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LOCAL NEWS BRIEF

POLICE & FIRE

NCIS Honors Detective Beattie for Innovation



On October 17, 2024, Special Agent Kris Peterson of NCIS presented Detective Ryan Beattie with a commendation for his effective use of federal intelligence databases in criminal investigations. His work has demonstrated the role of collaboration and innovation in law enforcement. NCIS continues to recognize detectives nationwide for their use of these resources.

Photo Credit: Greenwich Police Department

Sgt. Ruszkowski Celebrates 20 Years Service



Sergeant Ruszkowski has completed 20 years of service with the Greenwich Police Department. In his role, he helps communicate the department's values and standards to the officers he supervises. His position plays a key part in maintaining the department's culture and structure.

Photo Credit: Greenwich Police Department

FROM TOWN HALL

North Street Bridge Project Timeline Adjusted

The North Street Bridge project timeline has been adjusted based on community input, with a revised schedule aiming for completion in 10 months. The Department of Public Works is in discussions with the contractor to explore ways to further shorten the timeline. A recording of the meeting is available online for those who missed it.

Green Thoughts

By ANNE W. SEMMES

“Yet you, blind to the face of imminent death, with one foot in the grave contract/For marble to build more/Villas and, not content to own the mainland shore, /Push out your property/ From Baiae’s beaches to displace the growling sea.” Horace, from “Odes,” 23 B.C.

The Remarkable Story of Connecticut’s Financial Resurrection

By TOM WILLIAMSON

Connecticut’s financial recovery is making headlines, and for good reason. Lawmakers from both parties can be very proud of the bipartisan approach to the pivotal 2017 reforms that steered the state away from disaster and laid the foundation for its current stability.

Today, we see headlines about tax cuts, balanced budgets, and a record-setting rainy day fund, but these achievements didn’t materialize overnight. The turnaround began with a surprising legislative session seven years ago—one that reshaped Connecticut’s financial future.

For years, state leaders ignored warning signs as pension liabilities soared, deficits grew, and borrowing spun out of control. For much of the 2010s, the state government continued to increase spending, relying on volatile revenue from high-income earners while neglecting long-term obligations. “We were spending like there was no tomorrow,” former State Senator L. Scott Frantz recalled in an interview with the *Sentinel*, “and eventually, tomorrow came.”

By the time the state hit rock bottom in 2017, it was starting down a \$5.1 billion budget deficit, the largest in its history, and watching its credit rating spiral downward. “We were on the verge of bankruptcy,” Frantz said, reflecting on the state of affairs before Connecticut lawmakers passed the critical fiscal guardrails in 2017. “The forecasts were horrific. It was clear that if we didn’t change course, the situation was going to implode.”

Political Control and Missteps

Governor Dannel Malloy, in office from 2011 to 2018, inherited a state already weakened by rising pension liabilities and a volatile tax base. His administration’s approach to handling the crisis did little to improve Connecticut’s long-term fiscal health. Pension obligations were growing exponentially, yet the solutions leadership offered often involved extending the liabilities into the future, with no clear path to paying down the debt.

“Every year, they were kicking the can further down the road,” Frantz explained. “The pensions were a ticking time bomb, and no one wanted to make the tough decisions to rein in spending.”

Connecticut’s reliance on income taxes, especially from wealthy residents whose earnings were tied to the stock market, only exacerbated the problem. When the markets were up, the state enjoyed short-term gains, but those surges masked a deeper issue. “We had windfall revenue from capital gains and other taxes during good years,” Frantz said, “but instead of saving for a rainy day, they spent it all.”

The Consequences of Mismanagement

The ballooning pension costs, coupled with a lack of meaningful spending cuts, created a structural deficit that could no longer be ignored.

The guardrails are not permanent. Parts of the legislation are set to expire in 2025

The state’s precarious financial situation scared off businesses and residents alike. In January of 2016 General Electric, a longtime Connecticut fixture, packed up and relocated to Massachusetts, citing the unfavorable business climate. Other companies and high-net-worth individuals followed suit, further eroding the tax base and making it even harder for the state to close its growing budget gaps.

Then Connecticut’s bond ratings were downgraded by major credit rating agencies, including Standard & Poor’s, which reduced the state’s rating to “A+” from “AA-” and later shifted its outlook on the state’s debt from stable to negative. These downgrades were a major blow to Connecticut, increasing the cost of borrowing and putting further pressure on its budget. “It was a wake-up call,” Frantz said. “When your credit rating drops, it’s a clear sign you’ve lost control of your finances.”

The Game Changer

Faced with the stark reality of the situation, Connecticut lawmakers knew they needed a solution that would force fiscal discipline.

From 2011 through 2016, Connecticut’s state government was under the control of the one party, with Governor Dannel Malloy leading the state from the governor’s mansion.

The 2016 Connecticut State Senate election was a game-changer. Democrats, who had long held a comfortable 21-15 majority, saw their grip on power slip as Republicans gained three seats, resulting in an 18-18 tie. This unexpected shift forced procedural changes and required both parties to adopt a power-sharing agreement that reshaped the dynamics of the Senate.

Control of the chamber was split right down the middle, with committees divided 50-50. Perhaps most notably, Republicans were given the ability to call procedural votes to bring legislation to the floor—a major shift in influence.

One of the most significant outcomes of this power-sharing arrangement was the joint leadership of key committees, including the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee, where the state’s most critical financial decisions are made. This committee has jurisdiction over everything from capital bonding to tax policy, and it was here, with Republican Scott Frantz and Democrat John Fonfara sharing the chairmanship, that the fiscal guardrails were born. These measures, which have played a pivotal role in stabilizing Connecticut’s finances, came from a unique moment of bipartisan cooperation that few could have predicted.

The Fiscal Guardrails Become Law

Enter the fiscal guardrails—measures designed to cap spending, limit borrowing, and create a buffer against the volatility of the state’s tax revenues. “It was a rare moment of bipartisanship,” Frantz recalled. “We both knew that if we didn’t act, the state’s financial future was in jeopardy.”

The fiscal guardrails consisted of three key components: a spending cap, a bonding cap, and a volatility cap. The spending cap limits the state’s ability to increase its budget beyond the rate of inflation or the growth in personal income, whichever is higher. “This was critical,” Frantz explained. “The state had been spending beyond its means for years, and this cap forced lawmakers to live within a set budget.”

The bonding cap, which limits the amount of debt the state can issue, was another essential reform. “For years, they were treating debt as revenue,” Frantz said incredulously. “It was insane. You can’t treat debt like free money—you have to pay it back.” The bonding cap ensures that the state cannot borrow more than 1.4 times the expected revenue for the next fiscal year, putting an end to the reckless borrowing that had plagued Connecticut’s finances.

Perhaps the most innovative of the guardrails is the volatility cap, which requires that any revenue from capital gains taxes or other volatile sources that exceeds \$3.3 billion be set aside in the state’s Budget Reserve Fund, or rainy day fund. “It’s a brilliant solution,” Frantz said, “because it smooths out the revenue fluctuations. When the markets do well, we don’t just spend all the extra revenue—we save it for the bad years.”

The Road to Recovery—and the Risks Ahead

The fiscal guardrails have had a profound impact on Connecticut’s financial health. By 2024, the state’s Budget Reserve Fund had reached record levels, and Connecticut had managed to pay down more than \$20 billion in debt. “It’s worked better than anyone could have imagined,” Frantz said, though he cautioned that the guardrails’ success had made some lawmakers complacent. “There’s always the temptation to spend the surplus, but we need to keep that money in reserve for the inevitable downturns.”

The guardrails are not permanent. Parts of the legislation are set to expire in 2025, and Frantz is concerned that political pressure could lead to their weakening. “I’d like to see the guardrails extended indefinitely,” he said. “They’ve proven their worth, and it would be a huge mistake to go back to the old ways of doing things.”

Checking in with Stephanie Dunn Ashley

By BETH BARHYDT

As hurricanes Helene and Milton swept through the southeastern United States, leaving devastation in their wake, the American Red Cross once again sprang into action. Among the leaders working on the massive relief effort was Stephanie Dunn Ashley, Chief Executive Officer of the American Red Cross Metro New York North Chapter, our local chapter.

While stationed in Connecticut, Ashley has been working remotely, using technology to connect with teams on the ground and coordinating reunification efforts, a process she describes as emotionally draining but ultimately rewarding.

“I’m still working with the North Carolina team,” Ashley shared in a recent interview, “doing reunification work, and that’s probably going to continue for another week. We have over 9,000 cases.” Each case represents a person or family displaced by the storms, individuals whose loved ones have lost contact with them, unsure if they are safe or even alive.

This reunification process, as Ashley explains, involves detective work, much of it done from behind a computer screen. “If you had a sister that lived in North Carolina and you couldn’t get in touch with her, you could call the Red Cross or go online and fill out a reunification form. Then, that case goes into our queue,” she says. From there, volunteers like Ashley reach out to the individuals who reported the missing person, gathering as much information as possible to start the search.

The scope of the Red Cross’s efforts is staggering. “We’ll take as much information as we can,” she explains. “We have links for law enforcement, hospitals, and our own shelter registries. We even go on Zillow or MapQuest to look at the area. It’s like detective work—figuring out if someone might be in a hospital, shelter, or elsewhere. We exhaust every effort before sending the case to our ground crew.”

Ashley’s dedication to the cause has been evident throughout her career, with over twenty years of service in the nonprofit sector in Greenwich. But, as she acknowledges, the emotional toll of her current work is significant. “The first couple of days, I was



like, ‘Wow, this is heavy stuff,’” she says. One of her first successes came when the ground crew located a grandmother and her five-year-old grandchild who had survived the hurricane with nothing but the clothes on their backs and water from a nearby spring. “You feel like, ‘Wow, I’ve really done something really meaningful.’”

However, not every case resolves so neatly. Ashley notes that some cases can take days or even weeks to conclude, with volunteers calling, emailing, and texting repeatedly to ensure no stone is left unturned. “Sometimes you’re lucky and find someone on the first call,” she says, “but most cases require several rounds of outreach.”

In addition to reunification, the Red Cross has also been managing shelters for those displaced by the storms. “The night Milton hit, there were almost 84,000 people in Red Cross shelters,” Ashley recalls. “We set up places with food, beds, showers—the whole nine yards. It’s 24/7 until the last person leaves.”

Managing such large-scale operations is an enormous logistical challenge. “Every day, the cost of operations adds up,” Ashley explains. “Just deploying people in advance of the hurricane can cost a million dollars. You can’t deploy after a hurricane; it’s already too late. So you have to be there beforehand, ready with trucks, cots, and everything else. For something like the disaster in North Carolina, the Red Cross will spend billions in relief efforts.”

The Red Cross works in tandem with local emergency management teams to establish these

shelters in secure locations. In Connecticut, for example, the Red Cross coordinates closely with local officials to ensure evacuation sites are prepped well in advance. “We work with the Office of Emergency Management in Greenwich to ensure everything is set,” says Ashley, “and we revise plans every year.”

The Red Cross’s operations extend far beyond shelters. They are also responsible for providing emergency supplies, mental health services, and even care for pets. “We take in pets too,” Ashley notes, emphasizing the holistic approach the organization takes in disaster response.

One of the most challenging aspects of disaster relief is navigating the psychological and emotional toll that such devastation has on survivors and responders alike. “Some people have lost everything,” Ashley says. “When the only thing they have left are the clothes on their backs, the emotional toll is massive.”

Ashley stresses the importance of individual preparedness. “People need to think about their own preparedness,” she urges. “We’ve had hurricanes here—Ira, Sandy, Irene. People need to ask themselves, ‘What would happen if this happened here?’”

Ashley’s message is clear: preparation and community are key. “Check on your neighbors,” she advises. “If you have an elderly neighbor, even if they’re not related to you, just be kind and look after them. It’s the little things that make a difference.”

The Red Cross also faces practical challenges, such as maintaining blood supplies in the wake of disasters. “Many blood drives and collections were canceled because of the hurricanes,” Ashley explains. “That has put a big damper on our blood supply.” However, she’s optimistic about the recent expansion of the local blood center in Greenwich, which now operates four days a week and collects not only whole blood but also platelets.

Despite the enormity of the challenges she faces, Ashley remains deeply committed to her work. “I love what I do,” she says. “When you wake up and think, ‘I’m doing good things today,’ it makes it all worth it.”

As the Red Cross continues its relief efforts in the wake of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, Ashley emphasizes, the work is far from over. “It’s still hurricane season,” she reminds us. “It’s not over yet.”

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The Results

Senator Ryan Fazio's Legislation

Sen. Ryan Fazio has written, championed, and passed six laws within the past two years. Here's a closer look at his legislative record:

Lower Energy Bills & Utility Oversight (SB7, 2023)

Summary: Strengthens oversight of utility companies, ensuring transparency in rate-setting and consumer protections.

Votes: Broad backing from Democrats and Republicans demonstrates Fazio's ability to build consensus on critical issues.

Impact: Reduces electricity costs by holding utility companies accountable and improving governance.

Expanded Birth Control Access (HB 6768, 2023)

Summary: Allows pharmacists to prescribe oral contraceptives, removing barriers to essential healthcare for women.

Votes: Strong bipartisan support in both chambers.

Impact: Increases access to birth control, empowering women and reducing unplanned pregnancies.

Restoring Local Control of Zoning (SB 333)

Summary: Restores greater authority to towns in zoning decisions, giving municipalities tools to block state-imposed mandates and secure housing project moratoriums.

Votes: Widely supported by legislators advocating for municipal autonomy.

Impact: Protects local governance, empowering communities to shape their development and housing policies instead of big developers.

Ensuring Public Safety with More Effective Gun Laws (HB 5467)

Summary: Strengthens universal background checks, especially for younger gun purchasers, aligning Connecticut with federal firearm laws.

Votes: Broad bipartisan approval.

Impact: Improves public safety by reinforcing measures to prevent gun violence.

Fair Employment Opportunities for All (HB 5524, Section 125)

Summary: Eliminates college degree requirements for most state government jobs, promoting employment opportunities based on skills and experience.

Votes: Bipartisan backing, celebrated by both parties as a win for workforce inclusivity.

Impact: Opens doors for qualified candidates, ensuring Connecticut benefits from diverse talents regardless of formal education.

...And (as important) What He Stopped

Sen. Ryan Fazio has stopped legislation that would have hurt New Canaan. Here's a closer look at how he protects us:

Work, Live, Ride (HB 5390)

Senator Ryan Fazio Stopped This Bill from Passing

Summary: Promotes transit-oriented development by allowing as-of-right construction of multi-unit residential buildings within one mile of transit stations.

Votes: Passed the House with 90 votes to 61 largely along partisan lines. Thankfully Ryan was there to stop HB 5390, preventing it from being brought for a vote to the State Senate, where it would likely have passed.

Impact: It would have allowed well-funded developers to build as if they were in New Haven or Hartford and small towns all over Connecticut would have paid the price.

Restricting Local Land Use and Zoning Changes (Omnibus Bill 2023)

Senator Ryan Fazio Led Successful Effort to Repeal

Summary: In 2023, Stamford Mayor Caroline Simmons successfully got a provision into the omnibus bill that restricted towns and cities from making land-use and zoning changes to their own charters.

Votes: It passed as part of the larger state budget bill, with many legislators unaware of its inclusion at the time of voting. Many local officials expressed frustration.

Impact: Senator Ryan Fazio led a successful bipartisan effort in 2024 to repeal the provision. This restored local control, ensuring municipalities could amend their charters without state-imposed restrictions, marking a victory for advocates of municipal autonomy.

RE-ELECT



Paid for by Fazio for Connecticut, Paolo Accomando, Treasurer. Approved by Ryan Fazio.



Greenwich Crossing Groundbreaking Launches \$30 Million Redevelopment Project

By Liz Leamy and Anne White

The \$30 million Greenwich Crossing project officially broke ground on Monday, signaling the beginning of a redevelopment of the area surrounding the Greenwich Train Station. The project, led by The Ashforth Company, will include a 5,000-square-foot premier restaurant, renovated retail spaces, and a redesigned train station.

Greenwich First Selectman Fred Camillo stood at the forefront of the groundbreaking ceremony for the \$30 million Greenwich Crossing project. Camillo hailed the redevelopment as “the most transformational project to this point,” reflecting on the years of work that led to the day’s event.

Camillo, who has been deeply involved in the planning of this project, addressed the crowd of local officials, business leaders, and community members with visible enthusiasm. “This really is going to be transformational for this area,” he said. He emphasized the importance of this project for the town’s continued growth and vibrancy. “I can’t believe it’s been over five years since we started meeting on this,” he remarked, underscoring the long-term effort required to bring this project to fruition.

Governor Ned Lamont also praised the collaborative efforts that led to the project’s

commencement. “There are a hundred ways to say no. There’s only one or two ways to get to yes. Thank goodness we got to yes,” Lamont said. And I love what this means in terms of Greenwich, my hometown, and our vibrant downtown. As Freddy knows, I love seeing Greenwich Avenue come to life. I love to see the outdoor dining. I love to envision what Greenwich Crossing is going to be right here. I’d love to thank Freddy.”

“You and I are going to have that glass of wine-come join us sitting outside,” Lamont joked, alluding to Camillo’s earlier comment about how he hoped to see everyone gathered together in the future to celebrate the project’s success with a glass of wine in hand.

The project is expected to modernize the downtown area by creating a more seamless connection between Greenwich Avenue and the train station, enhancing both the aesthetic and functional aspects of the space. Camillo praised The Ashforth Company for its commitment to the project, stating, “I want to thank Ryan and Daryl and the Ashforth family for bringing this forward.”

Ryan Harvey, CEO and President of The Ashforth Company, kicked off the event by highlighting the importance of the project. “We’re proud to commence the construction of Greenwich Crossing,” Harvey said. He emphasized the project’s

potential to reshape the downtown area.

Harvey noted the historical connection the Ashforth family has with the site, explaining that under the leadership Henry Ashforth Jr., the family purchased the property in 1961. “We have been tied to this spot ever since,” he said, describing the project as part of a long-term partnership between the Ashforth Company, the Town of Greenwich, the State of Connecticut, and the railroad.

Frank Prial, Principal at Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners, the firm responsible for the design of Greenwich Crossing, spoke about the project’s architectural goals. “Our goal was to learn the lessons that we had from great previous projects,” Prial said, referencing the restoration of the Grand Central Terminal. “We wanted to create a place that continued the shopping experience, made the passageways and pathways more interesting, more efficient, and to also encourage a place that people would want to stay, to enjoy, and to engage.”

Benjamin Limmer, Bureau Chief of Public Transportation at the Connecticut Department of Transportation, focused on the transit-oriented development (TOD) aspect of the project. “TOD is a major focus for us here at the DOT, and we believe this project is going to absolutely transform the public transportation experience for all riders across our state,” Limmer said. He emphasized the

importance of public-private partnerships, saying, “Greenwich Crossing is another example of what can be done when public and private partners collaborate to make stuff happen.”

The project will continue over the next year, with the renovation of the train station set to begin in May 2025. Local officials, including Camillo, expressed excitement about how Greenwich Crossing will integrate with the town’s existing infrastructure, connecting the train station seamlessly with Greenwich Avenue and enriching the area with new experiences for both residents and visitors.

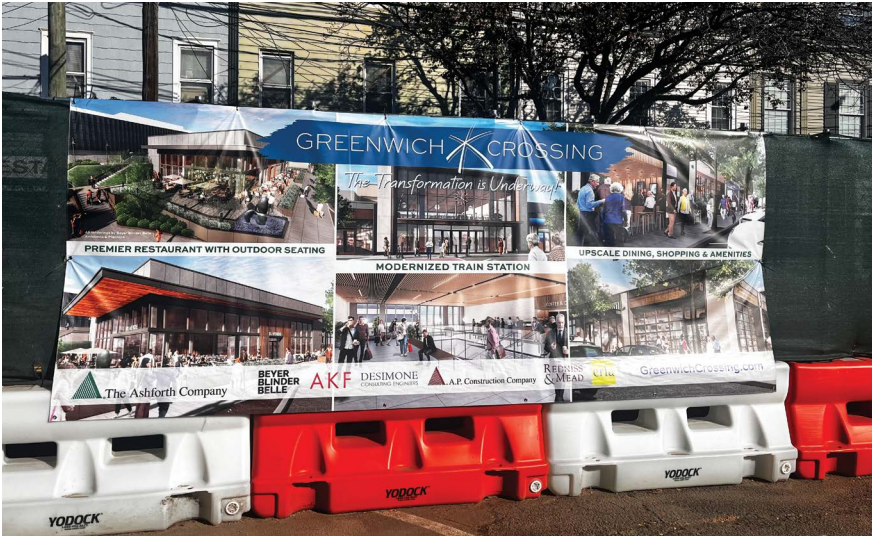
As the event concluded, Harvey thanked the town and state officials, as well as the many consultants and experts involved, for their support. The morning’s speeches highlighted the importance of collaboration, community engagement, and thoughtful planning in making Greenwich Crossing a reality.

This project is poised to reshape the landscape of downtown Greenwich, further solidifying the town’s reputation as a desirable destination for both commerce and community life.

Aside from Citibank and Signature Cycle, which will remain in their existing locations, the anchor restaurant and other storefronts are available for lease.



Members of the Ashforth team with First Selectman Fred Camillo and Governor Ned Lamont at the groundbreaking ceremony.



The sidewalk in front of what will become Greenwich Crossing.



Tina Courpas and Ryan Fazio

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By Fred Camillo

Legislative balance is desperately needed in Connecticut. When Greenwich was represented by an all-Republican delegation in 2017, the state Senate was split, 18 Democrats -18 Republicans. The state House was also balanced, with Democrats holding a slim seven seat margin with 79 Democrats – 72 Republicans. The result of that balance was that the Republican budget was passed in a bi-partisan effort. That budget was historically good. It included the fiscal guardrails we still have today: a bonding cap, spending cap, and volatility cap. Those guardrails are why the state recently experienced surpluses after years of punishing deficits.

The Greenwich GOP delegation also brought back the most money in recent history, with the town being

reimbursed \$24 million for New Lebanon School. This was accomplished in spite of the fact that then-Democratic Governor Dan Malloy removed the funding from the budget three consecutive times. Each time, Sen. Scott Frantz, Rep. Mike Bocchino, Rep. Livvy Floren, and I went to our Democratic colleagues—with whom we enjoyed a very good working relationship—and were successful in getting the funding.

In 2018, voters in Connecticut punished Republicans at the polls due to their intense dislike of then-President Donald Trump. Balance was lost, and with it, some top-tier legislators who had worked very successfully for both Greenwich and Connecticut’s fiscal health were also lost.

Locally, we were told for years that sending just one Democrat to Hartford would give us a seat at the table with the majority caucus. Sadly, Connecticut remains a one-party-rule state. We were assured this shift would bring more money and help block harmful legislation. In 2018, Democrats captured two local

seats, largely due to the anti-Trump sentiment gripping the state. Unfortunately, the promised improvements never materialized.

Every year, we hear that the upcoming election is “the most important” of our lifetime. While this is often dismissed as hyperbole, this year in Connecticut, there is a compelling truth to that statement.

Recent legislative sessions have introduced some of the most aggressive and harmful proposals the state has ever seen. Beyond the harmful 8-30g law—which allows developers to bypass local zoning boards—new proposals aim to eliminate off-street parking requirements for housing units, prevent public hearings on affordable housing applications deemed “as of right,” penalize towns for failing to meet the 8-30g mandate, require expensive sewer line extensions to the backcountry, and push a “Fair Share” proposal mandating that Greenwich build 3,304 additional affordable units. This plan, estimated to cost \$1.5 billion, assumes a conservative \$450,000 per

unit construction cost and is supported by many Democratic leaders in Hartford.

Local control of zoning is on the ballot this year and should be the top priority for every voter. Self-determination is the most critical tool municipalities have to govern effectively. No one understands a community’s needs better than its residents, not distant bureaucrats or Hartford legislators.

When deciding how to vote, consider these issues carefully. The points I’ve raised are verifiable and illustrate the risks posed by super-majorities to Connecticut’s fiscal stability.

I extend my gratitude to all candidates on the ballot this year. Running for office requires courage, especially in an age where online criticism has become sport. They all deserve our respect. That said, I will be voting for balance in the legislature. History shows that balance is the best way forward for both the state we love and the town we cherish.

Fred Camillo is a former state Representative and the current First Selectman of Greenwich. His opinions are his own.

Election Day



By Jim Heavey

Dear Members of the Greenwich Community,

As we approach Election Day and the commencement of early voting, it is essential to reaffirm our commitment to one of the cornerstones of our democratic society: the right and responsibility to vote. Each of us plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our community, and every voice matters.

The Greenwich Police Department has been collaborating closely with the Town of Greenwich election officials to ensure a safe and secure electoral process for all residents. The safety and well-being of our community remain our utmost priority, and we want to assure you that we are taking comprehensive steps to safeguard our elections.

While there are currently no specific threats of interference

or intimidation, the Greenwich Police Department has adopted a proactive approach to ensure that every voter can exercise their rights without fear. On election day, our officers will be present at key locations, dedicated to ensuring that all members of our community can travel to and from polling places safely.

We are committed to addressing any issues that may arise swiftly and effectively, ensuring a smooth and secure voting experience for everyone involved. We encourage you, regardless of whether you choose to participate in early voting or on Election Day itself, to embrace these opportunities with a sense of unity and respect for our democratic values.

As citizens of this great country, let us all strive to exemplify the ideals that bind us together. I urge each of you to uphold the dignity of our electoral process and support one another in making this election experience positive and empowering for all.

Thank you for your continued engagement and commitment to our community.

Sincerely,
Chief James Heavey
Greenwich Police Department

Disasters Arrive Without Warning

RedCross.org

PREPARE A GO-BAG:

Include essential items such as water, non-perishable food, medications, important documents (in a waterproof container), extra clothing, first aid kit, flashlight, batteries, and phone chargers.

Don't forget comfort items for children, and pet supplies if applicable.

CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBORS:

Especially the elderly or those who live alone. Make sure they are aware of any impending weather events and are prepared.

Offer help with preparing their go-bags or arranging transportation in case of an evacuation.

ENSURE YOU HAVE EMERGENCY CONTACTS WRITTEN DOWN:

Memorize or write down the phone numbers of family members or neighbors since you may not have access to your phone in an emergency.

Create a list of important numbers and keep it in a waterproof bag inside your go-bag.

LEARN ABOUT LOCAL SHELTER OPTIONS:

Know the locations of emergency shelters in Greenwich (such as civic centers and high schools) and plan an evacuation route.

Check if these shelters are ADA compliant and if they can accommodate pets or people with special needs.

DONATE BLOOD:

Schedule an appointment at the local blood center, now open four days a week. Blood supply is critical during and after disasters.

REVIEW YOUR FAMILY'S EMERGENCY PLAN:

Ensure each family member knows what to do during a disaster, where to meet, and how to communicate if separated.

Teach children about emergency preparedness, including how to pack their own go-bag and recognize safe places to go during an emergency.

STAY INFORMED ABOUT LOCAL WEATHER ALERTS:

Sign up for Greenwich's emergency notification system to receive timely alerts about hurricanes, floods, or other potential disasters.

Monitor local news and weather forecasts regularly during hurricane season.

ASSESS YOUR HOME'S PREPAREDNESS:

Make sure your home is as disaster-proof as possible—check for potential flood zones, and reinforce windows or other vulnerable parts of the house. Keep a list of important insurance policies and make sure you understand your coverage in case of damage from natural disasters.

PLAN FOR LONG-TERM CARE IF NECESSARY:

If you or a family member requires ongoing medical treatment or has special needs, ensure you have a plan in place in case of an extended power outage or the need for relocation.

Celebrating Coffee for Good in this National Disability Employment Awareness Month

By Anne W. Semmes

On Tuesday, the light shined on the nonprofit Coffee for Good for its efforts begun over three years ago – in June of 2021 - to provide job training to those with developmental disabilities, then help them find work opportunities. To that end Coffee for Good has placed over 25 individuals in employment. With October kicking off National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), First Selectman Fred Camillo arrived with a Proclamation honoring Coffee for Good's efforts, that he read before a gathering of Greenwich leaders and those running for office.

“Whereas the Town of Greenwich is committed to fostering a culture of inclusivity, diversity, and equal opportunity for all its residents, including individuals with disabilities. And whereas October has been designated as National Disability Employment Awareness Month...” and “Whereas the Town of Greenwich values the importance of supporting initiatives that promote employment with disabilities...is proud to partner with organizations such as Coffee for Good, whose mission is to empower people with disabilities through training, employment and skill development in a welcoming environment...”

Following Camillo's Proclamation reading Alan Gunzburg whose sight impairments have him reaching out across the years to others in need, was able to read from his iPhone to address NDEAM and the efforts of Coffee for Good; “Their work is a testament to the fact that, with the right support and opportunities, everyone has the potential to thrive and succeed in the workplace.”

Speaking with Jon LaBerge, who chairs the Coffee for Good board, he told of the difficulties of kicking off Coffee for Good during Covid. Another challenge was with placing those disabled trainees “especially working with smaller retail operations, they’re very interested in hiring, but they don’t know what changes they need to make in order to support community, what supervision needs to be changed.”

Thus, he introduced nearby a newly hired part time job developer, Jeanne Lockwood. She explained, “I shadow the trainees when they’re getting close to graduation and help assess their strengths, what they want to do, what their goals are, their dreams, just about everything, and make them feel valued



Attending the First Selectman Fred Camillo's Proclamation presentation honoring the work of Coffee for Good for “empowering people with disabilities” before the Coffee for Good location was L to R: Janet Stone McGuigan, Rachel Khanna, Cesar Rabellino, Steph Cowie (in wheelchair), Steve Meskers, Jeanne Lockwood, Ryan Fazio, Fred Camillo, Deb Rogan, Gaby Rattner, Alan Gunzburg (with service dog), Jon LaBerge, Helen Lobrano, Sofia Viola, Demetria Nelson, Matt Skaarup, Simone Quartey, and Mary Lee Kieran.

Photo by Anne W. Semmes.

and let them know it’s important to me what they want to do... And then I go out into the community and talk to our local retailers, shop owners, big businesses. We have placed them at the Hyatt Regency.” Add the YMCA, with executive director Matt Skaarup present. “He employed a woman named Mary who works as a receptionist.”

On the Coffee for Good terrace was Bibi Clark, whose son Danny Clark had trained at Coffee for Good. “He was placed at the end of his training at the Bruce Museum and his title is Museum Ambassador and he is part of the Protection Team. They protect all the art and the people. His boss Billy Rodriguez was very pro inclusion and saw Danny and immediately said, ‘I want Danny on my team.’ She added, “This is all about Coffee for Good. It’s just such a great story.”

Seeing Gunzburg with his service dog, he was asked if he’d had a part in the founding of Coffee for Good. “No, it was Deb Rogan [executive director] and the First Presbyterian Church that came up with the idea.”

But Gunzburg is part of a team helping the

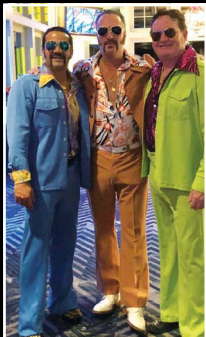
trainees. “So, as the individuals come to the point where they get to graduate, we’ll work on their resume, we’ll work on their interview skills, and then we’ll look for a job for them according to what they want to do. Some of our employees here, who work in Coffee for Good say, ‘I want to work in a coffee shop.’ Some don’t want to. So, they work in museums - we have somebody at the Maritime Museum...We put people to work in food service. We have two individuals working for Gregorys Coffee. And we also have somebody working at the cafeteria at the Bruce Museum run by Aux Délices. So, we really want to put them in a job that they want to do.”

Gunzburg addressed also that initial challenge of the founding of Coffee for Good and its financial underpinning. “Planning and Zoning for this location was a little difficult because this wasn’t really zoned for a coffee shop. So, you have to explain to people that it is a 501c3. This is a charitable organization that makes no profit. Even with all that we do, we’d like to break even one day, but we’re not a profit-making business.”



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2024 Local Candidate Profiles

The *Sentinel* extends its gratitude to the candidates for their participation and dedication in completing these questionnaires. Running for office requires significant effort, and taking the time to provide thorough answers allows voters to gain a deeper understanding of each candidate’s positions. Below is what we sent to the candidates. You will find their answers on pages 7 though 10 of this issue.

Instructions for Candidates

Please fill out the following questionnaire to help voters better understand your priorities. Your responses will be published exactly as submitted—no edits will be made. Kindly focus on your own platform, policies, and experience, and refrain from referencing or commenting on your opponents.

Basic Information

Full Name:
Office Sought:
Contact Information (Email, Phone, Website):

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Top Priorities

Please list the top three issues you will prioritize if elected and explain why each is significant to both your platform and your district.

Experience

What professional, volunteer, or public service experience makes you the best candidate for this position?

POLICY QUESTIONS

Local Control

How do you propose to protect your district’s control over zoning decisions? What is your approach to balancing affordable housing needs with preserving the character of the town?

Utilities

What steps have you taken or will you take to address rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water? Please share your position on the current situation with Aquarion.

Economy

How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation? What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

Supermajority

What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and your district?

Bipartisanship

How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut? If elected, how will you contribute to improving the tone of political discourse and foster cooperation among different political viewpoints?

Your View

What should we have asked that we did not?

Why We Asked

We believe that the final question, asking what the candidate believes should have been asked but wasn’t, is the most interesting because of the diverse answers.

The questions provided for the State Senate and State House of Representative candidates serve a specific purpose: to give voters a clear and comprehensive understanding of each candidate’s priorities, experience, and policy perspectives. Each question targets critical areas that are relevant both to the electorate and to the functioning of the district’s government. The goal is to focus on the candidate’s individual platform without turning the questionnaire into a platform for political attacks or erroneous comparisons. There was no word limit given to candidates. The general questions aim to highlight the candidate’s priorities and experience. Asking candidates to identify and explain their top three

issues allows voters to see where the candidate will focus their efforts if elected. Additionally, the request for professional, volunteer, or public service experience helps voters evaluate the candidate’s qualifications, leadership abilities, and past commitment to public service. The policy questions dig deeper into specific, local concerns that affect everyday life. For example, the question on local control over zoning decisions reflects the ongoing debate over state versus local authority in development matters. It prompts candidates to articulate their views on maintaining the town’s character while addressing the need for affordable housing, a contentious issue that will impact voters.

Utilities, especially in relation to rising costs, are also a central concern for residents. Asking candidates to explain their plans for addressing these increases, particularly regarding the current situation with Aquarion, allows voters to assess whether the candidate understands the complex dynamics of utility regulation and cost management. The economy question is equally vital, as inflation and its impact on both households and businesses are top of mind for many voters. By pressing candidates to

propose legislative measures, the question encourages them to present concrete solutions. The supermajority question explores the implications of having one party dominate the state legislature, which can have significant consequences for lawmaking. It encourages candidates to reflect on the potential benefits or risks of such dominance for their district. Finally, the question on bipartisanship provides an opportunity for candidates to address the state of political discourse in Connecticut,

emphasizing their approach to fostering cooperation and improving the tone of political discussions. These questions are designed not only to elicit direct responses but also to reveal the candidate’s ability to think critically about the issues facing the district. The questionnaire format allows voters to make informed choices based on the substance provided. We believe that the final question, asking what the candidate believes should have been asked but wasn’t, is the most interesting

and offers insight into the candidates in a different way. The intention is to provide one method for a clear, look at each candidate’s platform, empowering voters to make informed decisions at the ballot box. The answers of the candidate were printed as given to the *Sentinel* and were not vetted or fact checked and, of course, are from the candidate’s particular point of view. Alternative points of view may be found in abundance this week on the editorial page where letters to the editor and OpEds abound. The *Sentinel* works to print all the letters it receives as quickly as we can. We do not attempt to count letters for candidates. Instead we work to print them as they come in to us.

Answers from Ryan Fazio (R), Incumbent State Senator Running for Re-election, District 36

BASIC INFORMATION

Full Name: Ryan Fazio
Office Sought: State Senator, 36th District
Contact Information:
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https://www.ryanfazio.com/contact

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Top Three Priorities if Elected

Lower Taxes and Higher Economic Growth:

Connecticut is a great state, but has suffered under high taxes, high cost of living, and slow economic growth for years. That is the fault of state policy. We have the second highest taxes, third highest electricity rates, and rising costs across the board. We need to provide relief to good people who are struggling. I've been fighting for lower taxes, electric costs, and higher incomes, introducing comprehensive legislation that would cut income taxes by \$2,000 per family, electric bills by \$500 while eliminating "public benefits" taxes, and cap property taxes. We can and must stop the overspending and costly regulations and deliver fiscal responsibility and pro-economic growth policies for all.

Protect Local Control:

Defending local control over zoning is vital to protecting the unique character and appeal of our communities. I have consistently fought state overreach into local governance, most notably by helping to block harmful legislation such as HB 5390, which would have allowed developers to bypass local zoning and impose high-density developments in our towns. I also co-authored SB 333, restoring greater authority to municipalities over zoning decisions. Moving forward, I will continue to stand against state-imposed mandates and protect the autonomy of our local governments.

Reduce Electricity Bills and Cost of Living:

Connecticut's energy costs are among the highest in the country, a reality that unfairly burdens working families, seniors, and small businesses. My six-point energy plan focuses on cutting the "Public Benefits" taxes from our electricity bills, capping state-subsidized electricity purchases, and ensuring stronger oversight of utility companies. I co-authored bipartisan laws, such as SB7, to strengthen utilities oversight to protect consumers, but we need to pass proposals to reduce costs for consumers. I have been one of the leading advocates in the state for cutting electricity rates and reducing "public benefits" taxes, and I will continue to be in the Senate.

Professional, Volunteer, or Public Service Experience

I've served our community in the state Senate, spent years volunteering for charitable causes, and have spent my career in business in the area. Over the past three years as your State Senator, I have built a record of bipartisan collaboration, co-authoring six common sense laws that address key issues facing our community. These laws include strengthening utilities oversight, expanding access to birth control, and restoring local control over zoning. Each piece of legislation has been carefully crafted to address real-world challenges, and each is making a tangible difference in the lives of the people I represent.

Before entering politics, I spent nine years working in commodities trading with a focus on renewable energy and agriculture. Since then I have worked at a small investment firm that invests in and helps operate small and medium sized business. My background in the private sector has provided me insight in how we can make our energy portfolio more affordable and also create an environment where small businesses can grow and we can great good jobs.

My volunteer experience has been equally important in shaping my approach to public service. For seven years, I served as a tutor in inner-city schools in the Bronx, working with middle school students from underserved neighborhoods. Additionally, from the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic until earlier this year, I delivered meals for Meals on Wheels every week, connecting with seniors who were isolated and in need of assistance. This weekly service allowed me to build relationships with senior citizens that have become very important to me (and even got me a few birthday party invitations!).

POLICY QUESTIONS

Local Control: How do you propose to protect your district's control over zoning decisions? What is your approach to balancing affordable housing needs with preserving the town's character?

Local control over zoning decisions is crucial to maintaining the character of our towns and ensuring that development happens in a way that benefits the community. I have consistently fought to protect local control. Because affordable housing is important, each community should offer it in their own way, utilizing creative solutions and being innovative in their approaches without Hartford wrecking their efforts. Greenwich, New Canaan, and Stamford are filled with remarkably creative problem solvers who know better how to govern their communities than big developers or Hartford politicians.

A Model of Local Autonomy in Zoning

In Greenwich, affordable housing programs are managed by Greenwich Communities, which focuses on balancing development with the town's unique character. Programs like Connecticut's "Time to Own" provide forgivable loans to help residents transition from renting to homeownership, enabling them to save for future down payments. However, Greenwich is already facing severe infrastructure and traffic challenges, and unregulated development without careful planning could exacerbate these issues. By keeping local control over zoning decisions, the town can ensure growth is sustainable, addressing housing needs without overwhelming its infrastructure.

- Community Involvement: Greenwich places a high value on community input. Public hearings are held for nearly all major development proposals, ensuring that residents have a voice in shaping their town.
- Zoning Regulations: Strict zoning laws limit the construction of high-rise or multi-unit developments in residential areas, preserving the character of the town. The Planning and Zoning Commission currently has the authority to approve or deny projects based on these regulations, and its decisions are generally aligned with residents' preferences for maintaining open space and reducing congestion.
- Affordable Housing Approach: Greenwich addresses affordable housing needs primarily through the organization Greenwich Communities and through developments that blend into existing neighborhoods, like accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and townhouses. This method allows the town to meet affordable housing goals without significantly altering the town's landscape or increasing traffic congestion.

Utilities: What steps have you taken/will you take to address rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water?

Connecticut's utility costs are unsustainably high already and they will continue to increase until more is done. I have made reducing them a top priority. My six-point energy plan, which has now gained 64 co-sponsors (more than any other energy proposal in the state), reduces inflated costs like "public benefits" charges, which funds half a billion dollars of government programs through the electric bill. Additionally, I've called for capping state subsidies for state-directed electric purchases, equal regulatory treatment for all types of clean energy, and a tough and independent utilities regulator. The plan will reduce our electricity rates for the long-run while protecting our power grid.

Please explain your stand on the current situation with Aquarion.

The proposed sale of Aquarion Water Company is actually very serious. I am grateful you asked the question because too few people know about this critical issue.

This sale has raised significant concerns for communities like New Canaan and Greenwich, and I share those concerns deeply. Aquarion is being targeted for acquisition by the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (RWA). I've been working closely with local leaders, including New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and Greenwich First Selectman Fred Camillo, to address these issues, about which they are equally concerned.

What's Happening

Earlier this year, Eversource announced plans to sell Aquarion. RWA, a quasi-governmental agency, has expressed interest in purchasing Aquarion. This potential sale has raised alarms on multiple fronts.

First, the biggest concern is regulatory oversight. As it stands, Aquarion is regulated by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), which ensures that rate increases are carefully reviewed and justified. However, RWA is not subject to PURA's oversight. Without this level of oversight, towns like New Canaan and Greenwich could see increases in water rates of up to 50%, which is unacceptable.

There's also the issue of municipal finances. Aquarion is a key taxpayer in towns like New Canaan, contributing over \$300,000 in property taxes annually. If RWA acquires Aquarion, as a quasi-governmental agency, it wouldn't pay property taxes. Instead, it would offer fixed Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). This could deprive our towns of much-needed revenue for essential services. Dionna Carlson and Fred Camillo have both expressed serious concerns about this.

My Stance on the Issue

RWA is currently preparing its formal bid for Aquarion, and I'm encouraging all residents to understand the issue and speak out. Together with Dionna Carlson and Fred Camillo, I am committed to ensuring that this process is fair to our towns and that our interests are considered and protected.

Economy: How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation? What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

Senate, the House, and the Supreme Court—along with an attorney general who might push for a national abortion coordinator. I am dedicated to ensuring that Connecticut remains a safe haven for women who seek to exercise their reproductive freedom.

Lastly, I am committed to keeping Connecticut's gun laws strong. I am proud of my work in the Governor's office when we passed one of the nation's most comprehensive gun safety bills. I'm honored to have the support of Sandy Hook survivor and gun safety advocate Nicole Melchionno, who is volunteering for my campaign, and to have earned an A rating from CT Against Gun Violence.

Professional, Volunteer, or Public Service Experience

After graduating from Yale University, I initially worked on Wall Street before becoming a 7th-grade math teacher at a middle school in Harlem. By the age of 26, I was one of the youngest Acting Principals in New York State.

I hold an MBA from Harvard and a master's in public policy from the Harvard Kennedy School. After completing my graduate school, I joined Governor Ned Lamont's administration as Deputy Chief of Staff. In 2021, I was appointed Senior Advisor in the Biden Administration, where I worked closely with the Department of Education to ensure the safe reopening of schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We must reduce taxes, limit wasteful spending, reduce cost of living, and create an economy that benefits everyone. While the Democratic legislative leadership and my opponent have expressed a desire to lift the state's spending cap, which will lead to higher taxes in the future, I am strongly in favor of limiting spending so we can cut taxes in the future. The state's spending cap, passed in bipartisan fashion and co-authored by my predecessor Sen. Scott Frantz and supported by Gov. Ned Lamont, is the only reason we were able to slightly cut taxes last year. If we extend the spending cap, simplify the tax code, and limit debt issuance, we can cut taxes for the average family by \$2,000 per year.

I also support a property tax reforms that limits yearly increases and protect homeowners from sudden, unaffordable hikes. To stimulate economic growth, I will also streamline regulations across the energy sector, health care sector, and labor sector to help us reduce cost of living and increase economic growth for all. We can create an economy that works in our state with the right policies and leadership.

Supermajority: What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and to your district?

A super-majority happens when both the house and senate have one party that controls two-thirds of the votes. A super-majority is "veto-proof" meaning that the governor of that state cannot over-ride legislation and that one party can exert a massive amount of control over its own members while ignoring the other party entirely. "Power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely," Lord Acton said.

A supermajority in the Connecticut legislature poses a serious risk to the checks and balances that are essential to good governance. It allows one party to pass legislation without the need for compromise or debate, often leading to laws that are poorly written, not properly vetted, and hastily passed (like the ant-policing bill) that do not reflect the needs or values of our district. It also means that Governor Lamont would essentially be facing a veto-proof majority and his moderate hands would be tied. For towns like Greenwich, New Canaan, and Stamford, this could mean higher taxes, reduced local control, and the imposition of state mandates that disregard our unique needs. The 36th Senate seat that I now fill is one of the only seats left standing between a majority and a super-majority. I have worked hard to protect our communities from overreach, and I will continue to do so by advocating for balanced representation and moderation in the legislature. We have more bi-partisan efforts that lead to great legislation when we have more balanced representation.

Bipartisanship: How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut? If elected, how will you contribute to improving the tone of political discourse and foster cooperation among different political viewpoints?

In an age of polarization in politics, we need to bring people together. In my time in the Senate, I have prioritized building bridges and finding common ground across party lines. That's why I have passed six significant laws with bipartisan support, proving that collaboration is possible and desirable. If re-elected, I will continue to focus on common-sense solutions that unite rather than divide, fostering a political environment where dialogue and cooperation can lead to meaningful progress. My record shows that by working together, we can achieve results that benefits everyone in our district and state..

Your View: What should we have asked that we did not?

Read and vet the bills before they become law.

Passing laws in the State Senate is one of the most important responsibility we have, and it's not something to be taken lightly. Crafting legislation requires careful thought, pragmatism, and a deep understanding of the real-world impact it will have on the people we represent. If a law is poorly written, or if it tries to do too much without fully considering the consequences, it can cause irreparable harm. In many cases, it's better to vote against potentially flawed legislation, even if some aspects seem promising, because we can always revise and pass it later. But once a bad law is on the books, it becomes the reality that people have to live with every day, and undoing that damage is far more difficult.

Legislation should never be rushed in the name of ideology or short-term political gain. In our haste to push through a particular agenda, we run the risk of making mistakes that hurt our communities in ways we can't predict. Every law we pass has the potential to change lives, for better or for worse, and it's our duty to make sure that change is positive. When a bill lacks clarity or is filled with unintended consequences, those flaws have real, negative impacts.

What we do in the Senate is foundational to our democracy. The laws we pass will shape the future of our state, and that means we must take every step carefully, with full consideration of all possible outcomes. We owe it to the people of Connecticut to ensure that the legislation we pass is sound, thoughtful, and carefully considered. Our constituents trust us to make decisions that protect their interests, and that trust is something we must honor by never cutting corners or letting politics override good governance.

POLICY QUESTIONS

Local Control: How do you propose to protect your district's control over zoning decisions? What is your approach to balancing affordable housing needs with preserving the town's character?

8-30g or any law that empowers a developer to unilaterally come in and build wherever they want is a flawed law.

When I worked for the Governor, I was proud to be part of the senior team that helped pass a bill that included \$800 million to incentivize new housing in the state. That should be the role of the state: to be incentivizing financially, empowering and partnering with towns instead of ramming in a one-size-fits-all approach.

For these reasons, I will support the decisions of the New Canaan Affordable Housing Committee.

Another key priority is safeguarding access to abortion and reproductive rights. We are just a few political shifts away from extreme anti-choice forces potentially controlling the Presidency, the

Nick Simmons Candidate Answers

CONTINUED From Page 4

Utilities: What steps have you taken/will you take to address rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water?

The costs of energy are too high—we've got to make a change. That's why I have a 5-point plan for addressing rising energy costs in the district. It includes advocating for more diversity in our electric source; pushing for more federal funding and state bonding for Connecticut's energy sector, particularly through grants from the Inflation Reduction Act and Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Bill (I'd note that we just missed out on much of this funding for instance in current announcement of grants); promoting a competitive energy market by supporting all zero-carbon energy sources equally—wind, solar, hydropower, and nuclear; strengthening oversight of utility companies to ensure fair pricing, scrutinize rate increases, and demand transparency; and forming regional coalitions with neighboring states to negotiate better energy deals. With my background in business and negotiation, I am ready to lead these discussions and secure better outcomes for Connecticut.

Please explain your stand on the current situation with Aquarion.

Regarding Aquarion, I am weary of allowing another government bureaucratic agency to oversee a key part of our infrastructure as it could lead to increases in monthly water prices for consumers. I would be more supportive of a private sale. That said, I am deeply concerned about the rates of PFAs discovered in our water supply and so the State should require any purchaser to meet strict quality inspections and standards for water quality.

Answers from Hector Arzeno (D), Incumbent State Representative Running for Re-election, District 151

BASIC INFORMATION

Full Name: Hector Arzeno

Office Sought: State Representative, District 151

Contact Information

hector@electhector.com, www.electhector.co

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Top Three Priorities if Elected

The priorities the State faces may be influenced by decisions at the federal level as we continue to see a Supreme Court pass down rulings that reverse longstanding national protections for reproductive rights and gun safety. As State Representative I will continue to prioritize those rights and protections for our residents. I do expect this coming session to focus on the State budget, housing, and energy. With natural resources like the Mianus River and Preserve environmental legislation focused on protecting clean water and air for future generations is a priority and that energy is delivered in a sustainable and affordable way to all our residents.

Professional, Volunteer, or Public Service Experience

I am the current State Representative for the 151st and a member of three committees - Education, Higher Education & Employment Advancement, and Environment. My experience from a 40 year career in international finance where I served as an executive board member is an asset to engaging in important issues for Greenwich. Locally I have served as a coach for the Greenwich Youth Soccer League, a member of the Sustainability Committee at GCDS, a Greenwich High School Tour Guide and Science Department helper, and a volunteer for the Greenwich Town Conservation Department. In November 2019, I was elected to the Representative Town Meeting (RTM) in District 8, I serve as a delegate on the Finance Committee and an alternate on the Claims Committee.

Answers from Tod Laudonia (R), Challenger Running for State Representative , District 151

BASIC INFORMATION

Full Name: Tod Laudonia

Office Sought: 151st State Assembly Representative

Contact Information: Email- tod@votefortod.com,

Phone- 203.242.7662, **Website-** www.votefortod.com

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Top Three Priorities if Elected

Return local control to the Municipalities and lessen State involvement in zoning decisions. Local control is the essence of our democratic republic. People in each Town should be able to decide what direction their hometown is to travel as they are the ones directly paying for the infrastructure that must support their community. Of course, the guidelines of the US Constitution are the ultimate influence.

Local control of education policies is of paramount importance. Unfunded mandates and edicts from Hartford that do not take into account municipal demographics and try to instill cookie cutter scenarios will never work to provide our children with the best education possible. Once again a service paid for wholly through municipal property taxes has been co-opted by bureaucrats in Hartford.

Common sense must be restored to the State Legislature. Omnibus bills and legislation that does not relate to its title must stop. Plain language in legislation will bring a renewed interest from the public and allow true representation through engage with the citizens instead of explanation and boredom.

Professional, Volunteer, or Public Service Experience

I have been fortunate in representing the people of my district on the Greenwich RTM, as Greenwich Tax Collector and as the representative of St. Catherine of Siena on the Board of the Greenwich Catholic School. I was able to work with fellow members regardless of any conflicting affiliations to accomplish the goal of making life better for the greater community. I have been a volunteer

Economy: How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation? What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

There are numerous things we should be doing in Hartford to make it easier for families to get by. I would start by cutting numerous taxes like the car tax, the gift tax, and the estate cost. If we do that we can bring back some of our highest earners and contributors to the budget overall.

We also need to address rising energy price hikes and climate related insurance costs, as discussed in my policy plans.

Supermajority: What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and to your district?

It's not just about having more Democrats or Republicans—it's about having leaders who can work across the aisle to get things done. Having a moderate in the majority who is going to be able to work with both parties in a bipartisan fashion...well that's going to make a bigger difference than having 13 Republican State Senators versus 12.

For example, we've seen how a coalition of Democratic representatives has successfully secured state funding for local schools, helping to improve education and directly benefiting our children. When we focus on shared goals rather than party lines, we can deliver real results for our district. If elected, I will continue this approach, ensuring that we not only leverage the power of the supermajority but also foster cooperation that serves all of Connecticut's residents.

Bipartisanship: How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut? If elected, how will you contribute to improving the tone of political discourse and foster cooperation among different political viewpoints?

POLICY QUESTIONS

Local Control: How do you propose to protect your district's control over zoning decisions? What is your approach to balancing affordable housing needs with preserving the town's character?

I am proud to be endorsed by the CT Realtors which reflects my record and commitment to right-sized quality housing options and support for the many community amenities and services that attract and retain residents. I value enhancing local authority in decisions around high quality affordable housing options and my approach to meeting those needs as a State Representative is to continue to make sure the hard work of our dedicated Greenwich P&Z Department and Commission is seen in Hartford. While on the RTM I supported the creation of the Affordable Housing Trust, a local initiative to be proactive in solving the needs of Greenwich by Greenwich.

Utilities: What steps have you taken/will you take to address rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water? Please explain your stand on the current situation with Aquarion.

I expect the legislature to spend time in the 2025 legislative session focusing on solutions that work for all our residents rather than partisan politics. I think it is important we have the time to make decisions with lasting impact to reduce not just immediate increases but make sure that increases are mitigated for the long term in a sustainable way.

Economy: How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation? What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

As State Representative in the legislature this past year we delivered on our commitment to reduce income tax and retirement income tax. Bills ensured access to nutritional programs for families with children and early childhood care, supported nursing and

We have a relatively friendly political climate in Connecticut, but we are seeing less cooperation between Republicans and Democrats these days.

I consider myself a moderate, and I'm proud to be the first Democrat in this seat to earn the endorsement of the Independent Party. My background reflects a commitment to bipartisanship—I grew up interning for Republican Congressman Christopher Shays, and I've worked for Democratic Governor Ned Lamont. These experiences have given me a strong foundation for fostering cooperation and driving solutions that benefit everyone, regardless of political affiliation. It's crucial that we work across the aisle and focus on common-sense solutions that prioritize the needs of our community.

Your View: What should we have asked that we did not?

What am I doing to protect our coastlines from flooding—and save district residents money in flood insurance and home repairs?

Nearly half of all the homes in Old Greenwich, Tod's Point and Byram are at risk for severe flooding, and we need to act now. It's not just a problem for the future—it's happening right now in our communities. I'm committed to finding solutions that will protect both our coastline and the people who live here.

We have to prioritize increasing state and federal funding to help safeguard our coastline infrastructure from the kind of severe weather and flooding we're already seeing. It's crucial that we take steps to protect vulnerable areas, including homes and businesses in my district, before it's too late.

But it's not just about defending against flooding. I also see an opportunity for Connecticut to lead the way in clean energy innovation. By focusing on reducing energy costs and creating thousands of new jobs, we can position our state for a greener, more sustainable future. I'm going to ensure that our legislature makes smart investments, providing targeted subsidies where they're needed most. This isn't just about the environment—it's about giving families relief from high energy costs and seizing the economic opportunities that come with being at the forefront of clean energy. We can protect our communities, create jobs, and combat climate change all at once. And I'm determined to make it happen.

home based care, and helped relieve veterans with a property tax exemption who have a service-connected total disability rating. In the next session it will be vital to maintain the fiscal guardrails that have delivered an improved credit rating and reduced debt for the State so we can continue to focus on improving day to day quality of life for our residents.

Supermajority: What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and to your district?

I serve on three committees in Hartford, Education, Higher Education and Employment Advancement, and Environment. On these committees there are respected colleagues from each party. We focus on the work before us for our constituents and that work for my District continuing to support Greenwich's educational needs - such as funding for Central Middle School. The quality of our work depends on building consensus and finding solutions.

Bipartisanship: How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut? If elected, how will you contribute to improving the tone of political discourse and foster cooperation among different political viewpoints?

It has been my experience that 98% of the bills in Connecticut are passed in a bi-partisan manner. When we went through orientation in my first days as a legislator we were told to be ready to focus on the issues and not the politics. I will continue to engage in respectful debate and serious inquiry that are the foundation to putting progress for our residents and the State of Connecticut forward.

Your View: What should we have asked that we did not?

he legislature continues to work to expand the right to vote in Connecticut. Early voting this year starts November 21st and in this election voters will be able to vote for increased right to absentee voting. I supported bills for enhanced protections for our volunteer poll workers and I feel it is important to ask about how elected Representatives will work to ensure registered voters are able to exercise their right to vote and participate in democracy.

Economy: How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation?

Curtail spending and stop projects that the State should not be involved with. We are all tightening our belts on a personal level and the State must do the same.

What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

Balance the State budget and fully fund pension liabilities while looking for more economical ways to provide retirement benefits.

Supermajority: What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and to your district?

One party rule is antithetical to our system of government. We are built on the concept of checks and balances and with a supermajority in position there would be no accountability.

Bipartisanship: How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut?

Toxic.

If elected, how will you contribute to improving the tone of political discourse and foster cooperation among different political viewpoints?

Communication and dialog are the necessary components to improve any discourse. Literally sitting down with people on a one to one basis is the beginning of true dialog. We must return to civil discussion on a more personal level.

Your View: What should we have asked that we did not?

Do you believe in term limits?

Stephen Meskers (D), Incumbent State Representative Running for Re-election, District 150

STEPHEN MESKERS DID NOT RESPOND.

Answers from Paul Cappiali (R), Challenger Running for State Representative, District 150

BASIC INFORMATION

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GENERAL QUESTIONS

Top Three Priorities if Elected

Here are the top three issues I will prioritize if elected as State Representative for Connecticut's 150th District, along with why they are important to my platform and district:

1. Local Control for Zoning

- **Why It's Important to My Platform:** Maintaining local control over zoning decisions is crucial to ensuring that Greenwich can make decisions that reflect our specific needs and values. I believe zoning should not be dictated by the state, because local officials and residents understand their own communities better than state-level legislators. This issue is central to my platform because it aligns with my belief in limited government and preserving the character of local Greenwich.

- **Why It's Important to My District:** Greenwich and has unique characteristics, including residential zoning that helps maintain property values, protect green spaces, and preserve the local identity. Allowing state-level decisions to override local control could lead to unwanted high-density developments and changes that don't fit the character of the area. It would also exacerbate an already sever traffic problem. Defending local control ensures that Greenwich residents retain the ability to make decisions that best serve their community.

2. Balancing Government in Hartford and Stopping a Supermajority

- **Why It's Important to My Platform:** A political supermajority, where one party controls nearly all legislative power, often leads to imbalanced governance, unchecked policy-making, and reduced accountability. I am committed to bringing more balance to the government in Hartford by pushing back against the current Democratic supermajority. This issue is key to my platform because I believe in responsible, bipartisan governance and preventing one-party rule from dominating the decision-making process.

- **Why It's Important to My District:** Greenwich and the 150th District deserve representation that advocates for fiscal conservatism and common-sense solutions, not unchecked government spending or overreach. By working to stop the supermajority, I aim to restore balance and ensure that all voices are heard. This will help to prevent policies that could harm local businesses, raise taxes, or undermine local governance.

3. Placing a Focus on Infrastructure to Address Increasingly Bad Traffic

- **Why It's Important to My Platform:** Traffic congestion and infrastructure problems are growing concerns in Greenwich. I believe that focusing on improving roadways, modernizing traffic management systems, and addressing transportation bottlenecks is key to improving residents' quality of life. This issue is central to my platform because improving infrastructure is not only a safety issue but also an economic one, as traffic congestion can stifle business and productivity.

- **Why It's Important to My District:** The 150th District, which is exclusive to Greenwich, is particularly affected by traffic congestion due to its proximity to New York and I95 and its role as a commuter town. Improving the flow of traffic and addressing infrastructure needs will reduce commute times, lower stress for residents, and improve overall safety. It will also make the district more attractive to businesses, enhancing the local economy and quality of life for residents.

These issues reflect my commitment to protecting local interests, promoting balanced governance, and improving everyday life in the 150th District. They also highlight my dedication to pragmatic, community-focused solutions.

Professional, Volunteer, or Public Service Experience

As the current Harbor Master of Greenwich, I have served the community for three years, working closely with local officials, residents, and businesses on issues directly related to the town's vibrant maritime environment. My role has given me deep insight into the challenges facing Greenwich, including infrastructure needs and local governance.

Additionally, my long-standing commitment to volunteerism in Greenwich, including involvement in various charities and organizations, has allowed me to build strong relationships across the community. I have been honored by both the town and the state for my contributions, demonstrating my dedication to public service

and the betterment of our community.

These experiences, combined with my educational background and recognition for excellence within the community, provide me with a unique perspective on issues like local control, fiscal responsibility, and infrastructure. I understand the importance of preserving the character of Greenwich while also ensuring that the town continues to thrive economically. My deep connections to Greenwich and firsthand knowledge of its needs make me the best candidate to represent the 150th District in Hartford.

POLICY QUESTIONS

Local Control: How do you propose to protect your district's control over zoning decisions?

To protect Greenwich's control over zoning decisions, my approach is to advocate for legislation that ensures local governments retain the authority to make zoning choices without interference from the state. I believe that local officials and residents understand their communities better than legislators in Hartford, and they are best equipped to make decisions that reflect the specific needs and character of towns like Greenwich.

What is your approach to balancing affordable housing needs with preserving the town's character?

When it comes to balancing affordable housing with preserving the town's character, I recognize the need for thoughtful, community-driven solutions. My approach is to encourage local initiatives that promote housing affordability without imposing state-mandated, one-size-fits-all solutions. Greenwich can develop its own strategies for creating affordable housing while maintaining its distinct character by involving residents, developers, and town officials in the planning process. This way, we ensure that development is done in a way that aligns with our community values and long-term vision, without compromising the unique qualities that make Greenwich such a desirable place to live.

Utilities: What steps have you taken/will you take to address rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water?

To address the rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water, I will focus on advocating for policies that increase competition and transparency within these utility markets. I will push for reforms that ensure fair pricing practices, and I will work to hold utility companies accountable for any unjustified rate increases. Additionally, I will support investments in alternative energy sources, which can reduce reliance on traditional utilities and help lower long-term costs for residents.

Please explain your stand on the current situation with Aquarion.

I opposed the sale of Aquarion by Eversource to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (SCCRWA) because it poses significant risks to Greenwich residents. The sale could lead to higher water rates, as SCCRWA, a quasi-public entity, may prioritize the financial needs of its broader service area, raising costs for local customers. Additionally, service quality could decline, as SCCRWA primarily serves larger cities and may not be as attuned to Greenwich's specific needs as Aquarion has been. This could result in slower response times, underinvestment in local infrastructure, and overall reduced reliability. Another concern is the loss of local control—decisions about water supply and infrastructure would likely be made with the larger South Central region in mind, potentially sidelining Greenwich's needs. Environmental sustainability is also at risk, as SCCRWA may not maintain the same focus on conservation and responsible water management that Aquarion has demonstrated. Finally, these changes could negatively affect property values in Greenwich, as rising costs and declining service make the town less attractive to prospective homebuyers. For these reasons, the sale would be detrimental to Greenwich residents.

Economy: How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation? What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

To address the economic challenges posed by inflation, I will focus on legislative measures that directly reduce the financial burden on households and businesses in Greenwich. One key strategy is advocating for tax relief, particularly in areas where inflation has significantly increased costs, such as property taxes and energy bills. By lowering taxes and reforming burdensome regulations, we can provide immediate relief to residents and create a more business-friendly environment.

Additionally, I will support policies that promote economic growth, such as encouraging investment in local businesses, reducing unnecessary regulatory barriers, and enhancing workforce development programs. This will help stimulate job creation and improve economic resilience in the face of rising costs.

saving taxpayers nearly \$700 million per year; and make sure our rainy day fund stays fully funded.

- **Support our businesses.** I will advance legislation to promote business growth, address our worker shortage, and improve the regulatory environment so our businesses can thrive.

And as I have for the past two years, I will continue to fight for the funding we need in Greenwich and Stamford for local projects that improve the quality of life, enjoyment and safety of our district.

In short, more hard work. More results. More real progress for Connecticut. I'm ready.

Professional, Volunteer, or Public Service Experience

My record in my first term as your state representative is one of success. I voted for the largest income tax cut in state history, helped pass a balanced budget, brought home \$100 million for my district and partnered with colleagues across the aisle to get important protections for our first responders.

Before running for state office, I served on the Greenwich

To further ease the financial burden, I will champion efforts to improve energy efficiency and support access to affordable energy alternatives, which can help lower utility bills for both residents and businesses. By implementing a combination of tax reforms, regulatory relief, and economic growth initiatives, we can help mitigate the impacts of inflation and strengthen Greenwich's local economy.

Supermajority: What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and to your district?

Having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature gives overwhelming control over both legislative chambers, enabling them to pass laws with little resistance. To me, this creates a dangerous lack of balance in decision-making, where many voices are marginalized, leading to unchecked government policies that may not reflect the diverse needs of all constituents.

For Greenwich, this imbalance is especially concerning. A supermajority can result in state mandates that override local governance, such as on zoning or fiscal matters, without sufficient input from the community. Policies that increase taxes or impose costly regulations are often passed without much debate or opposition, directly affecting Greenwich residents and businesses.

By stopping a supermajority, I aim to restore balance, ensure diverse representation, and prevent policies that could negatively impact our district.

Bipartisanship: How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut?

The current partisan political environment in Connecticut is highly divided, with the Democratic Party holding significant control over the legislature. This dominance has led to an imbalance in the political discourse, where many views and voices often struggle to gain traction. The focus has shifted toward party-line voting and policies that lack input from all sides, which has resulted in legislation that doesn't fully address the concerns of the entire state.

If elected, I will contribute to improving the tone of political discourse by advocating for open dialogue and encouraging bipartisan cooperation. I believe it is critical to move away from hyper-partisanship and focus on common ground. By listening to different perspectives and finding shared solutions, I will work to create an environment where political differences are respected, and policy-making is guided by what benefits Connecticut as a whole. My goal is to bring a spirit of collaboration to Hartford that fosters better outcomes for all constituents.

Your View: What should we have asked that we did not?

Connecticut faces several significant challenges that need further scrutiny. Here are a few:

1. **High Tax Burden and Fiscal Instability:** Connecticut has one of the highest tax burdens in the country, with high property taxes, income taxes, and sales taxes. This has contributed to outmigration, as residents and businesses seek states with more favorable tax climates. Despite these high taxes, the state continues to struggle with budget deficits, largely due to pension liabilities and rising costs for public services.

2. **Outmigration and Population Decline:** Many residents, particularly high-income earners, are leaving the state due to high living costs, taxes, and better economic opportunities elsewhere. This outmigration not only shrinks the tax base but also impacts the state's long-term economic growth, creating a cycle where fewer residents and businesses are left to shoulder the state's financial burdens.

3. **Underfunded Pensions and Debt:** Connecticut faces significant pension liabilities, with underfunded public employee pension plans putting a major strain on the state budget. As pension payments increase, less funding is available for other essential services, and the state must constantly find new ways to close the budget gaps, often through borrowing or raising taxes.

4. **Infrastructure Deterioration:** The state's aging infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and public transportation systems, is a growing concern. Traffic congestion is a persistent issue, especially in Fairfield County, and the state has struggled to maintain and modernize its infrastructure. This not only affects residents' quality of life but also hampers economic growth.

5. **High Cost of Living:** Connecticut has a high cost of living, driven by expensive housing, utilities, and healthcare. These rising costs, combined with high taxes, make it difficult for many residents to afford to live in the state, particularly young professionals and retirees.

6. **Economic Stagnation:** Connecticut's economy has been growing at a slower pace compared to other states in the region. The state has struggled to attract and retain businesses due to its tax policies, regulatory environment, and the overall high cost of doing business. This economic stagnation limits job creation and opportunities for residents.

Answers from Rachel Khanna (D), Incumbent State Representative Running for Re-election, District 149

BASIC INFORMATION

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GENERAL QUESTIONS

Top Three Priorities if Elected

- **Affordability.** The number 1 issue facing Connecticut residents is the high cost of living. If I'm re-elected, I'll work to make Connecticut more affordable by expanding access to childcare so that parents can get back to work, lowering energy costs and keeping the funding coming from the state for critical projects in our district.

- **Fiscal responsibility.** I'll continue to make sure that we adhere to our fiscal guardrails — which is what we've done — so that we can keep paying down our pension debt, work that is currently

Representative Town Meeting, I started my own food delivery business and published two cookbooks. I volunteered as a patient escort for Planned Parenthood of Stamford and served on committees and boards of the Greenwich Newcomers' Club, Kids in Crisis, Greenwich Audubon Center, and Parkway School PTA. All of these endeavors strengthened my ties to the community and informs my work in the state legislature.

POLICY QUESTIONS

Local Control: How do you propose to protect your district's control over zoning decisions? What is your approach to balancing affordable housing needs with preserving the town's character?

My family moved to Greenwich 24 years ago and this is where we raised our 4 daughters. I love this community, and I don't want the state telling us where, when and how to add additional development. Local governments know best where their community can absorb

RACHEL KHANNA ANSWERS
CONTINUED From Page 4

more housing.

I ran on a promise to protect local zoning control and that is exactly what I have done. I voted against a “Fair Share” bill in 2023 which would have essentially turned over housing development policy to a state agency.

And when the “Work Live Ride” bill came up in 2024, and it was obvious that bill would pass with or without my vote, I worked behind the scenes with local zoning advocates to eliminate the risk to Greenwich by making sure that the bill was truly opt-in, with no mandates or penalties for towns that choose not to participate. The work I did on that bill language, along with my colleagues Reps Arzeno and Meskers, that led to protecting local zoning authority, earned us a statement of appreciation from the Chairperson of the Greenwich Planning and Zoning Commission.

I want to address Connecticut’s housing shortage, which is hurting young families, seniors, and holding back our economy. But the solution must come from local governments and be backed by state carrots, not sticks.

Utilities: What steps have you taken/will you take to address rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water? Please explain your stand on the current situation with Aquarion.

The electricity bills that we received this summer were a shock to us all. Neither businesses nor households can budget with that kind of price volatility. Although the reasons behind most of that increase have to do with a deal to save the Millstone nuclear power plant, a deal made long before I was elected, we need a solution now.

I believe that a one-day special legislative session to deal with electricity rates would not address the wide-ranging solutions that are needed to address this issue. I support real broader solutions that include the following: 1) removing the public benefits portion from the electricity bill so it stops being a hidden regressive tax; 2) pursuing regional power purchase agreements in order to find savings; 3) improving the vetting of PURA commissioners to make sure that they are pro-consumer, and not just looking out for Eversource shareholders.

The potential sale of Aquarion to the Regional Water Authority (RWA) will need to be approved by PURA, and will include a review process that requires public hearings. This sale must be cautiously considered because we need to tread carefully to make sure that water remains affordable to all of our residents.

Answers from Tina Courpas (R), Challenger
Running for State Representative, District 149

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GENERAL QUESTIONS
Top Three Priorities if Elected

- 1. Affordability (Taxes, Electric Rates):** Lower taxes and lower electric bills are a priority for me. CT has the 2nd highest state/local tax burden in the US and 2nd highest electric rates in the US, largely due to out-of-control government spending and poor policies. We began to control our spending in 2017 through adoption of CT’s Fiscal Guardrails, and they worked for 7 years. Unfortunately, the Legislature lost its resolve in 2024 and began to overspend again. We can turn CT’s economy around and lower taxes if our leaders would stay the course. We also must lower electric bills. This dramatically affects affordability and hits the most vulnerable the hardest. WE can improve affordability in CT with better leadership.
- 2. Local Control of Zoning:** This issue has the most potential to render Greenwich and Stamford unrecognizable in 10-20 years. We need more affordable housing in the state, but state mandates like 8-30g have not worked. They take decision making away from Towns and ignore local concerns about infrastructure, the environment, roads, sewers, historical preservation, etc. We need an overhaul of 8-30g and a framework for supporting Towns to accomplish housing goals on their own.
- 3. Public Safety:** Car thefts were up 33% in 2023 statewide. CT’s highways have never been more unsafe. We have implemented policies in CT which prevent police from doing their jobs. I have heard at many doors that residents are concerned about public safety. This too is fixable with better policies.

**Professional, Volunteer, or
Public Service Experience**
Each phase of my professional career has prepared me for this role.

1. I practiced law and worked in investment banking for over two decades - Strong technical and analytical skills. My legal training has prepared me to read, analyze and write legislation. I have the financial skills to understand financing, budgets, markets, and the state’s complicated fiscal issues.
2. I ran two non-profit organizations – Proven Leader. I ran two non-profits including the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women in CT (PCSW), a bipartisan organization which has advocates for women’s rights in CT. In both, I was responsible for deploying donors’ money to a common vision, just as legislators deploy other people’s tax dollars. I will take that seriously. I also have experience managing teams and the ability to listen, lead, and collaborate. This is important to being an effective legislator.
3. I have direct bipartisan experience in Hartford. Under my leadership, the PCSW produced a research study on the economic impact of COVID-19 on CT’s women. It was a massive bipartisan success, involving over 1,000 women statewide, legislators, the Governor’s office and business leaders. The study informed state policy after COVID. I have experience bringing diverse points of view together to get things done.
4. I have experience serving my community. I served

Economy: How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation? What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

In 2023, we passed the largest state personal income tax cut in Connecticut history, and we expanded tax exemptions for pension income. I also support eliminating the estate tax.

Over the last two years, our Democratic delegation has succeeded in bringing more than \$100 million in taxpayer dollars back to this district. This money will be used to rebuild Central Middle School and renovate Roxbury Elementary School, to reduce traffic congestion and to improve pedestrian safety, and to fund the nonprofits that provide social services to our community. Securing these grants from the state means that we don’t have to use property taxes to pay for this work, which benefits us all.

In the past two sessions, I voted for several bills to help small businesses grow and thrive, including: reducing the number of reporting requirements; expanding the JobsCT tax rebate program to increase employment and job creation; cutting business taxes to promote expansion of childcare facilities; and to create association health plans that allow small businesses to work together to offer health insurance to their employees.

I frequently hear from working families, particularly ones living on a single paycheck, that they are struggling to find affordable childcare. Increasing access to childcare makes it possible for both parents to get back to work, significantly boosting the family income. That is why I sponsored several bills to make early childhood education more affordable and accessible.

Supermajority: What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and to your district?

The Greenwich Democratic delegation in the State House has been tremendously successful in bringing taxpayer dollars back home for our community because, as members of the majority party, we have leverage. This has amounted to \$100 million for Greenwich and Stamford.

The minority party has numerous tools at its disposal to stop legislation they oppose - from adding amendments to threatening to filibuster - which have been deployed effectively every year.

Further, it’s a mistake to assume that all Democrats think and vote alike. I am an independent thinker and a member of the Moderate Caucus. I am quite capable of breaking with my party to protect the interests of my district. Two recent examples: I voted no on the Fair Share housing bill to protect our local zoning control and yes on an amendment to restore police consent searches, breaking

at the state level on CT Collective for Women and Girls and Connecticut Governor’s Council on Women and Girl. I also served on the Executive Committee of the Princeton Women’s Initiative and Board of St. Paul’s School for Girls. I served on the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs Advisory Board, volunteered at Domus Kids (Stamford nonprofit supporting underserved kids to complete K-12), and served on the parent boards of my children’s schools. I have been a Sunday School teacher and started a youth Greek dance group in my Greek community. Finally, I have volunteered for numerous local political campaigns.

POLICY QUESTIONS

Local Control: How do you propose to protect your district’s control over zoning decisions? What is your approach to balancing affordable housing needs with preserving the town’s character?

- 1. Vote against Bills which seek to expand state control** even more. The 2024 legislative season contained numerous Bills which expanded state control even farther than 8-30g. I testified on 5 of those Bills as a private citizen. I would have voted against HB 5390, “Work, Live, Ride,” which eroded local control. We need legislators to advocate against and vote “no,” on these bills.
- 2. Repealing or Amending 8-30g and Other Solutions.** I would balance the Towns’ affordable housing needs with preserving its character by: a) repealing 8-30g, a law which has not worked for 35 years, b) amending 8-30g to include housing which is affordable but not currently counted for purposes of this law, such as naturally occurring housing such as that provided by Greenwich Hospital, country clubs, and private schools, and Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), c) reform the definition of affordable housing to include more middle-income housing, and d) improve Towns’ ability to retrofit certain commercial properties (e.g., nursing homes) to become housing units.

Utilities: What steps have you taken/will you take to address rising costs of electricity, natural gas, and water? Please explain your stand on the current situation with Aquarion.

During COVID, CT was one of 24 states which imposed a moratorium on electric bills – if someone could not pay, their electricity wasn’t turned off. I support that. But CT’s moratorium lasted for 4 years – longer than any state. As a result, \$200 million of unpaid bills accumulated. In February 2024, Republicans advocated that Federal COVID-relief funds should be allocated to that \$200 million of unpaid bills, so that ratepayers would not get stuck with that charge. I would have voted for that, but that proposal was rejected. Then, in the summer when ratepayers saw that charge on their electric bills, I advocated and supported those Legislators who tried to convene a Special Session to potentially reallocate some of those Federal COVID relief funds to fix the problem then. That did not happen either.

If elected, I would: 1) recommend moving the Public Benefits portion of our electric bill (which funds 41 government programs) under legislative review so that it can be vetted, 2) support capping the rates the utility companies can pay for supply, 3) advocate for PURA’s independence from DEEP so that consumers can have an independent advocate, and 4) address CT’s long term energy issues through an energy plan which is less expensive, cleaner and greener.

Aquarion Issue: RWA’s acquisition of Aquarion is likely to result in a significant increase in our water bill, another necessity of people’s lives. I testified in New Haven this summer against that acquisition, raising concerns about another rate increase, especially for those with a fixed or low income.

with my party to do so.

Bipartisanship: How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut? If elected, how will you contribute to improving the tone of political discourse and foster cooperation among different political viewpoints?

Hartford is not like Washington, DC. We work in a collegial, productive and bipartisan way. I am proud that 98% of bills we passed over the past 2 years were passed with bipartisan support. I have developed bills and co-sponsored them with Republican colleagues. I first had experience with working in a bipartisan manner during my four years on the Greenwich Representative Town Meeting. My willingness to work across party lines has earned me the endorsement of both the Independent and Democratic parties.

Your View: What should we have asked that we did not?

What are the main things that set me apart?

They are the following:

- I am proven. I have successfully delivered unprecedented financial returns for this district. Through advocacy, we brought back roughly \$20 million for Central Middle School, \$15 million more than expected, secured \$6.5 million for a long-stalled traffic improvement project in Glenville, and just recently brought \$1.8 million to improve broadband in Greenwich.
- I am endorsed by a broad group of organizations. have earned a 100% score from the CT Business and Industry Association, was endorsed by the CT Realtors Association, the Independent Party, the Firefighters Association, as well as CT Against Gun Violence, Moms Demand Action, Planned Parenthood, the Sierra Club, the CT League of Conservation Voters, and others.
- I am experienced. I have served two terms on the Representative Town Meeting, and one term as your incumbent state representative.
- I am pro-choice. I support the protections of the Reproductive Freedom Defense Act that Connecticut passed in 2022 to expand abortion access, protect patient privacy and shield medical professionals from prosecution emanating from states with restrictive abortion laws. I am the candidate in this race who supports the Reproductive Freedom Defense Act and the way it expands abortion access. I know that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and World Health Organization support the provisions in this bill and I believe in science and in listening to advice from experts in the field. Last year, I voted to further expand the protections afforded by that law. I am the candidate in this race endorsed by Planned Parenthood because of my proven record.

Economy: How will you address the economic challenges posed by inflation? What legislative measures will you support to ease the financial burden on households and businesses in your district?

Though inflation is driven mostly by national and international economic forces, the state can still do a lot for its citizens on affordability. I would take the following legislative measures if elected: 1) defend CT’s guardrails because low taxes start with controlling spending, 2) repeal CT’s gift tax (we’re the only state with a gift tax), 3) repeal CT’s estate tax (we’re 1 of only 12 states with an estate tax), 4) provide a \$2,000 per child tax credit to immediately help the middle class, 5) propose a statewide cap on property taxes, 6) adopt short and long term utility relief (see above), and 7) lessen red tape and regulatory burdens on CT’s businesses to attract them to the state.

Supermajority: What does having a supermajority in the Connecticut legislature mean to you and to your district?

This is a big concern. We are three seats away from one party (Democrat) controlling 70% of the Legislature, just like CA, NY and IL. CT would become a one-party state. If this happens, our moderate Governor Lamont’s veto will be gone since his veto can simply be overridden by the 70% supermajority. This lacks balance and diversity of opinion; the most extreme positions have greater influence and there is nothing to stop them. This lack of balance is especially problematic for the 149th District, which has a diverse set of voters: 40% Unaffiliated voters, 30% Republicans and 30% Democrats. If we become a ONE-PARTY state, the Unaffiliated and Republicans (70% of the district) will not have any voice in our state government. We need all voices to be heard to truly represent the people.

Bipartisanship: How would you describe the current political environment in Connecticut? If elected, how will you contribute to improving the tone of political discourse and foster cooperation among different political viewpoints?

I don’t think CT politics are as adversarial as at the national level, but they could be improved. From the beginning, I have said that my opponent is not my enemy and have tried to have no toxic politics in my campaign. I have focused on the issues and how my opponent and I differ on them and supplied the backup facts so that voters can see the facts for themselves. I have avoided personal attacks, character assassinations, and the inflammatory labels we hear at the national level. I will keep trying. If elected, I will focus on building relationships and finding commonalities across the political spectrum. There is much more that unites versus divides us. Once you have a human connection, so much more can be accomplished.

Your View: What should we have asked that we did not?

What is your biggest motivation? My children. I have four children, ages 15-22 – two boys and two girls. They are the greatest joy, purpose and motivation of my life. When I think about the future of CT, I think about them.

Passing laws affects people’s lives and charts the direction of the state. Every law has to answer the question: Does this improve the lives of the people of CT? Regardless of whether it is a good law, or well-intentioned but poorly drafted, or a “bad” law” rushed through for a political agenda, it affects people Day 1. Bad laws are hard to undo or fix. I will take that awesome responsibility seriously and truly vote with the best interests of the people of the District.

I care very much about this community. We must put the state on a right course so that all of our children and grandchildren can return to their hometown and raise their own families in this very special place.

LETTER

Rachel Khanna’s Support for Working Families and Affordable Childcare

Dear Editor,

I am writing to highlight the important work that State Representative Rachel Khanna has done to support working families in our district, particularly in the area of affordable childcare. As a parent, I know how crucial affordable, high-quality childcare is for families trying to balance work and family responsibilities. Rachel has made this a priority, and her efforts are making a real difference for families across Connecticut.

One of Rachel's key accomplishments has been her work to increase funding for childcare programs that support working families. She has been a strong advocate for expanding access to affordable childcare and early childhood education programs, recognizing that these services are essential for parents to maintain employment and provide a stable future for their children. Her support for increased resources for childcare providers, particularly in underserved areas, is helping to ensure that more families have access to the care they need at a price they can afford.

Rachel's advocacy has also extended to improving the quality of childcare services. She has worked to secure additional funding for early childhood education programs and mental health resources for children, ensuring that our youngest residents receive the support they need to thrive. This is especially important in a time when many families are facing increased stress and uncertainty.

By focusing on affordable childcare, Rachel Khanna is helping to lift up working families and ensure that every child in our district has the opportunity to succeed. Her commitment to this issue is one of the many reasons I support her continued leadership in the Connecticut State Legislature.

Sincerely, Sumati Prabhu

LETTER

Khanna Takes Credit for Too Much She Did Not Do

Rachel Khanna’s repeated claims of fiscal responsibility are undermined by her actions in the legislature. She boasts about the state’s fiscal guardrails and pension repayments as if they were her accomplishments, but the truth is that these reforms were passed by legislators in 2017, long before she took office. Legislators like Scott Prantz were instrumental in implementing these measures, which are now saving taxpayers \$700 million annually and stabilizing Connecticut’s finances. Khanna, who has been in office for only a short time, cannot credibly claim ownership of these long-standing reforms.

Moreover, Khanna’s voting record reveals her support for increased spending voting in favor of bills that have exceeded the state’s spending cap, directly contradicting the fiscal responsibility Khanna claims to uphold. Khanna’s continued support for large spending measures, even when Connecticut is already benefiting from the savings generated by the fiscal guardrails, could ultimately jeopardize the state’s financial health. Connecticut needs to rein in spending, not continue expanding it with little regard for future consequences.

Khanna’s tenure coincides with an influx of federal relief funds, which she uses to justify increased spending in her district. Much of this funding came from federal relief efforts during the pandemic, which has provided a temporary cushion for the state. However, the long-term effects of this spending spree could be detrimental to Connecticut’s finances, especially if the state continues to disregard the limits imposed by the fiscal guardrails.

Khanna’s actions threaten to unravel the very fiscal progress she claims to support. Her failure to credit those who laid the groundwork for Connecticut’s recovery and her willingness to vote for increased spending cast doubt on her commitment to fiscal responsibility.

Sabrina Forsythe

LETTER

Rachel Khanna has earned the right to return to Hartford this term

To the Editor,

Two years ago, I engaged in the successful effort to elect Rachel Khanna to the state legislature by canvassing with Rachel and calling voters. I was fully dedicated to her success because I knew she would be incredibly effective at reaching across the aisle to get things done.

Having spent time with Rachel and her family, I came to know an extremely intelligent, diligent and trustworthy candidate. Her actions would be veto proof.” Granted it’s a novel approach, but why would Greenwich residents vote against such an excellent candidate who has been so effective for her district in Hartford?

The minority party has multiple tools for preventing bills from coming up for a vote, and they use them all the time. They call it “running out the clock.” They introduce multiple DOA amendments, or they filibuster, nation and its freedoms and to the first responders who selflessly sacrificed their lives to help others. Have we forgotten? Ask yourselves if it would be appropriate to post signs at the 9-11 memorials in town?

So I ask our leaders to please set a bi-partisan tone of respect and decorum and “lead together,” on the issue. I am confident our community would enthusiastically support the initiative.

Damian Riordan

Republicans, when faced with Democratic success, always resort to the politics of fear. Where Rachel is concerned, that fear is misplaced.

in Hartford over the past two years have confirmed these qualities and, not surprisingly, she has joined with Steve Meskers and Hector Arzeno to become the delegation that has returned \$100MM to Greenwich.

Over the past month various letters to the editor have outlined the “frightening possibility” of a Democratic supermajority in Hartford. Republicans, when faced with Democratic success, always resort to the politics of fear. Where Rachel is concerned, that fear is misplaced. Rachel does not vote for bills she doesn't agree with and is by no means a rubber stamp.

Yesterday, my wife came home from the grocery store and proceeded to tell me that she had met Rachel's opponent, Tina Courpas outside the Stop & Shop. When asked if she was a Greenwich voter, my wife said, “Yes but a Democrat, so you'll have no interest in me.” A second woman approached my wife and said, “I’m a Democrat but I’m voting for Tina because I’m fearful of a supermajority in Hartford that essentially grinding everything to a halt until Democrats drop the legislation if they want to get anything done. They use these tools effectively every session. In fact, there is already a supermajority in the Senate, but that has not stopped Republicans from preventing bills they hate, like last session's climate bill from passing or even coming up for a vote.

Further, Greenwich has had a veto-proof Republican majority for most of the last century, with Republicans controlling both the Board of Selectmen and the BET, yet no one seems overly concerned about THAT.

I believe Rachel has earned the right to return to Hartford this term where she will no doubt continue to legislate for the benefit of D149. With a few sessions behind her, her effectiveness can only grow. Please vote in your best interest and re-elect Rachel Khanna as our State Representative from D149 in Hartford.

John Cooper

LETTER

Senator Fazio Prioritizes Our Children’s Mental Health

As a parent and active member of our community, I have witnessed the impact of social media and smartphones on our children’s mental health and academic performance. I commend State Senator Ryan Fazio for his work in addressing this critical issue, particularly through his support of legislation aimed at evaluating the effects of smartphones in schools. His concerns are not only timely but backed by an undeniable correlation between the rise in mental health challenges and the growing presence of smartphones in the lives of adolescents.

Senator Fazio’s stance highlights the alarming trends we have observed. There has been a marked increase in anxiety, depression, and self-harm among teenagers, coinciding almost perfectly with the increased use of social media and smartphones. Fazio’s initiative to examine how cell phones affect both academic performance and mental well-being is a significant step toward creating healthier learning environments.

The importance of this cannot be overstated. Data shows that academic outcomes have been deteriorating, particularly since the pandemic, a situation exacerbated by remote learning and the omnipresence of distractions such as smartphones. More than ever, we need to give our students every opportunity to focus, free from the constant pressure of social media and the distractions that smartphones provide. Fazio’s work in introducing legislation to direct a study by University of Connecticut researchers on this subject is critical to understanding how we can better support students in the classroom.

Fazio has made it clear that this is not about government overreach but about making informed decisions in a space where clear responsibility lies—our schools. He and his colleagues have consulted experts like Jonathan Haidt, a leading voice on the effects of social media on adolescent mental health. This thoughtful, research-based approach will help educators, parents, and policymakers understand the scope of the problem and, ultimately, enact solutions that could improve both mental health and academic outcomes for Connecticut students.

In supporting Senator Fazio, I hope our community recognizes the need to prioritize the mental health of our children. The risks of unregulated smartphone use in schools are clear, and we now have the chance to take a meaningful step toward addressing it.

Sincerely, Julie Toal

Dear Editor,

As a longtime resident of the 149th District, I have been closely watching the race between Rachel Khanna and her opponent, Tina, and the choice between the two candidates could not be more clear. Rachel Khanna has consistently delivered results for our community, while Tina’s campaign has offered little in the way of substantive solutions, often resorting to misleading rhetoric to attack Rachel’s record. To the contrary, here are few examples.

Taxes

Fact: Since taking office, Rachel has BROUGHT BACK NEARLY \$100 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING TO OUR DISTRICT, which has been used for essential projects like school renovations, pedestrian safety improvements, and support for local nonprofits.

Fact: Rachel’s accomplishments go beyond just securing funding. She has HELPED PASS THE LARGEST TAX CUT IN CONNECTICUT’S HISTORY, reducing the burden on families across our district, and worked to ensure that our budget remains fiscally responsible by paying down pension liabilities and fully funding the state’s Rainy Day Fund.

Women’s Rights

Fact: Rachel has voted to IMPROVE ACCESS TO ABORTION PROVIDERS AND MAKING IT ESIER FOR WOMEN TO OBTAIN BIRTH CONTROL.

Fact: TINA STATES SHE IS OPPOSED TO PUBLIC ACT 22-19 WHICH PROTECTS WOMENS RIGHTS TO THEIR BODIES.

Child Welfare

Fact: Rachel supported THE AWARDDING OF \$70 MILLION FOR SCHOOL RECONSTRUCTION for Central Middle School (Greenwich) and Roxbury School (Stamford)

gave abortions to women of any age in Connecticut. Since the medical community does not uniformly agree that this practice is safe, Tina Courpas does not either.

As a woman and a mother, if someone I cared about was confronted with the awful decision to have to have an abortion, I would encourage the absolute safety of having it performed by a doctor.

Tina will fully defend Connecticut women’s access to abortion. Where she truly differs from Rachel Khanna is that Tina is also careful and thoughtful about protecting the health and safety of the women and girls who seek abortions.

LETTER

Political Signs Posted at Town Memorials

First let me say thank you. I was encouraged to see you call out both political parties for their lack of awareness and respect by placing signs on the grounds of our town’s memorials.

I have sent notes to Greenwich’s Democrat and Republican HQ’s, as well as the Greenwich Selectmen’s office to request a formal effort be made to work together to prohibit the placement of these and other signs at memorials, as a show of respect to the soldiers, sailors, airmen, first responders, from our great community.

While we all appreciate the effort that goes into running local campaigns, there is a demonstrated lack of awareness and respect exhibited by political candidates placing signs on the grounds of our significant memorials in town. We know these campaigns are important but they will never supersede the ultimate sacrifices our military members and first responders made in their service to our country and to the citizens of our community.

Here’s a suggestion. Let’s create a written, bi-partisan agreement to specifically prohibit all signs (political and commercial) from being displayed at each of our town’s memorials. There is plenty of other public and private (owner approved) property to market a candidate or used car for sale.

Please know I am firmly supportive of our first amendment right to free speech. It is critical we remember these memorials are dedicated to those who fought and died to protect our

LETTER

Developers Want Ryan Fazio Out—Here Is Why We Cannot Let That Happen

Dear Editor,

Make no mistake, big developers, SuperPACs and politicians like Stamford’s Mayor Caroline Simmons are doing everything they can to push Senator Ryan Fazio out of office. Why? Because Fazio has been a brick wall standing in their way—protecting our towns from the kind of reckless, profit-driven overdevelopment they want to impose on Greenwich, New Canaan and Stamford.

Simmons showed her hand last year when she snuck a provision into the state’s enormous omnibus bill, in the middle of the night, that stripped local towns of the right to control their own zoning laws. The media widely refers to it as the “Rat Bill”.

Fortunately, Ryan Fazio stepped in. He was having nothing of it. He led the charge to repeal that dangerous provision, preserving our right to decide what is best for our towns. Simmons has egg on her face, but the developers and their allies have not forgotten—and they are eager to get Fazio out of the way.

This is what is really at stake in this election. If Fazio is gone, there will be nothing standing between big developers and our neighborhoods.

Senator Fazio understands we have thrived because we have had a say in how we grow, how we protect our green spaces and how we manage development. Take that control away and we become just another target for developers looking to make a quick profit at the expense of our quality of life.

This election is not about party politics; it is about protecting the future of our towns from those who want to turn them into something they were never meant to be. Big developers and politicians like Mayor Simmons want Fazio out of the way so they can move full steam ahead. We cannot let that happen.

Ryan Fazio has proven he is willing to fight for us and our right to control our own future. We need him in Hartford to keep standing up for our communities, to keep the developers at bay and to protect what makes our towns unique.

Sincerely, Debra Hess

LETTER

Great Reasons to Reelect Senator Fazio

Think about the reasons you love to live in Greenwich and the choice will be easy.

to their municipal charters and making it easier for towns to get moratoriums under the 8-30g affordable housing statute. Fazio also helped stop two major efforts “Fair Share” and “Work Live Ride” to take away more local control over zoning decisions that would enable developers to build whatever they want without local regulation. Under the current state statute 8-30g, Greenwich has experienced many unfair developments.

Under new proposals supported by the democrats, towns could lose even more zoning rights and also be financially liable to build more affordable housing themselves. Nick Simmons campaign is funded in large part by interests outside of Connecticut to whom local control is an inconvenience.

When Ryan was appointed the Ranking Senator of the legislature’s Energy and Technology Committee he co-authored multiple bills to help reduce energy costs for the average consumer. For example, he co-authored and passed bipartisan reforms to strengthen utility oversight and including getting the public benefit portion of our electric bills to be included as a specific line item so we all know how much we are paying for these state mandates. He is pushing for having this mandates go through the normal budget process rather than just being added to our electric bill with no oversight or vetting. One of the upcoming charges we will all see if the democrats have their way is a three dollar monthly charge to pay for electric vehicle charging stations - a defacto subsidy paid by all of us for those who chose to drive electric vehicles.

Much more needs to be done in these areas and Ryan Fazio has the record and skills to work across the aisle to make this happen. I encourage you to vote for Ryan Fazio to allow him to continue this important work and avoid a democratic super majority in the state which will assure additional loss of local zoning.

Think about the reasons you love to live in Greenwich and the choice will be easy.

Adele Rota

LETTER

Tina Courpas is Pro-Choice

CT without parental consent or notification? This means a 15-year-old girl can seek an abortion on her own, without an adult involved. But Rachel Khanna supports taking that a step further. Khanna voted that not even a doctor has to be involved. Rachel Khanna supports nurse midwives and RN’s – not doctors - to give abortions to women of any age in Connecticut. Since the medical community does not uniformly agree that this practice is safe, Tina Courpas does not either.

As a woman and a mother, if someone I cared about was confronted with the awful decision to have to have an abortion, I would encourage

LETTER

Rachel Khanna Is the Clear Choice

Dear Editor,

As a longtime resident of the 149th District, I have been closely watching the race between Rachel Khanna and her opponent, Tina, and the choice between the two candidates could not be more clear. Rachel Khanna has consistently delivered results for our community, while Tina’s campaign has offered little in the way of substantive solutions, often resorting to misleading rhetoric to attack Rachel’s record. To the contrary, here are few examples.

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These are a VERY FEW selected examples of Rachel’s actions and results on our behalf. By contrast, Tina has yet to present a comprehensive vision for how she would address any of these issues. Rachel Khanna has shown time and again that she is dedicated to the well-being of our community and has the skills and knowledge to represent us effectively and will continue to do so in the future. The decision to vote for Rachel is clear.

Sincerely, Keville Tomasso

COLUMN

Finding Hope During the Darkest Times



By Rabbi Mitchell Hurvitz

In the ancient Talmudic tractate of B'rachot (Blessings), a story describes how Rabbi Meir and his wife Beruriah lived in a neighborhood tormented by hooligans. After another anguishing incident by which they were victims of robbery, Rabbi Meir's anger reached a boiling point, and he shouted out to God a prayerful wish: "God, kill these evil doers."

Beruriah understood her husband's anger and his pain. But while embracing her husband, she said: "How can we pray to God to kill? Shouldn't our prayer be that God should make the evildoers recognize their wicked ways and make them instead pursue good? Shouldn't our prayers ask God to help them repent and end their transgressions, and not for the transgressors' demise?"

In our challenging world, we can understand Rabbi Meir's righteous anger and his pain. Beruriah also felt this same anger and pain. But, she reminded her husband and us what we must pray for and hope to achieve: a world where evil ceases to exist and every human family member can finally recognize that everyone is created equally in God's image. And because we are each equal, we all should act accordingly. We all need to do our best to be more like Beruriah and live our lives shepherded by God.

Mid-summer, I was reading the newspaper while my wife, Roseanne, watched AGT (America's Got Talent). During the show, something occurred that caused me to pay attention; an event that gave witness to the existence of people like Beruriah. An Israeli-Palestinian Jerusalem youth chorus came on stage and performed a song written by an American singer and songwriter, Philip Phillips, titled: "Home." Their stated purpose for performing on AGT was to help deliver

the message of equality and inclusion. They wanted to help share the vision of securing a safe and comfortable future for everyone, even after difficult times.

The lyrics they sang resonated, especially in the post-October 7 Hamas Massacre climate:

...Settle down, it'll all be clear

Don't pay no mind to the demons

They fill you with fear
The trouble, it might drag you down

If you get lost, you can always be found

Just know you're not alone
'Cause I'm gonna make this place your home...

The twenty young choir members wore jackets with the chorus's logo that featured a peace dove, and the audience gave them a standing ovation, and the AGT judges enthusiastically approved.

This Jerusalem youth choir was created in 2012 by Micah Hendler. The mission: "to help bring Jewish and Palestinian teens together in a city and country too often marked by division. One of the girls in the chorus said: "We are the Jerusalem Youth Chorus, a group of Palestinians and Israelis. We believe through music, and through working together, and talking to each other, we are taking a step forward into building that amazing future where there is justice, freedom, equality, and inclusion."

When asked what they would do if they won the AGT's million-dollar prize, another choir member answered: "We will create more spaces just like this chorus — so people can meet people that are different from them; so we can create this change." This young woman, while saying this, was wearing "Bring Them Home" earrings, calling attention to Israel's hostages held captive in Gaza.

This Jerusalem choir produced an original song called "A Different Way," with lyrics in both Arabic and Hebrew. They also performed together at an annual Israeli-Palestinian joint ceremony on Yom Hazikaron, Israel's Memorial Day. In the spirit of Beruriah, they offer a vision for the world we should all want to see, and they help us to

*Where there's hope,
there's life. It fills us
with fresh courage, and
makes us strong again.*

remember that we can look at the ugly face of terror, violence, and loss and still believe in a better future.

Children can often teach us to believe, offer help, and hope. Last November, the IDF went into a Hamas tunnel where Israeli hostages were previously held, and they found on the walls drawings made by Emilia Aron. Emilia was one of the young child hostages who was safely returned to her family. Emilia's drawings showed the sun shining and children and adults holding hands in front of a house next to a big tree. When looking at the photos of Emilia's drawings, I recalled the Children's Drawings from the Concentration Camp of Terezin, and I remembered that amidst the horrors of the Holocaust, children found solace by expressing their feelings through artistic endeavors. The Terezin children shared their emotions through art, often demonstrating hope and resilience. We also possess some children's art created in Auschwitz, Warsaw, and Treblinka, Jewish children in the 1930s and 1940s who turned to art as a means of survival. Many of their drawings and paintings were memoirs of happier times, their dreams for the future, and their grasping onto the glimmer of hope in the face of the most dehumanizing conditions.

Some of the children's Holocaust art depicted the atrocities that they witnessed; scenes of deportations, crowded barracks, and Nazi brutality. Innocent young people copied the scenes they saw and tried to understand what was happening. In doing so, these children left behind witnesses to the injustices they faced. But, often, the art of these Jewish children during the Holocaust provides glimpses into their innocence, smiles from the people around them, their favorite animals and flowers, and the simple moments of daily life. Many

were tragically murdered, but these children still brought the light of hope and love into our lives.

I believe this is also why we all so tightly cling to the words and thoughts of Anne Frank, another youth who brought hope during the darkest times. Here are a few examples of Anne's words:

- "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

- "In spite of everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart."

- "In the long run, the sharpest weapon of all is a kind and gentle spirit."

- "Where there's hope, there's life. It fills us with fresh courage, and makes us strong again."

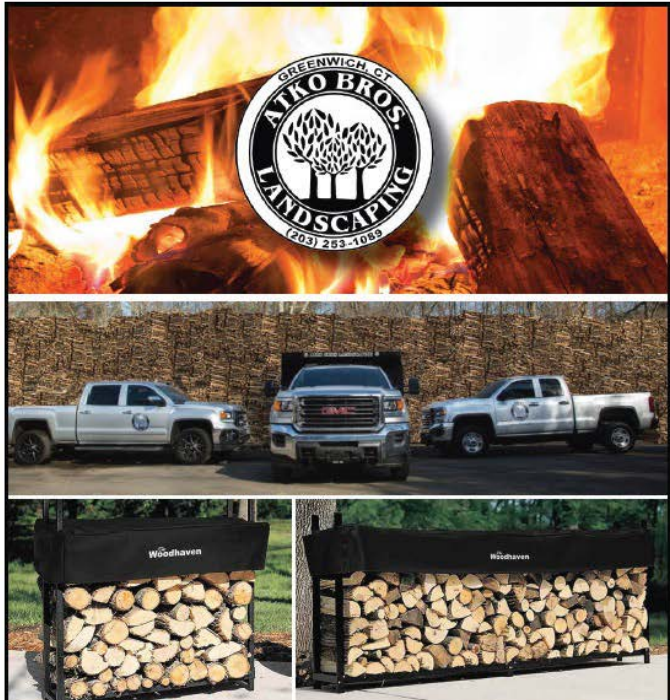
- "I must uphold my ideals, for perhaps the time will come when I shall be able to carry them out."

Anne Frank didn't live to be able to uphold her ideals of hope and love. But, she carried within herself the spirit of Beuriah, as so many other children often carry.

Beruriah, children artists of the Holocaust, the Jerusalem youth chorus, and Anne Frank all exemplify what we most want: a world that is better able to cast away the darkness and bring God's light ever present. May we continue to be inspired to follow and lead others to this dream of hope and love for all.

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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COLUMN

By CHUCK DAVIS

A few years ago, I was having a Starbucks coffee and reflection reading time. During that era, the coffee company was putting interesting sayings from customers on the throw away coffee cups. So, that day, I was served a bold brew with the following phrase:

The Way I See It # 76

“The irony of commitment is that it’s deeply liberating – in work, in play, in love. The act frees you from the tyranny of your internal critic, from the fear that likes to dress itself up and parade around as rational hesitation. To commit is to remove your head as the barrier to your life.”

Anne Morriss
Starbucks customer from NYC

Anne had me at the beginning of the quote: “the irony of commitment is that it’s deeply liberating.” I have found this to be true of my life experience. When our hearts are fully in, we are saved a lot of wasted thought time around “what ifs” and second guessing. Life is challenging enough without the internal or external critic taking up our creative energies.

And beyond my personal experience, this principle rings true in God’s Word. There are so many “with all your heart” declarations that I cannot begin to list them. One whatever you do phrase captures them all.

Whatever you do, do it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. Colossians 3:23

What I hear in that biblical admonition is unflinching commitment, which leads to reward. This is true even when our work does not bring the full results of what we anticipated.

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. *Harvest Party!* October 30, 7pm.

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 9-14y. 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 home-bound 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. *Annual Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass: Saturday, Oct. 26, 1:30pm, at the Cathedral of Saint Augustine in Bridgeport, CT, for more information, please contact Pat Hansen at phansen@diobpt.org or 203-416-1342. Thanksgiving Food Drive: non-perishable food donations, Please leave items at the front or rear entrances of the church each weekend through Sunday, Nov. 17. Suggested items: \$20 Store gift cards (Stop & Shop or Shoprite). For information or to help with this ministry contact John Innominato at 914-565-1637.*

St. Catherine of Siena & St. Agnes
4 Riverside Ave; 203-637-3661
www.stc-sta.org

* All Masses at St. Catherine of Siena Church are in-person and livestreamed (View our Livestream and recordings here: https://events.locallive.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

Head and Heart People

I hear these contemporary mantras often – “just do what you feel” or “just do what your heart tells you.” The challenge for me in these value propositions is that I know my own heart at times is not rightly aligned.

The experience of work itself is pedagogy. As the contemporary philosopher has said, “Experience is what you get when you don’t get what you want.”

So, you can see how Anne had me in the beginning of the quote. However, I felt distance develop at the last phrase: “To commit is to remove your head as the barrier to your life.” Let me explain.

If Anne is saying that we need to remove negative thinking, I am still tracking with her.

If Anne is saying that head without heart is dead, I am still tracking with her.

But if to remove our head suggests somehow skipping the “right thinking” process, I am not so much on board.

I hear these contemporary mantras often – “just do what you feel” or “just do what your heart tells you.” The challenge for me in these value propositions is that I know my own heart at times is not rightly aligned. And I do not think this challenge is only mine.

Jeremiah the prophet asks the rhetorical question, “who can really know or understand the heart as it is deceitful above all things?” (Jeremiah 17:9)

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.

CONGREGATIONAL

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www.fccog.org

Worship: In-Person & Virtual: Sundays, 10am. Live-streaming on YouTube and Facebook, and broadcast on WGCH (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. *Trunk or Treat: Saturday, Oct. 26, 6-7:30pm, parking lot, \$20 per family.*

North Greenwich Congregational
606 Riversville Rd; 203-869-7763
(Instagram photos and videos @ 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. Elementary & Youth Choir: Wednesdays, 4:30pm. *Friday Yoga: Oct. 18 to Nov. 22, 9-10am, (\$20/class). Teddy Bear Story Hour at Coffee for Good: Saturday, Oct. 26, 8am. Halloween Haunt: Sunday, Oct. 27, 11:45am, after worship. Election Day VBS: Tuesday, November 5, 9-11:30am.*

EPISCOPAL

Anelican Church of the Advent
606 Riversville Rd; 203-861-2432
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 Compline: In-person or livestream, 5pm. Wednesdays: Preach and Teach Eucharist (new time for this midweek 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. Intergenerational Bible Study with Rev. Terry & Rev. Tim: Sundays, Oct. 20-Nov. 3, 11:15am. Sunday, Oct. 27: Arbor Society Forum: Planting Trees for the Future, 11:15am; Stained Glass Window Tour, 2pm, Main Sanctuary; Christ Church Cemetery Tour, 3pm; Joyful Noise Contemporary Service, 5pm. Courage & Faith presents: “The Art of Faith, the Faith of Art” with Christian Wiman: Saturday, Nov. 2, 6pm.*

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*

The honest response is a loud “no one!” Come on, you know your own heart. It is not always firing correctly.

That tells me that I can be sincere, passionate, and deeply committed, but maybe to the wrong things, or even the right things in the wrong way or time. Thus, I need a head that is not removed but fully engaged; a head that is being shaped by right thoughts. Each of us needs a true north indicator, that is outside of “my truth.” For me it is the Bible. What is your true north?

I guess I would want to change her last line: “To commit is to be fully engaged in head and heart.” When my head is full of God’s thoughts, there will be less room for my own thoughts or the misinformed thoughts and opinions that swirl around me. When my heart is full of God’s courage and commitment to fulfill covenant promises, there will be less room for my own self-doubt to creep in.

We are head and heart people. Head and heart need to operate in dynamic tension. King David from the Bible prayed the following

“Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!” (Psalm 139:23-24).

This is especially interesting, since David is acclaimed in the Bible as having a heart after God. Seems like a pretty good prayer for all of us.

The Rev. Dr. Chuck Davis is the Transitional co-Lead Pastor at Stanwich Church. Chuck is also the founder of Global Lead and the President of Global Leadership Inc. To learn more about Chuck go to GlobalLead.org

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.stpaulsriverdale.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.

St. Saviour’s Episcopal Church
350 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-2262
www.saintsaviours.org

In-person Service: Sundays, 10am.

IEWISH

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. *Shabbat and Simchat Torah: Friday, Oct. 25, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church.*

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

Join Rabbi Gerson 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. *Around the World in 80 Minutes with Orchestra Lumos: Sunday, Nov. 3, 3pm.*

Temple Sholom

300 E. Putnam Ave.;
203-869-7191
www.templesholom.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. Monthly Social Walking Group: Tuesday, Oct. 29, 9:30am, at Cos Cob Park. Women’s Musar Class: Mindfulness in Jewish Texts with Rabbi Gisel: Tuesday, Oct. 29, 7-8pm. JBook Discussion: Leaving Eastern Parkway: Wednesday, Oct. 30, 7pm.*

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.myrevive.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, 7-7:30pm. (Email Albertsonpccc@gmail.com for registration and Zoom Links). *Spiritual Mediumship class - The Joy of Mediumship - a series of virtual interactive classes with exercises and individualized coaching: Oct. 28 & Nov. 4, 11, 18 & 25, 7-9pm \$120, Register at CSDPastor@gmail.com.*

Trinity Church

5 River Rd.; 203-618-0808
www.trinitychurch.life

In-Person Services: Sun., 9:45am, Hyatt Regency Greenwich, 1800 E. Putnam Ave., Old Greenwich; 10am, Trinity Westchester, 2111 Boston Post Rd, Larchmont, NY; 11am, Saxe Middle School, New Canaan. *Alpha Retreat Weekend: October 25-27.*

PRESBYTERIAN

First Presbyterian Church

1 W. Putnam Ave.;
203-869-8686
www.fpcg.org

Worship: Sundays, 10am. *Fall Opera Trip: Oct. 26, 10:15am.*

Grace Church of Greenwich

89 Maple Ave.
203-861-7555

www.gracechurchgreenwich.com

Worship: Sundays, 8:45am, 10:45am & 4:30pm, Woman’s Club of Greenwich, 89 Maple Ave. Bible Studies and Sunday School meet in person. All are welcome.

Living Hope Community Church

38 West End Ave;
203-637-3669
www.LivingHopect.org

In-person & online (LivingHopect.org/livestream) worship Sundays: 10am. Prayer for the Nation: Thursdays, 7:30-8pm, Online. Register and more information: livinghopect.org/resources/alpha. *Old Greenwich Farmers Market: Wednesdays through Oct. 30, 2:30-6pm, Rain or shine, oldgreenwichfarmersmarket.com. Alpha, Delta & ReGenerate course: Wednesdays through Nov. 20, 7-8:30pm. Grow Night Dinner: Wednesdays, 6-7pm.*

Intelligence Threats to the US, from the French to the Chinese and More

On October 16 Jerome Coleman introduced the Retired Men's Association speaker, David Hunt. Coleman first announced that this talk would not be recorded, and that any members of the press should treat the remarks as the off-the-record. However, Mr. Hunt explicitly authorized this summary of his talk for publication in Greenwich Sentinel.

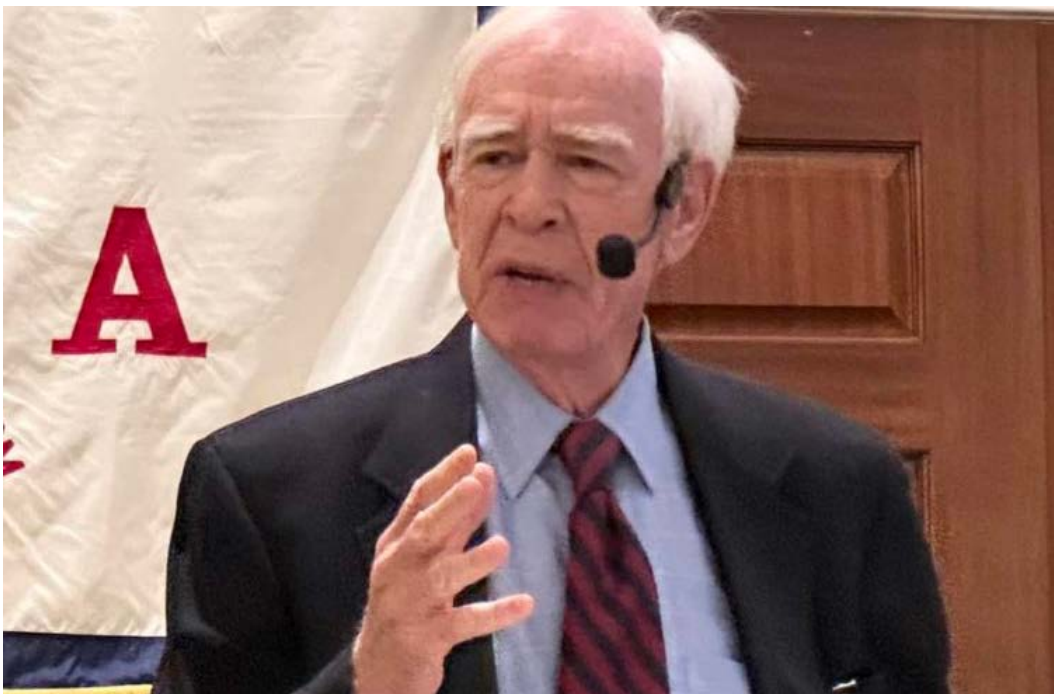
David P. Hunt is a retired senior officer with 32 years' service in CIA's clandestine service. He served extensively overseas with tours in Italy, Vietnam, Somalia, Norway, and France as well as New York City, serving as chief of station in Mogadishu and New York. He also served in the US Army, and spent a year in Korea with the Counterintelligence Corps. He is considered an expert in Soviet operations, European affairs, and counterintelligence. He holds the Donovan Award for Excellence and the Distinguished Intelligence Medal, CIA's highest career award.

Hunt began by saying that he would speak about intelligence issues in several countries with which he has career experience, including China, France, and Somalia. The saying goes that all politics are local. But sometimes, distant events actually affect us. For example, last year, a high-altitude surveillance balloon from China floated over the US. Recently, Linda Sun, deputy chief of staff to Governor Kathy Hochul of New York State was charged with acting as an undisclosed foreign agent of the Chinese government.

Hunt reviewed key moments in his career, starting with China. For the last 20 years, we have felt that we needed China as a buffer against Russia but those days are over. The Chinese have systematically tried to exert influence over American politicians, inviting them to visit China. For example, the Democratic candidate for VP has been to China over 30 times. You can imagine that he will not want to insult his hosts there. Both William Cohen, former Defense Secretary, and Madeline Albright, former Secretary of State, headed consulting firms to facilitate American business operations in China. And, vicariously of course, effectively lobbying for the Chinese in Washington. The book "Blood Money" by Peter Schweizer documents that the Biden family received \$30 million dollars from China. The Chinese have bought US businesses and encouraged them to move to China. The academic community is also a target. Professors have been invited to China and they avoid criticizing China lest they not be invited back.

Espionage has become a serious issue. China has stolen the technology used in our Patriot missiles, stealth aircraft, our "quiet" submarines, and our littoral ships. Chinese scientists who visit our national laboratories move back and forth to China, enabling them to report their findings to Chinese laboratories. There has been little criticism of China for the flow of fentanyl across the southern border. China has hacked into personnel files of US government employees. The Germans estimate that about 30 thousand approaches have been made to German scientists from China. In other words, our open society has been a bonanza for the Chinese and others as well.

In France under DeGaulle,



Retired CIA officer David Hunt spoke about historical and current threats to US national security from espionage by countries like China.

The Chinese have systematically tried to exert influence over American politicians.

the French carried out "bag" operations. If you left a briefcase in your hotel, personnel would open your bags and photograph the contents. This practice became public with the sabotage of the Rainbow Warrior, a Greenpeace ship, by French intelligence agents. A French journalist actually exposed on French TV the existence of bag operations, which were occurring from ten to fifteen times a day in the large French hotels. Large American companies, particularly those involved in technology, IBM and Texas Instruments, for example, were particularly targeted. Penetrations of these companies were also discovered. These employees were brought back to the US for "consultations," confronted by the FBI, confessed, and were fired. In 1989, General Vernon Walters, who had served as Defense Attache in Paris in the early '70's, was sent to Paris to complain about these activities to President Mitterrand. The operations stopped for a few months, then resumed. There were about 180 companies that did business in France and CIA lunched a program to warn them all to protect their proprietary information.

In the 1960s the Cold War was raging. As an example of a "walk-in," a way that CIA acquires valuable information, in February 1968, a young Army General on the Czech General Staff defected to us in Italy with two bags of Top-Secret Warsaw Pact documents. These were a bonanza to the US Intelligence Community. These days it is even easier with email.

Hunt said that he was chief of station in Somalia from 1973-75. It was a period of airplane high jackings and other terrorist attacks against the West. In Somalia the US had a very small diplomatic presence. After the Yom Kippur War, at a diplomatic reception, he was berated by the Egyptian Ambassador, in the company of four other Arab ambassadors, because the US had supported Israel during the war. At a dinner later on, the Syrian ambassador severely criticized a French diplomat for French colonial atrocities. These incidents indicated a severe deep-seated resentment against particularly the French and the British, which, over time, has come to include the United States. These are attitudes

which are unlikely to change anytime soon.

In response to audience questions, Mr. Hunt said that business people who are conducting international trade need to think more about the national interest and less about their personal interests. The Chinese treat visiting journalists very well and make it clear what subjects they should not write about, such as Taiwan autonomy, human rights, fentanyl. As for the CIA, it is a very tightly run, disciplined organization, under the command of the president of the United States. Regarding the Russian gas pipeline sabotage, Hunt understands that, according to recent press reports, the Ukrainians were responsible. This seems plausible to him. He does not see how the Ukraine war will end; Biden seems to be over-constraining the Ukrainian military, and Trump seems to be too cozy with Putin.

Video of this week's presentation is not available.

The RMA's upcoming presentation, "ZERO POINT FOUR: The Critical Role and Vulnerabilities of U.S. Maritime to our National Security," by Carleen Lyden Walker, is scheduled for 11 AM on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. Carleen Lyden Walker will address the critical role that maritime shipping plays in today's world economy and its relationship to the U.S. economy and national security. Just after WWII over half the world's ocean-going commercial ships flew the U.S. flag. Today it is less than 0.4% ("zero point four"). Ms. Walker will speak about how a lack of maritime preparedness creates vulnerabilities to our national economy - through energy, food, climate, workforce and military readiness and flexibility. She is the co-author of "ZERO POINT FOUR - How US Leadership in Maritime will Secure America's Future." She is consistently listed among the top 100 women globally in maritime expertise.

Ms. Walker is a marketing and communications professional in the commercial maritime industry. She is founder and CEO of Morgan Marketing & Communications, co-founder and CEO of the North American Marine Environment Protection Association, chief evolution officer of SHIPPINGInsight (the

fleet optimization and innovation platform for shipping) and the founder of the Consortium for International Maritime Heritage.

In 2015, Ms. Walker was appointed a Goodwill Maritime Ambassador by the International Maritime Organization. She is a member of numerous maritime associations and a trustee of the US Friends of the World Maritime University. In 2010, she was awarded the Certificate of Merit by the United States Coast Guard and in 2014 a Public Service Commendation for her work on World Maritime Day and the AMVER search & rescue system, respectively. In March of 2023, she received the Distinguished Service Award from the Coast Guard for her work in the field.

Ms. Walker graduated from Wellesley College with a BA in political science and history and studied accounting at Cornell School of Business Administration.

She is a trained facilitator and media trainer and held a USCG Captain's license.

To stream the presentation by Carleen Walker at 11 AM on Wednesday, October 30, click on <https://bit.ly/30IBj21>. This presentation will also be available on local public access TV channels, Verizon FIOS channel 24 and Optimum (Cablevision) channel 79. The public is also invited to attend the presentation in person at the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich at 1 West Putnam Avenue.

Note: The views expressed in these 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 members@greenwichrma.org.

RMA 70th Anniversary Gala

By TROY JOHNSON

The Greenwich Retired Men's Association will celebrate its 70th Anniversary on November 13 at a gala to be held at the Innis Arden Golf Club in Old Greenwich. Over 150 members and spouses are expected to attend for this private event.

The gala is the RMA's usual yearly banquet, but this year transformed into a special 70th anniversary program which will feature author David Richards as the keynote speaker. Richards has labored for a year to create the first history of the RMA in its 70 years and will present a talk titled "Ten Things You Didn't Know About the RMA".

The event will also present Volunteer Awards and will hear the singing of fun tunes by RMA's Melody Men with Bob Morgan at the piano.

Banquet Chairman (and First Vice President) David Michonski said: "This will be a very special day for an organization that has served the Greenwich community for seven decades. David Richards has spent months researching 38 boxes of records at the Greenwich Historical Society and endless insertions in the Greenwich Time, the old Greenwich News, the Greenwich Sentinel and the Stamford Advocate about the RMA."

Michonski said: "The whole organization is eagerly

anticipating his talk and looking forward to enjoying the colorful history of the RMA in which members practice the key values of Fellowship, Volunteerism and Service to the public."

The RMA provides volunteer services to more than 75 organizations in and around Greenwich with nearly 17,000 volunteer hours yearly. In addition, it is an organization where retired men meet every Wednesday to tell jokes, hear about current events, sing songs, and listen to one of the most acclaimed speaker programs in Connecticut. During the week members play bridge and hearts games, play tennis, golf, and pickleball, practice Tai Chi, and travel

around town as the 'Walkers and Talkers' visiting unusual hidden gems in and around Greenwich. The RMA also sponsors day trips such as the West Point Army and Navy Game, visits to the Goodspeed Opera House, racing at Belmont Park or visiting Innisfree Garden in Upstate New York.

The organization is open to all retired men. All women and the public are invited at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays at the First Presbyterian Church to hear the speaker programs. The men's ages span from 61 to 99 year of age. To get involved, speak with Membership Chairman Peter Stern and apply online at www.GreenwichRMA.org.

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The 83 Secret Sales in Greenwich this Year


BY MARK PRUNER

Greenwich real estate can be a very secretive place when it comes to real estate deals. As of the end of September we have had 383 sales on the Greenwich Multiple Listing Service, but this is not all the sales in Greenwich. We have had 83 sales that are off-market and another 16 sales that were off market, but were subsequently voluntarily reported on the MLS by the listing agent.

Private sales happen for a variety of reasons, but two principal reasons are privacy at the high-end and a very hot market at the lower end. At the low end, the market is so hot, that it can be reasonably easy to find a buyer with an off-market sale. Often, you don't have to talk to many agents, before you find one with a prospective buyer, even if you just hint that you might have something coming on.

We had private sales this year at \$4.2, 5.5 and 8.7 million. For the two lower sales prices, the first buyers to see the house actually paid over our list price, because

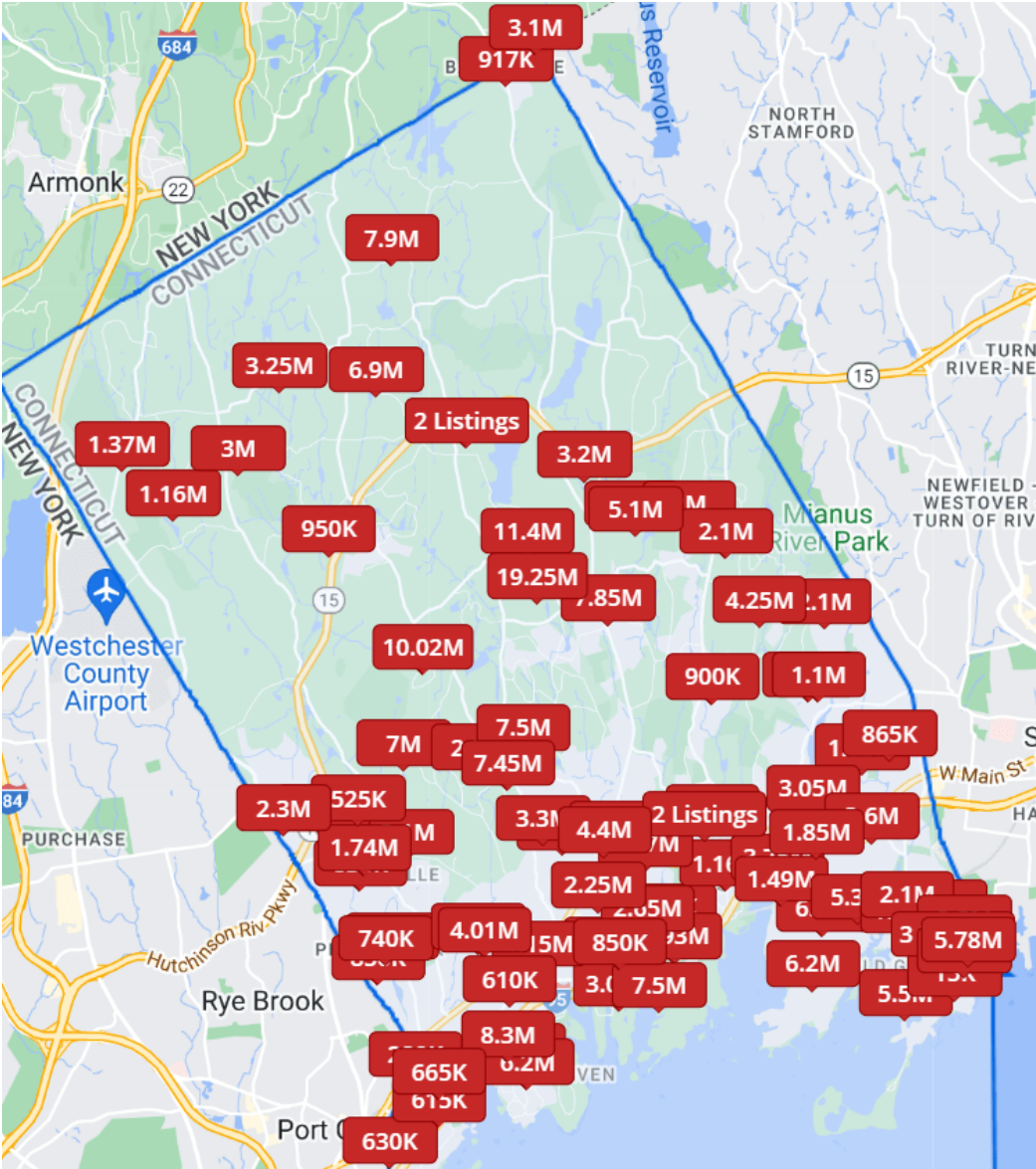
they really, really did not want the listing to go public. All of our listings under \$4 million were listed on the GMLS as were our two listings over \$8.7 million. Each situation is different.

Now, you might think that many of those 16 private sales below \$1 million most didn't use a real estate agent, but that's not the case. Right now, Zillow, which has by far the highest percentage of searches for Greenwich properties, only has one FSBO (For Sale By Owner) listed out of 226 Greenwich listings of all types. The one FSBO that we do have is on for \$650,000. For sale by owners happens very rarely in Greenwich, even under \$1 million.

Once you get over \$1 million, most sellers list their house on the GMLS, or occasionally on the SmartMLS, if they have an out of town agent or if it is bank-owned property. Banks, particularly national banks, tend to have one agent for all of Fairfield County, which is how they operate in the large majority of states that have county government.

In Fairfield County, the bank's real estate agent often isn't a member of the Greenwich MLS, so it doesn't show up on our MLS. As a result, they end up listing

Private sales happen for a variety of reasons, but two principal reasons are privacy at the high-end and a very hot market at the lower end.



the property on the statewide SmartMLS and do little else in the way of selling the property, because the bank is only paying a small commission.

These banks with Greenwich properties do themselves a major disservice, by focusing on getting the lowest commission that they can on the front-end and losing hundreds of thousands of dollars on the back-end over what they would have gotten with more extensive advertising and marketing.

At the high-end, over \$5 million, privacy is a major factor. It is getting harder and harder to maintain privacy in this world of online databases and Google searches, but private sales of real estate are still hard to find. (My broker has a proprietary database, which is where this information

comes from.) Above \$5 million 23.3% of all sales are private, compared to 17.8% for the overall market.

Our private sales are spread throughout the town, but as you might expect, the lower end sales are concentrated in Byram and Pemberwick, the older houses east and west of central Greenwich and in the smaller zones north of the Post Road in Old Greenwich and Riverside. The higher end private sales are concentrated in the two and four-acre zones in northern Greenwich and along the waterfront.

When you look townwide by neighborhood, Central Greenwich and Cos Cob have the most private sales, followed by Mid-country, Old Greenwich, Riverside and North of the Parkway. We also see a fair

number of sales in our high-end private associations such as Belle Haven, Mead Point and Millbrook.

So should you list your Greenwich house privately or go directly to the Greenwich MLS. Of the sales in Greenwich over 80% went with the Greenwich MLS, but what about the other 19%. Economics plays a role in the decision between private and public listings. Some property owners don't want to pay a commission and keep all the sales proceeds for themselves, other than the state and town conveyance taxes and their attorneys' fees.

These FSBOs are seeing very good demand and very limited supply, however, we are not seeing a big shift to FSBO sales as our sellers are smarter than that and often very busy. The studies

show that owners get the highest net price by getting maximum exposure and multiple offers, which is what public listings do.

The sales process nationally and in Connecticut is very complex and even more so this year with some major law changes and a legal settlement trying to push buyers to pay commissions. I spent 14 years as a real estate attorney and another dozen year running my own interactive marketing company. My brother, Russ, ran a very successful brokerage firm for decades, yet every day, we discuss among out team what is the best way to handle a marketing, legal, regulatory, negotiation or difficult personality issue.

The other decision is how much you value your privacy. It is a big motivation for many homeowners. The higher the price, the more the motivation to keep sales and purchases private. These private sales are done with brokers on both side they just aren't listed for sale on any MLS. On the flipside, what the seller can never know in a private sales is if did they get the highest possible price. Was there someone out there that would have paid more.

For some buyers, the highest possible price is not the goal. Getting the last few percent in a sale takes a lot of work and a lot of exposure of your home to your family, the neighbors and all your friends. For that last few percent, you need your house in perfect shape. I've worked with clients to have their whole house painted and floors refinished, to have large trees removed to open up the property. Houses have been completely staged with all of their furniture put in storage and new furniture brought in. Seller then have to keep this house perfect, perfect for all the subsequent showings.

Many sellers are willing to give up the highest price possible if they can reduce the hassle, time and expense. Many of our senior clients have a lot of appreciation in their house and are physically and financially incapable of doing the work to get the house in tip-top shape. A well-priced private sale can be quick and can save a lot of hassle and still give them all the cash that they need.

It's up to the owner what they want to do, but make sure you are fully informed on each option.

“My relationship with my clients has always been based on trust and an expectation of providing the support, knowledge, and experience I’ve accumulated over the past 30 years.”

— James Hoffman, SRES, CCRA, Managing Broker, Greenwich Connecticut Properties, LLC.



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Properties*



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Jim Hoffman is the former Real Estate Commissioner for Connecticut representing the 4th Congressional District. He is a certified Seniors Real Estate Specialist®. Jim is licensed in CT, NY, DE, MA, FL, DC, ME, VT, and NJ.

A former naval officer who graduated from the US Naval Academy, Jim also holds degrees from Georgetown University and Yale. He is a past Chairman of the Board of the Greenwich YMCA.

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495 Den Lane	\$925,000	\$448	2,066	0.15	3	2	Pemberwick
208 Valley Road	\$1,075,000	\$860	1,250	0.34	3	1	Cos Cob
37 Barton Lane	\$1,275,000	\$635	2,007	1	3	2	Cos Cob
1 Milbank Avenue 3B	\$1,349,000	\$870	1,551		2	2	South of Post
4 Sachem Lane	\$1,395,000	\$827	1,687	0.32	3	1	South of Post
19 Coventry Lane	\$1,800,000	\$686	2,624	0.34	5	3	Riverside
282 Bruce Park Ave 2	\$1,995,000	\$593	3,363		4	4	South of Post
11 Jeffrey Road	\$2,350,000	\$714	3,293	0.53	4	4	South Parkway
201 Shore Road	\$2,499,000	\$695	3,598	0.62	5	3	South of Post
6 Hendrie Avenue	\$2,550,000	\$849	3,003	0.3	4	3	Riverside
8 Benders Drive	\$2,595,000	\$590	4,400	0.37	4	4	Glenville
27 Tait Road	\$2,900,000	\$807	3,595	0.22	5	3	Old Greenwich
201 Cognewaugh Road	\$2,995,000	\$515	5,820	1.98	4	4	Cos Cob
86 Mary Lane	\$3,190,000	\$591	5,400	0.36	5	5	Riverside
147 Old Church Road	\$3,495,000	\$769	4,543	0.75	5	3	South Parkway
37 Orchard Drive	\$3,500,000	\$809	4,329		5	5	South of Post
568 Riversville Road	\$5,775,000	\$800	7,222	4	6	7	North Parkway
9 Dorchester Lane	\$5,995,000	\$821	7,300	0.44	6	5	Riverside
180 Round Hill Road	\$6,400,000	\$1,080	5,926	1.08	4	4	South Parkway
26 Andrews Farm Road	\$8,950,000	\$1,099	8,146	4	6	8	North Parkway
133 Otter Rock Drive	\$10,450,000	\$1,486	7,034	0.73	6	5	South of Post

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77 Havemeyer Ln #100	Stamford	\$1,595,000	Sat, Sun 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
75 Carriage Drive	Stamford	\$1,595,000	Sat, Sun 2-4 PM	BHHS New England
44 Signal Road	Stamford	\$3,500,000	Sat 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
42 Signal Road	Stamford	\$3,500,000	Sat 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
29 Highview Avenue	OG	\$3,995,000	Sun 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
23 Hillcrest Park Road	Old Greenwich	\$4,295,000	Sat 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
23 Hillcrest Park Road	Old Greenwich	\$4,295,000	Sun 12-2 PM	BHHS New England
44A Signal Road	Stamford	\$7,500,000	Sat 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
42A Signal Road	Stamford	\$7,500,000	Sat 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
92 Putnam Park #92	Greenwich	\$725,000	Sat 2-4 PM	Coldwell Banker
208 Valley Road	Cos Cob	\$1,075,000	Sun 2-4 PM	Coldwell Banker
17 Maple Drive	Old Greenwich	\$1,999,995	Sun 1-3 PM	Coldwell Banker

NEW SALES

DATA FROM LOCAL REAL ESTATE AGENT
TIMOTHY AGRO, GREENWICH STREETS TEAM
203.461.5964

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20 Church Street B22	\$815,000	\$815,000	\$825,000	27	2	2		1,318
172 Field Point Rd 9	\$1,199,999	\$1,199,999	\$1,200,000	43	2	2	0	1,952
1 Douglas Drive	\$1,350,000	\$1,299,000	\$1,215,000	87	3	2		2,162
40 Woodland Drive C	\$1,359,000	\$1,359,000	\$1,300,000	50	3	2		2,152
46 Laddins Rock Rd	\$1,595,000	\$1,395,000	\$1,326,000	136	5	3	0.27	2,778
14 William Street West	\$1,700,000	\$1,450,000	\$1,400,000	97	3	3		3,149
23 Chieftans Road	\$3,850,000	\$3,850,000	\$3,450,000	30	4	3	0.87	5,999
58 Connecticut Ave	\$4,550,000	\$3,999,000	\$3,900,000	54	5	4	0.14	
21 Kenilworth Terrace	\$6,995,000	\$6,995,000	\$7,150,000	95	6	5	1.03	8,653
373 Taconic Road	\$7,100,000	\$7,100,000	\$7,250,000	41	7	9	4.28	12,232

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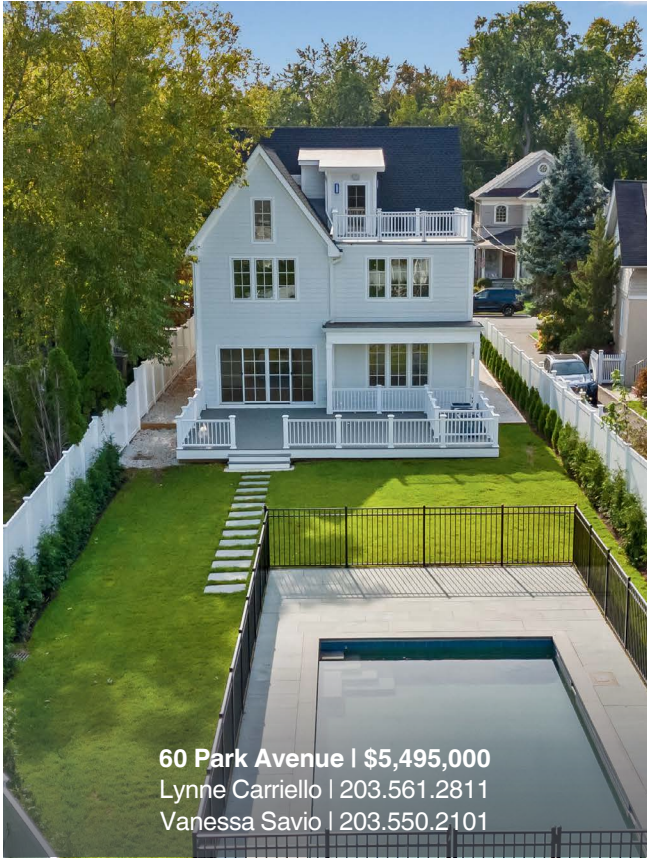
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After a Two Year Show, Last Chance to View-and a Chance to Buy-Wildlife Photographer’s Work



“The Anointing, Uganda” \$485

By ANNE W. SEMMES

For two years plus, Greenwich grown wildlife photographer Melissa Groo has had dozens of her wildlife metalprints on display at the Greenwich Audubon Center. But as of October 30 her work will be taken down. Those metalprints are for sale until then, with prices reduced by 25 percent.

Along with her wildlife photography Melissa Groo is a writer and conservationist

with a passion to convey the marvels of the natural world to diverse audiences. She believes that photography can be both fine art and a powerful vehicle for storytelling and considers herself a "wildlife biographer" as well as a wildlife photographer. By capturing and sharing stories about individual wild animals, she hopes to raise awareness and change minds not only about the extrinsic beauty of animals, but also their intrinsic worth.

Melissa Groo is a Sony Artisan of Imagery, an Associate Fellow with the International League of Conservation Photographers, and an advisor to the National Audubon Society on photography content and ethics. She's a contributing editor to Audubon magazine. Her photos and articles have been published in the Smithsonian, Audubon, Outdoor Photographer, National Wildlife, National Geographic, Living Bird, and Natural

History. She travels frequently for magazine assignments and in-person presentations and leads international photography workshops. Her fine prints hang in private collections across the world.

Those interested in Melissa's metalprints can visit the Audubon Center or contact the Center at 203-869-5272. To learn more, visit Greenwich.Audubon.org/melissa-groo-gallery or melissagroo.com



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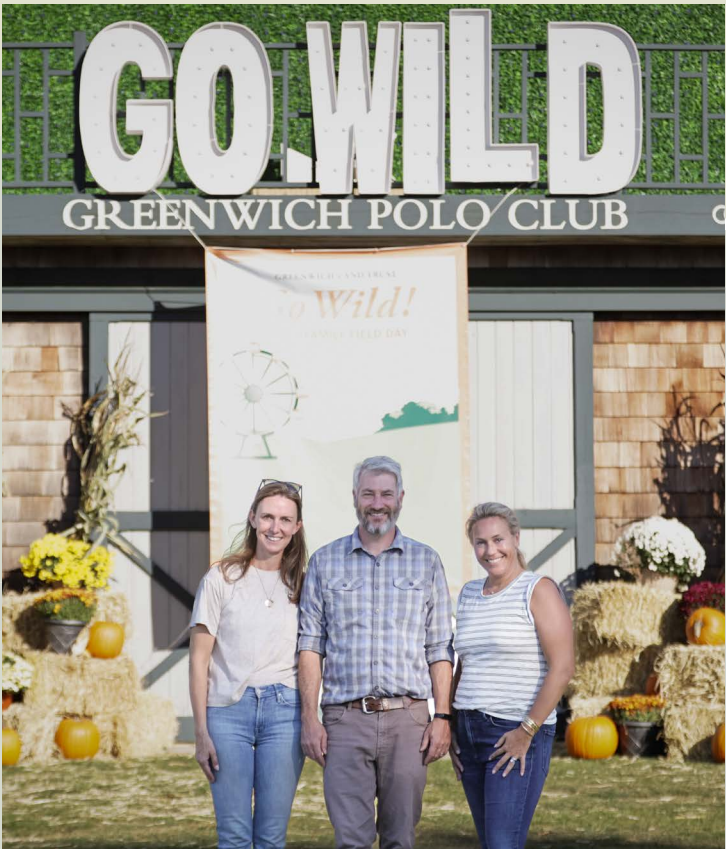
“American Avocets Building Nest” \$485



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Photos by Larry Blucher Photography

SPORTS

Greenwich High School girls swimming earns home win against Staples

By DAVID FIERRO

Greenwich High School's girls swimming/diving team celebrated Senior Day in style, recording a 101-70 win over FCIAC rival Staples, while concluding an outstanding regular season.

The defending State Open, Class LL and FCIAC champion Cardinals made their mark in each event against the Wreckers and are primed to begin the postseason championship meets, which begin soon. The FCIAC Swimming Championships is scheduled to begin on Oct. 29, with the trials/preliminaries taking place at Greenwich High School.

The FCIAC finals is scheduled to be held on Oct. 31, also at Greenwich High School. Against Staples, which saw Greenwich shine in each race, the Cardinals began the meet with a victory in the 200-yard freestyle. Sena Bozkurt, Sara Jee, Ellison Charette and Katherine Nalepka combined for a winning time of 1:43.19. Staples came in second place (1:47.90). In the

200-yard freestyle race, Carly Waldman touched the wall first in 2:01.45. Wreckers teammate Danielle Schwartz was second (2:01.66) and Greenwich's Julia Kozma took third in 2:02.84.

Wesley Wales gave Greenwich a victory in the 200-yard individual medley, clocking in at 2:15.78. Emma Stehmann placed second for the Cardinals in 2:18.90, while teammate Melissa Geiger had a third-place finish (2:20.49). Anwara Olaswere was the victor for the Wreckers in the 50-yard freestyle race (25.66), along with Ellison Charette of Greenwich, who posted the same time (25.66). Jee was third (26.43), followed by Clarissa Fleming (Staples, 26.46) and Nalepka (26.86).

On the 1-meter diving board, Dylan Mogelof was victorious through six rounds, totaling a score of 218.20 Koints. Olivia DeVito finished second on the 1-meter board for GHS (203.40) and Kristen Jacks (192.97) and Clementine Whittle (191.17) were third and fourth, respectively.

Bozkurt raced to a first-

place finish for the Cardinals in the 100 butterfly with a time of 57.29 seconds. Waldman of Staples finished second in 1:01.78 and Norah Eldridge from GHS took third (1:05.31). In the 100-yard freestyle, Anwara Olaswere earned a first-place finish in 56.06 and Stehmann of GHS was the runner-up in 57.11. Ainsley Sahrbeck placed third for the Cardinals in 57.26.

Ellison took top honors in the 1000-yard freestyle event, posting a finish of 10:37.38. Geiger placed second in 10:50.03 and Schwartz was third in 11:09.59. Julia Kozma claimed first place for Greenwich in the 100 backstroke, clocking in at 1:02.55. Wales was second in 1:03.06 and Kensington Worden of the Cardinals took third in 1:05.69.

Olivia DeVries was the winner for GHS in the 100 breaststroke in 1:13.15. Greenwich's 400 relay team of Stehmann, Isabel Guzman, Bozkurt, Geiger and Kensington Worden combined for the top time in the race (4:18.56).

For the regular season,



Contributed photo: Greenwich's seniors gather with family members following a win against Staples

Greenwich won all of its meets except its matchup on the road against Ridgefield. Coached by Brendan Heller, Cardinals all of their seniors throughout the season received exemplary leadership from their senior captains and

Greenwich High football team edged by Wilton for first loss of the season

By DAVID FIERRO

Greenwich headed into the bye week with a record of 4-0, while holding the No. 1 ranking in the GameTimeCT Top 10 Football Poll, then Wilton visited Cardinal Stadium Friday night for a rare meeting against the Cardinals and the situation Greenwich was in surprisingly changed.

Holding a 10-point lead with less than one minute remaining in the second quarter, the Cardinals were close to entering halftime with a double-digit advantage, yet the Warriors scored 13 points during a pivotal 32-second span – one that was indeed a difference-maker in this intense FCIAC matchup.

Wilton prevailed in its first game against Greenwich since the 2008 season, using a 13-point spurt in the final minute of the second quarter and a touchdown late in the fourth quarter to register a well-earned 20-17 win over the Cardinals before a large Cardinal Stadium crowd. Greenwich's record is now 4-1 going into its road game at Trumbull on Friday.

"We have to go back to the drawing board and find out what went wrong and reassess how we approach a bye week moving forward," Cardinals coach Anthony Morello said. "Ultimately, the time off did not do us very well this year. We can't wallow in sorrow that long, we have to turn the page."

"We have a lot of work to do, obviously, we're beatable," Greenwich senior quarterback M.J. D'Angelo said. "I trust everyone around me. 'Little things got to us today (Friday night) but we're going to work on them.'"

Wilton, which started its 2024 season with two losses, showed poise and precision in the game's closing minutes, scoring the go-ahead touchdown with 3:39 remaining in the fourth quarter on its way to recording the come-from-behind win over Greenwich.

With their third consecutive win and its first against Greenwich in recent memory, the Warriors raised their record to 3-2. When asked to rate the significance of the win to the team's program, Wilton coach EJ DiNunzio didn't hesitate to respond.

When asked to rate the significance of the win to the team's program, Wilton coach EJ DiNunzio didn't hesitate to respond.

"I'll put it right up there with the New Canaan and Darien win a couple of years ago and the Ridgefield win when we beat them, it's right up there," DiNunzio said. "Why I say it's right up there is because we were missing one of our better linemen, a couple of guys were banged up. Coming off a bye week, so I wasn't sure what we were going to get tonight. But I knew we would play hard, I knew we were going to play tough, we've been working these kids really tough the last two weeks. We said if you want to go out and beat Greenwich you have to want it more."

Senior tight end Cael Dexter caught two touchdown passes from senior quarterback Joey Hagerty and junior running back/receiver Charlie Calabrese scored the winning touchdown for the Warriors, whose defensive unit was sound throughout.

"I knew we would play hard, my coaches we worked hard the past two weeks," DiNunzio said. "We tried to figure out every possible scheme to stop the running back, quarterback, the receivers. The coaches did a phenomenal job, but the kids, the execution of what we talked about the last two weeks was flawless, they did a great job."

Trailing 17-13, the Warriors took possession at their own 40-yard line with 8:17 left in the fourth quarter. A pass interference penalty on GHS moved the ball up to the Cardinals' 45-yard line, then Hagerty gained positive yards on a pair of scrambles.

Later in the drive, Hagerty completed a pass to Calabrese, giving the visitors a first down at the



Photo by Ben Harper/Chaos Crew Media: Greenwich High School senior wide receiver Blake Martin runs with the ball after catching a pass against Wilton at Cardinal Stadium on Oct. 18, 2024. The Cardinals were defeated, 20-17.

Cards' 17-yard line. Several plays later, Calabrese took an option pitch from Hagerty and sprinted his way around the left side for a 3-yard touchdown. After converting the ensuing PAT, Wilton seized a 20-17 edge with 3:39 to play.

"We called the motion, they were bumping with the motion, we went away from it – speed option it was a nice touchdown," Calabrese said of his winning score. "It was great blocking."

On Wilton's previous possession its potential scoring drive stalled at the Greenwich 5-yard line, as the Cardinals defense stiffened.

"We got stopped in the red zone previously in the game and our coaches had told us at halftime that we were going to have a new red zone play," Calabrese noted.

Hagerty knew their second trip to the red zone in the fourth quarter had to result in the go-ahead points.

"We do it at practice – two minute drill," Hagerty said. "There was obviously five minutes left, but it was still a late game scenario. We knew we had to get into the end zone. We were confident we were going to get into the end zone."

Facing a three-point deficit, Greenwich was unable to gain a first down and punted with less than two minutes remaining in the final quarter. However, the hosts got the ball back quickly, using its timeouts to stop the clock, while forcing a Wilton three-and-out.

D'Angelo tried to scramble and bye time to pass, but the Warriors defense held on Greenwich's final possession and the visitors held off the Cards.

"Both teams had a fair shot to win, we just didn't execute," Morello said. "We made way too many mistakes. We had really costly turnovers, costly penalties, we turned people loose. It was not our night, we did not execute the way we wanted to, Wilton made more plays than we did and came

through in the big moments. Hats off to coach DiNunzio, they needed that win and they got it."

The Cardinals took a four-point advantage at the 5:45 mark of the third quarter. D'Angelo threw a 5-yard scoring strike to senior wide receiver Matthew O'Donnell, capping a 56-yard drive and giving GHS a 17-13 edge. D'Angelo connected with O'Donnell and senior wideout Blake Martin during the scoring drive. On the touchdown, O'Donnell made a nifty leaping catch near the right corner of the end zone while being tightly covered by Wilton junior defensive back Jake Padilla.

D'Angelo's 1-yard touchdown run with 1:58 to go in the opening quarter put GHS on top, 7-0. A reception for a first down by senior wide receiver and a scramble which moved the first down chains keyed the Cards' first scoring drive.

A 27-yard field goal by senior placekicker Julian Ravina extended Greenwich's lead to 10-0. Ravina's field goal was set up by a reception of more than 40 yards by senior Hector Lopez, who hauled in a D'Angelo pass and dashed his way down to the Warriors' 5-yard line. Ravina's field goal came with 8:31 remaining in the second quarter.

Wilton proceeded to go on a long, time-consuming drive, sparked by receptions from Padilla and senior wideout Ethan Bailey. With 32 seconds remaining in the second quarter, Hagerty rolled to his right and threw a 3-yard touchdown pass Dexter, who brought in the pass in the right corner of the end zone, cutting Greenwich's advantage to 10-6.

Junior defensive back Connor McAndrews came up with a key interception for the Warriors on Greenwich's ensuing drive, then the visitors worked some last second magic to take the lead.

Hagerty completed a pass over the middle to Dexter, who took it to the end zone from more than

30 yards out as time expired, ending the first half and putting the Warriors ahead, 13-10.

"The last play of the half was huge," DiNunzio said. "Our offensive coaches thought the middle would be open. We hit Dexter with a great pass. That's a huge play to get us into the half the way we did. We had to pull out every stop, we probably practiced six or seven trick plays during the week and we probably used four or five of them."

"Shout out to the interception by Connor, No. 12, great play," Calabrese noted.

Said DiNunzio of his team's touchdown to end the first half: "The last play of the half was huge. Our offensive coaches thought the middle would be open. We hit Cale Dexter with a great pass. That's a huge play to get us into the half the way we did. We had to pull out every stop, we probably practiced six or seven trick plays during the week and we probably used four or five of them."

"Not one of them got in, but we kept them on their toes," he continued. "If you don't keep a team like Greenwich on their toes – you can't expect to beat them man-on-man – they're too good."

D'Angelo passed for 137 yards for the Cardinals, who gained 160 rushing yards against the Warriors.

"I'm going to push this team the rest of the season as hard as I can and a lot of good is going to come out of it," D'Angelo said. "Feeling this loss early is something that we didn't have last year. We can learn from things like this, it's not over for us."

Senior defensive lineman Richie McMurray registered a sack, senior defensive back Jack Carroll had a pair of tackles resulting in lost yardage, as did sophomore linebacker Justin Carroll and junior linebacker Jack Kelly for the Cards (4-1). Peter Vomvolakis, a senior center, helped pave the way on the offensive line for GHS.

"Not that we underestimated them, but we went into this game thinking we were unbeatable and we have to put that on ourselves and recover from that," D'Angelo said. "It wasn't our best game, so we have a lot of work to do."

Morello reflected on what transpired late in the second quarter as pivotal moments in the matchup.

"You're up 10 points with four-and-a-half minutes left and all of a sudden you're down 13-10 at halftime and the rest is history," he said. "It's disappointing, the first loss for any team is disappointing, but we've played with the best in the state and out of state and we know what we can do when we're playing well. It was not our night, we did not execute the way we wanted to."

Wilton knows it can build off the boost it received from Friday's spirited triumph against previously undefeated Greenwich.

"It's huge, they're obviously a great team, the best team in the state," Hagerty said. "It feels great, starting off 0-2 with tough for us. But it's just resilience, we came back, we battled it out today and we couldn't have asked for a better game for the boys."

"The line was blocking great, I had so much time," Hagerty continued. "Even when I was scrambling, I was able to find holes that they created. Shout out to Cale Dexter, two touchdowns in the first half – the kid's a stud. Everyone played well, props to everyone."

DiNunzio knew his squad had to do its best to keep Greenwich's offense off the field.

"It definitely set the tone, I kept reminding Joey, work the clock," DiNunzio said of his team's long scoring drive late in the second quarter. "The less possessions they had the better off we are. Our offense moved the ball enough, controlled the time of possession. It's a really tough, gritty football team."

While Greenwich travels to Trumbull for a Friday night game, Wilton will have two tough home games coming up. The Warriors will play host to New Canaan on Friday night, then will face visiting Darien on Nov. 1.

Greenwich Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

FRIDAY, OCT. 25

4 p.m.

Escape Jim Henson’s Labyrinth (Ages 8-13). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

6 - 9 p.m.

5th Grade Halloween Party. Arch Street Teen Center, 100 Arch St. \$30, or 1 Express Pass Punch. info@archstreet.org. archstreet.org.

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Teen 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament (Grades: 6th-8th). YMCA of Greenwich, 50 E. Putnam Ave. Members, \$10 p/ player; non-members, \$15 p/ player. greenwichymca.org

7 p.m.

Round Hill Volunteer Fire Company’s Oktoberfest fundraiser. Round Hill Community House, 395 Round Hill Rd. roundhillfiregreenwich.org

8 p.m.

Halloween Spooktacular Party with Vinyl Notice. The Club at St. Lawrence Society, 86 Valley Rd. 203-618-9036. stlawrencesociety.com

SATURDAY, OCT. 26

7 a.m.

Fall Migration Bird Tour (Ages 6 & up). Greenwich Audubon Center, 613 Riversville Rd. Free (donations are encouraged). Register. greenwich.audubon.org/events

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Greenwich High School Honors Science Research Program Bake Sale fundraiser. Greenwich Town Hall.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

National Drug Take Back Day. Town of Greenwich Public Safety Complex (lobby), 11 Bruce Place.

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Greenwich Library Oral History Project Day: share your story in a 30-minute recorded session. Greenwich Library. Registration required. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/12105091

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Greenwich Police Department’s Greet and Treat Halloween event. Town of Greenwich Public Safety Complex, 11 Bruce Place.

1 p.m.

Art Adventures: Sketching (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Oct. 27. brucemuseum.org

2 p.m.

Flinn Gallery Artist Talk with Kumi Yamashita. Flinn Gallery. flinngallery.com/events/kumi-yamashita-artist-talk

3 p.m.

Owl-oween Enchanted Afternoon (All Ages). Greenwich Audubon Center, 613 Riversville Rd. \$15, adults; \$10, children (12 and under). Register. greenwich.audubon.org/events

4 p.m.

Halloween Fun Day. YMCA of Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Free, YMCA Members; \$10, Non-Members. Register. greenwichymca.org/events.

4 p.m.

”Ghous In The Garden!”. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

6 - 7:30 p.m.

‘Trunk or Treat’. The First Congregational Church – parking lot, 108 Sound Beach Ave. \$20 per family. 203-637-1791. fccog.org

6 - 9 p.m.

6th Grade Haunted Halloween Party. Arch Street Teen Center, 100 Arch St. \$30, or 1 Express Pass Punch. info@archstreet.org. archstreet.org.

6:30-11:30 p.m.

ICC (India Cultural Center) Gala Benefit – ‘A Celebration Of Light’. Hyatt Regency Greenwich. iccgreenwich.org

SUNDAY, OCT. 27

11 a.m.

Whitby School Open House. Register. whitbyschool.org/ thinkwhitby2024

11:45 a.m.

Halloween Haunt. Second Congregational Church, 139 East Putnam Ave. 203-869-9311. 2cc.org.

12 p.m.

Pet Pantry’s Annual Howl & Prowl - benefiting Adopt-a-Dog. Greenwich Town Hall/Havemeyer fields, 101 Field Point Rd. eventbrite.com/e/1040026205377

1 p.m.

Guided Gallery Tour: Greenwich

During the Revolutionary War: A Frontier Town on the Front Line. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. Free. Through March 9, 2025. greenwichhistory.org/events

2 p.m.

Music by Women Composers concert with Dr. Gail Archer, organist. St. Catherine of Siena Church, 4 Riverside Ave. Open to all. Free will offering will be accepted. music.director@stc-sta.org.

4 - 6 p.m.

Friends of Binney Park’s Birdhouse Art Auction. Images of Old Greenwich, 202 Sound Beach Ave. Open to the public. friendsofbinneypark.org

MONDAY, OCT. 28

9:15 a.m.

Qigong Class @ the Library. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. lending@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

1 p.m.

The Decorated Bird: A Watercolor Workshop with Hazel Jarvis. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.

Greenwich Pen Women and Perrot Memorial Library: "Maribelle’s Shadow," with Author Susannah Marren (Susan Shapiro Barash). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

TUESDAY, OCT. 29

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 & 11 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings: Spider’s Web (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Oct. 30. brucemuseum.org

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 & 11 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings: Fall Landscapes (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Oct. 23. brucemuseum.org

4 p.m.

Debate Club (for Ages 9-12). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.

Finding Your Voice as a Parent Webinar: Anxiety and School Refusal. On Zoom. Free. Register.bit.ly/9D226E

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30

10 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings Junior: Creepy Crawly Bugs (ages 12 Months-30 Months). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m.

Retired Men’s Association of Greenwich: Carleen Lyden Walker, Marine Security Expert. First Presbyterian Church, 1 W. Putnam Ave. & on Zoom. Free & open to all. greenwichrma.org

4 p.m.

Crafting Connections: Cards for Hospitalized Kids (for Ages 9-12). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

6 p.m.

Space for Wild Cats, Luke Hunter. Greenwich Land Trust, 370 Round Hill Road. gltrust.org/upcoming-events

THURSDAY, OCT. 31

12 - 4 p.m.

Spirits and Souls Family Day: Celebrations from around the World. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. brucemuseum.org

6 - 9 p.m.

Late Night at the Bruce: Spirits, Souls, and Sips. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. brucemuseum.org

9 p.m.

Tony’s Fright Night Halloween Party. Tony’s at the J House, 1114 East Putnam Ave. \$50. eventbrite.com/e/1035284733507

FRIDAY, NOV. 1

12 p.m.

Women’s Health Presentation with the AHA. YMCA of

Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Free & open to the public. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events.

3:45 p.m.

Youth Services Family Movie: “Spy Kids” (Rated PG). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Teen 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament (Grades: 6th-8th). YMCA of Greenwich, 50 E. Putnam Ave. Members, \$10 p/ player; non-members, \$15 p/ player. greenwichymca.org

SATURDAY, NOV. 2

9 a.m.

Greenwich Tree Conservancy’s Fit in the Forest. Babcock Preserve. Register. greenwichtreeconservancy.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

7 - 10 p.m.

7th & 8th Halloween Dance. Arch Street Teen Center. \$30, or 1 Express Pass Punch. info@archstreet.org. archstreet.org.

SUNDAY, NOV. 3

11 a.m.

ICC Greenwich: Children’s Diwali Party. 1035 Newfield Avenue, Stamford. \$18-\$25. iccgreenwich.org

1 p.m.

Guided Gallery Tour: Greenwich During the Revolutionary War: A Frontier Town on the Front Line. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. Free. Through March 9, 2025. greenwichhistory.org/events

2 p.m.

Fred Elser First Sunday Science: The Roots of Innovation. Innis Arden Cottage, Tod’s Point. Free. brucemuseum.org

EARLY VOTING

Early Voting Schedule for November 5th General Election. Early voting takes place only at Greenwich Town Hall

Monday, Oct. 21, 10am-6pm

Tuesday, Oct. 22, 10am-6pm

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 10am-6pm

Thursday, Oct. 24, 10am-6pm

Friday, Oct. 25, 10am-6pm

Saturday, Oct. 26, 10am-6pm

Sunday, Oct. 27, 10am-6pm

Monday, Oct. 28, 10am-6pm

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 8am-8pm

Wednesday, Oct. 30, 10am-6pm

Thursday, Oct. 31, 8am-8pm

Friday, Nov. 1, 10am-6pm

Saturday, Nov. 2, 10am-6pm

Sunday, Nov. 3, 10am-6pm

THROUGH WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30

2:30 - 6 p.m.

Old Greenwich Farmers Market. Living Hope Community Church (parking lot), 38 West End Ave. Rain or shine. oldgreenwichfarmersmarket.com

THROUGH FRIDAY, NOV. 1

Greenwich Department of Human Services’s Coat Drive - new or gently used children and adult winter coats. Locations: Greenwich Town Hall (Lobby), Greenwich Library, Perrot Library, YMCA of Greenwich, and Greenwich Skating Club (9 Cardinal Rd). People can also purchase a coat off an Amazon wish list (amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/17JHFB0IGPAL5?ref=list_d_wl_lfu_nav_2)

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.

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 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, Oct. 25

9:30 a.m.

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

9:30 a.m.

Senior Chinese Book Discussion Group. Online (WeChat). ywang@greenwichlibrary.org.

10 a.m.

Storytime. Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.

11:30 a.m.

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

4 p.m.

Introduction to Virtual Reality. Marx Family Black Box Theater. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org

6 p.m.

Escape Room. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

lmatthews@greenwichlibrary.org.

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: “A Haunting in Venice.” Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org.

Saturday, Oct. 26

10 a.m.

Greenwich Library Oral History Project Day. Community Room #5. 203-629-3366. halmel@aol.com

10:30 a.m.

Music with Tom Weber. Marx Family Black Box Theater. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

11 a.m.

Puppet Show with Mr. Rogers: "Halloween Hi-Jinx." Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

11 a.m.

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

2 p.m.

Flinn Gallery Artist Talk with Kumi Yamashita. Flinn Gallery. flinngallery.com/events/kumi-yamashita-artist-talk

Monday, Oct. 28

9:30 a.m.

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

11 a.m.

All Together Storytime. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

11 a.m.

LEGOS for the Wee Ones with Beth. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

11:30 a.m.

Blood Pressure Screening. Community Room #5.

1 p.m.

Fiction Addiction Book Club: Lunchtime Edition. Staff Conference Room (2nd Floor).

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.

AuthorsLive: The Money Trap by Alok Sama. Marx Family Black Box Theater .

Tuesday, Oct. 29

11 a.m.

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

Greenwich Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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, Oct. 25
11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

Sunday, Oct. 27
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

Monday, Oct. 28
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

Tuesday, Oct. 29
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

EF Academy, 582 Columbus Ave., Thornwood, NY.

11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

UConn, One University Place Stamford.

1 - 6 p.m.

The Osborn - Main Building, 101 Theall Rd., Rye, NY.

Wednesday, Oct. 30
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Greenwich Country Day, 401 Old Church Road.

2 - 6 p.m.

Osborn School, 10 Osborne Road, Rye, NY.

Thursday, Oct. 31
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

Friday, Nov. 1
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Trinity Church, 5 River Road, Cos Cob.

Saturday, Nov. 2
8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, 1 West Putnam Ave., Greenwich.

Sunday, Nov. 3
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

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

New Canaan Community YMCA, 564 South Ave., New Canaan.

TOWN MEETINGS
greenwichct.gov/calendar

Monday, Oct. 28
1 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Planning and Zoning Commission Briefing.

5:30 p.m.

Nathaniel Witherell Board of Directors Meeting.

7 p.m.

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency Meeting. Zoom Webinar.

8 p.m.

RTM Full Meeting. Central Middle School.

Tuesday, Oct. 29
4 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting.

Wednesday, Oct. 30
12 p.m.

FS Antisemitism and Anti-Hate Task Force Meeting. Mazza Room.

Monday, Nov. 4
10:30 a.m.

Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Sign-Meeting.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, Nov. 16

Greenwich Riding & Trails Association's "Silver Horse Ball". Greenwich Country Club. thegrta.org/silver-horse-ball-2024

Saturday, Nov. 9

- YWCA Greenwich's "The Fall Party". Belle Haven Club. ywcagreenwich.org/events/the-fall-party-2024

6 p.m.

Special Education Legal Fund S.E.L.F. Homecoming 6th Anniversary Gala. Arch Street Teen Center. bit.ly/SELFHomecoming

Wednesday, Nov. 13
6 p.m.

GIFF (Greenwich International Film Festival) 10-Year Anniversary. l'escal restaurant, Greenwich. greenwichfilm.org

Saturday, Nov. 16
6 p.m.

Greenwich Riding & Trails Association's Bi-Annual Silver Horse Ball. Greenwich Country Club. thegrta.org

Saturday, Nov. 30

Greenwich Alliance for Education's 5K & 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk. greenwichalliance.org

Our Neighboring Towns

FRIDAY, OCT. 25
5 p.m.

Trivia Night: Halloween Edition. Ferguson Library - Harry Bennett Branch, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

5 p.m.

Teen Halloween Party. Ferguson

Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

9 p.m.

Spooktacular Halloween Skate Friday Night Glow Skate. Stamford Twin Rinks, 1063 Hope St., Stamford. stamfordtwinrinks.com

SATURDAY, OCT. 26
12:30 p.m.

Spooktacular Halloween Skate. Stamford Twin Rinks, 1063 Hope St., Stamford. Also held Sunday, Oct. 27, 12:30pm. stamfordtwinrinks.com

1 p.m.

Books Across Stamford Halloween Party. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

SUNDAY, OCT. 27
2 p.m.

Polish-American Heritage Month Celebration. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

4 p.m.

The Playhouse Collective: The Game's Afoot. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org

5:30 or 7:30 p.m.

Halloween Spooktacular. New Canaan Nature Center, 144 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan. newcanaannature.org

TUESDAY, OCT. 29
5 p.m.

Trunk or Treat. Ferguson Library - Harry Bennett Branch,

Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

6:30 p.m.

Understanding Medicare. via Zoom. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30
5:30 p.m.

Medical Education: Pain Management. Ferguson Library - Harry Bennett Branch, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

6 p.m.

Silent Film Screening with Live Piano: Nosferatu. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

THURSDAY, OCT. 31
3:30 p.m.

Treats & More. Ferguson Library - South End Branch, Stamford. Free. fergusonlibrary.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

FRIDAY, NOV. 1
7:30 p.m.

Curtain Call presents "Mulberry Street". The Kveskin Theatre, 1349 Newfield Ave., Stamford. Performances: Fri & Sat, 7:30pm, & Sun, 2pm (Nov. 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16 & 17). curtaincallinc.com

Sudoku for Kids

	2		4
1	4		
	3	4	
		2	3

	2		
3	4	1	
2			4
		2	1

			1
1			
	4	1	2
2	1		3

4		2	3
		1	
1	4		
3			1

SUDOKU

Each row, column, nonet can contain each number only once. Answers below.

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Sudoku answers

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

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

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

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

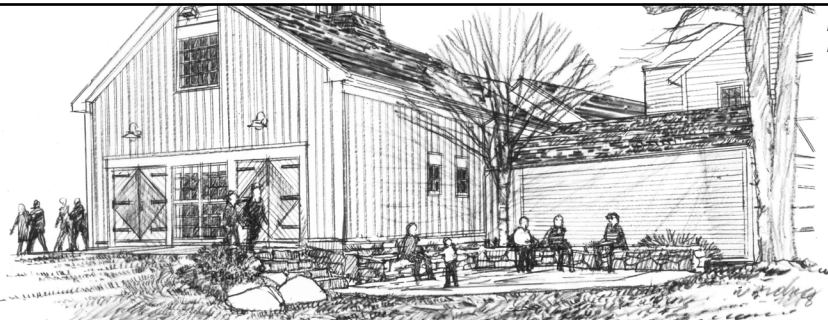
6	9	3	8	2	5	1	4	7
9	6	2	5	3	8	4	7	1
4	9	8	3	1	7	2	6	5
3	1	9	6	4	2	7	5	8
8	5	7	4	6	1	3	9	2
2	4	1	7	8	9	5	3	6
7	3	5	2	6	8	4	1	9
5	4	1	2	3	6	8	9	7
8	6	4	7	1	5	9	3	2

6	9	3	8	2	5	1	4	7
9	6	2	5	3	8	4	7	1
4	9	8	3	1	7	2	6	5
3	1	9	6	4	2	7	5	8
8	5	7	4	6	1	3	9	2
2	4	1	7	8	9	5	3	6
7	3	5	2	6	8	4	1	9
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Win \$100 in Our Literary Competition

Calling sophisticates, literary enthusiasts,
and our very clever Sentinel readers!

Enter our monthly Competition and have fun with your neighbors in the Sentinel community. Read the prompt below, come up with a clever example, and email your entry.

This Month's Competition: What I Said/What I Should Have Said

Prompt:
Imagine a time when you weren't as quick on your feet as you should have been, but later thought of what you should have said. (Limit: 100 words.)

Examples:

What I said: "Sorry I didn't text back—I was busy."
What I should have said: "I was rescuing a kitten from a burning treehouse. I didn't think you'd want me to stop for a text."

What I said: "I just forgot to do the homework."
What I should have said: "I didn't forget—I was giving the teacher the gift of less grading."

What I said: "I just need five minutes to myself."
What I should have said: "I'm going to the 'laundry sanctuary.' Don't call me unless there's an emergency."

What I said: "I'm fine, just tired."
What I should have said: "I'm one tantrum away from moving to a remote island with no Wi-Fi."

What I said: "Sorry, I fell asleep during your presentation."
What I should have said: "Your voice was so soothing—it was like a guided meditation."



How to Enter
Submitting your entry is easy! Craft your clever response to this month's prompt and email it to Kia@sentinelhometownnews.com. Multiple entries are welcome, and pseudonyms are accepted—giving you the freedom to be as inventive as you like.
Deadline: October 31, 2024
Prizes:
First Place: \$100 and bragging rights
Second Place: \$50 Third Place: \$25

Sentinel Celebrations

Congratulations to our very own
award-winning writers:
Icy Frantz and Emma Barhydt!!

News and happy milestones!
Send them in to the Sentinel - share them with your community.

- Birth announcements
- Engagements
- Marriages
- Graduations
- Promotions
- New home/moving announcements
- Retirements

Please send the following details:

- Name(s) of people involved
- Noteworthy details
- Include a high-resolution photo, if you like

Email them to:

Cordelia@SentinelHometownNews.com.

Submissions may be edited for brevity or clarity. The Sentinel may decline to publish announcements at its own discretion. There is no fee!

The Sentinel congratulates Emma W. Barhydt and Icy Frantz for their outstanding achievements in the Connecticut SPJ Excellence in Journalism Contest.
Emma W. Barhydt secured third place in the Leisure category for her article, "You've never had a better bagel."
Icy Frantz earned first place in the Humorous Column for her insightful piece, "On growing old(er)." Icy's column is reprinted below for your enjoyment!
These awards highlight their dedication to engaging the community with creativity, wit, and integrity. We are proud to celebrate their contributions and look forward to their continued success.



COLUMN



By ICY FRANTZ

I woke up old.
Just yesterday, in my mind, I was young; not quite a girl in her teens or twenties or even a young bride, but maybe a new mom toting little children, strollers, and car seats, with the capability of balancing a toddler on one hip, a coffee in a free hand, and looking great while doing it.
Or perhaps I am closer to the more seasoned mom of teenagers, sometimes ornery, dressed in yoga pants and running shoes, cheering on the sidelines of an athletic field.
But this morning, when I woke up in a home eerily quiet save for a snoring dog, I suddenly realized that something had shifted. Surely it didn't happen overnight...but it felt that way.
I have always had a number in my head - an age that would confirm that I am indeed still young - and although I have moved that goalpost a few times over the

course of countless birthday cakes with candles that have given off increasingly hazardous heat, this morning there was no ignoring it.
Now, one could say that age is just a number, or that relatively speaking, I am still younger than some (and of course this is true; I am sure at 65, 70, or 75 - if I am so lucky - I will think I had no business writing this piece), but there comes a time when the warning signs are deafening. And although my hearing is not what it used to be, I can hear them, and I am forced to accept the inevitable.
Instagram algorithms have determined that content such as anti-aging miracle creams promoting radiant wrinkle-free skin and garments that hold in unwanted bulges will increase my user satisfaction. It takes me longer to scroll through the years to find 1965 in the drop-down menu on applications. Seeing a sign for senior parking, I had to ask my husband - does this apply to us? The signs, both physical and abstract, are there.
I was reading a magazine at the doctor's office (a place that I now frequent more often - not because I am sick, thankfully, but because as we get older our health demands more time, more tests, and more attention) and landed on a piece about middle age. The author, a newly minted 40-year-old, was complaining about becoming middle-aged, and I wanted to scream, "Not at 40!"
I was 40 when I gave birth to our daughter. I was 40 when I ran a marathon. I was also 40 when I started to wear readers - 0.25 strength! - that I needed at night because, as my ophthalmologist told me then, my eyes are perfect, but the muscles that help them focus are weary after a long day of everything that a 40-year-old does.
These days, those muscles are weary when I wake up, and it's not limited to those around my eyes. And where I once needed very weak readers, I now have an entire restaurant routine that includes stronger ones, the flashlight on my iPhone, a magnifying card, and - worst case scenario - an offspring that can read the menu to me.
I have spent the last month in physical therapy; as we age, our muscles need more too - more planks, more crunches, more stretching - and we need to be more aware of the mechanics of sitting at a desk or driving a car. In essence, we need to do more for less return (if we were a stock, our future would be questionable). It turns out my mother was right: posture does matter. And as I have learned,

we can even tweak our back while sleeping - that just doesn't seem fair.
Perhaps it is a good thing that we no longer have small children to watch over, because being older takes an enormous amount of time (not to mention being tough on a back tweaked in slumber). Note to my children, though - said back will be happily sacrificed for grandchildren.
I told a friend I was writing a piece about growing older and she made me promise that I would mention the mysterious advent of chin hairs that accompany aging, so here you go...chin hairs. This is for you, friend.
And while chin hairs are living their best life, the hair on our head begins to retreat like an army in the throes of defeat, and if you are like me - not gifted with a thick mane to begin with - it's important to hold onto what we've got (even if it's thinning).
And though our hair may be thinning...the rest of our body is not.
Now, the physical part of getting older has its challenges - it can feel like we are running on a treadmill that is increasing in speed with the bright red emergency kill switch tempting us - but the emotional part requires deep reflection.

When Kirstie Alley died at the age of 71, a friend told me she saw this headline - "Kirstie Alley Lived a Good Long Life" - and thought, 71?! That would mean 15 more years for me, and there is just so much still to do.
We begin to think of our bucket list and realize that, where we once kicked that can of dreams down the lengthy block, there is now less block. So, we take action.
And knowing that there is less time, we can hone into what is personally important - people and places we love - and learn to let go of the rest.
At the age of 95, my rebellious grandmother let go of the laws that no longer applied to her. She would park her car anywhere - in front of a store, the beauty parlor, the no parking and tow away zones - it didn't matter. In her mind, she had earned the right to break a few rules.
I may not be 95, but age does give us some freedom to buck the system; some constraints and guardrails we felt when we were younger evaporate. We care less about what others think and lean into what we want. I mean, if we ruin our reputation, we have fewer years to live with the shame, right?
I had a coach in high school - an older, wiser man I adored - and

he used to say, "Age before beauty," and walk onto the squash court in front of me. Well, Ronnie, I'm first in now, too. You taught me how to enjoy that honor.
Thankfully, I can look back on my youth and hold tight to those awesome memories. When I could stay up to midnight and wake up spritely the next day or get out of a low-riding sports car with my knees intact or walk into the pantry and recall exactly what I set out to find.
I saw a quote in an article in The New York Times and I think it is applicable here: "Expiration dates are not expiration dates." The piece was about food, but it made me think - do we ever become irrelevant, past our prime, bruised and forgotten? I think not. In fact, there are many foods that simply improve with age - time is what is needed to enhance flavor, to allow for the many facets to blend and marinate, which ultimately results in an exceptional and enriched dish.
So, together with the soups, stews, sauces, cheeses, and wine, I am on my way to becoming an exceptional and enriched dish. And that is not so bad.
"Wrinkles only go where the smiles have been." - Jimmy Buffett

Obituaries

MARCELLA SPIEVAK



Marcella (Mikulak) Spievak, 67, passed away with husband and daughter at her bedside after a lengthy illness at The Nathaniel Witherell in Greenwich on October 18.

She was born in Bristol, CT on January 25, 1957 to Casimir S Mikulak and Rose Mary Watras.

Marcella grew up in Plainville, CT with fond memories of visiting her grandparents' farm. She graduated from Plainville High School, earning academic honors in Who's Who Among American High School Students and the National Honor Society. Then, moving to Danbury in 1975, Marcella attended Western Connecticut State College, supporting herself by working as a waitress, in the Registrar's Office and Medical Records department. She graduated from WestConn in 1979 as a State of Connecticut Scholar and on the Dean's List.

She became a computer programmer and worked for several Fortune 500 companies over her programming career. It was at Bristol-Myers/Clairel she met her future husband, Thomas Spievak. They married in 1991.

After becoming a mother, Marcella focused her attention on her family. She was an active member of the Hamilton Avenue School PTA and taught religious education for 20 years in several parishes of the Diocese of Bridgeport, until illness prevented her from continuing. Marcella loved and had a special gift for relating to children, especially those with special needs.

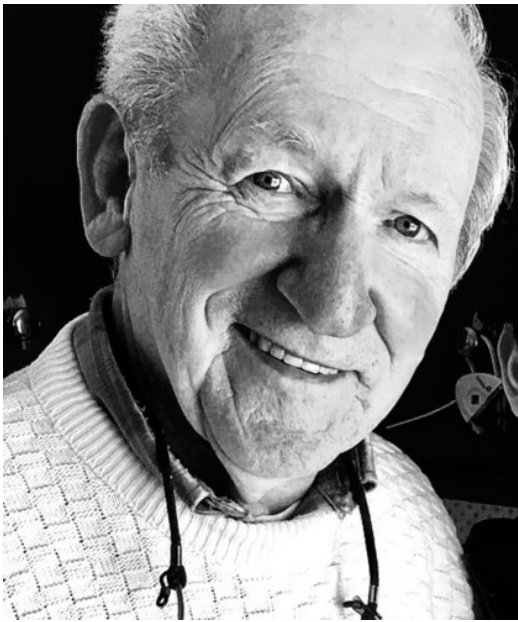
Marcella was preceded in death by her parents, Casimir and Rose. She is survived by her husband Thomas Spievak, daughter Kiran Spievak, brother and sister-in-law Leonard C and Kathleen Mikulak of Plainville and several nieces and nephew.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, October 23 at Sacred Heart Church, Greenwich. Interment was private.

The family extends our gratitude to the entire staff at Nathaniel Witherell, especially Justine, Mary and her volunteers, Chaplains Tony, Jen, Sue and Lizzie, and nursing staff Marie, Antonella, Gladys, and Amelita for their wonderful care.

Memorial donations may be made to Sacred Heart Church, 38 Gold Street, Greenwich, CT 06830.

WILLIAM TIMCHAK



William "Bill" Timchak , 87 of Searsport Maine, died at Harbor Hill Nursing Home on October 15.

He was born in Port Chester, NY to William and Elizabeth Timchak. Bill graduated from Greenwich High School in 1956 before joining the US Army, serving as a radar operator at a

Nike Missile Site in Detroit, MI. He later worked for the US Post Office and was a co-owner of Mill Bridge Liquor in Byram, CT. After closing that business in 1991, he owned a painting and wallpapering business.

Bill was preceded in death by his loving wife Andrea and his eldest daughter Catherine. He is survived by son Michael, daughter Joyce, son Stephen and daughter Jeannine. He is also survived by seven grandchildren, Tommy, Annie, Jessica, Wyatt, Brooke, Jake and Ethan, and a great grandchild, Jack.

A service at Sea View Cemetery in Rockport, Maine was held on October 23.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in William Timchak's name to Owls Head Transportation Museum where he volunteered.

MARY WASIK



It is with sadness that the family of Mary Wasik of Greenwich, CT, announces her passing on Tuesday, October 15. Mary was born on January 22, 1921 in Stamford, CT, daughter of Anthony Della Ventura and Rose Delucia Della Ventura. She attended the Stamford school system.

The matriarch of the family, Mary devoted her time and energy to caring for loved ones, consistently cooking homemade meals on a nightly basis, with everyone gathered around the dinner table. As her siblings, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were always close to her heart, she cherished time together with her large, extended family, whether it was for a holiday visit, or a casual Saturday visit with her sisters.

Mary was always full of energy, lending a helping hand to all who needed it. As her children got older, she channeled that energy into work beyond the household in the cafeterias of nearby schools. She was hardworking and took pride in doing the very best at her job.

Later in life, she was especially proud of helping to raise her beloved grandchildren, Brian and Greg. She was also a proud and active member of the St. Paul Catholic Church community.

Mary was the type of person who put her heart and soul into whatever she did, and put all her love in her marriage and family relationships. She had a sense of humor with an infectious laugh, always kept active, and often put others before herself. May God bless this strong and loving woman.

Mary was a devoted wife to her late husband, Stanley Wasik, loving mother to (and is survived by) son, Gary Wasik, son Allan Wasik, and daughter Karen Perna, and caring Grandmother to (and is survived by) Brian Wasik, Gregory Wasik, Jeffrey Wasik, Christopher Wasik, Michael Wasik, Kimberly Perna, and Joseph Perna. She is also survived by five great-grandchildren.

Calling hours took place October 22, at Lacarenza Macari Family Funeral Home, Stamford, CT. Burial followed at St. Mary's Cemetery, Greenwich, CT.

REBA WILLIAMS



Reba White Williams died on October 14, in her home, in Greenwich, CT, from complications of Parkinson's Disease.

Reba was born in Gulfport, MS, on May 21, 1936. She attended schools in Jackson, MS, Signal Mountain, TN, and spent most of her young life in Lillington, NC. She went to St. Mary's School in Raleigh, NC and graduated from Duke University (1958). Reba then moved to New York City, where she spent most of her adult life. She worked as a researcher for McKinsey & Co., graduated from Harvard Business School with an MBA (1970), and joined the Wall Street research firm Mitchell, Hutchins as a securities analyst. There she met her husband to be, Dave H. Williams. She turned to journalism as a writer for Institutional Investor magazine, and credits that experience with reviving her interest in writing.

As Reba remarked at the time, "To avoid becoming the most boring couple on Wall Street, we need a hobby." She and Dave chose collecting American fine art prints, and built the largest private collection of its kind, concentrating on lost or forgotten artists of the early 20th century. Reba took the "hobby" seriously and earned two degrees in art history, an MA from Hunter College and a Ph.D. from the Graduate Center, CUNY. She created fifteen exhibitions from the Williams collection, wrote the catalogs for each, and

circulated the exhibits to more than one hundred museums worldwide. Eventually, the couple donated their collection to the National Gallery of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the British Museum. During this period, Reba served as President of the New York City Art Commission.

Reba was a member of the board of directors and director of special projects of Alliance Capital Management (now AllianceBernstein). She conceived and implemented an annual literary contest, The Willie Morris Award for Southern Literature, now in its 15th year and under management by the University of Mississippi.

Aspiring to fiction writing, Reba attended several schools, earned a MS from Antioch University, and published her first mystery novel, "Fatal Impressions". Subsequently, she published two more mysteries and a children's book.

Upon receiving her Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the Graduate Center, CUNY, Reba was asked her most important legacy: "I planted a lot of trees." Reba is survived by her husband, Dave and nephew Eddie White and his family, wife Melanie and children Braeden and Kinsley. She is also survived by her stepdaughters, Kate Williams-McWorter and MaryVaughn Williams, and a brother, George O. White.

Any contributions to Reba's memory should go to The Greenwich Tree Conservancy, www.greenwichtreeconservancy.org.

JANET NEDEAU



Janet Elaine (Fryer) Nedeau, loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend, sometimes mystic and eternal artist, died of a pulmonary embolism on October 13, in Whitehall, MI. She was 71.

Janet was born in Port Chester, New York, on May 3, 1953, to Willis Joseph Fryer and Mary Helen Weigel, and was raised in Greenwich, Connecticut. She graduated from Greenwich High School in 1971, before moving to the San Francisco Bay Area and then London, England, for art school, where she attended the Wimbledon College of Arts. While in London, she worked as a cook for the renowned furniture and fabric designers, Robin and Lucienne Day, and lived next door to Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones.

After art school, she moved back to San Francisco, where she met her husband, Christopher Nedeau, while serving as a juror for a case that he was trying as an Assistant District Attorney. Christopher and Janet were married on May 17, 1983. Janet walked down the aisle to Chariots of Fire in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame, where Christopher attended undergraduate and law school. They settled in the Haight-Ashbury of San Francisco, where they raised three children.

After beginning her career showing her artwork at local galleries and hotels, and working as an art teacher at Notre Dame High School, Janet went to get her master's degree in teaching, with a certification in special education, from St. Mary's College of California. She taught for 25 years in the San Francisco Unified School District, teaching life skills for students with disabilities. During the 2009-2010 school year, she was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the San Francisco Mayor's Office.

Janet's starring role was as mother to her three children, Jennifer, Paul, and Peter. She participated in the elementary school at Notre Dame des Victoires, and served on clubs and committees. She also was on the parent council of Boy Scout Troop 14, and volunteered at the Richmond Yacht Club and the White Lake Yacht Club, where the children took sailing and swimming lessons in the summers.

During the pandemic, Janet moved to a cottage in the Sylvan Dunes at Whitehall, Michigan. She cherished her summers on White Lake, watching her grandsons and two Bernese Mountain Dogs. She returned to San Francisco in the winters, where she continued to show her art at the San Francisco Women's Artists Gallery and spend time with long-time friends that were family.

She is survived by: her husband, Christopher Alan Nedeau; her children, Jennifer Helm (Austin), Paul Nedeau (Lauren),

and Peter Nedeau (Adlon); grandchildren, Patrick and Theodore Helm, and Charlie Nedeau; sister, Patricia Dwyer (Edward).

She was preceded in death by her brother, Richard Fryer.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM, Friday, October 25, at St. James Catholic Church, 5149 Dowling St, Montague, MI 49437, with Father Peter Omogo presiding. Visitation will be held from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Thursday, October 24, at the Beacon Cremation & Funeral Service, White Lake Chapel, 413 South Mears Avenue, Whitehall, MI 49461. The family will hold a Celebration of Life in San Francisco, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the San Francisco Women's Artist Gallery (sfwomenartists.org) or the Arts Council of White Lake (artswhitelake.org).

CHRISTINE CHIMBLO

It is with great sadness that the family of Christine W. Chimblo announce her passing on Sunday, October 13.

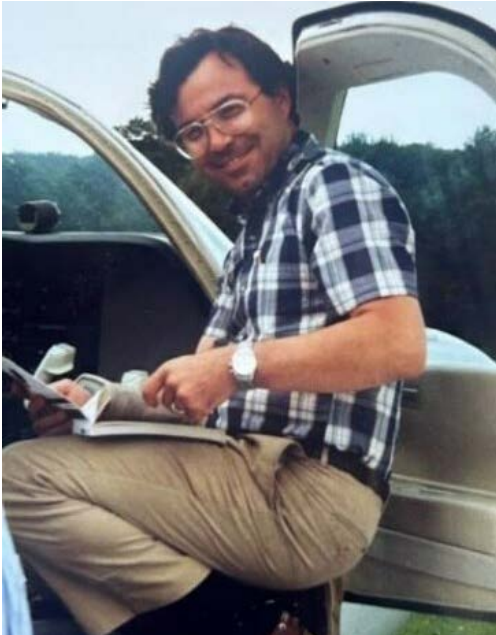
Born on January 9, 1938, she was the daughter of the late Alice and Julius Warga. She is survived by her three children, Anthony Chimblo III, Allison Lomas and Kimberly Chimblo, six grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

She was a longtime resident of Cos Cob and an active member in her community volunteering at Greenwich Hospital for over 30 years. She was also very active in her church, St Catherine of Siena in Riverside.

Services were held on Monday, October 21, at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Riverside, CT. The burial followed at Fairfield Memorial Park, Stamford, CT.

In lieu of flowers please donate to a charity of your choice, especially one helping to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

SAGER HARRISON



Sager Stettinius "Stett" Harrison pursued every passion with focus and expertise, from meticulously logging every instrument flight in his Bonanza to skiing as fast as possible down World Cup at Okemo and Buddy's Run at Steamboat. He developed family photos for slide projector shows, gave away aerial shots that he took from his plane, and took the perfect picture of the 1970 solar eclipse from Nova Scotia. Stett was also a self-taught and skilled carpenter, creating furniture that will last generations, and designing and building an oversized deck that became the home for so many memories for two decades. Over the years, the deck kept growing, with more stairs and an extension for a hot tub – the custom flower box seemed to go on forever. What could have been just a small, simple deck was never in the cards for Stett.

He believed a car was only worth driving if it was manual, ended dinners with a doppio espresso and cooked restaurant quality Spaghetti Bolognese. He loved to blast his record collection through oversized headphones and never let a plane go overhead without looking up. He was kind to others.

His deepest love for was for his children, Lindsay and Amanda, and for Adrienne. Later in life, his caregiver, Dushie Kalenu, provided him with the dignity of compassion and care for 15 years. Despite declining health, Stett was able to travel to Italy for many years, with Dushie at his side, and live at home until the last few days of his life.

Stett passed away at Greenwich Hospital on October 7. He was born in 1946 in Cincinnati, Ohio to Eloise Stettinius Fiamingo (d. 1995) and Corp. William Henry Harrison, III. (d. 1987). Stett spent his childhood in Rome, Italy, and, as a 15-year-old, found a high school he loved at the American Overseas School of Rome, graduating in 1964. He obtained higher degrees in Boston from Suffolk University (B.A., 1971) and Northeastern University (M.B.A, 1976).

His career included early years as a flight instructor and at the Massachusetts Dental Society, and then at Manufacturers Hanover Trust and Monte dei Paschi di Siena. He was honored to serve as treasurer and president of the board of Winterplace at Okemo Mountain for a tenure that spanned 15 years. He took

pride in his membership with the American Bonanza Society and found joy in supporting the Overseas School. Stett lived primarily in Greenwich, with an additional stint with his family in Rome.

Stett is survived by his daughters, Lindsay O'Brien who resides in Riverside, CT and in Ludlow, VT and Amanda Harrison who resides in Beverly, MA, son-in-law Terry O'Brien, grandchildren Nicholas, Jason, Colin, Valentina, and Sebastian, as well as his former wife Adrienne Harrison, his godson James Sinclair and a large extended family. He was pre-deceased by his younger sister, Adele Harrison Fiamingo Bonanno di Linguaglossa (d. 2017).

Family remembrances will be held in the United States and in Italy, at dates to be determined. He will be laid to rest at the Cimitero Acattolico di Roma beside his sister and mother.

Fly in peace, Dad.

MARY LYNCH



Mary Pomeroy Grant Lynch, a longtime resident of Greenwich, CT, Vero Beach, FL, and more recently Rowayton, CT died peacefully in her home on Wednesday, October 2, having been surrounded by her five adoring daughters, sons-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the days before. She was two months shy of her 89th birthday.

Mary, known as "Muffie", was the middle of three children of the late John Phillips Grant and Mary Harriet Collins Grant of New Canaan, CT. Muffie is predeceased by her husband, William Redington Lynch ("Bill") and by her brother Dr. John P. Grant, Jr. of New York, NY, and is survived by her sister Priscilla Grant of Cape Elizabeth, ME, her daughters Melissa Woolford (Andrew) of Norwalk, CT, Elizabeth Lynch (John Hartley) of Venice, CA, Cynthia Adams (Daniel) of Darien, CT, Kimberly Barr (Judson) of New Canaan, CT, and Sarah Lynch (Justin Wolff) of Portland, ME; grandchildren Eliza Hanly (Kevin), Alex Woolford (Anna), Colin Woolford (Samantha), Alden Woolford, Isabel Hartley, Caitlin Adams, Hannah, Austin, and Samuel Barr, and Ruby, Oscar and Sadie Wolff; and three great-grandchildren: Patrick Hanly (Eliza and Kevin), Grant Woolford (Colin and Samantha) and Charlie Woolford (Alex and Anna).

Muffie graduated from Abbott Academy (now Andover) in 1953 and went on to major in History at Smith College, graduating in 1957. In her beautiful alto voice, Muffie sang in a cappella groups at Abbott and Smith. She spoke French and studied in Geneva during her junior year. After college, Muffie taught History at the Delmar Burke School in San Francisco, CA. In December of 1957, Muffie met Bill, her devoted husband of 60 years, at the wedding of his cousin. The two were engaged soon thereafter and wed on August 22, 1958. Until Bill's death in 2018, they delighted in each other's company, as well as that of their family. Muffie and Bill spent their early years in New York City, then settled in Greenwich, CT to raise their five daughters.

A natural community leader, Muffie devoted herself to many organizations in Greenwich and beyond, including the YWCA, Girl Scouts, PTA, and the New York-based Fresh Air Fund and East Side Settlement House. She was particularly passionate about Family Centers of Greenwich, where she served as Board Chair from 1981 to 1983, Board Member until 2008, and Senior Advisor until her death. Muffie helped expand Family Centers' programs in early childhood, mental health and counseling, and eventually became a national Board Member of Family Service America. Muffie also served on the Board of the Putnam Trust Company of Greenwich

(now part of The Bank of New York Mellon).

Muffie had a sharp mind and a wide range of interests. She was an avid reader and loved to discuss current events and politics. She loved to play bridge with friends and competed in tournaments too. Muffie shared her love of music and games with her children and grandchildren, as well as her love of travel. A favorite memory is a 6-week cross-country family trip to celebrate the bicentennial, with Muffie at the wheel of a 27-ft. RV. She loved to return to a family camp in Belgrade Lakes, Maine, where she and Bill vacationed for more than 50 years with their extended family.

Muffie was fun-loving, with a warm smile and a contagious laugh. She was always engaged in the lives of others. An attentive listener with a strong moral compass, she was a great source of strength to those who knew and loved her. We will miss her dearly and we'll continue to hear her voice and laughter and feel her love in our hearts.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 16, at 10:00 a.m. at the Second Congregational Church at 139 E. Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: Family Centers, Inc., Greenwich, CT, Americares, Stamford, CT, PIER Program at Maine Medical Center, Portland, ME.

PETER NESS



Peter Semple Ness passed away on October 1, at Nathaniel Witherell in Greenwich, CT. He was 85. A longtime resident of Greenwich, he is now at peace with his wife, Christine Ness, who predeceased him.

Born May 21, 1939, in Baltimore, Peter is the son of Philip and Nancy Ness. Peter was known for his gregarious spirit and sharp intellect. Standing at 6 feet 5 inches, he had a personality that fit his size. He loved his family and was an adoring grandfather. Peter attended Deerfield Academy in Mass. and Yale University. He received a law degree from Columbia University. Peter took great pride in Deerfield and Yale and, overall, in the importance of education. An avid tennis and squash player, Peter loved the family doubles matches, laughter around the dinner table, and long afternoons in the garden. In 1976, he married Christine Ness and was with her when she passed away in 2019. Each was a character in their own right; they loved entertaining and were known for their celebratory Thanksgiving parties.

A brilliant lawyer, Peter joined the law firm Shearman & Sterling in New York before moving to Dun & Bradstreet. He served as counsel at Continental Can Company in Chicago and then joined General Foods in White Plains, NY, where he worked in mergers and acquisitions. He was hired at Chase Manhattan Bank, now JPMorgan Chase Bank, and then went out on his own, working on real estate development projects.

Peter volunteered in the 1970s at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Long Island College Hospital, where he served on the board. He also did volunteer work for Greenwich Hospital. Peter was a devoted member of Christ Church. He loved organ and choir music, which he played at high volume while working on projects.

He is survived by his stepson, Alexander H. Williams IV (Judy) of Portland, Ore.; his stepdaughter, Ashley Madden (John) of North Hampton, NH; his stepdaughter-in-law Shane Williams-Ness of Litchfield, CT, and five grandchildren. In addition to his wife, Christine, Peter was predeceased by his stepson, James Daniel Williams-Ness, in 2022.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden or Greenwich Hospital. The family plans a private memorial service later this Fall.

THOMAS MORRISON

It is with sadness that Thomas Caldwell Morrison's entire family share his passing on September 4. Mr. Morrison was the fourth child born to Kenneth and Mary Morrison on December 5th, 1932. Mr. Morrison was predeceased by his parents and four siblings including Kenneth, Mary, Joan and Patricia. Mr. Morrison had five children including Thomas II, Michael, Mary Tiffany, Matthew and Andrew. His grandchildren include Nicole, Thomas III, Andrew, Sarah and Aiden Morrison and step-grandchildren Harrison and Laura Hertzman. Mrs. Hertzman, the daughter of Mr. Morrison, shares that her father is mourned by his extended family as well, which includes the many nieces and nephews that he had. Twenty-one total during his life.

Mr. Morrison graduated from McDonough High School and completed his B.S. degree from the University of Maryland. While he was serving in the Army in San Francisco, he married Barbara Ann Hill, of Baltimore, Maryland, the mother of his five children. He worked for Phillip Brother Chemicals in New York, before starting Nitron Chemical Corporation in 1974 and later Nitron International. Mrs. Hertzman states that her father traveled extensively, and was often missed at home. Mr. Morrison was remarried to Vera Ivanov of Brooklyn/Queens New York and they enjoyed living in Greenwich until the time of his passing.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of Thomas Caldwell Morrison on April the 13th, 2025 at St. Mary's Church on Greenwich Avenue, where he was a parishioner for nearly forty years.

MARY O'DONNELL



August 23, 1938-February 9, 2024

Mary M. O'Donnell, beloved mother, grandmother, aunt and friend died peacefully in her sleep on February 9. Although Mary was a longtime Greenwich resident, at the time of her death, she resided in San Diego, CA, where she had moved to be close to her daughter, Michelle O'Donnell, son-in-law, Dr. Mike Royal, and grandson, Torin Royal. In addition to her daughter, son-in-law and grandson, Mary is survived by her former husband of forty-four years, retired Greenwich Police Lieutenant Brian M. O'Donnell.

Quick to laugh, and always ready to lend a helping hand, Mary will be remembered for her kindness, generosity and selflessness. Mary was an active member of the Catholic Daughters, an avid school and community volunteer, a Brownie troop leader, and a member of the Greenwich RTM. Mary was an executive assistant at Young & Rubicam, Bangor Punta, St. Paul's Church and the Greenwich Garden Education Center. However, her all-time favorite "job" was that of Grandmother to Torin, with whom she loved spending time and traveling.

The family would like to thank Nurse Erin and Caregiver Mary from Apreva Hospice in San Diego, CA for their kindness and skilled, compassionate care during the last several months of Mary's life.

A memorial mass was held at St. Mary Church on Thursday, October 24, followed by the interment of Mary's ashes at St. Mary Cemetery. All are welcome to attend.

RUSSELL & VIOLA WRIGHT

Russell Gardner Wright ("Salty"), 94, of Norwalk passed away on January 28, at Norwalk Hospital. He was born in Greenwich, CT on April 21, 1929 to the late Helen (Gardner) Wright. He grew up in Greenwich and graduated from Greenwich High School in 1947.

Viola Beeghly Wright, 98, of Norwalk passed away on August 2, 2024 at Cassena Care in Norwalk. She was born in Stamford, CT on August 12, 1925 to the late Wood and Viola (Gass) Beeghly. She grew up in Stamford and graduated from Stamford High School in 1943.

Russ and Vi met in the Fall of 1947 while

they were both working at Jones Motorola. They were married on March 31, 1951, shortly before Russ was drafted into the U.S. Army where he proudly served until his discharge in 1953, stationed in Maryland, Alabama and Okinawa. They then started a family and lived in Greenwich and Fairfield before buying a home on Silent Grove Court in Norwalk in 1965.

Their love for each other lasted over three-quarters of a century. At their 50th wedding anniversary in 2001, Jim Lee said that Russ was an instigator, Vi was inquisitive, and they were both in love. All of that was true.

Russ had his first boat ride when he was 3 days old and had a lifelong love of the sea. Russ could fix anything he put his mind to - he loved tinkering in the garage, and enjoyed boating, and anything with wheels - cars, motorcycles and tractors. Russ was a tool and die maker by trade, and retired from Norwalk Powdered Metals in 1994. He was also a HAM radio operator with call letters WIRGW, and made many good friends over the airwaves. In more recent years, he was active with the Red Square Tractor Forum and always enjoyed going to tractor meets to see his buddies and show off his Wheel Horse tractors.

Vi was a long-time member of the First United Methodist Church in Stamford. Vi loved to read and passed this gift onto her daughters. She liked to do crossword puzzles (not always correctly) and to knit (we lost count of how many baby blankets she made over the years). She also enjoyed baking and trying out new recipes. Vi will especially be remembered for her crumb coffee cake.

They enjoyed traveling throughout New England, for many years towing a camping trailer. They had fond memories of their honeymoon in the Berkshires, and always enjoyed seeing family in their travels - whether it was the Jensens in Stephentown NY, the Knowltons in Onset MA, Toodles Clifford and her family in VT, Linda and her family in Northern Ireland, or Nancy and her family in RI. They loved family get togethers from the annual family picnic at Black Rock State Park in the 60s and 70s to holidays with Vi's family.

Russ and Vi are survived by their daughters, Linda (George) Gilmore and Nancy Lee, their grandchildren - Maggi Gilmore, Helen Gilmore, Lizzie (Mark) Paul, and Peter "Mikey" (Darcie) Jenkins, Jr., and Nancy's bonus children - Jay Lee and Wendi (Scott) Archambault. They are also survived by Nancy's eight grandchildren - Kailey, Kass (Cody), Nate, Logan, Tony, Charlotte, Milo and Lucy, and Nancy's three great-grandchildren - Lyla, Sawyer and Levi, the DeNardo/Palmer Point Marina family, and many nieces and nephews.

Russ was survived by his brothers, Don and Bill Wright, and was predeceased by his mother and sisters-in-law Ellen and Dot.

Vi was survived by her sisters, Blanche Berry and Sylvia Stunkel (and her husband Fred). She was predeceased by her parents, siblings Ed (Ella) Beeghly, Phyllis (Johnny) Kopec, Wood (Sophie) Beeghly and Mary (Carl) Jensen, and her brother-in-law, Bob Berry.

Russ and Vi were also predeceased by their son-in-law, Jim Lee, and their nephews, Jerry, Doug and Bruce Beeghly.

Linda and Nancy would like to thank their parents' dear friends, their incredible neighbors on Silent Grove Court, dad's homemakers (Michelle, Donna and Helen) from Family & Children's Agency, dad's visiting nurses (Nicole and Shaday), and their local nieces and nephews who helped dad stay safely in their beloved home, as well as the fourth floor staff at Cassena Care and the caregivers from Caring Hospice who cared for mom after dad was unable to continue to care for her at home. A special thanks to the Norwalk Police, Fire and EMS for doing your jobs with kindness and compassion countless times over the last decade. Your help to our parents meant so much to them, and to us.

Arrangements will be made at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a charity of your choosing.



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WINNIE-THE-POOH BY A.A. MILNE

CHAPTER V

IN WHICH PIGLET MEETS A HEFFALUMP

One day, when Christopher Robin and Winnie-the-Pooh and Piglet were all talking together, Christopher Robin finished the mouthful he was eating and said carelessly: "I saw a Heffalump to-day, Piglet."

"What was it doing?" asked Piglet.
"Just lumping along," said Christopher Robin. "I don't think it saw me."
"I saw one once," said Piglet. "At least, I think I did," he said. "Only perhaps it wasn't."
"So did I," said Pooh, wondering what a Heffalump was like.
"You don't often see them," said Christopher Robin carelessly.
"Not now," said Piglet.
"Not at this time of year," said Pooh.



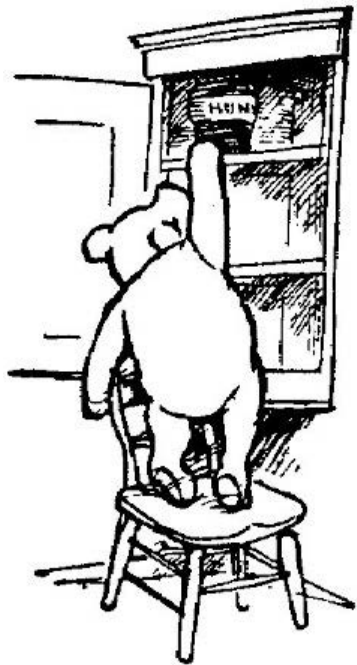
Then they all talked about something else, until it was time for Pooh and Piglet to go home together. At first as they stumped along the path which edged the Hundred Acre Wood, they didn't say much to each other; but when they came to the stream and had helped each other across the stepping stones, and were able to walk side by side again over the heather, they began to talk in a friendly way about this and that, and Piglet said, "If you see what I mean, Pooh," and Pooh said, "It's just what I think myself, Piglet," and Piglet said, "But, on the other hand, Pooh, we must remember," and Pooh said, "Quite true, Piglet, although I had forgotten it for the moment." And then, just as they came to the Six Pine Trees, Pooh looked round to see that nobody else was listening, and said in a very solemn voice:
"Piglet, I have decided something."
"What have you decided, Pooh?"
"I have decided to catch a Heffalump."
Pooh nodded his head several times as he said this, and waited for Piglet to say "How?" or "Pooh, you couldn't!" or something helpful of that sort, but Piglet said nothing. The fact was Piglet was wishing that he had thought about it first.
"I shall do it," said Pooh, after waiting a little longer, "by means of a trap. And it must be a Cunning Trap, so you will have to help me, Piglet."
"Pooh," said Piglet, feeling quite happy again now, "I will." And then he said, "How shall we do it?" and Pooh said, "That's just it. How?" And then they sat down together to think it out.
Pooh's first idea was that they should dig a Very Deep Pit, and then the Heffalump would come along and fall into the Pit, and—
"Why?" said Piglet.
"Why what?" said Pooh.
"Why would he fall in?"
Pooh rubbed his nose with his paw, and said that the Heffalump might be walking along, humming a little song, and looking up at the sky, wondering if it would rain, and so he wouldn't see the Very Deep Pit until he was half-way down, when it would be too late.

Piglet said that this was a very good Trap, but supposing it were raining already?
Pooh rubbed his nose again, and said that he hadn't thought of that. And then he brightened up, and said that, if it were raining already, the Heffalump would be looking at the sky wondering if it would clear up, and so he wouldn't see the Very Deep Pit until he was half-way down.... When it would be too late.
Piglet said that, now that this point had been explained, he thought it was a Cunning Trap.
Pooh was very proud when he heard this, and he felt that the Heffalump was as good as caught already, but there was just one other thing which had to be thought about, and it was this. Where should they dig the Very Deep Pit?
Piglet said that the best place would be somewhere where a Heffalump was, just before he fell into it, only about a foot farther on.

"But then he would see us digging it," said Pooh.
"Not if he was looking at the sky."
"He would Suspect," said Pooh, "if he happened to look down." He thought for a long time and then added sadly, "It isn't as easy as I thought. I suppose that's why Heffalumps hardly ever get caught."
"That must be it," said Piglet.
They sighed and got up; and when they had taken a few gorse prickles out of themselves they sat down again; and all the time Pooh was saying to himself, "If only I could think of something!" For he felt sure that a Very Clever Brain could catch a Heffalump if only he knew the right way to go about it.
"Suppose," he said to Piglet, "you wanted to catch me, how would you do it?"
"Well," said Piglet, "I should do it like this. I should make a Trap, and I should put a Jar of Honey in the Trap, and you would smell it, and you would go in after it, and—"
"And I would go in after it," said Pooh excitedly, "only very carefully so as not to hurt myself, and I would get to the Jar of Honey, and I should lick round the edges first of all, pretending that there wasn't any more, you know, and then I should walk away and think about it a little, and then I should come back and start licking in the middle of the jar, and then—"

"Yes, well never mind about that. There you would be, and there I should catch you. Now the first thing to think of is, What do Heffalumps like? I should think acorns, shouldn't you? We'll get a lot of—I say, wake up, Pooh!"
Pooh, who had gone into a happy dream, woke up with a start, and said that Honey was a much more trappy thing than Haycorns. Piglet didn't think so; and they were just going to argue about it, when Piglet remembered that, if they put acorns in the Trap, he would have to find the acorns, but if they put honey, then Pooh would have to give up some of his own honey, so he said, "All right, honey then," just as Pooh remembered it too, and was going to say, "All right, haycorns."

"Honey," said Piglet to himself in a thoughtful way, as if it were now settled. "I'll dig the pit, while you go and get the honey."
"Very well," said Pooh, and he stumped off.



As soon as he got home, he went to the larder; and he stood on a chair, and took down a very large jar of honey from the top shelf. It had HUNNY written on it, but, just to make sure, he took off the paper cover and looked at it, and it looked just like honey. "But you never can tell," said Pooh. "I remember my uncle saying once that he had seen cheese just this colour." So he put his tongue in, and took a large lick. "Yes," he said, "it is. No doubt about that. And honey, I should say, right down to the bottom of the jar. Unless, of course," he said, "somebody put cheese in at the bottom just for a joke. Perhaps I had better go a little further ... just in case ... in case Heffalumps don't like cheese ... same as me.... Ah!" And he gave a deep sigh. "I was right. It is honey, right the way down."



Having made certain of this, he took the jar back to Piglet, and Piglet looked up from the bottom of his Very Deep Pit, and said, "Got it?" and Pooh said, "Yes, but it isn't quite a full jar," and he threw it down to Piglet, and Piglet said, "No, it isn't! Is that all you've got left?" and Pooh said "Yes." Because it was. So Piglet put the jar at the bottom of the Pit, and climbed out, and they went off home together.



"Well, good night, Pooh," said Piglet, when they had got to Pooh's house. "And we meet at six o'clock to-morrow morning by the Pine Trees, and see how many Heffalumps we've got in our Trap."
"Six o'clock, Piglet. And have you got any string?"
"No. Why do you want string?"
"To lead them home with."
"Oh! ... I think Heffalumps come if you whistle."
"Some do and some don't. You never can tell with Heffalumps. Well, good night!"
"Good night!"

And off Piglet trotted to his house TRESPASSERS W, while Pooh made his preparations for bed.

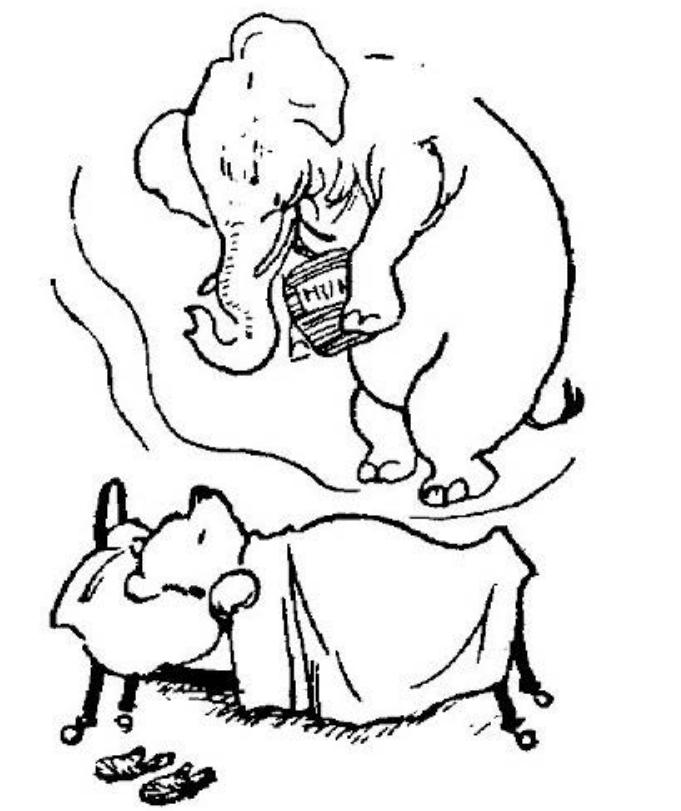
Some hours later, just as the night was beginning to steal away, Pooh woke up suddenly with a sinking feeling. He had had that sinking feeling before, and he knew what it meant. He was hungry. So he went to the larder, and he stood on a chair and reached up to the top shelf, and found—nothing.

"That's funny," he thought. "I know I had a jar of honey there. A full jar, full of honey right up to the top, and it had HUNNY written on it, so that I should know it was honey. That's very funny." And then he began to wander up and down, wondering where it was and murmuring a murmur to himself. Like this:

It's very, very funny,
'Cos I know I had some honey;
'Cos it had a label on,
Saying HUNNY.
A goloptious full-up pot too,
And I don't know where it's got to,
No, I don't know where it's gone—
Well, it's funny.
He had murmured this to himself three times in a singing sort of way, when suddenly he remembered. He had put it into the Cunning Trap to catch the Heffalump.

"Bother!" said Pooh. "It all comes of trying to be kind to Heffalumps." And he got back into bed.

But he couldn't sleep. The more he tried to sleep, the more he couldn't. He tried Counting Sheep, which is sometimes a good way of getting to sleep, and, as that was no good, he tried counting Heffalumps. And that was worse. Because every Heffalump that he counted was making straight for a pot of Pooh's honey, and eating it all. For some minutes he lay there miserably, but when the five hundred and eighty-seventh Heffalump was licking its jaws, and saying to itself, "Very good honey this, I don't know when I've tasted better," Pooh could bear it no longer. He jumped out of bed, he ran out of the house, and he ran straight to the Six Pine Trees.



The Sun was still in bed, but there was a lightness in the sky over the Hundred Acre Wood which seemed to show that it was waking up and would soon be kicking off the clothes. In the half-light the Pine Trees looked cold and lonely, and the Very Deep Pit seemed deeper than it was, and Pooh's jar of honey at the bottom was something mysterious, a shape and no more. But as he got nearer to it his nose told him that it was indeed honey, and his tongue came out and began to polish up his mouth, ready for it.



"Bother!" said Pooh, as he got his nose inside the jar. "A Heffalump has been

eating it!" And then he thought a little and said, "Oh, no, I did. I forgot."

Indeed, he had eaten most of it. But there was a little left at the very bottom of the jar, and he pushed his head right in, and began to lick....



By and by Piglet woke up. As soon as he woke he said to himself, "Oh!" Then he said bravely, "Yes," and then, still more bravely, "Quite so." But he didn't feel very brave, for the word which was really jiggeting about in his brain was "Heffalumps."

What was a Heffalump like?
Was it Fierce?
Did it come when you whistled? And how did it come?
Was it Fond of Pigs at all?
If it was Fond of Pigs, did it make any difference what sort of Pig?
Supposing it was Fierce with Pigs, would it make any difference if the Pig had a grandfather called TRESPASSERS WILLIAM?



He didn't know the answer to any of these questions ... and he was going to see his first Heffalump in about an hour from now!

Of course Pooh would be with him, and it was much more Friendly with two. But suppose Heffalumps were Very Fierce with Pigs and Bears? Wouldn't it be better to pretend that he had a headache, and couldn't go up to the Six Pine Trees this morning? But then suppose that it was a very fine day, and there was no Heffalump in the trap, here he would be, in bed all the morning, simply wasting his time for nothing. What should he do?

And then he had a Clever Idea. He would go up very quietly to the Six Pine Trees now, peep very cautiously into the Trap, and see if there was a Heffalump there. And if there was, he would go back to bed, and if there wasn't, he wouldn't.

So off he went. At first he thought that there wouldn't be a Heffalump in the Trap, and then he thought that there would, and as he got nearer he was sure that there would, because he could hear it heffalumping about it like anything.

"Oh, dear, oh, dear, oh, dear!" said Piglet to himself. And he wanted to run away. But somehow, having got so near, he felt that he must just see what a Heffalump was like. So he crept to the side of the Trap and looked in....

And all the time Winnie-the-Pooh had been trying to get the honey-jar off his head. The more he shook it, the more tightly it stuck.

"Bother!" he said, inside the jar, and "Oh, help!" and, mostly, "Ow!" And he tried bumping it against things, but as he couldn't see what he was bumping it against, it didn't help him; and he tried to climb out of the Trap, but as he could see nothing but jar, and not much of that, he couldn't find his way. So at last he lifted up his head, jar and all, and made a loud, roaring noise of Sadness and Despair ... and it was at that moment that Piglet looked down.

"Help, help!" cried Piglet, "a Heffalump, a Horrible Heffalump!" and he scampered off as hard as he could, still crying out, "Help, help, a Horrible Hoffalump! Hoff, Hoff, a Hellible Horralump! Holl, Holl, a Hoffable Hellerump!" And he didn't stop crying and scampering until he got to Christopher Robin's house.

"Whatever's the matter, Piglet?" said Christopher Robin, who was just getting up.

"Heff," said Piglet, breathing so hard that he could hardly speak, "a Heff—a Heff—a Heffalump."

"Where?"
"Up there," said Piglet, waving his paw.
"What did it look like?"

"Like—like—It had the biggest head you ever saw, Christopher Robin. A great enormous thing, like—like nothing. A huge big—well, like a—I don't know—like an enormous big nothing. Like a jar."

"Well," said Christopher Robin, putting on his shoes, "I shall go and look at it. Come on."



Piglet wasn't afraid if he had Christopher Robin with him, so off they went....

"I can hear it, can't you?" said Piglet anxiously, as they got near.

"I can hear something," said Christopher Robin.

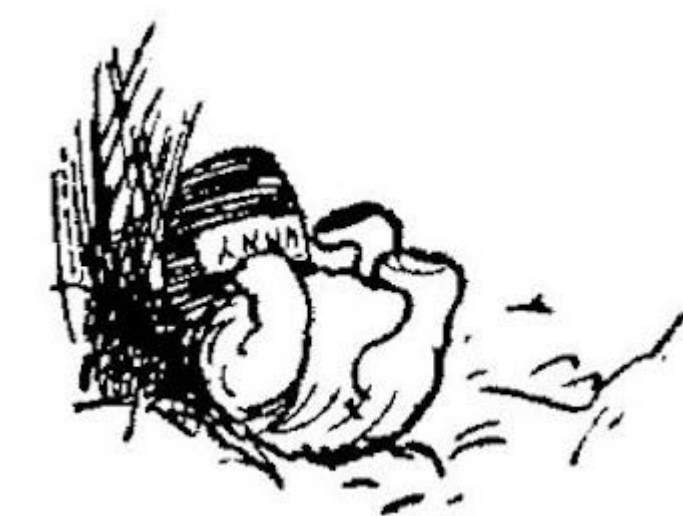
It was Pooh bumping his head against a tree-root he had found.

"There!" said Piglet. "Isn't it awful?" And he held on tight to Christopher Robin's hand.

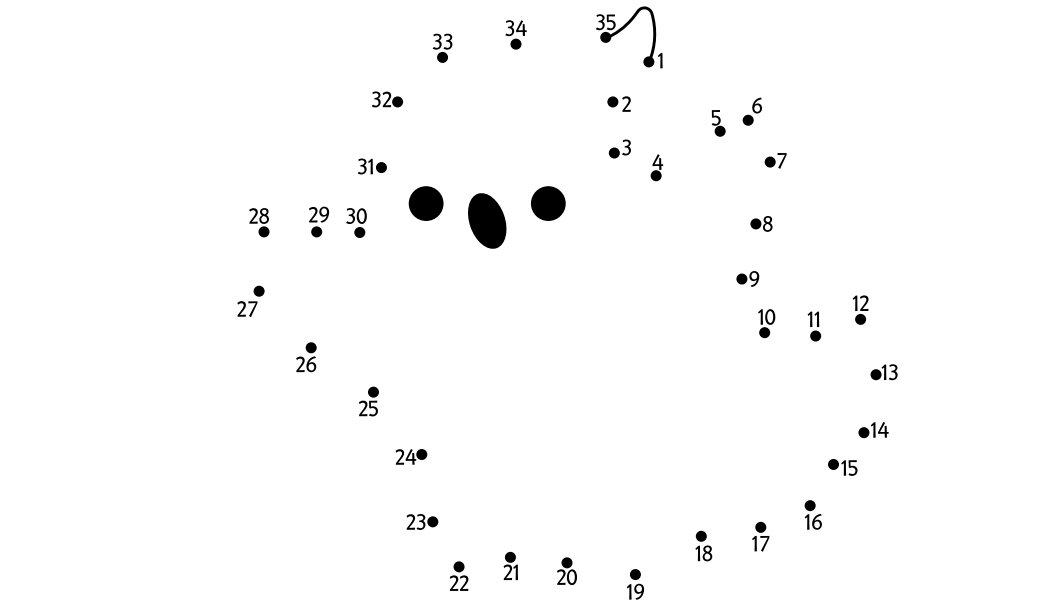
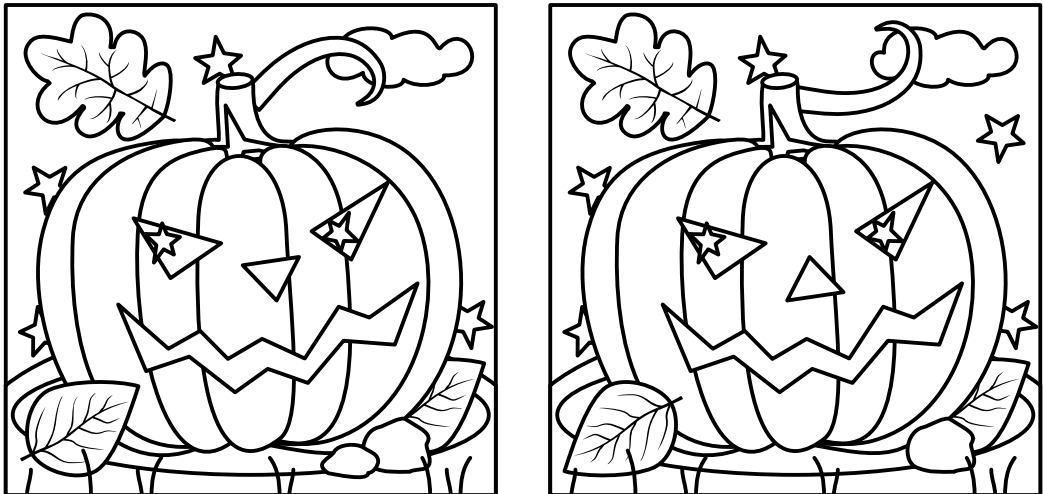
Suddenly Christopher Robin began to laugh ... and he laughed ... and he laughed ... and he laughed. And while he was still laughing—Crash went the Heffalump's head against the tree-root, Smash went the jar, and out came Pooh's head again....

Then Piglet saw what a Foolish Piglet he had been, and he was so ashamed of himself that he ran straight off home and went to bed with a headache. But Christopher Robin and Pooh went home to breakfast together.

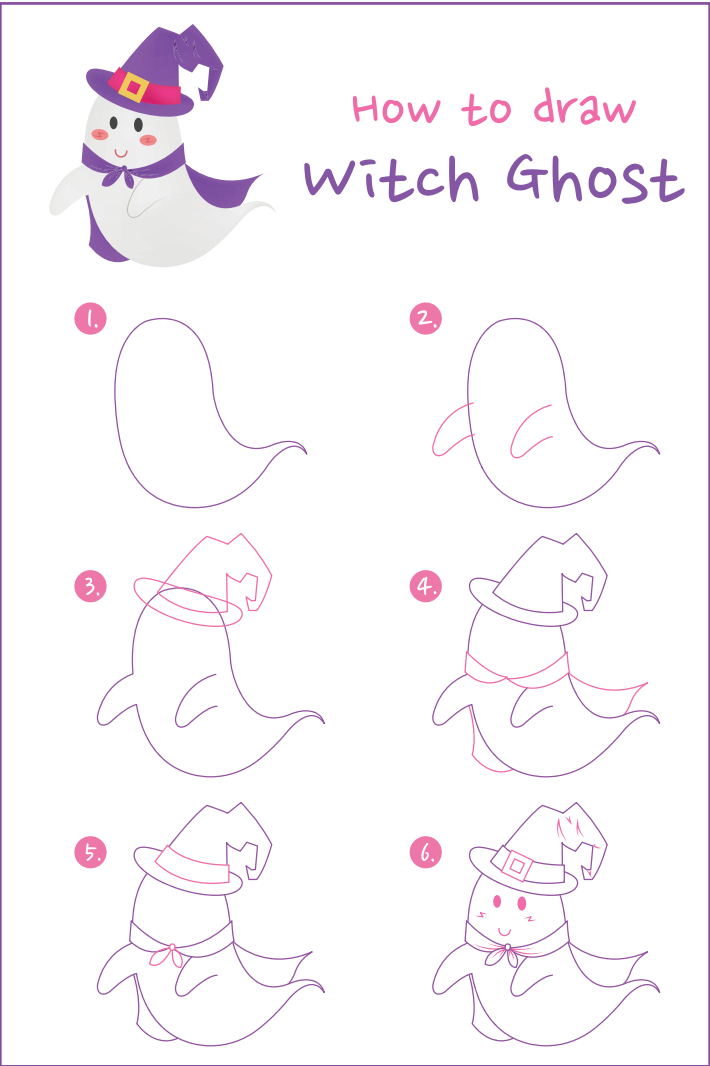
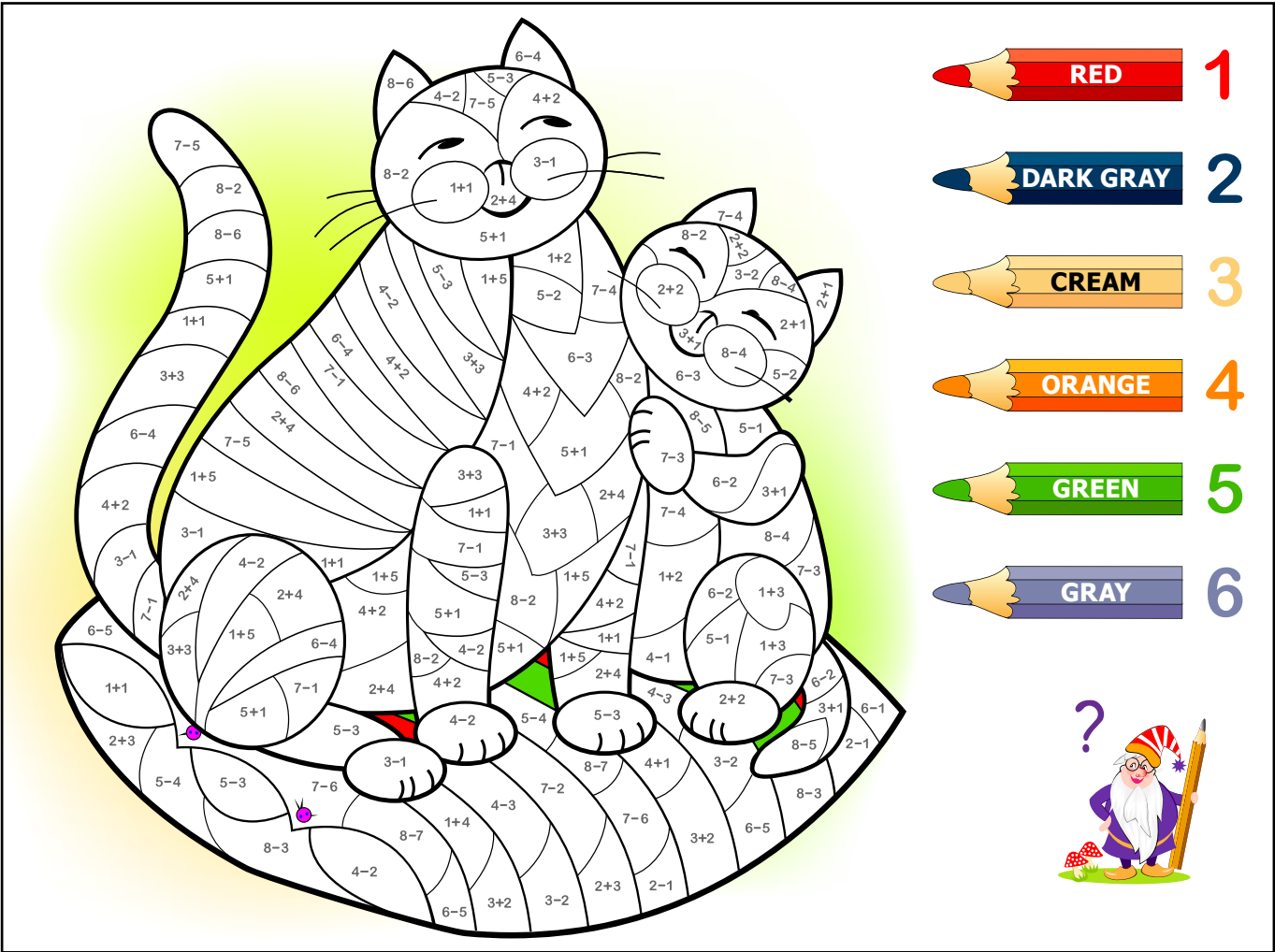
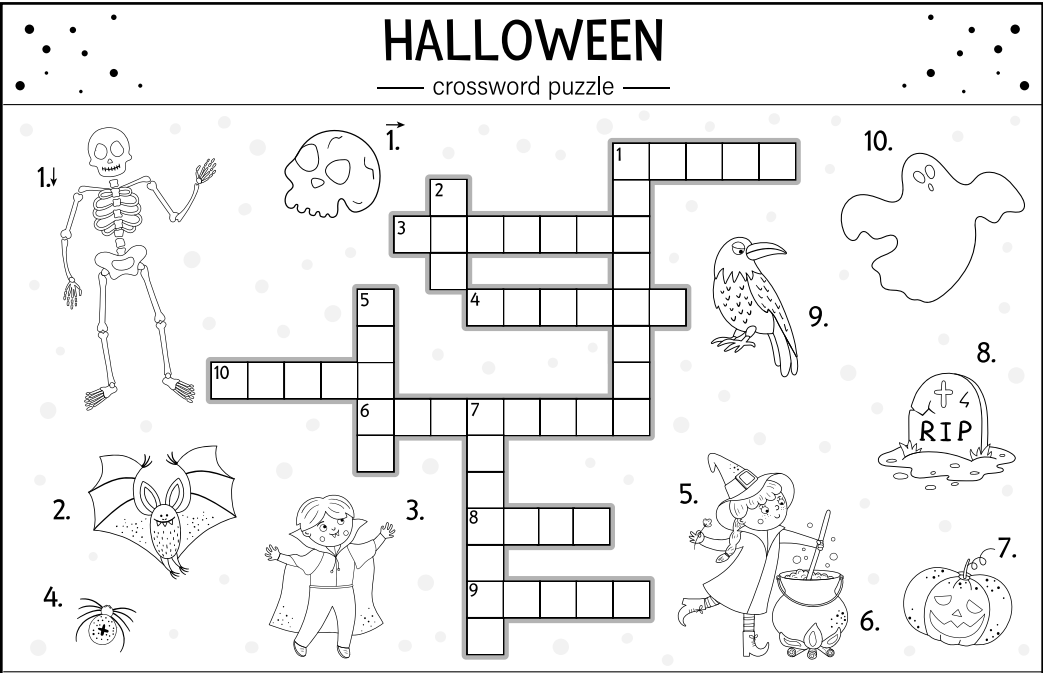
"Oh, Bear!" said Christopher Robin.
"How I do love you!"
"So do I," said Pooh.



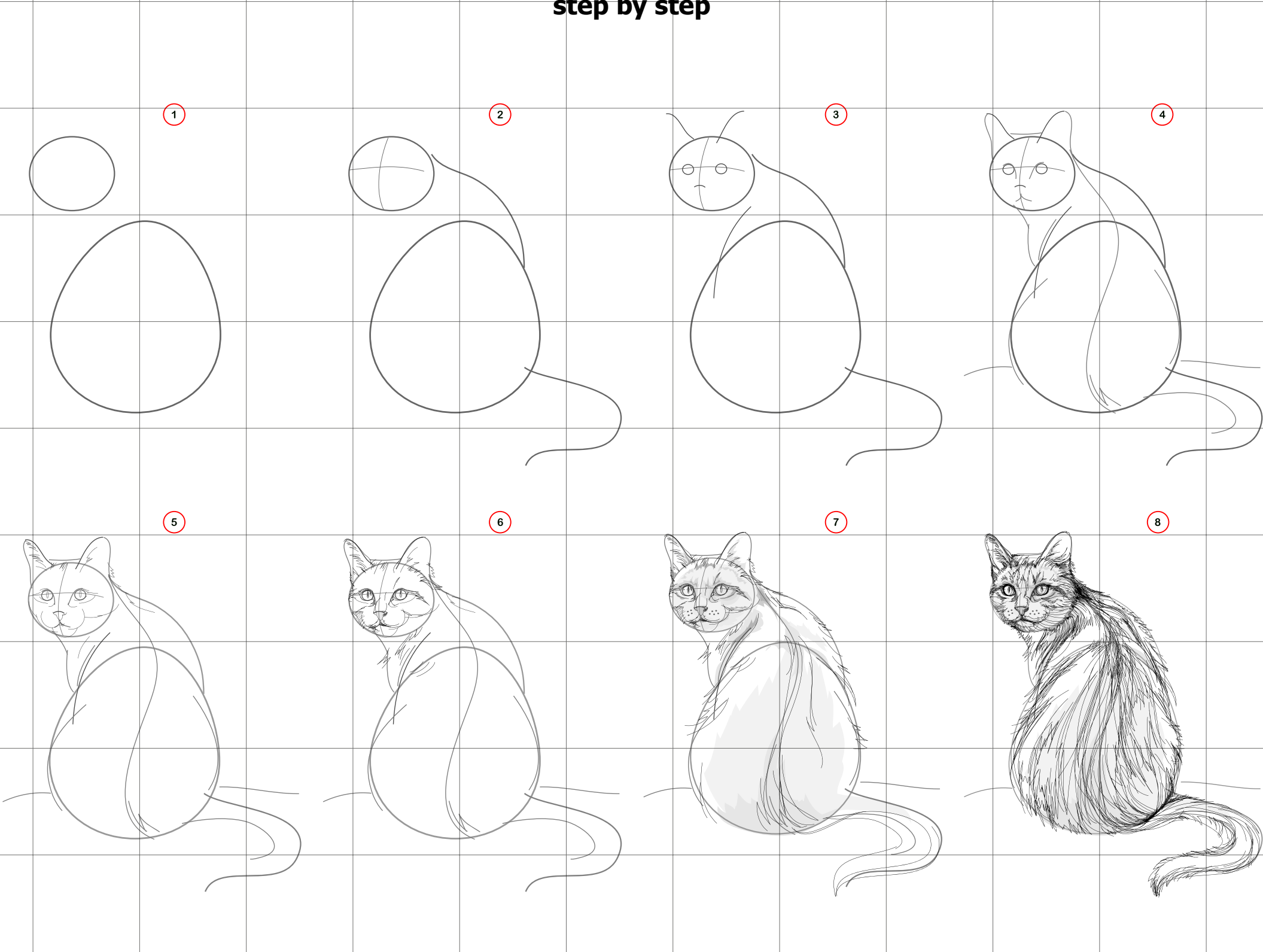
Spot 5 differences.

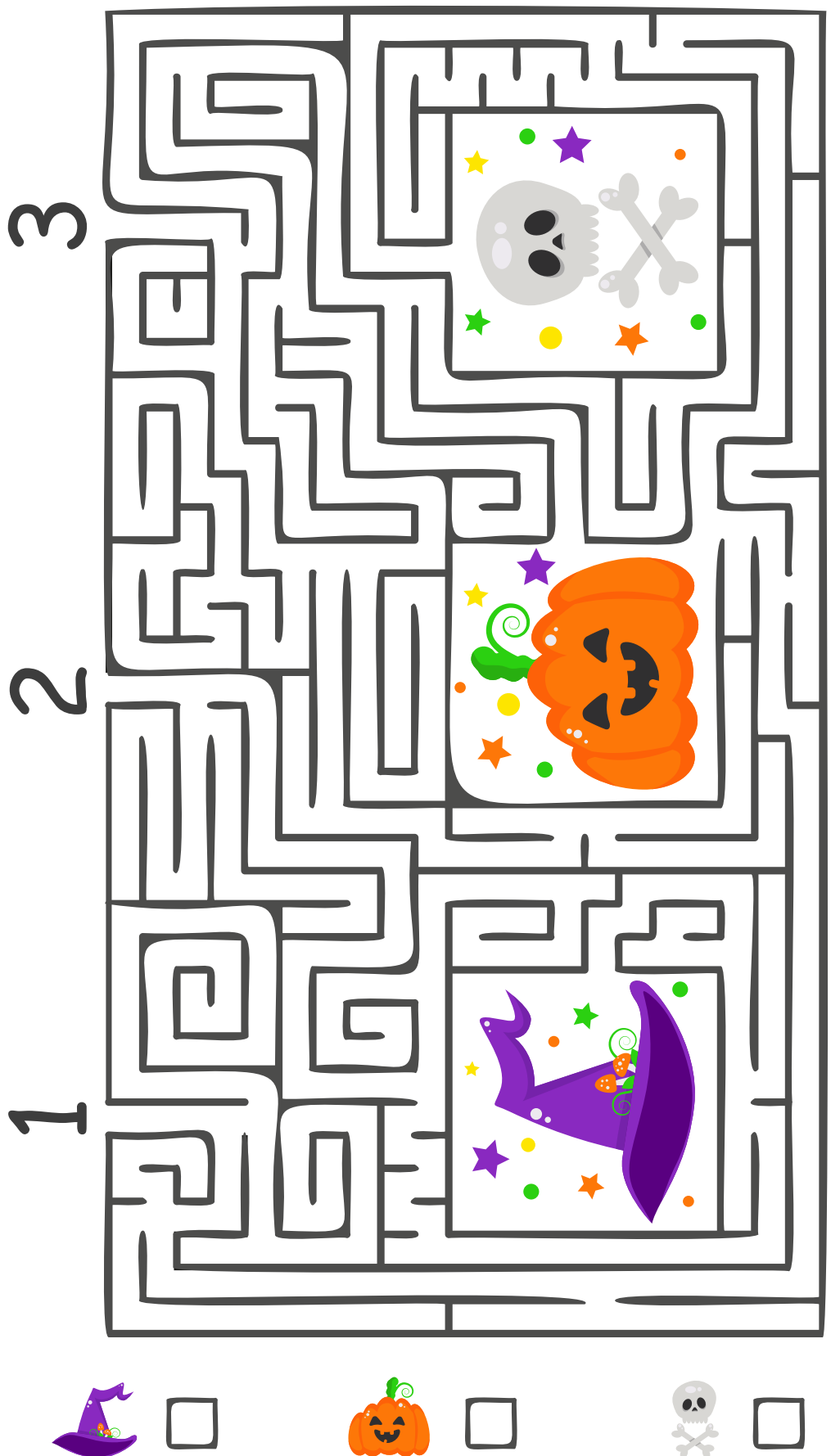
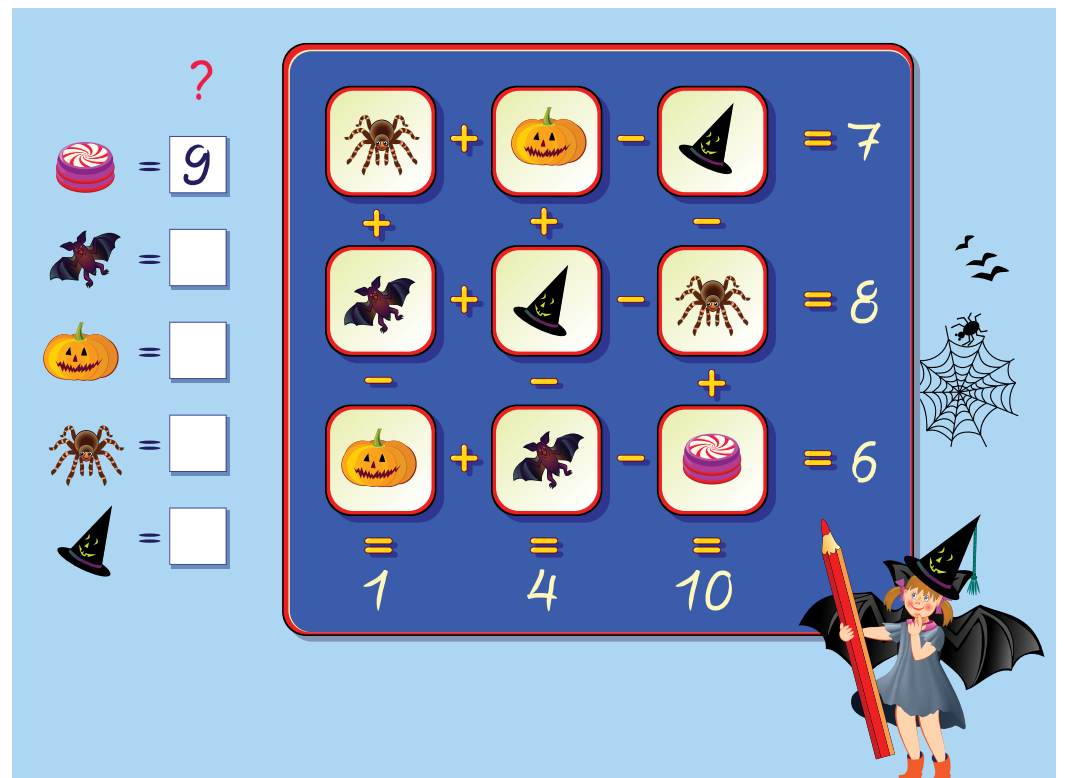
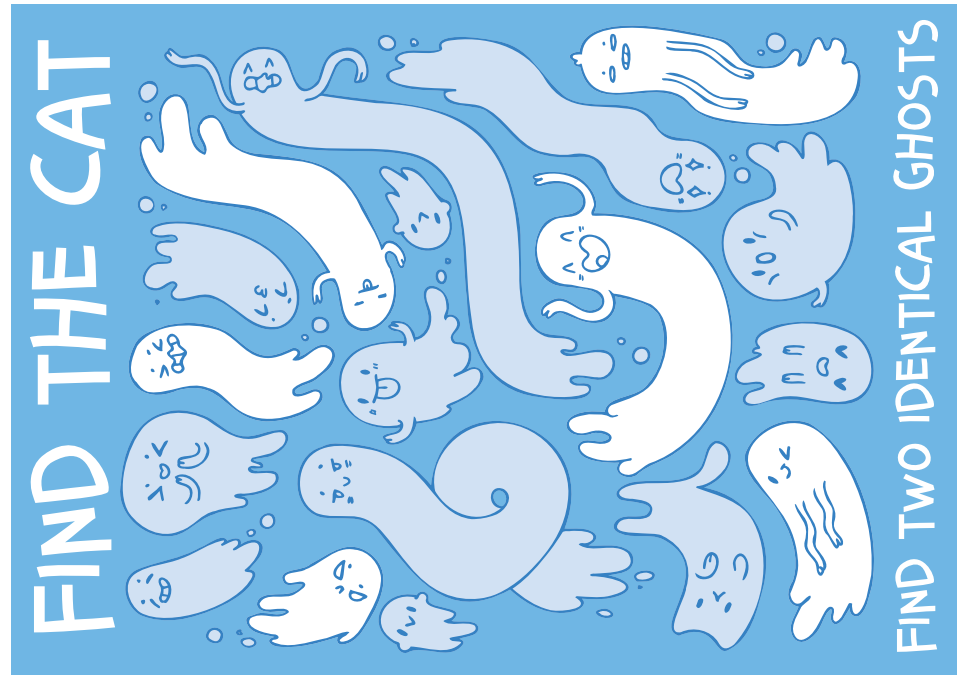


Spot 10 differences & color



GRAB YOUR SKETCH BOOK
step by step





COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE BLACK PANTHER

One of the Stealthiest Creatures on Earth

By Jim Knox

Most guests to Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo don’t see her at first. This temporary “invisibility” is not a result of ignorance, nor is it the result of a fleeting attention span. The reason most folks cannot see the great cat mere feet away is largely due to her appearance and stealthy behavior. Leopards—practically by definition—are among the planet’s stealthiest creatures. Yet Kallisto, our female Amur leopard (*Panthera pardus orientalis*), has an extra stealth advantage.

As a cat born with a rare mutation known as melanism, Kallisto stands out...once you finally see her. Melanism, or an overabundance of pigment known as melanin, can occur in many species of vertebrates. This overabundance of dark pigment produces fur, feathers, skin, or scales with a blackish hue. A common expression of this mutation are the “black” Gray squirrels seen throughout Fairfield County and many regions of our state.

In the case of leopards, this mutation occurs approximately 10% of the time, with 90% of leopards sporting black-spotted golden coats with white bellies. What’s more, this dark coloration can become established in certain populations and virtually absent in others. Evolutionary biologists theorize that dark coat color is a result of a process known as adaptive selection—aiding these big cats in thermoregulation and in hiding among the shadows of the dense lush forests of Africa and Asia. Among Amur leopards, which are native to the high latitudes and snowy wilderness of the Russian Far East, this complete head-to-toe-and-tail blackish coloration is not considered to be advantageous and is



The Black Panther

By virtue of this “cloaking” appearance, these great beasts are shrouded in mystery and ascribed with powers by cultures on four continents over the millennia.

thus, much rarer, occurring in less than 1% of Amur leopard births.

When guests to Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo finally spy Kallisto, they see what they describe as a black panther. Yet, a careful look in full daylight reveals the full beauty of this magnificent creature as the cryptic yet distinct pattern of her spotted rosettes begins to emerge to the trained eye. As she moves, the gloss of her coat reflects

the light, while the rosettes absorb the light, revealing a stunning pattern hidden within the coat. Each leopard possesses a unique pattern of rosettes just as each one of us possesses unique fingerprints.

Such black leopards are almost always born with golden-coated littermates (Kallisto was born with her golden coated brother, Orion). So, is she a leopard or a Black panther? In a sense, she is

both. The term panther is generic and is commonly used to describe multiple species of great cats, but most commonly refers to leopards, jaguars, and Mountain lions (which to add to the confusion are known by more than two dozen regional names throughout the Western Hemisphere). To further obscure this confusion, only the leopard and jaguar have been recorded as exhibiting melanism. This coloration is

often seen in leopards and jaguars, leading many observers to believe they are seeing a single species. So, while there is no species known as a “Black panther,” observers of these beautiful creatures are correct in their observation that they are seeing a panther that is effectively a black-coated cat. In every biological respect, these cats are the same as their golden-coated siblings, yet “Black panthers”

possess something far more than merely unusual coat coloration. By virtue of this “cloaking” appearance, these great beasts are shrouded in mystery and ascribed powers by cultures on four continents over the millennia.

Once detected—their appearance rivets our gaze. With nightshade coloration defining their lithe forms, we discern the fine detail of their muscular frames and the graceful fluidity which animates their movements. With palpable power that we practically feel with each pad of their lethal paws, these mythic beasts glide seamlessly from their world into ours. In Black panthers we have creatures who beckon us to a wilder timeless world—one inhabited by their ancestors and ours. As the very embodiment of the wild, these great cats are the mystery and the power inhabiting the forests of our minds.

So, what can we learn from these ethereal phantoms of the dense wild forests of the world? How can we emulate them? Rare, bold, self-reliant, ever-patient, decisive, and successful, the Black Panther possesses a host of enviable traits. Just like the great Black panthers, we are unique individuals who all possess undeniable elements of beauty and power we can share with the world around us. Though we may keep these traits hidden beneath a cryptic exterior, such beauty and power capture the attention of those few who have the patience and vision to see what eludes the gaze of so many.

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.