

POLICE & FIRE
Missing Woman Found Safe
A 94-year-old woman from Greenwich who was reported missing on May 19 was found by a Connecticut State Police K-9 unit on May 21 in a wooded area along King Street. She was taken to Westchester Medical Center for evaluation, and her condition was not publicly disclosed. The search included drones, flyers, and multiple K-9 teams.

FROM TOWN HALL
Summer Leaf Blower Rules Begin
Effective today, May 23 at 6PM, gas-powered leaf blowers are banned in residential areas through most of September, with exceptions for properties over two acres after Labor Day. Electric leaf blowers are permitted year-round, but no blowers of any kind may be used during restricted hours or on Sundays. Violations will result in fines starting at \$100, increasing to \$249 for repeat offenses.

Holly Hill Permits Now Available
The Town of Greenwich is now accepting applications for 2025–2026 Holly Hill permits. Current permits expire on June 30, and new permits are valid starting July 1. Apply online at <https://www.greenwichct.gov/191/Holly-Hill-Permit>

Greenwich Celebrates Public Works Week
From May 18 to 24, Greenwich recognized National Public Works Week by honoring the Department of Public Works for maintaining roads, water systems, buildings, and waste services. A proclamation was issued to acknowledge their contributions. Residents were encouraged to support the DPW food drive benefiting Neighbor.

Greenwich Alarm Renewals Begin Soon
Greenwich residents must renew their alarm registrations, with invoices mailed by the end of May. Payments are due starting July 1 and must be received by July 31 to avoid late fees under Section 2A-23 of the Alarm Ordinance. Payments can be made online, by mail to the Greenwich Police Department, or in person at 11 Bruce Place during business hours.

Greenwich Pride Celebration Kicks Off 6/1
On June 1 at IPM, Greenwich

Continued on Page 13

Green Thoughts
BY ANNE W. SEMMES
“The sun does not shine only for a few trees and flowers, but for the whole wide world’s joy.” Henry Ward Beecher, American Congregationalist clergyman, social reformer, and speaker (1813-1887), from “Life Thoughts Gathered from the Extemporaneous Discourses of Henry Ward Beecher,” by Edna Dean (1829-1923).

Just for GEMS Returns to Cobber



Left to right, Ann Hagmann (Chair, Just For GEMS, and GEMS boardmember), Tracy Schietinger (GEMS Executive Director), Caren St. Phillip (owner Cos Cobber). GEMS is the sole provider of emergency medical services to our town. To donate: www.greenwichems.org

By STAPLEY RUSSELL

This Wednesday marked the 15th year of “Just for GEMS,” the annual community fundraiser in support of Greenwich Emergency Medical Service (GEMS), held at Cos Cobber restaurant on East Putnam Avenue. From breakfast through dinner, diners packed the restaurant to support the town’s independent EMS provider, with a portion of the day’s proceeds generously donated by owner Caren St. Phillip.

GEMS Executive Director Tracy Schietinger, who greeted patrons throughout the day, emphasized the importance of

the event. “This fundraiser is critical to our ability to replace aging ambulances and keep our equipment up to date,” she said. “We rely on the community to help us meet the needs of a town as large and active as Greenwich.”

The benefit has become a tradition for GEMS supporters and all customers who enjoy the chance to give back. “I’ve never felt better about ordering a cheeseburger and fries,” said longtime Greenwich resident Icy Frantz. “Feels good to support the people who keep us alive.”

Mark Bryant, celebrating his 60th birthday, said, “Good friends, great food and a cause

that saves lives—I can’t think of a better way to turn 60!”

Organized by longtime supporter Ann Hagmann, the event has raised thousands of dollars over the years. “It’s a simple way for anyone to make a difference—just by coming in for a meal,” she said.

Cos Cobber will continue to host the benefit each spring, with the hope that more residents will dine out for a good cause.

GEMS, a not-for-profit organization, is the sole provider of emergency medical services to the Town of Greenwich. To donate: www.greenwichems.org

Housing Bill to Decimate Local Control Lands Unexpectedly at 92 Pages, Vote Called within 24 Hours

By ANNE WHITE

The housing bill that started as a sentence became a novel overnight.

With less than 24 hours’ notice, Connecticut lawmakers were handed a 92-page substitute amendment to House Bill 5002 late Wednesday night—transforming a one-paragraph placeholder bill into one of the most consequential housing reforms in recent state history. At press time, the vote was expected Thursday, May 22, in the House of Representatives.

The legislation, which started the session as a vague proposal to study homelessness, now contains sweeping mandates on local zoning, state oversight powers, and two key policy frameworks: Fair Share housing quotas and Transit-Oriented Development (Live, Work, Ride). And local leaders in Greenwich are making it clear—they’re not just concerned. They’re furious.

“This is a total assault on Connecticut’s towns in terms of zoning and a major challenge to the concept of Home Rule,” said State Representative Tina Courpas (R-Greenwich). “I will make every effort to kill it in the House.”

Courpas is also preparing a slate of amendments aimed at removing the bill’s most damaging provisions. “The supermajority has the votes to pass anything and everything—and maybe this bill,” she said. “But I’m focused on defending our town.”

The final bill, LCO 8974, was quietly uploaded after business hours on Wednesday. Until then, the working version of HB 5002 remained a single paragraph—giving the public no opportunity to testify on the sweeping policies it now includes.

Adding to the tension in Greenwich: Two sections of the final bill were originally authored by the town’s own Democratic State Representatives, Stephen Meskers and Hector Arzeno.

Section 1 mirrors HB 6946, introduced by Reps. Meskers and Arzeno, and requires local Housing Authorities to submit detailed compliance data to the state.

Section 2 adopts the language of HB 6534, also theirs, which strips the First Selectman of authority to appoint Housing

Authority members.

That contribution has not gone unnoticed.

“I think it’s an absolutely horrible bill that they put in,” said First Selectman Fred Camillo. Reps Meskers and Arzeno “are on record last year when they ran talking about how they would defend local control, and yet the worst bill in the history of the state is up for a vote and they are a part of it.”

For Camillo, the bill doesn’t just threaten home rule—it directly undermines the work of Greenwich Communities, the town’s housing authority.

“This particular bill adds more bureaucratic red tape and does nothing to protect local control of zoning,” he said. “And it’s a slap in the face to our Housing Authority, which has actually done a terrific job at producing more affordable housing and improving the ones we already have.”

Greenwich Communities has been recognized as one of the top-performing housing authorities in the state. Under the new bill, critics say, it would be reduced to a bureaucratic agency executing state mandates—stripped of its ability to plan based on Greenwich’s unique infrastructure and needs.

“This bill will make it just another bureaucratic red tape organization,” Camillo warned.

State Representative Meskers did not respond to a request for comment. State Representative Tina Courpas did not respond to a request for comment. State Representative Hector Arzeno texted the following as of press time: “Let’s see if passes the House!!!!” We will update the story as it unfolds.

What HB 5002 Would Do

The amended bill includes:

Section 10: Statewide “Fair Share” housing quotas assigned to each town.

Section 5(b)(11): Requires as-of-right approval of 2-9 unit “middle housing” on all commercial-zoned land.

Section 6: Eliminates town-set parking minimums, replacing them with developer-submitted “needs assessments.”

COLUMN

Appreciating Those Who Serve



By STEPHANIE DUNN ASHLEY



The 2025 Red & White Ball honored Exceptional Service Honoree: Lieutenant Colonel Matthew M. Barack, United States Army

Through times tough and easy, no matter what’s going on in the world, we should always find time to express our appreciation for those who serve in the military. Whether active duty, veteran or military family member, there are hundreds of thousands of people throughout the nation who have stepped up to serve the collective good. In my own family, we are proud to have many members who have served in the Army and Marines.

It makes me proud to be a part of continuing the legacy that Clara Barton started over 140 years ago on the battlefields of the Civil War. While she tended to the wounded, our focus at the American Red Cross has shifted over the years — our dedicated team is committed to providing a continuum of care, from the first day of enlistment to life

Before May comes to a close, take a moment to express your appreciation for somebody’s military service.

after service.

Sometimes, it can be as simple as offering thanks for somebody’s service while walking down the street. It could be building care packages to send to deployed service members, making cards to pass out on Veterans Day, or putting up flags next to the graves of military members. Other times, it can be more complex — like our Hero Care Network, which helps to connect service members, veterans and their families with free and confidential assistance any day, any time.

The Red Cross also maintains presence on hundreds of military installations and deployment sites across the country and around the world. This allows our staff and volunteers to provide direct, in-person support for things like teaching lifesaving skills, facilitating respite and wellness activities, and more. One of the most special ways our Red Cross team helps support military members is by relaying emergency communication messages to deployed service members so they can return home for important family milestones, like the birth of a child or death of a loved one.

This work relies on a team of dedicated volunteers, many of whom we had the pleasure of celebrating at a volunteer recognition event at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point earlier this month. Whether supporting patients at Keller Army Community Hospital, organizing lifesaving blood drives, supporting cadets or delivering pet therapy, these selfless individuals include many who themselves served in the military or grew up in a military family.

I look forward each year as well to our annual Red & White Ball: A Salute to Service and Valor, where we recognize a military member for their service to country and community.

So before May comes to a close, take a moment to express your appreciation for somebody’s military service. I am lucky to work with many veterans – whether our Community Disaster Program Manager for the Metro NY North Chapter, Nick Miraglia, or chapter board members Justin Green, Greenwich Police Chief Jim Heavey, and Colonel Sean Hipp, as well as countless others at the Red Cross and throughout Greenwich.

To all of you who have served, THANK YOU.

Stephanie Dunn Ashley is the CEO of the American Red Cross Metro New York North Chapter. Based in Greenwich, Conn., the chapter serves Westchester and Rockland counties, Greenwich, Conn., and the US Military Academy at West Point.

*“This bill adds more bureaucratic red tape... and is a slap in the face to our Housing Authority.”
— Fred Camillo*



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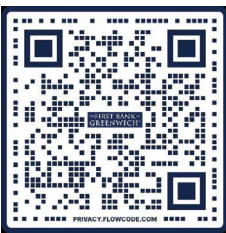
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Audubon Birdathon 2025: A Story of our State’s Wilderness As Told By Birds

RYAN MACLEAN

When you think “wilderness,” Connecticut doesn’t often come to mind. But our state has over 200,000 acres of open space filled with natural wonders. There’s no better ambassadors for these spaces than the birds that not only live here but also use our state as a stopping point twice a year. Migration is not only the most exciting time to go outside and find birds, but also a stark reminder that these birds face unprecedented perils in a changing world.

It is for these reasons that Audubon CT-NY spends one week each year encouraging people to go out and enjoy birds while fundraising for conservation. This celebration is known as Birdathon, where birders form teams to find as many birds as possible in twenty-four hours. While this “competitive birding” has taken

many forms, there is no more crucial time than now to use this as a conservation action tool. Over three billion birds have been lost in the past fifty years due to climate change, habitat loss and other human-made causes. One billion birds each year are killed by collisions with windows and other glass surfaces, especially during migration.

With the stakes higher than ever, Greenwich Audubon participated again this year by holding our Big Day on May 12th. I was joined by two individuals who have visited the Greenwich Audubon Center since a young age, Brian O’Toole & Brian Donovan. We met in parking lot to carpool in our most eco-friendly vehicle to embark on a journey through our state to tally as many bird species as possible, all while sharing updates on our social media pages to promote our fundraiser.

The nocturnal hours aren’t just for birds such as owls, but also secretive marsh birds known as Rails. At 1 a.m. our first bird species was a species of rail called a Sora, who cried from a cattail marsh with a rapid whistle. As we headed northward we were greeted by Barred Owls caterwauling through the woods until eventual daybreak.

By the first light of dawn we were just a mile south of the Massachusetts border, hearing a sound that once filled Greenwich’s woods. The sound was coming from a Ruffed Grouse! This bird defends its territory by rapidly beating its wings to press wind against its chest, creating a “drumming” sound as intense as a revving lawn mower. Fifty years ago this species was common in Greenwich, but with climate change not only warming our temperatures but changing the makeup of our habitats, this

species is just one example of many that have had to retreat north--now, in order to find this once common bird, you have to venture to the farthest reaches of our state.

The magic of daybreak’s dawn chorus of singing birds brought our list to nearly 60 species by 6 a.m.. The majority of songbirds migrate at night using the stars as their GPS, so by daybreak these birds are seeking the first suitable “hotel” to check into after what for many of them is a journey of thousands of miles from Central or South America. Colorful warblers were singing from the tops of trees as we ventured southward through Kent & Litchfield CT.

However, it’s not just forests that need to remain intact for birds. Audubon’s reports show a 43% population decline in species reliant on grasslands alone. This is why when we reached an open field it was

abuzz with species such as Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlark and American Kestrel. As these spaces have become more fragmented, so have the amount of these bird species.

By 10 a.m. we already had found 100 species and had not even reached the Long Island Sound coast. While the woodlands function as a hotel for migrant songbirds, the coastlines of Connecticut are a crowded airport terminal for shorebirds like sandpipers who seek any open expanse of beach to rest as they fly from Argentina to the Arctic. Along the shores of Stratford and east to Madison, these birds scurried the coastline. In salt marshes, species such as Seaside Sparrow sang from the grass. It is these marshes that are not only our most fragile ecosystem for birds, but also for us as they act like sponges to protect us from rising water levels.

By nightfall the magical

sound of Whip-Poor-Wills, another species long vanished from Greenwich, serenaded us and we ended with 161 species of birds. Each one served as a reminder of not only the beauty of our state but what we stand to lose if we don’t protect the places they need.

Our Birdathon fundraiser continues through May 16 and anyone interested in supporting these efforts can visit: <https://p2p.onecause.com/birdathon2025/team/greenwich-goshawks>

Ryan MacLean is the Bird Education Specialist at the Greenwich Audubon Center, and has a passion and knowledge of birds not easily rivaled. In addition to the Greenwich Audubon Center, he participates in many local birding clubs, organizations, and societies.



American Kestrel. Photo: Will Sooter / Audubon Photography Awards



Greenwich Audubon’s Ryan MacLean (center) with Brian Donovan (left) & Brian O’Toole (right) at Hammonasset Beach State Park during Audubon Birdathon 2025. Photo: Ryan MacLean



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Celebrating Greenwich Green & Clean and its Flower-filled Hanging Baskets

By ANNE W. SEMMES

Come the end of next week, Greenwich Avenue is destined to be once again bedecked with those elegant hanging baskets bursting with colorful Dragon Wing Begonias and hanging ivy. But as of last Sunday afternoon, the organization that brings us those hanging baskets - Greenwich Green & Clean (GG&C) was being celebrated with a necessary fundraiser bringing together 100-plus supporters at The

“So, Greenwich Green & Clean has been around for 40 years, and our mission was, and still is, to create a cleaner and more beautiful environment in which to live and work.”
John Blankley

Field Club of Greenwich.

They were greeted with elegant music played by an ensemble of six distinguished teenaged Greenwich musicians from local schools, and welcomed by GG&C Executive Director Kanako MacLennan, whose son Ewan, a senior at Greenwich High School was playing the cello (since age six), also Director Emerita Mary Hull, Board Chair John Blankley, and arriving Peter Malkin, Founding Chairman with wife Isabel.

Both Blankley and Malkin would share memorable GG&C history in their addresses.

Sam Bridge III arrived with the first two blooming begonia-filled baskets as other dignitaries mingled, including First Selectman Fred Camillo and Selectwomen Janet Stone McGuigan and Lauren Rabin. Guests strolled along a table crammed with auction items that included “Hand Painted Italian Ceramic Dishes Designed by Backcountry Mercantile,” and “3 Signed Yankee Baseballs - Bobby Richardson, Jeff Nelson, Ramiro Mendoza.”

“The funds raised today are crucial for the care, watering, and maintenance of the baskets, which bring seasonal beauty to our town as they hang from lampposts in central Greenwich and in Cos Cob,” kicked off Blankley. “So, Greenwich Green & Clean has been around for 40 years, and our mission was, and still is, to create a cleaner and more beautiful environment in which to live and work.”

He cited the “inspiration of GG&C founder Peter Malkin,’ the many years of service of now retired executive director Mary Hull, and the ongoing efforts of present director Kanako MacLennan. And he gave thanks to “key sponsors Isabel & Peter Malkin and Sleepy Cat Farm Foundation.”

Blankley noted the recent passing of GG&C director, John Conte, “a man totally committed to the nature of our town.” He then put the spotlight on the “young musicians” representing “Children Helping Children Performers” for their efforts in raising money for such organizations as the New York-Presbyterian Children’s Hospital, Abilis, and Project Music, an innovative youth music program based in Stamford.

Peter Malkin began with that near-famous story ever so briefly of how he and wife Isabel had discovered hanging baskets on a 1987 visit to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. “I should say Isabel noticed these beautiful hanging baskets...overflowing with flowers and ivy. And we said we have to have them in Greenwich.” And the magic happened, “with the great help from Sam Bridge [Nursery] and others... And let’s give a hand for Sam Bridge.”

“The wonderful thing about the hanging baskets,” Malkin continued,



L to R Bruce and Kanako MacLennan, Peter and Isabel Malkin, and Sam Bridge III. Photo by Elaine Ubina.



Local high school musician members of Children Helping Children Performers. Photo by Anne W. Semmes.



Greenwich Green & Clean Board Chair John Blankley addressing the attendees at The Field Club. Photo by Elaine Ubina.

“is that it’s a combination of effort by Sam Bridge making available the facility and Kanako and a wonderful group of Japanese ladies who have adopted Greenwich....These ladies have gotten together, and every year they go to Bridge Nursery and assemble these baskets, which are then hung by Sam and watered by Sam. They really make a difference in the town.”

Malkin followed with an intriguing tale. “Our older son had a roommate at Harvard named Norb Vonnegut, the nephew of Kurt Vonnegut, the author. And he wrote a book about Greenwich. [The Gods of Greenwich] All of his books, which are successful novels, have a murder. And so, he had a murder in Greenwich. He started the book by saying, ‘What an unusual town. Hanging baskets. Beautiful litter receptacles.’”

So, the text reads: “When the weather grows hot, baskets of pomegranate begonias hang from black lampposts that look like exclamation points for everything perfect...The street is squeaky clean and lined with hunter-green trash cans that contain one slot for recycling and one for everything else...It is the Town’s soul...”

And mark that those hunter-green trash cans come with compliments from the Malkins.

Malkin gave thanks to John Blankley for chairing Greenwich Green & Clean,

adding his praise for the late John Conte, “a wonderful person who had just started as the head of the Greenwich Tree Conservancy. And he had already made a number of wonderful enhancements to that organization. So, in any event, you’re all here doing well by doing good. And thank you very much for being here.”

Finally, Sam Bridge III gave his history of the flowers in those hanging baskets. “The first year we did the baskets for the town, we used a combination of petunias and potato vine, which is really pretty. But the potato vine just took over and dried them right out...But then Peter and Mrs. Malkin showed me the pictures of the baskets they saw in Cooperstown,” filled with those Dragon Wing Begonias. “What we really like about it is it does well in the sun or shade...they’re relatively easy for the people that water to take care of, because they tolerate getting dried out. They bounce right back.”

“So, we really enjoy doing it for the town,” said Bridge, “The guys look forward to it when they go to hang them. They load the trucks up the night before, and they’re out at 5:30 in the morning, driving down the Avenue, hanging all the baskets out. So, I’d say, we just enjoy doing things for the town.” Bridge did admit he “hardly ever gets down to Greenwich Avenue,” but he hears, “it looks real nice there. Thank you very much.”

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The Power of Possibility: How High School Paves the Way for College Success

MICHAEL F. BABER



As the final school bell rings and seniors don their caps and gowns, students across the country stand at the threshold of a new beginning. With college acceptance letters in hand, they are ready to launch—eager to explore new cities, tackle fresh challenges, and pursue dreams that began to take shape during high school. High school, at its finest, is not a stepping stone to college—it is an experience that has the power to change

one’s life, building confidence, expanding horizons, and generating a sense of purpose and direction.

At Sacred Heart Greenwich, that process is intentional and individualized. Keeping in mind its mission to educate the whole child—intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, and physically—the school is a place where girls are taught to think deeply, lead boldly, and grow authentically. Learning shouldn’t be a checklist of requirements but an exploration of becoming who you are and what you can be in a dynamic world. Students must be challenged to explore widely and dive into areas of interest, starting a social impact project, doing independent research, performing in the arts, or competing at the highest levels of athletics.

That’s why we believe that while the heart of college counseling begins in earnest as a junior, freshmen, and sophomores can benefit from broader, softer conversations that fuel the fires of curiosity, character, and purpose within each young learner. Early exposure doesn’t mean pressure; it means helping students begin to understand themselves as learners and as people, so that decisions made later come from a place of clarity.

In the first year of high school, students benefit from understanding how their academic and extracurricular choices can

High school, at its finest, is not a stepping stone to college—it is an experience that has the power to change one’s life, building confidence, expanding horizons, and generating a sense of purpose and direction.

shape future opportunities. Conversations might begin with basic tools such as creating a College Board account and making important connections to their community as they build their high school experience. By the sophomore year, students should be building on these foundations: extending beyond the classroom, seeking leadership positions, and finding disciplines or issues in which they want to delve deeper.

Junior year is when students are ready to take ownership of their path, whether writing their first personal statement, discovering schools of academic alignment, or determining mentors who can address their growth. It’s not about being ready to apply—it’s being ready to make a thoughtful, informed decision that is aligned with what they value and seek to study. By senior year, it’s all about putting things into practice, but also about reflection.

As graduation season begins nationwide, it is important to remember that the success of the Class of 2025 is not measured by a matriculation list but by the fortitude of the foundational learning that propelled each applicant’s process.

When students are truly known, challenged, and well supported, they don’t just attend college—they thrive there. And when that happens, the future isn’t just promising. It’s limitless.

Michael F. Baber, President of Sacred Heart Greenwich has more than two decades of Sacred Heart education. A distinguished educator, he has been recognized with prestigious honors including the Edward E. Ford Fellowship in 2005. Mr. Baber has a B.A. in Philosophy from St. Charles Seminary and a Master’s degree from Sacred Heart University.

Neighbor to Neighbor Celebrates 50 Years of Service to Greenwich

MICHAEL F. BABER

Neighbor to Neighbor (NTN) honored 50 years of service to the Greenwich community on Thursday, April 24th at the Hyatt Regency Greenwich.

Over 240 guests gathered to honor this significant milestone. The event brought together staff, sponsors, and longtime supporters to honor five decades of impactful work in providing food, clothing, and essentials to those in need.

A video montage featuring Connecticut Elected Officials was shared during the opening event. The tribute included warm congratulations from State senators, representatives, and other public leaders who acknowledged the critical role NTN has played in addressing food insecurity. The elected officials featured in the montage included Representatives Ryan Fazio, Tina Courpas, Stephen Meskers, Hector Arzeno, Treasurer Eric Russell, Congressman Jim Himes, Senator Blumenthal and Senator Chris Murphy.

Karen Royce, Board President, presented the Good Neighbor Award to Jen Donnalley, Greenwich Country Day School Director of Center for Public Good. Jen Donnalley is best known for coordinating opportunities

for her students to learn the importance of supporting their communities through hands-on projects.

A heartwarming video montage featuring testimonials from NTN clients was also featured later in the evening. Clients spoke both in English and Spanish to share their personal stories with the organization, and how it has impacted their lives. Their words served as a poignant reminder of NTN’s mission and the real lives transformed through the compassion and generosity of the community.

The event was highlighted by a keynote address from world-renowned Chef Marcus Samuelsson, who captivated attendees by sharing his life story and philanthropic work. Samuelsson spoke about how his personal journey shaped his commitment to giving back and how those values align with Neighbor to Neighbor’s mission of supporting local families.

The evening’s energy and spirit were elevated by Bonnie Levison, who served as the EMCEE for the night. Her dynamic live auction performance sparked lively bidding and generous giving, while her thoughtful and entertaining Q&A with Marcus Samuelsson provided guests with deeper

Neighbor to Neighbor (NTN) honored 50 years of service to the Greenwich community on Thursday, April 24th at the Hyatt Regency Greenwich.



K. Brent Hill, Marcus Samuelsson, Angelique Dawson, and Bonnie Levison

insights into his journey and values.

“We were deeply honored and incredibly grateful to see so many members of the community come together to honor this milestone. Our 50th Anniversary event served as a powerful reminder of the compassion and generosity that fuels our mission. The overwhelming support we received reaffirms our commitment to serving our neighbors with dignity and care,”

said K. Brent Hill, Executive Director.

Devi Bridgemohan is the Marketing & PR Coordinator of Neighbor to Neighbor. She graduated from Sacred Heart University with a Bachelor’s in Communications in 2020. She originally volunteered at Neighbor to Neighbor as a junior in high school and is now in charge of managing its website, social media, and public outreach.

GHS Interact Club Delivers meals for Kids in Crisis with Help from Domenic’s Pizza



Community spirit was on full display as students from the Greenwich High School Interact Club, Rotary International’s service club for young leaders, teamed up with a local small business to deliver comfort and care to children in need.

Faced with tight schedules and determined to uphold their monthly commitment to Kids in Crisis, Interact Club members turned to Domenic’s Pizza, a new eatery in Byram, for help with meal preparation. What they received was more than just pizza, it was a powerful act of generosity.

Domenic Pisano Jr., owner of Domenic’s Pizza, donated over \$350 worth of fresh food, including an array of pizzas, salads, garlic knots, and sweet Zeppos, to feed both children and staff at the Kids in Crisis shelter.

“This was such a beautiful gesture,” said Janette Souliere, a member of the Greenwich Rotary Club and mother of Interact Club President Madeleine “Maddie” Souliere. “Domenic didn’t hesitate. He saw an opportunity to give back, and he did it wholeheartedly.”

Although many students couldn’t attend the delivery due

to academic and work obligations, Maddie led the effort with quiet determination on behalf of her Leadership Team, ensuring the Interact Club’s commitment was honored, with the support and encouragement of Angela Hyland, the Interact club’s advisor and International Service Chair for the Greenwich Rotary Club, who plays an instrumental role in mentoring the student-led team.

Paul Ludwig, a dedicated teacher at Greenwich High School, also serves as the Interact Club’s school advisor. His guidance and encouragement have been key to integrating the club’s service mission with the school’s academic environment.

“This is what Rotary is all about,” said Angela Hyland, International Service Chair of the Greenwich Rotary Club.

“We’re not just empowering young leaders locally, we’re inspiring a generation to create change across communities, across borders, and across the world.”

The delivery is part of a larger monthly initiative by the Greenwich Rotary Club to support Kids in Crisis, with Interact Club members now playing a leading

“This is what Rotary is all about,” said Angela Hyland, International Service Chair of the Greenwich Rotary Club.

“We’re not just empowering young leaders locally, we’re inspiring a generation to create change across communities, across borders, and across the world.”

role.

The Interact Club at Greenwich High School is the latest chapter in the Rotary Club’s mission to inspire youth leadership and civic responsibility. It was launched last fall after Greenwich Rotary President Agathe Likoba released a video campaign inviting high school students to create lasting change through local and international service.

Inspired by the message, Maddie Souliere, with the support of her friend and co-founder Maria Luisa (Lulu) Manion, established the Interact Club with a vision to transform student enthusiasm into action. It would not have been possible without the support and guidance of Mrs. Karen Foster, Director of Student Activities at Greenwich High School.

Boost Program Nears Spring Goal, Needs Final \$5,000 in Donations to Support Talented Teens

The Boost Program, a Greenwich-based nonprofit with a reputation for quietly propelling high-achieving students past financial roadblocks, is nearing the finish line of its spring fundraising campaign.

But not quite.

As of this week, the organization is \$5,000 short of meeting its end-of-spring goal—funding that directly supports its mission to identify and develop exceptionally talented but income-constrained teens through a merit-based, high-impact support model.

Founded in Greenwich and operating as a 501(c)(3), The Boost Program doesn’t rely on sweeping public appeals or glossy campaigns. It moves with purpose—and under the radar—but is now making a direct call for local support: donate now, and help top-tier talent thrive.

“This is the final push,” a Boost Program spokesperson said. “We’re just \$5,000 short—and every donation today helps extraordinary students achieve what once felt unreachable.”

Unlike many aid organizations that focus solely on academic metrics or economic hardship, Boost takes a hybrid approach—targeting teens who demonstrate remarkable ability, drive, and potential, but lack the financial runway to pursue elite opportunities in education, the arts, or science and technology.

It’s not a blanket scholarship fund. It’s personalized intervention—strategic support tailored to each student’s strengths and goals. That can mean summer programs, college counseling, access to labs or private music instruction, or transportation to opportunities that would otherwise remain out of reach.

What sets Boost apart is its laser focus on what it calls the “missing middle”—students who fall through the cracks of traditional need- or merit-based aid systems. These teens are often caught in a paradox: talented enough to compete at the highest levels, yet hampered by real-world constraints invisible on a transcript.

Boost’s founders, many with roots in Greenwich’s public and private schools, say the program is designed not only to uplift individuals but also to redefine access—shaping a more equitable pipeline to excellence without compromising rigor or expectations.

The appeal is urgent, but not panicked. The tone, as always with Boost, is matter-of-fact: help us cross this line, and you become part of something tangible.

Tax-deductible donations can be made directly through the organization’s website: www.theboostprogram.org. The campaign runs through the end of this month.

RPA’s Approach to Housing



Peter Harrison, Regional Planning Association's director of Connecticut programs, explains the need for less local control and more integrated planning in housing, transportation, and clean energy across the Megaregion spanning Washington, DC to Boston.

By MIKE TEBAY

On May 14, Peter Berg introduced Peter Harrison, the Connecticut Director of the Regional Plan Association, who spoke about the future of housing, transportation, and clean energy in Connecticut and how Connecticut fits into the “Megaregion.” Pete became RPA’s director of Connecticut programs in 2024. Prior to that he was director of its Desegregate CT program, leading a statewide program to enact equitable and sustainable land use policies in Connecticut. Prior to joining Desegregate CT, Pete was as a research scholar at Columbia University and the senior national housing advisor for the progressive think tank, Data for Progress, focused on federal housing and land use policy. Pete has extensive political campaign experience, advising the presidential campaigns of Vice President Kamala Harris, Senators Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren, and former HUD Secretary Julian Castro. Pete grew up in Avon, CT and holds a BA in history from the College of the Holy Cross and an MUP from Columbia University. He also teaches at the City University of New York.

Mr. Harrison began by explaining that the RPA is a century-old, nonpartisan civic organization, focused on long-term planning for critical regional issues like transportation, housing, energy, and governance, across New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. They produce comprehensive regional plans about once a generation, with the fourth published in 2017, aiming for equitable and sustainable growth. The RPA acknowledges that some past advocacy, such as post-war urban renewal and highway construction, resulted in negative outcomes, and the organization now prioritizes empirically driven research and advocacy.

A key concept discussed was the “Mega Region,” extending from Washington, D.C., to Boston, encompassing about 50 million people. Thinking of Connecticut as part of this larger region highlights opportunities for integrated infrastructure planning, despite challenges in coordinating across

state lines. These large-scale issues affect local communities, impacting commuting and affordability.

In Connecticut, a major focus for RPA is the housing shortage. Mr. Harrison previously directed Desegregate Connecticut, advocating for land-use reform to increase housing opportunities. Other areas include improving rail lines like Metro-North and Amtrak, bus systems, and developing an agenda around the clean energy transition.

Mr. Harrison was at pains to stress that, despite his own personal progressive background, the RPA works at a bipartisan level in all three states, and increasingly at the national level. He also noted the growing “abundance” movement, which recognizes that we have atrophied at federal, state, and local levels in terms of building infrastructure projects. This is reflected in an emerging bipartisan group, the “Build America” caucus, just launched in Washington, DC. Mr. Harrison detailed several RPA initiatives:

Gateway Project: RPA champions this multi-agency plan to build new tunnels under the Hudson River to increase rail capacity for NJ Transit, Amtrak, and eventually Metro-North trains into Penn Station. RPA research highlights billions in potential economic benefits.

Congestion Pricing in NYC: RPA has advocated for this policy for decades. Early data shows it is reducing peak traffic by 10-15% and generating about \$115 million revenue for MTA upgrades and the bus system.

Housing Gap: RPA research with McKinsey consultants identified a shortage of hundreds of thousands of homes in the metropolitan region based on expected population growth over the next several decades and the effects of climate change on vulnerable existing homes.

Flooding Risks: RPA research highlights risks to coastal housing stock, stressing the need for collaboration between local, state, and federal governments.

Mr. Harrison concluded with optimism about Connecticut’s potential to be a sustainable, equitable, and prosperous

place. He highlighted the state’s history of walkable communities around early train stations built for industry as a model for future growth. He stressed that the challenges of housing shortages and climate crisis are interconnected and require comprehensive regional solutions, not siloed approaches. He urged collaboration and good faith, acknowledging that change is inevitable and encouraging audience participation in shaping the future.

Responding to audience questions:

Work Live Ride Program: Mr. Harrison explained that this is a state program for towns that want to pursue transit-oriented development (TOD). It emerged after an earlier, mandatory proposal modeled on Massachusetts faced backlash. By contrast, Work Live Ride is optional, giving towns the flexibility to choose TOD and thereby gain access to limited state resources and coordination planning assistance, without mandated specific densities or strict half-mile radii near transit hubs. He acknowledged the difficulty communicating density and zoning changes and overcoming fear associated with terms like “density” and “desegregate.”

Congestion on Route 95: He acknowledged it is one of the most congested highways nationally, with environmental and economic costs. The fundamental solution isn’t just highway efficiency but reducing the number of cars, by improving public transportation, walkability, reducing local highway usage, and moving freight from trucks onto ferries and drones? He anticipated congestion pricing on interstates might resurface as a topic due to its effectiveness.

Energy: RPA is working on a big report about the electric grid. He noted RPA supports an “all-the-above” approach for the clean energy transition, but doesn’t have a specific report on small nuclear reactors yet.

State of Penn Station: Calling the tearing down of the original station a “crime,” Mr. Harrison noted RPA’s decades-long involvement in rethinking Penn Station. The current primary focus is the Gateway Project, which is underway and has secured funding for new tunnels to increase capacity. While challenges remain regarding terminal space and political complexities (MSG, potential Trump involvement), he expressed optimism about future improvements, particularly with Metro-North’s planned integration into Penn Station.

The talk can be viewed by going to the RMA website at <https://greenwichrma.org>, and clicking on “Speakers.”

The RMA’s upcoming presentation, “A Conversation with Maestro Malina” by the Stuart Malina, is scheduled for 11 AM on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. RMA presentations are held at Christ Church Greenwich, Parish Hall, 254 E. Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830.

Since Stuart Malina became the Music Director of the Greenwich Symphony in the Fall of 2022, he has brought his own style of conducting, rehearsing, programming, and community outreach to the 67-year-old organization. During his tenure, concert attendance has increased by over 50%, and the growth continues. Malina carefully selects the works presented at each concert, always aiming to offer an appealing mixture of beloved favorites, worthy but less-known classics, and important works of contemporary composers. He is known for his insightful comments about the concert programs in pre-concert videos on social media and in brief remarks from the podium ahead of each performance, building anticipation in the audience.

During this interview-style presentation, Stuart Malina will address questions about unique experiences in his career as a conductor; current trends in composition, programming, and performance; what he looks for in selecting soloists for collaborations; and what distinguishes “classical” music from popular music. In addition, Malina will speak about the upcoming GSO performances of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony and Leshnoff’s String Quartet No. 3 (arranged for string orchestra), on May 31 and June 1.

Stuart Malina majored in music at Harvard College, received a master’s degree in music from Yale University and a diplomate in conducting from the Curtis Institute of Music. He has conducted numerous orchestras in the United States and abroad, including in Russia, Hong Kong and China. He is currently the music director of the Harrisburg (PA) Symphony Orchestra and the music director of the Lake Placid (NY) Sinfonietta, as well as the Greenwich Symphony.

To stream the presentation by Stuart Malina at 11 AM on Wednesday, May 28, 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.

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 info@greenwichrma.org.

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BY DEBRA McLAUGHLIN

Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich recently hosted a jubilant luncheon to celebrate the heart and soul of its mission: the volunteers who tirelessly keep the wheels turning. Attended by First Selectman Fred Camillo, the event was highlighted by a heartfelt proclamation declaring the day as Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich Day, honoring the unwavering dedication of those who serve the community.

Since its inception in 1960, Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich

has been a beacon of compassion, delivering not just meals but also smiles, companionship, and a sense of community to those in need. With over 75 volunteer drivers covering 11 routes throughout Greenwich, these volunteers dedicate one to two hours each week to ensure that homebound individuals receive nourishing meals and a friendly face. In 2024 alone, they delivered over 22,000 meals, providing essential nutrition and reducing isolation for many recipients. This month they delivered 4,086 meals!

But the impact of these volunteers extends beyond meal

Volunteers deliver hope, dignity, and a reminder that no one is truly alone.

delivery. They are often the only human contact for many clients, offering a sense of security and connection. Their efforts help recipients maintain their health and independence, reducing hospital visits and long-term care facility admissions. Additionally, volunteers assist in delivering fresh bread and fruit, further enhancing the well-being of clients.

The luncheon served as a heartfelt tribute to these devoted

individuals, emphasizing the vital role they play in the community. Their selfless commitment ensures that Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich continues to provide more than just a meal - it delivers hope, dignity, and a reminder that no one is truly alone.

Want to get involved with Meals on Wheels in Greenwich? Reach out to us at mealsonwheelsgreenwich@outlook.com.

Friends of Witherell Through Olivia’s Lens

BY DEBRA McLAUGHLIN

Olivia Morris, a sophomore at Sacred Heart Greenwich, is doing something seriously cool with her free time - and making a real difference while she’s at it. She recently volunteered with Friends of Nathaniel Witherell, a nonprofit that supports a local nursing home in Greenwich, The Nathaniel Witherell. And created five awesome podcasts to help share the stories of the people who live and work there.

With her bubbly personality and kind heart, Olivia jumped right in, filming and editing each episode herself. The podcasts feature conversations with staff and volunteers, giving everyone a peek into the community and all the special moments that happen there every day. Her goal? To help Friends of Nathaniel Witherell raise awareness, inspire more people to volunteer, and bring in support to keep their programs at The Nathaniel Witherell going strong.

Friends of Nathaniel Witherell is all about making life better for the residents of the nursing home. They run fun activities like art classes,



Olivia Morris

You don’t have to wait to be an adult to make a real impact.

music, and holiday events—and they rely on volunteers like Olivia to help make it all happen. Whether you’re into filming, chatting with seniors, playing games, or just being a friendly face, there’s something for everyone.

Olivia’s story shows that you don’t have to wait to

be an adult to make a real impact. She’s proof that one good idea and a little time can go a long way. So if you’re looking for a fun, meaningful way to give back, maybe it’s time to check out what Friends of Nathaniel Witherell is doing and see how you can help, too.

If you’re a high school student looking to make a difference, consider joining the Friends of Nathaniel Witherell’s volunteer program. For more information, contact Mary Tate, Director of Resident and Volunteer Services, at mary.tate@witherell.org or 203-628-4228. We’d love to have you! For the latest updates, stories, and ways to support, follow Friends of Nathaniel Witherell on Instagram @friendsofnathanielwitherell and Facebook at @FriendsOfNW.



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Which Way Shall Greenwich Avenue Go?

The question before us is not merely what becomes of a building, but what becomes of Greenwich. The Havemeyer Building, erected in the 19th century and long home to community educational puposes, sits as a physical and symbolic cornerstone of Greenwich Avenue. Its impending transformation now invites a broader civic inquiry: Which way shall Greenwich Avenue go?

A volunteer committee, convened to evaluate proposals for the redevelopment of the property, has rendered its recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. Of the six submissions reviewed, the committee has endorsed a public-private partnership for a 71-room boutique hotel, complete with a rooftop bar and restaurant. Slightly more modest in scale than the nearby Delamar Hotel, this project is notably bereft of adequate parking. Worse still, it would eliminate existing public parking spaces in and around the Havemeyer site.

The centerpiece of Greenwich must not become a monument to impermanence and exclusion—but a space animated by permanence and community.”

While the aesthetic and commercial appeal of such a venture may seduce the eye and wallet, we are obliged to ask: for whom, precisely, is this project being built?

Hotels, by their nature, cater to transience. They serve the traveler, not the neighbor; the passerby, not the participant in town life. They are often islands of comfort for the guest, yet arid plains for the community that surrounds them. This proposed hotel—glamorous perhaps, but exclusive in both price and purpose—offers no meaningful public space and would indeed eliminate existing access to public parking. Its benefits, such as they are, would accrue narrowly.

Will guests of such a hotel stroll down the avenue to Diane’s Books, Grigg Street Pizza, or Michelangelo’s? Or will their custom be drawn instead to national retailers—Apple, Saks Fifth Avenue—whose glowing storefronts mask the dwindling presence of local merchants? These chain establishments, while polished and prosperous, are not woven into the civic fabric of Greenwich. They do not sponsor our nonprofits, support our youth leagues, or grace our local boards. Their loyalty is not to place, but to margin.

The quiet attrition of local enterprise—driven in part by escalating commercial rents and diminished foot traffic—has already frayed the unique character of Greenwich Avenue. That Greenwich Avenue is changing is unquestionable. Traffic is often at a standstill, double parking occurs on every block throughout the day, pedestrian crossings are confusing, local stores are hard to find, parking is impossible to find; Greenwich Avenue is becoming a street that many avoid unless there is an absolute necessity. Now think about adding a hotel to the mix and fewer parking spaces. A traffic study is definitely needed. As is an infrastructure study.

Yet this is not yet a fait accompli. The full proposals are available for public review on the town’s website. A public information session is scheduled for Monday, June 9th. That meeting is more than a procedural step—it is a moment of democratic participation.

We have written before that the Greenwich Sentinel envisions something more expansive and enduring; interesting and forward-thinking for Havemeyer: a versatile black-box theater and performing arts space and more. Such facilities are enjoying a quiet renaissance. The New Canaan Playhouse, reborn just a year ago, has swiftly become a locus of town life. The United Theatre in Westerly, Rhode Island—revived by Greenwich’s own Chuck Royce—stands as another testament to how theater can anchor a community.

This vision is not fanciful. It is feasible. And, most important, it is faithful to the spirit of the original bequest that gave the Havemeyer property to the public. That gift, made with a stated purpose, demands careful legal and financial scrutiny before any redevelopment proceeds. Any future use must comport with the intent of the donor and be evaluated by an independent consultant to ensure both transparency and viability.

To those inclined to shrug and say the die is cast, we reply: not yet. The path Greenwich takes is still ours to choose. If you believe a hotel will elevate the avenue, by all means, make your case. But if you dream of something richer—something that invites rather than excludes, that elevates rather than encloses—then raise your voice. Loudly.

Editorial Page



COLUMN

Far-fetched



By JUSTIN CRISP

I stumbled on a great little New Yorker cartoon the other day. It features the front stoop of a big stone church, big open front doors flanked by stained glass windows, a crowd of people streaming out onto the street below after service. A woman and a man are standing at the door exchanging pleasantries with a bespectacled minister. The man shakes the minister’s hand, and says, “Good sermon, Reverend, but all that God stuff was pretty far-fetched.”

I suspect many of us have wanted to say the same thing on our way out of church. The Easter season is, perhaps, the most metaphysically high-octane period in the church calendar. It’s a time of resurrections, resuscitations, apparitions, and ascensions. It can all sound a little far-fetched to us, even to those of us who, like 50% of Americans today, have had a “spiritual experience.”

Doubt is a part of the religious equation, but we don’t talk very much about how to handle doubt in a spiritual way. We’re tempted to make the matter black-and-white—believe or don’t believe, faith or doubt—but I don’t think that’s the way it really works.

Modern people think we’re pretty special when it comes to doubt. Some might even say that we modern people invented doubt. Historians like Charles Taylor have taught us that there is something unique about the modern moment. People before the 15th and 16th centuries believed in God, gods, the transcendent, the mysterious, in much the same way we believe in gravity. Belief in the transcendent was a part of the common sense in a way it no longer is for modern

people. But I don’t think that means premodern people didn’t doubt. Belief in a higher power or powers might have been their starting point, but which higher power, what sort of higher power, does this higher power have anything to do with us—all that was still up for grabs.

It’s easy for us to think the first-century people who met Jesus, who walked and talked with him, had an advantage, relative to us, when it came to believing in Him. It’s easy for us to think that, if only we could have seen Jesus, and touched Jesus, belief would come as easily to us as it did to them. But that’s the trouble. Belief in Jesus didn’t come easily to them. Any of them. The disciples are totally bewildered by Jesus when He’s walking around in the flesh. They constantly get His identity wrong. They get confused about what He’s up to. Jesus constantly has to correct them.

In the Gospel of John, when Mary Magdalene finds the tomb empty, her first thought isn’t that Jesus is alive—even though Jesus had told them over and over He would be. Her first thought is that someone had stolen his body. When she realizes Jesus is alive, Mary goes to the disciples, who are in hiding, and they don’t believe her. So Jesus subsequently appears to the disciples in-person. He catches all of them except Thomas, who’s out running an errand. And—surprise, surprise—when Thomas gets back, and his friends tell him Jesus is alive, Thomas doesn’t believe them. First-century people heard about the resurrection and said, “All that God stuff sounds pretty far-fetched.”

I don’t think for a moment that Thomas didn’t want to believe his Lord was alive. I just think the whole business sounded too good to be true. None of us, first-century or twenty-first century, are exempt from the bewilderment of the empty tomb.

I’ve always been fascinated by the fact that, in the Gospel of

Write a clever caption for the man with the tennis racket.

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The difference between a Christian and an agnostic is just that the Christian tells God when they don’t believe in Him, and banks on the truth they’ve heard proclaimed that God will work for their good regardless of whether they doubt His ability to do so or not.

John, when Jesus meets Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb, and she confuses Him for the gardener, but recognizes Him when He says her name aloud, she leaps at Jesus. She runs to him, and tries to embrace him, but doesn’t, because Jesus says, “Do not hold on to me” (John 20:17). In the words of the Latin translation, immortalized in so much Christian art, Noli me tangere—“Do not touch me.” But then, there is Thomas, and Thomas gets to touch Jesus, not Mary. Even when Thomas doubted! It seems so odd, perhaps even unfair, until you realize that the same love which causes Mary instinctively to embrace Jesus caused Thomas to doubt Jesus’ continued existence. Thomas is heartbroken when Jesus died, and he dared not to get his hopes up without sterner stuff than ghost stories. And Thomas’ relationship with Jesus gets stronger not weaker because he dares to bring his doubt into it. And therein lies the lesson for all of us, first-century or twenty-first, who dare to believe.

Believing in God does not mean you’re 89% sure of His existence so you round the rest up. Believing in God means you’ve decided to live your life in conversation with Him. The

difference between a Christian and an agnostic is just that the Christian tells God when they don’t believe in Him, and banks on the truth they’ve heard proclaimed that God will work for their good regardless of whether they doubt His ability to do so or not. No matter if you believe Jesus’ story, or you want to believe Jesus’ story, or you used to believe Jesus’ story, all the God of Jesus expects of you is to be honest with Him about how the words of the disciples strike you: “We have seen the Lord” (John 20:25)—whether comfort, confusion, or consternation.

Jesus could very well just have left Thomas behind. Thomas was out and about when Jesus appeared to the disciples. Perhaps he’d just missed his shot to see Jesus again. But that’s not the story. Jesus didn’t leave Thomas behind. And He won’t leave you behind either.

The Reverend Dr. Justin E. Crisp is a husband, dad, music lover, and priest. He is Rector of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church and lives with his wife, Jewelle, their pug, Val, and their daughter, Beatrice, on the St. Barnabas hilltop in backcountry. He also teaches Anglican history and theology at Berkeley Divinity School at Yale.



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COLUMN

Our commitment to Public Schools - Strong Since 2006



By JULIE FARYNIARZ

Recently, someone asked why it was important in 2006 to start an education foundation in Greenwich, Connecticut - a town with a thriving community and excellent public schools. While many students held impressive academic records, there were many in our socioeconomically diverse school system who did not have access to programs and services they needed to be successful. Greenwich Alliance for Education (Alliance) started with a group of town parents and leaders who were concerned about the persistent achievement gap in the Greenwich Public Schools. This group approached Dr. Larry

Leverett, (superintendent from 2003-2006), who suggested and fully supported forming a local education foundation because he saw this working in other municipalities. The goal was to establish an education foundation that would make it possible for community resources to fund opportunities for all students to build promising futures.

Over the past 18 years, the Alliance has spent \$5.1MM on a variety of programs with 90% of those funds reaching under-resourced students. We supported the implementation of AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), an evidence-based college readiness system at Greenwich High School. Thanks to AVID, nearly 400 first-generation students have been able to pursue their dream of going to college. The program has since expanded to Western Middle School, now a designated AVID Schoolwide Site.

The goal was to establish an education foundation that would make it possible for community resources to fund opportunities for all students to build promising futures.

We are especially proud that our scholarship awards for AVID students in college recently reached \$1,000,000! Recipients tell us these scholarships are transformative—reducing financial stress, allowing them to cut back on work hours, and giving them the freedom to fully engage in academics and extracurriculars.

Our Reaching Out Grants program has given educators a chance to think big—bringing fresh, creative, and critical ideas into classrooms across the district. To date, \$2 million and seventy eight grants have been awarded. Standouts include ten years of Innovation Lab at Greenwich High School, media

center makerspaces, Unbound Innovations VR at Western Middle School, comprehensive theater arts programs and visual arts with The Developing Artist workshops, Dare 2 Care mindfulness activities throughout the district and sensory spaces, AVID, eSports and many more. Two summer camps have evolved from our grants - The Developing Artist and Unbound Innovations STEM Camp and are registering campers now. We are currently evaluating grant proposals for the 2025-2026 school year.

Tuning In To Music has provided over \$1 million in private music lessons to students in grades 4-12 who qualify for free or reduced lunch. Our lessons,

taught by the CT School of Music, equip the students with the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to succeed and access the vast array of music ensembles offered in the middle and high school. It is our understanding that Tuning In To Music is one of only a few programs in the state that focuses on under-resourced students in the music education space. Thanks to all of the talented GPS music teachers who work with us on this program.

We have recently embarked on writing a three year strategic plan with consultation from The Strategy Group. The information collected in the environmental scan from GPS leaders and educators,

community organizations, PTA's, AVID alumni and others is helping us define and guide our decisions and future priorities. More than ever we need public support for our public schools. Our commitment to bringing community resources to the Greenwich Alliance for Education - the local education foundation - to address the opportunity gap for students and support our educators in the Greenwich Public Schools is as strong as it was in 2006!

Julie Faryniarz is the Executive Director of the Greenwich Alliance for Education; She has 3 children who graduated from Greenwich Public School; Julie is a PTAC Essence Award recipient and a YWCA Women Who Inspires

COLUMN

Confusion “Rains”



CADBURY FITZPATRICK

I love being outside this time of year, mused Cadbury in blissfully contented canine inner dialogue, when the weather is warmer, the days are longer, and all of the trees and other plants begin to burst their buds and show the forms and colors of their true nature. I don't even mind the rain that much because, as Logan once explained to me, it is the rain that makes the flowers grow.

“Cadbury?” Cadbury’s

reverie was broken by Bear’s rambunctious, though not entirely unwelcome, approach. “Yes, Bear, what can I do for you?” Cadbury replied, slowly opening his eyes to gaze fondly at the slightly smaller, significantly younger, mostly-black version of himself.

“Cadbury, I’m confused by something I heard one of our humans say today. The eldest female told the eldest male that she was going to a ‘baby shower.’ I know that babies are the really small humans that seem to appear when humans organize themselves into pairs, and I’ve heard you call the rain coming down from the sky a ‘shower,’ so is that how human babies show up? Do they come down from the sky like the rain?”

Cadbury laughed a laugh

like he hadn’t laughed in a very long time. “I’m sorry, Bear, I didn’t mean to be rude by laughing like that. And I’m certainly not laughing at you. It’s just that there are so many different questions imbedded in the one you just asked, that I’m not quite sure where to begin in responding to you!”

“Let’s save part of the answer for another day, and we can discuss how humans often use one word to mean many different things. I’ve found that challenging and confusing myself.”

“The word ‘shower’ is a good example. You are absolutely correct that it can apply to the rain, but note that it actually can be used in two ways: as the description of a thing – a ‘rain shower’ – or an action – ‘the rain is showering.’ It also can

refer to one of the ways humans clean themselves by standing in a small, enclosed room and letting water pour down upon them like the rain – the room and the device that delivers the water are each called a ‘shower,’ and the action of being washed by the water is called ‘showering.’”

“Now, to make things even more complicated (the humans are responsible for that, not me), the word ‘shower’ can also mean a large amount or outpouring of something occurring or being given all at once. You may remember that our humans held a party a while ago to celebrate the upcoming pairing of the male offspring of our human family with the female offspring of another family, at which the couple were given many gifts. The humans

call that a ‘wedding shower’ because it happened before the human pairing ceremony which they call a ‘wedding.’ Sometime after that ceremony, it is not unusual for the paired couple to get prepared to welcome their own small human, which as you correctly noted earlier they call a ‘baby.’ The impending arrival of a baby can be the cause of great joy among the humans; when they hold a party in celebration, and give gifts to the couple, that is what is called a ‘baby shower.’ Does that help you understand?”

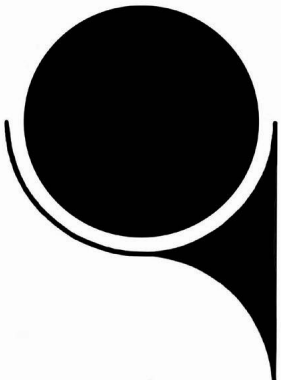
“Yes, I think so,” replied Bear. “But the humans give each other gifts at other times too, like when they cut down a perfectly good tree and bring it into the house, then place colored boxes and packages underneath it – is that also

called a shower?”

“No, that is what they refer to as a ‘holiday,’ and involves one of their most important celebrations. I will explain that particular holiday in more detail once we get to the time of year once again when the days are shorter and snow begins to fall.”

Bear thought on that for a moment, attempting to absorb all that Cadbury had told him, then posed another question: “Cadbury, if not from the sky, where do human babies come from?”

At that moment, and to Cadbury’s great relief, their conversation was interrupted by a loud peal of thunder. “That question will have to wait,” said Cadbury to Bear, ‘because right now we had better get under shelter quickly or we are going to get very wet!’



GREENWICH SYMPHONY

Stuart Malina, Music Director

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 7:30 P.M.
SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 3:00 P.M.

Jonathan Leshnoff, String Quartet No. 3

Ludwig van Beethoven, Symphony No. 9
with Greenwich Choral Society

ADULTS \$50 STUDENTS \$15

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

greenwichwymphony.org



COLUMN

The Unexpected Spiritual Renaissance of 2025



BY BEN VALENTINE

Something is stirring in our culture today. I noticed it while waiting for my coffee recently on Greenwich Ave. Everyone around me was staring into their screens, physically present but mentally elsewhere (I'll be honest, I was looking at my phone too!). Yet beneath this facade of connectivity, a different kind of connection is quietly resurging.

As a people, we're hungry for something ancient and unchanging. The statistics tell a remarkable story: The Wall Street Journal reported that Bible sales in America surged by 22% compared to the previous year. In Britain, the increase reached 87% between 2019 and 2024. But numbers alone don't capture the significance behind this trend.

The very generation we've been told is lost to faith, Gen Z, is

leading a spiritual renaissance. These digital natives, raised in the most secular environment in human history, are turning to ancient wisdom with surprising passion. Premier Christianity magazine revealed that 21% of Gen Z adults reported increasing their Bible reading last year. Online, hashtags like #BibleTok and #ChristianGirl have garnered billions of views on TikTok, with young creators sharing scripture passages and reflections on their spiritual journeys.

Bible sales are surging to record heights. One edition designed for younger readers, the Good News Bible: The Youth Edition, has nearly doubled in sales since 2021. This isn't merely about books collecting dust on shelves. Young people aren't just buying Bibles; they're engaging with them, finding in these ancient texts answers to thoroughly modern questions.

Even in hyper-secular Silicon Valley, churches and various gatherings are filling up, and there's a massive hunger to explore Christianity. Vanity Fair and The Atlantic have written about this trend. For example,

“We don’t need another self-improvement plan or productivity hack. We need a fundamentally different story about what constitutes the good life.”

Peter Thiel, one of tech's most influential figures, openly discusses his faith. The ACTS 17 Collective, named after Paul's engagement with the intellectual elite of Athens, connects believers throughout the tech industry who have discovered that code can't answer the soul's deepest questions.

Why now? In an age of unprecedented technological advancement and material abundance, why this return to spiritual exploration?

Because the emptiness is deafening. As one writer observed, beneath Silicon Valley's material affluence lies “deep loneliness” and “spiritual poverty.” The architects of our digital age are confronting the limitations of their creations. They've built systems that can process unfathomable amounts of information but cannot generate meaning.

Many of us are climbing ladders that lead nowhere. This realization resonates particularly in communities

like Greenwich, where external success often masks internal questioning. Our beautiful homes and impressive careers can't answer the fundamental questions that have defined humanity throughout history: Why am I here? What gives my life meaning? What happens when I die?

But God isn't surprised; He designed this hunger into our DNA. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says that “He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart. As philosopher Blaise Pascal wrote in his Pensées, “There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the Creator, made known through Jesus Christ.” Our spiritual hunger isn't accidental but essential to our design.

And something is happening. The narrative of inevitable secularization is being challenged by the lived experience of a generation

raised in digital immersion yet hungry for spiritual depth. Many are discovering Jesus, finding out that Jesus addresses our deepest longings in ways that our technological and material solutions just can't do.

Christians believe that the story of Jesus is real, personal, and that it changes everything. The Gospel (meaning “Good News”) isn't merely a set of propositions to believe or rules to follow; it's an invitation into a relationship with the living God who created us for communion with Himself.

In our achievement-oriented corner of Connecticut, this message lands with particular power. We don't need another self-improvement plan or productivity hack. We need a fundamentally different story about what constitutes the good life.

The kingdom Jesus proclaimed offers this alternative. The spiritual hunger evident across many parts of our culture isn't something

to be dismissed. It's a healthy recognition of our design, a signpost pointing us toward our Creator. As Augustine discovered in his own spiritual journey: “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.”

At Trinity, we aspire to create spaces where this hunger can be acknowledged and addressed, where faith and reason aren't adversaries but allies in the pursuit of truth, where doubt is seen not as failure but as a doorway to deeper conviction.

In Greenwich today, may we recognize our spiritual hunger not as a problem to be solved but as an invitation to be embraced, an invitation to discover something that truly satisfies, the bread that nourishes our deepest selves, the life for which we were created.

Ben Valentine is the Senior Pastor of Trinity Church in Greenwich. Discover more at www.trinitychurch.life

Worship Services

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

Worship Services: Sun, 9 & 10:45am. All services are streamed on the church's website and YouTube channel. In addition to Sundays, there are also groups for children and teens on Wednesday evenings. *Community Outreach at Martine Center: Saturday, May 24, 10am, please RSVP no later than May 23.*

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 homebound and would like a priest visit you, call the Rectory at 203-531-8730. Stations of the Cross: All Fridays during Lent, 6:30pm, in the Church. All are welcome.*

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 even Catholic, you just need to be registered. If interested, please contact Parish Partners at (203-637-3661, ext. 375). Volunteer Opportunity: Share Your Time and Compassion! Our Parish Partners Ministry of Hope is seeking kind-hearted volunteers to support our homebound parishioners. To sign up or learn more, please contact Jeannema-*

rie Baker at (203) 637-3661 (ext. 375) or ParishPartners@stc-sta.org. 'Music in the Spring' concert – Chamber and Choral music: Sunday, June 1, 2:30pm, Free (donations welcome).

St. Mary Church
178 Greenwich Ave.; 203-869-9393
www.stmarygreenwich.org

Public Mass: Sun: 9, 10:30am, 12:15 & 5:15pm. Sat Vigils: 4 & 7pm (Spanish). Daily: Mon-Fri, 12:05pm (Church doors will open from 10am-3pm). Confessions (English): Tue: 7-8pm; Sat: 3-3:45pm. Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Fri of the month: 12:30-5pm. *New Day Bereavement Program: Tuesdays, 1-2:30pm, through March 18.*

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

Mass: Mon-Fri: 7:30 & 9am. Sat: 9am & 5pm. Sun: 7:30, 8:30, 9:45am, 12 & 5pm. Confession: Sat: 4:15-4:45pm; Wed: 9:30-11am & 6:30-8pm. Eucharistic Adoration: Wed, 9:30am-8pm. *New Day Bereavement Program: through Nov. 17, Thu, 7-8:30pm & through Nov. 30 (skipping Nov. 23), Wed, 4-5:30pm, 203-869-5421. Vigil Mass - Ascension of the Lord: Wednesday, May 28, 5:15pm. Ascension Mass: Thursday, May 29, 9am.*

St. Timothy Chapel
1034 North St.; 203-869-5421

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

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

Mass: Mon-Thu: 9am; Sat: 4pm (Vigil); Sun: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confession: Sat, 3-3:45pm. Mass on Holy Days: Vigil: 5:30pm, 9am & 12:15pm. Visit the website for information regarding the Bereavement Group (twice monthly) and weekly volunteer opportunities at the Don Bosco Kitchen and Food Pantry with the St. Paul Mercy Volunteers. All masses are available via livestream through the website. *Evenings For Married Couples: 1st Thurs of every month, 7:30pm.*

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

Mass: (Reservations and/or for viewing via live streaming): Mon-Fri: 7:30pm; Sat: 5pm; Sun: 7:30am (Concelebrated for Previously Scheduled 9:30am Mass Intentions), 10:30am, 12pm (Spanish). Mass Intentions: consult the bulletin for time.

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

Sundays: Church and Sunday School at 10:30. Weds. 7:30pm testimonies of healing. Call # for all services 203-680-9095 code 520520. Reading Room 333 Greenwich Ave. M-F 1:00-5:00 203-869-2503. Bibles, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, children's books, and more. *Sunday, May 25: Soul and Body.*

Community
First Church of Round Hill
464 Round Hill Rd; 203-629-3876
www.firstchurchofroundhill.com

In-person worship: Sundays, 10am. *Sixth Sunday of Easter: May 25, 10am.*

Round Hill Community Church
395 Round Hill Rd; 203-869-1091
www.roundhillcommunitychurch.org

Weekly Sunday Worship services in the Sanctuary at 10am or online at roundhillcommunitychurch.org anytime. Children's Worship (grades K-5) meets during the 10 am service. Please call the Church Office or visit the website for the most up-to-date information, events, and schedules. *Tools for Aging Well, 2nd Wednesday of the Month, 11am-12pm, Sanctuary. Round Hill Art & Craft Studio: Mondays, 1-4pm. Hike for Haiti: Saturday, May 31.*

Congregational
The First Congregational Church
108 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-1791
www.fccog.org

Worship: In-Person & Virtual: Sundays, 10am. Live-streaming on YouTube and Facebook, and broadcast on 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. *Music Sunday – join us for the annual celebration of our Music Ministry at First Church: Sunday, May 18, 10am.*

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 10:30am worship. *Tent Weekend: June 6-8 – Join us for food, fellowship, fun & worship.*

Episcopal
Anglican 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 Sun, 8:45am, 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 mid-week service), 12:15pm, In-person only Chapel. Thursdays: Choral Evensong, 6:30pm, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary. *Youth Confirmation: Sundays, Sept. 15 - June 7, 11:15am-12:15pm. The Disciples of Christ in Community: Tuesdays, Sept. 17 - Nov. 19, 7-8:30pm. Book Study: The Anxious Generation: Sundays, March 30 & April 6, 11:15am. Joyful Noise with Anna Leimbach: Sundays, April 6, May 11, June 1. Joyful noise with Rob Mathes: Sundays, March 30, April 27, May 25, June 29, 5pm. Lenten Lectio Divina with Rev. Tim: Wednesdays, through April 16, 11:15-11:45am, Chapel. Joyful Noise Casual Worship Service with Rob Mathes: Sunday, May 25, 5pm. Gentle Hatha Yoga: Fridays, May 30-June 27, 2:30pm, Free. Choir Recognition: Sunday, June 1, 11:15am, Tomes Higgins House Back Lawn. Joyful Noise with Music by Anna Leimbach: Sunday: June 1, 5pm.*

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

Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 10AM (in person and livestreamed). Our exciting Sunday School programs for kids and youth take place during the 10am service: Children's Church for kids 4-8 years old, and YC (Youth Church) for those 9+. Children are also welcome in church for both services, and childcare is provided all morning in our nursery. Sundays also feature joyful preaching by our clergy, Father Justin and Rev. Phoebe, and beautiful music by our director of music, Marnus Greyling, and the St. Barnabas Choir. Come experience the joy of the God of Jesus Christ. Visit us in person, on our website, and on social media (Instagram: @stbarnabasgreenwich). Small church feel - Big church experience.

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

www.stpaulsiverside.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.

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

Please visit our website for details on Shabbat services, classes, programs and more. *Judaism 101 for Moms: Thursdays, 9:20am. Kabbala & Challah: Thursdays, 9:15am, \$20 p/class.*

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, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church. Pride, Pain and Purpose Astride the Mideast: alternating Tuesdays through June 24, 7pm, on Zoom. Soul Spa - Meet the Midrash: Saturdays, 10am, through Aug. 9, on Zoom. Unlocking the Jewish Prayer Book with Rabbi David: Sunday, June 1, 5pm, on Zoom.*

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. *Broadway Shabbat: Friday, May 30, 5:30pm dinner, 6:30 service.*

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. *Pajama Drive: Please donate brand new pajama sets (tops & bottoms) in sizes newborn to adult XXL (older kids need pj's too) to support The Pajama Program – through May 30, Collection bins are located in the lobby. Tikkun Leil Shavuot Learning with Rabbi Mitch: Sunday, June 1, 7:30pm.*

Lutheran
St. Paul Lutheran Church
286 Delavan Ave.; 203-531-8466
www.firstpaul.com

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

Methodist
Diamond Hill United Methodist
521 E. Putnam Ave.; 203-869-2395
www.diamondhillumc.com

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

First United Methodist Church
59 E. Putnam Ave.; 203-629-9584
www.fumcgreenwich.com

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

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal

42 Lake Ave.; 203-661-3099

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

Nondenominational
Dineletown 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 & above, are offered. Praise & Prayer Night: 6pm on the First Sunday of each month. 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 Albertsonpcc@gmail.com for registration and Zoom Links). *Guided Meditation: Tuesdays, May 27, June 3 & 10, 8:45am, Free, All are welcome. Virtual Spiritual Mediumship: Mondays, June 2 & 9, 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. 9:15 & 11am, Trinity Westchester, 2111 Boston Post Rd., Larchmont, NY. 11am, Saxe Middle School, New Canaan. 9:45am, Online. *TK True North: A Trinity Kids Summer Experience: June 24-27, at Greenwich Baptist Church.*

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

Worship: Sundays, 10am.

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. *Church Lunch (1st Sun of every month): Sunday, June 1, 12-2pm.*

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. *Memorial Day BBQ Potluck: Sunday, May 25, 11:30am-1:30pm. "Empowered Women of Integrity" Women's Retreat: Friday, May 30, 7-9pm & Saturday, May 31, 9am-3:30pm.*

COLUMN



By Rabbi Mitchell Hurvitz

Each Sabbath morning at every synagogue in the world, we read a portion of our Torah. We specifically read the Parashat HaShvuah (Portion of the Week), an assigned part of a set annual cycle of 54 sequential portions as divided within the Five Books of Moses.

During many specific weeks, we read exciting stories that capture our imagination or important recordings of ethical laws and obligations that direct us toward sacred living. But sometimes, during certain weeks, what we are assigned to read seems less appealing than other Torah narratives at first glance.

Many rabbis enjoy preaching and teaching on the books of Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Additionally, they enjoy Leviticus’s teachings within the chapters related to the Holiness Code.

However, at first and second glance, a couple of Torah portions do not appear so appealing, and this is undoubtedly the case when we read from the double Torah portion of Tazria-Metzora, Leviticus 12:1 – 15:33.

Tazria describes different forms of tzaraat, a discoloration condition on skin or clothing, and the requirement of an infected person to dwell alone outside

A Lesson in Empathy and Compassion

It is not the responsibility of the outcast to break down the barriers to returning to society; it is the job of the most high-status leaders, the priests

the camp and be inspected by a priest. Metzora then describes the purification process and accompanying priestly sacrifices made on behalf of the one infected with tzaraat. We read in great detail about rotting skin, wounds that ooze endlessly, and the visible signs of another’s blemishes that make others want to run away when they see the afflicted.

So, this sacred reading from our Torah is about leprosy, and it is, in fact, quite disgusting. And, if not physically turned off, we also feel spiritually diminished in that our spiritual ancestors cast off from their presence their brothers and sisters who are the victims of this terrifying malady.

The stricken are not permitted to remain in the Israelites’ camp and are instead to dwell on the far edge of society. The leper was made an “untouchable” until their affliction was visibly cured. Only then, and after an expansive priestly purification ritual, was the cast-off welcomed back to the Israelites’ camp.

You can also easily imagine the whispering of others when such a person returned to the camp. They would always be identified as the leper who had tzaraat.

Many rabbis attempt to explain the affliction as a spiritual consequence of certain sins, especially the sins of gossip and slander. But, this only makes matters worse because the victim is then blamed for their victimization.

Do we want to believe that God is punishing individuals suffering terrible diseases? I would not

wish such a relationship with a supposed merciful and loving God.

So, how then are we to think about the so-called leper, the one who was physically, emotionally, and spiritually made an outcast?

Here, another Shabbat tradition is constructive, for we have the practice after reading from our weekly Torah portion to immediately read an assigned dedicated section from the Haftarah, assigned verses from the Biblical books of the Prophets. The Haftarah lends its additional contribution to what we also read from the Torah.

The Haftarah on tzaraat is a selection of verses from the Book of Kings depicting the leper’s state of mind. We read about the city of Samaria, located in central Israel, under siege. People are starving, and some are resorting to cannibalism to stay alive. Even amidst this horror, the lepers are still excluded from the city and forced to live “outside the gate.” They are made even more vulnerable to the attacking enemy forces.

The Haftarah notes that nobody wants the lepers, neither their fellow Israelites nor the attackers. The lepers are unloved, shunned, lost, and forgotten.

What are we to think within a modern context now? What seeds of understanding are planted within our sacred Hebrew Scriptures that are helpful to us?

Fortunately, today, there are no longer lepers. The miracle cure of penicillin or other topical treatments of certain ointments treats most skin diseases.

But we do have too many people who live on the edge of society and whom we wish to forget. We physically see them on the street and then hasten our pace to pass them by. We don’t know them, nor do we want to know them. We do not wish to engage with them physically or emotionally.

We want the outcasts to stay excluded from our camp and live “outside the gate.” The homeless, the mentally ill, etc., we know who we wish not to see. We want to wish away the modern-day untouchables.

In these very circumstances, we must recall the biblical instruction to the Cohen – the priest. The priest was the highest-ranking person in Israelite society. Yet, God commands them to treat the leper in their presence and with their hands, inspecting the leper’s sores directly.

The priest is responsible for fixing the situation directly and bringing the outcast safely back into the camp. He had to succeed in being completely present for the afflicted and treat them with unwavering dedication, love, and compassion.

It is not the responsibility of the outcast to break down the

barriers to returning to society; it is the job of the most high-status leaders, the priests themselves, to tear down gates of separation.

Jewish law states a legal principle of kal v’chomer: if X is true, “how much the more so” that then Y is true. If the priest, the highest of status, must live by stringent standards to assist those needing love, compassion, empathy, and concrete assistance, then how much more should the common persons do the same?

Additionally, according to traditional rabbinic dogma, every Jew is to consider themselves like a High Priest, for this is why God told our spiritual ancestors upon giving them the Torah: “You will be for me a kingdom of priests.” In other words, to be successful in religious sacred living, everyone must fulfill the priests’ obligations to their fellow humanity.

This is framed with hands-on assistance to those most vulnerable and most in need of our concrete acts of love, kindness, and inclusion. Are we prepared to open our doors figuratively and literally to those needing our assistance?

It’s too easy to turn our backs, to look away. It’s much easier to exclude vs. include. But this is why God instructed us within our Torah about the lepers and the priests’ responsibilities toward them.

Nothing was more frightening

in the ancient world than the disease of tzaraat. There was a legitimate concern for diminishing the risk of contagion. But, the leper was never to be ignored.

Spiritual leaders and their followers were always obligated to be hands-on in effectively addressing the needs of the most vulnerable and warmly welcoming them into their community.

We don’t want to be as morally low as the cannibals but rather as high as the highest of the priests who succeeded in their spiritual mission to reach out directly to those in greatest need of their concrete, loving support.

Who are we prepared to let into our camp? How can we guarantee the opening of our gates to best support our modern-day untouchables?

Shabbat Shalom. *Temple Sholom’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.*



PATRICIA HACK

Patricia Giblin Hack, longtime resident of Greenwich, CT and Conway, MI, passed away peacefully on May 7, surrounded by family. She was 104 years old.

She is survived by her children: Shelley Hack (Harry Winer), Shannon Burns (Charles), W. Torrance Hack (Emily), Shawn von Gal (Peter), Lance Hack and Babe Hack, eleven grandchildren, and seventeen great-grandchildren. She was pre-deceased by her husband William (Bill) T. Hack, her brothers James Giblin and Peter Giblin, and her granddaughter Anna Hack.

Her incredible lifespan began on Nov. 6,1920, just after the Treaty of Versailles officially ended WWI, Warren Harding was elected president, and Prohibition began. She had fascinating stories about major world events, and adapted adroitly to the enormous changes during her lifetime. (Except maybe the computer stuff.)

Known as Patty, Pat, or Patsy, she was enthusiastic, fun-loving, confident, smart, creative, uncompromising, and possessed of a wicked quick wit. She was a true traveler, rarely followed trends, and had a great eye for fabulous things. Her singing voice was beautiful. She loved a good deal and could spot one from a mile away. Quite stylish, she greatly enjoyed dressing up for a good party with family and friends. But above all, she was adventuresome, and didn’t miss a trick in experiencing life.

Born and raised in Detroit, Patty often reminisced about the excitement of growing up during the golden age of the automobile- spotting the Dodge girls in their custom-made convertibles, accidentally spilling her drink on Henry Ford’s jacket. Summers spent with her cousins on Crooked Lake were the highpoint of her year, and her love of spending time in Conway continued during her later years at her cottage on the lake.

But Detroit felt confining to her, and she longed to see the world. When the fallout from the depression and her father’s heart attack thwarted plans for college after graduating in ‘39 from University Liggett School, she applied for a stewardess position- still a very new profession for young women. Accepted by Pennsylvania Central Airlines, she decided to travel solo thru Mexico- dressed like a boy to avoid unwanted attention- before embarking

on her new career. Her job was a thrill- often helping pilots navigate during storms over Northern Michigan with her knowledge of the shapes of the lakes, and experiencing the tension of flying into Washington, D.C. the day of Pearl Harbor.

With the war causing layoffs in the industry, she moved to a residence for young ladies in NYC. After a brief stint working for the Signal Corps, she became a hand model, and later a figure model for Dorothy Hood, the famed illustrator who, together with art director Harry Rodman, changed fashion advertising strategies with their weekly full page illustrated ads for Lord & Taylor in the New York Times.

When she met Bill Hack at, of all places, a funeral, the mutual attraction was immediate and they were engaged after the 3rd date, then married shortly thereafter in NYC on June 8,1945.

After a few years, they found their perfect house in Greenwich- a rambler that could fit a growing family. It was a dream come true for Patty- a wonderful husband she adored, a spacious house in the country with a beautiful view, and eventually 6 children. Patty and Bill’s love for travel took them to places like Thailand, Europe, and the Pacific Islands. Life was good, and she often said “I loved every minute of it.”

The family was devastated when Bill passed away unexpectedly in 1976. Patty missed him terribly for the rest of her days. But she remained strong, and gradually rebuilt her life. She still dreamed of traveling more, and, planning the itineraries herself, explored exotic places few single women would have dared to go.

Mom- You fostered inventive play, providing a wide array of toys and contraptions with the expectation that we’d use our imaginations and get dirty in the process. You gave us opportunities to foster our independence, like throwing us out of the house with a pocketful of Fig Newtons and instructions not to return until you rang the porch bell. Maybe you had no idea of some of the stupid things we did, maybe you did, and just trusted we’d avoid the oft repeated Trilogy of Disaster: don’t poke out an eye, chip a tooth, or bust a head.

You gave us a deep and lasting appreciation of nature and paying attention to all 5 senses; picnics under blooming cherry trees, taking us out of school to enjoy long rides on beautiful days in your convertible or autumn days at the beach, convincing Dad to drive deep into private Florida orange groves, herding us out of the car to smell the orange blossoms, regardless of potential trespassing charges. You inspired us to be adventurous and fun by just being you.

You touched the lives in some inspiring way of everyone who knew you. You and Dad gave us many strengths, many memories, much love, and the best childhood anyone could wish for. We will miss you. Safe travels.

Love,
Your children



BARBARA WEEDEN

Barbara Elliott Weeden, 97, passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family in Greenwich, CT, on Tuesday, May 6.

Born on October 14, 1927, the daughter of Bill and Helen (Meyer) Elliott, Barbara grew up in Los Angeles, California. Her father, known as “Wild Bill Elliott,” was a popular film actor who made 120 feature films, starred in 70 Westerns, and was best known for the Red Ryder series in the mid-1940s. An expert horseman who did most of his own stunts-his skills honed in the rodeo culture of his native Missouri-he taught Barbara how to ride at a young age on the family’s ranch in Calabasas, California. Barbara followed in his footsteps, both competing in local rodeos and acting in regional theater productions. She often spent time with her famous father on set, helping him memorize his lines. In 1945, she graduated at the top of her class from The Westlake School for Girls.

At Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York, she majored in theater and thrived in the college’s proximity to New York City and Broadway. But after two years, she transferred to Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, to be closer to her family. There she met Stanford swimming and water polo star Alan Weeden. After her graduation in 1949, the two married in 1950 and moved to Manhattan, where Alan worked for Weeden & Co., a securities dealer started by his father and uncle, heading up the bond department (he later ran the firm as CEO from 1967-1976). Barbara worked as an assistant at Today’s Woman magazine, then started a company called Teletest, which produced audition tapes for actors pursuing television roles.

As the couple began having children, they moved out to the suburbs, first to Larchmont, then Rye, New York. While raising two boys and a girl, Barbara wrote film reviews for a local newspaper, fundraised for New York’s PBS station (WNET Thirteen), and began taking art classes and painting, primarily in acrylic. After the family moved to Greenwich, Connecticut, in 1984, Barbara became passionate about the visual arts, working as a docent for the Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, SUNY campus, and starting a business as an art consultant. She also helped curate art exhibits at the Flinn Gallery in the Greenwich Library and was on the board of the American Federation of the Arts, headquartered in New York City. Throughout her life, she traveled extensively, often to see art and visit artists’ studios. She was a caring wife

and mother, with a love of learning and a dry wit.

She is survived by her children, Don (Vanessa), Bob (Susan), and Leslie (Joseph); four grandchildren, Molly, Sandra, Jack, and William; and two great-grandchildren, Charlotte and Ella.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to WNET (Thirteen), 825 8th Avenue, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10019, or at www.thirteen.org.

JOAN TRUSCELLO

Joan M. (Pottgen) Truscello, 88, of Greenwich, CT, died May 16, 2025.

A lifelong resident, Joan was employed by Arnold Bakeries for over 35 years. Joan had a gift for conversation and treasured phone calls and visits with her friends and loved ones. She will be remembered for her warmth, sense of humor, and the deep love she had for her family.

She was pre-deceased by her husband of 60 years, Leonard, and sons, Lenny and Ricky. She is survived by her daughters, Rochelle and Robin, 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was on Tuesday, May 20, followed by the funeral service at the Castiglione Funeral Home in Greenwich. Interment followed at Greenwood Union Cemetery in Rye, NY.

DONALD SARGEANT

Donald W. Sargeant, 79, of Stamford, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at Midstate Hospital in Meriden. He was born on October 25, 1945, in Greenwich, CT, to the late George R. and Della Rash Sargeant.

Don grew up in Greenwich and, after graduating from Greenwich High School and beginning his career as an electrician with IBEW Local 3 (formerly Local 50I), he was drafted into the U.S. Marine Corps for the Vietnam War. He met his wife, Sandra, while stationed in South Carolina. After his service, they settled in Connecticut, spent some time in western Pennsylvania, and eventually returned to Connecticut for their final years.

Don was a member of Acacia Lodge No. 85, where he served as Grand Master and also served the Grand Lodge of CT as Associate Grand Marshal. He belonged to many other service organizations, where he enjoyed many long-lasting friendships.

Don was predeceased by his wife, Sandra, and his brother, Robert Sargeant.

He is survived by his loving children, Leslie Maloney of Stamford, and Matthew Sargeant and his wife Christine of Fairfield, as well as five grandchildren: Michael and Jared Maloney, and Elizabeth, Caroline, and Andrew Sargeant. Also surviving are his nephews and niece, Scott Sargeant and his wife Jennifer, Brian Sargeant, Elise Sargeant, and a sister-in-law, Mary Carol Campbell.

Calling hours were Wednesday, May 21 at the Nicholas F. Cognetta Funeral Home & Crematory, Stamford. Interment will be held privately.

The family requests that donations be made in Donald’s memory to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284, or to a charity of one’s choice.



PATRICIA ATHERLAY

It is with saddened yet full & grateful hearts, we announce the peaceful passing of our beloved mother, Patricia Parchall Atherlay, age 92. On Sunday, May 4, 2025, Pat lost her courageous battle with congestive heart failure while retaining her positive, cheerful outlook throughout.

Pat, a longtime resident of Glastonbury, CT., is survived by her four children, son John M. Atherlay of West New York, NJ.; MaryAnn (Atherlay) Zack and her husband Steven Zack of Essex, CT; Mark J. Atherlay and his wife, Denise Berry Atherlay, of Burbank, CA.; and Margaret A. Atherlay of W. Hartford, CT. As well as her 3 grandchildren, James, Philip (& wife, Justine) and Clari Atherlay. Patricia was predeceased by her parents, Edna (McBride) Parchall & Joseph Parchall of Hartford, CT.; as well as her ex-husband, John M. Atherlay, of Greenwich, CT.

Pat was a born & bred ‘Hartford girl’ through & through, maintaining dear friendships with her South End Hartford Bond Street, St. Augustine, Bulkeley High & UCONN girlfriends throughout their entire lives.

Pat worked for the State of CT for several decades but her true loves were spending time with her children & grandchildren, as well as her appreciation of musical theater, film, painting, reading, her Catholic faith & her active social life at the Glastonbury Senior Center and Middlewoods of Newington. She rarely had a bad word to say about anyone and always spread her ‘joie de vivre’ through her radiant smile & laughter, of which will be greatly missed but never forgotten.

A service was held on Saturday, May 17 at Mulryan Funeral Home, Glastonbury, CT. Calling hours will be on Saturday, May 17, at the funeral home. Burial was in the Green Cemetery, Glastonbury.

Never one to dwell in sadness or morbidity, this will indeed be a celebration of a life exquisitely lived! For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

The Sentinel does not charge for obituaries. To submit an obituary email Caroll@GreenwichSentinel.com

Obituaries

NEWS MAKERS

New Briefs

From Page 1

Town Hall will host a Pride Month kickoff event featuring speeches, a proclamation reading, and a Pride flag raising. The event will include an ice cream truck, DJ, games, and community tables. It is organized by Greenwich Pride in collaboration with the Town of Greenwich.

AROUND TOWN

National Safe Boating Week, observed this past week, May 17–23, encourages safe practices as summer boating begins. Key tips include wearing a life jacket, checking weather conditions, and never diving into unfamiliar or shallow water. Following basic safety guidelines can help prevent serious injuries on the water.

Island Beach Lot Temporarily Closed

The Island Beach parking lot will be closed through Monday, May 26, for the Greenwich Town Party. Permit holders have been given alternate parking locations, including the Horseneck Lot, the lower Plaza Lot, and train station areas. Paid and day parking options are available on Museum Drive, Steamboat Road, and at the Sound View Lot.

Increased Coyote Activity Prompts Caution

Coyotes have recently been reported acting aggressively in parts of Greenwich, including Florence Road and MacArthur Drive. Authorities recommend keeping pets leashed and staying alert while walking outdoors. The behavior is believed to be temporary and is being monitored by local and state wildlife officials.

Central Middle School Construction Progresses

Central Middle School is under construction, and the project’s building committee has launched a monthly bulletin called CMS Campus Connections to share updates. The first edition outlines completed work, the project’s goals, and expected progress. It also includes contact information for Turner Construction for public inquiries. You can find their updates on the Greenwich Public Schools website.

Greenwich Beaches Open For Summer

Greenwich's beach season begins tomorrow, May 24 and ends September 1, with ferries to Island Beach and Great Captain's Island starting June 14. Access requires a resident seasonal pass or OnePass, which must be renewed annually with proof of residency; seniors must renew residency every five years. Byram Beach will now close for one day after rainfall of one-third inch or more, based on updated health department guidelines.

Hamill Rink Task Force Advances

The Hamill Rink Task Force will hold a public hearing at Town Hall on June 4, 2025, at 6:30PM. The task force will provide a brief update, and public comments will be accepted in person or via Zoom, limited to three minutes per speaker. Those who wish to speak must complete the online speaker form by noon that day or sign in at the meeting; written comments may also be submitted online.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Youth Group Awards Community Grant

Generation Impact Fairfield County awarded a \$2,500 grant to support the development of the new Boys and Girls Club Greenwich Clubhouse. Members recently toured the construction site and learned about the organization’s academic and leadership programs. The funding will help continue these services for local youth. Photo Credit: Boys and Girls Club Greenwich

Greenwich Honors Meals On Wheels

On May 6, Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich was formally recognized with a proclamation declaring the date as Meals-On-Wheels Inc. of Greenwich Day. The organization provides meals to residents who are unable to shop or cook, including seniors and individuals with disabilities. Two local students received the inaugural Driving Force Award for their volunteer contributions. Photo Credit: Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich

North Greenwich Church Hosts Drive

North Greenwich Church at 606 Riversville Road operates a 24-hour donation bin for non-perishable food and personal care items. Donations are delivered weekly to Neighbor to Neighbor, supporting approximately 800 local families. Accepted items include canned goods, dried foods, diapers, and hygiene products.

Free Notary Services Now Available

Perrot Memorial Library in Old Greenwich now offers free notary services by appointment on Fridays from 9AM to noon. Appointments must be made by calling 203-637-1066 ext. 15. A valid, non-expired government-issued photo ID with a current local address is required, and patrons must bring their own witnesses if needed.

Greenwich Youth Celebrated for Excellence

The Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich held its annual awards event recognizing youth achievements in academics, athletics, and community service. Teams and individuals were honored for accomplishments including state championships and volunteer contributions. The YMCA of Greenwich received a partnership award for providing facility access during

clubhouse renovations.

Farmers Market Season Begins

The Greenwich Farmers Market opened for the season on Saturday, May 17 at 9:30AM in the Horseneck lot at Arch Street and Horseneck Lane. New vendors this year include Empanadas on the Go by Jackie Mendive, Kalenauskas Farm offering various meats, and Oceans 180 providing locally sourced seafood. The market runs Saturdays from 9:30AM to 1PM; pets are not allowed, and entry begins with the opening bell.

Greenwich Community Unites Against Racism

The YWCA Greenwich held its annual Stand Against Racism event on April 25 at Greenwich Town Hall in collaboration with over 100 community partners. This year’s theme, “Food Pathways to Freedom,” focused on the historical link between food and systemic racism, featuring a keynote by Ramin Ganeshram. Several local high school students received scholarships for promoting equity and inclusion in their schools and communities.

Community Supports GEMS Through Breakfast

Caren’s Cos Cobber in Greenwich opens early once a year during National EMS Week to raise funds for Greenwich Emergency Medical Service (GEMS). The event, “Just for GEMS,” includes informational tables and ambulance tours, with a portion of the restaurant’s proceeds supporting emergency equipment purchases. It has been held annually for 14 years.

PEOPLE IN TOWN

Greenwich Athlete Joins National Initiative

Jack Holl, a senior water polo player at Penn State Behrend from Greenwich, Connecticut, has been named a Student-Athlete Advocate for the Tunnel to Towers Foundation. The foundation, which honors fallen first responders and military members, launched the program to involve student-athletes in raising awareness about its mission. Holl’s role includes promoting the foundation’s work and participating in related events and outreach.

Leslie Lee Named Interim President

Leslie Lee has been appointed Interim President of the Greenwich Tree Conservancy. A member since 2007, she has served on the Advisory Board, chaired the first Tree Party in 2011, and has been Vice President since 2018. She has held leadership roles in several environmental and civic organizations.

David Michonski Named RMA President

The Retired Men’s Association honored outgoing president Will Morrison for modernizing its website and database and launching three new interest groups. David Michonski, the new president, presented the award and will lead the organization going forward.

Josie Monroe Celebrates 103rd Birthday

Josie Monroe, a 103-year-old resident of Old Greenwich, was recognized with a certificate of special recognition at The Stamford Diner, where she regularly has breakfast with her daughter. Born in 1922 in Pennsylvania, she later moved to New York City, worked as a seamstress, and eventually settled in Connecticut, where she volunteered extensively. After a brief illness last year, she moved in with her daughter and continues to enjoy hobbies like coloring and visits to Mohegan Sun.

SCHOOLS

Sacred Heart Hosts Derby Benefit

On May 3, 2025, Sacred Heart Greenwich held its Green & White Benefit, themed “Derby: Race for the Future,” to raise funds for school initiatives. The event generated support for the school’s endowment and its Educator Innovation Grant program. Attendees included families, alumnae, and affiliates of the school. Photo Credit: Sacred Heart Greenwich

GA’s Wallace Library Unveils New Puppets

The puppet stage in Greenwich Academy’s Lower School Wallace Library was recently updated with new characters. Group III students designed the puppets, Upper School Art I students built them, and Group V students created the costumes. The finished puppets were presented during a meeting between Lower and Upper School students. Photo Credit: Greenwich Academy

Student Wins International Engineering Award

Greenwich Country Day School student Cooper Taylor won the Chief of Naval Research Scholarship Award and \$15,000 at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair for developing a VTOL drone with advanced tilt mechanisms. He also placed fourth in the Engineering Technology: Statistics and Dynamics category. The event included over 1,800 students from around 75 countries. Photo Credit: Greenwich Country Day School

Eagle Hill Students Perform Spring Concert

Eagle Hill School in Greenwich held a spring concert directed by Ms. Stewart. Students performed songs and drumming, using flashlights as part of the presentation. The event highlighted group participation in music. Photo Credit: Eagle Hill School

Sacred Heart Students Excel Scientifically

Sacred Heart Greenwich eighth-grade students participated in the 5th Annual Greenwich Middle School STEM Fair at Greenwich High School. Their projects addressed topics such as bioplastics, fertilizer development, water quality, algae reduction, and educational tools, with two groups receiving awards for their work. The projects demonstrated applied scientific methods across environmental and biomedical themes. Photo Credit: Sacred Heart Greenwich

Whitby Mayfair Celebrates Spring Together

The Whitby School held its annual Mayfair event, featuring games, treats, and activities for students. Third-grade students performed a maypole dance as part of the celebration. The event was organized with support from the Parents’ Association. Photo Credit: Whitby School

Students Observe Supreme Court Session

Greenwich Country Day School students visited the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., where they observed oral arguments presented before the nine justices. The visit was part of their Constitutional Law studies. They witnessed courtroom proceedings, including a rare standing ovation. Photo Credit: Greenwich Country Day School

Chicks Hatch in Science Class

Students at Eagle Hill School observed and managed the hatching of three chicks as part of a science project on egg incubation. They also raised trout in the classroom, which will soon be released into the Mianus River. Both activities are part of hands-on learning in the science curriculum. Photo Credit: Eagle Hill School

Sacred Heart Hosts DIPG Walk

Sacred Heart Greenwich held its annual Defeat DIPG Walk in memory of Vivienne Finn, a student from the Class of 2027, as part of Global DIPG Awareness Day. The student-led Barat Foundation presented an award to the DIPG Foundation. The school community participated in a campus walk to promote social awareness and community values. Photo Credit: Sacred Heart Greenwich

Whitby Students Explore Chicken Development

Primary 3 students at Whitby School studied the development of chickens by observing an incubator and documenting the growth process. They followed a hands-on, Montessori-based learning approach. The students later presented their findings to parents and the school community. Photo Credit: Whitby School

North Mianus School Celebrates Centennial

North Mianus School will celebrate its 100th anniversary on May 30 with a public event organized by the PTA. The event includes building tours led by fifth-grade students, access to school archives, and a display of a 102-foot mural featuring the names of all current students and staff. Commemorative merchandise will be available for purchase through a partnership with Bruce Park Sports. Photo Credit: North Mianus PTA

CMS STEM Fair Showcases Innovation

The Greenwich Middle School STEM Fair hosted 70 student projects at Greenwich High School, nearly doubling last year’s participation. The event, originally held virtually during the pandemic, has grown steadily since returning in person. It included judging, guest speakers in science-related fields, and an awards ceremony recognizing student achievements.

SPORTS

Cardinals Celebrate Seniors With Heart

Greenwich High School’s softball team honored its four seniors on May 18, 2025, during a home game against Westhill High School, where despite a 9-3 loss, they demonstrated growth and competitive spirit. Sophomore Sydney Coyne provided a highlight with a two-run home run, while seniors Sophia Blois, Cameron Clark, Gianna Toscano, and Casey Natale were recognized for their leadership and contributions. The Cardinals, now 5-14, showed solid defensive play and resilience in a challenging FCIAC season. Photo Credit: David Fierro

Brunswick Lacrosse Finishes Strong Season

Brunswick School’s varsity lacrosse team was defeated by rival Salisbury School 10-5 in the semifinals of the Prep Nationals Tournament on May 16 at Cosby Field. The loss ended the Bruins’ pursuit of a fourth consecutive championship game appearance. They concluded their season with a 14-3 record, including a 14-2 regular season. Photo Credit: Ben Harper/Chaos Crew Media

Cardinals Surge With Dominant Wins

Greenwich High’s varsity girls lacrosse team enters its May 20 regular season finale against Wilton on a two-game winning streak after dominant victories over Westhill (21-5) and Southington (19-3). Key contributors included Aubrey Roth, who tallied a combined 10 goals and 7 assists, and sisters Giselle and Sophia DiPietro, who together accounted for 14 goals and 16 assists across both games. The Cardinals (8-8) next head into the FCIAC Tournament following their regular season finale. Photo Credit: 06878 Photography by Antonio Monteiro

GHS Boys Tennis Stays Perfect

Greenwich High School’s boys tennis team finished the regular season undefeated at 15-

0, capturing the FCIAC West Division title and extending their match win streak to 59. They enter the FCIAC Tournament as the No. 1 seed and will face Ridgefield in the quarterfinals. The Cardinals secured dominant victories over Westhill, Fairfield Warde, and Brien McMahon, with strong performances across both singles and doubles play.

Brunswick Baseball Builds Bright Future

Despite a 10-2 loss to Rye Country Day in the FAA Tournament semifinals, Brunswick School’s baseball team ended its season with an impressive 11-2 league record and the top seed in the tournament. The Bruins relied heavily on contributions from underclassmen and consistent pitching and hitting throughout the season. With strong development from younger players, the team is optimistic about future success.

GHS Girls Tennis Remains Unbeaten

Greenwich High School’s girls tennis team completed an undefeated 15-0 regular season with a 7-0 Senior Day win over Brien McMahon, securing the FCIAC West Division title. The Cardinals, defending CIAC Class LL champions and top seed in the FCIAC Tournament, begin postseason play against Ridgefield on May 20. Led by dominant performances across singles and doubles, they aim to win their first FCIAC championship since 2012.

Tigers Capture FAA Championship Title

Greenwich Country Day School’s boys lacrosse team capped an undefeated 16-0 season by defeating King School 22-6 in the 2025 FAA Tournament championship on May 15. Led by senior captain Griffyn Flood’s eight goals, the Tigers avenged their 2024 title game loss to King and secured both the regular season and tournament crowns. The team credited its success to senior leadership, balanced play, and strong coaching in just the program’s fourth varsity season. Photo Credit: 06878 Photography by Antonio Monteiro

Greenwich Academy Lacrosse Team Triumphs

Greenwich Academy’s Varsity A lacrosse team defeated Greens Farms Academy 7-4 in the FAA Tournament championship on May 14, 2025, at Tammaro Field, securing back-to-back titles. Senior captain Katie Barr led GA with four goals and two assists, while the defense, anchored by goalie Persia Shipman, held off a late GFA surge. The win capped a 13-3 season and an undefeated 8-0 record in FAA play. Photo Credit: 06878 Photography by Antonio Monteiro

Cardinals Showcase Grit And Talent

Greenwich High School’s baseball team showcased its hallmark strong pitching and defense in a 1-0 Senior Day loss to Ridgefield, with senior Lucas Meinelt carrying a no-hitter into the seventh. Despite Meinelt’s standout performance, the Cardinals couldn’t capitalize offensively against Ridgefield’s Adam Rosenfeld, who pitched a complete-game shutout. The team sits at 5-9 overall, showing resilience but struggling to produce runs in key moments.

LOCAL POLITICS

Armstrong Court Roadway Name Proposed

At a recent Board of Selectmen meeting, Greenwich Communities director Tony Johnson proposed naming the main road through Armstrong Court after board chair Sam Romeo, citing his role in the property’s redevelopment. The proposal must follow the town’s naming rights policy, which requires informed consent and review by an RTM committee before a final vote by the Selectmen. Armstrong Court’s multi-phase renovation began in 2019 and involves state and federal funding.

FROM HARTFORD

CT Eliminates Medical Debt Burden

Connecticut is eliminating over \$100 million in medical debt for more than 100,000 residents through a partnership with the nonprofit Undue Medical Debt. Funded by \$575,000 in federal ARPA money, the initiative buys bundled medical debts at low cost and forgives them for individuals meeting income-based criteria. No application is required, and recipients are being notified by mail.

CT Cracks Down On Illegal Medications

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong has taken legal action against two online distributors for selling unapproved GLP-1 weight loss drugs directly to consumers without prescriptions. The state also warned clinics and med spas against marketing compounded GLP-1 medications that are not FDA-approved and may pose health risks. A broader investigation and multi-state effort are underway to address the illegal sale and distribution of these drugs.

Connecticut Moves To Fund Medicaid

Governor Ned Lamont has issued a declaration allowing the Connecticut General Assembly to approve emergency funding to fully support Medicaid through the end of fiscal year 2025. The Department of Social Services estimates an additional \$284 million is needed due to rising costs driven by increased service use, home health and pharmacy expenses, and enrollment changes. Cost-control measures include cutting coverage for certain weight-loss drugs and limiting enrollment in a home-based services program.

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NMLS# 510513

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

NEW LISTINGS							
TIMOTHY AGRO, GREENWICH STREETS TEAM, 203.461.5964							
Address	List Price	Price/SqFt	SqFt	AC	BR	FB	Area
453 E Putnam Avenue 1i	\$770,000	\$526	1,464	0	2	2	Cos Cob
54 Greenwich Hills Drive	\$1,199,000	\$551	2,176	0	3	3	Glenville
12 Corrigan Lane	\$1,375,000	\$832	1,652	2.68	2	2	North Parkway
8 View Street 10	\$1,650,000	\$760	2,172	0	3	2	South of Post Road
51 Forest Avenue 98	\$1,899,000	\$685	2,773	0	4	4	Old Greenwich
29 Griffith Road	\$1,950,000	\$581	3,358	0.16	4	2	Riverside
1050 King Street	\$1,975,000	\$605	3,264	2.13	4	3	North Parkway
18 Sound Beach Avenue	\$2,199,900	\$1,113	1,977	0.19	4	3	Old Greenwich
23 W West View Place	\$2,299,000	\$871	2,641	0.18	4	3	Riverside
301 Riversville Road	\$2,400,000	\$726	3,308	4	4	4	South Parkway
254 Stanwich Road	\$2,799,000	\$692	4,044	1.37	4	4	South Parkway
175 Riverside Avenue	\$2,900,000	\$890	3,258	0.28	5	3	Riverside
190 Lake Avenue	\$4,000,000	\$560	7,148	1	7	6	South Parkway
296 Old Church Road	\$4,150,000	\$749	5,542	2.88	6	6	South Parkway
16 Lia Fail Way	\$4,625,000	\$846	5,468	2.97	5	4	Cos Cob
6 Coachlamp Lane	\$4,895,000	\$794	6,166	0.65	5	5	South Parkway
427 Taconic Road	\$5,200,000	\$894	5,816	2.8	6	8	North Parkway
78 Khakum Wood Road	\$6,300,000	\$921	6,841	2.95	9	6	South Parkway
21 Aiken Road	\$7,250,000	\$1,080	6,714		5	4	North Parkway
55 Calhoun Drive	\$8,250,000	\$946	8,722	1.42	6	7	South Parkway
170 John Street	\$8,750,000	\$1,001	8,744	8.96	5	5	North Parkway
11 Round Hill Club Road	\$19,900,000	\$1,730	11,500	3.04	6	7	South Parkway

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES				
ROB PULITANO 203-561-8092				
Address	Area	Price	Day/Time	Broker
43 Hunting Ridge Road	Greenwich	\$2,775,000	Sat 12-2 PM	BHHS New England
19 Putnam Park #19	Greenwich	\$560,000	Sun 10-12 PM	BHHS New England
453 E Putnam Ave #1i	Cos Cob	\$770,000	Sun 12-2 PM	BHHS New England
39 Riverside Avenue	Riverside	\$2,250,000	Sun 2- PM	BHHS New England
7 Mountain Laurel Drive	Greenwich	\$3,495,000	Sat 12-2 PM	Coldwell Banker
7 Mountain Laurel Drive	Greenwich	\$3,495,000	Sun 12-2 PM	Coldwell Banker

NEW SALES								
TIMOTHY AGRO, GREENWICH STREETS TEAM, 203.461.5964								
Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres	SqFt
47 Lafayette Place 3H	\$799,000	\$799,000	\$775,000	70	1	1	0	810
135 Byram Road	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$795,000	22	3	2	0.15	1,713
18 Stone Avenue 3	\$885,000	\$885,000	\$1,025,000	28	3	3	0	2,250
65 Orchard Street	\$1,495,000	\$1,495,000	\$1,450,000	11	4	2	0.17	1,493
17 Highland Farm Road	\$2,199,000	\$1,699,000	\$1,635,000	547	4	3	4.92	3,033
30 Prospect Drive	\$1,795,000	\$1,795,000	\$1,857,500	9	4	3	0.15	1,974
12 Osee Place	\$1,895,000	\$1,895,000	\$1,895,000	7	3	2	0.2	2,384
968 Lake Avenue	\$2,895,000	\$2,895,000	\$2,700,000	57	5	4	4.79	5,713
15 Highland Farm Road	\$3,995,000	\$3,995,000	\$3,900,000	36	5	5	4.09	6,612
14 S End Court	\$4,325,000	\$4,325,000	\$4,325,000	51	5	5	0.53	5,602
2 Bennett Street	\$4,325,000	\$4,325,000	\$4,325,000	0	5	4	0.23	3,900

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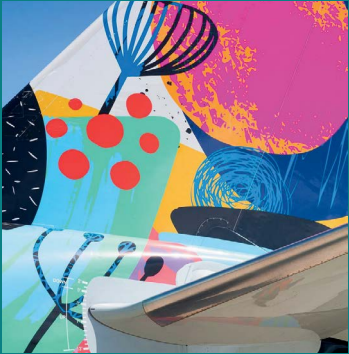


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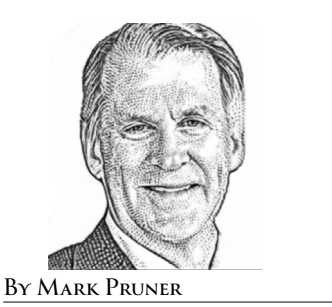


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Greenwich April 2025 Condo and Co-op Report



By MARK PRUNER

Market Tightest Ever
In 2024, we saw the highest volume of condo and co-op sales ever with \$256 million in total sales. So far this year, we have sold \$78 million of condos, which annualized comes out to \$201 million. Our year-end number will likely be higher since our first quarter traditionally has the lowest number of sales.

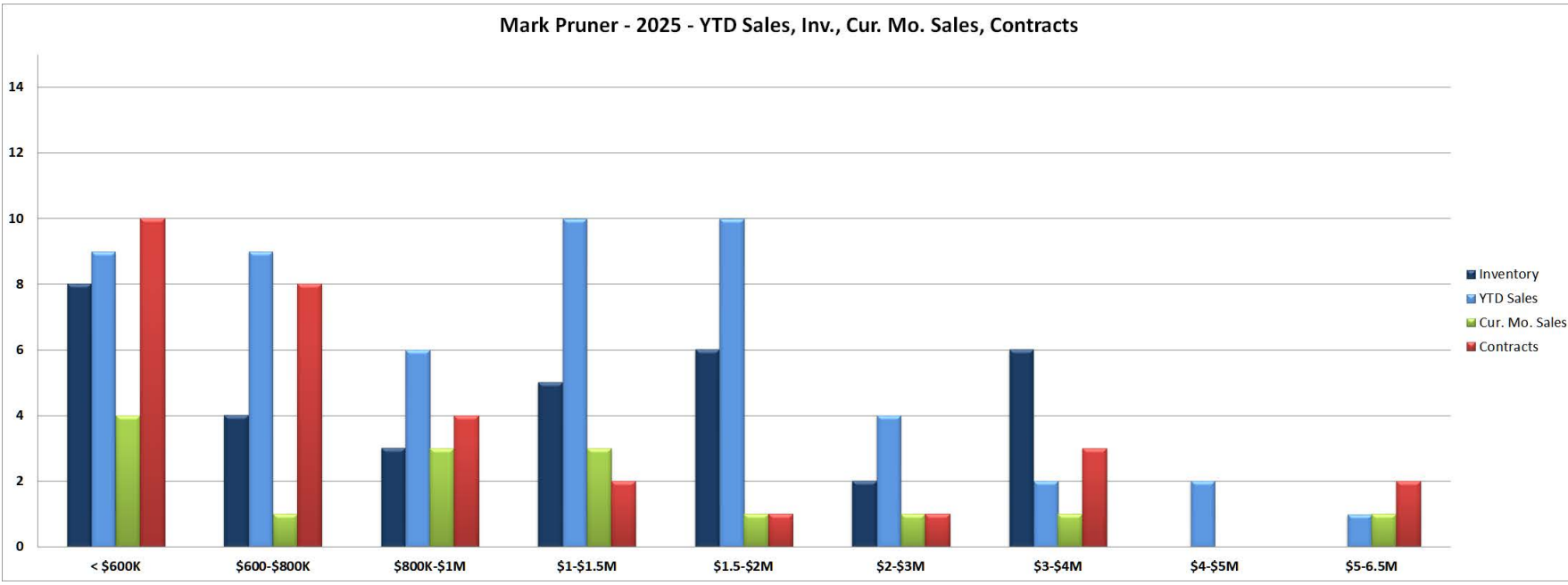
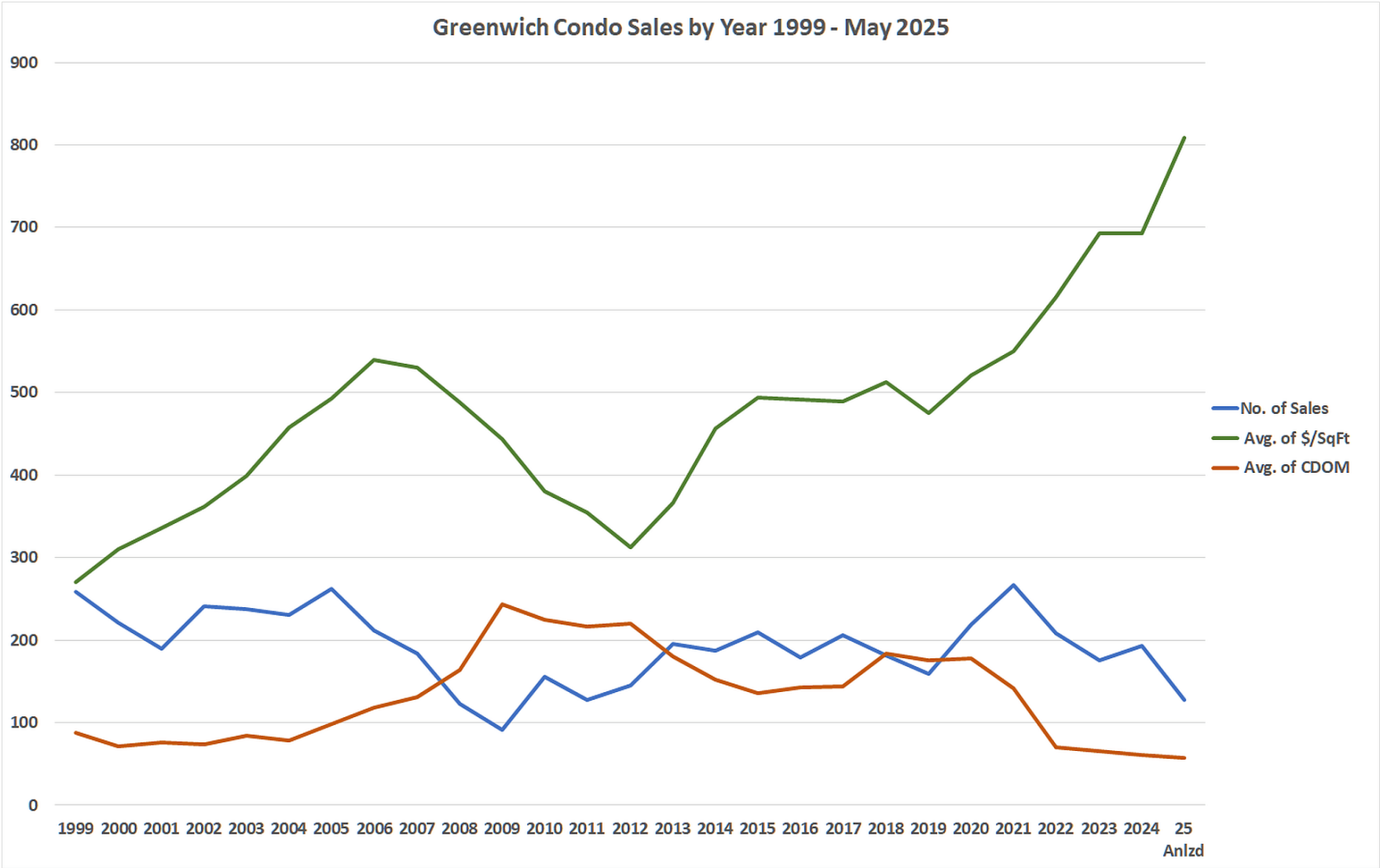
Last year, we had the highest sales price to original list price at 101.3%. This year we went down to a still high 99.2% of sold price to original list price. This compares to our 25-year median of 94.1 of SP/OLP. Condos are almost always tight in Greenwich. We had the highest sales price per square foot and the highest average sales price at \$1.33 million in 2024.

So far this year we are blowing those records away. Our average price is \$1.46 million, up 9.8% from last year. Our average price/sf is \$808/sf, up 16.6% from last year. Part of that big jump is a change in the mix in what is selling this year with 9 sales over \$2 million this year.

Our cumulative days on market dropped to an all-time low of 61 days on market last year and they went down even more this year to 58 days on market. The reason it was even this high was we had 3 sales that had been on the market for over 200 days. The median days on market was a very low 30 days from listing to binding contract, almost the same as last year.

All of this is attributed to our very low inventory. As of the third week of May we only have 35 condos on the market. We have already sold 53 condos and have 31 contracts waiting to close. At this point, it looks like low inventory may lead to lower sales this year, but we will have more sales in the second half of the year than in the first half of the year, if historic seasonal sales pattern applies.

Our condo sales were spread out all over front



country, where properties are zoned for multi-family. Most of sales are in central Greenwich, Pemberwick, Glenville, and Byram on the west side of town and also in Cos Cob on the east side of Greenwich. Of our 31 contracts, 23 are pending, i.e. non-contingent and only 8 are contingent. These 8 contingent contracts represent about 25% of all the contract, which is a little higher contingency percentage than we see in single family home contracts.

We see more contingent contracts for condos than we do for single family homes, because of the lower price point and buyers that don't have the \$3 million of cash it takes to buy the average priced house in Greenwich. Still if you are looking to buy a condo, it's a good idea to bring cash. If you don't have the \$1.46 million to buy the average condo in Greenwich,

you really, really want to get a good mortgage broker and get underwritten pre-approved. If sellers know that if you only need an appraisal to close, that a slightly higher offer may be as good as cash. (Sellers nearly always think their house will appraise for your offer price.)

The condo market is tight at every price range. We have less than 3 months of supply from \$600,000 to \$3 million. We have no MoS above \$4 million, since we have no condos listed in that price range. (We do have one listing at \$6.59 million, but it's actually 2 condos in a duplex, which are separately listed for \$3.295 million each.) Our team has 9 condos listed for \$11 million, but they fall under the multi-family category in the Greenwich MLS since they are rental/investment properties.

Our highest condo sale this year was on Oneida

So far this year we are blowing 2024's records away. Our average price is \$1.46 million, up 9.8% and ur average price/sf is \$808/sf, up 16.6% from last year.

Drive for \$6.53, nearly matching last year's record of \$6.75 million also on Oneida Drive. This year's sale was on the market for 46 days. Over \$3 million we have 7 listings and 5 sales so far this year and 5 contracts waiting to close.

The large majority of condo sales are under \$2 million, this is up from the majority of sales being under \$1.5 million last year. The only price category that has anything close to decent inventory is under \$600,000 where we have 8 listings, but we also had 9 sales and 10 contracts this year, which means only 2.3 months of supply

On average, just about any month is a good month

to sell a condo. We do have a slight peak in June with 22 sales last, but we don't see the big late spring/summer spike that we see in Greenwich house sales. Then again, if you don't have to list in January or February you may want to wait for the spring market, but feel free to list away in November or December.

Overall, the condo and co-op market is tight in Greenwich, but then it always is. It's the place to go if you want to get into Greenwich for less than a \$1 million. So far this year, we have had 24 sales and 22 contracts for condos under \$1 million. We also have 15 condos in inventory. On the single family home side we have 2

sales and 10 contracts, 9 of which were listed between \$800,000 and \$1 million.

If you are looking for a newly built condo ready to move in to, we don't have any. We have 2 listings that are under construction and our next newest condo was built in 2019. We did have one lucky buyer who bought a 2024 build.

We are at the lowest days on market ever so be ready to move, when you see the condo or the co-op that you want.

Mark Pruner, with his brother Russ, were co-founders of the Greenwich Streets Team at Compass Connecticut. He can be reached at 203-817-2871 or mark.pruner@compass.com.

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254 Stanwich Road, Greenwich | \$2,799,000
4 Bedrooms 4 Bathrooms 4,044 SF
Joan Suter | 203.918.0115

Discover this stunning, brightly illuminated home built in 1986 and thoughtfully renovated in 2024. Nestled on a serene 1.37-acre lot in a desirable mid-country location, just minutes from town, train & schools. Enjoy the indoor-outdoor lifestyle with several decks overlooking a private yard, tranquil pond, and lush greenery.



8 View Street 10, Greenwich | \$1,650,000
3 Bedrooms 2.1 Bathrooms 2,172 SF
Jill Barile | 203.219.5717

In Town. Built in 2019. Open Floor Plan with High Ceilings. 2 Story Foyer, Hardwood Floors, Gourmet Kitchen with Marble Counters, Formal Dining Room, Family Room w/ Fireplace Adjacent to Kitchen. 2 Car Attached Heated Garage. Close to Town, Shopping, Dining, Transportation & Schools. Square footage does not include garage and finished basement.



84 Clubhouse Drive, Stamford | \$1,650,000
3 Bedrooms 3.1 Bathrooms 3,112 SF
Karen Scrivanos Oztemel | 203.921.8490

Experience effortless luxury in this three-bedroom home in River Oaks, a gated community of 59 homes on 30 landscaped acres. A dramatic entry leads to a double-height living room, French doors to the terrace and an adjacent formal dining room. Desirable first floor primary suite. The gourmet eat-in kitchen features Christopher Peacock cabinetry. Minutes to downtown Stamford, Greenwich and Westchester.

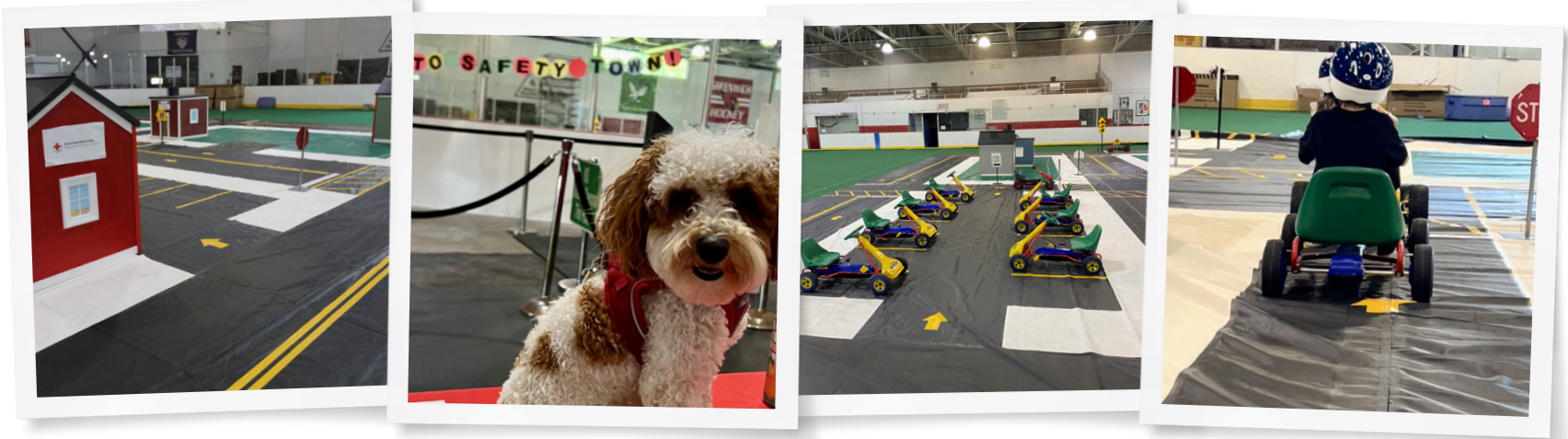


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Sign up for Safety Town 2025
Week of June 16 or June 23
Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink

Safety Town is a comprehensive one-week safety education program offered every summer by the American Red Cross Metro New York North Chapter that teaches awareness and accident prevention skills to children entering kindergarten in the fall. Under guidance of classroom instructors and with the help of representatives from the police, fire, EMS departments and other community helpers, children learn safety tips in a classroom setting and are fitted with their own bike safety helmet that they keep. Daily lessons include handouts and additional reference information for parents and caregivers. At the end of each week of training, the graduates receive a Safety Town diploma.

Two sessions available each week. Your child would attend the same session time each day for one week. Safety Town will take place at the Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink in Greenwich.

Week of June 16th & Week of June 23th

Morning Session: 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Afternoon Session: 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

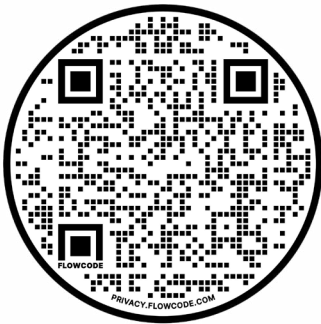
Tuition: \$225/child (includes all materials and bike helmet). Scholarships available.

Register at safetytown25.givesmart.com

Registration closes on May 30, 2025



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Join Us!

Safety Town is a one week safety education program for rising Kindergarteners

Week of June 16, 2025
at the Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink
in Greenwich, Conn
Tuition: \$225/child
Scholarships available

safetytown2025.givesmart.com



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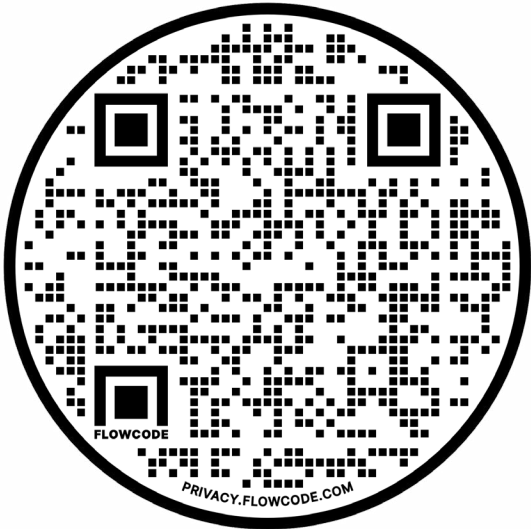
Safety Town



**American
Red Cross**

Safety Town

Register Here



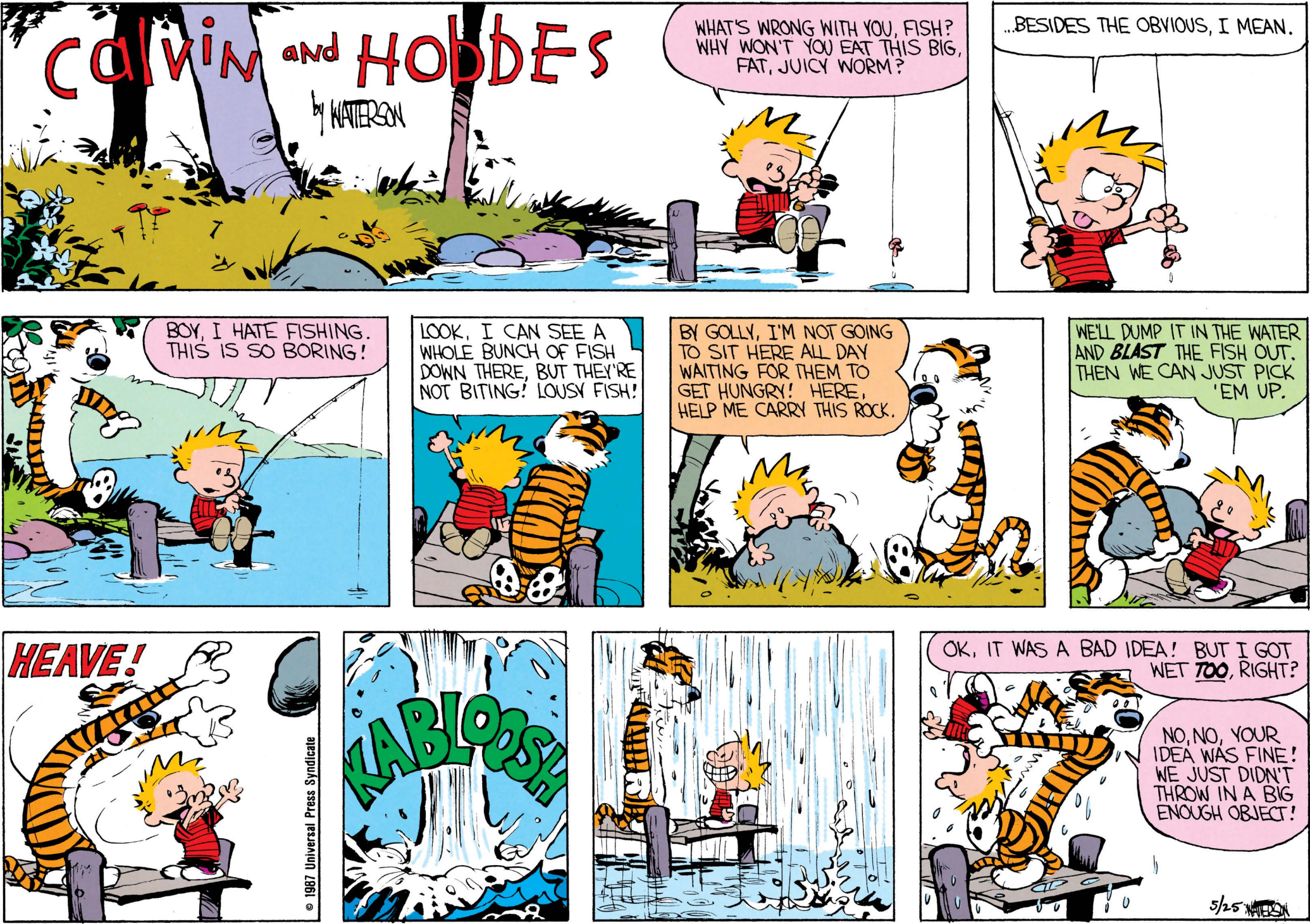
Week of June 16, 2025 | Scholarships Available

Questions? Email safetytown.gny@redcross.org



EDUCATION

From the Sentinel Foundation: the educational page for our readers.



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COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE EASTERN GRAY SQUIRREL

This Little Neighbor is Smarter than You Think!



“A black Squirrel!” my colleague called out from the passenger seat, bringing my attention to the small mammal just off the exit of the Merritt Parkway. Though the species was common, the coloration was anything but common within that multi-town range. With no way of turning around, I had to be content knowing there would always be a next sighting, and she had to be content with a fleeting glimpse of a most remarkable little creature.

The Eastern Gray Squirrel, *Sciurus carolinensis*, is one of the most common mammals in Eastern North America yet, it is also a creature that guards its secrets as well as it guards the location of its buried food. For one, although it is known as a “gray” squirrel, this arboreal mammal exhibits mutations resulting in melanism (an overabundance of melanin pigment giving the animal a black-furred appearance), albinism (a lack of melanin pigment giving the animal a white-furred appearance), and even cinnamon-colored individuals. More rarely, certain squirrels at Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo exhibit leucism (a form of albinism in which some pigment is expressed—often in the eyes), resulting in blue-eyed, whitish-furred squirrels! Typically, these tree squirrels exhibit light gray fur along their flanks and backs with whiteish fur on the belly and around the eyes, hints of buff along their cheeks and sides, and a light eye ring with a silvery frosted tail. Reaching approximately 20 inches in length and 1.5 pounds in weight, they sport a small and light frame for life high above the forest floor. As a prolific animal which can produce up to two litters a year of up to nine young, the Gray squirrel tips the scales in favor of survival from sheer abundance alone. Coupling this abundance with an average lifespan of more than six years, which exceeds longevity for many other rodent species, the Gray squirrel is well represented in



These nimble rodents have a trick or two up their sleeves. Accounting for such “thievery” Gray squirrels will employ a practice known as deceptive caching.

Drawing lesson

How to Draw a Squirrel

the forests of Eastern North America. Early explorers of the North American continent remarked as to the “dense forests that stretched from the rising sun to the setting sun.” This domain of oaks, maples, hickories, and other hardwoods provided key habitat and forage for these herbivores. In fact, it has been stated by these early explorers that a squirrel could travel from branch to branch from

the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, and from the shores of the Atlantic to the Mississippi without ever touching ground. While it may have been scientifically possible, the Gray squirrel’s home range of 1-25 acres makes these small mammals much more localized. For those of us who have experienced these acrobatic creatures stealing bird food from our feeders, or gnawing

their way into our sheds, or even attics, they have earned the title, “bandit” or “pest.” It is this common “wildlife neighbor” status that leads us to overlook their impressive attributes. Consuming insects and other animal matter when opportunity arises, these resourceful creatures supplement their diets and boost much needed calories for energy storage. While the squirrel requires forests for

food and cover, the forests rely on the squirrels for reforestation. Employing scatter hoarding behavior to store buried nuts, fungi and other foods, these busy rodents may store hundreds, or even thousands of food caches throughout their territory. The net effect of this behavior is food for a rainy (or snowy) day. With a keen sense of smell, these industrious mammals revisit their buried hoard with great accuracy, even detecting nuts hidden beneath more than a foot of snow! With Gray squirrels losing up to 25% of their stored food to other species, their fellow mammals, birds, and other species benefit from the excess. Yet, these nimble rodents have a trick or two up their sleeves. Accounting for such “thievery” Gray squirrels will employ a practice known as deceptive caching. Researchers at Central Connecticut State University have uncovered fascinating findings which confirm that the squirrels will vigorously dig a hole, hold a nut in their teeth and place their head within the freshly dug hole while concealing the nut before covering up the empty hole and pulling leaf cover over it—as if they had buried an actual nut! By interspersing

deceptive caches with actual caches, they protect their effort and trick the tricksters. Clearly, there is a lot going on in their little heads. Acting like a mammalian Johnny Appleseed, the squirrel’s behavior results in the enhancement of fungi species diversity, improved soil health, the spreading of fruit and nut producing tree species, and forest regeneration. When considering this wild neighbor, I reflect on what we humans can learn from them. While they can at times be considered a “pest” or a “nuisance” I think it’s fair to say that we humans have our moments too. When we consider their other attributes however, they have much to offer us. They exhibit undeniable intelligence, planning, industry, adaptability, and even contribute to the health of the world around them. It’s said that from gray, comes wisdom. From what I’ve seen from our forest neighbors...I am inclined to agree. **Jim Knox is a Wildlife Conservationist and the Curator of Education at Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo, where he leads nationally recognized education and conservation initiatives. A member of the Connecticut Zoological Society and The Explorers Club, Jim has studied wildlife across the globe. As the Writer and Host of Wild Zoofari on PBS, Jim has shared his passion for wildlife with millions worldwide, with additional appearances as an on-camera wildlife expert for The Today Show, CBS Early Show, and Fox News. A graduate of Cornell University in Animal Science, he also serves as a science adviser to the Bruce Museum and contributes his wildlife column, Wildly Successful, to The Greenwich Sentinel. Jim is the co-creator of the Conservation Discovery Corps—named Outstanding Education Program in the nation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. He is a TEDx and national keynote speaker committed to inspiring audiences to protect and learn from wildlife everywhere.**

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS

Saturday, May 24, 11 a.m.
Cos Cob VFW Post 10112 Memorial Ceremony. Cos Cob Dock VFW Memorial on Strickland Road, Cos Cob. All are welcome.

Sunday, May 25
1 p.m. Byram Veterans Association Annual Parade & Ceremony. Byram Veterans Club to Byram-Shubert Library.
5 p.m. The Glenville Volunteer Fire Company and 9th District Veterans Memorial Day Parade, followed by service. From Walker Court to the Glenville Fire House.

Monday, May 26
8 a.m. Greenwich American Legion Post 29 Wreath laying Ceremony. Indian Harbor Yacht Club.
10 a.m. Byram Veterans Association’s annual Memorial Service. At the Memorial Grove in Eugene Morlot Memorial Park.
10 a.m. Old Greenwich Memorial Day Parade with the Sound Beach Community Band. Sound Beach Avenue to Binney Park.

FRIDAY, MAY 23
9:30 a.m.
Greenwich Newcomers Club: Friday Beach Walks at Tod’s Point. Meeting Spot: Second concession stand near the flagpole. Beach passes required. Register. greenwichnewcomersclub.wildapricot.org

10:15 a.m.
Fall Prevention in Parkinson’s and the Older Adult Population. YMCA of Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Free & open to the community. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

3 p.m.
Conservation Commission: Mianus River Fishway Open House. Mianus River Fish Ladder, 125 River Road Ext., Cos Cob. Free. 203-622-6461. greenwichct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/49525/Open-house-2?bidId=

SATURDAY, MAY 24
1 p.m.
Science Solvers: Plant Anatomy (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, May 25. brucemuseum.org

SUNDAY, MAY 25
1 p.m.
Science Solvers: Plant Anatomy (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. brucemuseum.org

MONDAY, MAY 26
8:15 a.m.
Greenwich Parks & Recreation’s 61st Running of the Jim Fixx Memorial Day Race – 5K & Kids 1/2 Mile Fun Run. Registration must be completed online. Race starts: Greenwich Avenue at the intersection of East Elm Street. greenwichct.gov/2100/Jim-Fixx-Memorial-Day-Race

TUESDAY, MAY 27
9:45 a.m.
The Riverside Garden Club: “Herb & Kitchen Edibles Garden” with Master Gardener, Donna Katsuranis. St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 200 Riverside Ave. Free. RSVP. riversidectgardenclub@gmail.com. riversidectgardenclub.org

10 a.m.
Perrot Memorial Library: Perrot Walks at Binney Park. Free. 203-637-1066 x15. perrotlibrary.org

10 & 11 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings: Art in 3-D, All about Sculpture (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce

Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, May 28. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.
Women’s Business Development Council (WBDC): Marketing Made Simple: Sales versus Marketing; What’s the difference? Online. Free. Register. ctwbdc.org/class-listings

6 p.m.
Bruce Socials: Trivia at the Bruce. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. \$10 (includes a slice of pizza & a beer). Register. brucemuseum.org

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28
10 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings Junior: Art in 3-D, All about Sculpture (ages 12 Months-30 Months). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

12 p.m.
Colonial Crafts: Make a Lavender Sachet in the Time Travelers KidStudio. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. greenwichhistory.org/events

3:45 p.m.
Shakespeare on the Sound Presents “Macbeth for Kids!” Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. jsgammatto@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.
Shakespeare on the Sound Presents “How Many Children Had Lady MacBeth and Other Puzzles of “The Scottish Play” Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

THURSDAY, MAY 29
10 a.m.
Open Knitting Drop-In Program. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. perrotlibrary.org

FRIDAY, MAY 30
3:30 p.m.
North Mianus School’s 100th Year Anniversary: Alumni Tours of the School – view the school’s archives and get a tour of the inside of the school led by current 5th grade NMS students. Sign up. signupgenius.com/go/10C054DACAD2BA2FFC07-55238972-alumni#/

4 p.m.
Teen Afternoon: Free Admission. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. RSVP. brucemuseum.org

5 p.m.
Teen Afternoon: Sip, Paint, and Relax. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. RSVP. brucemuseum.org

5 p.m.
TGIF Fitness Made Fun Dance Class For Individuals with Special Needs. YMCA of Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Free & open to everyone. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

SATURDAY, MAY 31
9 - 10:30 a.m.

Sensory Friendly Mornings. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free admission for children 18 & under. brucemuseum.org

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Greenwich Concours d’Sport. Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. greenwichconcours.com

10 a.m.
Hike for Haiti – Greenwich Edition

(Walk, Run, Bike or Skate) in solidarity and raise funds to support healthcare and education access in Haiti. Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. give.hopeforhaiti.com/event/hike-for-haiti-2025-greenwich/e670246

12 p.m.
Colonial Crafts: Make Paper Quilling Cards in the Time Travelers KidStudio. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. greenwichhistory.org/events

1 p.m.
Art Adventures: Clay Sculptures (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, June 1. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.
ASL Tour – Members of the D/deaf, Hard of Hearing, and ASL student communities. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free. Registration required. brucemuseum.org

7:30 p.m.
Greenwich Choral Society concert. Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School, 10 Hillside Rd. greenwichsymphony.org/may-31-june-1

SUNDAY, JUNE 1
10 a.m.
Greenwich Concours d’Elegance. Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. greenwichconcours.com

12 p.m.
Healthy Kids Day – Arts & Crafts, Dancing, Interactive Games, Healthy Snacks & Refreshments, Raffles & Prizes. YMCA of Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Free & open to the community. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

1 p.m.
Greenwich Pride – flag raising and activities. Greenwich Town Hall, 101 Field Point Rd. Rain or Shine. All are welcome.

2 p.m.
Fred Elser First Sunday Science: Foraging with the “Wildman.” Innis Arden Cottage, Tod’s Point. Free (No beach pass is required if you are attending this event). brucemuseum.org

3 p.m.
Greenwich Choral Society concert. Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School, 10 Hillside Rd. greenwichsymphony.org/may-31-june-1

SATURDAYS, THROUGH NOV. 22
9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Greenwich Farmer’s Market Opening Day. Horseneck Parking Lot, Arch Street and Horseneck Lane. (Parking is free during market hours). Through Nov. 22. 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. - 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. roundhillcommunity-church.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. roundhillcommunity-church.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

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, May 23
10 a.m.
Storytime. Cos Cob Library (Outside). 203-622-6883.

10 a.m.
Goldbas Musical Story Hour. Marx Family Black Box Theater. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org.
11:15 a.m.
Qi Gong. Online. 203-622-6883. lmatthews@greenwichlibrary.org.

Saturday, May 24
All Libraries closed.
Monday, May 26
All Libraries closed.
Tuesday, May 27

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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

5 p.m.
Meditation & Breathing with Gail (Zoom).

5:30 p.m.
Community Sponsored: Julie Jason Trust & Estates Program. 2nd Floor Meeting Room.

Wednesday, May 28

10 a.m.
Baby Lapsit in the Stacks. Cos Cob Library Turret.

11 a.m.
Early Walkers in the Stacks! Cos Cob Library Turret.

1 p.m.
Investment Basics Series V: Research Tools. Online.

1 p.m.
LaserLab: Design & Create. Innovation Lab.

7 p.m.
Peterson Music Lecture: Deconstructing The Dark Side of the Moon. Berkley Theater.

Thursday, May 29

10 a.m.
Japanese Storytime Marx Family Black Box Theater.

11 a.m.
Tech Help. Learning Lab.

4 p.m.
Tai Chi for Adults with Ken Dolan. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

6 p.m.
Fine-Tuning MS Word Templates for a Polished Resume. Learning Lab.

Friday, May 30

10 a.m.
Storytime. Cos Cob Library (Outside). 203-622-6883.

10 a.m.
Goldbas Musical Story Hour. Marx Family Black Box Theater. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org.

11:15 a.m.
Qi Gong. Online. 203-622-6883. lmatthews@greenwichlibrary.org.

7 p.m.
Friends Friday Films: “A Real Pain.” Greenwich Library Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org.

Saturday, May 31

10:30 a.m.
Meditation for Families with Roberta Brown. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

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

1 p.m.
PrintLab: 3D Printing Studio. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovation-lab@greenwichlibrary.org.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL: greenwichhospital.org/events
888-305-9253

Wednesday, May 28

1:30 p.m.
Parkinson’s Disease Support Group. 260 Long Ridge Road Stamford. Free.

Thursday, May 29

5 p.m.
Talk: Stride into Survivorship - Celebrating National Cancer Survivor Day. Greenwich Hospital, 5 Perryridge Rd. Free.

Tuesday, June 3

5:30 p.m.
Webinar: Biological Clock: Control Your Fertility. Free.

6 p.m.
CPR Friends & Family (Infant/Child). 38 Volunteer Ln. \$65. For discount

information call 888-305-9253.

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR: ntn-greenwich.org

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

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

Tuesdays, 9 - 11 a.m.
Food Drive (drive-thru) at St. Catherine of Siena’s parking area across the street from the rectory entrance, 4 Riverside Ave. (Non-perishable foods, personal care products, large sized diapers (5 & 6) and pull-ups, and knit hats (hand knit or store bought).

Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Food Drive at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church parking lot, 200 Riverside Ave.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Red-CrossBlood.org

Saturday, May 24

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
The Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Ave, Norwalk.

Sunday, May 25

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

Monday, May 26

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

Tuesday, May 27

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

Wednesday, May 28

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Agudath Sholom synagogue, 301 Strawberry Hill Avenue, Stamford.

Thursday, May 29

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

3 - 7 p.m.
Larchmont Temple, 75 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont, NY.

Friday, May 30

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Cancer Support Community Greater NY & CT at Gildas Club, 80 Maple Ave., White Plains, NY.

Saturday, May 31

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Stamford Hotel, 700 E. Main St., Stamford.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
New York Athletic Club, Field House, 31 Shore Rd., Pelham Manor, NY.

Sunday, June 1

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Greenwich Blood Donation Center, 99 Indian Field Rd.

TOWN MEETINGS: greenwichct.gov/calendar

Friday, May 16

12 p.m.
RTM Call closes at noon.

Tuesday, May 27

4 p.m.
Labor Contracts Committee Meeting. Gisborne Room.

Wednesday, May 28

6 p.m.
FS Hamill Rink Task Force Meeting. In-Person @ Cone Room and Virtual

via Zoom.

6:30 p.m.
Board of Parks and Recreation Meeting.

Thursday, May 29

7 p.m.
Budget Overview Committee Meeting. Mazza Room.

Monday, June 2

10:30 a.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Sign-Meeting.

1 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission Briefing.

Tuesday, June 3

4 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting.

Thursday, June 5

11 a.m.
FS Sustainability Committee Meeting. In Person @ Town Hall Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom.

7 p.m.
Conservation Commission Regular Meeting. Zoom Webinar.

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, May 24

10 a.m.
Greenwich Town Party. Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. greenwichtownparty.org

Thursday, May 29

9 a.m.
Children’s Learning Centers of Fairfield County (CLC) 9th Annual Golf Outing. The Stanwich Club, Greenwich. bit.ly/CLC2025GolfOuting

6:30 p.m.
Kids Helping Kids’ Spring Celebration. Italian Center of Stamford. kidshelpingkidsct.org

Friday, May 30

5:30 p.m.
Greenwich Land Trust’s ‘An Evening at the Farmstead’. 370 Round Hill Rd. gltrust.org/event/an-evening-at-the-farmstead

Wednesday, June 4

6 p.m.
Scouting America Greenwich Council’s Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner. Hyatt Regency Greenwich. greenwichscouting.org

Friday, June 6
Family Centers “Midnight in Monte Carlo” benefit. Private Greenwich residence. familycenters.org/product/midnight

Saturday, June 7

6 p.m.
Wild Wine, Beer & Food Safari. Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo. beardsleyzoo.org/wild-wine.html

Monday, June 9

10 a.m.
VOICES (Voices Center of Resilience) 11th Annual Golf Outing. Quaker Ridge Golf Club, Scarsdale, NY. voicescenter.org.

Monday, June 23

11 a.m.
YWCA Greenwich’s Annual Golf Tournament. Greenwich Country Club. e.givesmart.com/events/I6i/

Thursday, June 26

6:00 p.m.
The Greenwich Sentinel Award honoring Joe Kelly and Our Community Celebration!
Christ Church Greenwich

Monday, August. 11

8 a.m.
Cos Cob School PTA Golf Outing. Griffith E. Harris Golf Course. coscobpta.org/packet/271159454

Thursday, Sept. 25

9 a.m.
Stepping Stones Museum for Children’s 22nd annual ‘Swing Into It!’ Golf Tournament. Stanwich Club, Greenwich. steppingstonesmuseum.org

Saturday, Nov. 8

10 a.m.
Silver Shield Foundation 6th Annual Greenwich Walk. Greenwich Point. silvershieldfoundation.org/greenwich-walk

Our Neighboring Towns

SATURDAY, MAY 24

8 a.m.
VFW Seeks Volunteers and Donations for Flag Placing at Lakeview Cemetery for Memorial Day. 352 Main St., New Canaan. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. 203-945-9673. vfw-post653.square.site

12 p.m.
Mother’s Day Dance Party. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

5:30 p.m.
A Conversation with Entrepreneur Felicia Rubinstein, a This Could Work! Series Program by CT Mirror. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. fergusonlibrary.org

THURSDAY, MAY 29

12 p.m.
Voices Center of Resilience – VOICES Preparedness Workshop Preparing Individuals and Families for an Emergency. Online. Free. Register. voicescenter.org

6 p.m.
Civility in America Series: Debra Whitman, Chief Public Policy Officer, AARP. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

6 - 8 p.m.
Lawyers in Libraries: meet with a volunteer attorney. Ferguson Main Library, 2nd Floor Study Room 1. Book an appointment: 203-351-8221. fergusonlibrary.org

FRIDAY, MAY 30

7 p.m.
Backbeat – Rob Cavenagh guides you through the music that makes movies memorable. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org

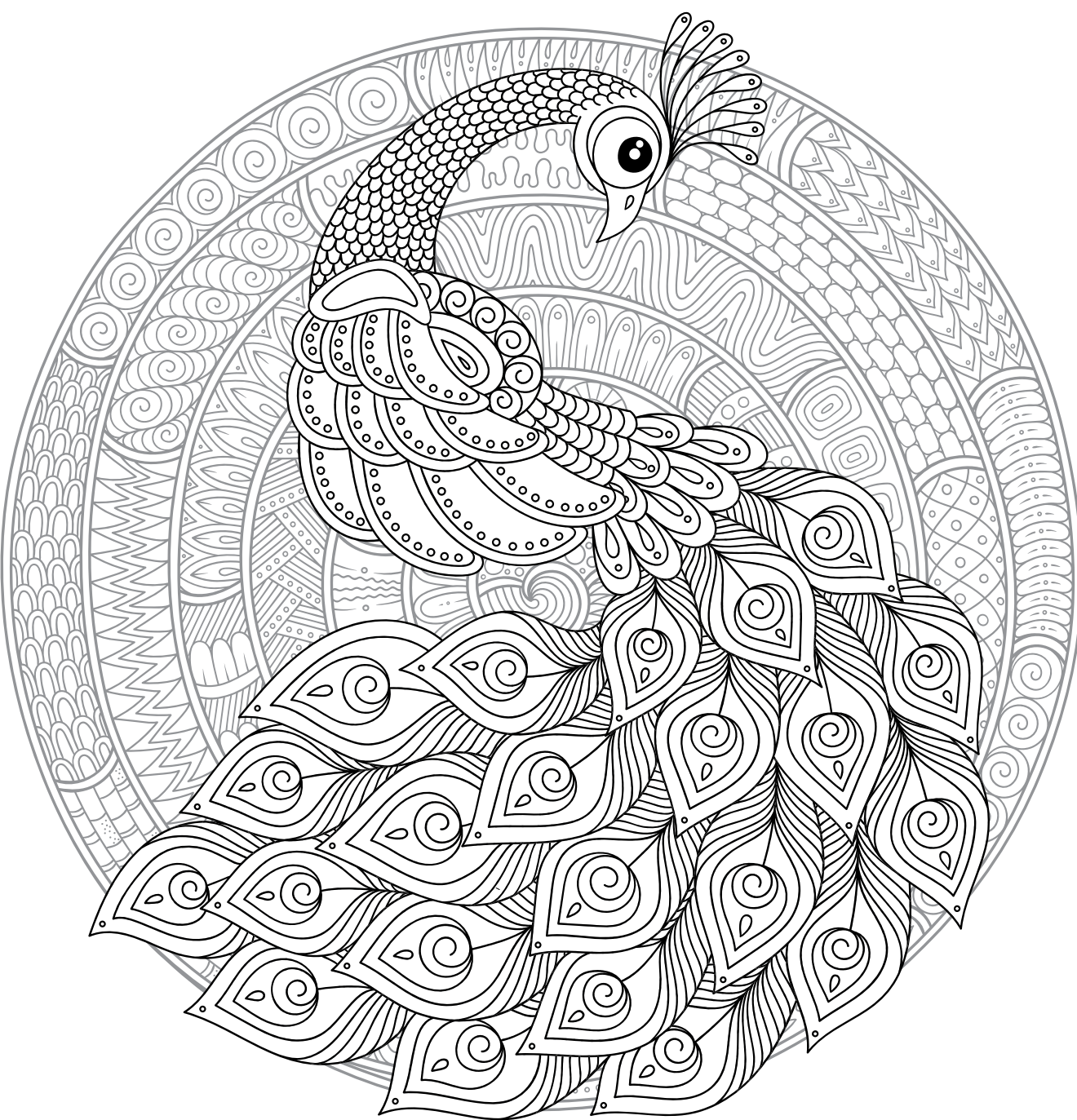
SATURDAY, MAY 31

8 a.m.
New Canaan Land Trust Bird Walk at Bristow Park, 47 Old Stamford Road, New Canaan. Meeting Point: Apple Cart Concession Stand at Mead Park. newcanaanlandtrust.org/events/on-the-trail-bird-walking

2 p.m.
An Afternoon with Ling & Lamb, Authors of Beautiful Foolishness. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

7:30 p.m.
Curtain Call presents Julie Benko: Standby Me. Norwalk Concert Hall, 71 Wall St., Norwalk. curtaincallinc.com

Regardless of age, the act of coloring a mandala provides a rare intersection of structure and freedom.

[illegible]

UNDER THE SEA

I spy
HOW MANY WATER ANIMALS CAN YOU SPOT?

WORDSCRAMBLE

BACR
USOTCOP
SILJYFELH

SPOT 5 DIFFERENCES

CRAB
DOLPHIN
FISH
JELLYFISH
OCTOPUS
SEAHORSE
STARFISH
TURTLE

C	R	A	B	J	D	O	L
S	F	I	S	E	S	E	P
E	S	T	H	L	L	Y	H
A	T	U	R	T	L	F	I
H	A	R	F	I	E	I	N
O	R	S	E	S	H	S	H
O	C	T	O	P	U	S	A

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinb

ACROSS

1

Wintertime wrap

6

Lose, as fur

10

Heed

14

Brief appearance in a film

15

Home of Machu Picchu

16

Plant, or a garden pest

17

System overseer, for short

18

Dog food brand

19

Prepare to publish

20

Concern for an advertising team (see letters 3 to 6 in this answer)

23

Raphael Warnock is one for Ga.

24

Country with the world's largest mall: Abbr.

25

Functional

28

Part of a relay race

29

"My bad!"

31

Was in charge

32

Not yet scheduled, briefly

34

Forwards, as a message (... 3 to 6)

37

Spot to look down from

39

Gift upon arriving in Hawaii

40

"Ouch!"

41

Took time for self-care, perhaps (... 6 to 9)

44

Info on a 1040 form

45

___ Lanka

46

Christmas carol

47

Portable bed

49

Hindu doctrine

51

Negroni ingredient

52

Tree substance

55

Unpredictable nature, and a theme hint

59

Religious ceremony

61

Del Rey who sang "Young and Beautiful"

62

Italian fashion house

63

Imitates

64

Flower that's often purple

65

White wading bird

66

Need for a newborn

67

Way to go?

68

Common bugs

DOWN

1

Signs of healing

2

Training group

3

Jordan's capital

4

Word that bookends "restrain"

5

Dish served with special forks

6

Vindictiveness

7

Give an audience to

8

Longtime columnist

9

Rough encounters

10

Alpha : first :: ___ : last

11

Big punches

12

Giants legend

13

"Are we there ___?"

21

Droops

22

It can set a college application apart

26

Russian Revolution figure

27

Sharp quality

28

Like a doily

29

Lakers legend

30

Norse god with two ravens

32

Colorful aquarium fish

33

Natural sleep aid?

35

Otherwise

36

Needing a map

37

(Hey you!)

38

Cartier-Bresson or Rousseau

42

Add acrobatics to your dance routine, say

43

Vaping device, for short

48

How freelance work is often done

50

"___ things happen"

51

Grind, as teeth

52

Warning from a dog

53

Found the sum of

54

Some H.S. exams

56

Skating champion

57

Not out of the game

58

Jason's ship

59

Vied for a seat

60

Hoppy brew, in brief

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

5/3

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www.upuzzles.com

Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Park

ACROSS

1.

___ and circumstance

5.

(K) Sow or ewe pronoun

8.

(K) At the highest point

12.

(K) A Great Lake

13.

Something a state adds on to a sale

14.

(K) Nevada city

15.

Scottish loch

16.

Chicken ___ king (2 words)

17.

Perpendicular building wings

18.

(K) Place at the bottom of Earth (2 words)

21.

(K) "I spy with my little ___ ..."

22.

(K) Late December song

23.

Pack down

25.

(K) Elderly

27.

(K) Part of a pingpong table

29.

Do therapy for an injured elbow

32.

(K) Wharf

34.

(K) Total, in addition

36.

Busy person's list

37.

(K) Move away from the group

39.

(K) Space between two close mountains

41.

(K) Much sooner than later

42.

(K) Thing before a front porch

44.

Like a controlled lion

46.

(K) Maximizing suffix

48.

Like The Babylon Bee

52.

"'Tis a pity!"

54.

(K) Neverland's Peter

55.

International defense org.

56.

Emulate the Titanic

57.

(K) Mimic a primate?

58.

Blood circulation problem-maker

59.

Water swirl

60.

(K) Very small

61.

(K) Some stately trees

DOWN

1.

(K) Some farm enclosures

2.

(K) Cookie brand

3.

Take someone's words the wrong way

4.

A pasta sauce

5.

(K) Paper fasteners

6.

Angel topper

7.

Praise to the skies

8.

(K) "Where ___ you?"

9.

(K) Thing to answer (2 words)

10.

(K) "And it ___ costs a million dollars!"

11.

Prepare for a photo

19.

(K) A chick's mom

20.

Hammer and anvil location

24.

(K) Accomplished, as a goal

25.

Co-___ (some apartments)

26.

(K) Like an activated candle

28.

(K) Yank

30.

"Much ___ About Nothing"

31.

(K) Wrapped present part

33.

(K) Remy from "Ratatouille," for one

35.

Afternoon performance

38.

(K) "Uh-huh"

40.

Golf score

43.

Melonlike tropical fruit

45.

Chop into tiny pieces

46.

"___ on down the road"

47.

(K) Eluded a tag, in a way

49.

Scotch strip

50.

(K) Powerful little energy source

51.

(K) They hold many cars

53.

(K) Birds fly in it

Can you find the answer to this riddle within the solved puzzle?

Place for just one pupil?

Look for the answer in next week's paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

Previous riddle answer:

It works best when tired? 5-A) CAR

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syndication.andrewsmcmeel.com

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19				20		21		
			22				23		24			
25	26			27		28		29		30	31	
32			33		34		35		36			
37				38		39		40		41		
			42		43		44		45			
46	47			48		49				50	51	
52			53		54				55			
56					57				58			
59					60				61			

5/4

Mixed Grains
 by Enrique Henestroza Anguiano

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20					21					22				
23				24					25				26	27
			28				29	30				31		
	32	33			34	35					36			
37				38		39				40				
41					42				43		44			
45				46					47	48				
49			50					51				52	53	54
		55				56	57				58			
59	60				61						62			
63					64						65			
66					67						68			

Horoscopes for Next Week

As Gemini season progresses, the week of May 22–29, 2025, is marked by significant astrological events. The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 fosters confidence in relationships and creative endeavors. Saturn's entry into Aries on May 24 initiates a new phase emphasizing responsibility and self-definition. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 offers a fresh start in communication and learning. Mercury's conjunction with Uranus on May 24 and its subsequent entry into Gemini on May 25 enhance mental agility and innovation. These transits encourage adaptability, introspection, and proactive engagement with emerging opportunities.

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 enhances your charisma, making it an opportune time to pursue creative projects or deepen romantic connections. Saturn's entry into Aries on May 24 marks the beginning of a new cycle emphasizing personal responsibility and self-definition. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 encourages you to initiate new learning endeavors or communication projects.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 enhances your communication skills, facilitating meaningful conversations in personal and professional relationships. Saturn's move into Aries on May 24 prompts introspection and the establishment of long-term goals. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 brings attention to financial matters, encouraging new approaches to income and resources.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)

With the Sun in your sign, your energy and enthusiasm are heightened. The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 supports collaborative efforts, making it an ideal time to initiate group projects or social events. Saturn's entry into Aries on May 24 emphasizes leadership and community involvement. The New Moon in your sign on May 26 offers a personal reset, encouraging you to set intentions for the year ahead.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 encourages you to focus on self-care and personal development, enhancing your overall well-being. Saturn's move into Aries on May 24 brings attention to career goals and public image, prompting you to align your professional path with your values. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 invites introspection and the release of outdated patterns.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 boosts your leadership abilities, making it a favorable time to take initiative and showcase your talents. Saturn's entry into Aries on May 24 encourages you to expand your horizons through learning or travel. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 highlights social connections, presenting opportunities to engage with new communities or groups.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 enhances your ability to connect with others, making it an excellent time for networking and forming new partnerships. Saturn's move into Aries on May 24 brings focus to shared resources and financial planning. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 emphasizes career aspirations, encouraging you to set new professional goals.

Libra (September 23 – October 22)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 supports collaborative financial planning, making it

a good time to discuss joint investments or budgets. Saturn's entry into Aries on May 24 highlights partnerships, prompting you to evaluate commitments and responsibilities within relationships. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 encourages you to explore new perspectives and educational pursuits.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 enhances your ability to communicate your needs effectively, fostering deeper connections. Saturn's move into Aries on May 24 emphasizes health and daily routines, encouraging the establishment of beneficial habits. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 brings attention to shared resources and emotional intimacy, prompting reflection and renewal.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 supports teamwork, making it an ideal time to collaborate on projects or community initiatives. Saturn's entry into Aries on May 24 brings focus to creative pursuits and personal expression, encouraging you to take your passions seriously. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 highlights relationships, offering a chance to set intentions for new or existing partnerships.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 enhances your confidence, encouraging you to share your talents and take calculated risks in personal or professional endeavors. Saturn's move into Aries on May 24 emphasizes home and family matters, prompting you to establish a solid foundation. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 brings attention to health and daily routines, encouraging the adoption of beneficial habits.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 supports open communication, making it a good time to address any underlying issues and strengthen familial bonds. Saturn's entry into Aries on May 24 highlights communication and learning, encouraging you to refine your message and share your ideas. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 emphasizes creativity and self-expression, presenting opportunities for new projects.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

The Venus-Mars trine on May 22 enhances your persuasive abilities, making it an opportune time for negotiations or important discussions. Saturn's move into Aries on May 24 brings focus to financial matters, encouraging responsible planning and budgeting. The New Moon in Gemini on May 26 highlights home and family, prompting reflection and the potential for new beginnings in your domestic life.

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES

1 gutter water pipe (9)

2 iconic Dutch landmarks (9)

3 Latin pop singer Estefan (6)

4 wool from a goat's undercoat (8)

5 mouth organ (9)

6 virtual marketplace (4)

7 Scottish lake denizen, maybe (6)

SOLUTIONS

WNS	DO	UT	LS	DM
WIN	GLO	MON	EB	SHM
NES	AY	PO	RIA	ERE
SIE	HAR	ICA	CA	IL

Previous Answers: TANDOOR 2. CROSSBEAM 3. PUNTS 4. KAZOO 5. VIVienne 6. TOUGHIE 7. HARSHIPS

9/20



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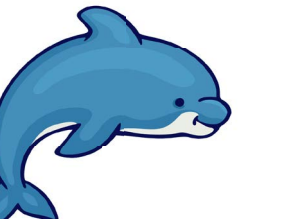
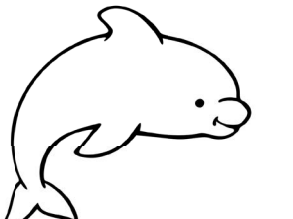
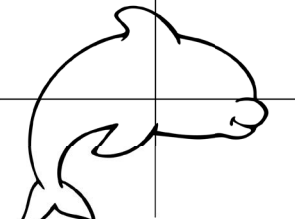
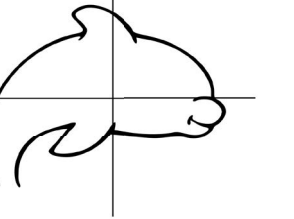
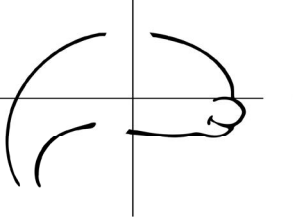
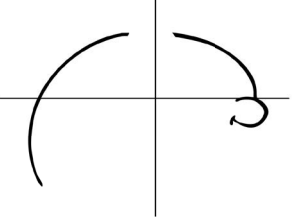
The answers to this week's puzzles can be found in next week's issue.

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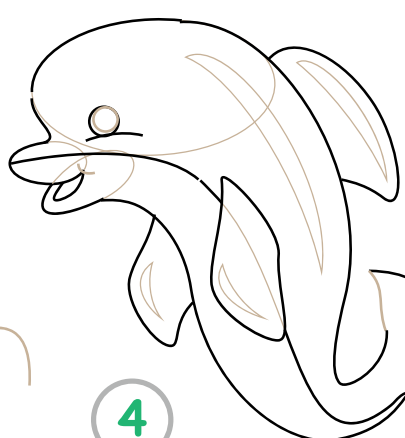

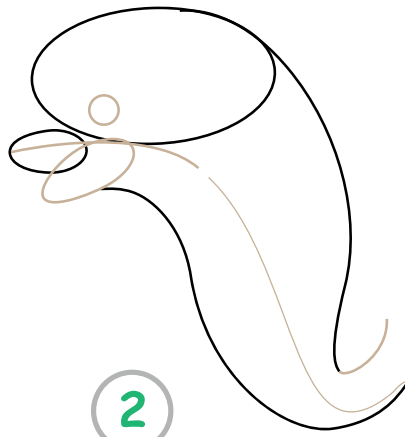
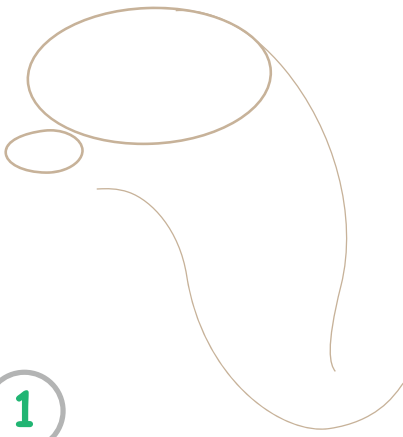
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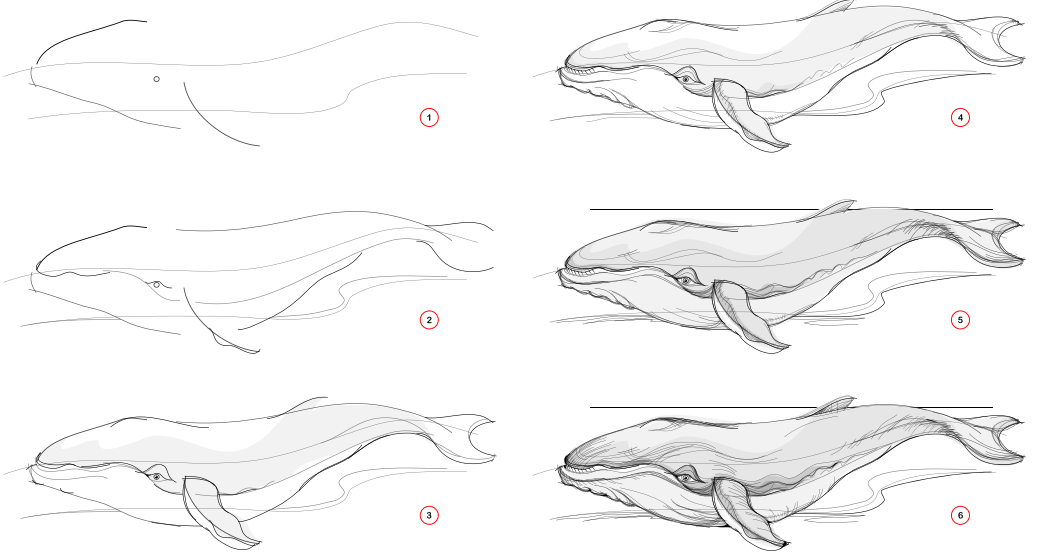
How To Draw Many Ways: step by step

 Drawing lesson 



How to Draw a Dolphin





Sudoku for Kids

		4		6	
	3	6		5	1
	4		2	1	
	2	1			4
4	6		1		5
	5			4	

		6	1		
1		2	5		4
5	2		6	1	
		3			5
	4		3		6
	6	5		2	

	5		6		4
4		6	2		
	6		3		2
	2	5	4		
6				4	
	4	3	1		6

	3			4	5
4		2	6		
	2				3
	4	5	1		6
2	6		5	1	
	1				2

SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sudoku answers

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

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

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

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

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

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

‘Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning’ Receives Global Acclaim Following Cannes Debut

“Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning” debuted to global fanfare last week, premiering at the Cannes Film Festival to a five-minute standing ovation. The eighth installment in the long-running action franchise, directed by Christopher McQuarrie and headlined by Tom Cruise, was showcased as one of the festival’s most anticipated non-competition features.

According to coverage from Variety and The Hollywood Reporter, the audience response in Cannes was immediate and sustained, with applause beginning before the credits rolled. The ovation marked one of the festival’s strongest receptions this year, underscoring Cruise’s enduring appeal and the franchise’s consistent delivery of high-stakes spectacle.

Paramount Pictures, the studio behind the film, expanded its promotional campaign with high-profile premieres in Tokyo and London. In both cities, red carpets featured Cruise alongside co-stars Hayley Atwell, Simon Pegg, and Vanessa Kirby, drawing substantial international media attention.

While standing ovations are rare at American premieres, the New York City audience reportedly broke form. At the U.S. debut screening, attendees stood and applauded as the credits began, offering loud cheers for Cruise and the returning cast. This enthusiastic reaction echoes the franchise’s steady box office performance and loyal global fanbase.

The film, a continuation of the 2023 entry “Dead Reckoning Part One,” is expected to conclude the narrative arc involving Ethan Hunt’s battle against rogue AI factions and espionage syndicates. Critics at Cannes cited the film’s practical stunts, high-speed chases, and emotional stakes as central to its success. Cruise, now in his early sixties, again performed many of his own stunts, including a climactic helicopter sequence reportedly filmed in the Norwegian fjords.

You can see “Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning” in New Canaan this weekend while supporting a local theater!

