president of the Sierra Club, who received a Presidential Medal of Freedom for his role in the creation of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and the creation and subsequent expansion of Redwood National Park.

Present with Laurie Wayburn was Tom Butcher representing the New York-based VanEck investment firm as its ESG director. The documentary describes how a partnership with PFT and VanEck has pioneered a "powerful solution to climate change and biodiversity loss worldwide."

The film begins, "The beauty and benefits of a standing forest are irreplaceable. However, we are seeing these forests disappear right before our eyes. The climate crisis and loss of biodiversity are the two most significant threats to the health of our planet. Both are linked to the loss of forests, and we are not working fast enough to turn the situation around."

Working Forest Conservation Easement

"But one organization has spearheaded a radical new approach," the voice continued, "Pacific Forest Trust, a nonprofit organization that saw a way to align the natural powers of forests with the undeniable power of finance working with local communities and landowners."

So, it was in the 1960's that New York investor Fred van Eyck, a tree lover, purchased 9000-plus acres of forests in Northern California and Oregon. He would meet up with Laurie Wayburn in 1997 leading to his conserving his forests in a new forest management plan entitled Working Forest Conservation Easement.

"The loss and depletion of forests is the second largest source of CO2 emissions globally," narrated Wayburn. "The kind of ecological forestry that we're doing, the conservation forestry



Tom Butcher, Director of ESG for the VanEck investment firm. Photo by Anne W. Semmes.

"The loss and depletion of forests is the second largest source of CO2 emissions globally," narrator Laurie Wayburn.

rebuilds everything...Private forests are actually 60-percent of all the forests in the U.S.

It's not the national forest, it's not the national parks. The dominant forest type is privately owned. And what was happening to those forests? They were becoming she said, "shopping malls...converted to vineyards... getting liquidated for all the timber that's on them to pay the bills. Those are the ones that are at risk, and they're all interwoven with public lands ownership."

"So, if you think of the landscape as a quilt and those private lands are all the moth holes, that's where you're tearing it apart, you don't have the forest ecosystem. So, what Pacific Forest Trust uniquely did was say, let's reweave that landscape. Let's reweave that quilt so that it is functioning as a whole."

"The idea of working together to build back the forest space to appreciate the full value of forests both economically and ecologically was what really clicked with Fred," Wayburn told. And "A conservation easement is a legal tool that gives the time and space to shift from thinking about the financial return of the forest over the next few years to the next century, and it pays for the time value of money to make that shift."

"A conservation easement is a promise by a property owner. It's legally binding for usually forever. You can do anything as a property owner to a property. But this will limit your activity in one form or another. And in return, often the

easement includes some kind of guarantee or financial incentive, like maybe a payment to offset the lost revenue that a landowner might get if they don't harvest their trees in a particular year. Once you've granted that on a property, it takes the pressure off to make money from it, and that was the protection effectively that was given to the forest by Fred Van Eck."

And PFT is "one of the first organizations to pioneer the use of working forest conservation easements and essentially incentivizing landowners to do better forest management."

... That's now the national model for private forest land conservation to not just look at set asides but to look at how these forests are conserved."

Carbon storing forests

And as "Carbon emissions are the number one contributor to climate change today, forests have the capacity to store this carbon, pulling it safely from the air and storing it for hundreds and thousands of years. The bigger the tree, the more carbon it contains."

And "When we're talking about storing carbon, there's carbon stored in all the parts of the tree, and so the equations that we use take into account the branches and the bark as well." And Each time we cut a tree, most of the carbon stored in that tree is released back into the atmosphere."

"To clarify," she added, "PFT still cuts trees, but they don't clear

cut entire forests. They look at the whole forest to determine which trees to cut based on what the forest needs for restoration and the landowner's needs for sales."

"We have been earning millions of dollars through timber and through carbon and at the same time we've doubled the amount of carbon that is stored both in the forest and then in these products too... What we're doing on the Van Eck forests is we are repaying that debt and then we're setting up a huge savings account." Thus, "It's possible to create a more livable world. It's possible to address climate change. It is possible to bring back the biodiversity and PFT shows you how to do it."

Toward the end of the film, Wayburn shared her early years of working for the United Nations Environment Program and having traveled to Kenya. "And what was really important about that," she told, "I was raised in a family that was a conservation family... So, I grew up in the national parks and the national forests and in the creating of wilderness areas. But being in Kenya, it was all about how people live."

"What struck me" she said, "is that while I'm a deep advocate of parks and wilderness areas, the fact of the matter is we are a part of nature. And so, the core mission was how do we live better with nature? How can we align what we do to support the systems that support us?"

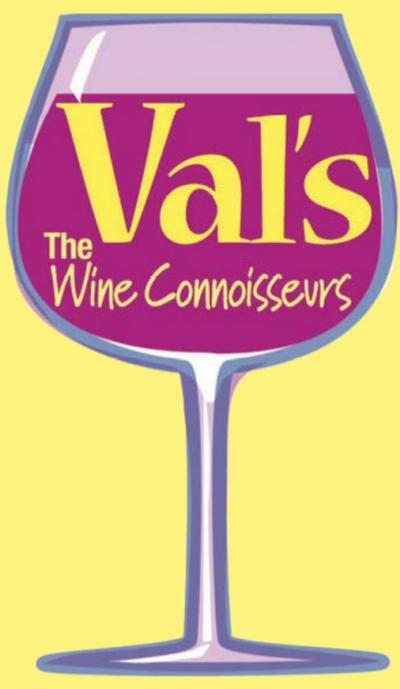
Wayburn had come away with "the passion to align our economic development with what natural systems already do for free," she said. "So that was my great inspiration in having worked in Kenya, Nepal, and India, and throughout Latin America."

In the following Q&A Wayburn was asked what were the different tree varieties of trees in the forest lands PFT has conserved? "We are in the United States, and we have the most diverse conifer forests in the world," she told. "There's one acre which is called a 'miracle acre' in northern California, with 16 different species of conifer, plus all of the hardwoods as well. The West coast is dominated by conifers. The East coast has more of the hardwood variety."

"So, Douglas fir is second only to the coastal redwood in the amount of carbon it can store per year per acre." And "The U.S. has the most productive forest types on earth, 12 times more productive than the tropical rainforest... And a last fun fact - the redwood doesn't bear cones. It doesn't have reproductive quality until it's about 200 years old. So, talk about patience and abstinence!"

For more information about the Pacific Forest Trust, visit www.pacificforest.org

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Greenwich Confronts Traffic Challenges in I-95 and Route 1 Corridor Forum

BY LIZ LEAMY & EMMA BARHYDT

Greenwich took a significant step in addressing its growing transportation challenges during a public forum hosted by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT). The event centered on the I-95 Planning and Environmental Linkage Study and the interconnected Route 1 corridor, both of which serve as critical arteries for local and regional travel. Residents, officials, and transportation experts gathered to discuss issues ranging from gridlock and air quality to pedestrian safety and multimodal transit options, with a focus on fostering collaboration between state and community stakeholders.

The forum emphasized community engagement, aiming to bridge the gap between technical studies and lived experiences. Kim Lesay, Bureau Chief of Policy and Planning at the DOT was in attendance. "I am always astounded every time I come to Greenwich," Lae said, "It's just such a beautiful area—the old, beautiful bridges, the neighborhoods, the winding roads."

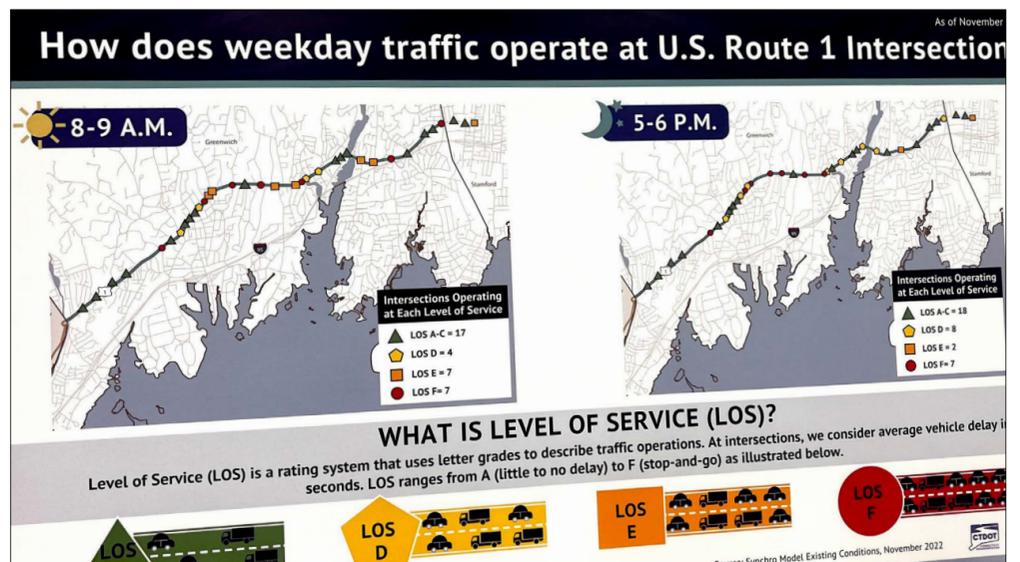
The meeting was an interactive opportunity. Attendees were invited to visit themed stations that addressed specific concerns such as noise pollution, hazardous intersections, and the safety of cyclists and pedestrians. The layout encouraged direct dialogue, enabling residents to share insights about localized issues that might not emerge from technical surveys or modeling alone. Noted Lesay, "it really helps us

deliver a better product in the end to the community."

At the heart of the discussion was the I-95 corridor, a vital but aging infrastructure designed for traffic volumes far below today's levels. The highway, initially constructed during the Eisenhower administration, is a lifeline for commuters and freight but is now burdened with congestion levels that challenge its capacity to function effectively. Anecdotal evidence suggests the highway reached full capacity just three years after its completion, and today its traffic volume is believed to exceed that capacity several fold. The planning study aims to not only address these current pressures but also anticipate future growth in both population and vehicle use.

The forum highlighted the broader implications of transportation planning, particularly the connection between traffic issues and quality of life. Residents voiced concerns about aggressive driving, difficulty navigating local streets, and noise levels. Greenwich has long prided itself on its parks, schools, and amenities, but the escalating traffic challenges threaten to undercut these strengths.

The DOT's efforts reflect a shift toward a more holistic approach to transportation planning. The agency is integrating safety and mobility improvements with a focus on multimodal solutions, recognizing that not all residents rely on cars. "we're in



a constrained area that was built a long time ago, so that is a big challenge," remarked John Dean from the DOT, "But statewide, we're looking at not just ways to get more cars through, but to other initiatives in the department that focus on improving Metro North and helping people." Route 1, which runs through the heart of Greenwich, has been identified as a critical area for enhancements.

Local officials, including First Selectman Fred Camillo, emphasized the importance of state and municipal collaboration in tackling these issues, "we pride ourselves on having a great relationship with the state,

various agencies and departments and this is another example of that." With 169 municipalities in Connecticut competing for funding and attention, Greenwich must make a compelling case for why its transportation needs warrant prioritization. "I thank DOT and the state for coming down here, because it really does show what they look at, what the town looks at," said First Selectman Camillo.

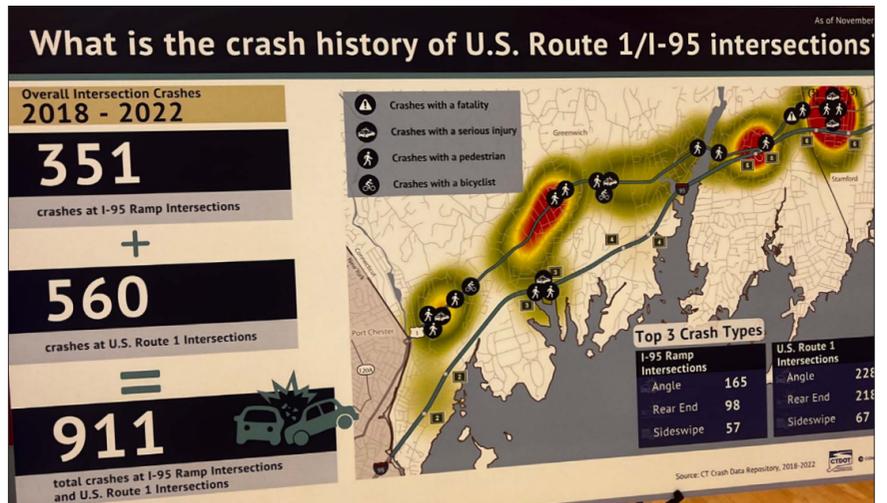
The forum also underscored the importance of long-term vision in transportation planning. While immediate measures can provide

some relief, the larger challenge lies in designing infrastructure that can adapt to future needs.

For Greenwich, the event marked the beginning of a collaborative journey and underscored the importance of long-term vision in transportation planning. While immediate measures can provide some relief, the larger challenge lies in designing infrastructure that can adapt to future needs. No single meeting can resolve decades of transportation challenges, but the forum signaled a commitment to listening and responding to community concerns.



Ernst Schirmer, Cos Cob resident, Fred Camillo and Bob DeAngelo, Greenwich resident and co chair of the Greenwich selectman's active transportation task force



Release the Hounds!

Dogs Welcomed Back to Greenwich Point Beginning on Dec. 1



BY CHIEF JIM HEAVEY

A sure sign that winter is approaching is that on Dec. 1, Greenwich Point will reopen to dog owners and their pets. This pet-friendly provision runs through March 31 every year. But please remember: with this great opportunity comes responsibility. Greenwich Point has a fragile ecosystem and is home to endangered and threatened species, such as the Piping Plover (sandpiper), to name just one. (While I have your ear, let me remind you not to feed or interfere with any of the wildlife at the Point.)

While we certainly encourage people to get out and enjoy our town jewel with their four-legged friends, we must remind you that there are many other people using the park who are not as dog-friendly as you are. Every year, our animal control division must investigate numerous dog bites of both humans and other dogs. Let's

take this opportunity to review the rules!

Your dog should be on a secure leash that is handled by an adult at all times. The leash shouldn't be any longer than 10 feet.

(Yes, some people let their dogs off-leash below the high tide mark, but remember that you must still have control of your dog at all times and be sensitive to other people, pets, and wildlife. You are responsible for your dog's conduct. And dogs must be leashed where there are signs posted at sidewalks and at all parks.)

There are sections of the park where the trail is narrow. You should maintain control of your dog and not allow it to jump on people, especially children and baby carriages – this is a frequent complaint. Elderly people and those recovering from injury are also especially vulnerable. Finally, remember that some people have severe dog allergies, and an encounter with a jumping dog can cause reactions up to and including anaphylaxis.

It's required by law that all dogs have a valid dog license and rabies vaccination attached to their collar or harness. (Dog

licenses are available through the Town Clerk's office.)

You must clean up after your dog. Dog waste bags are available at the gatehouse and other locations throughout the park. Waste must be bagged and placed in a garbage receptacle.

Our animal control officers will be present during weekends, but issuing a summons is our last resort. What the officers are really there for is to urge dog owners to be respectful of others and comply with the law. The fine for most violations pertaining to dogs is \$158 per violation (off-leash, out of control, and not cleaning up waste). Dog biting incidents are more serious. Fees could amount to \$431 for the combined listed violations below:

- Town Ordinance off-leash in the park (T/O 7-25) \$53 per dog
- Failure to Rabies vaccinate (State law 22-339b) \$136
- Failure to license (State law 22-349) \$75
- Roaming Statute can be used for dog not under control (State law 22-364a) \$92
- Nuisance dog (State law 22-363) \$75

We often get inquiries when people report seeing a

Our animal control officers will be present during weekends, but issuing a summons is our last resort. What the officers are really there for is to urge dog owners to be respectful of others and comply with the law.



dog in Greenwich Point in the off-season. Under Connecticut statute, a certified service animal is permitted to accompany its owner into the park. This does not include support animals.

As a fellow resident, I am down at Greenwich Point nearly every day. When you're there, please treat our Animal control officers, Suzanne Ondreicka and Carolyn Smith, courteously.

They have a difficult job, and they take excellent care of the welfare of Greenwich's animals, both domestic and wild.



Greenwich Hospital and Greenwich United Way celebrate the opening of a transformational Adolescent Behavioral Health Outpatient Program

Greenwich Hospital, in partnership with the Greenwich United Way, celebrated the opening of its new Adolescent Behavioral Health Outpatient Program for young people ages 12-18 years.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 30 at Greenwich Hospital honored the community members whose generous support made the new program possible.

The center is geared specifically to meet the unique behavioral health needs of adolescents, and includes intensive outpatient services, cognitive-behavioral group interventions and medication management. Additionally, in collaboration with Yale Psychiatry, considered a world leader and innovator within the mental health field, the initiative includes research to improve the treatment options for young people. Located at 500 W. Putnam Avenue, the adolescent program is housed in the heart of Yale New Haven Children's Hospital Pediatric Specialty Center in Greenwich.

"As we are all aware, our nation is grappling with a mental health epidemic that is impacting our younger population in an unprecedented way. No community is immune, including our own," said Greenwich Hospital Board Chair W. Robert Berkley, Jr., who addressed the ribbon-cutting guests. "Tonight, we are here to celebrate the launch of a groundbreaking program for the youth in the communities we serve. This moment has been made possible through the generous contributions of time, energy, and resources by many people in the Greenwich Hospital community."

Berkley thanked Greenwich residents Richard and Ellen Richman, who led a 1:1 match that inspired many in the community to join in their generosity. Also recognized were Greenwich residents Scott and Icy Frantz, whose substantial gift to the program contributed to bringing this high level of care to adolescent patients.

"Through community support, \$5.1 million was raised, of which \$1.6 million came from the Greenwich United Way," said Noël Appel, SVP & chief development officer at Greenwich Hospital. "The United Way's fundraising for the program covered the design and construction costs of the space, demonstrating their shared commitment to providing vital services to adolescents in need of mental health care."

"This program will be integral to helping overcome the mental health challenges plaguing our youth and adolescents," said David Rabin, CEO of Greenwich United Way. "The results from our 2020 Needs Assessment showed that mental health was a top three need within our community. We are so pleased that this partnership, with the support of our donors, has enabled access to expert behavioral health care."

"Through our work together we are expanding services exponentially, and importantly, breaking down barriers to care," said Greenwich Hospital President Diane P. Kelly, DNP, RN, who has championed Greenwich Hospital's plans to increase the breadth and scope of its mental health offerings.

The hospital's initiatives surrounding Behavioral Health, through its Arc of Care Campaign, has brought intergenerational outpatient services into the community for adolescents as well as for young adults and adults.

In addition to the adolescent outpatient center, Greenwich Hospital has also opened a new Intensive Outpatient Program for patients 19 years and older. The hospital also opened a new Interventional Psychiatry Service at 5 Perryridge Road. This program is an extension of Yale Medicine's Interventional Psychiatry Service – home to some of the world's most pioneering experts within the field.

Photo Above Left: Leaders from Greenwich Hospital, Greenwich United Way, Yale New Haven Health, Yale Psychiatry, and the town of Greenwich celebrate the opening of Greenwich Hospital's new Adolescent Behavioral Health Outpatient Center, the first of its kind in the community.



JOYFUL NOISE

WITH MUSIC BY

ROB MATHES

CONTEMPORARY
CASUAL
EUCHARIST WORSHIP

SUNDAY
NOV. 24
5:00



CHRISTCHURCHGREENWICH.ORG

COLUMN Physicians Respond to Economic Stressors



By RUSSELL R. BARKSDALE, JR

Physicians are facing a growing crisis of burnout and dissatisfaction, driven by a combination of economic pressures and an overburdened healthcare system. As the cost of operating a medical practice rises and doctors' reimbursement rates are being threatened, many doctors are finding it increasingly difficult to provide the level of personalized care they once enjoyed. Though these issues existed before the pandemic, the crisis accelerated the shift toward corporate models of healthcare, which could have lasting impacts on both physicians and patients for years to come.

For doctors, the financial pressures are severe. Key health insurance companies reimburse physicians at incredibly low rates for the services they provide. Their capitated managed care reimbursable rates can force many physicians to see more patients per day and some have reached their capacity of forty (40) patients per day. This translates into shorter and shorter face-to-face visits.

Operating a private practice has become increasingly expensive, as well, with costs rising across every aspect of medical care—from insurance premiums for staff, to the administrative burden of dealing

with insurance companies and regulatory requirements. In turn, many doctors have entertained selling their practices or joining healthcare systems, where they may benefit from financial stability, reduced administrative responsibilities, and a more predictable income stream.

The traditional model of independent medical practices has been a cornerstone of American healthcare for decades. Physicians were once able to build strong, personal relationships with their patients—something that many believe is at the heart of quality care. But the rise of corporate organizations, insurance network participation, and discounted reimbursement rates, has transformed this model. Today, many physicians are employed by larger healthcare systems or corporate entities, where they are subject to productivity quota pressures. This can lead to rushed appointments, shorter patient visits, and what patients may feel is an overall impersonal healthcare experience.

The shift to corporate ownership is not without its costs. For some doctors, this new corporate model clashes with their core values as healthcare providers, particularly their desire to offer personalized care. The resulting stress and dissatisfaction are felt not only by physicians but also by their patients, who experience longer wait times, fewer appointment slots, and a general sense of being lost in the system.

In response to these challenges, some physicians are exploring alternative models of care that prioritize personalized medicine over the corporate-

The future of healthcare may not be found in a single model but in a hybrid approach that combines the best elements of corporate efficiency with the personal, human touch that makes healthcare so vital.

driven model. One such model is concierge medicine, which has seen significant growth in recent years. In concierge medicine, physicians maintain smaller patient panels and are able to spend more time with each patient, offering a higher level of care and attention. This model is often based on a membership or retainer fee, which helps physicians maintain financial stability without relying on the traditional insurance-based reimbursement structure. For patients, the benefits of concierge care are clear: quicker access to their physician, longer face-to-face appointment times, and fewer bureaucratic hurdles.

Concierge medicine represents a promising solution to the challenges facing both physicians and patients in today's healthcare environment. The global concierge medicine market was valued at over \$13 billion in 2023, and it is projected to continue growing at a compound annual rate of more than 6% over the next several years. This growth indicates a growing demand for a more personalized, patient-centered approach to healthcare, as more patients and physicians seek alternatives to the corporate model.

However, concierge care is not without its limitations. The

membership fees associated with concierge medicine can be prohibitively expensive for many patients, particularly those without significant financial means. As a result, this model remains somewhat niche, accessible primarily to those who can afford it. Physicians can, in turn, operate on a sliding fee scale or adjust based upon their community's economics.

While concierge medicine offers one path forward, other innovative models are also emerging. Multidisciplinary care teams—which bring together a range of healthcare professionals, including nutritionists, mental health specialists, physician and nurse extenders, and physical therapists—offer a more holistic approach to patient care. By working together, these teams can address a patient's physical, mental, and emotional needs, providing a more comprehensive and coordinated care experience. This collaborative model is particularly well-suited to managing chronic conditions, which are becoming increasingly prevalent as the population ages.

Alongside these emerging models, some families are turning to patient navigators— independent healthcare advocates who help guide patients through the complexities of the healthcare

system. Patient navigators assist with everything from scheduling appointments and coordinating care to understanding insurance coverage and managing medical bills. This can be especially valuable in a system where patients often feel overwhelmed by the sheer volume of information and decision-making required to navigate their care.

The rise of corporate medicine and alternative care models has led to growing concerns about the erosion of physician autonomy. As corporate entities seek to increase their influence over operations and structures, many are finding ways to circumvent corporate practice of medicine (CPOM) laws, which are intended to preserve the independence of medical decision-making. In many states, CPOM laws require that medical decisions be made by licensed physicians, not non-medical corporate entities. In response, some corporate entities have structured their investments in ways that allow them to control the administrative and operational sides of medical practices while leaving the clinical decisions to physicians. This regulatory work-around raises concerns that corporate interests could compromise the quality of care and risks undermining physician

autonomy.

The increasing consolidation of healthcare, coupled with rising costs and bureaucratic inefficiencies, has led many to question whether the future of medicine will be driven by corporate entities or by a more patient-centered, personalized approach. For physicians, this question is not just about finances—it's about their ability to provide the care they believe is best for their patients. For patients, it is about their ability to access timely, compassionate, and effective care in an increasingly complex system.

The answer may lie in finding a balance between the corporate drive for efficiency and the need for personalized, relationship-driven care. While corporate medicine seeks efficiency and cost-savings, it can also contribute to an unintended sense of alienation and stressors among physicians and patients alike.

In the end, the future of healthcare may not be found in a single model but in a hybrid approach that combines the best elements of corporate efficiency with the personal, human touch that makes healthcare so vital. Whether through concierge medicine, team-based care, or alternative models, there is hope that the pendulum will swing back toward a system that values both quality care and physician autonomy—where the needs of patients are prioritized, and the well-being of doctors, nurses, therapists, and providers are fully supported.

Russell R. Barksdale, Jr., PHD, MPA/MHA, FACHE is President & CEO of Waveny LifeCare Network

First Ever Turkey Trot at River House

You're invited to join us for the first-ever Turkey Trot on November 25th at 1:30pm! Come trot (or walk) a few fun laps around our parking lot oval as we celebrate River House and the incredible work we do, just in time for the holiday season.

This special event is a wonderful opportunity to connect with our community partners, local elected officials, and dedicated caregivers—all while spreading the spirit of holiday cheer. River House is proud to be a place that embodies traditions, laughter, hope, and joy throughout the year.

It's also a great chance to get some fresh air and light exercise before the cold weather sets in! After the trot, we'll be serving delicious pumpkin pie and warm apple cider to sweeten the celebration.

We hope you can join us for this festive, feel-good occasion!

Bruce Museum Displays National Hockey League Trophies and Professional Women's Hockey League

The Bruce Museum will play host to eight Hockey Hall of Fame trophies representing professional hockey's highest honors from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 6-8, 2024. The Stanley Cup®, the oldest and most revered trophy in professional sports, will only be on display on Friday, Dec. 6.

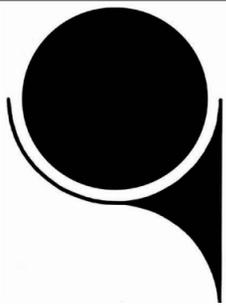
Each Hockey Hall of Fame Trophy is uniquely and elegantly crafted and many bear the names of past winners. Eight trophies from the National Hockey League will be displayed, along with the newly introduced Walter Cup, the trophy awarded annually to the playoff championship team of the Professional Women's Hockey League. As a special bonus, entry will be free to all visitors 18 and under throughout the weekend (Dec.6-Dec.8).

Several events will be held at the Bruce while the Hockey Hall of Fame trophies are on display:

- Friday Dec. 6, 6:30-8:00 p.m.: opening reception to benefit the Bruce entitled "Hockey Hall of Fame Trophies Live" will include a presentation of "Tales of the Cup" given by Phil Pritchard, vice president of the Hockey Hall of Fame and "Keeper of the Cup." Tickets to the event can be purchased at <https://brucemuseum.org/tickets/>.

- Saturday Dec. 7, 2:00 p.m.: live presentation, "Tales with the Trophies" where a Hockey Hall of Fame curator will share the remarkable histories behind the trophies on display, which represent not only accomplishments on the ice, but also sportsmanship and community service. This event is open to the public and included with Museum admission and free to those under 18 years of age.

- Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 and 8, 12-4 p.m.: "Hockey Weekend @ the Bruce" is an event for families that will feature art and science-based activities to learn all about hockey.



GREENWICH SYMPHONY

Stuart Malina, Music Director

Saturday, November 23, 7:30 pm

Sunday, November 24, 3:00 pm

Bella Hristova, *Violin*

Avner Dorman, *Tanyaderas*

Samuel Barber, *Violin Concerto*

Antonín Dvořák, *Symphony No. 9*

("From the New World")

Adults \$50 Students \$15

Performing Arts Center behind Greenwich High School
Hillside Road, Greenwich, CT

greenwichwysymphony.org



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Giving Thanks

As we gather around our Thanksgiving tables, the aroma of roasted turkey mingling with the warmth of shared memories, we find ourselves enveloped in a tradition that is as much about gratitude as it is about togetherness. This cherished holiday offers us a moment to pause and reflect—not only on the blessings we have received but also on the relationships we nurture and the communities we build.

In the spirit of gratitude, it is fitting to consider the manner in which we engage with one another, especially in times marked by division and discord. As we have often discussed in these pages, our neighbors are more than the people who live next door; they are our community, each carrying their own stories, perspectives, and hopes. It becomes vital, then, to ensure that our interactions are marked by respect and kindness, free from the corrosive effects of abusive language or thoughtless disregard.

We should be profoundly grateful to live in communities that encourage engagement, where divergent viewpoints are not met with hostility but with curiosity and respect.

The essence of a thriving community lies in the ability of its members to converse openly and respectfully. Civil discourse is the bedrock upon which democratic societies are built, allowing for the free exchange of ideas and the healthy debate that fuels progress. When we dismiss or demean those who hold differing opinions, especially using devices like email or social media, we not only diminish them but also impoverish ourselves, cutting off avenues of understanding and growth.

It is important to remember that mass sentiments are often fleeting, subject to the whims of the moment. History teaches us that widely held beliefs can later be revealed as misconceptions. The once-common conviction that the Earth was flat or that certain medical practices were beneficial now seems quaint, if not alarming. These examples serve as reminders that collective certainty is not infallible and that skepticism can be a catalyst for discovery.

In this context, the well-educated bear a particular responsibility. Education is not merely the accumulation of knowledge but the development of critical thinking and the courage to question prevailing norms. It is a clarion call to avoid the complacency of conformity and to engage earnestly with the complexities of the world. As stewards of inquiry, the educated have an obligation to challenge assumptions, explore nuances, and contribute thoughtfully to new and different ideas.

We should be profoundly grateful to live in communities that encourage such engagement, where divergent viewpoints are not met with hostility but with curiosity and respect. It is a privilege to inhabit spaces where open dialogue is not only possible but encouraged. In these environments, disagreement becomes a pathway to deeper understanding rather than a battleground.

As we navigate conversations, especially those that tread into contentious territories, let us strive to embody the grace that Thanksgiving inspires. Instead of “jumping all over” those who hold different perspectives, we can choose to listen earnestly and respond thoughtfully. In doing so, we honor the dignity of others and reinforce the values that bind us together.

Mahatma Gandhi once said, “Honest disagreement is often a good sign of progress.” These words remind us that dissent, when expressed respectfully, can be a powerful force for positive change. It is through the crucible of differing ideas that stronger, more resilient truths emerge. By welcoming a diversity of thought, we not only enrich our own understanding but also contribute to a more enlightened and compassionate society.

This Thanksgiving, we want to work harder here at the *Sentinel* to embrace the spirit of gratitude not just for the blessings we count but for the voices that challenge us and the dialogues that deepen our understanding. We are so grateful for Greenwich and all this community has to offer. It is unique and eminently wonderful!

Let us commit to engaging with one another in ways that reflect kindness, humility, and a genuine desire to learn. In doing so, we honor the true essence of the holiday and lay the groundwork for a more harmonious community.

As we share our meals and our stories, let us also be open to differing opinions, new conversations, and the unique perspectives each person brings to the table. In this season of thankfulness, may we find unity not in uniformity but in our shared commitment to treating one another with respect and compassion.

Happy Thanksgiving to all, and may our conversations be as rich and nourishing as the feast before us.

Editorial Page



"That concludes the halftime show."



"Jack, thanks for that incredible personal revelation ... and now back to the game."

COLUMN

Pathways Embarks on Strategic Assessment



By PETER TESEI

At Pathways, we're on a mission to transform lives. We're not just providing housing; we're offering a chance for individuals facing serious mental health challenges to rebuild, rediscover, and reclaim their purpose. We believe that every person, no matter their circumstances, has the potential to thrive—especially those who have struggled with mental illness later in life. Too often, people living with mental health challenges are told that their lives are limited. But we know better. With the right support, the future can be bright.

This year, our Annual Gala highlighted just how transformative this journey can be. Our keynote speaker, Paul Dalio, shared his powerful story of how he overcame a bipolar disorder diagnosis, finding a sense of purpose and self-worth that defied expectations. Paul's message was clear: people with mental illness can lead meaningful, fulfilling lives. His story is just one example of what's possible when you're given the right care, resources, and community.

Paul spoke about the moment he was first diagnosed—a moment that many of our clients can relate to. Like so many others, he was handed a pamphlet filled with words of hopelessness, a diagnosis that felt like a death sentence.

For many individuals and their families, a mental health diagnosis is terrifying and overwhelming. It's easy to feel as though life is over. But Paul's story shows that it doesn't have to be that way. With the right support and resources, individuals with serious mental illness can not only survive, but thrive.

At Pathways, our goal is to ensure that our clients don't just survive with a roof over their heads. We want them to find fulfillment, rediscover passions, and reconnect with a sense of purpose. We want them to believe in their own potential. Just like Paul, our clients deserve to see themselves as worthy of a purposeful and enriched life.

As we look to the future, we know that achieving these goals requires more than just good intentions. “A goal without a plan is just a wish,” as Antoine de Saint-Exupéry once said. And that's why we are taking concrete steps to ensure Pathways can continue to grow and serve more individuals in need. This includes engaging the National Executive Service Corps (NESC), a third-party consulting firm, to conduct a comprehensive strategic assessment of our operations.

Through this process, we are developing a long-term strategic plan that will guide us in enhancing the services we offer, expanding our reach, and ensuring that we are financially sustainable for the years to come. This strategic assessment will help us identify opportunities for improvement and give us the tools to act in a way that sets us up for long-term success.

Meeting the Needs of Adults

with Late-Onset Mental Illness

Pathways serves adults who face mental health challenges that developed later in life—often triggered by trauma, life changes, or unforeseen circumstances. These individuals need more than just a place to live; they need a holistic support system that addresses both their mental health needs and their personal goals. That's why we offer not only stable housing but also case management, mental health services, life skills training, and social integration programs. Our aim is to help clients rebuild their lives and reintegrate into the community, with dignity and purpose.

We also understand that no two journeys are the same. Recovery is a deeply personal process, and at Pathways, we are committed to offering individualized care that empowers each client to define and achieve their own goals. Whether it's regaining employment, reconnecting with family, or discovering new passions, we support our clients every step of the way.

Looking Toward the Future

The work we do at Pathways is more important than ever. We know that there are many individuals in our community who are struggling to find hope after being diagnosed with a serious mental illness. And as we continue to expand, we want to be sure that we are meeting the evolving needs of our clients while maintaining the highest standards of care.

That's where our work with NESC comes in. Their expertise in nonprofit strategy will guide us in ensuring that we not only improve

the services we provide but also secure the funding and resources necessary to sustain our mission long term. The goal is to increase our capacity to serve more clients, enhance our programs, and build strong partnerships with healthcare providers and community organizations.

Pathways is also focused on improving public awareness of our unique mission. Many people still have misconceptions about those living with mental illness—believing that individuals with mental health challenges cannot lead fulfilling lives. But at Pathways, we know this is not true. With the right support, every adult with a serious mental illness can rediscover their purpose, achieve their goals, and contribute meaningfully to society.

We are excited about the future and the opportunities that lie ahead. With the help of our strategic plan, we will continue to expand our reach and strengthen the impact we have on the lives of individuals facing serious mental health challenges. We are committed to helping our clients not just survive—but thrive. And with your support, we can make this vision a reality for many more deserving individuals in our community.

Peter J. Tesei is the Executive Director of Pathways Inc. and previously served as Greenwich's First Selectman for 12 years (2007-2019). His public service spans 37 years as a former RTM District 9 Chairman and Board of Estimate & Taxation Chairman. He has served on several non-profit Boards and community organizations and has been leading Pathways since November of 2021.

ICY FRANTZ Continued from Page 1

Brussels sprouts.”

And with their rebirth comes learning.

In college, I wrote my senior thesis on the age-old question, “Can man change?” In it I presented the lives of C.S. Lewis and Bill Wilson (the founder of AA), two men whose own personal transformations have resulted in helping millions. And while it may be a stretch to compare a man to the Brussels sprout, my answer to the question I posed in my thesis - then and still today - is a resounding “yes.”

But it is more complicated than that.

With Brussels sprouts, we have seen big changes in the way they are prepared (thank God). The overcooked, boiled version has been replaced with the roasted, sauteed, air-fried, caramelized, flavorful side dish that is sometimes served with bacon and honey.

And while their new popularity has much to do with these external modifications, in the 1990's, a Dutch scientist created a milder Brussels sprout, decreasing the bitter taste by eliminating certain chemicals. Chefs today are starting with a superior sprout.

Which brings me back to man and change.

Now, I am not talking

about superficial changes - a new haircut or the loss of a few pounds. Those changes are temporary - hair grows back and weight is regained (which is a shame).

I am talking about the more profound changes - changes that are sticky because they spring from a permanent shift from within, like the sprout's elimination of bitterness through chemical adaptations.

Sometimes these changes happen out of necessity - a doctor tells us we need to make a change or risk serious health consequences or, my favorite, change motivated by pain. And then, of course, there is change that materializes miraculously - a divine intervention.

Several years ago, I ran into my second-grade teacher. We caught up, and when it came time to say goodbye, she said something that shocked me.

“Icy, you haven't changed at all.”

What?

Because even if she was talking about my appearance - which could have been viewed as a compliment - I most certainly do not look like my second-grade self. And I have most certainly matured from that young girl who smiled all the time and told the world that everything was just “fine.”

And maybe that's it - change is better understood as growth: physical, emotional, and spiritual. Which doesn't mean that we lose our essence completely (which is what

I believe my second-grade teacher saw in me). And that growth happens mostly in baby steps - inches not feet, one day at a time, small wins (and sometimes small losses).

At my 40th reunion from high school, it was fascinating to see what had become of my former classmates. I was drawn to, as most of us were, a man dressed in a leather jacket. He was cool, confident, and comfortable in his own skin.

I had no idea who he was until a friend said, “Remember the short, nerdy boy who hung out at the school's radio station?” Well, not really, but I went with it. This one shy and awkward teenager had become a college professor. He had grown into this amazing and interesting adult.

I do not know the life experiences that shaped him, nor how he grew out of his former self, but I imagine it didn't happen all at once, but rather it was those small wins (and failures) that nurtured and changed him.

Perhaps radio stations still feel like home to him, and I bet just beneath that leather jacket, there's a glimmer of his spirit, essence, and soul from 40 years ago that a former high school teacher would still recognize today.

When our children were younger, we took them to the Ben & Jerry's factory in Waterbury, Vermont. For anyone who likes ice cream, it's an awesome visit, complete

with taste testing.

Outside, there is a burial ground for flavors that are no longer in production (Holy Cannoli, Oh Pear, and Wavy Gravy, to name a few). How great would it be to have a similar graveyard for habits, coping skills, and behaviors that no longer serve a purpose in our life.

We lean into the flavors that work and throw out the ones that don't.

Which makes it all sound very simple. It's not. Permanent change takes courage, commitment, consistency, and community. Or at least that is my experience - it's hard.

But possible. The Brussels sprout of the 1960's was high in fiber and vitamin C, rich in antioxidants, and low in calories, and the same is true today. We still benefit from those nutritional qualities (the ones that I was forced to consume as a child; the sprouts' essence), and yet change and growth have delivered to us a much more palatable experience.

Gone is that little girl who sat staring down a vegetable at the dinner table. Gone are those stewed sour balls that made me want to gag. I would like to think that we have both matured, changed, and become better versions of our former selves.

But maybe the sprout wins.

See more of Icy at IcyFrantz.net.

POLICE & FIRE**Greenwich Urges Caution Amid Drought**

Greenwich officials are urging residents to avoid outdoor burning, including fire pits, bonfires, and grills, due to extreme fire danger caused by dry conditions. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) reports active wildfires in the state and has implemented a statewide burn ban. Residents should follow fire safety precautions and report any forest fires to 911 immediately.

**New Officers Join Community Patrol**

Officers Scofield, Belmont, and Ruiz have completed the Field Training Program and will now serve in various sectors during their probationary period. They will perform duties throughout the community and interact with residents.

Photo Credit: Greenwich Police Department

Battle of the Badges 2024

The annual Battle of the Badges blood drive will take place on December 7 from 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Public Safety Complex, 11 Bruce Place, Greenwich. First responders and residents are invited to donate blood to address the nationwide shortage; appointments can be made at [redcrossblood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time) or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS. The event also begins the Greenwich Police Department's Stuff-A-Cruiser toy drive, accepting new, unwrapped toys through December 7.

**DNA Symposium Enhances Forensic Training**

The Greenwich Police Department, the Connecticut State Attorney's Office, the DESPP state lab, and the POST Police Academy co-hosted a DNA symposium this past Saturday. The event provided training for law enforcement and prosecutors across Connecticut. Photo Credit: Greenwich Police Department

CCFPP Santa Delivers Joy to Greenwich

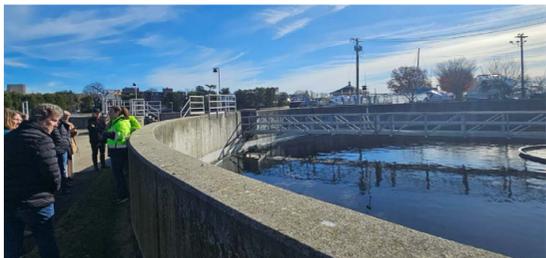
The Cos Cob Fire Police Patrol, Inc. will host "Operation Santa 2024," replacing its annual benefit to raise funds for the all-volunteer organization. On December 14, 15, 21, and 22, Santa and the Grinch will deliver pre-wrapped gifts to children in Greenwich. Families can schedule a delivery by emailing events@ccfpp.org; donations will support the Patrol's services.

FROM TOWN HALL**DPW Completes Training**

Last week, staff from the Department of Public Works completed OSHA 10 training to improve workplace safety and technical skills. The training enhances the department's operational expertise and adherence to safety standards. Photo Credit: Greenwich Department of Public Works

Retail Conversion Approved

The Planning & Zoning Commission unanimously approved converting the ground floor of 257 Sound Beach Avenue from residential to retail use, with the remainder of the building designated for storage. The property, primarily in the LBR2 zone, will meet adjusted parking requirements and adhere to conditions ensuring storage supports the retail operation. Future residential use on the second floor remains an option under zoning regulations.



Members of the Conservation Commission, Sustainability Committee, and other local advocates toured the Grass Island Wastewater Treatment Plant to learn about its operations and challenges, including aging infrastructure, climate change, technological advancements, and population growth. The Department of Public Works provided insights into the facility's strategies for addressing these issues. A related video from the Food and Drug Administration is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-8HjyhFjgs> or on the Town of Greenwich website. Photo Credit: Greenwich Conservation Commission

Greenwich Approves New Speed Limits

The Greenwich Board of Selectmen unanimously approved 25 mph speed limits for Woodland Drive, Will Merry Lane, and Spring House Road, pending state approval. These roads previously lacked enforceable speed limits, prompting a review by the Department of Public Works after resident concerns. Traffic studies supported the limit based on road usage and safety characteristics.

Town Reviews New Rink Proposal

The Planning & Zoning Commission reviewed the proposed replacement of the Dorothy Hamill Rink, which includes building a new 40,000-square-foot facility on Strazza Field and replacing the old rink with a baseball field. Officials defended the plan as necessary and minimal in size, noting a slight increase in green space and strong regional demand for ice time. The commission requested further information on planning details before scheduling a vote.

AROUND TOWN**Cos Cob Park Cleanup This Weekend**

A community cleanup will take place at Cos Cob Park on November 23 from 2 to 4 p.m. Volunteers should wear long pants, bring gloves, and can earn community service hours for participating. The event is organized by Greenwich High School student Thomas McKinney and sponsored by Greenwich Green and Clean; questions can be sent to litterfreeocean@gmail.com.

Lights Brighten Holiday Season

Greenwich Community Projects Fund is raising private donations to fund holiday lights for Greenwich Avenue and Cos Cob. This effort supports local businesses and continues a longstanding tradition of seasonal lighting. Donations can be made at <https://gwchavenue.org/let-there-be-light-2022/>

Statue Proposed for Veterans Plaza Park

At a Board of Selectmen meeting, First Selectman Fred Camillo introduced a proposal for a privately funded bronze statue of George H.W. Bush at Veterans Plaza Park, with an estimated cost of \$55,000 to \$70,000. The project includes additional enhancements to the plaza, such as lighting and a new water feature, and requires approvals from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Representative Town Meeting. Former state senator L. Scott Frantz pledged to cover the costs, with potential contributions from others.

Celebrating the New Bridge Completion

The Department of Public Works completed the \$1.67 million replacement of the Wesskum Wood Road Bridge, originally built in 1950, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Binney Park. The project included safety and accessibility upgrades such as an interior sidewalk, ADA-compliant ramps, and a widened shoulder for cyclists, while maintaining the bridge's historic design. Construction began in July 2023 and was completed on schedule by July 2024, with funding partly supported by a state grant.

Cos Cob Safety Plan Delayed

The Board of Selectmen postponed a decision on implementing a four-way stop at the intersection of Valley Road, River Road Extension, and Scofield Street to allow more time for notifying local businesses and gathering feedback. The proposed safety measures include adding stop signs, repositioning an existing stop sign for better visibility, and installing warning signs, prompted by a history of accidents in the area. Parking impacts and limited business input were cited as reasons for the delay, with the board likely to revisit the matter on November 26.

Bridge Replacement Plan Moves Forward

The North Street Bridge, built in 1909, will be replaced starting March 2024, with work condensed into a 10-month schedule at a cost of \$3.7 million, \$700,000 more than originally estimated. The accelerated timeline includes a 12-week full road closure during summer, and most of the cost will be reimbursed through a state grant, except for a \$200,000 contractor incentive. The new bridge will address flooding issues with a higher elevation and wider span, while penalties and incentives are built into the contract to ensure timely completion by August 31.

Town Approves Cyclist Injury Settlement

A town committee approved a \$1,439,670.65 settlement for cyclist Gary Masouredis, who suffered severe injuries in 2022 after being struck by a town-operated dump truck. The settlement, part of a lawsuit against the town and former employee Arthur Greco, requires additional approvals from other town bodies. The case alleges negligence by Greco, who was cited for a passing violation, while the town has contested liability.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS**Author Inspires at Library Event**

Bestselling children's author Adam Gidwitz visited Greenwich Library for the Children's AuthorsLive program, where he discussed the inspiration behind his books and the process of creating stories for young readers. After the event, he signed copies of his works. The program was supported by Diane's Books. Photo Credit: Greenwich Library

**SELF Fundraiser Raises \$300K**

The Special Education Legal Fund (S.E.L.F.) hosted a Homecoming-themed fundraiser on November 9 at Arch Street Teen Center, raising over \$300,000 to support families navigating special education challenges. The event, attended by more than 250 people, featured the presentation of the Presidential George H.W. Bush Award to Co-Founder Ulrika Drinkall for her advocacy work. Corporate and individual sponsors, along with in-kind donors, contributed to the event's success. Photo Credit: Special Education Legal Fund

Holiday Food Drive Supports Families

Greenwich Recreation and Neighbor to Neighbor are holding a holiday food drive from November 18 to December 13 to support local families in need. Donation bins are available at Town Hall, the Bendheim Western Greenwich Civic Center, the Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink, and the Parks and Recreation Office. Online donations of fresh produce can be made via <https://amplify.ampyourgood.com/user/campaigns/4550>

Artists Inspire at Flinn Gallery

The Flinn Gallery's exhibit "Extra Extra" features works by Palma Blank, Stephen Maine, and Doreen McCarthy and runs through January 8. An Artist Talk with the three artists will be held on December 7 at 2 p.m. The gallery is on the second floor of Greenwich Library.

Honorees Celebrated at Annual Dinner

The Greenwich Old Timers Athletic Association hosted its annual Old Timers Dinner on November 21 at the Hilton Stamford Hotel, honoring Hannah Storm, Dan Hicks, Stuart Helgeson, Ali Orrico, and George Genise. Public donations are always accepted, and go to fund scholarships and youth sports programs in town. To donate, visit <https://givebutter.com/c/otaag2024>

Garden Club Earns Preservation Award

The Riverside Garden Club received the DAR Historic Preservation Award for restoring the colonial medicinal and herb garden at Putnam Cottage. After 20 years of neglect, the club revitalized the site by planting historically accurate herbs and plants. The restored garden is now accessible to visitors at the Israel Putnam House.

Greenwich Lions Support Community Programs

The Greenwich Lions are selling Texas Ruby Red grapefruits for \$33 per case at various locations in town, with proceeds supporting local health and human services programs. Funds raised benefit organizations like Neighbor to Neighbor, Meals on Wheels, and Abilis, and provide scholarships and vision care for children and seniors. Direct donations can be sent to the Greenwich Lions Foundation, P.O. Box 130, Old Greenwich, CT 06870.

Hockey Trophies Shine at Bruce

The Bruce Museum will display eight Hockey Hall of Fame trophies, including the Stanley Cup (available only on December 6), from December 6-8, 2024, in its auditorium. Admission is free for visitors under 18 and included with museum tickets for others. Special events, including presentations and family activities, will take place throughout that weekend.

Youth Mental Health Program Launched

A 2021 review found a significant rise in psychological and emotional distress among youth, consistent with national trends showing increased mental health challenges and a 62% rise in the suicide rate for ages 10 to 24 from 2007 to 2021. In response, Greenwich Hospital and community partners launched the Adolescent Behavioral Health Outpatient Program, which offers group-based therapy and specialized treatments for teens aged 13 to 17 experiencing anxiety and depression. Funded by \$5.1 million in donations, the program aims to address unmet mental health needs in the community.

PEOPLE IN TOWN**DPW Commissioner Announces Retirement**

Amy Siebert, Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, will retire effective January 1, 2024. The Town posted the Commissioner position on November 13, offering a salary range of \$188,955 to \$225,000. Siebert has served in various roles since joining the Town in 2004, including Sewer Division Manager and Deputy Commissioner, and holds advanced degrees in environmental engineering and public affairs.

Greenwich Symphony Concertmaster Named

The Greenwich Symphony Orchestra has appointed violinist Sami Merdianian as its new concertmaster for the 2024-25 season. Merdianian, an accomplished soloist and member of the string quintet Sybarite5, will lead the orchestra's string section and perform key solo passages. His debut performance will take place this weekend at the Performing Arts Center.

Trump Selects McMahon for Education

President-elect Donald Trump announced Linda McMahon as his nominee for Secretary of Education on Tuesday via Truth Social. McMahon, 76, previously served as head of the Small Business Administration during Trump's first term and has experience on Connecticut's State Board of Education. She and Howard Lutnick, Trump's nominee for Commerce Secretary, are co-chairs of his transition team.

SCHOOLS**GHS Community Unites for Holiday Drive**

Greenwich High School's 14th annual Roots & Shoots Food Drive runs through November 22 to collect food and funds for over 100 local families. Donations of unopened, unexpired items can be dropped off at GHS House collection boxes or made online, by check, or in person at the Student Activities office. Needed items include canned goods, pasta, grains, protein sources, and other holiday staples.

Firefighters Teach SHG Students

Sacred Heart Greenwich Lower School students participated in a fire safety lesson led by local firefighters. The program included a fire truck tour, a safety demonstration, and practice using a fire hose on a simulated fire.

CMS Celebrates Farewell

Central Middle School held a farewell event for its fields at 9 Indian Rock Lane before construction begins on a new building, which will replace the aging structure. Organized by PTA leaders and staff, activities included games, hot chocolate, and a dodgeball match between students and staff.

Hamilton Ave Students Support St. Jude

Hamilton Avenue students will participate in the St. Jude Math-A-Thon from November 11 to December 13, solving math problems to raise funds for children battling cancer. The event, open to students in kindergarten through fifth grade, uses Common Core-aligned materials provided by St. Jude and Scholastic to combine learning with charitable giving. Donations support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, helping cover treatment, housing, travel, and food costs for families.

SPORTS [see section B for full stories]**GHS Football Dominates Senior Day**

Greenwich High School football dominated Senior Day with a 42-0 win over Westhill, improving to 8-1. Senior standouts included Hector Lopez with 103 rushing yards and two touchdowns, and M.J. D'Angelo, who threw for 87 yards and a touchdown.

Brunswick Falls In Championship Battle

Choate Rosemary Hall defeated Brunswick 27-9 in the NEPSAC Leon Modeste Bowl, securing a perfect 9-0 season. Despite standout efforts from seniors like Ethan Long and Oliver Reynolds, Brunswick ended its season at 8-2 after a hard-fought game.

Brunswick Athletes Sign National Letters

Four Brunswick School seniors signed National Letters of Intent on November 13 to compete in Division I athletics: Patrick Hiebert (lacrosse, Johns Hopkins), Patrick O'Donohue (soccer, Colgate), Aidan Diaz-Matos (lacrosse, Notre Dame), and Henry Raine (squash, Virginia). The ceremony celebrated their athletic achievements and commitments to continue their sports at the collegiate level.



Congratulations GHS Honor Students!

High Honor Roll: Aaronson, Spencer, Abrams, Alexander, Acapana, Nicole, Acevedo, Aidan, Acevedo, Camila, Ache, Felix, Adams, Sofia, Addeo, Tessa, Adorney, James, Adovasio, Delilah, Afshar, Zary, Agudelo, Alessandra, Agudelo, Samantha, Agullo Gomis, Jaime, Ahmad, Aliyah, Akrongold, Jacob, Alarjawi, Leen, Alexander, Levi, Alexandrou, Isabella, Alfonso, Aldren, Aliaga, Gabriela, Allegro, Adam, Allegro, Scarlett, Allegro, Zachary, Alvarez, Fernando, Alvarez, Leonardo, Alza, Leila, Amaro, Ilan, Ambastha, Ishan, Amoa, Dylan, Amodeo, Giuliana, Anderson, Brooke, Anderson, Cara, Anderson, Heidi, Anderson, Reilly, Andrade Ulloa, Ana, Andrews, Grant, Antipov, Maya, Aristizabal, Sofia, Arlia, Catalina, Arlotti, Scarlett, Armstrong, Kayah, Arnott, Alec, Arnott, Liam, Arnott, Sarah, Arroyo From, Emilia, Asada, Mark, Aslansan, Graycen, Asmis, Sydney, Asprinio, Eric, Asprinio, Michael, Aucay, Valeria, Audet, Anya, August, Pierre, Aurora, Ashwin, Aviles, Fiorella, Aysseh, Skylar, Babtist, Ida, Babyak, Emma, Bae, Katelyn, Bai, Angela, Bai, Jason, Baig, Alexander, Bajra, Adrian, Bajra, Julisa, Baker, Casey, Balaguer, Federica, Balaguer, Josefina, Balducci, Nina, Barbaglio, Matteo, Barban, Isabella, Barber, Evamarie, Barber, Riley, Barnett, Alexandra, Barratt, Sophie, Barrett, Noah, Barrett, Noland, Bastek, Noelle, Bates, Tristan, Bauer, Allison, Baxendale, Ava, Baxendale, Kate, Begonja, David, Begonja, Nina, Belinky, Benjamin, Bell, Tyler, Bendezu, Raymi, Benison, Owen, Benzaquen, Valentina, Berbit, Kate, Bergholt, Victoria, Bergner, Matthew, Berman, Andrew, Bermudez, Johan, Bernann, Sarah, Bernstein, Justin, Bhandari, Nikash, Bharti, Isha, Bhatia, Arnav, Bhawnani, Karina, Bier, Samuel, Bingle, Warren, Bisagni, Angelica, Bisio, Gabriel, Bitencourt, Rafaella, Bittman, Lily, Black, Dan, Blois, Sophia, Blucher, Della, Boesch, Julian, Bologna, Anne, Bongioio, Matheus, Borici, Ndris, Botoff, Dylan, Bouchard, Alicia, Bound, Nicholas, Bourke, Julia, Boyea, Alistair, Boyea, Caroline, Bozkurt, Sena, Bozza, Adriana, Bozza, Anthony, Braga Knijnik, Isabela, Brandes, Grace, Bravo Galarza, Mateo, Bravo Galarza, Samuel, Breglia, Aniela, Brennan, Ryan, Brescia, Michael, Briggs, Mickey, Broderick, Catherine, Broderick, Corinne, Broderick, Jack, Broide, Sophia, Bruce, Yasmine, Brudner, Brooke, Bruzzone, Emma, Bruzzone, Juan, Bucaria, Colin, Buck, James, Buckingham, Matthew, Bulis, Emerson, Bull Guzman, Tiagho, Burchell, Ella, Buss, Jeremy, Byrne, Aidan, Cabanero, Emily Elizabeth, Cahill, Alex May, Camou, Lorenza, Campinell, Quinn, Campos, Josephine, Canale, Santiago, Capitanucci, Edoardo, Carey, Maeve, Carino, Alexis, Carrasco Velazquez, Natalia, Carrescia, Taylor, Carrescia, Wheeler, Carriello, Megan, Carrillo, Mateo, Cartine, Julie Ann, Cartwright, Guy, Caruso, Ryder, Carvalho, Gabryella, Castillo, Sara, Catterick, Julia, Caulfield, Ian, Cayo, Kai, Cerliani, Agustin, Cerliani, Julieta, Cernigliaro, Carly, Cha, Jin, Chalmers, Dylan, Chan, Aidan, Chan, Ethan, Chang, Alexander, Chang, Aliyah, Chang, Emily, Chang, Thomas, Charette, Ellison, Chass, Noah, Chatteraj, Asha, Chen, Vicky, Cheney, Caroline, Cheung, Ryan, Chin, Albert, Chin, Renee, Cho, Caden, Cho, Cecilia, Choudhary, Khushi, Choudhary, Tavishi, Christie, Avina, Ciccirelli, Daniel, Cicero, Isabella, Cimador, Alexandra, Cimador, Gabriella, Cipollone, Brianna, Cirilli, Aidan, Citron, Cobin, Citron, Eden, Civitillo, Leah, Civitillo, Rachel, Clark, Cameron, Clark, James, Clark, Reese-Bennett, Coccozza, Arran, Coccozza, Ava, Coffey, Daniel, Cohen, Jacob, Cohen, Jasmine, Colavito, Lyndsey, Colin, Jasmine, Collier, David, Collins, Ashley, Collins, Ciaran, Collins, Liam, Collins, May, Colombo, Laura, Condax, Demetrios, Connard, Lilian, Conte, Will, Conze, Rigs, Cook, Silas, Cooper, Ethan, Coplit, Maia, Coppel, Noah, Corbo, Maximo, Cordero, Diego, Cornejo, Felix, Costa Gonzalez, Alejandro, Costa Gonzalez, Lluís, Costa Gonzalez, Maria, Costello, Owen, Coyne, Ella, Coyne, Lily, Coyne, Sydney, Craig, Wesley, Craven, Brandon, Craven, Brody, Craw, Gustav, Crespo, Isabella, Critchell, Lawrence, Cruz Zurita, Ana, Csak, Steven, Cullen, Henry, Cumberland, Brooke, Cuneo, James, Cunha, Milleny, Curtin, Charles, Curtin, Kathryn, D'Andrea, Nicholas, D'Angelo, Michael, DaSilva, Sophia, Dabbadie, Delfina, Dada, Zahra, Daplyn, Eliana, Davidson, Diana, Davis, Henry, Dacruz, Hannah, De Gennaro, Anabelle, De Gennaro, Finley, De Mita, Salvatore, De Weaver, Jacqueline, DeBlasio, Cristina, DeFelice, Margaux, DeLisio, Ryan, DeLuca, Julia, DeMarco, Leah, DeSalvo, Connor, DeVito, Olivia, DeVries, Taylor, DeJesus, Leslie, Del Valle Manghier, Sergio, Dellascenza, Amelie, Devaney, Katherine, Dhru, Esha, Dhruvakumar, Vidya, DiBattista, Emma, DiLascia, Leo, DiPietro, Giselle, DiPietro, Sophia, DiPreta, Christopher, Dias, Dayanna, Dionis, Lauren, Dolan, Caroline, Dolgov, Anna, Domenech, Juan, Donat, Calvin, Donnellan, Mary, Donovan, Michael, Donovan, Patrick, Donovan, Thomas, Dorado, Melanie, Dorsey, Piper, Douglas, Maximus, Downs, Sarina, Dozier, William, Drinkall, Sven, Duarte, Emily, Duben, Gregory, Duben, Samuel, Dudzinski, Christian, Dudzinski, Scott, Duff, Katherine, Duff, Natalie, Duff, Penelope, Duffy, Carlyn, Duncan, Thomas, Dunleavy, Gabriel, Dussinger, Alexandra, Dybas, Hailey, Echeverria, Nathalia, Edgell, Annabelle, Edward, Jake, Eldredge, Norah, Elezaj, Gabriel, Elezaj, Gemma, Elezaj, Greyson, Elliott, Liana, Elmarsafy, Luke, Englund, Ellie, Enslein, Alexander, Erb, Jackson, Erensen, Andrew, Erensen, Isabella, Erensen, Sierra, Erensen, Thomas, Erickson, Louis, Eskandar, Orson, Esquivel, Elizabeth, Estela, Gabriela, Estela, Vicente, Everett, Isabella, Evers, Lillian, Ewen, Cole, Ewen, Emma, Fahimi, Mariam, Fahimi, Sebastien, Fales, Margaret, Fales, Theodore, Falla, Colin, Fan, Rhea, Fang, Arthur, Farmer, Boden, Farnum, Heidi, Farstrup, Amital, Farstrup, Mica, Ferrario, Luca, Figueroa, Alejandra, Finchler, Rachel, Fine, Eleanor, Finegan, Dylan, Finz, Garyn, Fiorentino, Elizabeth, Fiorito, Thomas, Fischer, Amir, Fishback, Dane, Fishback, Miller, Fix, Wyatt, Flakstad, Hanna, Flatow, William, Flintoff, Michael, Floyd, Josephine, Flynn, Santiago, Foell, Amelia, Fogarty, Kate, Foley, Luke, Fontana, Emma, Forbes, Eden, Franceschini, Faith, Frankel, Noah, Franks, Harriet, Frasca, Evelyn, Freitas, John, Freyer, Henry, Friedman, Chaya, Frumin, Nicholas, Fryer, Sophia, Furano, Alessandro, Fuzesi, Chloe, Gagliardo, Julieta, Galal, Laila, Galburt, Sienna, Galic, Luis, Galindo, Nicolas, Galli Specos, Manuel, Ganan, Evelyn, Gandler, Chloe, Garcia, Greta, Garcia, Raphaela, Garcia, Trevor, Gastelu, Joaquim, Gath, Alyssa, Geary, Averi, Geiger, Ilana, Geiger, Melissa, Geisler, Aquinnah, Georgi, Nathaniel, Germain, Guy, Ghinculov, Charlotte, Ghinculov, Sophie, Giannakopoulos, Aikaterina, Gibbs, Henry, Gibson, Sadie, Gilbride, Michael, Gilroy, Alexia, Ginste, Charles, Gioffre-Lopez, Alyssa, Glass, Kayla, Glickman, Camden, Glines, Chelsie, Gogate, Mio, Gojani, Daniela, Golden, Michael, Goldenberg, Rachel, Goldstein, Chase, Gomez, Catalina, Gomez, Maria, Goncalves, Anthony, Gong, Xiwen, Gonzalez Lobo, Felix, Gonzalez, Sebastian, Graham-Purdy, Kaeleigh, Grandjacques, Lucas, Granitto, Sophia, Greco, Olivia, Griper, Zachary, Gruenbaum, Miriam, Grubberg, August, Guarnera, Lily, Gulliner, Charles, Gulli, Lynn, Guraieb Mantecon, Marina, Gusho, Elizabeth, Gusinski, Alexandra, Gustafsson, Julia, Guzman-Milligan, Isabel, Hadden, Bridget, Hall, Alexander, Hamel, John, Hanna, William, Hannafin, Jack, Haque, Zara, Hardwick, Charlotte, Hardwick, Gemma, Harlow, Kenna, Harper, Benjamin, Harper, Michael, Harper, Owen, Harriman, Miles, Harte,

Ellery, Harte, Gwendolyn, Hartofilis, Steven, Hayes, Benjamin, Hayes, Carter, Hayes, James, Healy, Beatrice, Hedvat, Hariette, Helme, Sandra, Hennigan, Tess, Henske, Chloe, Herman, Josephine, Herman, Joshua, Hernandez, Briana, Hernandez, Sofia, Hidalgo Samperio, Carlota, Higgins, Lily, Hillgruber Fernandes Pita, Clara, Hillman, Scarlett, Hines, Dakota, Hinton, Nathan, Hirsch, Mikayla, Hirt, Jasper, Ho, Trevor, Hochman, Hannah, Hodgson, Alexa, Hoenig, Alexandra, Hoffman, Liana, Hoffman, Nuria, Hoffman, Silas, Holz, Emma, Homan, Carl, Hopper, Ryan, Hopson, Scarlett, Horgan, Logan, Houdre, Joy, Howes, John, Huang, Benjamin, Huang, Lauren, Huang, Lauren G, Huba, Alejandro, Huba, Mariana, Hugh-Jones, Finn, Hugh-Jones, Rudy, Hughes, Jayla, Hunt, Isabelle, Hunt, Matthew, Hurst, Lucas, Hurst, Rylan, Hussain, Mariam, Huyhua, Hillary, Iasillo, Noelle, Iasillo, Stephen, Ibarzabal, Marina, Iardi, Francesca, Iles, Samuel, Ilker, Amelia, Ilker, Kaiser, Imana-Sanchez, Ailin, Imbrogno, Nicholas, Imlah, Lucas, Imlah, Sofia, Imp, Ingrid, Inagawa, Yume, Iozzo, Charles, Ito, Miyu, Iwai, Mayumi, Jackman, Sofia, Jacks, Kristen, Jackson, Alex, Jackson, Ava, Jacob, Joshua, Jacobs, William, Jacobsen, Inaaya, Jaffe, Makayla, Jain, Nishant, Jakab, Dominika, Jankovich-Besan, Oliver, Jaramillo, Samuel, Jee, Sara, Jefferson, Jocelyn, Jenkins, Hanako, Jenkins, Ryu, Jha, Ambika, Jhamb, Jai, Jin, Henry, Joglekar, Anousha, Johnson, Lincoln, Johnson, Madeline, Johnson, Ryan, Johnson, Theodore, Jones, Carolina, Jones, Madeline, Jones, Mason, Joshi, Kiran, Judge, Emilie, Kaalund, Mikah, Kahn, Zoe, Kaler, Evelyn, Kallesten, Avery, Kalstrup, Natasja, Kamath, Vihaan, Kan, Beliz, Kane, Evan, Kaplun, Anna, Karingal-Schwartz, Zachary, Karson, Chase, Karube, Hiroya, Kassaris, Amalia, Kassaris, Nikitas, Kawamura, Ota, Keenan, Mails, Keenan, Savannah, Kelley, Mason, Kelley, Morgan, Kelly, Jack, Kelly, Rowan, Kennedy, Patrick, Kent, Darby, Kerins, SarahGrace, Keshvarzian, Ayden, Kessler, Jenny, Keszi, Filippa, Keszi, Violeta, Keyes, Sebastian, Khalitov, Chingiz, Khwaja-Patel, Amaya, Kiernan, Mikayla, Kilgallen, John, Kim, Audrey, Kim, Dean, Kim, Eleanor, Kim, Micah, Kim, Mire, Kim, Samuel, Kim, Vera, Kingsley, Francis, Klein, Allison, Klingbeil, Olivia, Klingbeil, Sofia, Klocinski, Nicole, Koch, Jayden, Kofman, Sofia, Kohlberger, Charles, Kohlberger, Noelle, Kokovic, Ersa, Kolbig, Kevin, Kolc, Abigail, Kook, YeonWoo, Korff, Jacob, Korsun, Elliot, Kortner, Keeghan, Kosinski, John, Kostin, Evan, Kowalski, Nadia, Kozma, Julia, Krause, Anthony, Krumlauf, Ava, Kruper, William, Ku, Avey, Kumar, Kareena, Kumar, Simran, Kummell, Aidan, Kwon, Owen, L'Helias, Alexander, L'Helias, Catherine, LaFève, Gracie, LaPadula, Alex, LaRosa, Lola, LaRosa, Luca, Labonte, Erin, Lagout, Jamyshiva, Lahaie-Drinea, Vasiliki, Lai, Arthur, Lai, Michael, Lai, Nicole, Lancaster, Saide, Lapin, Nathan, Large, Sophia, Lattuada, Julia, Lattuada, Santiago, Laverge, Alexandra, Lechner, Lucas, Lee, Daniel, Lee, Ellie, Lee, Pearl, Lehman, Daniel, Lehman, Rebecca, Leignadier, Angelique, Leignadier, Brigitte, Lenschow, Anna-Louise, Lenschow, Carla, Leonard, Ronan, Leppla, Reed, Levakin, Daniil, Levchenko, Mariia, Levin, Abigail, Levin, Samantha, Levine, Wesley, Lewis, Emily, Li, Avery, Li, Raymond, Liang, Youhan, Lin, Mia, Lindsay, Leda, Lionetti, Nathan, Lipp, Martin, Lira, Nicolas, Lira, Victor, Lisboa Da Cunha De Freitas, Daniel, Lisjak, Alexia, Lisjak, Braden, Lissauer, Jordan, Liu, Shaun, Loera, Alexa, Lombardi, Gloria, Long, Ingrid, Lopez, Rodrigo, Lopez-Aranguren Perez, Carlota, Lovejoy, Henry, Lowe, Blake, Lowe, Hudson, Lowitt, Molly, Lozano, Lucia, Lu, Rexton, Luo, Jiajun, Lynch, William, Lyons, Devyn, Maasbach, William, MacLennan, Ewan, Macri, Julia, Maczuga, Christopher, Madan, Sameera, Madden, Charles, Madrid, Diego, Magill, John, Magill, Lucas, Magill, Sophie, Magnotta, Cooper, Mahoney, Caitlin, Maignan-Ducasse, Shiloh, Malagisi, Marco, Malkin, Ashley, Malkin, Tyler, Malone, Ellie, Maloney, Matthew, Mamani, Michael, Manuli, Louis, Mao, Sarah, Marchese, Valentina, Marchese, Victoria, Marcus, Ava, Marcus, Lila, Marcussen, Charlotte, Marder, Alexandra, Marek, Charlotte, Marek, Max, Marinaccio, Christopher, Marroquin, Willson, Martin, Blake, Martin, Madeleine, Martin, Neve, Martines, James, Martinez, Alejandra, Martinez, Daphne, Martinez, Isabel, Martins, Agatha, Martins, Melissa, Martins, Micaella, Martyanov, Johnny, Mathews, Ryan, Maus, William, McCallion, Kenneth, McCarthy, Avery, McCarthy, William, McConnell, Caitlin, McCooe, Margaret, McDermott, Connor, McDonald, Ryan, McDonnell, Terra, McElwain, Jack, McEvoy, Aedan, McFarlane, Adam, McFarlane, Matthew, McFerran, Dillon, McFerran, Landon, McGannon, Nicholas, McGeary, Kaes, McGowan, Lilliana, McGowan, Lorelei, McKersie, Riona, McKinney, Thomas, McMahan, Connor, McNulty, Caroline, Medico, Luca, Medico, Milla, Meier, Reuben, Melgar, Mia, Melley, Jake, Mendelsohn, Ava, Mendelsohn, Luke, Mendelsohn, Norah, Mendoza, Sierra, Merrill, Luke, Meyers, Abigail, Miklautsch, Margaret, Milititsky, Valentina, Miller, Jack, Minchin, George, Mitchell, Saira, Mitra, Mila, Mittal, Rohan, Moeller, Shayna, Molina, Joell, Monaco, Keira, Monaco, William, Moore, Ethan, Mootabar, Lila, Morabito, Marisol, Morales, Jessiel Rhan, Morocho, Alan, Morris, Ashley, Morris, Ella, Morris, Layla, Mosakowski, Alexandra, Moses, Donovan, Moshette, Joseph, Moskowitz, Chloe, Muir, Orla, Muir, Talia, Mulligan, Anna, Mund, Ruth, Munson, Gabriella, Murad, Rami, Murai, Kyota, Murphey, Peter, Murphy, Kaleigh, Murphy, Tessa, Murray, Aidan, Murray, Dylan, Nabisere, Esther, Nadel, Anya, Nadel, Brandon, Nagai, Joe, Nagai, Len, Naidoo, Nicole, Nakanishi, Max, Nalepka, Katherine, Nandakumar, Aaditya, Napolitano Serrao, Maria Helena, Nasiri, Nami, Nassa, Isadora, Natale, Jesse, Nedungadi, Neev, Neff, Reed, Nestoros, Theodore, Neuenfeldt, William, Newman, Jack, Ng, Christopher, Nguyen, Andrea, Nguyen, Olivia, Nichols, Belle, Nichols, Coco, Nieuwoudt, Kate, Nikami, Ellie, Nizielski, Chase, Nizielski, Reese, Nobay, Hadrian, Nobile, Mia, Nogaki, Charles, Nogaki, Lillian, Nogaki, Michael, Norell, Robert, O'Brien, Jason, O'Connor, Finn, O'Donovan, Colm, O'Donovan, Niamh, O'Neil, Georgia, O'Neill, Jocelyn, Odelfelt, Hayden, Odero, Georgina, Odero, Michelle, Ojea Quintana, Clara, Ojeda, Sebastian, Ojjeh, Isabelle, Ojjeh, Sophia, Oliveros, Carissa Sarah, Omelich, Leo, Orbanowski, Jake, Orbanowski, Taylor, Orellana, Natalia, Ornstein, Elliot, Orrell, Elias, Orrell, Sophia, Ortuno, Martina, Ortuno, Pilar, Otterstedt, Abigail, Otto, Louw, Ovsag, Luke, Ovsag, Michael, Palanca, Alexis, Palange, Jagger, Palmer, Sebastian, Panarella, Addison, Panizza, Tomas, Papadopoulos, Angelina, Paradiso, Luciana, Park, Elle, Park, Nathan, Parra Castrillon, Salome, Parsell, Charlotte, Pashkoff, Emma, Passalacqua, Sophie, Passamano, Ava, Patel, Heli, Patel, Sonia, Patterson, Tatum, Paulson, Dane, Paulson, Elizabeth, Paulson, Georgia, Peck, Connor, 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Meals-on-Wheels Outstanding Young Volunteers!



Greenwich Academy high school volunteers bring meals and smiles! These young leaders are a special part of our Meals-on-Wheels family, helping deliver food, kindness, and connection to those in need. By volunteering their time and energy, these outstanding students are bridging generations and building a stronger, more caring community. Young volunteers like them bring fresh enthusiasm and compassion, showing that it doesn't take years of experience to make a real difference. Together, we're nourishing not only bodies but hearts. Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich provides more than just a meal!

"Frozen" & a Food Drive for Neighbor to Neighbor



By ROCCO NATALE

The halls of Round Hill Community Center were full of Scandinavian "Hygge" as Open Arts Alliance partnered with Neighbor to Neighbor to host a food drive during the November 9th & 10th performances of "FROZEN Kids."

Over 80 students and their families made up the nearly 600 people who enjoyed the musical production and participated in a food drive initiated by Open Arts Alliance's Leadership Council. Audience members were encouraged to bring canned and non-perishable food to donate to Greenwich's celebrated non-profit. Those who donated were then given a token for free popcorn at Olaf's concession stand before or after the shows.

The halls of Round Hill Community Center were full of Scandinavian "Hygge" as Open Arts Alliance partnered with Neighbor to Neighbor to host a food drive.

The collaboration came about as a fall initiative from the leadership council members and was meant to shine a light on food scarcity in our community at this critical time. Neighbor to Neighbor operates a "client choice" food pantry, designed to resemble a small grocery store. Clients select their own food from a healthy array of protein, fruits, vegetables, grains, cereals, eggs, and milk.

More than just theatre, Open Arts Alliance, is an educational non-profit which makes art, theatre, music and dance accessible to students and senior citizens with a decade strong history of free senior education and community outreach. The organization's leadership council (students in grades 8-12) is charged with the task of identifying local needs and creating opportunities for community engagement to respond to concerns.

N2N's Executive Director, K. Brent Hill, welcomed donations at the event and said, "we extend our deepest thanks for all the generous donations. Open Arts Alliance's support is making a significant difference in the lives of individuals and families within our community, and we are incredibly grateful for their partnership." Open Arts Alliance Treasurer, Kathy Walker added, "as a theatre company, we're used to shining spotlights and our students felt there was no more deserving organization than Neighbor to Neighbor to spotlight and support."

TEMPLE SHOLOM SELMA MAISEL NURSERY SCHOOL ADDS PART-DAY 1'S PROGRAM

The Temple Shalom Selma Maisel Nursery School, known for its one-of-a-kind early childhood program, is excited to announce the addition of a part-day 1's program for those looking to jump-start their child's nursery school experience.

"Families have been so interested in starting their Temple Shalom Selma Maisel Nursery School career before the 2's," said David Cohen, Director of Schools. "We are thrilled to be able to expand our offerings to include a part-day option for 1-year-olds."

This new class - geared for children born September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 - will meet from 9:15 am to 12:00 pm in a customized classroom that will provide comfort and age-appropriate learning experiences. Parents will have the option of choosing among a Monday-Friday, Tuesday/Thursday or Monday/Wednesday/Friday schedule for the 2025-2026 school year.

Similar to the current 2's, 3's and 4's part-day classes, this new 1's class will participate in many of the school's great specials including music, gym, gymnastics, outdoor play, and more. Additionally, children will enjoy celebrating the wonderful richness of Shabbat, Jewish holidays and traditions.

To schedule a tour or to learn more about enrollment at the Temple Shalom Selma Maisel Nursery School, contact David Cohen at 203-622-8121 or david.cohen@templesholom.com.

Bread of Life's Power of Love and Faith Helping People with Food Insecurity

By LIZ LEAMY

Last Thursday marked another golden moment for many members from Rye, Westchester and local Fairfield County communities as more than 100 people convened at the Rye Presbyterian Church to help support the role, impact and mission of the Bread of Life/Giving Tree Global organization plays in regard to providing food to so many at its annual benefit, with it also being a ministry partner with the Trinity Church in Greenwich.

With love being the theme of this year's Bread of Life event, goodwill and warmth permeated among the entire group at this event who came together to support, celebrate and honor this vital organization that is based in Rye and feeds more than 30,000 individuals throughout the Westchester County area and beyond on a monthly basis.

The Bread of Life organization's generosity is made due to the nearly 63,000 pounds of food its leaders and team members rescue from such dedicated area retailers as Whole Foods, Trader Joe's, Acme and Restaurant Depot on a weekly basis.

The Bread of Life/Giving Tree Global organization, led by its dedicated Founders and Pastors, Sherri and Pasquale Falco of Rye also delivers food to more than 14 food pantries as well as soup kitchens, shelters and senior centers in Rye and Westchester County on a regular basis.

For the Falcos, along with the entire Bread of Life volunteer team, it's all about doing whatever they can to help and serve God through their faith, work and commitment to those in need in the local area in an optimal, loving and faith-based manner.

"The mission of Giving Tree Global is to share the love of God by helping those in need," said Pastor Sherri and Pastor Pasquale Falco.

This lively event was emceed by Rammy Harwood of Rye who spoke about the Bread of Life organization's impact on the growing number of individuals and families who rely on its plentiful donations, as well as the issue of food insecurity taking place locally and also throughout the U.S.

Sue Fitzpatrick Wexler of Rye, Director of Outreach for the organization, elaborated on this subject.

"The Bread of Life's mission



Jeff Ruddy, Monica Brenner and Karen Ruddy at the 2024 Bread of Life benefit held at Rye Presbyterian Church. (Photo courtesy of Cathleen McDonald)

"The mission of Giving Tree Global is to share the love of God by helping those in need," said Pastor Sherri and Pastor Pasquale Falco, Founders and Directors of the Bread of Life/Giving Tree Global organization that is based in Rye, New York and is a ministry partner with Trinity Church in Greenwich.



Revelers enjoying the memorable night at the Bread of Life benefit (Left to Right) Jim Reddington, Elliot Rose, Sue Fitzpatrick Wexler, Nancy Rose and Nancy Reddington (Photo courtesy of Cathleen McDonald)

is based on sharing the love of God by loving one's neighbor, not only by providing food for the food insecure, but also by making the food recipients, volunteers and everyone we work with feel loved," said Wexler, who grew up in Greenwich and is a Greenwich High School graduate.

Wexler, meanwhile, acknowledged the Herculean efforts of Pastor Pasquale Falco in regard to the Bread of Life organization, as he has devoted himself to rescuing and delivering food to recipients around the clock seven days a week.

"Pasquale models for each of us what loving well looks like," said Wexler.

The food at the benefit was a big hit with everyone, with donations having been generously given by such local Rye area establishments as Valtori Pizza Kitchen, Ruby's Oyster Bar & Bistro, Rye Grill & Bar, Jerry's Post Road Market Wine and Spirits, Al Dente Pizzeria, Bareburger and the Rye Country Store.

Music at the event was provided by a Rye 'Dad' Band which featured several talented musicians from the Rye area.

Conclusively, the Bread of Life holds a pantry every other Monday at its Rye location from 10am to 12pm for those looking to get involved or to participate with its goodwill.

For more information on the Bread of Life organization, please visit: www.givingtreeglobal.org

Bread of Life/Giving Tree Global

65 Orchard Avenue
Rye, NY 10580
914-479-7422

This year's benefit food donors:

Al Dente Pizzeria, Aurora, Bareburger, Milton Point Provisions, Piazza Pizza, Rafele Rye, Rockridge Deli, Ruby's Oyster Bar & Bistro, Rye Country Store, Rye Grill & Bar, Sunrise Pizza, Valtori Pizza Kitchen, Village Social, Jerry's Post Road Market Wine and Spirits, G Griffin Wine & Spirits, Love Cookies by Willow Edwards.

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RMA Marks 70 Years of History and Service to the Community

By JOHN REESE

The Greenwich Retired Men's Association (RMA) celebrated its 70th anniversary on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at Innis Arden Golf Club in Old Greenwich, CT. The milestone event was filled with warmth, camaraderie, and a reflection on the organization's legacy of service and fellowship.

The day began with members and guests gathering in the club's sunroom, where the morning sun illuminated the scene as they mingled and enjoyed a selection of hors d'oeuvres. They then moved to the large dining room, where the program was expertly guided by RMA First Vice President David Michonski, who welcomed everyone and introduced the day's presentations. These included remarks by RMA President Will Morrison, the presentation of awards for service to numerous members, and a performance by the RMA chorus The Melody Men.

The highlight of the afternoon was the keynote address by Dave Richards, a retired real estate lawyer, historian, and RMA member since 2017. Richards, who has authored a soon-to-be-published first-ever history of the RMA, captivated the audience with his storytelling.

He recounted that while the "seed" for what would become the Greenwich RMA was planted in March of 1954 by a group of friends who belonged to the YMCA, the formal organization did not happen until October of that year. It happened through the efforts of a woman, a Mrs. La Rievier. Her father had moved to Greenwich from Quincy, MA, was lonesome and wanted to meet other retirees like himself. So, Mrs. La Rievier applied to the YMCA's General Secretary for help. He, in turn, asked Alfred Lorenz, a staff member at the Y to try to round up some men. Lorenz succeeded and the first meeting of 13 men occurred on March 10, 1954 with the RMA formally organized on October 13, 1954. Some ladies in today's audience may have been thinking, "Oh, so she, too, wanted to get someone out of her house every Wednesday!"

Richards then reviewed what Greenwich was like in 1954. Its population was 43,000; only half of Americans owned a TV and they were all black and white only; men dressed in suits and ties and when outside wore hats; Social Security was signed into law by President Eisenhower; the Supreme Court outlawed segregation with its famous Brown v. Board ruling; Swanson introduced TV dinners; a new car cost \$1700; gas cost 21 cents per gallon; a movie ticket was 70 cents; and the first mass vaccination of children to prevent polio, occurred. Things have changed.

The sponsoring organization of the RMA was the YMCA which for decades would provide facilities for meetings and would offer aid and advice to assist in the growth of the organization.

On the founding day in October 1954, secretary Ramsey Burton cut a hole in the top of a cigar box and passed it around to the 13 members for voluntary contributions to support the new organization. There was also another kind of Cigar Box, today known as the Cigar Box Bulletin, which came about because the RMA needed a newspaper to keep members abreast of club events. The early CBB dispensed short pithy sayings, retirement advice, jokes, stories of flora and fauna, excerpts from patriotic speeches and even poems, with Rudyard Kipling and William Cullen Bryant two of the early favorites. It was billed as "The Cigar Box Weekly News"—that's "W-E-A-K-L-Y"—it was not until 1961 that the CBB assumed its current format and was re-named the Cigar Box Bulletin.

By 1966, 12 years after the founding, the RMA had grown to 99 members, then to 140 by 1969-70 and then over the next six years it grew by another 60%. It got so large that by 1975 a moratorium had to be imposed on new inductees because the meeting room at the YMCA was just too crowded. Applicants had to wait months until a slot became available.

From the start in 1954 ladies have been welcome at RMA events. A Ladies Day in October and a Thanksgiving luncheon in November have been merged into today's annual banquet, with spouses and widows of members present. They are also welcome at other events. Women also provided the RMA with one of



Author David Richards recounted highlights from the colorful history of the RMA.

The RMA has contributed much to Greenwich during its colorful 70-year history.

its most controversial programs. In 1972 two members of the National Organization for Women came to speak and explain the thinking and reasoning that makes women want to join the Women's Liberation Movement. The Greenwich Time reported on the presentation with the headline, "Women's Rights Goals Explained to Retired Men."

Trips were among the first activities in 1954. The first trip was to Port Chester to the Lifesavers plant, followed by a trip to Greenfield Hill to see the dogwoods in blossom. There was also an outing to Island Beach, a precursor of today's annual picnic. Everyone dressed in suits and ties. This flurry of excursions and trips was soon followed by the RMA's first speaker, Sydney Phelps, who spoke about Japan. What followed was the vibrant speakers' program that exists today; now over 25 members on the Program Committee suggest speakers, interview them, schedule and publicize them.

Speakers have included pastors of churches, police chiefs, prominent politicians such as U.S. Senator Prescott Bush, and Lt. General Leslie Groves who oversaw the construction of the atomic bomb. Others included New York Mets pitcher and Cy Young Award Winner Tom Seaver. In 1988, the speaker of the year was only then at the start of his political career, namely Greenwich Town Selectman Ned Lamont, who is today Governor of Connecticut. The Greenwich Time noted the talk was given by "an articulate, well-informed-dynamic young man [who] made a very able presentation..."

Fellowship was the original core value, but four years later, in 1958, volunteerism began. Ten years later in 1968 volunteerism hit 3,699 hours assisting the ill, the handicapped, or those in need of assistance by reason of age, health or catastrophe. In 1976, the now-vanished newspaper of Old Greenwich, The Village Gazette, published a long article titled "Survey of Retired Men's Numerous Volunteer Activities." It noted that dozens of members were contributing more than 200 hours a week to community service. The members were hailed for different efforts: one for repairing radios to be given to nursing home patients; another pushed wheelchairs for patients at Nathaniel Witherell Hospital; a third visited shut-ins, working from a list supplied by the Red Cross. Some even cut nature trails and built bridges in the parks. Today the RMA has ties to 75 different organizations that benefit from 17,000 hours of volunteer activity by RMA members.

The RMA always encouraged its members to stay fit as they aged and in 1966 the very first "Sports Committee" was formed that oversaw member activities such as indoor bowling, lawn bowling at Bruce Park, bridge, golf, and fishing. The RMA announced the number of fish caught, their type, and where they were biting. In 1979 swimming and diving were added. Today the group enjoys playing Hearts, Bridge, Pickleball, Indoor Tennis, Tai Chi, Golf, Platform or Paddle tennis, and the Famous "Walkers and Talkers" who walk to nifty spots around the area and talk a lot!

Jumping into the Modern Era, here is a small list of some of the innovations that have been inaugurated over the years.

- In 2003 the RMA website was launched which is constantly being updated and improved.
- In 2009 the Speakers

Program was opened to all as a service to everyone in the town.

- In 2010 the Speakers Programs were first video recorded and were carried on the town cable television network, GCTV. Today there are more than 570 videos that have been uploaded to the RMA website, available on demand. Over 40,000 people have viewed them.

- In 2011, the RMA moved from the YMCA to the First Presbyterian Church because the RMA required more space. It also incorporated as a not-for-profit entity.

- At the 60th anniversary the "RMA Marching Song" was introduced. It was written by none other than RMA pianist Bob Morgan, a retired music industry executive. Also introduced was the lovely poem "Ode to the RMA" written by Martin Grayson.

- In 2016 the CBB really entered the modern age and was delivered to members digitally by email rather than by the postman.

No recitation of the works of the RMA could be complete without the Melody Men which was founded in 1975. President Anderson asked member Wally Pennells, who had an extensive musical background, to see if the choral talent displayed weekly at the RMA meetings could be more formally organized. Those attending a first rehearsal were enthusiastic, but only two of the original seven volunteers could read music, and only four returned for rehearsal the following week. The theater on the ground floor of the YMCA was not well fitted for rehearsals, and the piano was missing keys. Nevertheless, under Pennells' leadership, attendance at rehearsals improved, and the group's enduring name "Melody Men" was chosen. By the next week, eleven budding choristers had joined. It was a bit of a faltering start, but after only six months the group's first public performance came at a luncheon in November 1975. At that event, the music makers were not the

only entertainment. Competition came from other members who performed a skit titled "The Delinquent Senior Citizen" and did so in full drag, sporting frocks and make-up.

Today, the Melody Men perform about 35 one-hour performances each year, with a repertoire that includes Broadway show tunes, folk, country, and popular music, to appreciative audiences of seniors throughout Westchester and Fairfield Counties. In addition, the Melody Men have continued to perform annually at the Greenwich 9/11 Memorial, the Town Party, and the Greenwich Old Timers Dinner, and by invitation have sung the National Anthem at Citi Field before two New York Mets' baseball games.

Richards concluded this brief overview of RMA history with the announcement that a full written history would soon be published and available at no charge.

The RMA's next public presentation, "Path to Power, Road to Ruin: The Danger of Political and Religious Ideologies," by author John Kavanagh, is scheduled for 11 AM on Wednesday, December 4, 2024.

Note: The views expressed in RMA presentations are those of the speakers. They are not intended to represent the views of the RMA or its members.

RMA speaker presentations are presented as a community service at no cost to in-person or Zoom attendees, regardless of gender. Any member of the public who would like to receive a weekly email announcement of future speakers should send a request to members@greenwichrma.org. The RMA urges all eligible individuals to consider becoming a member of our great organization, and thereby enjoy all the available fellowship, volunteer, and community service opportunities which the RMA offers to its members. For further information, go to <https://greenwichrma.org/> or contact info@greenwichrma.org.

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COLUMN

Does Judaism believe in Angels?



By Rabbi Mitchell Hurvitz

Does Judaism believe in Angels?

Like many questions within Judaism, the answer is yes, no, and maybe; it always depends on which rabbi you ask.

The late 12th-century Rabbi Moses ben Maimon, also known to us as Maimonides or Rambam, recognized that the Bible frequently mentions that angels exist, but he asserted that they are incorporeal; they have no physical existence.

A common rabbinic teaching is that the Hebrew word for "angel" - "malach" - should be defined as a "messenger." The malach is a conduit by which God delivers a particular message. Within this context, a malach could be a celestial being, a human, or something in between.

An ancient rabbinic midrash taught that the malach is human until they complete their Divinely charged task. After which, they are an "angel."

Another midrash asserts that God created "angels" on the second day of creation. (Some rabbis argued for the fifth day of creation.)

Further rabbinic teachings assert that God continuously creates angels whenever Divine pronouncements occur.

Those rabbis who wish to assert the concept of the non-human angel teach that "angels walk upright, possess understanding, fly in the air, move quickly from one end of the world to another, and can accurately predict the future."

I like to imagine God creating angels that can take on human form.

A premise for a television show I always liked and ran in the

late '80s was Highway to Heaven. Michael Landon played the role of Jonathan Smith, a man who died but was sent back to Earth as an "angel on probation" to do good work on God's behalf. God was commonly referred to as the "Boss," and I think it is helpful to perceive God in a managerial manner.

The TV show perceived how God performs miracles, and prayer has the power to move God. It also partnered Jonathan, the angel, with a human partner. Together, they would seek to help troubled souls.

The show highlighted the need for goodness, charity, and forgiveness, universal attributes by which we can best embrace God in our lives. One episode that stuck with me was when Jonathan revealed his "angel status" to a child who was out trick-or-treating. The boy asked: "If there can be angels, why can't there be werewolves?" Jonathan's reply: "God makes angels. He doesn't make monsters."

Other shows and movies have depicted angels, some with inspiring results.

This type of storytelling began with the Book of Genesis. In chapter 18, we read how angels in disguise appear to Abraham and Sarah and tell them they will have a child in their old age. In chapter 19, angels appear to Lot and his family and rescue them from Sodom just before it's destroyed.

In chapter 21, an angel appears to Hagar and saves her and her son from dying of thirst in the wilderness. In chapter 22, an angel intervenes at the very last moment and saves the life of Isaac.

Each biblical narrative teaches that angels are critical to helping one another.

Within the Genesis stories, what would have occurred if an angel hadn't appeared in time? If the angels had not spoken to Abraham and Sarah, they might have forsaken trying to have their baby in their "old age." If the angels had not taken action in time, Lot and his family might have perished in Sodom. If the angel had not spoken to Hagar, she might not have seen the water

Whether the angel is a human, celestial, or in-between is irrelevant...we can manifest angels within our lives with our sacred actions of goodness, charity, and forgiveness.

well, and she and her son might have died of thirst. If the angel had not intervened with Abraham, Isaac might have died, and with him, the future of the Jewish People would have died as well.

Whether the angel is a human, celestial, or in-between is irrelevant. No matter the answer, we can manifest angels within our lives with our sacred actions of goodness, charity, and forgiveness.

The Psalmist declared that "God makes the winds His messengers." The Hebrew word for wind is ruach, which also means spirit. So, we can read that God makes the spirit the conduit of the Divine message. And humans are the physical vessels carrying God's spirit within us.

Jewish mystical tradition, Kabbalah, teaches that angels are the invisible metaphysical energy within each of us. This energy is like a magnet that can physically move something by a force invisible to the eye.

Our human behavior can create the energies by which we manifest God's presence or push God's presence further away.

Will we be angelic conduits that create the "Highway to Heaven" or the roadblock to reaching God?

Each Friday night, we sing about the Ministering Angels and ask them to bring us God's gift of Peace. The prayer is "Shalom Aleichem." When we sing this prayer, we recall the midrash that two ministering angels escort a person from the synagogue to their home on the Sabbath eve. One angel is good, and the other is not-so-good.

If the angel finds in the home a sacred space of love and support consistent with the Sabbath spirit, the good angel will say: "May it

be the will of God that it should be this way next Shabbat as well." And the not-so-good angel is forced to answer "amen" against their will.

And if it isn't like this, the not-so-good angel will say: "May it be the will of God that it should be this way next Shabbat as well." And the good angel is forced to answer "amen" against their will.

There exists no neutral position; either the trajectory is to that which is good or not-so-good. And, a habit becomes hard to redirect.

The Prayer "Shalom Aleichem" asks the ministering angels to help us cultivate the physical and spiritual energy to love each other so that we might dwell in Peace.

Perhaps we can start cultivating the spiritual energy needed to create the required angelic presence in our lives by keeping the Sabbath and ensuring the power of tangible love and holiness permeates our dwelling places once a week.

The Psalmist also proclaimed: "God will order the angels to guard us whenever and wherever we go..." We must ask God to do this for us when we create the sacred space and time to make this occur.

Shabbat Shalom.
Temple Shalom's Senior Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz is a scholar, teacher, community activist and preacher, and is recognized as one of the prominent religious leaders in the Greenwich area and beyond. A frequent guest speaker at synagogues and churches, study groups, community institutions and universities, he is a charismatic personality who engages individuals and stimulates hearts and minds. His teachings can be found in Greenwich Sentinel and in other local and national publications.



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St. Mary-Putnam to host a Tree of Remembrance during the season of Advent and Christmas.

St. Mary-Putnam Cemetery invites you to hang an ornament on our "Tree of Remembrance" in memory of a loved one who has passed.

The tree will be located at 399 North Street in Greenwich, Connecticut. Individuals and families may bring their ornament to the cemetery office to be placed on the tree or choose a complimentary ornament to be placed in honor of their loved one.

The public is invited to join us for the lighting of the remembrance tree which will include a special blessing, music, and complimentary refreshments

on Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 5-7 pm.

This is a family friendly event and the opportunity is open to all families in the community who have experienced a loss and wish to honor a loved one during the holiday season regardless if your loved one is with us or not.

Rooted and Grateful in Greenwich



BY HEATHER WRIGHT

In this season of giving thanks, I am counting my blessings. Each year, two things on my list are my extended family and this community. I grew up in Greenwich and so did my mother. In fact, five generations of our family have called this town home. It is the place that gave me roots and confidence to live in many other places and then return home 20 years ago to work in nonprofits and church ministry.

I asked my Mom, Betsy Parkinson, to reflect on her memories of growing up here in the 1950's.

Heather: Greenwich is a special community; how would you describe your experience of growing up here?

Betsy: It was a wonderful place to grow up, with a friendly small-town feel. There were many family-run stores, and you knew everyone. Greenwich Avenue was

a 2-way street then, and you could always find a parking spot!

Volunteerism has always been a hallmark of Greenwich. Many services and organizations, started by creative and dedicated volunteers, have added to the quality of life here and are now an integral part of the town. Being a Candy Striper at Greenwich Hospital was a rite of passage for young girls and set us on the important path of volunteerism.

Just driving around, I come upon so many places in town that evoke memories of various family members past and present. Our first home in Greenwich was just off North Street. My grandfather loved working in our large vegetable and flower garden. I remember the day a workman at our house said in horror to my mother, "Your gardener just helped himself to a drink from your refrigerator and is watching television!"

My mother was the volunteer manager of the Gift Shop at Greenwich Hospital for many years. She delighted in finding new treasures for the shop, one being a collection of Santons from France. It's not surprising that collecting Santons became an inter-generational family passion. While my mother was in the Gift

I grew up in Greenwich and so did my mother. In fact, five generations of our family have called this town home.

Shop, my aunt was down the hall managing the hospital's Service Shop. Who can forget those special brownies? Heather, I know you served there as a Candy Striper in junior high school as well.

When waiting to get out of our driveway, my dad often commented on the challenging North Street "parade", which meant he had to wait for 3 cars to go by. We often say "what would he think of the North Street "parade" now!"

I attended North Street School and have fond memories of what was the most modern-looking school in town. Years later I was back there as a Brownie and Cub Scout leader for my children and their friends.

GCDS has been an important part of our Greenwich experience. When our 3 children were there, I often helped make costumes for the plays. Years later my daughter-in-law was doing the same thing when six of our grandchildren were in school there.

Two granddaughters went

to Stanwich School, so we have many wonderful memories of being there with them and are awestruck now by the new GCDS high school in its place.

Greenwich High School brings to mind many hours spent there when you and your two siblings were student, and I served as President of the GHS PTA. We have spent time there again recently for events and graduations for grandchildren. Greenwich is so much a part of our family's history that it is in every sense of the word, "home."

Heather: This place is rich with memories of the past and we continue to build on them year after year. The past is still in some ways present and gives us security about the future. I am so glad that my children have had their own experiences in places that mattered to us growing up.

As with any community there are challenges that come growing up in a successful, competitive suburb of NYC. Our lives are fast-paced and pressured. I am so

grateful that you and Dad gave me the gift of faith, which, on my best days, keeps me grounded and rooted. You have taught me in word, deed and witness that faith in God, participating in our local church, serving those nearby and far away is part of our calling in life. It is our responsibility to give thanks at all times and circumstances to the Creator who set all this in motion and has a purpose for everything under heaven.

Where do you see the connection between faith and living in this community?

Betsy: There are many wonderful houses of worship in Greenwich. As teenagers, my friends and I loved going to the midnight Christmas Eve service at Christ Church. Through First Presbyterian, I went on many mission trips to rural Maine. I am glad that you and your siblings also had that same life-changing experience. I was fortunate to go to Rosemary Hall when it was in Greenwich on Lake Avenue, now the new Brunswick School's Pre School campus. There we had chapel every morning in beautiful St. Bede's. That had such an impact on me personally and on so many of my classmates. It is still mentioned as an important

Rosemary memory at class reunions.

Stanwich Church has been foundational, instructive, and important for our whole family. There are many reasons we would not want to move from Greenwich, and Stanwich is one of them.

Sometimes during the magical spring or breathtaking fall, I take the long way around to get where I'm going, just so I can drink in the beauty that is Greenwich. The words of the Psalmist always come to mind: "...the boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places, surely I have a delightful inheritance. I will praise the Lord..." (Psalm 16:6)

Heather: I agree with your reflection on the beauty of spring and fall in our town. For those of us who call this town "home," our boundary lines truly have fallen in pleasant places. This Thanksgiving, we can give thanks for where God has placed us, the roots that form us and the faith that grounds us.

The Rev. Dr. Heather Wright is a Transitional Co-Lead Pastor at Stanwich Church. She is also a licensed therapist, board certified chaplain and author of four books. For more information, visit heatherwright.com.

Worship Directory and Services

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Harvest Time Church
1338 King St., 203-531-7778
www.htchurch.com

Worship Services: Sun, 9 & 10:45am. All services are streamed on the church's website and YouTube channel. In addition to Sundays, there are also groups for children and teens on Wednesday evenings. *Men's Breakfast: November 23, 8:30am. Young Adults Friendsgiving: November 24, 6pm.*

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church
10 Northfield St.,
203-869-7988

www.firstbaptistgreenwich.com

Sunday Servings: 11:30am, Facebook Live or for Devotion: 11-11:25am (Dial in 701-802-5355, Access code 360922).

Greenwich Baptist Church

10 Indian Rock Ln,
203-869-2807

www.greenwichbaptist.org

Worship: Sun, 11am (in person and online through Facebook & YouTube). Children Sunday School: 9:30am, ages 9-14. Adult Bible Study: Sun, 9:30am, Fellowship Hall. Prayer Gathering: Wed, 7pm, Pastor's Office or virtual on Google Meets.

CATHOLIC

Sacred Heart Church
95 Henry St.; 203-531-8730

www.sacredheartgreenwich.org

Mass: Mon-Fri, 7am (in the Chapel); Saturday Vigil, 4pm (in Church); Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confessions: Sat, 3-3:30pm or by appointment. Divine Mercy Prayer Group: Wed, 7-9pm. Prayer Group: Thu, 4-5pm, in the Chapel, 38 Gold St. All are welcome. Ministry to the Homebound: if you, or someone you know, is homebound and would like a priest visit you, call the Rectory at 203-531-8730. Stations of the Cross: All Fridays during Lent, 6:30pm, in the Church, All are welcome. *Thanksgiving Day Mass: 9am, in the Church. Ministry Appreciation Christmas Dinner: Dec. 2, 6pm.*

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* All Masses at St. Catherine of Siena Church are in-person and livestreamed (View our Livestream and recordings here: <https://events.localive.tv/worship/stc-sta>)

Masses: Saturday, 3-4pm - Confessions (Specific dates confirmed weekly in bulletin.) Vigil Mass, 5pm. Sunday: 7:30am, 9am (Family Mass), 10:30am (Traditional Mass), 5pm (Teen Mass), all at St. Catherine's Church). Masses in other Languages: French Mass - 2nd Sunday of the month, 11am. Italian Mass - 3rd Sunday of the month, both at St. Catherine's Chapel. Spanish Mass, 6:30pm, St. Catherine's Church. Daily/Weekdays: Mon, Tue, Thu & Friday: 7am - Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Church; 5:15pm - Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Chapel. Tuesdays: Rosary, 6pm, St. Catherine's Chapel. Wednesdays: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30am-4pm, St. Catherine's Church. Ongoing: Food & Essentials Drive for Neighbor to Neighbor (there will be a car or SUV with an open trunk in the parking lot across from St. Catherine's church on Tuesdays, 9-11am. Join Music Ministries for choir rehearsals - Traditional, Contemporary, Teen, Cherub, Family Mass Choir - contact Music Director, Dr. Liya Petrides at music.director@stc-sta.org with questions. Walking with Purpose: Thursdays,

through March 28, 10-11:30am (off Feb. 15 & March 14), stc-sta.org/walking-with-purpose. New Day Bereavement: starts March 5 (There's no cost and you need not be a member of the Parish of St. Catherine and St. Agnes or even Catholic, you just need to be registered. If inter ested, please contact Parish Partners at (203-637-3661, ext. 375). *"Deck the Halls" - soprano and organ recital: Dec. 1, 2:30PM, FREE.*

St. Mary Church

178 Greenwich Ave.,
203-869-9393

www.stmarygreenwich.org

Public Mass: Sun: 9, 10:30am, 12:15 & 5:15pm. Sat Vigils: 4 & 7pm (Spanish). Daily: Mon-Fri, 12:05pm (Church doors will open from 10am-3pm). Confessions (English): Tue: 7-8pm; Sat: 3-3:45pm. Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Fri of the month: 12:30-5pm. *St. Mary Guild's Annual Christmas Luncheon: Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1pm, at Zody's 19th Hole in Stamford; A check for \$50 made payable to St. Mary Church, should be mailed to Mary Wade, 224 Milbank Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830 or left at the Parish Center by Friday, Dec. 6; for questions, please call Peggy Griffin at 203-629-0951.*

St. Michael the Archangel
469 North St.; 203-869-5421

www.stmichaelgreenwich.com

Mass: Mon-Fri: 7:30 & 9am. Sat: 9am & 5pm. Sun: 7:30, 8:30, 9:45am, 12 & 5pm. Confession: Sat: 4:15-4:45pm; Wed: 9:30-11am & 6:30-8pm. Eucharistic Adoration: Wed, 9:30am-8pm. New Day Bereavement Program: through Nov. 17, Thu, 7-8:30pm & through Nov. 30 (skipping Nov. 23). Wed, 4-5:30pm, 203-869-5421. *Thanksgiving Drive: through November 25. Mass for Thanksgiving: Tuesday, Nov. 26, 9am. Advent by Candlelight: Wednesday, Dec. 4, 6pm.*

St. Timothy Chapel

1034 North St.; 203-869-5421

Mass: Sat: 4pm (Vigil Mass). Sun: 11am.

St. Paul Church

84 Sherwood Ave.; 203-531-8741
www.stpaulgreenwich.org

Mass: Mon-Thu: 9am; Sat: 4pm (Vigil); Sun: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confession: Sat, 3-3:45pm. Mass on Holy Days: Vigil: 5:30pm, 9am & 12:15pm. Visit the website for information regarding the Bereavement Group (twice monthly) and weekly volunteer opportunities at the Don Bosco Kitchen and Food Pantry with the St. Paul Mercy Volunteers. All masses are available via livestream through the website. Evenings For Married Couples: 1st Thurs of every month, 7:30pm. *Christmas Angel Giving Tree: begins the weekend of November 23-24. Women's Guild Christmas Cookie Bake Sale: weekend of Dec. 7 & 8, in the connector after all masses. We invite all bakers in the parish to contribute their favorite baked goods to the sale. These baked goods can be dropped off at the connector anytime after 1:30 on Saturday, Dec. 7. Journey to Bethlehem - Women's Advent Retreat: Saturday, Dec. 7, 9am-12pm, \$25.*

St. Roch Church

10 St. Roch Ave; 203-869-4176
www.strochchurch.com

Mass: (Reservations and/or for viewing via live streaming): Mon-Fri: 7:30pm; Sat: 5pm; Sun: 7:30am (Concelebrated for Previously Scheduled 9:30am Mass Intentions), 10:30am, 12pm (Spanish). Mass Intentions: consult bulletin@stc-sta.org with questions. Walking with Purpose: Thursdays,

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist
11 Park Pl; 203-869-1555
christiansciencet.org/greenwich

Sundays: 10:30am. Sunday School: for students up to 20yrs, 10:30am, Wed. 7:30, testimonies of healing - call in for all services 203-680-9095 code 520520*. Reading Room, 333 Greenwich Ave. 203-869-2503, M-F, 11-3, some Saturdays. Bibles and children's books for sale.

COMMUNITY

First Church of Round Hill

464 Round Hill Rd;
203-629-3876

www.firstchurchofroundhill.com

In-person worship: Sundays, 10am.

Round Hill Community Church

395 Round Hill Rd;
203-869-1091

www.roundhillcommunitychurch.org

Weekly Sunday Worship services in the Sanctuary at 10am or online at roundhillcommunitychurch.org anytime. Children's Worship (grades K-5) meets during the 10 am service. Please call the Church Office or visit the website for the most up-to-date information, events, and schedules. Tools for Aging Well, 2nd Wednesday of the Month, 11am-12pm, Sanctuary. *Round Hill Art & Craft Studio: Mondays, 1-4pm.*

CONGREGATIONAL

The First Congregational Church
108 Sound Beach Ave;
203-637-1791

www.fccog.org

Worship: In-Person & Virtual: Sundays, 10am. Live-streaming on YouTube and Facebook, and broadcast on WGH (1490 AM). Connect during the week: Friday: Friday Email Blast (sign up by calling the church office); Church school before worship most Sundays, 9am for preschoolers through grade 6. Online programming available via Zoom. A joyful community diverse in spiritual backgrounds and beliefs. *The Giving Tree: through November 24. Harvest Sunday: Sunday, Nov. 24, 10-11am.*

North Greenwich Congregational
606 Riversville Rd; 203-869-7763
(Instagram photos and videos @ [north_greenwich_church](https://www.instagram.com/north_greenwich_church))

Worship Service: Sun, 10:30am, in person.

Second Congregational Church
139 E Putnam Ave;
203-869-9311

www.2cc.org

Sunday worship: 8:30 & 10:30am. Children's Chapel during worship. *Teddy Bear Story Hour: Saturday, Nov. 23, 8am, Coffee for Good. Christmas Piano Serenade: Sunday, Dec. 1, 5:30pm (free admission). Gingerbread Workshop: Saturday, Dec. 14, 10am (\$35/house, reservations required). Christmas Eve Worship: Tuesday, Dec. 24: Family Service, 3:30pm, Festival Service, 6:30pm & Candlelight Service, 11pm.*

EPISCOPAL

Anglican Church of the Advent
606 Riversville Rd; 203-861-2432
[facebook.com/greenwichanglican](https://www.facebook.com/greenwichanglican)

Service: Sun, 9am, Holy Eucharist. Sunday School during academic year.

Christ Church Greenwich

254 E. Putnam Ave;
203-869-6600

www.christchurchgreenwich.org

Holy Eucharist: Sundays, 8am, In-person only, Chapel. Messy Church Eucharist: every Sund, 9am, In-person only, Parish Hall. Holy Eucharist: 10am, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary, Children's Chapel during the service. Choral Evensong or Sung Compliance: In-person or livestream, 5pm. Wednesdays: Preach and Teach Eucharist (new time for this mid-week service), 12:15pm, In-person only Chapel. Thursdays: Choral Evensong, 6:30pm, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary. *Youth Confirmation: Sundays, Sept. 15 - June 7, 11:15am-12:15pm. The Disciples of Christ in Community: Tuesdays, Sept. 17 - Nov. 19, 7-8:30pm. Outreach Winter Clothing Drive: through November 22. Sunday, Dec 1: Advent Wreath Making, 11:15am; Advent Procession with Carols, 5pm; Annual Tree Lighting, 6pm. Annual Christmas Tea: Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2pm. Old-Fashioned Christmas Party and Sing-Along with Randall Atcheson: Friday, Dec. 6, 5:30pm. Volunteer: Winter Treat boxes: Saturday, Dec. 7, 8:30-10am.*

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church
954 Lake Ave.; 203-661-5526
www.stbarnabasgreenwich.org

Holy Eucharist: Sundays, 10am (in person & livestreamed). *Join us as we celebrate all the new beginnings brought by the fall in the company of one another and of our Lord. Every Sunday features joyful preaching by our clergy, Father Justin and Rev. Phoebe, beautiful music by our director of music, Marnus Greyling, and the St. Barnabas Choir, and a warm welcome for kids and parents. Our exciting Sunday School programs for kids take place every Sunday during the 10am service: Children's Church for kids 4-8 years old, and YC (Youth Church) for those 9+. Children are also always welcome in church, and childcare is provided all morning in our nursery. Come kick off your fall in faith. Visit us in person, on our website, and on social media (Instagram: @st.barnabasgreenwich). Small church feel - Big church experience.*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
200 Riverside Ave.;
203-637-2447

www.stpaulsriverside.org

Worship: Sundays, 10:15am (in person and streaming). Coffee hour immediately following worship service in Selleck Hall. Sunday School (including frolic Fatih class for toddlers 2+) in the Children's Chapel downstairs - drop-off starts at 10am. Ongoing: Neighbor-to-Neighbor food drive box by office door. Pick-up is every Thursday morning. *"Picturing Mary: A documentary on iconography of images of Mary with discussion led by Bill Baker, executive producer: Thursday, Dec. 5 - Dinner will be served at 6pm, with program beginning at 6:30. RSVP by Dec. 2 to ann.post@riverside.org.*

St. Saviour's Episcopal Church
350 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-2262

www.saintsaviours.org

In-person Service: Sundays, 10am.

JEWISH

Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich
75 Mason St.; 203-629-9059
www.chabadgreenwich.org

Please visit our website for details on Shabbat services, classes, programs and more. Judaism 101 for Moms: Thursdays, 9:20am.

Congregation Shir Ami

One W. Putnam Ave;
203-274-5376

www.congregationshirami.org

All services, programs and celebrations are available online via Zoom. Kabbalat Shabbat: Fridays, 7-8:30pm, First Presbyterian Church. Soul Spa - Torah Study: Saturdays, 10-11:30am, on Zoom. *From Age-ing to Sage-ing - A Revolutionary Approach to Getting Older: Tuesday, Nov 26, 7-9pm.*

Greenwich Reform Synagogue

92 Orchard St.; 203-629-0018
www.grs.org

Join Rabbi Bernard and Cantor Rubin every Friday, 6pm for Shabbat Services, and once a month for Tot Shabbat, 5:30pm. All in person services are also live streamed on Zoom. *Red Cross Blood Drive: Dec. 2, 1:30-6:30pm.*

Temple Shalom

300 E. Putnam Ave.;
203-869-7191

www.templeshalom.com

Services - In-person and virtual Friday night Shabbat services, 6:30pm & Saturday morning Shabbat services, 10:30am. *Itsy Bitsy Playgroup: Fall Session: Fridays, Sept. 6-Nov. 22*, 9:15am. Teen Thanksgiving Cooking Volunteer Opportunity: Monday, Nov. 25, 6:30pm. Social Walking Group for Adults: Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1:30pm, at Cos Cob Park. Together Shabbat for Young Families: Friday, Dec. 6, 5:30pm.*

LUTHERAN

St. Paul Lutheran Church

286 Delavan Ave.;
203-531-8466

www.firstpaul.com

Sunday Divine Service: 9am. Sunday Bible Study: 10:30am. Wednesday Dinner: 5:30pm. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm.

METHODIST

Diamond Hill United Methodist

521 E. Putnam Ave.;
203-869-2395

www.diamondhillumc.com

In-person & Online Worship Service every Sunday, 10am, followed by a time of Fellowship. Wednesday Noonday Prayer & Wednesday Evening Bible Study. (Details at diamondhill.com).

First United Methodist Church

59 E. Putnam Ave.; 203-629-9584
www.fumcgreenwich.com

Sunday Worship, 9:30am (except the last Sunday of the month at 10:30am). Virtual Daily Gathering: Mon-Fri, 3pm, Zoom. Talking with Your Hands: Mon, 3pm. Reading this World as a Christian: Tue, 3pm. Back to Rock - music with Mr. Bruce: Tue, 3pm, via Zoom. Reading the Shape of Scripture: Wed, 3pm, via Zoom. Spring Bible Study: Thu, 3pm, via Zoom. Tea & Talk: Fri 3pm, via Zoom.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal

42 Lake Ave.; 203-661-3099

Worship via teleconference: Sun, 11am and until further notice (Dial-in number: 425-436-6380, Access code: 612220).

NONDENOMINATIONAL

Dingletown Community Church

376 Stanwich Rd., at Barnstable Lane

Sunday Service: 10:30am. Philip Antinone - Chaplain.

Revive Church

90 Harding Rd., Old Greenwich (Old Greenwich Civic Center)
www.revive.org

Worship Service: Sun, 10am, Holiday Inn 980 Hope St, Stamford. Online Sermons available on Facebook (facebook.com/myrevivechurchgreenwich) and on YouTube. All groups are online. Direct any prayer needs to the prayer chain at 203-536-2686 or revivecfm@gmail.com.

Stanwich Church

202 Taconic Rd.; 203-661-4420
www.stanwichchurch.org

Sunday Morning Worship Service: 9am & 10:45am. Kids Ministry for grades 5 and under, and Student Ministry for grades 6 and above, are offered. Live stream and recorded media are available at stanwichchurch.org. We'd love to meet you here!

Center for Spiritual Development, NSAC

293 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-4615

www.Center4SpiritualDev.org

Sunday Service (hybrid: in-person & virtually on zoom): 7pm. Virtual Children's Lyceum (ages 5-14): 3rd Sunday of the month, 10-10:40am. Healing Service: 3rd Thursday of the month,

Historical Society Celebrates Community and Area History in Family-Friendly Holiday Events

Greenwich Historical Society is decking its halls to welcome the holidays with a series of events for all age groups to cherish. The sprawling Cos Cob campus on the banks of the Mianus River will sparkle with festive lighting and decorations beloved by residents and people throughout Fairfield and Westchester County who appreciate the beauty and variety of activities.

“Our events are strengthened by collaborations with area organizations whose talents will be on display,” says Historical Society Executive Director and CEO Debra Mecky. “It’s all about community that is integral to our mission and values. This collective effort will result in a memorable and rewarding season for residents to savor and reflect on the marvelous history and traditions that make the holidays in Greenwich so special.”

LOCAL PARTNERS DONATE TO FESTIVAL OF TABLETOP TREES

The countdown is underway as decorated trees are dropped off for the sixth annual festival and auction that takes place December 4th through December 7th.

“Each year the bar for creativity is raised as more organizations eagerly sign up to donate trees that reflect their unique style,” says Historical Society Museum Store Manager Barbara Johann. “Our lobby will become a veritable winter wonderland, filled with 34 hand crafted trees, imaginatively decorated by participating retailers, non-profits, garden centers and designers for our silent auction, the proceeds of which will benefit Historical Society programs.”

Trees will be on display in the lobby for previewing at an opening reception, Tuesday, December 3rd, from 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Beginning Wednesday, December 4th – Saturday, December 7th, trees can be purchased or bid on through a silent auction. Prizes will be awarded in various categories by a panel of judges.

The Museum Store is open for shopping and refreshments while browsing trees. A collection of distinctive gifts, including jewelry, fashion and home accessories, books, children’s items and Greenwich-themed gifts will appeal to discerning shoppers.

GREENWICH COUNTRY CLUB PROVIDES LUXURIOUS SETTING FOR HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Artisans and purveyors of fine gifts from Europe, the Hamptons, NYC and the Greenwich region will offer distinctive gift ideas for all ages. An opening night reception kicks off shopping on Wednesday, December 4th from 5:30 – 8 pm in the Club’s

elegant ballroom. The boutique is open Thursday, December 5th from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm.

“We know what Greenwich-area residents favor and we’re confident attendees will find something for everyone on their list, whether it’s luxurious fashion and home accessories, exquisite fine and costume jewelry, culinary goods, holiday decorations or charming gifts for children,” says Historical Society Director of Special Events Daniel Suozzo.”

Several new local businesses will be featured, among them is Old Greenwich’s The Village Ewe, one of the premier needlepoint shops in the country. Owner Heather McNally and her staff have assembled a magical selection of holiday-themed designs: “We have canvases for every skill level, including some great child and adult beginner kits that would be a perfect



Children pose with Santa at Holiday Festival



Members of the Japan Society of Fairfield County and the ObiObi volunteer group joyfully decorate their donation to Festival of Tabletop Trees. Japan Society’s tree in 2023 won Best in Show.

gift for the new stitchers,” says McNally.

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL: TRADITION, HISTORY AND CLASSIC FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

Festive activities that generations of families have enjoyed return to the campus, including photos with Santa, visits to the Historic Barn, complete with gingerbread decorating and crafts in Santa’s workshop, ice sculpture, tasty treats and yuletide carolers. Historical references to the war for independence in honor of the exhibition: Greenwich During the Revolutionary War: A Frontier Town on the Front Line, will educate, entertain and inspire, and families will be invited to view the exhibition to enhance their festival experience. The festival is on Saturday,

December 7th from 4 to 7 pm.

CHRISTMAS IN COS COB: BUSH-HOLLEY TOURS FOR EARLY GREENWICH TRADITIONS

Visitors will enjoy a festive walk through of this e National Historic Landmark home beautifully decorated for Christmas the way it was when the Bush and Holley families resided there during the 18th and 19th centuries. Docents in period costumes will share stories of their holiday celebrations and the Holley’s artists friends during the era of the Cos Cob Art Colony. Tours are appropriate for adults and families with children ages five and older and take place on Saturdays and Sundays in December. Reservations are required.

Proceeds from all Greenwich Historical Society holiday activities



Bush-Holley House decorated for Christmas in Cos Cob at the time of the Cos Cob Art Colony



The Village Ewe’s Heather McNally and Historical Society’s Daniel Suozzo view canvases for Holiday Boutique

provide critical funding for arts, education and preservation programs. “As we are not funded by the town, support for our holiday events is instrumental in ensuring these programs continue to benefit the community for years to come,” says Mecky. For more information on all holiday activities and to register for Holiday Festival: www.greenwichhistory.org

Historical Society and Oral History Project Collaborate to Share Stories from WWI & WWII Veterans

In a tribute to Veterans Day, the Greenwich Historical Society and the Greenwich Library Oral History Project will provide a fascinating exploration of Greenwich residents’ experiences during some of the most trying times in America’s history. The Oral History Project brings to life personal accounts and perspectives of residents who served overseas on the frontlines and those who stayed on the home front during WWI and WWII.

The oral histories will be presented by members of the Oral History Project at the Historical Society on November 20th from 10:30 – noon.

Participants will hear stories of how Greenwich individuals celebrated Armistice Day in 1918; how a resident was flown to Normandy in 1944 on the orders of General Dwight D. Eisenhower to test out his new radar invention, and numerous other first-hand accounts of residents’ experiences in these major global conflicts that had a defining effect on the world.

“These were unprecedented wars, the largest and deadliest military conflicts in history that claimed the lives of over 500,000 Americans and more than 75 million globally,” says Historical Society Director of Library and Archives Christopher Shields. “We are honored to collaborate with Greenwich Library’s Oral History Project in sharing personal narratives of our residents who sacrificed so much for our country. The Oral History Project ensures their stories will be told and preserved for future generations.”

Immediately following the oral histories, attendees are invited to a complimentary guided tour of the Historical Society’s current exhibition Greenwich During the Revolutionary War: A Frontier Town on the Front Line



Business Girls Brigade parade on Greenwich Avenue during WWI, provided with permission from Greenwich Historical Society Archives.

to learn and reflect on how residents lived through one of the country’s first and most significant home fronts: the fight for independence. For more information and to register: <https://greenwichhistory.org/event/frontlines-ww-oral-histories/>

Encore showing of film depicting tragic loss at sea of Rohna Classified

Due to overwhelming demand, a second viewing of HMT Rohna Classified will take place Tuesday, November 26th, at Greenwich Historical Society. The documentary sheds a spotlight on the captivating story of the HMT Rohna, a British transport ship carrying 2,000 U.S. soldiers journeying to China to aid in their war efforts against Japan in WWII.

The ship was destroyed by a German assault from one of the first

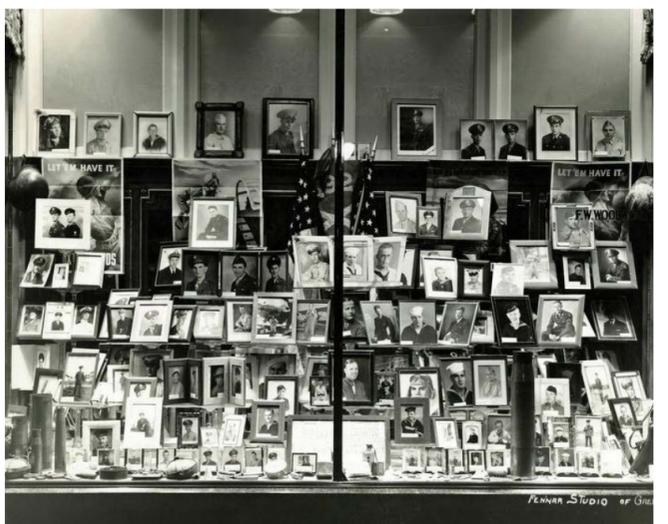
radio-guided missiles in war history, culminating in the loss of 1,015 U.S. soldiers, among them 16 from Connecticut, including Greenwich native John Campbell Moore. It remains the most significant loss of soldiers at sea in U.S. naval history. The documentary examines why the casualties were so high and explores the circumstances that concealed it from common knowledge.

Screening is free; registration is required. To register: <https://greenwichhistory.org/event/due-to-popular-demand-second-screening-of-rohna-classified/>.

To view the documentary trailer: <https://www.rohnaclassified.com/>.

About Greenwich Library Oral History Project

Began in 1973 as a one-year project of the Greenwich Historical Society,



Woolworths on Greenwich Ave: Window is a tribute to WWII veterans. Provided with permission courtesy of Greenwich Historical Society Archives.

the Oral History Project was invited to Greenwich Library in 1974 by then-director Nolan Lushington. He asked the OHP to produce books as the library’s contribution to the town for the Bicentennial in 1976. Since 1974, the Project has been a permanent committee of the Friends of Greenwich Library. OHP is staffed by volunteers, and new members are always welcome. Find out more here.

About Greenwich Historical Society
Greenwich Historical Society was founded in 1931 to preserve and interpret Greenwich history to strengthen the community’s connection to our past, to each other and to our future. The circa 1730 National Historic Landmark Bush-Holley House witnessed slavery and

the American Revolution and became the site of Connecticut’s first American Impressionist art colony from 1890 to 1920. Its landscape and gardens are restored based on documentation from the site’s Impressionist era. The campus also includes a nationally accredited museum, library and archives, a museum store, café, and a community education center. Greenwich Historical Society educates thousands of school children annually and connects visitors to the history of this globally influential community through exhibitions, lectures, programs and events. It receives no town funding and relies on donations and grants to continue its work in education and preservation. Learn more at greenwichhistory.org.

COLUMN: CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS OF THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Dr. Lee Losee Davenport and the Development of Radar in World War II

BY MARY A. JACOBSON

In November 1940 Lee Losee Davenport, a twenty-five-year-old PhD student in physics at the University of Pittsburgh, received a call from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology "about a secret project . . . he couldn't tell me what it was, but he wanted me up there immediately."

The group at MIT consisted of thirty college professors, "heads of physics departments of important colleges here, as far west as Chicago." They called themselves the "Radiation Lab," a cover name to hide the real purpose of their study, to develop anti-aircraft radar. Davenport came to the conclusion that he was included in this elite group because he had worked with one of the professors from the University of Pittsburgh who knew that "I was responsible at Pitt for making some of the most complex equipment for my thesis." Davenport continued, "My role in this project was to get this thing built... the think tank was the idea men, the Einstein-type people... How to reduce that thought into a piece of machinery, or a piece of radio equipment, was up to other people, and I think that is one of the reasons I was chosen... I built x-ray tubes and so on. And I think he viewed me as a scientist who knows how to build things."

Dr. Davenport was interviewed by Oral History Project volunteer Janet T. Klion in 2008 at the age of 93. He described his experiences as a member of the Radiation Lab, and their invaluable contributions to the development of anti-aircraft radar, instrumental in the Allied victory in World War II.

As Davenport described it, the secret tasks of the Radiation Lab were twofold. "Firstly, to take a magnetron... and see if you could make a radar device small enough to fit in the nose of an airplane. In that way they hoped to be able to find the German fighter planes or bombers at night, that had been bombing London with serious damage."

Davenport was assigned to Project Two, "to see if you could make a radar system that could operate in all weather, pick out airplanes - a single airplane - and follow it automatically so that it would be accurately possible to aim an anti-aircraft gun at the plane and shoot it down."

RADAR, the acronym which stands for Radio Direction-finding and Range, "travels at the speed of light . . . and you have to measure time to that accuracy

to be able to find out how far it is. You have about a hundred-millionths of a second to measure the time." After three months of work on the project with radar, it was possible to find an airplane. "In May of 1941, seven months before Pearl Harbor, "we had a system that worked on the roof of MIT, which we could follow an airplane with, track it automatically, follow that plane without human help."

The Signal Corps was impressed with this equipment and gave instructions for it to be transported to the Fort Hancock Proving Grounds in New Jersey. To do so, it was necessary to fit the apparatus into the body of a truck. "I drove it down myself, on the Merritt Parkway with an armed guard sitting alongside me." It was tested on December 7, 1941, and "we had a working machine." After a few changes, it was sent to the headquarters for the anti-aircraft command in Virginia. After additional tests, the military decided to buy it "right then and there." The project was now named SCR 584 (Signal Corps Radio 584) and General Electric and Westinghouse were instructed to each build 1700 of them. The instructions to these companies were, "Don't change a thing. You're to reproduce exactly what the Radiation Lab people are showing to you, and we want them right away."

The first practical use of this anti-aircraft device "occurred in England. One of them was shipped over. I was over there with it, and a German aircraft came over Scotland, and we knocked him out of the sky, right away." Its first use in combat occurred "at the Anzio beachhead (in Italy in early 1944) when "the two 584-directed gun batteries shot down nine out of the twelve planes that the Germans had tried to use."

The most significant use of SCR 584 occurred on D-Day, June 6, 1944 "when we invaded the Normandy coast." The challenge was to get the equipment there to protect our troops. "Now that was a major effort. This is a semi-trailer loaded with equipment, and they had to get them ashore at, or a day after D-Day." Nineteen of them were waterproofed in Wales to be floated ashore. "I was there to design and work that out and they did get ashore very promptly and helped to defend our troops. We knocked down a lot of planes." By the time the war ended, "we were tracking our own airplanes... and I was working on beacons and other systems which we used to steer them, with maps inside the 584s." Overall,



Interior view of the SCR 584 radar tracker that guided pilots to their targets. Contributed photo.

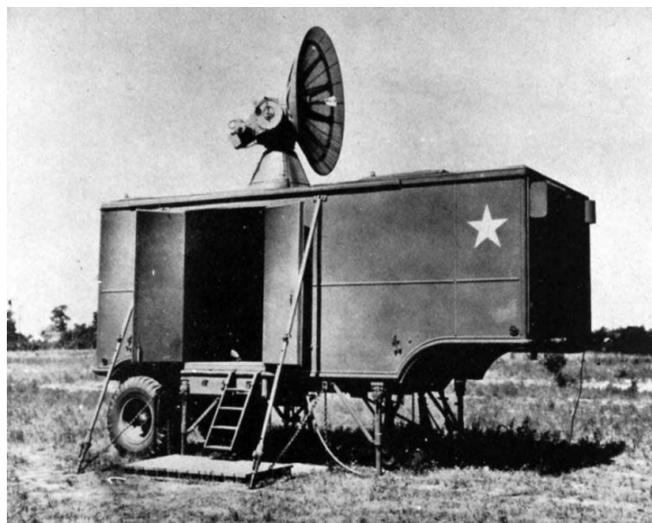
"It was luck that I got singled out to go to the Radiation Lab."



Dr. Lee Losee Davenport with World War II identification and memorabilia. Courtesy of the Oral History Project.

Davenport concluded "that about a thousand German aircraft were knocked down by anti-aircraft fire, all of which was directed by SCR 584 radars... After that, they became used widely everywhere in the Pacific."

Before joining the Radiation Lab at MIT in 1940, Lee Losee Davenport had completed his course requirements for his doctorate at the University of Pittsburgh but had not written his thesis. In 1946, The University of Pittsburgh



Exterior view of SCR 584 (Signal Corps Radio 584). Contributed photo.

granted Davenport a PhD based on his classified work at MIT. "So, I got a PhD on a secret project, and it was a secret for twenty-five years after World War II ended." Davenport mused: "I have been the luckiest guy in the world. It was luck that I got singled out to go to the Radiation Lab."

The interview "Radar Development

in World War II" may be read in its entirety at the main library. It is also available for purchase by contacting the OHP office. The OHP is sponsored by the Friends of Greenwich Library. Visit the website at glohistory.org. Our narrator's recollections are personal and have not been subjected to factual scrutiny. Mary Jacobson serves as blog editor.

COLUMN: ON MY WATCH

A Tale of the Titanic and My Ties with the Life of William F. Buckley, Jr.

BY ANNE W. SEMMES

Before telling this tale, I must express my gratitude that my great great uncle Thomas J. Semmes, a railroad builder in Mexico City and his wife Margaret held that dinner party that would connect William F. Buckley Sr. to the woman he would marry Aloise Steiner of New Orleans. Thus, bringing into the world the subject of my story, William F. Buckley, Jr.

The story shared by my distant cousin Shelby Semmes was the senior Buckley and a brother both in the oil business were invited, and arriving with guns on their hips, were told before sitting at table "to put their guns on the piano." Also present was Aloise's visiting married sister Vivian Steiner who upon learning of William Buckley's planned trip to New Orleans would recommend he look up her sister Aloise.

Fast forward to November 2021 to my invite to visit Stockton Rush's submersible "Titan" parked at the Greenwich Water Club he wished to take four paying guests down to the RMS Titanic each for the price of a quarter of a million dollars. I sat inside that submersible with Rush and three curious others. A year and a half later - in June of 2023 - that submersible imploded arriving at the Titanic site killing all five including Stockton Rush.

That Titanic wreck, by the way, was first found in 1985 by US Navy oceanographer scuba diver Bob Ballard, of Lyme, CT, via his deep sea underwater robot craft, the Argo, searching the ocean floor two plus miles below. Its discovery would lead to a bevy of explorers.

By 1987 the numbers of those exploring the Titanic site would cause U.S. Senator Lowell Weicker to bring forth legislation stating, "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no object from the RMS Titanic may be imported into the customs territory of the U.S. for the purpose of commercial gain after the date of enactment of this act."

Enter Stamford resident William F. Buckley, Jr. protesting that legislation with a column in his "National Review" magazine. "If the Weicker vow were to be universalized, would we need to return to the Pyramids everything that has been taken from them? Some of the treasures from the Pyramids reside in museums.

I for one admire the enterprise of the consortium that is spending much of the summer retrieving from utter uselessness artifacts that for some people exercise an alluring historical appeal." He'd added, "Wouldn't want one myself..."

Soon after expressing these sentiments in his column that appeared in August of 1987 William F. Buckley Jr. would surprisingly be invited down to the Titanic via the Nautilie, "a little submarine" built of titanium, of "six feet in diameter at its widest point and weighing only 18 tons." He being the only passenger with the pilot and co-pilot! At no charge!

Buckley would write a memorable, if meandering piece, "Down to the Great Ship" of that voyage in the "New York Times" in October of 1987. He described entering the Nautilie, "The chief pilot occupies the berth on the port side. Behind him, sitting on an abbreviated chair, is the co-pilot. The starboard berth is for the 'observer,' in this case me. Each of us has a porthole built of one-foot-thick plastic."

He continued, "The co-pilot has two sets of 8-inch television screens. The first set looks ahead via remote video, one camera video trained to look dead ahead, the other, to pivot. The second set of videos portrays at close range and at longer range the exact operation of the mechanical arms operating from the side of the Nautilie, designed to pick up objects from the seabed. With aid of the video, the operator can exactly instruct the arms."

"The overhead hatch is now tightly sealed, and as you look about you, you close your eyes slowly, hoping this will not be the moment you contract claustrophobia...The descent begins...To descend two and a half miles to the ocean floor, the Nautilie takes 90 minutes, which means a descent at just less than 1.66 miles per hour. You try to sit up, which requires you to raise your knees six inches or so - there is no room to stretch them out. You have been advised not to eat breakfast, and dutifully you have not."

And then, "We are in place, standing guard by our portholes. The lights flash on. Nothing to see, though the water is startlingly clear, diaphanous to the extent of our light's beam, an apparent 25-to-30 feet ahead, never mind that it is pitch dark out there... Then gradually, it happens: We descend slowly to what looks like a yellow-



Author, political commentator, and adventurous traveler, the late William F. Buckley, Jr. of Stamford, CT. Contributed photo.

"To descend two and a half miles to the ocean floor, the Nautilie takes 90 minutes, which means a descent at just less than 1.66 miles per hour."

white sandy beach, sprinkled with black rocklike objects. These are pieces of coal. There must be 100,000 of them in the area we survey, between the bow of the ship and the stern. On my left is a man's shoe... of suede of some sort... And then, just off to the right a few feet, a snow-white teacup."

And so, as a writer-producer on the NBC Today Show in 1987 I had the great pleasure of inviting William F. Buckley Jr. to the Show, after learning of his extraordinary travel.

When Buckley arrived, he was full of mischief as he had brought with him a curious item that appeared to be a

toothbrush holder. He was most secretive and said he would not reveal what he had brought until he was on camera with host Bryant Gumbel.

Camera! Action! Buckley, with his mischievous smile, opened the toothbrush holder and presented a pencil! Found at the Titanic site, the French divers wished to reward the famed (and brave) writer he was!

Buckley now possessed an artifact from the Titanic! And now with Buckley no longer with us, what has happened to that pencil? "For several years the pencil resided atop the mantel, in a little lucite case, with a caption, "Found aboard the

RMS Titanic," shared Buckley's son, Christopher, in a recent email. "He was very proud of it."

Years later Christopher would be gifted the pencil. And then, "I re-gifted it to my young daughter, who'd been smitten, and then some by the "Titanic" movie."

More years later Buckley wished for Christopher "to give it back...So I sent it back, and he put it back on display on the mantel." But "Shortly thereafter, a contractor working in the house stole it. WFB told his boss that he knew very well that he'd taken it. But the contractor denied it. Gone. Like the Titanic!"

Buy The Land Then Build The House, But Where?



BY MARK PRUNER

If you want to build a house, you need some land to build it on. This week you have a choice of 19 land listings and most of them are in the northern section of town. We have 7 listings in backcountry and 5 listings mid-country. We have one listing each in Byram, Cos Cob, Riverside and 2 in Old Greenwich.

Most of those “land” listings aren’t really land listings. Only 10 of the 19 are actually raw land listings. The other 9 properties actually have a house on them; They have just been dually listed as both residential and land listings, since the agent thinks that the house is likely a teardown.

On the sales side we have had 29 “land” sales this year. These land sales are where the land listings are with 15 of the 29 land sales being in backcountry and mid-country. We have also had 5 sales in central Greenwich and Chickahominy. Most other sections of town only have 1 or 2 sales.

Curiously, in a market this hot with such limited inventory, we have had 13 land listings expire. Of those, 4 were South of the Post Road, 3 were in backcountry and 2 were in Glenville. Price didn’t seem to be a factor with 3 expired listings under \$1 million, 4 between \$1 million and \$2 million, 3 in the \$2 – 5 million price and 3 over \$8 million.

Less than 1% is available for sale as land

As you can see there is not much land for sale in Greenwich, which is interesting given that Greenwich is the second largest town in Fairfield County after Newtown. Curiously, it’s hard to put an exact number on just how much land we have. Lots of websites use 47.83 square miles as the area of Greenwich, but a town annual report says 50.6 square miles. Wikipedia says 67.2 miles, but this includes the water. Luckily, the Realtors in town don’t sell much water, though for many years, the lowest priced listing in Greenwich was for a boat slip on the Mianus estuary, though it was listed as condominium.

As of this week we only have 19 land listings in Greenwich compared

Only 0.23% of the total land in Greenwich is available for sale as land.

with 134 listings for single family homes. The land listings total 71.7 acres, while the residential listings total 534 acres.

If we take the 47.83 square miles number and multiply it by 640 acres per square mile, we come up with 30,611 acres which is quite a bit of land. Divide that by the 71.7 acres that we have sale and only 0.23% of the total land in Greenwich is available for sale as land.

Interestingly, our land listings are very evenly spread throughout town from Banksville to Byram and Backcountry to Belle Haven. The average price for a land listing is lower, \$2.69 million versus a single family home listing of \$7.24 million. (Now if you’re like me, you probably asked yourself, how could our average list price be so high for a house. It’s because we have so little to sell at the low end. Our median/midpoint list price for a house is \$4.7 million. This means that half of our house listings are above that with many way above that price, pulling the average house list price up to \$7.24 million.)

Never developed land in Greenwich is a particularly rare commodity. In the last 384 years since Greenwich’s founding, just about every lot worth building on has been built on. We get most of our raw land listings from subdivisions of oversized lots where the house is on one lot and the formerly empty extra acreage becomes another lot or lots.

Fire, unfortunately, is also another source of “raw” land as it doesn’t take much of a fire to condemn a whole house. The smoke damage, and the water damage from putting out the fire, often mean that the total cost to clean up the house, eliminate the smoke smell from carpets, walls and ceilings as well as to reconstruct the actual fire and water damaged areas can quickly exceed the costs of building a new house.

Land sales appear artificially low

So how do land sales compare to house sales? If you look at the raw numbers, the answer would be not well. This year we only had 29 sales of land that were 2.7 acres on average. On the single-family home sales side, we have had 445 sales that totaled 501 acres or 1.24 acres per sale. Land listings are larger and don’t seem to sell as well.

The poorer sales are actually an artifact of the way that sales are reported on the Greenwich MLS. As mentioned, most land listings actually have a house on the land and are usually also listed as a residential listing also. When the property sells, the agent has to change the status on one listing to “sold” and the other listing to “cancelled”. Most agents pick the residential listing to be the sold listing and cancel the land listing. The result is that sales of listings for land are significantly under-reported.

Tips on working with developers on land sales

I’m part of the Greenwich Streets Team at Compass and we deal with a lot of builders and developers. To their credit, none of the builders that I know of, want to be known for building cheap houses. Cheap construction doesn’t sell in Greenwich. (An out of town builder tried to do that in Pemberwick using lots of plastic; on the front porch, on the siding and in the windows. It was a tough sale. The house hung around for a long time and sold well below its original list price.)

Builders are interested in getting the land for as cheap as possible as every dollar they save is an extra dollar of profit. Agents who work with developers know what they are looking for and will often contact owners of developable land directly, often by letter, to see if they might want to sell. (Owners should be a little cautious as a few agents have been known to exaggerate just how active the buyer is to get a listing.) A developer/buyer needs a low price if they are to make a profit with

the rise in the cost of materials and labor in the last few years.

When we represent developers, we have several non-monetary incentives that can make a developer’s lower price more appealing. For example, the closing date can be flexible. Some buyers want a quick close and no mortgage contingency and our more well-financed sellers can do that.

I had a seller in Riverside who was older and was downsizing. She needed a longer closing time to arrange for her children to take the furniture they wanted, arrange a tag sale and sign a contract with the place where she wanted to move.

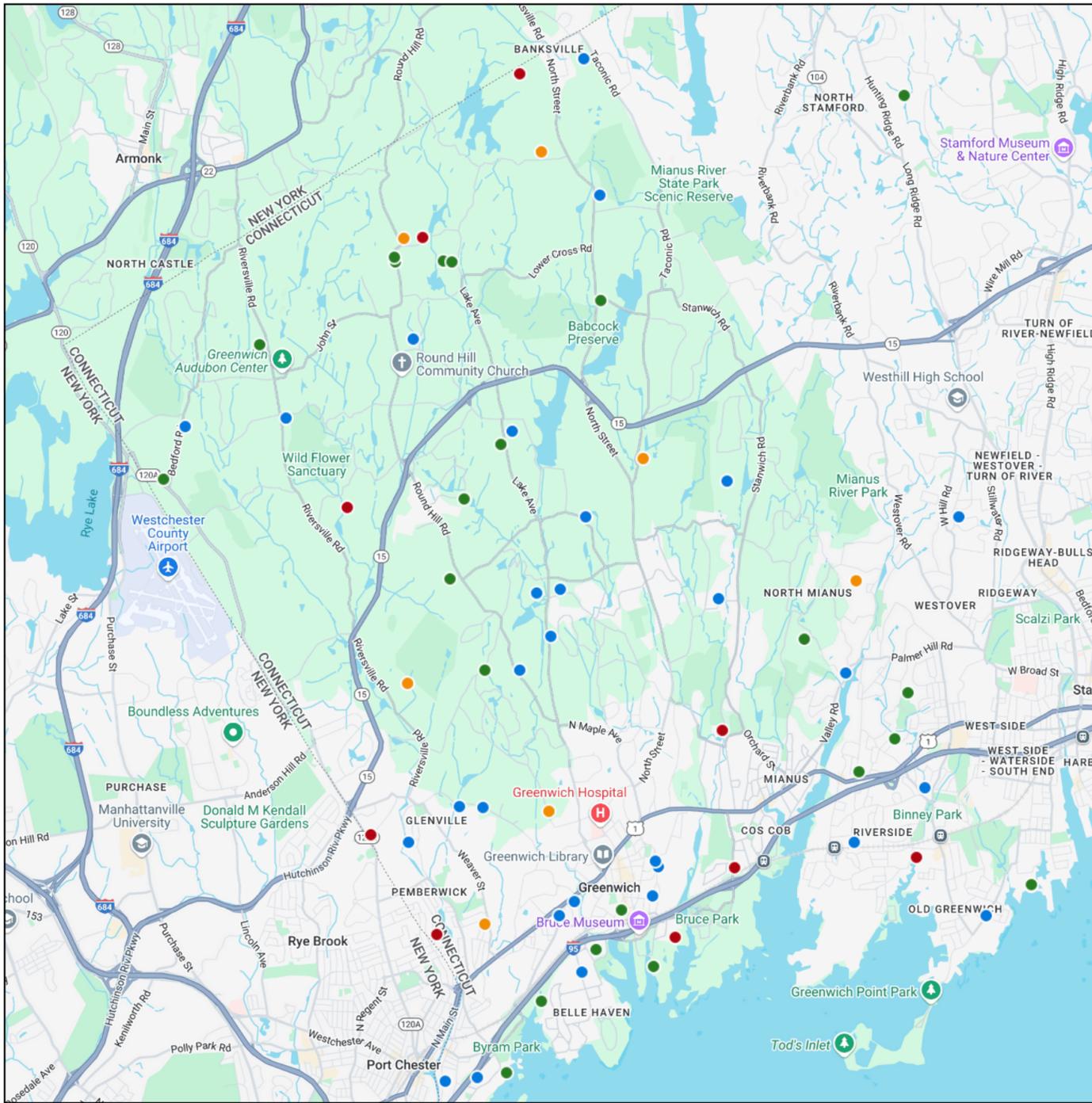
In that case I asked that the seller be allowed to leave whatever they wanted in the house that is being torn down. This not only saves the seller money, but it is also a major time saver and stress reliever. A lower price from a developer does not necessarily mean a lower value to the seller.

Custom building your own home

Land listings are unique and need to be looked at carefully. If you plan on building a custom house in a new development, it really helps to know what the neighbors are going to build. If you have two large, beautiful, newly built houses on each side of the land you are buying it certainly makes the property more valuable.

If you want to build a house, it helps to have an agent and an architect who is familiar with the requirements at planning and zoning, wetlands, floor area ratios and setbacks, green areas, wells or town water, and septic or sewers. When you are building your dream house, you have lots of options, but also lots of rules to follow, but in the end, you have a house built just the way you want.

Mark Pruner is a sales executive on the Greenwich Streets Team at Compass Connecticut, he can be reached at 203-817-2871 or at mark.pruner@compass.com.



19 land listings for sale (green), 29 land listings sold (blue), 9 under contract (orange) and 13 expired (red). For color chart see digital version or go to GreenwichSentinel.com



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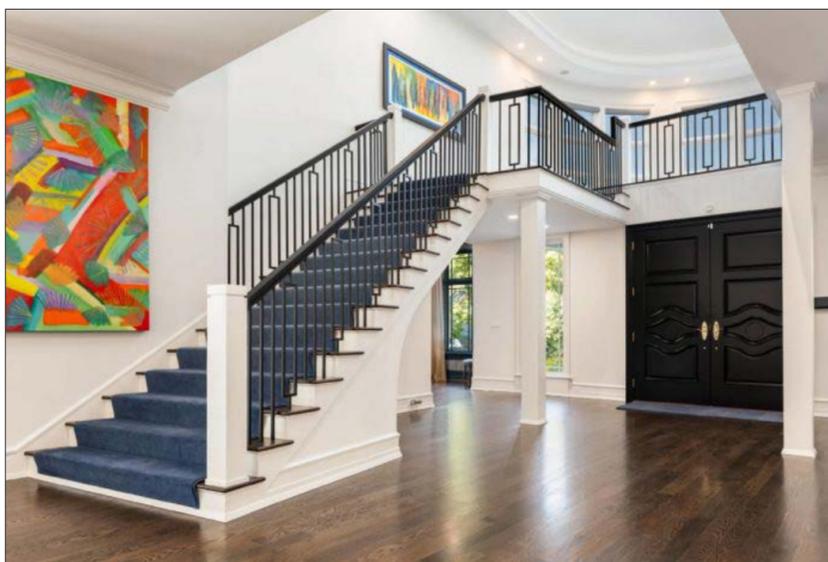
Chic, sophisticated, and embodying contemporary luxury, this stunning backcountry retreat is a sanctuary of style. Fully renovated in 2023, this classic shingle-style residence boasts a pool, pool house, and tennis court. Passing through iron gates, a long driveway leads to a spacious courtyard, setting the stage for a masterpiece featuring 5 bedrooms and 6.3 baths. High ceilings, exquisite floors, and dramatic staircase complement the beautiful wall coverings. The

kitchen is a culinary dream, the bathrooms are impeccable, and there's a private office and full gym. A soaring stone fireplace graces the great room, while a striking glass wine wall adorns the adjacent game room and solarium, with floor-to-ceiling windows creating an ambiance perfect for elegant entertaining and intimate family gatherings. Upstairs, the primary suite includes a sitting room and luxurious bath with an infrared sauna. Four en-suite bedrooms with

custom walk-in closets and a separate bonus wing complete the second floor while the third level houses a well-equipped gym. Amenities include a pool, pool house, tennis court with pickleball lines, koi pond, five-car garage, and private walking trail. This estate epitomizes modern luxury, offering an unmatched lifestyle amid Greenwich's country estates. For more information, please visit 1068LakeAve.com.

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REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

NEW LISTINGS

Data Compiled by Timothy Agro

Address	List Price	Price/SqFt	SqFt	AC	BR	FB	Area
2 Putnam Hill 4D	\$499,000			10	2	1	South of Post Road
4 Lafayette Court 1B	\$675,000	\$754	895		1	1	South Parkway
37 Edgewood Avenue B	\$870,000	\$561	1,550		3	1	South of Post Road
56 Sherwood Place 9	\$1,195,000	\$789	1,514		2	2	South Parkway
242 Taconic Road	\$1,395,000	\$333	4,190	0.52	5	4	North Parkway
20 W Brother Drive	\$4,900,000	\$726	6,753	1.11	5	4	South of Post
20 Sherwood farm Lane	\$5,795,000	\$663	8,742	1	6	6	South Parkway
477 Lake Avenue	\$6,250,000	\$1,934	3,231	2.83	4	3	South Parkway
10 Hurlingham Drive	\$8,000,000	\$642	12,456	13.36	6	7	North Parkway

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD EDITOR

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 Robert Pulitano | robertpulitano@bhhsne.com
 Pam Toner | pamtoner@bhhsne.com

NEW SALES

Data Compiled by Timothy Agro

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres	SqFt
127 Henry Street	\$599,900	\$549,000	\$515,000	68	2	1	0.07	768
106 Putnam Park 106	\$799,000	\$799,000	\$825,000	46	3	2		1,632
12 Glenville Street 102	\$895,000	\$895,000	\$955,000	24	2	3		2,160
495 Den Lane	\$925,000	\$925,000	\$1,000,000	3	3	2	0.15	2,066
13 Havemeyer Lane	\$999,000	\$999,000	\$1,010,000	14	4	2	0.15	1,639
275 Bruce Park Avenue	\$1,165,000	\$1,165,000	\$1,320,000	8	4	4	0.19	1,916
69 Riverdale Avenue 502	\$1,295,000	\$1,195,000	\$1,170,000	84	2	2		2,124
40 W Elm Street 4L	\$1,325,000	\$1,325,000	\$1,325,000	38	1	1	0	1,380
8 Mortimer Drive	\$1,575,000	\$1,575,000	\$1,625,000	12	3	2	0.14	1,260
18 Sandy Lane	\$2,095,000	\$2,095,000	\$2,495,000	7	5	4	4.16	4,793
27 Tait Road	\$2,900,000	\$2,900,000	\$2,800,000	17	5	3	0.22	3,595
100 Pecksland Road	\$4,395,000	\$4,095,000	\$4,095,000	78	5	3	1.73	6,637
62 Brookridge Drive	\$6,495,000	\$6,495,000	\$6,550,000	14	6	6	1.5	7,605

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

Data Compiled by Rob Pulitano

Address	Area	Price	Day/Time	Broker
34 Edgewood Avenue	Greenwich	\$4,550	Sat 12-2 PM	BHHS New England
34 Edgewood Avenue	Greenwich	\$4,550	Sun 12-2 PM	BHHS New England
414 W Lyon Farm Drive	Greenwich	\$1,625,000	Sat & Sun 11-2 PM	Compass
20 Holly Way	Cos Cob	\$1,600,000	Sun 12-3 PM	Compass
101 Lewis Street # I	Greenwich	\$1,649,999	Sun 2-4 PM	Compass
125 Bowman Drive	Greenwich	\$1,649,000	Sun 12-2 PM	King Merritt Realty
125 Bowman Drive	Greenwich	\$1,649,000	Sun 12-2 PM	King Merritt Realty
44 Gerry Street	Greenwich	\$949,500	Sat 12-2 PM	Mike Parelli
530 Round Hill Road	Greenwich	\$7,500,000	Sun 12-3 PM	Sotheby's

FEATURED BROKER

Susheila Starr

WHAT IS ONE THING BUYERS OR SELLERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE CURRENT MARKET?

We are still experiencing a competitive, historically low inventory market. Now more than ever, buyers need skilled agents to craft the best possible offers. It's crucial to hire a professional local realtor who has established relationships and understands the unique nuances of the market.

WHAT SUGGESTIONS DO YOU HAVE FOR BUYERS OR SELLERS?

Buying or selling a home is a complex process that often requires a team, including a realtor, lawyer, inspectors, mortgage brokers, surveyors, contractors, and other specialists. It's essential to work with a realtor who has the experience, knowledge, and connections to effectively coordinate this team.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES OR MOST COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY?

What you see on reality television is not an accurate reflection of the industry! Success in real estate requires tremendous effort and dedication. The best agents prioritize their clients' needs and are committed to working around the clock, seven days a week.

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NEWS BRIEFS
Continued from Page 7



GHS Girls Volleyball's Season Of Triumph

Greenwich High School's girls volleyball team ended its successful 2024 season with a 23-3 record after a 3-2 semifinal loss to rival Darien in the CIAC Class LL Tournament. Highlights included a 14-match winning streak, advancing to the FCIAC final, and standout performances from seniors like Sarah Bernann and rising stars like sophomore Kayah Armstrong.



GHS Boys Soccer Wins FCIAC Title

Greenwich High School boys soccer concluded a remarkable 18-1-3 season with an FCIAC championship and a trip to the CIAC Class LL semifinals, where they fell 4-1 to Farmington despite a competitive performance. The Cardinals scored 68 goals, allowed only 17, and recorded 12 shutouts in one of the program's most successful seasons.



GA Wins Overtime Thriller in Field Hockey

Greenwich Academy edged Sacred Heart Greenwich 1-0 in double overtime during the NEPSAC Class A quarterfinals on November 13, with senior captain Isa Packard scoring the game-winning goal. The victory advanced GA to the semifinals, while Sacred Heart concluded a standout 16-3 season, including FAA regular-season and tournament championships.



GHS Girls Swimming Shatters Points Record

Greenwich High School dominated the CIAC Class LL Girls Swimming Championships, winning eight events and setting a record 1,012 team points to claim their 31st title. Standout performances from athletes like junior Wesley Wales and senior Sena Bozkurt propelled the Cardinals, who now

head to the State Open Championships.



Greenwich High School's varsity cheerleaders recently held its annual Fashion Show, celebrated Senior Day

Whether it's at Cardinal Stadium or on the road, the Greenwich High School varsity cheerleading team is always there to support the Greenwich varsity football team at its games and the Nov. 16th game between the Cardinals and Westhill was extra special for the cheerleaders and football players.

Like the football team, the varsity cheerleading team celebrated Senior Day, making the game especially significant to the four senior cheerleaders. Greenwich's senior cheerleaders are, in alphabetical order, Laura Colombo, Sierra Erensen, Siera Rollins and Jane Trager.



Four Brunswick School student-athletes sign National Letters of Intent

Four Brunswick School seniors, who excel in their respective sports, signed National Letters of Intent at a special signing ceremony held at Brunswick School on Nov. 13.

Patrick Hiebert signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Johns Hopkins University, where he will play Division I lacrosse.

Patrick O'Donohue signed a National Letter of Intent and will continue his soccer career at the Division I level at Colgate University.

Aidan Diaz-Matos, who signed a NLI, is headed to the University of Notre Dame, where he will play lacrosse. Henry Raine will take his squash skills to the collegiate level. He signed a NLI to attend the University of Virginia.



Greenwich High School holds ceremony honoring college-bound athletes

Photo by Ralph Mayo: Pictured from left to right: Greenwich High School senior student-athletes gathered for a ceremony, which honored their commitment to play athletics at the collegiate level. From left to right: Sofie Wang, Aubrey Roth, Henry Cullen, Graydon Raabe, Cooper Sernick, Scarlett Hopson, Sophia Long, Saira Mitchell, Margaux DeFelice, Liana Hoffman, Kate Donnellan, Stella Thibeault, Michael Brescia and Lauren Huang.

The 14 college-bound athletes included in alphabetical order: Michael Brescia, who will play Division I lacrosse at Loyola Maryland, Henry Cullen, who will continue his crew career at Yale University, Margaux DeFelice, Georgetown University crew, Kate Donnellan, who will play Division I lacrosse at Duke University, Liana Hoffman, UCLA crew, Scarlett Hopson, University of Tennessee crew, Lauren Huang, Brown University rugby, Sophia Long, St. Mary's College of California, Saira Mitchell, University of California Berkley crew, Graydon Raabe, Cornell University crew, Aubrey Roth, lacrosse William and Mary, Cooper Sernick, Hobart and William Smith crew, Stella Thibeault, Cornell University field hockey and Sofie Wang, Harvard University, water polo.

FROM HARTFORD
Connecticut Program Aids Winter Heating

The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program provides heating cost support between \$180 and \$530, with payments typically made directly to utility companies or fuel suppliers. Households using deliverable fuels such as oil or propane may qualify for additional free tank fills. Application details are available online, or current Department of Human Services clients can contact their case managers.

CT Rail Improvements Gain Funding

Connecticut will receive \$291 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to fund five rail improvement projects, including \$6.4 million for a study on replacing the 120-year-old Cos Cob Bridge in Greenwich. The grants, matched by state and Amtrak contributions, will also support upgrades to the New Haven Line, Hartford Line, and planning for the replacement of the Connecticut River Bridge and Hartford train station. These investments aim to modernize the state's rail infrastructure and enhance passenger service.

GPD Honor Guard Represents Town at Annual Blue Mass



The Most Reverend Frank Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport, celebrates the annual Blue Mass at the Cathedral Church of St. Augustine. Photo by Sentinel Staff.

On Sunday, Nov. 17, the Cathedral Church of St. Augustine in Bridgeport celebrated its annual Blue Mass. In the Catholic Church, a "Blue Mass" is held to honor and pray for all those who protect the public, including police officers, firefighters, paramedics, 911 dispatchers, and other related professions. It's a way for the community and the Church to show appreciation and to pray for their safety and service.

The term "Blue Mass" derives from the traditional blue uniforms worn by police officers. This tradition began in the early 20th century, with one of the first known Blue Masses held in 1934 in Washington, D.C., by Father Thomas Dade, who was a police chaplain.

Bishop of Bridgeport Frank Caggiano celebrated the Mass, which opened with a procession of Fourth-Degree Knights of Columbus. They were followed into the cathedral by police honor guards from Greenwich, Norwalk, Danbury, and Ridgefield. The Bridgeport Fire Dept. supported the event by staging a ladder truck in front of the church and flying an enormous American flag from the raised ladder.



Left to Right: Greenwich Police Chief Jim Heavey; The GPD Honor Guard: Sgt. Shane Geary; Officer George Backiel; and Sgt. Ernie Mulhern. Photo by Sentinel Staff.

A Shout Out to Greenwich Alliance for Education's Tuning In To Music Program

BY ELLIE SILEO

Calling all with a passion for music! Take a look at an amazing opportunity from Greenwich Alliance for Education.

When asked about the program, Julie Faryniarz, Executive Director, shared that she "had the opportunity to help start Tuning In To Music in October 2006. Greenwich Alliance for Education wanted to make participation in the music programs in the Greenwich Public Schools accessible to all students who wanted to participate. So, that is why we built this program with Greenwich Public School music teachers making student recommendations to the CT School of Music for private instrumental music lessons for up to 30 weeks during the school year."

The fundamentals of the program, laid out by Sharon Levin, Professional Flutist and Flute Teacher, include that "The Tuning Into Music program offers private instrumental lessons to students who wish to play an instrument and play with their school band. This is a scholarship program for students who meet the financial criteria to receive the scholarship. In order to remain in the program, as there is a waiting list, the students need for example: to practice every day, participate in their school band, play in the band concerts, and follow the attendance policy. We do have a waiting list and we want to be fair to all the students and give lessons to the students that are willing to do the work required on their end. On a positive note: For the students and parents who really appreciate the lessons, these requirements are never a problem."

To emphasize the magnitude of this opportunity, Levin shared that, "The students get a scholarship for their private music lessons! That alone is an amazing gift! My favorite aspect of the program is giving a private lesson to each student and seeing the students improve week after week."

To get to know our professionals further, Sharon Levin shared her experience as an active professional performer: "I have toured Central America, South America, Europe, Middle East, and several states in the USA. I conduct the Flute Choir with the Young Artists Philharmonic Youth Program and have conducted Flute Choir's in Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and for several years at the International Flute Festival in Costa Rica. I also have recordings, articles, music

published and give lecture performances on Ecuadorian Mestizo Music. I teach privately at my home studio in Westport and with the Tuning Into Music Program in Greenwich. My website is www.fluteclassics101.com for more information. I have a Master's Degree in Flute Performance from Manhattan School of Music, a Certificate of Chamber Music from the Ecole Normale de Musique, in Paris, France and a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Sarah Lawrence College." Levin's impressive musical past gives assurance that this program will be immensely helpful to young students interested in pursuing the practice of the flute!

"To get into the program, the students need to be recommended by their band director and then get sign off from the school principal. For a student who really enjoys playing in the band and enjoys playing their instrument, this program is for that kind of student. It's a wonderful scholarship for interested, motivated music students." Levin shared.

"I have been with the program since the beginning and have enjoyed seeing the growth and development of both the students and the program. It is a true joy and privilege to be part of this program," expressed Levin. I can agree with Levin first-hand as a graduated student of this program. The growth of musical ability is the most encouraging aspect of the program for children.

Julie Faryniarz, Executive Director, shared that "GPS music teachers are nominating students who are in the Tuning In To Music program for honors level performance groups and town-wide music festivals because these students' skills are getting better and better." To be able to perform on an esteemed level at a young age is a major motivator of this program!

Sarah Sweeney, administrator for the program within The Connecticut School of Music, adds that this program "advances the performance of music within Greenwich Public Schools." To motivate young artists to step up their practicing, Sweeney says that "If you want to commit to improving yourself as a musician and the sound of your music group, the weekly lesson structure can be a way to advance."

Over 400 students have received free instrumental music lessons since 2006 and that equates to 16,000 hours of lesson



Greenwich Alliance for Education's Tuning In To Music Program's end of year concert, captured by Julie Faryniarz.

time. To help the Greenwich Alliance for Music, donate at www.greenwichalliance.org. Education continue to fund Tuning In To org.



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St. Mary-Putnam to host a Tree of Remembrance during the season of Advent and Christmas.

St. Mary-Putnam Cemetery invites you to hang an ornament on our "Tree of Remembrance" in memory of a loved one who has passed.

The tree will be located at 399 North Street in Greenwich, Connecticut. Individuals and families may bring their ornament to the cemetery office to be placed on the tree or choose a complimentary ornament to be placed in honor of their loved one.

The public is invited to join us for the lighting of the remembrance tree which will include a special blessing, music, and complimentary refreshments

on Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 5-7 pm.

This is a family friendly event and the opportunity is open to all families in the community who have experienced a loss and wish to honor a loved one during the holiday season regardless if your loved one is with us or not.

Please note:

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Dear *Greenwich Smiles Community*,

I am pleased to announce the newest staff addition to our practice at Greenwich Smiles, Dr. Hanna Benelhachemi, DDS. Dr. Benelhachemi will be joining Greenwich Smiles as the lead Pediatric Dentist. She flourished in her residency at Yale University.

I know that Dr. Benelhachemi will be a valuable asset to our Dental team and you will appreciate her skill and caring as a Dentist. Dr. Benelhachemi embodies our philosophy of providing you and your children the highest quality of dental care in the most gentle and efficient manner. The addition of Dr. Benelhachemi has allowed our practice to increase the availability of our pediatric services for your convenience.

Please stop by and say hello or give us a call at 203.862.9000 to schedule an appointment, and meet Dr. Benelhachemi. Thank you for welcoming her, and allowing us to provide your dental care – we appreciate you!



Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Tramposch D.D.S. | *Greenwich Smiles*



Local Artist Ron Strackbein Shares the Modus Operandi of his Composite Paintings



Ron Strackbein stands before "die Emerung Renouvement VI," Wood, metal, synthetic resin, acrylic paint, 28 x 36 inches. Photo by Anne W. Semmes.

BY ANNE W. SEMMES

Ron Strackbein is aglow surrounded by his "New Constructions" at The Barn at Downing-Yudain Gallery in Stamford. He has come to this artistic achievement after a long successful career in the corporate world of investments and management. His art he describes as assemblage art. "I have a color scheme that applies to each one of these three-dimensional elements. And I paint those individually. And then attach these three-dimensional elements to the cradle board or the canvas as the case may be."

His objective with his "composite paintings" is to "create a cohesive work whose beauty resonates with the viewer."

With those three-dimensional elements he has a markedly evergreen approach, as they are discarded construction materials he finds, "on the sites of renovations and new construction in my mid-country neighborhood or found in construction debris at the Greenwich Recycling Center."

His composite paintings abound in color. His color appreciation he traces to his working years in California. "First, in graduate school at Stanford...I became exposed to the light and colors, which I think are quite different on the West Coast." There was also time spent working in Los Angeles, and then in San Luis Obispo, "which is right in the center of the state, and I just became very acclimated to the light and colors there...In California the light is much brighter and clearer. It was the memories of that that have influenced my color choices here."

Add Matisse as an influencer for his colors. "He felt color was power, and I feel the same way."

But all this composite painting only began some four years ago!

"I initially thought I'd try my hand at collage," he tells. "I really admired the work of the Cubists...And then I became very interested in the works of Robert

Strackbein traces his artistic interest to when he was in fifth grade. "My initial entry point was winning the Gold Star for the best March of Dimes poster in Crotonville, Iowa in 1952... That poster was to raise money

Strackbein found collage wasn't "sufficiently satisfying." "So, I began to explore assemblage whose origins can be traced to collage."

Motherwell who had a studio on North Street."

So, he began painting with collage and signed onto classes at Silvermine Art Center, and then the Art Students League. But Covid interfered, with the Art Students League shutting down.

"And so almost all of my art education was online. And so, my instructor, Bruce Dorfman who's older than I am, took it upon himself to provide commentary online. I would make a draft, and take a photo, email it to him, and then if he had any comments or thoughts, he would email it back to me."

In all this Strackbein found collage wasn't "sufficiently satisfying." "So, I began to explore assemblage whose origins can be traced to collage." Assemblage artists he admires include Jasper Johns and Louise Nevelson.

So, now as an assemblage artist, how long does it take to create one of his works? "I would say each work represents maybe a couple of weeks' worth of work...There's a lot of process that has to take place into making a piece of art. It's very challenging."

at the time of polio. And my family raised cattle down there... and people were always raising money for research and also the care of children that were affected by polio."

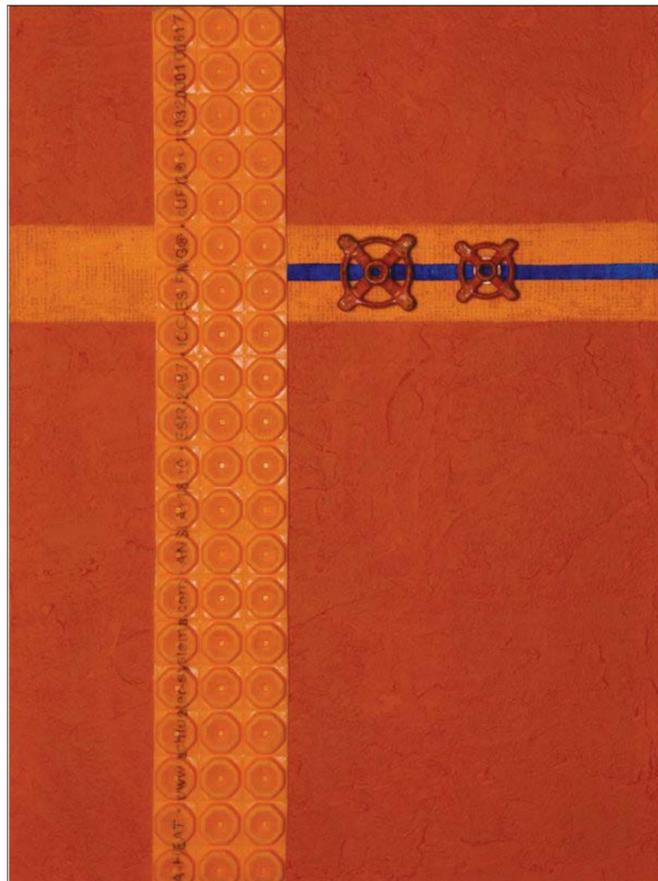
"But then there was a 70-year hiatus. I picked up art making again, just shortly before we were struck by the Coronavirus 19."

Splayed out on a coffee table in the center of his composite painting exhibit in The Barn he's laid out his "materials of life." "This is a piece of a crown molding. This is a piece of window molding... And so, it's a multi-step process because of all the layering." Then standing by a painting he describes, "So, what you're seeing here is what they call cradle boards and they're about an inch and a half thick, and it creates a very hard tensile surface on which to mount the three-dimensional elements."

He then shares a testament toward his use of those "construction materials" as elements of his composite paintings. It includes: "The American sculptor, John Chamberlain whose works employed twisted automobile



Splayed out on a coffee table in the center of his composite painting exhibit in The Barn he laid out his "materials of life." Photo by Anne W. Semmes.



"Chromographic C3," Metal, synthetic resin, acrylic paint, 24 x18 inches. Copyright 2024, Ron Strackbein, courtesy of Downing Yudain LLC, Photography courtesy of Robert Capazzo.

bumpers and fenders, declared that the use of everyday materials 'is assembling our materials into a portrait of who we are.'"

Ron Strackbein's "New Constructions" will be on exhibit at The Barn at Downing-Yudain Gallery in Stamford through November 23.



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SPORTS

Greenwich High School swimming/diving team wins CIAC Class LL championship for the second consecutive season

By DAVID FIERRO

From start to finish, the CIAC Class LL Girls Swimming Championships was truly a meet to remember for Greenwich High School.

Winning eight events and producing numerous other outstanding performances, Greenwich earned the team title at the Class LL Championships, amassing an eye-opening 1,012 team points at Cornerstone Aquatics Center in West Hartford on Nov. 12. Coached by Brendan Heller, the Cardinals established a record for team points on their way to winning the Class LL title for the 31st time in team history.

The Class LL finals began with Greenwich's quartet of Julia Kozma, Isabel Guzman, Sena Bozkurt and Sara Jee combining for a winning time of 1:49.72 in the 200-yard medley relay. Fairfield Ludlowe placed second in 1:50.75 and Trumbull took third (1:52.92). In the championship meet's first individual event, Greenwich junior Wesley Wales won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:52.32, giving the Cardinals 32 points toward its team total. Cardinals teammate, Ellison Charette, a sophomore, finished second in 1:54.27 and Addison Markoja (Meriden Co-op) placed third (1:54.30). Ainsley Sahrbeck, a Greenwich junior, was third (1:57.27), while freshman teammate Olivia DeVries had a third-place finish in 1:58.10).

Glastonbury finished a distant second in the team standings at the 18-team Class LL Championships (522.5), Norwalk/McMahon placed third (416), Staples was fourth (410.5) and Fitch/Stonington/New London took fifth (392). Ella Gussen of Fairfield Ludlowe won the 200 individual



Contributed photo: Members of the Greenwich High School girls swimming team gather around the championship plaque with their coaches after winning the team title at the CIAC Class LL Swimming Championships at Cornerstone Aquatics Center on Nov. 12, 2024, in West Hartford. The Cardinals cruised to the team title with 1,012 team points.

medley Class LL title, touching the wall in 2:05.75. Emma Giafardino of Norwalk/McMahon was the runner-up (2:08.51) and Sarah Kim (Meriden Co-op) took third (2:11.87). The Cardinals scored plenty of points in the 200 IM with senior Emma Stehmann placing fourth (2:11.93), Jee, a freshman, taking seventh (2:14.97), Guzman finishing eighth (2:17.86) and sophomore Isadora Nassa posting a

ninth-place finish (2:17.95).

Sophomore Kensington Worden claimed the silver medal for the Cards in the 50 freestyle, registering a time of 24.20, while teammates Lily Norton, a junior, had a seventh-place finish (25.49), senior Katharine Nalepka placed 11th (25.87) and Annalie Whitridge, a freshman was 12th (25.95).

Greenwich had a significant head start and points boost heading into the swimming portion of the CIAC Class LL Championships, thanks to the highly successful performances of its athletes at the Diving Championships, held at Sheehan High School on Nov. 6. Cardinals junior Kristen Jacks captured the Class LL gold medal on the 1-meter diving board, totaling a winning score of 400 points over 11 impressive rounds. Her winning effort gave Greenwich 30 points heading into the swimming portion of the Class LL finals.

Olivia DeVries, also a junior, finished a very close second for GHS, compiling 399.10 diving points, good for 27 points to the Cardinals' team total. Clementine Whittle placed 10th in the diving finals (306.90). Overall, Greenwich's divers scored 74 team points with their well-executed dives.

In the 100-yard butterfly, senior Sena Bozkurt claimed the Class LL championship, touching the wall in 55.61 seconds for GHS. Melissa Geiger, a junior, finished in second place, clocking in at 58.33 and right behind her was Kozma, a sophomore, who posted a third-place time of 58.65. Also for Greenwich, senior Garyn Finz was 12th in 1:01.26.

Junior Wesley Wales earned the second-place medal in the 100 freestyle with a time of 51.66 seconds, while her Cardinals teammate, Worden was third (53.00). Norah Eldredge, a freshman, took seventh (55.26) and Nalepka finished 10th (56.03) for GHS, which scored a wealth of team points in the 100 freestyle. Riley Anderson from Manchester was the 100 freestyle champion (50.16).

Charette captured the Class LL gold medal in the 500-yard freestyle. Showing her speed, stamina and endurance, Charette was second to none in the 500 freestyle, recorded a championship time of 5:02.87. Swimming near Charette was Geiger, who proceeded to post a second-place finish in the race (5:05.35). Junior Ainsley Sahrbeck finished fourth in 5:12.68 and

DeVries had a fifth-place finish (5:13.73).

Greenwich also had the winning combination in the 200-yard freestyle relay race. Wales, Worden, Charette and Norton combined for a time of 1:38.88, good for the Class LL winner's medal. Fitch/Stonington/New London was a blink of an eye behind them, clocking in at 1:38.97, followed by Staples (1:41.42). Bozkurt's second individual Class LL championship came in the 100-yard backstroke. She earned a first-place finish with a time of 57.02. Ella Gussen of Fairfield Ludlowe, a junior, was the runner-up in 58.15, while Kozma (59.77), freshman Annalie Whitridge (1:01.96) and Finz (1:03.84) were fifth-seventh-tenth respectively, for the Cardinals.

Stehmann garnered the silver medal in the 100-yard breaststroke, finishing the race in 1:08.27. Guzman was right behind her for a third-place showing (1:08.30) and Jee (1:11.87) and sophomore Ava Burnstine (1:13.50) were seventh and eighth, respectively.

Greenwich put the finishing touch on their extra special Class LL championship meet by winning the final event – the 400-yard freestyle relay. Charette, Whitridge, Sahrbeck and Wales were champions with a time of 3:33.97.

Up next for Greenwich is the CIAC State Open Championships, which takes place on Sunday at Yale University with a starting time of 1 p.m. Greenwich won the State Open team championship in 2023 with 633 points.



Contributed photo: Greenwich's Class LL championship relay team gathers with coach Brendan Heller at the CIAC Class LL Championships, held at Cornerstone Aquatics Center in West Hartford, Conn., on Nov. 12, 2024.



Contributed photo: The Cardinals varsity girls swimming team excelled at the CIAC Class LL finals.

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Greenwich Country Day School boys soccer team captures FAA Tournament title with win vs. Greens Farms Academy

By DAVID FIERRO

After earning an undefeated record and winning the Fairchester Athletic Association regular season title, the Greenwich Country Day School varsity boys soccer team was determined to capture another championship this fall.

Mission accomplished.

For the second time in three years, top-seeded Greenwich Country Day School won the FAA Boys Soccer Tournament championship, defeating third-seeded Greens Farms Academy, 2-1, in the title game on Nov. 8.

"I think the key to our victory was the intensity we played with," said Greenwich Country Day senior William Steel, one of the Tigers' captains. "It's an amazing feeling to win the championship and cap off a historic season."

Indeed, it was a historic soccer season for GCDS.

"It was great to be the first team in school history to not only win our league in the regular season, but also the first team to go undefeated in the regular season and playoffs," Steel noted.

Greenwich Country Day, which received a first-round bye, posted a 4-1 victory over fourth-seeded St. Luke's School in the FAA Tournament semifinals. The Tigers received goals from Dylan Ever, a junior and Devin Kellan, a junior captain in the title game.

Following a scoreless first half against Greens Farms Academy in the championship game, GCDS drew a penalty kick early in the second half. Ever converted the penalty kick, putting the Tigers on top, 1-0.

The Tigers then conceded a penalty kick to the Dragons, who scored on the kick, evening the score at 1-1. Late in the second half, Kellen scored, giving the host Tigers a 2-1 lead – an advantage they would not relinquish. Seniors Mason Zuniga, Ollie Eisenberg, Noah Sokol and Steel were among some of the defensive standouts for GCDS in the championship win.

"We set out to win the regular season, and achieving that with seven wins from seven games was incredible," Greenwich Country Day coach Alan Marsh said. "To get a home draw in the playoffs was massive for us. The final was typically nervy, and



Photo by Jon Lopez, Greenwich Country Day School Sports Photographer: Members of the Greenwich Country Day School varsity boys soccer team gather around the trophy with their coaches after winning the FAA Boys Soccer Tournament Championship on Nov. 8, 2024. The Tigers won the title by defeating Greens Farms Academy in the FAA final.

GFA put up a great fight, and gave us some real scares. I couldn't be more proud of our players—they have a great camaraderie and work really hard for each other. It's a squad game and we are lucky to have real depth."

GCDS finished the season with a perfect 9-0 record in the FAA, including a 7-0 regular-season mark and earned 11 victories overall. Tigers senior captain Tal Lipschitz spoke of the impact the coaching staff has had on the soccer program.

"We would have gone nowhere without our coaches: Alan Marsh (head coach), Chris Cleary and Levin Morant," Lipschitz said. "The culture, the attitude, discipline and respect that they created allowed us to win games and be better players/teammates. Without fail, the coaches had a plan for each practice, different from the last."

"They constantly made sure everyone was included; they would let us feel seen when doing something well and would respectfully, hold players accountable when doing something wrong," Lipschitz continued.

Director of Athletics Tim Helstein praised the coaches and players: "Coach Marsh, Coach Cleary, and Coach Morant emphasized possession and teamwork



Photo by Jon Lopez, Greenwich Country Day School Sports Photographer: Mateo Sierra of the Greenwich Country Day School varsity boys soccer team moves the ball through the midfield during the FAA Tournament final vs. Greens Farms Academy. The Tigers claimed the title with a 2-1 win vs. the Dragons.

from the first day of preseason, and the team they created was exactly what they had envisioned. Our players controlled the games through patience, communication, and tactical play. Congratulations to the boys varsity soccer team for making it to

their third straight FAA Final and bringing home the trophy to Offit Field."

Said Lipschitz: "A team brotherhood and family was created on this soccer team and I could not have asked for a better group of guys to lead us."

Greenwich Academy field hockey team advances to NEPSAC Class A semifinals by edging Sacred Heart Greenwich in double overtime

By DAVID FIERRO

Sacred Heart Greenwich pulled out a dramatic 1-0 victory over Greenwich Academy in the championship game of the FAA Tournament on November 8 and just five days later, the Gators and Tigers met for the third and final time of the season, this time in the quarterfinal-round of the NEPSAC Class A Tournament.

And, as is always the case between these two longtime rivals, there was once again, plenty of drama.

There wasn't a title at stake when Greenwich Academy and Sacred Heart played on Nov. 13, yet instead what was at stake was a chance to continue the quest for winning the biggest field hockey tournament of the season – the NEPSAC Class A tourney.

After 60 minutes of intense action, nothing was settled between fourth-seeded host Greenwich Academy and fifth-seeded Sacred Heart. Then, senior defender/captain Isa Packard struck for GA, making it the third time the charm for the Gators.

Packard's goal with 5:02 remaining in the second overtime lifted Greenwich Academy to a thrilling 1-0 victory over Sacred Heart. GA advanced to Saturday's semifinals (Nov. 16), where it will face top-seeded host Phillips Exeter Academy at 1 p.m.

The winner of the Greenwich Academy-Phillips Andover Academy semifinal will play the victor of the Taft School-Hotchkiss School semifinal on Sunday (Nov. 17) at Ethel Walker School, with a starting time of 11 a.m.

In the Gators' NEPSAC Class A quarterfinal-round win versus Sacred Heart, Cordelia Blanc set up Packard's goal, as GA coach Jamie Brower explained.

"Cordelia Blanc carried hard right, sent a hard shot, and after a deflection, Isa Packard was zoned in and put the rebound into the net," said Brower, who noted how exciting this back-and-forth matchup was. "What a great field hockey game," Brower added. "It was 0-0 all game, but don't let that make you think it was a boring game. Both goalies had amazing saves. Both defensive teams had goal line saves. The fans were dialed in, and the sun was shining. As all GA-Sacred Heart games go,

it was back and forth, and so close in all areas."

Sacred Heart took 10 penalty corners in the game, while Greenwich Academy drew six penalty corners. Senior goalie Persia Shipman made 12 saves for the Gators. For SHG, senior Teresa Harkins registered six saves.

"We would like to congratulate GA for winning today's game," Sacred Heart coach Alex Gheorghe said. "It was a very beautifully played match between the two schools. We are incredibly proud of our team, led by our senior leaders. Overall, we can say, mission accomplished."

Among some of the Tigers' senior leaders were captains Ainsley Clough, Daphne Fallon, Charley Nemec and Harkins, all of whom had fantastic field hockey careers for the team. For the season, Sacred Heart finished with an overall record of 16-3, winning the FAA regular season and FAA Tournament championships.

Greenwich Academy improved its record to 16-2-2 (both of its losses were to Sacred Heart) with the NEPSAC Tournament victory against its main rival and is two victories away from capturing the New England Championship, which they won in 2022. GA is captained by Lavinia Cartellieri and Packard.

"Sacred Heart drew many more corners on us than we wanted, but our defensive penalty corner team played with grit," Brower said of the quarterfinal matchup. "Onto the overtime with kids who were spent, both teams, found grit and determination driving them. High school rivalries are great, but I do think that this one brings out the best in both teams."

"It was awesome," Brower continued. "But I'd be remiss to leave out the fact that GA played an excellent 60 minutes. We get to play this team often in our season, and we have the utmost respect for their program – they did end the series with two wins to our one. Every game with them is the gold medal. All the best on one field, and they all know each other, and the coaches know each other – it's a special battle and I do believe that it makes both of our programs better."



Photo by David Fierro: Isa Packard, left and Lavinia Cartellieri are senior captains of the Greenwich Academy varsity field hockey team. Packard scored the game-winning goal in GA's NEPSAC Class A quarterfinal-round win vs. Sacred Heart.



Photo by David Fierro: Isa Packard of Greenwich Academy, right, pictured here during a regular season game against Sacred Heart Greenwich, scored the game-winning goal for GA against SHG in the NEPSAC Class A quarterfinals.

Greenwich Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

FRIDAY, NOV. 22

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 IPHA's "Sell your Old Gold Fundraiser" for the Historic Preservation of Putnam Cottage. Putnam Cottage, 243 E Putnam Ave., Greenwich. 475-889-5786. barbara@westnet.com

3 p.m.
 FeederWatch Fridays. Greenwich Audubon Center, 613 Riversville Rd. All Ages. Free. Register. greenwich.audubon.org/events

7 p.m.
 The Junior League of Greenwich: The Enchanted Forest Cocktail Party. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. jlgreenwich.org/the-enchanted-forest

8:30 p.m.
 7th & 8th Grade Neon Dance. Arch Street Teen Center, 100 Arch St. \$30. info@archstreet.org. archstreet.org.

SATURDAY, NOV. 23
 8 a.m.
 Teddy Bear Story Hour With Jenny. Coffee for Good, 49 Maple Ave. 2cc.org

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 H.O.M.E. (Homeworkers Organized for More Employment) Craft Fair. First Congregational Church Auditorium, 708 Sound Beach Ave. 203-637-1791. fccog.org

9:30 a.m.
 Yoga @ the Library With Laura DeLongis Barnes. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 The Junior League of Greenwich: The Enchanted Forest Family Days. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. jlgreenwich.org/the-enchanted-forest

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 IPHA's "Sell your Old Gold Fundraiser" for the Historic Preservation of Putnam Cottage. Putnam Cottage, 243 E Putnam Ave., Greenwich. 475-889-5786. barbara@westnet.com

12 p.m.
 Colonial Toys: Write with a Quill and Ink in the Time Travelers KidStudio. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. greenwichhistory.org/events

12 p.m.
 Dmitri Wright Solo Exhibit Opening Reception. Trimper Gallery, 40 West Putnam Ave. 203-622-0500. trimpergallery.com

2 p.m.
 Exhibitions Highlights Tours. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. Through Dec. 28. brucemuseum.org

2 - 4 p.m.
 Community Cleanup at Cos Cob Park. Community service hours offered. Bring gloves. Sign up at: docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdE3RqHiBgEGyw_Dtkzc3r-umUF6KmpIFhh9IQGXGbrCil_1w/viewform

7:30 p.m.
 Greenwich Symphony Orchestra concert. Greenwich High School - Performing Arts Center, 10 Hillside Road. greenwichsymphony.org

SUNDAY, NOV. 24
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 The Junior League of Greenwich: The Enchanted Forest Family Days. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. jlgreenwich.org/the-enchanted-forest

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 IPHA's "Sell your Old Gold Fundraiser" for the Historic Preservation of Putnam Cottage. Putnam Cottage, 243 E Putnam Ave., Greenwich. 475-889-5786. barbara@westnet.com

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 H.O.M.E. (Homeworkers Organized for More Employment) Craft Fair. First Congregational Church Auditorium, 708 Sound Beach Ave. 203-637-1791. fccog.org

3 p.m.
 Greenwich Symphony Orchestra concert. Greenwich High School - Performing Arts Center, 10 Hillside Road. greenwichsymphony.org

MONDAY, NOV. 25
 8 a.m.
 Family Centers' 2024 Titans Breakfast Speaker Series with David M. Rubenstein. Greenwich Country Club. familycenters.org

1:30 p.m.
 River House Adult Day Center's 1st Annual Turkey Trot. 125 River Road Ext., Cos Cob. Open to everyone. 203-622-0079. riverhouse.org

TUESDAY, NOV. 26
 10 a.m.
 'Perrot Walks' - walk through Binney Park. Meet at Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. 203-637-1066 x15. perrotlibrary.org

10 a.m.
 Winter Holiday Container Workshop. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

10 & 11 a.m.
 Bruce Beginnings: Grateful For Nature - Giving Thanks (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Nov. 27. brucemuseum.org

11:30 a.m.
 Alzheimer's Association: Spousal Support Group. Virtual. Register. alz.org/ct

1 p.m.
 Exhibitions Highlights Tours. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. Through Dec. 17. brucemuseum.org

5:30 p.m.
 Due to Popular Demand: Second Screening of "Rohna Classified." Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. greenwichhistory.org/events

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27
 10 a.m.
 Bruce Beginnings Junior: Grateful For Nature - Giving Thanks (ages 12 Months-30 Months). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

12 p.m.
 Colonial Holidays: Make a "Scherenschnitte" Ornament in the Time Travelers KidStudio. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. greenwichhistory.org/events

12 p.m.
 Alzheimer's Association: Caregiver Support Group. Virtual. Register. alz.org/ct

2 p.m.
 Thanksgiving Floral Design For All Ages. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. \$125, GBC Members; \$150, Non-Members. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

FRIDAY, NOV. 29
 12 p.m.
 16th Annual Greenwich Reindeer Festival & Santa's Workshop. Sam Bridge Nursery & Greenhouses, 437 North St. greenwichreindeerfestival.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 30
 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 The First Congregational Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale - benefiting local charities. Front lawn, 108 Sound Beach Ave. 203-637-1791. fccog.org

9:30 a.m.
 Greenwich Alliance for Education Turkey Trot - 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk. Arch Street Teen Center, 100 Arch St. Adult: \$40 (\$50 on Race Day), Child (13 years and younger): \$15. greenwichalliance.org/turkey-trot-2024

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.
 Christmas in Cos Cob: A Holiday Tour of the Bush-Holley House. Greenwich Historical Society, 47



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Strickland Rd. Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 & 29. Reservations required. greenwichhistory.org/events

1 p.m.
 Science Solvers: 3D Sculptures (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Dec. 1. brucemuseum.org

2 p.m.
 Exhibitions Highlights Tours. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. Through Dec. 28. brucemuseum.org

5 p.m.
 Hawk Watch Season's-End Gathering & Season Report. Greenwich Audubon Center, 613 Riversville Rd. Ages 6 & up. Admission is free but donations are encouraged. Register. greenwich.audubon.org/events

SUNDAY, DEC. 1
 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 The First Congregational Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale - benefiting local charities. Front lawn, 108 Sound Beach Ave. 203-637-1791. fccog.org

9:15 a.m. or 10:45 a.m.
 Brunch with Santa. Bendheim Western Greenwich Civic Center, 449 Pemberwick Rd. \$18/person (ages 2 & up), Children under 2 are free and require a ticket. greenwichct.gov

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.
 Christmas in Cos Cob: A Holiday Tour of the Bush-Holley House. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 & 29. Reservations required. greenwichhistory.org/events

2 p.m.
 Fred Elser First Sunday Science: Climate Change in CT. Innis Arden Cottage, Tod's Point. Free. No park pass needed. brucemuseum.org

2:30 p.m.
 "Deck the Halls" - soprano and organ recital. St. Catherine of Siena Church, 4 Riverside Ave. 203-637-3661. Music.Director@stc-sta.org

THROUGH SATURDAY, NOV. 23
 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Greenwich Farmers' Market. Horseneck Parking Lot, Arch Street and Horseneck Lane. (Parking is free during market hours). greenwichfarmersmarketct.com.

THROUGH FRIDAY, DEC. 13
 Greenwich Recreation Holiday Food Drive for Neighbor to

Neighbor. Collection bins located at: Town Hall lobby, Parks & Recreation office (2nd floor of Town Hall), Bendheim Western Greenwich Civic Center, and Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink. greenwichct.gov

MONDAY - FRIDAY
 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.
 Arch Street Homework Heroes - Free after school tutoring (6th-12th grade). Arch Street Teen Center, 100 Arch St. info@archstreet.org. archstreet.org

TUESDAYS:
 10 a.m.
 Beginner Bridge with The Perfectly Polite Bridge Group. YMCA members, \$30; nonmembers, \$35. New players welcome. (Register by Monday, 6pm). 203-524-8032. greenwichymca.org

5 - 7 p.m.
 Lighthouse, a Program of Kids In Crisis: LGBTQ Youth Group Meeting. On Zoom. Free. Open to all LGBTQ Youth & allies. 203-661-1911. lighthouse@kidsincrisis.org. kidsincrisis.org/get-help/lighthouse

WEDNESDAYS:
 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 "Tools for Aging Well" (2nd Wednesday of the Month). Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. 203-869-1091. roundhillcommunitychurch.org.

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Relaxed Duplicate Bridge with The Perfectly Polite Bridge Group. YMCA of Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Members, \$10; nonmembers, \$12. New players welcome. (Register by Tue). 203-524-8032. greenwichymca.org

12 - 2 p.m.
 Waste Free Greenwich's Food Scrap Recycle Program: Drop off scraps at Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. roundhillcommunitychurch.org/news/composting-at-rhcc

12:15 p.m.
 Greenwich Rotary Club Weekly Lunch Meeting. Putnam Cottage, 243 East Putnam Ave. RSVP. 203-832-3654. sheila.goggin@cbmoves.com. greenwichrotary.org

6 - 7:30 p.m.
 Arch Street Teen Center High School Support Group for boys: Stress, Success, and Teenage Setbacks - moderated by Executive Director Kyle Silver. 100 Arch St. Register. Kyle@archstreet.org. archstreet.org

Greenwich Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

6:30 p.m.
NAMI-CAN (Child and Adolescent Network) Online Support Group - for parents and primary caregivers of children & adolescents, under age 21, with behavioral and emotional issues. Free. namisouthwestct.org/online-support

2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH:

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Aging Well - an informal conversation about different aspects of aging well. Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Road. Free & open to all. 203-869-1091. roundhillcommunitychurch.org

THURSDAYS:

8 a.m. & 4 p.m.

Tai Chi Basic Moves. First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Ave. Registration required. Tuition is paid as a donation made directly by the participant to abilis, Neighbor to Neighbor, or the First Congregational Church. experiencetaichi.org

3 - 7 p.m.

Arch Street After School Programming (All Ages) - every Thursday starting Feb. 22. Arch

Street Teen Center, 100 Arch St. archstreet.org

5 - 7 p.m.

Kids In Crisis Lighthouse LGBTQ Youth Group Meeting - open to all LGBTQ youth in middle & high school. Wilton Historical Society, 224 Danbury Rd, Wilton. Free. 203-661-1911. lighthouse@kidsincrisis.org. kidsincrisis.org/get-help/lighthouse

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY:

8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Book Exchange - choose from a huge selection of books. Holly Hill Recycling Center. Free, or, donate books. (Open every Fri & Sat. books4everyone.org

GREENWICH LIBRARIES
greenwichlibrary.org

Friday, Nov. 22

9:30 a.m.

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Assistance. Learning Lab. 203-862-6707.

10 a.m.

Storytime. Cos Cob Library Turret. 203-622-6883.

11:30 a.m.

Qi Gong. Online. 203-622-6883. lmattthews@greenwichlibrary.org

3 p.m.

Innovator-in-Residence: Controlling Motors with the Arduino Microcontroller. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: "The Taste of Things." Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, Nov. 23

10 a.m.

Blooming Beginnings!: Art, Movement & Mindfulness (ages 3-5). Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

11 a.m.

Technology Help. Learning Lab. 203-625-6560. csherman@greenwichlibrary.org

3 p.m.

Broadway Behind the Scenes. Berkley Theater. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/12698038

Monday, Nov. 25

9:30 a.m.

Little Learners (Registration Required). Children's Constellation Room.

11 a.m.

All Together Storytime. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

11:30 a.m.

Blood Pressure Screening. Community Room #5.

4 p.m.

Battle of the Books with Ms. Flynn. Byram Shubert Library Conference Room.

4:30 p.m.

Book Wizards Book Club. Cos Cob Library Turret.

7 p.m.

A Look inside: It's a Wonderful Life. Online.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

9:30 a.m.

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Assistance. Learning Lab. 203-862-6707.

11 a.m.

Storytime with Patty (Birth - Pre-K). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

1:15 p.m.

Baby Lapsit (Registration Required). Children's Constellation Room.

4 p.m.

Book Explorers Book Club. Cos Cob Library Turret.

5 p.m.

Meditation & Breathing with Gail. On Zoom.

Wednesday, Nov. 27

9:30 a.m.

Movers & Shakers (Registration Required). Children's Constellation Room.

10 a.m.

Baby Lapsit in the Stacks. Cos Cob Library Turret.

12 p.m.

All Libraries close early.

Thursday, Nov. 28

THANKSGIVING DAY.

All Libraries closed.

Friday, Nov. 29

All Libraries closed.

Saturday, Nov. 30

11 a.m.

Technology Help. Learning Lab. 203-625-6560. csherman@greenwichlibrary.org

GREENWICH HOSPITAL

greenwichhospital.org/events
888-305-9253

Saturday, Nov. 23

9 a.m.

CPR Friends & Family (Infant/Child). 38 Volunteer Ln. \$65. For discount information call 888-305-9253.

9:30 a.m.

AARP-Safe Driving Course. Greenwich Hospital, 5 Perryridge Rd. \$20.

Monday, Nov. 25

6 p.m.

CPR Friends & Family (Infant/Child). 38 Volunteer Ln. \$65. For discount information call 888-305-9253.

Wednesday, Nov. 27

1:30 p.m.

Parkinson's Disease Support Group - for people with Parkinson's, their families and caregivers. 260 Long Ridge Road, Stamford. Free.

Monday, Dec. 2

6 p.m.

CPR Friends & Family (Infant/Child). 38 Volunteer Ln. \$65. For discount information call 888-305-9253.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

6 p.m.

CPR Friends & Family (Infant/Child). 38 Volunteer Ln. \$65. For discount information call 888-305-9253.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

1:30 p.m.

Parkinson's Disease Support Group - for people with Parkinson's, their families and caregivers. 260 Long Ridge Road, Stamford. Free.

5:30 p.m.

Webinar: Why Am I Not Getting Pregnant? Free.

Thursday, Dec. 5

12 p.m.

Webinar: Cardiac Disease and Exercise. Free.

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR
ntngreenwich.org

Everyday, all day

• 24/7 Food Drive Collection site at North Greenwich Congregational Church, 606 Riversville Road. The weatherproof bin is located outside of the Parish Hall.

• Greenwich Reform Synagogue, 92 Orchard St., Cos Cob.

Tuesdays, 9 - 11 a.m.

Food Drive (drive-thru) at St. Catherine of Siena's parking area across the street from the rectory entrance, 4 Riverside Ave. (Non-perishable foods, personal care products, large sized diapers (5 & 6) and pull-ups, and knit hats (hand knit or store bought).

Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Food Drive at St. Paul's Episcopal Church parking lot, 200 Riverside Ave.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

RedCrossBlood.org

Friday, Nov. 22

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

United Church of Rowayton, 210 Rowayton Ave., Norwalk.

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

St. Gregory' the Great Church, 215 Halstead Ave., Harrison, NY.

Saturday, Nov. 23

8 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Archangels Greek Orthodox Church, 1527 Bedford Street, Stamford.

Sunday, Nov. 24

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Jewish Community Center, 1035 Newfield Avenue, Stamford.

Monday, Nov. 25

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church Stamford, 1101 Bedford St., Stamford.

11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Westchester Medical Center - Taylor Pavilion South, 100 Woods Rd., Valhalla, NY.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

American Red Cross, 40 Saw Mill River Road, Upper Level 3, Hawthorne, NY.

11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Thomas H Slater Center, 2 Fisher Ct., White Plains, NY.

Friday, Nov. 29

11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

American Red Cross, 40 Saw Mill River Rd., Upper Level 3, Hawthorne, NY.

11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Asbury Crestwood United Methodist Church, 167 Scarsdale Road, Tuckahoe, NY.

12 - 5 p.m.

American Legion Hall, 40 Bell Rd., Scarsdale, NY.

Saturday, Nov. 30

8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Union Baptist Church, 805 Newfield Avenue, Stamford.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Purchase Community House, 3095 Purchase St., Purchase, NY.

Sunday, Dec. 1

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

BATTLE of the BADGES BLOOD DRIVE



Greenwich Public Safety Complex

11 BRUCE PLACE, GREENWICH, CT

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024

8 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

The Battle of the Badges contest and blood drive is a friendly competition to see which Greenwich emergency response organization can collect the most units of life-saving blood, through their own donations as well as through recruited donors.

Please join us at the Greenwich Public Safety Complex to support your local department!

To schedule an appointment

SCAN the QR code at right

CALL **1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**

or VISIT US ONLINE at redcrossblood.org



Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions.

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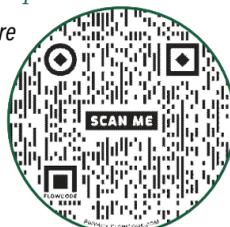
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SENTINEL HOMETOWN NEWS

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SENTINEL HOMETOWN NEWS

Greenwich Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

TOWN MEETINGS

greenwichct.gov/calendar

Monday, Nov. 25

1 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission Briefing.

5:30 p.m.
Nathaniel Witherell Board of Directors Meeting.

6:30 p.m.
Board of Health Regular Meeting. Via Zoom.

7 p.m.
Budget Overview Committee Meeting. Mazza Room.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

10 a.m.
Board of Selectmen Meeting In Person at Town Hall Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom.

4 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting.

4 p.m.
Labor Contracts Committee Meeting. Gisborne Room.

Monday, Dec. 2

10:30 a.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Sign-Meeting.

7:30 p.m.

Public Works Committee Meeting. Evaristo Conference Room.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

7:30 p.m.
Transportation Committee Meeting. Evaristo Conference Room.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

10 a.m.
BET Audit Committee.

3 p.m.
BET Law Committee.

7 p.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Regular Meeting.

7 p.m.
HDC Regular Meeting. Mazza Room.

Thursday, Dec. 5

11 a.m.
FS Sustainability Committee Meeting In Person @ Town Hall Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom.

7 p.m.
Conservation Commission Regular Meeting. Zoom Webinar.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, Dec. 13

6:30 p.m.

Greenwich Rotary Club's Holiday Party. Riverside Yacht Club. RSVP: Dec. 7. GreenwichRotary.org

Saturday, April 26, 2025

6 p.m.
Habitat for Humanity 40th Anniversary Gala. Hyatt Regency Greenwich. habitatcfc.org

Our Neighboring Towns

FRIDAY, NOV. 22

7:30 p.m.
Curtain Call presents "Young Frankenstein". The Kveskin Theatre, 1349 Newfield Ave., Stamford. Performances: Fri & Sat, 7:30pm, & Sun, 2pm (Nov. 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, Dec. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13 & 14). curtaincallinc.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 23

11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Fall Mini Concert. Stepping Stones Museum for Children - Mathews Park, 303 West Ave, Norwalk. steppingstonesmuseum.org

11 a.m.
Introduction to "The Nutcracker" with Norwalk

Metropolitan Youth Ballet. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. fergusonlibrary.org

SUNDAY, NOV. 24

3 p.m.
The Castle: A Play about Imprisonment and Hope. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

TUESDAY, NOV. 26

6:30 p.m.
"Just 4 Teens" - Teen Volunteer Open House. Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo - Hanson Building, 1875 Noble Ave, Bridgeport. 203-394-6565. info@beardsleyzoo.org. beardsleyzoo.org

THURSDAY, NOV. 28

2 p.m., 3 p.m. & 4 p.m.
Lillie's Laugh Track. Stepping Stones Museum for Children - Mathews Park, 303 West Ave, Norwalk. Through Dec. 28. steppingstonesmuseum.org

5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
GLOW Wild Lantern Festival. Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Ave., Bridgeport. Thurs-Sun, through Dec. 15. beardsleyzoo.org

SATURDAY, NOV. 30

PLAYING THIS WEEK AT

THE PLAYHOUSE

A REAL PAIN
Comedy • 1 hr 30 min

WICKED
Drama • 2 hr 40 min

93 Elm Street
New Canaan

And Join Us in the Pub!

CINEMALAB.COM
for showtimes and tickets

10 a.m.
Thanksgiving Weekend Waddle. New Canaan Nature Center, 144 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan. newcanaannature.org

11 a.m.
Holiday Theater: The Three Scrooges. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

Sudoku for Kids

		3	
	3		1
2		1	
3	1	4	

	4		3
		1	4
	1	3	
2			1

		1	
	2	3	
4			3
		4	1

4	1		
3		4	
	4	3	2
2			

SUDOKU

Each row, column, nonet can contain each number only once. Answers below.

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

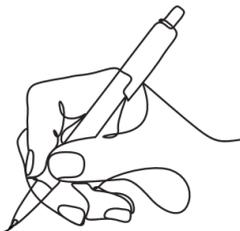
Sudoku answers

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

Calling all sophisticates, literary enthusiasts, and our very clever Sentinel readers!

Enter to Win \$100 in our contest!

Sentinel Literary Competition



A Reflection on Wit, Wisdom, and the Art of Second Guesses: October Competition Recap

This month's "What I Said/What I Should Have Said" competition brought a flood of clever, thought-provoking, and laugh-out-loud entries. Over 150 submissions poured in, demonstrating that hindsight truly is a comedian's best friend. As always, we saw a mix of longtime participants and fresh faces, which made narrowing down the winners a delightful challenge.

The entries were as diverse as they were humorous. Some perfectly captured the spirit of the prompt, while others subtly shifted toward a different but equally entertaining category: "What I Said/What I Meant." These entries were so well-written and relatable that we couldn't ignore them—but we also realized they were not quite what the prompt had in mind. For this reason, we'll revisit this concept sometime next year with a dedicated "What I Said/What I Meant" prompt, so keep those brilliant ideas brewing.

Let's dive into the best of the best, along with a few honorable mentions.

The Winners

First Place (\$100): Brent Donnelly

What I said: "Sorry I misplaced your book about Quantum Theory."

What I should have said: "Fortunately, there are many timelines in which I will return your book about Quantum Theory. Unfortunately, this is not one of them."

Brent's entry was a masterclass in blending intellectual wit with universal relatability. By invoking the multiverse, he elevated a simple apology into a moment of cosmic humor. This line wasn't just funny—it was smart, memorable, and downright brilliant.

Second Place (\$50): Zeena Hine

What I said: "Oh, great. A pollster. I'm sorry, but I don't give out my candidate preferences over the phone."

What I should have said: "How nice to hear from you. I'm voting straight

write-in candidates. Do you have pen and paper handy?"

Zeena's knack for sharp political satire was on full display here. Her entry managed to transform a routine phone call into a biting commentary on modern elections. She remains one of our most consistent contributors for a reason—her wit is unmatched.

Third Place (\$25): Kayla Kiczek (Age 10)

What I said: "Trick or Treat!"

What I should have said: "Let's be real here. I have no interest in tricks. I'm all about the treats. So, we can do this the easy way, or we can do this the hard way."

Kayla's entry delighted us with its bold, confident humor. At just ten years old, she proved that wit knows no age limit. We expect to see more from her in future competitions!

Honorable Mentions

While the winners took the top spots, several entries deserve a spotlight for their creativity and charm:

Dennis & Ruth

What I said: "Oooh, a book club that meets monthly? That sounds lovely. It will encourage me to read more."

What I should have said: "30 days? What was I thinking?! Week one was a bust, but I'll just listen to the audiobook while I exercise. Shoot, that didn't go well. Okay, are CliffNotes still a thing?"

This entry hit close to home for anyone who's ever overestimated their time management skills. It was equal parts humorous and painfully relatable.

Andrea Kiczek

What I said: "No thanks, I'm not

hungry."

What I should have said: "Just to be safe, order an extra appetizer. Anything you want. No, not that one. Not that one, either. Wings, just get wings. And I'm eating half your fries."

Andrea's entry nailed the fine art of "not being hungry" while still commandeering someone else's meal. It's a universal truth wrapped in humor.

Erica Blair

What I said: "Thank you for my birthday present."

What I should have said: "Thank you for sending me a fourth copy of your book. My collection was missing one with your autograph stamped in it."

Erica's entry was a clever poke at over-gifting and vanity, delivered with subtle politeness that made it all the more effective.

The "What I Meant" Phenomenon

As we combed through the entries, we noticed a surprising trend: many submissions leaned more toward "What I Said/What I Meant" rather than "What I Should Have Said." These entries were sharp, insightful, and often hilarious, but they reflected a slightly different perspective on the theme.

For instance, "I'm going outside to play" versus "I'm going on a secret F.B.I. mission. See you Thursday" captured what the speaker meant but didn't intend to say aloud. This was a delightful angle we hadn't anticipated, and we loved it so much that we plan to revisit this as a standalone prompt in 2025. So if this was your favorite approach, keep your notes handy—we'll want to hear more!

Next Month's Challenge

Title: "Modern Etiquette for the Digital Age"

Prompt: Write a witty, tongue-in-cheek guide to navigating modern dilemmas in the digital world. Entries should focus on new "rules" for social media, online dating, or Zoom meetings.

Examples:

"If you start a group text, you are required to moderate it for eternity. This includes resolving disputes, clarifying emojis, and providing tech support to that one friend still on Android."

"On a Zoom call, your cat may attend as a silent observer. Your dog, however, must refrain from barking at the Amazon delivery person."

"When liking your ex's post, you are allowed one accidental click—but only if you unlike it within 30 seconds and never, ever mention it again."

Deadline: Saturday, November 30, 2024. The winner receives \$100 and publication in the Sentinel!

How to Enter: Submitting your entry is easy! Craft your clever response to this month's prompt, then visit www.greenwichsentinel.com/sentinel-writing-competition/ to submit it.

Multiple entries are welcome, and pseudonyms are accepted—giving you the freedom to be as inventive as you like.

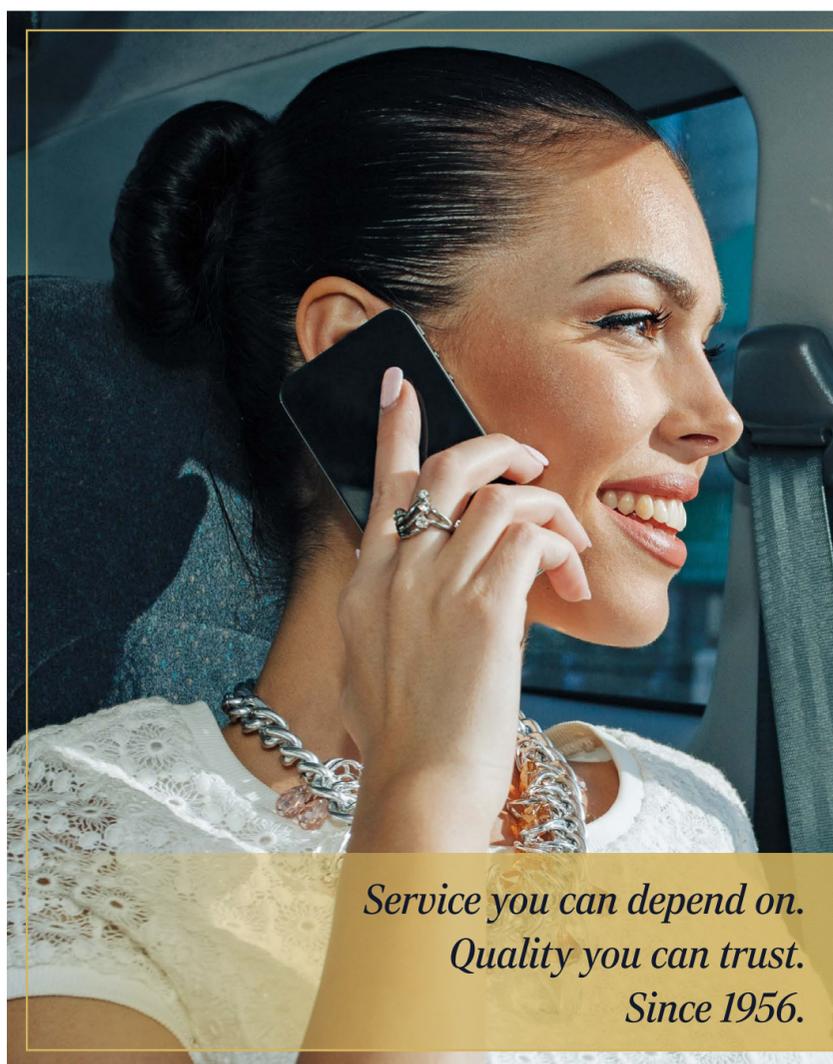
Thank you to everyone who participated in October's competition. Your creativity, humor, and ability to find levity in life's awkward moments continue to impress us. We can't wait to see how you navigate the digital world in next month's challenge!

Add someone to the **Sentinel**

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WINNIE-THE-POOH BY A.A. MILNE

CHAPTER IX IN WHICH PIGLET IS ENTIRELY SURROUNDED BY WATER

It rained and it rained and it rained. Piglet told himself that never in all his life, and he was goodness knows how old—three, was it, or four?—never had he seen so much rain. Days and days and days.

"If only," he thought, as he looked out of the window, "I had been in Pooh's house, or Christopher Robin's house, or Rabbit's house when it began to rain, then I should have had Company all this time, instead of being here all alone, with nothing to do except wonder when it will stop." And he imagined himself with Pooh, saying, "Did you ever see such rain, Pooh?" and Pooh saying, "Isn't it awful, Piglet?" and Piglet saying, "I wonder how it is over Christopher Robin's way" and Pooh saying, "I should think poor old Rabbit is about flooded out by this time." It would have been jolly to talk like this, and really, it wasn't much good having anything exciting like floods, if you couldn't share them with somebody.

For it was rather exciting. The little dry ditches in which Piglet had nosed about so often had become streams, the little streams across which he had splashed were rivers, and the river, between whose steep banks they had played so happily, had sprawled out of its own bed and was taking up so much room everywhere, that Piglet was beginning to wonder whether it would be coming into his bed soon.

"It's a little Anxious," he said to himself, "to be a Very Small Animal Entirely Surrounded by Water. Christopher Robin and Pooh could escape by Climbing Trees, and Kanga could escape by Jumping, and Rabbit could escape by Burrowing, and Owl could escape by Flying, and Eeyore could escape by—by Making a Loud Noise Until Rescued, and here am I, surrounded by water and I can't do anything." It went on raining, and every day the water got a little higher, until now it was nearly up to Piglet's window ... and still he hadn't done anything.



"There's Pooh," he thought to himself. "Pooh hasn't much Brain, but he never comes to any harm. He does silly things and they turn out right. There's Owl. Owl hasn't exactly got Brain, but he Knows Things. He would know the Right Thing to Do when Surrounded by Water. There's Rabbit. He hasn't Learnt in Books, but he can always Think of a Clever Plan. There's Kanga. She isn't Clever, Kanga isn't, but she would be so anxious about Roo that she would do a Good Thing to Do without thinking about It. And then there's Eeyore. And Eeyore is so miserable anyhow that he wouldn't mind about this. But I wonder what Christopher Robin would do?"

Then suddenly he remembered a story which Christopher Robin had told him about a man on a desert island who had written something in a bottle and thrown it in the sea; and Piglet thought that if he

wrote something in a bottle and threw it in the water, perhaps somebody would come and rescue him!

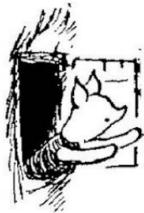
He left the window and began to search his house, all of it that wasn't under water, and at last he found a pencil and a small piece of dry paper, and a bottle with a cork to it. And he wrote on one side of the paper:

HELP!
PIGLET (ME)

and on the other side:

IT'S ME PIGLET, HELP HELP.

Then he put the paper in the bottle, and he corked the bottle up as tightly as he could, and he leant out of his window as far as he could lean without falling in, and he threw the bottle as far as he could throw—splash!—and in a little while it bobbed up again on the water; and he watched it floating slowly away in the distance, until his eyes ached with looking, and sometimes he thought it was the bottle, and sometimes he thought it was just a ripple on the water which he was following, and then suddenly he knew that he would never see it again and that he had done all that he could do to save himself.



"So now," he thought, "somebody else will have to do something, and I hope they will do it soon, because if they don't I shall have to swim, which I can't, so I hope they do it soon." And then he gave a very long sigh and said, "I wish Pooh were here. It's so much more friendly with two."

When the rain began Pooh was asleep. It rained, and it rained, and it rained, and he slept and he slept and he slept. He had had a tiring day. You remember how he discovered the North Pole; well, he was so proud of this that he asked Christopher Robin if there were any other Poles such as a Bear of Little Brain might discover.

"There's a South Pole," said Christopher Robin, "and I expect there's an East Pole and a West Pole, though people don't like talking about them."

Pooh was very excited when he heard this, and suggested that they should have an Expedition to discover the East Pole, but Christopher Robin had thought of something else to do with Kanga; so Pooh went out to discover the East Pole by himself. Whether he discovered it or not, I forget; but he was so tired when he got home that, in the very middle of his supper, after he had been eating for little more than half-an-hour, he fell fast asleep in his chair, and slept and slept and slept.

Then suddenly he was dreaming. He was at the East Pole, and it was a very cold pole with the coldest sort of snow and ice all over it. He had found a beehive to sleep in, but there wasn't room for his legs, so he had left them outside. And Wild Woozles, such as inhabit the East Pole, came and nibbled all the fur off his legs to make nests for their Young. And the more they nibbled, the colder his legs got, until suddenly he woke up with an Ow!—and there he was, sitting in his chair with his feet in the water, and water all round him!

He splashed to his door and looked out....

"This is Serious," said Pooh. "I must have an Escape."

So he took his largest pot of honey and escaped with it to a broad branch of his tree, well above the water, and then he

climbed down again and escaped with another pot ... and when the whole Escape was finished, there was Pooh sitting on his branch, dangling his legs, and there, beside him, were ten pots of honey...



Two days later, there was Pooh, sitting on his branch, dangling his legs, and there, beside him, were four pots of honey....

Three days later, there was Pooh, sitting on his branch, dangling his legs, and there beside him, was one pot of honey.

Four days later, there was Pooh ...



And it was on the morning of the fourth day that Piglet's bottle came floating past him, and with one loud cry of "Honey!" Pooh plunged into the water, seized the bottle, and struggled back to his tree again.

"Bother!" said Pooh, as he opened it. "All that wet for nothing. What's that bit of paper doing?"

He took it out and looked at it.

"It's a Missage," he said to himself, "that's what it is. And that letter is a 'P,' and so is that, and so is that, and 'P' means 'Pooh,' so it's a very important Missage to me, and I can't read it. I must find Christopher Robin or Owl or Piglet, one of those Clever Readers who can read things, and they will tell me what this missage means. Only I can't swim. Bother!"

Then he had an idea, and I think that for a Bear of Very Little Brain, it was a good idea. He said to himself:

"If a bottle can float, then a jar can float, and if a jar floats, I can sit on the top of it, if it's a very big jar."



So he took his biggest jar, and corked it up. "All boats have to have a name," he said, "so I shall call mine The Floating Bear." And with these words he dropped his boat into the water and jumped in after it.



For a little while Pooh and The Floating Bear were uncertain as to which of them was meant to be on the top, but after trying one or two different positions, they settled down with The Floating Bear underneath and Pooh triumphantly astride it, paddling vigorously with his feet.



Christopher Robin lived at the very top of the Forest. It rained, and it rained, and it rained, but the water couldn't come up to his house. It was rather jolly to look down into the valleys and see the water all round him, but it rained so hard that he stayed indoors most of the time, and thought about things. Every morning he went out with his umbrella and put a stick in the place where the water came up to, and every next morning he went out and couldn't see his stick any more, so he put another stick in the place where the water came up to, and then he walked home again, and each morning he had a shorter way to walk than he had had the morning before. On the morning of the fifth day he saw the water all round him, and knew that for the first time in his life he was on a real island. Which was very exciting.



It was on this morning that Owl came flying over the water to say "How do you do," to his friend Christopher Robin.

"I say, Owl," said Christopher Robin, "isn't this fun? I'm on an island!"

"The atmospheric conditions have been very unfavourable lately," said Owl.

"The what?"

"It has been raining," explained Owl.

"Yes," said Christopher Robin. "It has."

"The flood-level has reached an unprecedented height."

"The who?"

"There's a lot of water about," explained Owl.

"Yes," said Christopher Robin, "there is."

"However, the prospects are rapidly becoming more favourable. At any moment—"

"Have you seen Pooh?"

"No. At any moment—"

"I hope he's all right," said Christopher Robin. "I've been wondering about him. I expect Piglet's with him. Do you think they're all right, Owl?"

"I expect so. You see, at any moment—"

"Do go and see, Owl. Because Pooh hasn't got very much brain, and he might do something silly, and I do love him so, Owl. Do you see, Owl?"

"That's all right," said Owl. "I'll go. Back directly." And he flew off.

In a little while he was back again.

"Pooh isn't there," he said.

"Not there?"

"Has been there. He's been sitting on a branch of his tree outside his house with nine pots of honey. But he isn't there now."

"Oh, Pooh!" cried Christopher Robin.

"Where are you?"



"Here I am," said a growly voice behind him.

"Pooh!"

They rushed into each other's arms.

"How did you get here, Pooh?" asked Christopher Robin, when he was ready to talk again.

"On my boat," said Pooh proudly. "I had a Very Important Message sent me in a bottle, and owing to having got some water in my eyes, I couldn't read it, so I brought it to you. On my boat."



With these proud words he gave Christopher Robin the message.

"But it's from Piglet!" cried Christopher Robin when he had read it.

"Isn't there anything about Pooh in it?" asked Bear, looking over his shoulder.

Christopher Robin read the message aloud.

"Oh, are those 'P's' piglets? I thought they were poohs."

"We must rescue him at once! I thought he was with you, Pooh. Owl, could you rescue him on your back?"

"I don't think so," said Owl, after grave thought. "It is doubtful if the necessary dorsal muscles—"

"Then would you fly to him at once and say that Rescue is Coming? And Pooh and I will think of a Rescue and come as quick as ever we can. Oh, don't talk, Owl, go on quick!" And, still thinking of something to say, Owl flew off.

"Now then, Pooh," said Christopher Robin, "where's your boat?"

"I ought to say," explained Pooh as they walked down to the shore of the island, "that it isn't just an ordinary sort of boat. Sometimes it's a Boat, and sometimes it's more of an Accident. It all depends."

"Depends on what?"

"On whether I'm on the top of it or underneath it."

"Oh! Well, where is it?"

"There!" said Pooh, pointing proudly to The Floating Bear.

It wasn't what Christopher Robin expected, and the more he looked at it, the more he thought what a Brave and Clever Bear Pooh was, and the more Christopher Robin thought this, the more Pooh looked modestly down his nose and tried to pretend he wasn't.

"But it's too small for two of us," said Christopher Robin sadly.

"Three of us with Piglet."

"That makes it smaller still. Oh, Pooh Bear, what shall we do?"

And then this Bear, Pooh Bear, Winnie-the-Pooh, F.O.P. (Friend of Piglet's), R.C. (Rabbit's Companion), P.D. (Pole Discoverer), E.C. and T.F. (Eeyore's Comforter and Tail-finder)—in fact, Pooh himself—said something so clever that Christopher Robin could only look at him with mouth open and eyes staring.



wondering if this was really the Bear of Very Little Brain whom he had known and loved so long.

"We might go in your umbrella," said Pooh.

"?"

"We might go in your umbrella," said Pooh.

"? ?"

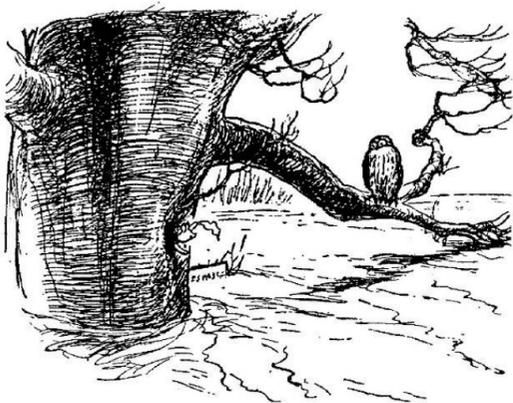
"We might go in your umbrella," said Pooh.

"!!!!!!"

For suddenly Christopher Robin saw that they might. He opened his umbrella and put it point downwards in the water. It floated but wobbled. Pooh got in. He was just beginning to say that it was all right now, when he found that it wasn't, so after a short drink which he didn't really want he waded back to Christopher Robin. Then they both got in together, and it wobbled no longer.



"I shall call this boat The Brain of Pooh," said Christopher Robin, and The Brain of Pooh set sail forthwith in a south-westerly direction, revolving gracefully.



You can imagine Piglet's joy when at last the ship came in sight of him. In after-years he liked to think that he had been in Very Great Danger during the Terrible Flood, but the only danger he had really been in was in the last half-hour of his imprisonment, when Owl, who had just flown up, sat on a branch of his tree to comfort him, and told him a very long story about an aunt who had once laid a seagull's egg by mistake, and the story went on and on, rather like this sentence, until Piglet who was listening out of his window without much hope, went to sleep quietly and naturally, slipping slowly out of the window towards the water until he was only hanging on by his toes, at which moment luckily, a sudden loud squawk from Owl, which was really part of the story, being what his aunt said, woke the Piglet up and just gave him time to jerk himself back into safety and say, "How interesting, and did she?" when—well, you can imagine his joy when at last he saw the good ship, Brain of Pooh (Captain, C. Robin; 1st Mate, P. Bear) coming over the sea to rescue him. Christopher Robin and Pooh again...

And that is really the end of the story, and I am very tired after that last sentence, I think I shall stop there.

Learn about Wild Turkeys

Wild turkeys were abundant in Connecticut when the first settlers arrived. Then a combination of forest clearing and unusually cold winters eliminated the turkey from Connecticut by the early 1800s. Beginning in the 1950s, people worked to restore wild turkeys. They succeeded and the big birds can now be found in all 169 Connecticut towns. Recent land use practices in Connecticut have also helped wild turkey populations as the landscape has become more forested.

The eastern wild turkey is a large, majestic bird. Adult males weigh anywhere between 15 and 25 pounds, and measure 48 inches. Adult females are smaller, weighing between 8 and 12 pounds and measuring 36 inches.

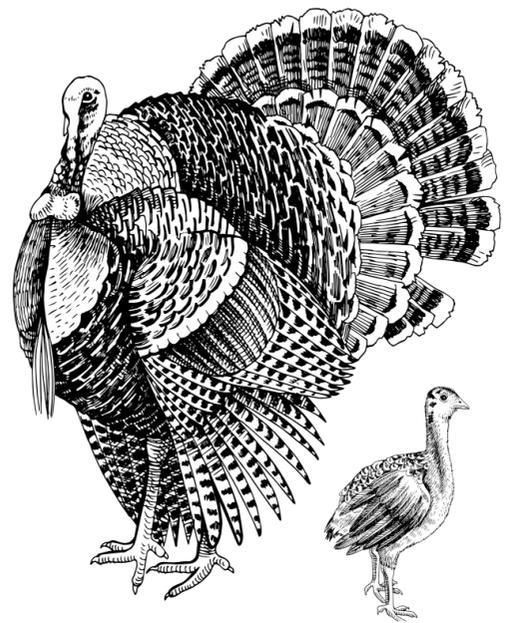
Males or "toms" are dark in coloration with iridescent feathers. They have a bald head that is brightly-colored in red, white, and blue, especially during the mating season. Toms also have spurs (up to 1.5 inches in length) on their legs, and a hair-like beard (up to 12 inches long) protruding from their breast. Female turkeys (hens) are

lighter in color, lack spurs, and have a pale blue head.

Wild turkeys eat acorns and other mast (hard fruit), fleshy fruits, corn, a variety of seeds, and invertebrates. Young turkeys (poults) feed heavily on insects.

The breeding season starts in early spring, when toms begin gobbling and displaying for the hens. Hens lay a clutch of 8 to 14 eggs at the rate of about 1 egg per day. Turkeys incubate their eggs for 28 days. Once hatched, the poults remain with their mother throughout summer, fall, and winter. In late summer, hens with their broods will join up to form flocks. Flocks of up to 100 birds have been reported in Connecticut, but usually flocks number from 10 to 20 birds. On occasion, adult toms will join the flock, but more often will form groups of their own or travel as individuals.

Although they are usually seen on the ground, turkeys can fly. A wild turkey may range over several square miles in one day. Few predators are able



to catch an adult wild turkey. The turkey's well-developed instinct for survival and excellent eyesight and hearing help to keep it out of harm's way. Hens on the nest, as well as poults during their first few weeks of life, are most vulnerable to predators. Free-ranging domestic dogs can severely reduce nesting success in populated areas.

In some areas of dense human populations, where food and cover are plentiful, turkeys have learned to live alongside people and seem to survive well.

Counting Game

1 + 7 = ○

3 + 9 = ○

6 + 5 = ○

2 + 1 = ○

Counting Game

9 - 3 = ○

6 - 5 = ○

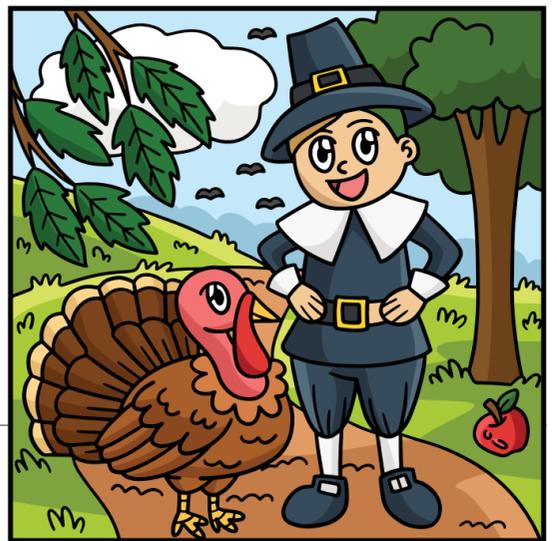
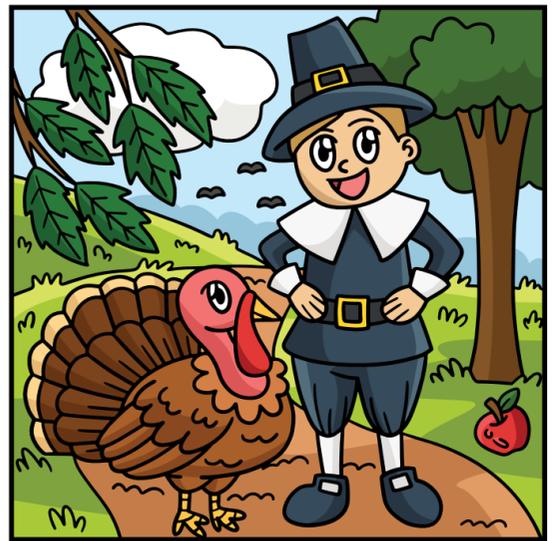
2 - 1 = ○

7 - 1 = ○

Puzzle Time FIND TWO SAME TURKEYS

Puzzle Time Spot 10 differences

Find 6 differences



GRAB YOUR SKETCH BOOK

step by step

The Sentinel Education Pages

COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE NORTH AMERICAN MOOSE

One of the Last Mega Fauna in North America

BY JIM KNOX

"Can we pet him, Daddy?" my young daughters asked in near unison at the sight of the giant creature some yards away.

"No girls. We'll just watch him safely from here," I responded in a hush so as not to startle the object of our amazement.

Along with a growing caravan of onlookers, we sat quietly a few car lengths behind the huge animal, with the driver's window cracked open, observing its every move. When the mountain breeze in the notch shifted, we could hear it munching on the undergrowth along the western shoulder of the ascending road.

We were treated to a sight of the wild north country. We took in the enormous creature before us. It stood on four impossibly long legs, its blackish-brown barrel-shaped body dominating our field on view. With palm-like antlers crowning its head more than seven feet above the ground, we beheld New England's largest land mammal.

The North American Moose, *Alces alces*, is the largest living deer in the world, and one impressive creature. The young bull we observed was enormous yet not as massive as he would grow in his prime. His Alaskan cousins grew even larger. Reaching up to 10 feet in length, 79 feet at the shoulder, and 1808 pounds in weight, the North American Moose is a beast!

Ranging from Alaska, Canada, the northern tier states, and New England—including Connecticut—the moose is a creature of the boreal, spruce, and hardwood forests of the great north. With its slightly smaller kin, the Eurasian Moose—known as elk—inhabiting Scandinavia, the Baltic states, Poland, Russia, and Kazakhstan, the moose inhabits the higher latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere.

More than just behemoths, moose are superbly adapted creatures with a fine-tuned array of traits suited for their habitats. Their massive hooves approach six inches in length and aid the animals in displacing their weight across a variety of ground cover. Likewise, they double nicely as paddles when the moose takes to water. Additionally, the moose possesses hollow hairs which both insulate it in conditions down to 50 below zero and buoy it in water when it swims. The moose is highly aquatic—a fact that aids in cooling its massive



The North American Moose

up to 75,000 ticks on a single moose! With an infestation of such magnitude, a moose can lose gallons of blood to the parasites, leading to anemia, and even loss of life.

While the moose faces new obstacles, like all of nature's creatures, it is adaptable and behaviorally programmed to survive. In addition, field biologists in Minnesota, New Hampshire, and other range states are researching novel forestry techniques and new conservation practices which encourage more evenly distributed population densities—protecting the moose from parasite predation. While the north country needs the moose, the moose needs a boost. Specialists like the moose may benefit from the helping hand of science. After all, even a giant can use a little help now and again.

Jim Knox is Curator of Education at Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo where he directs education and conservation initiatives to advance the protection of wildlife in Connecticut and beyond.

"With palm-like antlers crowning its head more than seven feet above the ground, we beheld New England's largest land mammal."

body during the brief but warm summers in the northern latitudes. Rounding out its complement of aquatic adaptations the moose is capable of swimming more than 20 feet below the water's surface and remaining submerged for more than 30 seconds.

With an enormous muzzle housing a huge and sensitive nose, the moose possesses, not only a keen sense of smell, but also an expansive nasal cavity which warms the frigid winter air before it hits its lungs. Lacking a nose pad like White-tailed deer, the moose's nose is hair covered to guard against frostbite.

It's extremely long legs aid it in traversing uneven ground and in grazing on aquatic vegetation in shallow water. It is this new aquatic growth in particular that provides the cows with essential nutrition, enabling them to produce milk for hungry calves which can grow an astonishing 2-5 pounds per day!

While they differ in shape from the twig-like (dendritic) antlers of their smaller cousins, the antlers of moose are palm-like (palmate) and much larger. The record antler

spread for an Alaskan bull topped 6 feet across! Yet the moose is far more than a list of mammalian superlatives.

As a key recycler of forest nutrients, these enormous deer are essential in converting plant energy and returning it to the plant communities of the forest though their droppings along with fertilized seeds. Similarly, the moose's grazing habits stimulate new growth, aiding forest regeneration.

Yet despite all of these species and ecosystem adaptations, the moose faces many challenges in the 21st century. As a creature adapted to the extreme cold of high latitudes and altitudes, the moose is especially sensitive to environmental change. Warming temperatures and higher humidity throughout its range have resulted in range overlap with White-tailed deer and susceptibility to the brain worm parasite, *Parelaphostrongylus tenuis*. Additionally, with this temperature change comes mild winters which lead to greater survival of winter ticks. This in turn leads to massive infestations of the parasites of



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Dr. Camacho completed his general surgery residency at The Ohio State University Medical Center and completed his fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at Baylor College of Medicine. He has shared his expertise in minimally invasive procedures through books, peer-reviewed articles and more than 60 international presentations.

He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and an active member in several professional societies. In 2019, he was recognized by the Fairfield County Doctors of Distinction for his international work. He was recognized by the Latin American Federation of Surgery (FELAC) as the most accomplished Latino surgeon in the United States. Dr. Camacho is fluent in Spanish and has been a Greenwich resident since 2008.



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