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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

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LOCAL RECAP

News Brief

POLICE & FIRE

Greenwich Firefighters

Quickly Contain Attic Blaze



Greenwich firefighters responded to reports of flames near Catrock Road and Old Stonebridge Road and found a structure fire on Old Stonebridge Road. Crews conducted an interior attack and extinguished an attic fire, limiting damage to the roof and part of the attic. No injuries were reported, and the Fire Marshal's Division is investigating the cause. Photo credit: Greenwich Fire Fighters

Patrol Division Welcomes Two New Leaders



Sgt. Stook has been promoted to lieutenant and Court Technician Browne has been promoted to sergeant. Both will be assigned to the Patrol Division. In their new supervisory roles, they will oversee officers and support department operations, with the Patrol Division providing 24/7 response and community policing. Photo credit: Greenwich Police Department

School Zone Cameras Improve Road Safety

In January 2026, Greenwich

Please turn to page 5

GREEN THOUGHTS

"I will argue that every scrap of biological diversity is priceless, to be learned and cherished, and never to be surrendered without a struggle." E. O. Wilson, biologist/naturalist/ecologist, from his book, "Biophilia," 1984.



Big Love

I suppose one could say it's a little cliché to write about love so close to Valentine's Day.

By ICY FRANTZ



I suppose one could say it's a little cliché to write about love so close to Valentine's Day. Call it what you will, but I can think of no greater topic to opine on today—and honestly, on most days.

To be clear, I'm not talking about doilies and red roses and heart-shaped boxes of chocolates. Not the sugary, performative love we're sold in rom-coms and romance novels.

I'm talking about love—big love.

Necessary love.

Love not as decoration, but as foundation.

Love as the answer to some of the hardest questions we face.

I keep noticing that when people ask the biggest questions—the ones that aren't theoretical but existential—they don't get clever answers. They get simpler ones. People don't usually begin by searching for love. They search for relief. For certainty. For a fix. For something—anything—that will make the situation manageable.

I didn't realize how true this was until life handed me a small but insistent lesson.

Anyone who knows me well knows that 2026 has gotten off to a bumpy start. I won't give you the gory details—that feels

Please turn to page 9

Greenwich EMS: 40 Years of Saving Lives

BY STAPLEY RUSSELL

In Greenwich, the sound of a siren isn't just noise. It's reassurance. It's the moment help becomes real.

For forty years, Greenwich Emergency Medical Service – known simply as GEMS – has been that promise in motion. Since its founding in 1986, GEMS has responded to tens of thousands of calls, showing up in living rooms, on sidelines, in classrooms, on roadsides, and in moments when minutes mattered most.

In 2026, GEMS will mark its 40th anniversary with a year-long celebration – focused on the community it serves. "As we celebrate 40 years, our focus remains on helping the community just as Charlee envisioned" said Executive Director Tracy Schietinger. "We could not do this without the tremendous support of the community which we are truly honored to serve."

GEMS was founded by Charlee Tufts with a simple but bold belief: Greenwich deserved an EMS service that sets the highest possible standard. From the beginning, the organization pushed for professionalization, advanced training, and clinical excellence – becoming the first ambulance service in New England to implement 12-lead EKG capability in the field.

Over time, GEMS has continually advanced its services – always striving to raise the standards of care. In 2021, GEMS earned accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services, followed by reaccreditation in 2024 – a rigorous process evaluating more than 100 clinical and operational standards only one of two agencies in the state have achieved.

"The point isn't the label," Schietinger said. "It's the discipline. It's choosing to be reviewed, challenged, and improved."

That commitment has earned recognition beyond Greenwich. In October 2024, GEMS was named Career EMS Agency of the Year at the Connecticut EMS Awards – an honor shared by every paramedic, EMT, educator, staff member, board leader, and volunteer who makes the service work.

Yet the GEMS story extends far beyond emergency calls. Each year, GEMS trains more than 3,000 residents in CPR, AED use, and first aid. Its programs in schools, workplaces, and community groups are built on a simple idea: the strongest emergency system is one where bystanders are prepared to help.

GEMS has also led Greenwich's public access AED initiative, placing lifesaving devices throughout town – every one funded entirely through private donations.

"Survival doesn't start when the ambulance arrives," Schietinger said. "It starts with the people who are already there."

That philosophy continues with the next generation. Explorer Post 911, GEMS' youth EMS program, introduces high-school students to emergency medicine, leadership, and service – offering a pathway into healthcare and public safety, and a lasting lesson in responsibility.

None of this happens by accident. And none of it happens without community support.

GEMS is an independent nonprofit organization that relies on charitable contributions to fund 100 percent of its capital equipment – from ambulances to medical technology to training tools.

"Our community's generosity isn't just appreciated – it's foundational," said GEMS Board Chair Rod Saggese. "Every ambulance we field and every piece of equipment our crews rely on exists because Greenwich believes in GEMS." That belief is what the 40th anniversary ultimately celebrates.

Not just a service – but a partnership. Not just a history – but a promise to keep improving. Because even after forty years, GEMS is not finished. It is still learning. Still raising standards. Still earning trust.

And still showing up – every hour, every day – when Greenwich needs it most.

INSIDE



THE MIDDLE WAY

CAMILLO: I've seen firsthand how progress is made—not by retreating to our corners, but by rolling up our sleeves and finding middle ground.

PAGE II

This Week in Sports

GHS Girls Basketball, Brunswick Hockey

Page 7



BERMUDA



Spring Brings Giants to Bermuda: Why March and April Are Prime Whale-Watching Season

PAGE 8

Station Re-Opens as Part of \$30M Redevelopment

The Ashforth Company has completed a comprehensive renovation of the Greenwich Train Station, marking a major milestone in its \$30 million, multi-phased Greenwich Crossing redevelopment. The redesigned station, created by Beyer Blinder Belle, is scheduled to open Jan. 30.

The overhaul reshapes both the exterior and interior of one

of the town's busiest public spaces. Exterior improvements include a new facade, upgraded platform access and pedestrian pathways, and replacement of all sidewalks and curbing from the Arch Street railroad bridge to the Steamboat Road railroad bridge. A new staircase has been added at Steamboat Road.

Please turn to page 16



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Greenwich, Tree Conservancy Complete First Phase of Laddin's Rock Restoration

The Town of Greenwich and the Greenwich Tree Conservancy have completed the first phase of a habitat restoration and tree-planting initiative at Laddin's Rock Sanctuary in Old Greenwich.

The 18-acre sanctuary, located along the border of Old Greenwich and Stamford, includes forested areas, walking trails and waterways. According to town officials, portions of the property had become heavily overgrown with invasive Japanese knotweed, which displaced native vegetation and degraded sections of the landscape.

Greenwich Parks & Trees staff removed the knotweed and will continue monitoring and maintaining the affected areas in the months ahead, according to the town. The invasive removal marked the initial step in a broader restoration effort intended to stabilize the ecosystem and reintroduce native species.

Following the clearing work, the Greenwich Tree Conservancy

"The removal of the invasive plants and the planting of native trees and shrubs will both enhance the visitor experience and benefit wildlife." — Dr. Gregory Kramer, Superintendent of Parks & Trees and Tree Warden



Japanese knotweed overtaking natural area in Laddin's Rock Sanctuary. Photo by Kate Dzikiewicz.

planted 70 trees throughout the



Trees are wrapped with burlap for protection, and will be monitored throughout the next year. Photo by Kate Dzikiewicz.

are scheduled for the spring. The new trees represent a range of cold-hardy native species commonly found in Connecticut forests, including American hornbeam, tulip tree and five species of oak, according to the Conservancy.

Future phases of the project



70 trees were planted initially, and additional plantings will occur in spring. Photo by Kate Dzikiewicz.

will focus on the riparian corridor along the adjacent brook. The town and the Conservancy plan to again coordinate invasive species removal and introduce native riparian trees, including sweetgum and black tupelo, to improve habitat conditions along the waterway.

Dr. Gregory Kramer, superintendent of Parks & Trees and Tree Warden for the Town of Greenwich, described the sanctuary as ecologically significant but in need of targeted intervention.

"Laddin's Rock Sanctuary is a diverse forest with many native species of plants and animals," Dr. Kramer said. "However, a few areas are in need of invasive plant removal and native

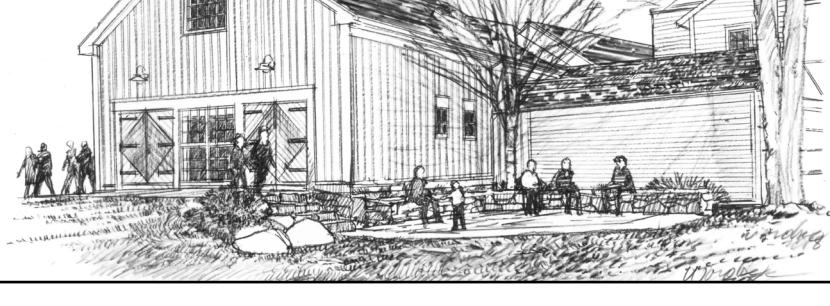
plantings. The removal of the invasive plants and the planting of native trees and shrubs will both enhance the visitor experience and benefit wildlife."

Town officials said the partnership reflects an ongoing effort to preserve and strengthen local green spaces through coordinated public and nonprofit action. Laddin's Rock Sanctuary remains open to the public during the restoration work.



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FR. JAMES MARTIN CONTINUED From Page 1

lead Vatican and conclave commentator for the election of Pope Francis, for Pope Francis's funeral, and for the 2025 conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV. That visibility has placed him at the intersection of theology, church governance, and public debate.

His most recent encounter with Pope Leo XIV has drawn international attention and adds resonance to his Greenwich appearance.

"I don't think that I expected Pope Leo

XVI to be as warm, relaxed and serene (and funny), as he was during my 30-minute audience with him in the Apostolic Palace yesterday," Father Martin wrote after their Sept. 1, 2025 meeting, according to Vatican News. He described the pope as "tremendously at ease, even jovial."

The private audience, held in the Apostolic Palace, allowed for extended conversation in English. "It was a new experience, however, to talk with a pope in English," he wrote, noting the ease of speaking without translation.

While Father Martin acknowledged that Pope Leo faces pressing global concerns—

including what he described as a "fervent desire to help the process of peace and unity in places like Ukraine, Gaza and Myanmar"—he characterized the pope's posture on pastoral questions as consistent with his predecessor's.

Those themes of calling, discernment, public witness, and institutional responsibility echo throughout *Work in Progress*. The book reflects on the tension between personal vocation and public scrutiny, particularly as Father Martin's ministry has unfolded in an era of cultural polarization within the church.

Christ Church's and St. Barnabas' joint

Courage & Faith series aims to provide space for serious engagement with faith and contemporary questions. Saturday's event will offer attendees an opportunity to hear directly from a priest who has navigated both Vatican corridors and American media studios.

All tickets include his new book. \$50 General Admission. \$75 Patron Meet Fr. Martin Reception.

Tickets are available online at christchurchgreenwich.org. The event begins at 5:00 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary on Saturday, February 14.

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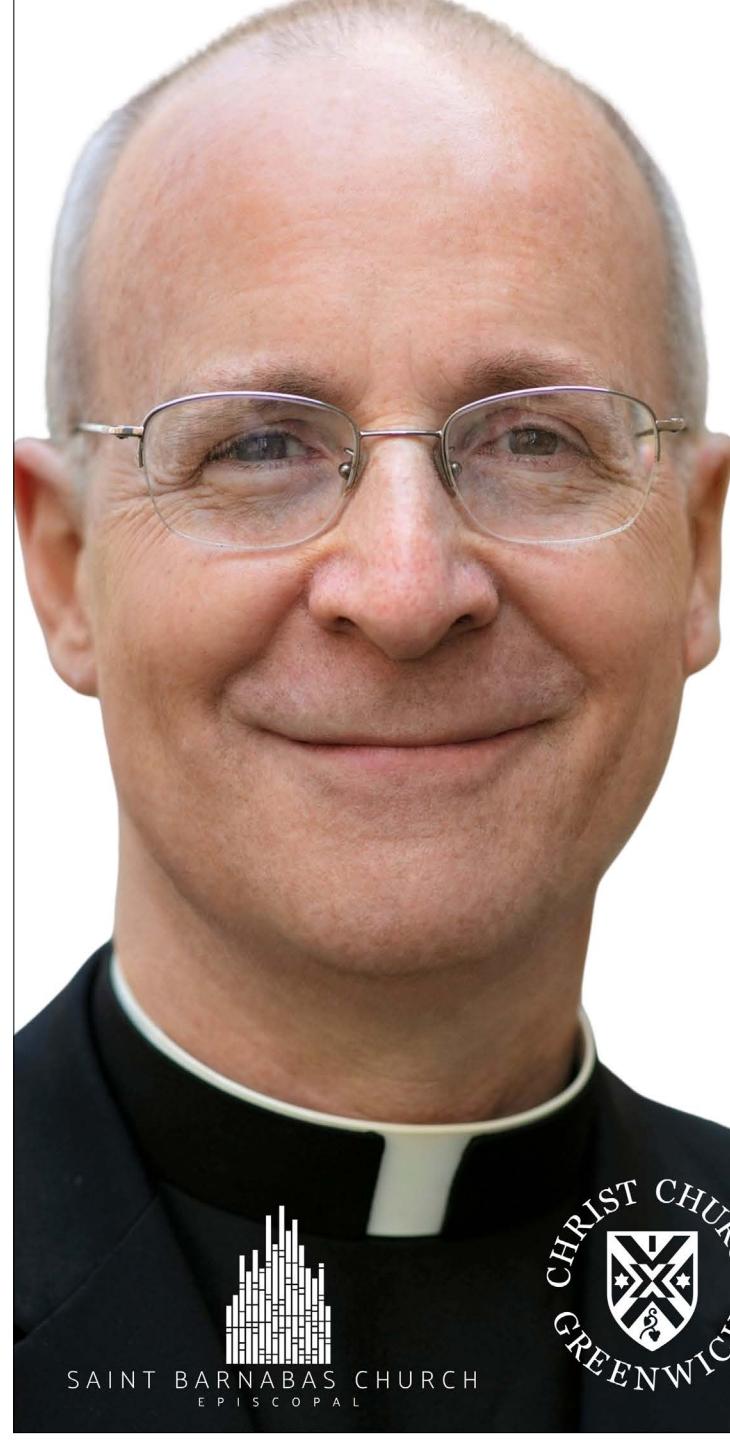
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JAMES MARTIN, SJ

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Sap to Syrup: Maple Sugar Day Celebration Returns to Mueller Preserve February 28

Greenwich Land Trust will host Maple Sugar Day on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mueller Preserve, inviting families to learn how sap becomes syrup through a process rooted in North American history.

The event will feature hands-on demonstrations, educational stations throughout the preserve and maple syrup samples, along with food truck offerings. Admission is \$10 per person; children 5 and under are free. Advance registration is required due to limited capacity, according to the Greenwich Land Trust.

Maple sugaring depends on a narrow seasonal window. As winter loosens its grip, cold nights followed by warmer days create internal pressure changes within maple trees. Sap, composed of roughly 98 percent water and 2 percent sugar, begins to flow. Producers tap mature, healthy trees—typically those at least 12 inches in diameter—to collect the sap, which is then boiled to evaporate water and concentrate its sugars.

To produce maple syrup, the sap must be heated to approximately 219 degrees Fahrenheit. At that temperature, the liquid thickens and reaches



Gathering sap from a sugar maple tree on a farm in April 1940. Photo courtesy of Modern Farmer.

the density required for syrup. It is then filtered, adjusted and graded for flavor and color. The ratio underscores the labor involved: about 40 gallons of sap are required to yield a single gallon of syrup.

While sugar maples are most

commonly associated with syrup production, other species—including Rocky Mountain maple, sycamore, black walnut and birch—can also be tapped, each producing sap with distinct flavor characteristics.

The tradition of maple

sugaring predates European settlement. Indigenous peoples of North America developed early methods of collecting and concentrating sap, including making incisions in tree bark and using heated stones to evaporate water. Oral histories recount origin stories, including an Iroquois legend of a chief discovering sap after throwing his tomahawk into a tree. For Native communities, maple sugaring was both sustenance and seasonal ritual, providing a vital source of nutrition at the end of winter.

European colonists adopted and adapted those techniques, introducing metal tools and larger kettles that expanded production. Over time, maple sugaring became commercialized. Today, states such as Vermont and New York lead national production, using tubing systems and modern evaporators to increase

efficiency.

At Mueller Preserve, the focus will remain educational and experiential. Families will move between stations to observe the tapping process, see sap boiled down and learn how syrup is graded. Organizers describe the day as an opportunity to connect seasonal change with a tangible outcome.

“Out on Greenwich Land Trust preserves, the woods, wetlands, and meadows may look still, but they’re very much alive. Chickadees chatter, woodpeckers tap out a steady rhythm, and fox and rabbit tracks weave through fresh snow,” Will Kies, executive director of the Greenwich Land Trust, wrote in a seasonal message to supporters. “Trees have pulled their energy inward, sugars tucked away in their roots, waiting for that late-winter magic of cold nights and warmer days that gets sap flowing once again.”

He added, “With a little luck and the right temperatures, the coming weeks could make for a fine maple sugaring season—one of winter’s sweetest rewards and a sure sign that spring is beginning to stir beneath the surface.”

This year’s Maple Sugar Day coincides with a milestone for the organization. “This winter is especially meaningful as we celebrate GLT’s 50th year of conserving and caring for Greenwich’s open spaces,” Kies wrote. “For five decades, through mild winters and wicked cold ones alike, our community has come together to protect the land that defines this place we call home.”

The Mueller Preserve, one of several properties maintained by the Greenwich Land Trust, provides a setting where ecological education intersects with conservation practice. Maple sugaring, organizers say, illustrates both natural cycles and responsible land stewardship.

As Kies noted, “As we look ahead to spring—and the next fifty years—we’re grateful for the steady rhythm of the seasons and for everyone who helps make our preserves thrive, no matter what the weather throws our way.”

Registration for Maple Sugar Day is available online through the Greenwich Land Trust website.

Register at <https://gltrust.givecloud.co/maplesugarday>

Neighbor to Neighbor Announces Their Spring Luncheon with the Bakers of the Great British Baking Show



Jasmine Mitchell, The Great British Baking Show 2025



Tom Arden, The Great British Baking Show 2025

Neighbor to Neighbor will host a fundraising luncheon on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at the Greenwich Country Club featuring two finalists from “The Great British Bake Off” 2025 season, now airing and streaming on Netflix. The event will support the Greenwich-based nonprofit’s efforts to combat food insecurity.

Jasmine Mitchell, the winner of Series 16 of “The Great British Bake Off,” and finalist Tom Arden will serve as featured guests at the luncheon. Organizers said the event is designed to raise funds for the food pantry’s weekly distributions and related services for income-eligible residents.

“We are thrilled to welcome Jasmine and Tom to Greenwich,” said K. Brent Hill, executive director of Neighbor to Neighbor. “Their stories of creativity, resilience, and connection through food beautifully reflect our mission: bringing people together with care, hope, and generosity.”

Arden visited Neighbor to Neighbor in November 2025, where he met with staff and toured the facility. According to the organization, he expressed interest in supporting its fundraising efforts following that visit.

Mitchell, known as “Jaz,” was crowned the 2025 winner after earning five “Star Baker” titles, multiple “Hollywood Handshakes,” and presenting a four-foot-long final cake. A 23-year-old medical student from Edinburgh, Scotland, she balanced her academic coursework with filming and competition preparation. During the series, she spoke publicly about living with alopecia since age 12. She is completing her medical degree.

Arden finished second in the same season. He earned one “Star Baker” designation, two “Hollywood Handshakes,” and a Technical Challenge win for a tower of French pastries. An entrepreneur based in London, Arden founded a creative agency and helped

scale a fashion brand before pursuing new ventures. He is also a published scientist and is developing a documentary film focused on the natural world.

Neighbor to Neighbor, founded in 1975, operates as a nonprofit food pantry serving Greenwich residents who meet income eligibility requirements. The organization provides access to nutritious food, clothing, and other essentials at no cost through weekly distributions and community partnerships.

According to the organization, its mission is to strengthen the Greenwich community by ensuring that essential resources are provided in an atmosphere defined by kindness and respect. Funds raised at the April luncheon will support those ongoing operations.

Additional details about tickets and sponsorship opportunities are expected to be released by the organization in the coming weeks.

Classic Valentine Recipes to Savor

Valentine's Day is the perfect occasion to create a beautiful dining experience, complete with exquisite food, stunning presentation, and thoughtful details. Whether you're planning an intimate dinner for two or a cozy gathering with family, the right meal transforms an ordinary evening into an unforgettable celebration. This year, embrace the art of entertaining with a carefully curated menu that is as visually stunning as it is delicious.

Setting the Scene with Style

A truly elegant evening begins with the ambiance. Set the table with crisp linen napkins, polished silverware, and delicate china. Incorporate seasonal elements—perhaps fresh roses, scattered petals, or dainty votive candles in soft hues. Layering textures, such as a velvet runner or a touch of gold flatware, adds refinement. A small handwritten place card adds an inviting touch, letting your guest know this meal was prepared with love.

Appetizer: Strawberry & Goat Cheese Crostini (Gluten-Free Option Included)

These crisp, golden crostini feature a perfect balance of sweet and savory flavors, creating an effortlessly elegant starter.



Ingredients:

1 French baguette or gluten-free bread, sliced into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pieces
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
4 ounces fresh goat cheese, softened
1 cup ripe strawberries, hulled and thinly sliced
1 tablespoon high-quality honey
1 teaspoon aged balsamic glaze
Fresh basil leaves, chiffonade
Flaky sea salt and freshly cracked black pepper

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Arrange baguette slices on a baking sheet and brush each with olive oil. Bake for 8-10 minutes until golden and crisp.

Spread a generous layer of goat cheese onto each crostini. Top with fresh strawberry slices.

Drizzle lightly with honey and balsamic glaze, then sprinkle with flaky salt and black pepper.

Garnish with fresh basil and serve immediately, beautifully arranged on a vintage platter.

Main Course: Pan-Seared Filet Mignon with Red Wine Reduction

A perfectly cooked filet mignon is a classic choice for a romantic dinner. The deep, velvety red wine sauce elevates this dish to gourmet status.

Ingredients:

2 (6-ounce) filet mignon steaks
2 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
2 cloves garlic, smashed
1 sprig fresh rosemary or thyme
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the Red Wine Reduction:

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup full-bodied red wine (Cabernet or Merlot)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup rich beef broth
1 tablespoon aged balsamic vinegar
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
1 tablespoon unsalted butter

Instructions:

Remove steaks from the refrigerator 30 minutes before cooking. Pat dry and season generously with sea salt and black pepper.

Heat a cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat. Add olive oil and 1 tablespoon butter.

Sear steaks for 3-4 minutes on each side until a golden crust forms. Add garlic and rosemary, then baste with the remaining butter for 1-2 minutes.

Transfer steaks to a warm plate and tent with foil to rest while preparing the sauce.

In the same skillet, pour in red wine and scrape up any browned bits. Add beef broth, balsamic vinegar, and Dijon mustard. Simmer for 5-7 minutes until reduced by half.

Whisk in butter for a luxurious finish. Drizzle over the steaks and serve with an elegant garnish of fresh thyme.

Side Dish: Garlic Parmesan Roasted Asparagus (Gluten-Free) Tender, crisp asparagus roasted with garlic and Parmesan adds a vibrant and sophisticated touch to the meal.

Ingredients:

1 bunch fresh asparagus, trimmed
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
2 cloves garlic, finely minced
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely grated Parmesan cheese
Sea salt and cracked black pepper

Instructions:
Preheat oven to 400°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Toss asparagus with olive oil, garlic, sea salt, and black pepper. Arrange in a single layer.

Roast for 12-15 minutes until tender yet slightly crisp.

Sprinkle with Parmesan and serve on a beautiful serving dish.

Dessert: Decadent Flourless Chocolate Cake

This indulgent dessert with a molten chocolate center is the perfect way to end a romantic evening.

Ingredients:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup/168 grams unsalted butter, cut up, plus more for the pan

Valentine's Day is about creating beautiful moments through thoughtful details.



1 cup/173 grams bittersweet or semisweet chocolate chips or your favorite dark chocolate

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup/50 grams unsweetened natural cocoa powder
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup/150 grams granulated sugar
4 large eggs
1 teaspoon hazelnut flavor or vanilla extract

Whipped cream or ice cream, for serving (optional)

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter the bottom and sides of an 8-inch springform pan, or press a large sheet of parchment paper into the bottom and up the sides of an 8-inch round cake pan, smoothing the sides, and generously butter.

Bring a few inches of water in a large saucepan to a simmer over medium heat. Set a large heatproof bowl over the saucepan and add the chocolate. When the chips look soft and melty, stir gently until smooth. Turn off the heat, and add the butter to the bowl. Stir gently until melted and smooth. Add the cocoa

powder and stir until smooth, then take the bowl off the saucepan.

Stir in the granulated sugar until incorporated, then add the eggs, one at a time, and beat well after each addition. Stir in the hazelnut or vanilla, then scrape the batter into the prepared pan and smooth the top.

Bake until crackly and dry on top, and a toothpick inserted 2 inches from the edge comes out clean, 40 to 50 minutes. A toothpick inserted in the center should come out with some crumbs attached.

Cool in the pan on a rack, then remove the sides of the springform pan or lift the cake out of the cake pan using the parchment overhang. You can slice and serve warm or at room temperature. Or, to cut very neat slices, freeze the cooled cake until firm.

Final Touch: A Toast

Enhance the evening with a Raspberry Champagne Cocktail, a delicate and celebratory pairing.

Ingredients:
1 bottle chilled Champagne or Prosecco
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup raspberry liqueur


 A colorful Mardi Gras celebration flyer. It features the text "FAMILY MARDI GRAS Celebration" in large, stylized letters. Below this, "SHROVE TUESDAY" is written on a purple banner. The date "Tuesday, February 17" and time "5:30-7:00 pm" are also included. The flyer is decorated with various Mardi Gras symbols like a mask, beads, and a cross.

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Please bring pancake mix, syrup, coffee, and tea to donate to Neighbor to Neighbor

Tickets: Scan the QRCode or go to christchurchgreenwich.org


 A flyer for a happy hour. It features the text "Happy Hour 4-6 PM FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY" and "Drink & Appetizer Specials! LIVE MUSIC at Friday and Sunday Happy Hour". The background is a dark brick wall.

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Police reported 7,225 school-zone speed camera violations, with 9,537 additional violations pending review; each citation is reviewed by Blue Line Solutions and the department's Traffic Section before mailing. The first violation carries a \$50 fine and subsequent violations cost \$75. During the same month, police logged 3,205 calls for service, including five burglaries, eight larcenies from motor vehicles, five motor vehicle thefts, 23 domestic violence incidents, 14 DUIs, 245 crashes, one robbery, 60 adult arrests, two juvenile arrests, 282 motor vehicle infractions, and 367 warnings.

FROM TOWN HALL

Grand List Update Clarifies Taxes

The recent property revaluation increased the town's grand list, but higher assessments do not automatically result in equivalent tax increases. Property taxes are determined by the town budget, the total grand list, and the mill rate, which adjusts downward when the grand list rises, all else equal. Homeowners whose assessments increased more or less than the townwide average of about 27 percent will see tax changes proportional to that difference, with the final mill rate to be set after the budget process is complete.

Greenwich DPW Crews Clear Roads Safely



Two weeks ago, a winter storm required a major response from Greenwich's Department of Public Works Highway Division. Crews removed more than 970 truckloads, or nearly 17,000 cubic yards, of snow from business districts and plowed about 3,000 miles of roadway across town. Operations involved approximately 90 hours of field work, much of it overnight, with additional cleanup continuing this week. Photo credit: First Selectman Camillo's Community Connections

Town Offers Discounted Radon Test Kits

The Town Department of Health is offering discounted radon test kits for air (\$47 instead of \$73) and well water (\$53 instead of \$84) during February. Kits are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Health Department laboratory, with more information at 203-622-7843. Radon is an odorless radioactive gas and a major cause of lung cancer; the EPA recommends mitigation if levels exceed 4.0 picocuries per liter.

Selectmen Review Ice Rink Proposal

The Greenwich Board of Selectmen will meet Thursday, Feb. 12, at 10:30 a.m. in the Cone Room at Town Hall with no virtual option. The agenda includes a first read referral of the proposed Hamill Municipal Rink to the Planning and Zoning Commission, a second read of the Safe Streets Greenwich Safety Action Plan, proposed road closures for the March 22 St. Patrick's Parade, charter and ordinance changes, and several ceremonial flag requests. The meeting will also include a public hearing on a noise ordinance variance request from Burning Tree Country Club, followed by appointments and nominations.

Town Budget Hearings Begin This Week

The Board of Estimate and Taxation has begun hearings on a proposed \$543 million budget for fiscal year 2027, which starts in July. The plan represents a 4.33% increase over the current \$520 million budget and would raise the mill rate from 12.041 to 12.765, a 6.01% increase, adding about \$724 in annual taxes for a \$1 million home. Major items under review include \$41.2 million for a new Dorothy Hamill Ice Rink and \$10 million for improvements to Roger Sherman Baldwin Park, with additional large school capital projects scheduled in subsequent years.

AROUND TOWN

Greenwich Residents Support Valentine's Day Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive in Greenwich on Feb. 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., managed by Ross Ogden. Blood supplies are currently low due to winter weather, the holiday season, and a flu outbreak reducing donor turnout. Residents can register online with code FPCG or call 1-800-733-2767 for information.

Task Force Advances Plans For 100 Arch Street

A new town task force met by Zoom to plan the future use of the former Teen Center building at 100 Arch Street and elected officers, with Sabine Schoenberg as chair and Icy Frantz as vice chair. Members discussed issuing an RFP within about 60 days, holding at least one public hearing, and pursuing a public-private partnership because renovations may exceed \$1 million. Possible uses mentioned included a café, performance space, or health club, and the skatepark nearby would remain unchanged.

Eighty-Four Homes Proposed in Pemberwick

A proposal filed in late January seeks to build an 84-unit, five-story residential building at 0 Comly Ave., on an existing parking lot next to an office building on Pemberwick Avenue across from the Byram River. The 84,264-square-foot structure would include four floors of housing above a garage and is being submitted under Connecticut's 8-30g affordable housing statute, which limits local zoning authority when affordability requirements are met. The site, owned by 200 Pemberwick Road REO and 0 Comly Avenue LLC, has faced past development challenges due to flooding concerns, and the Planning & Zoning Commission is expected to begin review soon.

New Housing Proposal Advances In Greenwich

A revised housing proposal for Home Place and Davis Avenue would add nine modular buildings and renovate two existing homes to create 18 units, including four affordable units, under Connecticut's 8-30g law. The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed concerns about required rock blasting, site conditions, and the need for affordable units to match market-rate units in size and materials. The application remains open for further commission review.

LOCAL BUSINESSES & NON PROFITS

Students Invited To Design Anniversary Swim Shirt

Swim Across America Fairfield County is holding a design contest for middle and high school students to create the back of its 20th anniversary T-shirt for the June 20, 2026 open water swim in Stamford and related summer pool swims. Entries are due March 15, 2026, must be original and not AI-generated, and include a reference to the 20th anniversary and the swim date. The winning design will appear on shirts used to raise funds for cancer research, and full contest details are available at https://www.swimacrossamerica.org/site/SPageServer?pagename=FC_Tshirt

Greenwich Tree Conservancy Welcomes New Leadership Team

The Greenwich Tree Conservancy elected Elizabeth Hopley as President of its Board of Directors and added three new board members: Matt Popp, John R. Conte III, and Betsy Vitton. Hopley has been involved with the organization since 2018 and has worked on projects related to utility wire undergrounding, tree preservation, and town beautification. The new board members bring experience in landscape architecture, civil engineering, conservation, and historic landscape restoration as the Conservancy continues its mission to protect and plant trees in Greenwich.

Soundview Mahjong League Expands Locally

Soundview Mahjong League is launching a six-week American Mahjong program at the Greenwich YWCA starting in March, with sessions Thursday evenings (March 5-April 9) and Friday mornings (March 6-April 10). Participants must already know how to play independently, though beginner tables will be available for slower-paced games. The fee is \$220, includes weekly table prizes and a swag bag, and registration information is available through Soundview Mahjong or Mary Canaday at mary@soundviewmahjong.com

PEOPLE IN TOWN

Greenwich Founder Builds Safer Tween App

Greenwich resident Juliette Blake founded Moxies, a moderated social app for girls ages 8-12 that promotes well-being and healthy digital habits through private groups and built-in safety limits. The platform restricts interactions to known contacts, avoids addictive design features, and uses AI with human oversight to prevent harmful behavior. A PhD-led study found that 79% of users showed improvements in confidence, mood, and self-regulation.

Christine Lai Announces Leadership Transition At S.E.L.F.

Christine W. Lai will step down as Executive Director of the Special Education Legal Fund (S.E.L.F.) effective February 15, 2026, after serving in the role since co-founding the organization in 2018 with Ulrika Drinkall. During her tenure, S.E.L.F. distributed more than \$1.3 million in grants to families seeking special education legal and advocacy support and established key programs including its Legal Aid, Attorney and Advocate Grant, Parent Education, and George H.W. Bush Advocacy Award initiatives. Stephanie Bilenker will succeed Lai as Executive Director, and Laura Sullivan will continue leading the organization's legal aid services.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Greenwich Launches Townwide Invasive Species Initiative



The Conservation Commission and Sustainability Committee met with local garden clubs, Friends groups, and community partners to coordinate a town-wide invasive species education and outreach campaign in Greenwich. Participating organizations will share and promote related events throughout the year. The effort will culminate in a community-wide action day in the fall. Photo credit: Greenwich Conservation Commission

SCHOOLS

Cos Cob Students Learn Through Trout Program

First-grade students at Cos Cob School are participating in the "Trout in the Classroom" program through Trout Unlimited, raising trout in a classroom tank and observing their development. They record changes in science journals, monitor water conditions, and practice observation, data collection, vocabulary, and collaborative problem-solving. In the spring, the class will take a field trip to release the trout into a local stream.

Greenwich High Earns AP Gold Honor

Greenwich High School was named to the College Board's 2025 AP School Honor Roll with a Gold distinction for the second consecutive year. Sixty-eight percent of seniors took at least one AP exam, 65 percent scored a 3 or higher on at least one exam, and 26 percent took five or more AP exams. The AP program offers college-level courses and exams that may qualify students for college credit or advanced placement.

Glenville Fifth Graders Lead With Pride

Fifth graders at Glenville School can join the Glenville Ambassador Program to practice leadership and responsibility before middle school. Ambassadors help with morning greetings, activities with younger students, school events, and hallway safety. Participants commit to one morning of duties each week, attend monthly meetings, and sign a contract to complete academic work, follow school rules, and serve as positive role models.

Eastern Middle School Wins Regional Math Competition



Students from Central and Eastern Middle Schools competed in the Southwest Connecticut Chapter MATHCOUNTS competition at Fairfield University. Eastern Middle School placed first overall, with six students qualifying for the state finals at Yale University and four advancing to the Countdown Round. Central Middle School's Ted Carrescia and Morgan Schwartzstein also qualified for the state finals, along with teammates Misha Ignatiev and Bennett Wong. Photo credit: Greenwich Public Schools

New Lebanon Students Celebrate Radish Harvest



New Lebanon School in Byram held "Radish Day" as part of its seasonal farm-to-school program highlighting locally grown produce. Students harvested radishes planted in the fall in the school garden, then learned about pickling and fermentation from Riverbank Farm and participated in a tasting organized by the district's Food Service Director. The program is supported by the New Lebanon School PTA. Photo credit: First Selectman Camillo's Community Connections

Please turn to next page

Young Men Deliver Cheer This Winter Season



Young Men's Service League Families



Young Men's Service League Families



Young Men's Service League Families

BY DEBRA McLAUGHLIN

While many families spend winter school breaks traveling or relaxing, members of the Young Men's Service League (YMSL) stepped up in a big way for Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich. On days off from school, YMSL volunteers filled in on delivery routes to

ensure that local seniors continued receiving meals and friendly check-ins - especially as many of Meal-on-Wheels' regular volunteer drivers took well-deserved vacations.

Throughout the winter school vacation days, multiple YMSL families took to the road, ensuring nutritious meals - and friendly

faces - reached seniors who were unable to leave their homes. For many senior citizens and homebound individuals, the visit matters as much as the food. The warm conversation, smiles, and consistency of volunteer drivers play a meaningful role in supporting seniors' mental health, easing loneliness, and bringing reassurance at the front door.

The Young Men's Service League is a national nonprofit that brings mothers and sons together to serve their communities, instilling leadership, empathy, and a lifelong commitment to service. On Meals-on-Wheels routes, that mission comes to life through genuine, intergenerational connection.

The impact is measurable. Ninety-one

percent of the seniors helped by Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich rate the friendliness of their drivers as excellent, and 88% say the program helps them remain independent in their own homes. Last fiscal year, Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich delivered 37,861 meals to 157 individual clients, serving about 110 seniors each month.

As the Young Men's Service League showed this winter, a delivered meal paired with kindness can nourish both body and mind - proving that sometimes the greatest gift is simply showing up, together.

To learn more about Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich or how to get involved, visit mealsonwheelsofgreenwich.org.

Central Middle School Construction Advances

The Central Middle School project is a two-phase, 21-acre campus construction effort, with the new school building scheduled to open in August 2026. January work included exterior façade installation, interior framing and rough-ins, drywall, painting, ceiling work, and continued utility, storm infrastructure, auditorium, and corridor construction. February work will continue drywall and façade installation while starting first-floor painting, second-floor flooring and finishes, and ongoing utility, auditorium, and gym build-out, with some Saturday work allowed under temporary noise ordinance exemptions.

Greenwich Students Compete In State Finals

Greenwich High School students traveled to Hartford to compete in Connecticut's We The People: The Citizen and the Constitution State Finals on January 24 at the Old State House. Teams from Greenwich, Trumbull, Wilbur Cross, and Staples participated in simulated congressional hearings and were scored on their knowledge and presentation of constitutional topics. Trumbull placed first, Staples second, Greenwich third, and Wilbur Cross received honorable mention, with the top two teams advancing to the national competition in Washington, D.C.

Brunswick Students Rally for Community Food Drive

Brunswick School's Lower School turned the familiar rituals of Super Bowl season into something more enduring: a communal act of provision. In its annual "Soup'er Bowl Food Drive, organized in partnership with Neighbor to Neighbor, students were invited to participate in a spirited, team-themed collection effort that ultimately carried real weight for families in Greenwich facing food insecurity. Those interested in volunteering or organizing a food drive can find more information at ntrngreenwich.org.

SPORTS

BGCC Fifth Graders Win League Championship



The Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich travel basketball teams competed over the weekend. The fifth-grade team won the Milford Knights Basketball League Silver Division Championship with a 26-23 victory over Stratford Supreme. The team will next compete in the CT Hoops Fest State Championship. Photo credit: Boys & Girls Club Greenwich

Brunswick Remains Unbeaten In FAA

Brunswick School's varsity basketball team improved to 5-0 in the FAA with a 65-58 Senior Night win over St. Luke's at Dann Gymnasium, moving to 10-9 overall. Connor Robinson scored 17 points, Rhaki Lum added 15, and Brandon Jean contributed 14 as the Bruins built a 15-point second-half lead before holding off a late run. St. Luke's, led by Tyler Newsom's 16 points, fell to 4-3 in league play.

Sacred Heart Sweeps FAA Swim Meet

Sacred Heart Greenwich, Greenwich Academy, and School of the Holy Child competed in an FAA varsity swimming and diving meet at Brunswick School's Natatorium on Feb. 4. Sacred Heart won six events and defeated Greenwich Academy 54-48 and Holy Child 75-26, while Greenwich Academy also beat Holy Child 79-22. Event winners included Emma Beatty in diving for Sacred Heart and multiple individual and relay victories shared between Sacred Heart and Greenwich Academy.

Greenwich Students Win National Squash Title



Greenwich Squash won the Middle School National Team Championship Division II title last weekend in Philadelphia. The team, made up of students from Eastern and Western Middle Schools, was the top seed in a 16-team tournament and defeated four private high schools to secure the championship. The program's high school team will compete in a championship tournament in three weeks. Photo credit: David Chass

Brunswick Wrestling Takes Third Place

Brunswick School's varsity wrestling team placed third at the 2026 WNEPSWA Championships at Avon Old Farms School, with all 13 wrestlers finishing in the top five of their weight classes. Senior co-captain Jack Degl won the 165-pound title and earned the Ray Sparks Trophy as the tournament's outstanding wrestler for the second straight year. Greens Farms Academy won the team championship, while Greenwich Country Day had several top finishers including Grayson Ross in second and Toby Dubner in third.

Brunswick Rallies Past Lawrenceville, Wins 6-3

Brunswick School trailed Lawrenceville 2-0 early in the second period but responded with four goals in the period and went on to win 6-3 on Feb. 4 at Hartong Rink. The Bruins outshot Lawrenceville 56-12 overall, including 15-6 in the first period, and were led by Mason St. Louis (two goals, one assist) and Jack McCullough (one goal, two assists). Evan Akerman made nine saves in goal as Brunswick earned its 15th win of the season.

Greenwich Girls Basketball Earns Home Win

Greenwich High School's girls basketball team beat Stamford 51-36 at home on Feb. 3 after leading 23-22 at halftime. Greenwich outscored Stamford by 14 points in the second half and improved to 12-2 overall and 8-1 in the FCIAC. Madi Uzinger and Zuri Faison scored 16 points each for Greenwich, and Taylor Roncoroni scored 15 for Stamford.

LOCAL POLITICS

OUR NEIGHBORS

Stamford WWII Trucks Preserved for Posterity

Two World War II Army utility trucks owned by the City of Stamford were saved from being scrapped through an agreement with the Museum of American Armor in Old Bethpage, New York. The trucks, believed to have been manufactured by Dodge before the attack on Pearl Harbor, were part of the early U.S. military buildup and were later used for civilian purposes. The museum will inspect and restore at least one of the vehicles, which will display "City of Stamford" on its cab after restoration.

ACROSS CT

Connecticut Unveils New Snowplow Names

Thousands of Connecticut residents voted on snowplow names submitted by DOT employees for the 2025-26 winter season. The winning names include Plowsaurus Rex, Snow-Be-Gone Kenobi, Truck Norris, Clear-A-Pathra, and The Saltfather, among others. CTDOT will display the names on plows this winter and will use its fleet of about 650 trucks and related equipment to clear state roads and highways.

FROM HARTFORD

State Extends Cold Weather Protections

Governor Ned Lamont extended Connecticut's Severe Cold Weather Protocol through at least noon on Sunday, February 15, 2026, due to continued below-average temperatures and single-digit wind chills. The protocol, first activated January 23, is the state's longest continuous activation since 2015 and keeps shelters and warming centers available statewide with coordination through 2-1-1. Residents can call 2-1-1 or visit 211ct.org to find locations and request transportation if needed.

SPORTS

Brunswick hockey team upends Lawrenceville behind four-goal third period at Hartong Rink

By DAVID FIERRO

There was no panic or signs of frustration among the members of the Brunswick School varsity hockey team when they trailed Lawrenceville by two goals in the second period of their game on Feb. 4th at Hartong Rink.

Despite trailing Lawrenceville by one goal after the first period of play, then falling behind by a pair of goals early in the second period, the Bruins generated a lot more shots on goal than the visitors and knew the goals would come if they continued their relentless effort in the offensive zone.

Then, quickly, the Bruins began lighting the lamp, much to the dismay of the visiting team from New Jersey.

Behind an impressive four-goal second period, Brunswick doubled-up Lawrenceville, 6-3, for its 15th win of the season. Senior forward/captain Mason St. Louis recorded two goals and one assist, while senior defenseman/alternate captain Jack McCullough had one goal and two assist for the Bruins, who controlled the puck in Lawrenceville's zone the majority of the matchup.

Brunswick outshot Lawrenceville, 15-6, in the first period and an astounding 56-12 for the game.

"We were happy with our game," Brunswick coach Mike Kennedy said. "It's tough to go down two goals in a game like that. You're facing a hot goalie and you're wondering if you're going to break through. The boys stuck with it and you're wondering if you're going to break through. I really liked what we did in the offensive zone."

Junior forward Keegan Kazan,

McCullough, senior defenseman Aidan Dougherty and sophomore Hampus Vandenberg, also a defenseman, each registered shots on goal in the opening period, snapping shots at Lawrenceville's netminder. Yet it was the visitors that struck first in this fast-paced contest.

Lawrenceville took a 1-0 lead with 53.6 seconds remaining in the first period, then made it 2-0 with a goal at the 4:44 mark of the second period. It was all Bruins for a long time after that, however.

St. Louis and McCullough netted consecutive tallies on the same shift to tie the score at 2-2 early in the second period. Gathering the puck between the circles, St. Louis slapped his shot home 7:12 into the second period, bringing 'Wick to within 2-1.

Kazan and Dougherty assisted on St. Louis' goal. McCullough tallied on a tap-in with 9:56 to go in the second stanza, tying the score at 2-2. Linemates Ben Lombardi, a senior and St. Louis, were each credited with assists on the tally.

"We were getting a lot of shots," Kennedy said. "Then once one went in, the floodgates started opening. Back-to-back on the same shift was big to get us back in the game. It gave a little life to the bench too."

Indeed, the Bruins were confident heading into the second period and even after the Big Red went ahead, 2-0.

"We weren't scoring, but we were in the 'O' zone the whole time," said McCullough, who helped spark the Bruins throughout. "Once we got the first one, I think we just piled on that."

By the time the second period concluded the Bruins had almost

40 shots on goal.

"We weren't panicking," Kennedy noted. "Obviously, we were disappointed to give up a goal, but we thought if we stuck with it and stuck to our game plan one would go and we would be back in it. I really liked what we were doing in the offensive zone."

"We were working on it in practice, trying to get motion, balance, a lot of switching, a lot of movement, which makes it difficult for the opponent to handle defensively," Kennedy continued. "It was especially noticeable today, so hopefully, we can use that going forward."

Sophomore forward Hunter Hanford gave the Bruins the lead for good at 3-2 when he tallied off a one-timer in front 12:32 into the second period, with the assist going to sophomore defenseman Alessandro Dolder. Dougherty generated a goal with assists from McCullough and senior forward Owen Gibbons with 1:25 left in the second frame, making it 4-2 in favor of the home team.

"It was Dougherty's first career goal - very well deserved for one of the team's mainstays on the blue line," Kennedy noted.

Lawrenceville cut its deficit to 4-3 by tallying with 14:47 remaining in the third period. The visitors were being outshot, 41-9, at that point of the matchup. St. Louis gave 'Wick the breathing room it needed though, with St. Louis, who was positioned at the left faceoff dot, snapping the puck past Lawrenceville's netminder, putting the hosts on top, 5-3, at the 9:37 mark.

Junior forward Owen Giles sealed the win with a goal off an assist from sophomore linemate Colton Cleaves 14:31 into the final period. Junior goalie Evan Akerman made nine saves for the win in goal for the Bruins.

"They were down a few guys, so it was an undermanned team, but we controlled the game for the most part," Kennedy said.



Photo by David Fierro: Members of Brunswick School's varsity hockey team skate toward the bench after scoring a goal during their 6-3 home victory against Lawrenceville School.

and 5-on-5 in the zone and it was working," McCullough noted. "I'm happy, going into the season we had trouble scoring, I think we're picking that up."

Next week, the Bruins play Cushing Academy at UConn on Feb. 11, host Frederick Gunn on Feb. 13, then travel to Berkshire School on Feb. 14.

"Over the last 10 games, we have to start bringing it up so that we can get a good spot in the

playoffs," McCullough said.

Said Kennedy: "We have a huge stretch coming up. We have eight big games that will determine where we fall at the end of the season. A lot of those games are home. The opponents are really good. I think we're in a good spot, we're well prepared and sort of battle-tested at this point of the year."

Greenwich High girls basketball team earns impressive home win vs. Stamford

By DAVID FIERRO

Undefeated at home Greenwich High School's varsity girls basketball team was involved in an ultra-tight game against visiting Stamford High School on Feb. 3rd, holding a slim one-point edge heading into halftime.

Yet though the first half saw both teams enjoy their moments, the second half solely belonged to the Cardinals.

Opening a 10-point lead after a strong third quarter, Greenwich outscored Stamford by 14 points in the second half on its way to recording a well-earned 51-36 home win in an FCIAC matchup. The victory raised the Cardinals overall record to 12-2 and improved their FCIAC mark to 8-1.

Greenwich's only FCIAC loss came when it visited rival Trumbull on Jan. 28 and was dealt a 55-35 defeat. So far this season, boasts a record of 8-0 at home. Against Stamford, Greenwich received 16 points apiece from senior guard/forward/captain Madi Uzinger and sophomore center Zuri Faison.

"It was a very intense game and a really hard-fought game," said Utzinger, who is having a sensational senior season. "We played really hard and worked really hard."

Sophomore point guard Elsa Xhekaj totaled 10 points, while senior forward/captain Mikayla Kiernan swished two 3-pointers for six points for the victorious Cardinals.

"We played hard, we played as a team," Xhekaj said. "We had a good talk at halftime and brought it back together. We're all friends

on and off the court and we're all bringing it together on the court, passing the ball and stuff like that."

The Black Knights (10-4, 5-4 FCIAC) were paced by 15 points from senior guard/captain Taylor Roncoroni and seven points from senior guard Jalynn Presley. The first quarter ended with GHS leading 16-10. At halftime, the score was 23-22 in favor of the Cardinals following a hot-shooting second quarter by Stamford.

"Stamford is a really great team, they have a lot of aggressive defenders and also know how to push the pace really well," Cardinals coach Megan Wax said. "In the first half, we had a tough time adjusting ourselves to the intensity with which they were playing and we were getting ourselves frazzled. But at halftime, we were able to calm down, talk through it, make the adjustments we wanted to see, came out and had a great third quarter."

After Faison scored from the low post to start the third quarter, Roncoroni converted a 3-pointer, tying the score at 25-25. She made five 3-pointers to keep the Black Knights' offense going. Greenwich then went on a pivotal 13-0 run and was in control thereafter.

A Faison foul shot, a basket and free throw by senior guard/captain Juliette Pelham, a layup from Xhekaj and a 3-pointer from Xhekaj put the Cards in front, 34-25, midway through the third quarter. Utzinger nailed a shot from beyond the arc and Faison made a free throw, upping the hosts' advantage to 38-25 at the 3:03 mark of the third quarter.

"Stamford is a pretty good team and I knew it was going to be a good matchup," said Faison, who has produced a sparkling sophomore season. "We just had to keep a good mentality and headset, play as a team and work together."



Photo by Dan Utzinger: Greenwich High School sophomore point guard Elsa Xhekaj, left, dribbles toward the basket during a varsity basketball game against Stamford High School at Greenwich High School on Feb. 3, 2026. GHS won, 53-36.

The Black Knights climbed back into the game behind the 3-point shot making by Roncoroni. Consecutive 3-pointers by Roncoroni brought Stamford to within 40-34 late in the third period.

"We adjusted to how they were playing us and our mindset was to go each play at a time, not worry about the past and we did that well in the second half," Utzinger noted.

Kiernan gave GHS a 9-point cushion at 43-34 heading into the final quarter by swishing a 3-pointer from the left corner. The Cards regained a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter behind six points from Utzinger.

"We adjusted to how they were playing us and our mindset was to go each play at a time, not worry about the past and we did that well in the second half," Utzinger noted.

Indeed, Greenwich's offense

efficiently flowed in the second half against the Black Knights, who mostly played man-to-man defense.

"We were cutting a lot more and moving a lot more on offense and using each other, which really helped us," Utzinger said.

Kiernan had six points and Pelham had three points for GHS, which played a solid man-to-man defense and stifling 1-2-2 zone.

"We just had to come together,

keep our composure and play together and stick together as much as we can," Faison said of the Cardinals' overall effort. "Our man is good, our 1-2-2 may be better."

Since losing to Trumbull on the road, Greenwich has won two straight games and visits Danbury tomorrow (Feb. 6th) at 7 p.m.

"I'm glad to get back on track and move in the right direction," Wax said.



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Spring Brings Giants to Bermuda: Why March and April Are Prime Whale-Watching Season

By GARETH EDMONDSON-JONES

Something extraordinary happens just offshore from Bermuda as winter starts to loosen its grip on the North Atlantic. In March and April, the island becomes a front-row seat to one of nature's great migrations, as humpback whales pass through its deep blue waters on their annual journey north.

For travelers, these early spring months offer the best opportunity to witness whales in Bermuda—often in dramatic fashion. Spouts rise on the horizon, tails slap the surface, and massive bodies breach clear of the water, creating moments that are both humbling and unforgettable.

Their timing is rooted in instinct. After spending the winter breeding and calving in the warm Caribbean, humpback whales then begin their long swim toward

In March and April, the island becomes a front-row seat to one of nature's great migrations, as humpback whales pass through its deep blue waters on their annual journey north.



Humpback whales off the coast of Bermuda

feeding grounds in the North Atlantic, including the waters off Canada and Greenland. Bermuda sits directly along this migratory route, making

March and April the peak window for sightings. By May, most whales have moved on.

What makes Bermuda especially appealing for

whale-watchers is how accessible the experience can be. Dedicated whale-watching tours operate throughout the season, typically launching from the island's western parishes and heading offshore into

deeper waters where whales are most often seen. These outings, usually lasting

several hours, are led by seasoned captains who track whale movements and understand how to approach them responsibly.

But boat tours aren't the only way to spot whales here. On calm days, the island's south and west coasts offer excellent vantage points for shore-based

viewing. Elevated lookouts and cliffside paths can reveal spouts and breaches surprisingly close to land, especially when whales linger as they rest, socialize, or travel with calves.

Spring weather adds to the appeal. March and April bring mild temperatures, fewer crowds, and clearer skies than the busier summer months. On the water, conditions can be brisk, but visibility is often excellent—ideal for scanning the horizon or watching whales glide beneath the surface.

Bermuda follows strict guidelines to ensure whales are not disturbed, particularly mothers with calves. Reputable tour operators adhere to these rules, keeping a safe distance and allowing whales to dictate the encounter—a reminder that this is wildlife on its own terms.

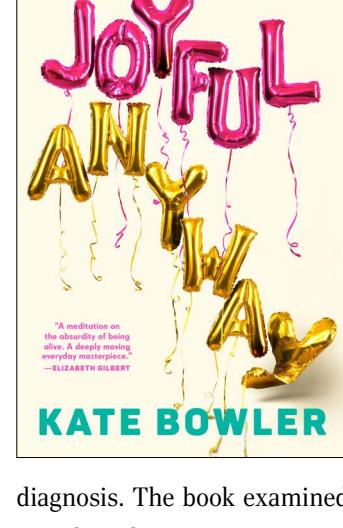
Whale watching enthusiasts and others

from Greenwich now enjoy fast and convenient access to Bermuda with nonstop flights from Westchester County Airport (HPN). The country's own flag carrier BermudAir flies three times a week from Westchester on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Also, if purchased by February 15, the airline is currently offering two flights for the price of one for travel through March, when using the promo code 'LOVE4TWO' at check-out.

For some visitors, seeing a humpback whale in the wild becomes the highlight of a trip to Bermuda. March and April offer a brief but spectacular window to witness these ocean giants as they pass by, reminding us that sometimes the most memorable journeys aren't just the ones we take—but the ones we're lucky enough to witness.

Women's Conference to Feature Kate Bowler in April

Whether you come seeking renewal, clarity, rest, or inspiration, this day promises meaningful conversations, beautiful spaces.



Last Year's Women's Conference gathered 300 women for a remarkably empowering event at Christ Church.

diagnosis. The book examined popular Christian narratives about success and suffering through the lens of her own illness.

She now hosts the podcast "Everything Happens," where she speaks with guests about navigating difficult questions of faith and meaning. Organizers describe her work as exploring "faith, suffering, joy, and the truths of human life with

intelligence, honesty, and humor." Bowler has more than 400,000 followers across her platforms in the faith and spirituality space.

At the April conference, Bowler will speak about Joyful Anyway, her latest book. The day will begin with breakfast followed by her keynote address. The Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan

of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, will offer the opening prayer and remarks.

The conference is organized by the Women of Christ Church Greenwich and is structured to allow flexibility. After the keynote, attendees will select three seminar sessions from a slate of offerings covering theology, psychology, finance and contemplative practice.

Financial independence will be addressed in "Awakening to Your Financial Independence: Taking Control of Your Financial Future," led by Julie Jason, JD, LLM. Iris Eplan, LMSW, will guide "Resonance: A Sound Bath Journey to Inner Stillness."

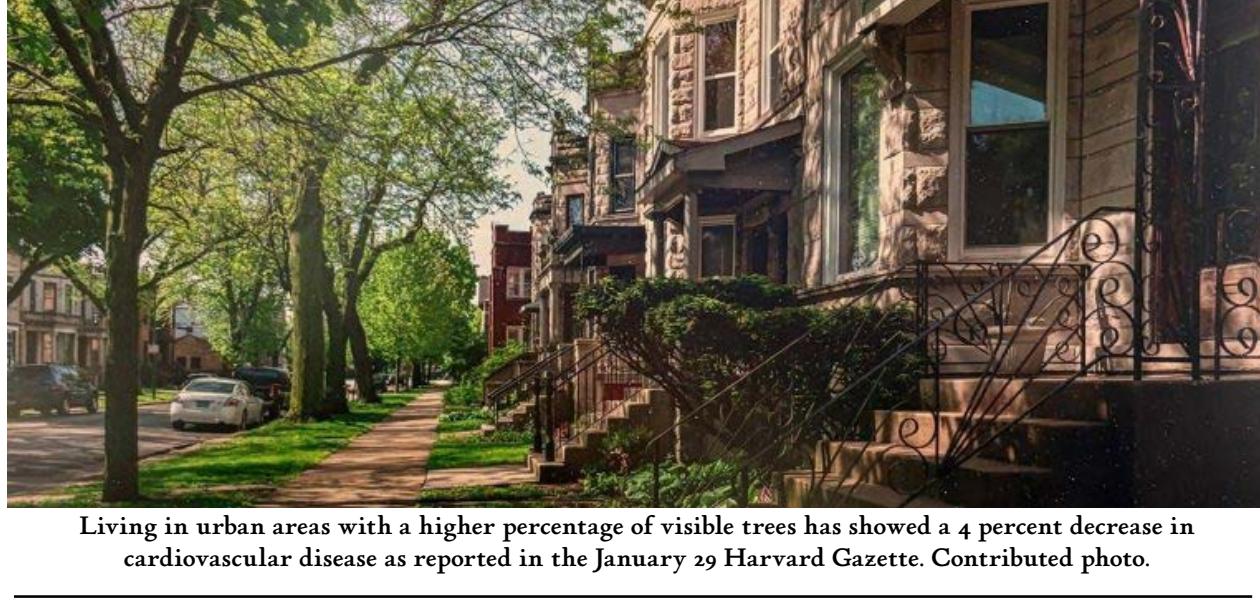
Additional sessions include "Unplugged & Present: Reclaiming Your Attention in a Distracted World," led by Julianne Furniss-Green, LCSW; "Bloom Where You're Planted: Creating Beauty from What's Before You," with Eugenie Pavlic and Pam Reimers; "Awakened Living: Strengthening the Heart & Renewing Our Strength," led by Melissa Murphy, MA, CMHC, LPC; and "Finding Your Center: Techniques in Meditation and

spiritual formation. By combining academic scholarship, pastoral leadership and applied workshops, the conference aims to address both personal faith and daily life.

Questions about the event may be directed to womensconference@christchurchgreenwich.org

Tickets are available while supplies last. Organizers say they anticipate strong demand again this year.

New Evidence Alert - Trees Brings Improved Health



Living in urban areas with a higher percentage of visible trees has shown a 4 percent decrease in cardiovascular disease as reported in the January 29 Harvard Gazette. Contributed photo.

"Living in cities that have more trees—and less grass and shrubs—was linked with decreased risk of heart disease."

By ANNE W. SEMMES

Thanks go to Peter Malkin, co-founder and president of the Greenwich Tree Conservancy for an alert coming from his alma mater's Harvard Gazette, dated January 29—“Living near trees linked with lower heart disease risk in cities.” The article (by Karen Feldscher) reads: “Living in cities that have more trees—and less grass and shrubs—was linked with decreased risk of

heart disease, according to a new study co-authored by researchers from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

The multi-institutional study led by researchers from the University of California, Davis appears in the February issue of Environmental Epidemiology. ‘Our findings suggest public health interventions should prioritize the preservation and planting of tree canopies in neighborhoods,’ said first author

Peter James, adjunct associate professor of environmental health at Harvard Chan School, in a January 21 article from UC Davis Health.

Researchers analyzed more than 350 million street view images from urban areas across the U.S. - showing neighborhood environments from the vantage point of what a pedestrian would see—to estimate the percentages of trees, grasses, and other

greenery in each area. They then linked those findings to 18 years' worth of health data from nearly 89,000 women in the Nurses' Health Study, determining the type and percentage of greenery within roughly 500 meters of each participants' home address.

Living in urban areas with a higher percentage of visible trees was associated with a 4 percent decrease in cardiovascular disease (CVD), the study found. But areas with a higher percentage of grass were associated with a 6 percent increase in CVD, and areas with other types of vegetation, such as bushes or shrubs, were linked with a 3 percent increase in CVD.

The authors speculated that grass and shrubs link with higher CVD risk could be due to the use of pesticides, air-quality impacts from mowing, lower cooling capacity than trees, and lower capacity to filter noise and air pollution.’

‘The research opens a promising new avenue: improving cardiovascular health through community-level environmental changes rather than relying solely on individual lifestyle choices,’ said co-author Eric Rimm, professor in Harvard Chan School's Departments of Epidemiology and Nutrition. ‘Heart disease has such an enormous impact on the

Western world that even moving the needle slightly towards earlier prevention can make a meaningful difference.’

Other Harvard Chan School co-authors included Jaime Hart, Francine Laden, and Brent Coull.’

Further studies include: ‘Assessing greenspace and cardiovascular disease risk through deep learning analysis of street-view imagery in the US-based nationwide Nurses' Health Study,’ the UC Davis Health article: ‘Trees—not grass and other greenery—associated with lower heart disease risk in cities,’ and a HealthDay article: ‘Trees—But Not Grass Or Other Greenery—Good For Urban Dwellers' Heart Health.’

Postscript: Certainly, these findings would have pleased and impressed another Harvard notable, the late and great Professor E.O. Wilson whose Biophilia Hypothesis declared our love of nature as traceable to our genes. Wilson would host a conference in 1992 at the Woods Hole Research Center, MA, inviting a group of distinguished scientists to address that Hypothesis. Strong support came from Dr. Roger Ulrich, an environmental psychologist from Texas A&M, who was finding that hospital patients exposed to natural landscapes had “significantly speedier recovery.”

Long-term Care. If More People Knew, More People Would Plan

BY MIMI SANTRY

The topic of aging and long-term care is avoided by most people. As an eldercare advisor, I have several clients whose status is listed as "waiting for a crisis" to dive into planning. I understand their hesitancy. Families want to avoid the hard conversations, are unaware of the potential costs of long-term care or don't want to bear the burden of one more expense. As a result, many folks are woefully unprepared.

When policy experts argue that our country is heading towards a crisis regarding access to care, particularly for the elderly—they are not being dramatic. Only 1 in 3 adults have funds set aside specifically for long-term care and only 4% of Americans hold long-term care insurance policies. While these statistics are grim, I hope they spur individuals to take action NOW and not wait for the crisis.

So what do people need to know?

1. The Odds of Requiring Care are High

Data suggests 70% of individuals over the age of 65 will require long-term care

during their lifetime.

This reality has been driven by the longer average lifespan of our population. In the early 1900's the lifespan was 48 years and now it is nearly 77 years. Many folks are living to their late 90's. A longer life span is good news, right? Yes and no. A longer life also means more years during which an individual might require care and need to fund related costs.

2. The Cost of Long-Term Custodial Care is Paid Privately, not by Medicare

Long-term care is typically custodial care, which is help doing the things we do for ourselves every day, such as bathing and dressing. The biggest misconception is that health insurance (Medicare/private medical insurance) will cover the costs of long-term care.

It doesn't. Medicare covers costs when we are getting better—hospitalizations, prescriptions, doctor's visits, and rehabilitation—but it does NOT cover long-term custodial care. Caring for someone's basic activities of daily living is born privately by the individual and their family. This even applies to disabling diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's.

Across the U.S. a 65-year-old couple retiring in 2025 can expect to spend over \$315,000 on healthcare through retirement.

The exception is for low-income individuals who have exhausted all their resources and qualified for Medicaid. In that situation, the state and federal government will cover their care in a skilled nursing facility. These Medicaid programs are coming under increasing pressure due to the fact that Medicaid reimbursements only cover 82% of the actual costs of long-term costs.

3. Care Costs Can be Significant

Let me share some statistics.

Across the U.S. a 65-year-old couple retiring in 2025 can expect to spend over \$315,000 on healthcare through retirement.

Costs in the NY metro area including Fairfield County are significantly higher than the national average.

According to the NY Life Insurance Financial Calculator, average costs in the CT/NY/NJ metro area are:

*Homecare for 8 hours/5 days weekly. \$74,048 per year
Assisted Living Studio. \$94,597 per year
Assisted Living 1-Bedroom \$100,747 per year
Skilled Nursing Private Room. \$208,776 per year*

4. What Can Be Done to Prepare?

If possible, start early with disciplined contributions to a long-term care insurance policy or investment program with guaranteed returns that can protect against these healthcare costs. There are many options to consider. Working with a financial planner or independent insurance consultant (who is not tied to one issuer insurer) is recommended. Long-term care insurance is one of the best vehicles to protect against the potential costs. The benefits are not taxable and not dependent on market performance. Long-term

care premiums could be tax deductible and can be paid with an HSA.

5. Recommendations from my Trusted Network of Eldercare Specialists:

Mike LaMagna, Esquire
-Elder Law Attorney

L a M a g n a M c K e n n a

Attorneys at Law

"In my practice, clients often assume that their assets determine their long-term care options, when in reality the real differentiator is whether they have long-term care insurance.

When care is being paid for by insurance, families are far more likely to obtain the appropriate level of care without hesitation. When clients are relying solely on their own assets, they tend to limit or delay care. Long-term care insurance is a powerful planning tool because it preserves choice, giving people the ability to decide how, where, and by whom they receive care at a time when so many other

options already feel constrained."

Laurie Sappern Gaugler, CLTC – Independent Long-Term Care Insurance Specialist

Owner of LTCI Insight, LLC.

"If a loved one needs care, it is a crisis for the family. Without a plan to fund the care, it's worse. Which asset should be liquidated first? What kind of care is best for the situation? Will all family members agree? There are solutions for a plan that can be paid for with pre-tax dollars from retirement savings plans. Some plans have life insurance or annuity benefits if care is never needed. I recommend that families consult with us (or another independent insurance expert) to help understand options and make an educated decision."

We are hopeful that greater exposure to the eye-opening facts and probabilities regarding long-term care will spur more people to do their planning and take action NOW to equip themselves for this phase of life.

Mimi Santry is a certified senior advisor and owner of Assisted Living Locators of SW Connecticut. She advises clients on matters of care, housing and resources related to aging.

ICY FRANTZ COLUMN

CONTINUED From Page 1

self-indulgent—but I will offer one example, because it belongs here.

Our beloved Sailor—a six-year-old golden retriever, sweet, affectionate, and definitely not the smartest in the litter—started having seizures in January. Medication helped. Until it didn't. The seizures returned. More medicine. More seizures.

Sailor became frightened and agitated, no longer himself. Watching him was heartbreaking—the confusion, the fear, the way his big gentle body no longer felt safe to him. I did what I know how to do best: I ran around picking up various meds, adjusted, waited, hoped. I was looking for the best answers medicine could offer.

Then one night—very early morning, really—he climbed onto my bed and curled into my lap. He is far too big to be a lap dog. But there we were. I held him, and we just looked at each other.

I was exhausted. He was unsettled.

And still, we stayed.

It didn't occur to me until that moment that maybe what he needed most wasn't another solution.

Maybe he just needed love.

I see this instinct to fix—to smooth, to clear the path—show up elsewhere in my life.

As a mom, I pride myself on being a prudent and knowledgeable mom (the kind that has read every how-to mom book out there). But, if I'm being completely honest, what comes most naturally to me is what psychologists politely label the snowplow. Sometimes the lawnmower. Occasionally the bulldozer. I like to fix things. Or maybe more accurately, I'd prefer there be no problems at all. Smooth sailing. Clear skies. No unnecessary hardship for my children.

And yet, it's incredible what happens when I have the wisdom to put duct tape over my mouth and just listen.

When I don't solve.

When I don't rush ahead.

When I don't clear the path.

Something softens.

Not the situation, necessarily. But the space around it. The person in front of me. And often, me.

That softening shows up far beyond my own small life.

Michael Pollan didn't set out to write about love either. In How to Change Your Mind, he went looking for neuroscience—for data about depression, addiction, anxiety, and why the

Which turns out not to be a modern insight at all.

Decades earlier, under unimaginably harsher conditions, Viktor Frankl noticed the same truth. Watching people lose everything—names, homes, futures—he saw that survival often hinged on love. Someone to love. Someone to hold in the mind. Love as orientation when meaning itself was under threat.

The pattern repeats at scale. Martin Luther King Jr. reached the same conclusion through conflict rather than confinement. Law and protest mattered, but hatred could not end hatred without reproducing itself. Only love could interrupt the cycle without destroying what it aimed to heal.

And Desmond Tutu, facing a nation fractured by cruelty, understood that punishment alone would never be enough. Forgetting would deny the

truth. The only path forward insisted on shared humanity—love tethered to honesty.

Different lives.
Different stakes.
The same conclusion.

And then there is my own mother.

Today she would have been 85. I miss her.

She wasn't always the easiest person. Positive reinforcement was not her middle name. Toward the end, she had very little energy to engage, and conversations could feel thin, abbreviated.

But what I miss most is not her advice.

It's her presence.

Having her at the other end of a phone line. Knowing she was there. Willing to listen while I gave updates about the children—the ordinary ones, the proud ones, the slightly worried ones. Watching her

make the effort, even when it wasn't easy, to show up for graduations, birthdays, celebrations. Sitting in folding chairs. Waiting things out. Being there.

There was comfort in that—though I didn't fully understand it at the time. I was still looking for answers and judging her (although I hate to admit it). Still assuming love announced itself more clearly.

I understand now. Too late, perhaps—but clearly.

What love had been doing all along.

Not as the first conclusion, but as the last one standing.

Not fixing.
Not reassuring.
Not improving.
Just staying.
Just listening.
Just being there.

And it's hard not to notice how much our world needs

more of this kind of love right now. We live in a time that rewards certainty, and outrage. We argue to win. We speak to be heard. We rush to fix, correct, cancel, move on. Listening feels inefficient. Staying feels risky. Presence feels almost radical.

And yet history, science, and personal loss keep pointing to the same truth: without this kind of love, nothing really heals.

So, if Valentine's Day arrives with its roses and chocolate (enjoy it!) But I hope we can remember this version too—the quieter one. The kind on the other end the phone line. The kind that seeks connection. The kind that holds a frightened dog in the middle of the night. The kind that doesn't announce itself but endures.

Because when all the answers run out, love is what remains.

Icy Frantz, The Icing on the Cake, Icyfrantz.net



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The Paper That Remembers Who We Are

They still stop us in the supermarket. "I love Icy's columns," they say, or "We clipped the photo of the basketball team for the fridge." At the dry cleaner, outside church, after the Memorial Day parade, we hear it again: "The *Sentinel* keeps getting better", "It really is the paper of record now" or "You guys really focus on community" almost always followed by words of encouragement: "Keep it up."

This is not sentimentality. It is something sturdier. In a country where local newspapers are vanishing—more than 2,500 have folded since 2005—the *Greenwich Sentinel* still arrives each week. Still lands on the doorstep. Still tells the town its own story. It is more of a miracle

When a town loses its paper, it forgets to see itself.

than you may know. Staying in business for local papers these days is almost an impossible task.

Why are we still here? Stubbornness and the wonderful Greenwich residents who want to know where they live.

In other places, local papers have been quietly erased. Staff let go, printing presses shuttered, the lights turned out. What's left behind is a quiet kind of disorientation: towns where no one quite knows what happened at the school board meeting, where zoning decisions go unnoticed, where longtime residents pass away with no obituary in print, just a line on a funeral home website. Things covered "online only" in blogs.

That doesn't happen in Greenwich.

Here, there is still a column about the newly planted trees and a column from your neighbors and leaders. There are still names listed in the honor roll, still little league scores, still stories that start on local high school stages and in living rooms and end up in print. Here, the paper notices.

We're not immune to the pressures—rising costs, shrinking margins, the endless scroll of everything everywhere all at once. But what we have, what makes the *Sentinel* thrive, is not a clever algorithm or a corporate owner. What we have is Greenwich itself.

The *Sentinel* is not just about news. It's about memory. And continuity. And the dignity of small things recorded. We cover Town Hall and the PTA, yes—but also the pastor retiring after 40 years, the garden club bringing wreaths to shut-ins at Christmastime. Some move away but many still subscribe because the paper helps them feel close to home.

The paper, in this way, is not just a paper. It's a neighbor, a witness, a kind of common mirror we hold up to each other every Thursday.

It's fashionable now to speak of news in terms of disruption and scale—clicks, reach, monetization. But none of those words capture what we see when we walk into the schools, or attend the budget hearings, or listen to parents and teachers talk about what matters in a child's life.

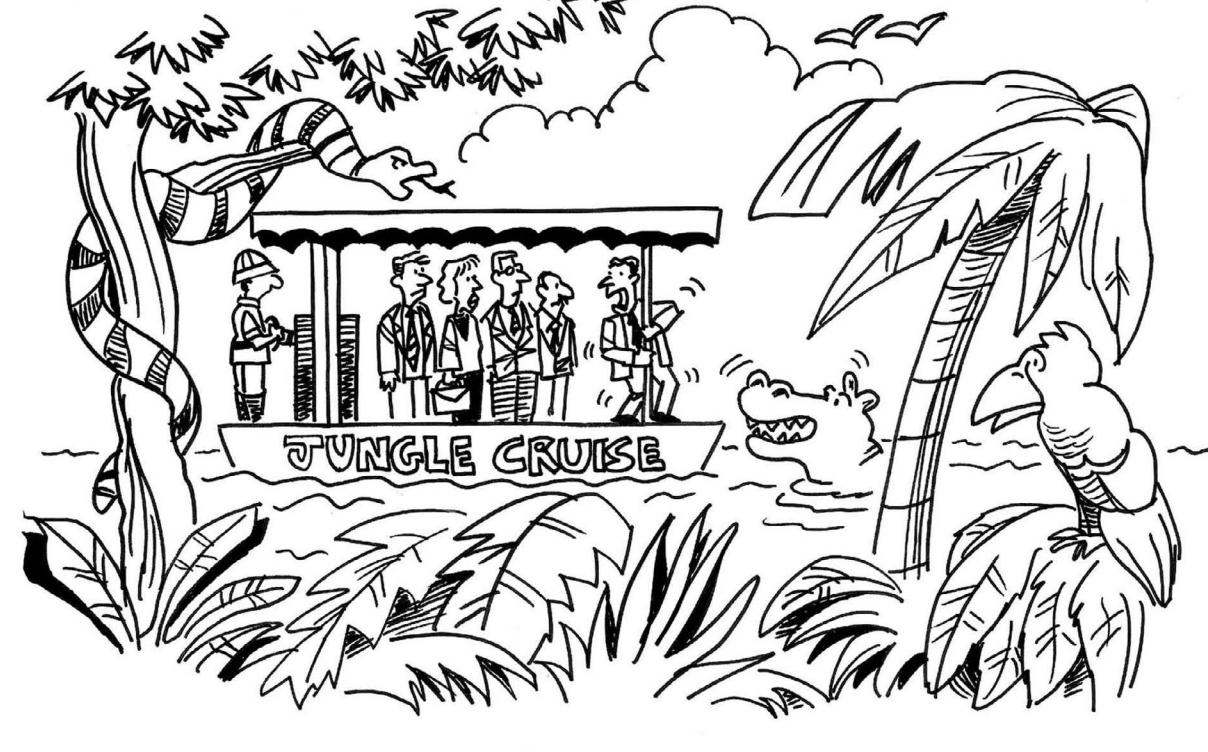
They don't capture what happens when we print a photo of a 98-year-old veteran and people email to say, "You made my grandfather's day. Thank you."

In Greenwich, people still want a paper.

We are a town that remembers its history, and a newspaper that remembers to print it.

So we'll keep going. For as long as we can. For as long as Greenwich wants to see itself clearly. That is how a paper survives—not with flash or fury, but with faith in the town that reads it.

Editorial Page



"Maybe there's a good reason why no one else has broken into this market."

SUBMITTED

YWCA Celebrates Dr. King



On Thursday, January 22nd, YWCA Greenwich hosted the Coretta Scott & Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Conversation, a community forum organized by YWCA Greenwich's Center for Equity & Justice to celebrate the lives of Dr. and Mrs. King. President and CEO of YWCA Greenwich, Mary Lee Kiernan, stated in her opening remarks that the event brought together over 72 community partners, which included schools, clergy, elected officials, and non-profit leaders. This year's panel discussion was titled Third Spaces: Building Belonging Beyond Home and Work.

The conversation began with a keynote speech given by author and leading sociologist, Eric Klinenberg, and rooted in his best-selling book *Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequity, Polarization and the Decline of Civic Life*.

Klinenberg highlighted that the need to convene is just as, if not more, important as having a

place to do so. He also emphasized that third spaces are vital to communities and should not be considered a luxury. "We spend a lot of time thinking about our cultural values, but if we don't have a place where we can actually come together and work together, it doesn't matter what your values are because you're sitting at home on your screen."

Senator Richard Blumenthal was in attendance and gave remarks about social infrastructure in America. "The health of our communities should be measured by how much we invest in and whether we support our public spaces that bring us together as YWCA Greenwich is doing right now."

Moderated by Simone Quartey, Director of the Center for Equity & Justice, the panel of experts included Seila Mosquera-Bruno, Commissioner of Housing for the State of Connecticut, who talked about a new housing development in New Haven that has built a computer room to give residents

access to resources they may not already have. She also shared that, having Latin roots, cooking and food always brought people in her neighborhood together and provided a sense of community.

Similarly, Director of the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at UCONN, Andrew Clark gave the audience insight into his background, stating that he lived in a poor neighborhood in Hartford for 30 years and would meet people from all over the world in a local community garden.

Stamford's Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Carmen Hughes, emphasized the importance of tailoring third spaces to the needs of the people in that community. She also spoke about how access to community pools and learn-to-swim programs are vital to prevent drowning.

Environmental advocate, Denise Savageau, spoke about housing policy and environmental justice, referring specifically to housing being placed on

flood plains, leaving people and infrastructure in vulnerable and dangerous situations.

To learn more, please visit www.ywcagn.org/KING2026.

About YWCA Greenwich: Founded in 1919, YWCA Greenwich is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. YWCA Greenwich provides programs for people of all ages with initiatives that include preschool and after school programs, aquatics programs, youth athletics, health and fitness programs and seminars focusing on racial justice and women's empowerment. Additionally, YWCA Greenwich is the only provider of both domestic and sexual violence services in Greenwich, with staff who are licensed to provide crisis intervention, counseling, shelter, and victim advocacy. These services are free.

GSO Happy at GHS Arts Center

The Greenwich High School performing arts center, which was completed in 2015 and cost \$28 million was partially justified because the Greenwich Symphony Orchestra would use the facility.

As a supporter of the Greenwich Symphony Orchestra, I find this facility to be more than adequate. So I'm very perplexed why the proposed Havermeyer Performing Art Center is being justified as a new venue

for GSO. I'm not against spending \$20-\$70 million on the new facility however I don't think the GSO should be considered as part of the justification.

Ken Irvine

Chief Heavey to Speak at LWV

The League of Women Voters of Greenwich (LWV Greenwich) will host Greenwich Chief of Police James J. Heavey for a Zoom community discussion on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. This event is the first in a new series of community conversations with leaders of key town departments, designed to increase public awareness of municipal operations and public safety issues. Registration is required to attend.

According to LWV Greenwich, Chief Heavey and participants will address current issues confronting the Greenwich Police Department, including trends in local criminal activity, traffic safety and enforcement, police recruiting and staffing, and community education. Attendees are encouraged to bring questions to the session

or submit them in advance during the registration process. Chief Heavey has led the Greenwich Police Department since his appointment in November 2011 and reports directly to the Police Commissioner and the First Selectman of the Town of Greenwich. A lifelong Greenwich resident, Heavey began his career with the department in 1981 and advanced through the ranks before assuming leadership. During his tenure as chief, he has emphasized intelligence-led community policing and expanded community engagement programs, such as the Citizens Police Academy and youth police summer camp. Under his leadership, the department has achieved state accreditation and contributed to national recognition of Greenwich's safety record. LWV Greenwich is a nonpartisan organization that promotes

informed and active participation in local and state government through public education and engagement. Its mission includes empowering citizens to shape their communities through unbiased study of local issues and facilitating civic dialogue. Event Details

- What: Community conversation with Greenwich Police Chief James J. Heavey via Zoom.
- When: Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.
- How: Participants must register ahead of time to receive the Zoom link.
- Topics: Local criminal trends, traffic enforcement, recruitment and staffing, community outreach and safety.

<https://www.greenwichsentinel.com/send-letter-to-the-editor/>



By FRED CAMILLO

For decades, the American immigration debate has been trapped in a toxic binary: mass deportation on one extreme, and open borders or inaction on the other. This stalemate has left our southern border in chaos and millions of immigrants living in the shadows. But there is another way—one that balances the rule of law with our national values of human dignity and opportunity.

The Dignity Act of 2025 is a serious, bipartisan effort that offers a commonsense path forward. It's been ignored in Washington for too long, not because it lacks merit, but because it doesn't serve the political interests of those who thrive on division.

Make no mistake: no

reasonable person condones entering this country illegally. There should be consequences. *The Dignity Act* would require undocumented immigrants who have committed no crimes and who are contributing members of society to pay a significant fine and begin the process of becoming legal citizens. That's fair. It recognizes the importance of enforcing our laws, while also acknowledging that many of these individuals are our neighbors, co-workers, and friends—people living decent, productive lives.

Right now, many immigrants who have overstayed a visa or fallen out of status have no legal pathway forward unless they marry an American citizen. In what world is that a functioning immigration system? For some, that option isn't available or appropriate, yet the alternative—self-deporting and starting over—would undo years of hard

A Middle Way

I've seen firsthand how progress is made—not by retreating to our corners, but by rolling up our sleeves and finding middle ground.

work, family stability, and community contribution.

This isn't just inefficient—it's inhumane. It's also unnecessary.

We need real solutions that secure our borders and reflect the values we claim to hold dear. *The Dignity Act* is one such solution. It is the antidote to the increasingly toxic environment in this country where some ignore the chaos at the border, and others, in their efforts to "solve" it, ignore the people who've already put down roots, paid taxes, and contributed to our communities.

The effort to secure the border since 2024 has been a success, and for that, we all should be thankful. We

also need to be grateful that criminals who entered the country illegally have been and are still being deported. With these situations now working, let us now focus on fixing the citizenship process so that productive and proud residents can achieve the goal of becoming an American citizen. That is what *The Dignity Act* promises to do.

Unfortunately, there are those in our own community who would rather use immigration as a political weapon—an emotional trigger to raise money or fire up a base. That is not leadership. That is pure manipulation. Shame on anyone who would exploit human lives to score points in an election year.

Leadership means addressing tough issues with clarity, compassion, and resolve. It means listening to people, not yelling at them. It means protecting our border without vilifying immigrants.

It also means respecting the rule of law. I've seen too many incidents where the narrative takes precedence over the facts. I stand with most Americans who were rightfully disgusted by the senseless loss of life in Minneapolis. But let's not forget: respecting law enforcement and our legal process is foundational to democracy. Protesting is a right; assaulting officers and blocking roadways is not. Some in the media and

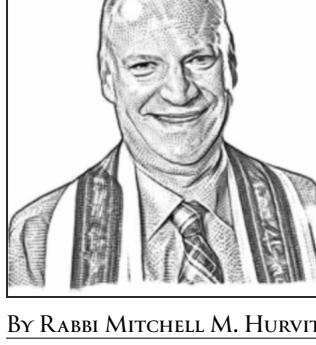
in elected office ignore that distinction.

Over my 11 years in the state legislature, I've learned that you don't have to abandon your principles to work with people who see things differently. I've seen firsthand how progress is made—not by retreating to our corners, but by rolling up our sleeves and finding middle ground.

That's what this country needs right now: less political theater and more practical action. When we go to the polls this November, let's remember who tried to build consensus and those who fueled outrage. Let's reward those who sought solutions—and reject those who only sought the spotlight.

Our immigration system is broken. That's not news. But fixing it requires honesty, leadership, and the courage to stand in the middle and take incoming from both sides. *The Dignity Act* won't satisfy every partisan talking point. But it will move us forward.

The Power of the "Divine Kiss"



By RABBI MITCHELL M. HURVITZ

My almost two-year-old granddaughter was playing in the living room recently when she tripped and fell on her elbow.

She got up with a scrunched-up face, seemingly uncertain whether to cry or not.

I asked her if her elbow needed a kiss; she quickly came over, extended her arm, received her kiss, and accepted the assurance that all was good now. Broadly smiling, she toddled away to resume her play.

The kissing of the "boo-boo" is a common ritual.

It is a paradigm of faith for

the child; the belief that a loving, healing kiss can really make the hurt go away.

Expressed love possesses immediate, transformational power.

We see this same dynamic throughout our Torah.

As the "Children of Israel," we were effectively a "toddler nation" in the Book of Exodus; reactive, fearful, and easily overwhelmed by the wilderness.

When we cried out from Egyptian bondage, God responded at the Burning Bush, telling Moses that the pain of the people had been heard.

God's presence, the "cloud by day and fire by night," was more than a GPS.

God wasn't just leading the way, but holding the hand of a frightened people, and giving a stabilizing "kiss" that allowed them to keep moving.

Whether it was sweetening the bitter waters or providing daily manna, God's miraculous love sustained us by meeting our cries with tangible comfort.

The Hebrew word for faith is *Emunah*, which literally means "trust."

Our faith is not a call for magic, but an opportunity to feel God's tender kisses of supportive love.

Psalm 23 tells us that also in the "Shadow of Death, we shall fear no evil."

We are unafraid because God is with us; the "rod and staff" are the tools of a Shepherd who co-regulates our fear.

God's love may not always physically intervene to stop the fall, but it always spiritually provides the strength to bear the burden of the bruise.

Sometimes our faith is challenged, and this is when we must move from being the receiver of the kiss to the giver.

The Hebrew word for angel is *Malach*, which also means "messenger."

Each of us is called to be the *Malach* sent by God.

When we visit the sick, comfort the mourner, or support the vulnerable, we are not just acting like angels; we are

manifesting God's presence.

The "Divine Kiss" often remains stuck in the heavens until a human being steps forward to deliver it.

Our *Emunah* places us in a perpetual circle between God and God's children.

To live a life of faith is to apply this "theology of the kiss" to every level of our existence.

As helpful as we become, we become the *Malach* for someone in their "wilderness."

We perform the mitzvah of *Tikkun Olam* (Repairing the world) when we offer our loving kisses and bandage the "brokenness" that exists within our society.

God kisses us so that we can

kiss others.

It is as if we say, "Now, I kiss your boo-boo to make it all better; someday, you will do the same for me."

We must remember that God is not found in life's pain, but in the response to it.

The miracle of the Exodus wasn't just that the sea parted, but that the cry of the people met the response of the Divine.

The "boo-boo" is an inevitable part of being human. The miracle is the kiss that makes resilience possible again.

As we surround ourselves with the gift of Shabbat rest, let us cling to our faith in God's kisses of healing.

Let us step forward within

the circle of our lives, offering the support that can bandage our broken world and make God's presence tangibly felt by all.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi MitchTemple 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.

Perrot to Host Panel on Aging, Long-Term Care Planning Feb. 18

Perrot Memorial Library will host a public panel discussion on aging and long-term care planning on Wednesday, Feb. 18, from 1 to 3 p.m. at its Old Greenwich location.

The program, titled "Navigating Aging & Care: Plan Smart. Age Confidently," is designed for adults, caregivers and families seeking guidance on senior living, in-home care, financial preparation and legal planning. Library officials said the event will focus on helping residents prepare for life transitions before a crisis occurs.

The panel will bring together five local professionals with experience in senior services, law, finance and home care.

Wendy Day, owner of Dwell Senior Living Advisors and a Certified Senior Advisor, will discuss senior housing options and the process of matching individuals with assisted living and other communities. According to the event description, Day works with families to evaluate location, budget, cultural preferences and care needs, and also advises those considering aging in place.

Alessandra Messineo Long, a trusts and estates attorney, will address wills, trusts and long-term legal planning. The program description states that she advises individuals and families on estate planning strategies designed to protect assets and provide clarity across different stages of life.

Kristin Scianna of Victress Advisors will speak about financial and

long-term care planning. According to the library's announcement, Sciana has experience in the financial industry and works with clients on complex matters, including long-term care. The description notes her focus on strategic planning and her experience guiding clients through periods of grief.

Andi Hughes, director of strategic partnerships at TrustHouse, will provide insight into in-home care options. According to the event materials, Hughes works with families seeking concierge home care and personalized support intended to promote independence, safety and quality of life at home.

The discussion will be moderated by Sue Moretti Bodson, founder of Emboss LLC. The library's announcement describes Bodson as a strategic consultant serving nonprofits and mission-driven organizations.

Organizers said the goal of the program is to provide practical information in one setting, allowing attendees to hear from multiple specialists and ask questions about coordinated planning for aging.

The event is open to the public, and registration is required.

Residents may register online at <https://bit.ly/NavigatingAgingCare>.

Perrot Memorial Library is located at 90 Sound Beach Ave. in Old Greenwich.

NAVIGATING AGING & CARE

Plan Smart. Age Confidently.

A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH

Sue Moretti Bodson
Emboss LLC
FounderWendy Day
Dwell Senior Advisors
Elder Care AdvisorAndi Hughes
TrustHouse
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RMA Presents “The Glimmerglass Festival”

BY FRED WU

Robert Ainsley, now the Artistic and General Director of the Glimmerglass Festival, returned to the very organ loft where his American career began twenty-five years ago. He was introduced by Martin Kagan, an advisor to the festival and a familiar face in the community, who noted that Ainsley had ascended to the leadership of one of the world's premier summer opera festivals when he took the helm in 2022.

The presentation was steeped in nostalgia. Ainsley recalled arriving from England in 1999 for what was intended to be a single gap year as an organist at Christ Church. Instead, he found a community that supported him through a master's degree in solo piano and cheered as he was bitten by the opera bug, eventually landing him in the prestigious Lindemann Young Artist Development Program at the Metropolitan Opera. He spoke warmly of his time under the tutelage of the late James Levine, describing those years as some of the most transformative and stressful of his life.

Ainsley's journey was not a solitary one. He highlighted his early entrepreneurial spirit, specifically the founding of the Greenwich Music Festival alongside Ted Huffman. Huffman, once a choir boy at Christ Church and a boy soloist at the Met who famously sang opposite Luciano Pavarotti in *Tosca*, has followed a parallel trajectory to Ainsley, now directing a major international festival in Aix-en-Provence, France. This shared history served as a testament to the local roots of global artistic leadership.

The core of the afternoon was dedicated to the “cultural miracle” that is the Glimmerglass Festival, located on the secluded banks of Otsego Lake in Cooperstown, New York. Ainsley painted a vivid picture of the town, which was given the moniker Glimmerglass by the author James Fenimore Cooper in his *Leatherstocking Tales*. While many associate Cooperstown primarily with the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Ainsley argued that the town's pristine, idyllic charm is maintained through the stewardship of Jane Forbes Clark. As the president of the Clark Foundation and a dominant force in local philanthropy, Clark ensures the village remains in a state of historical perfection, from



Rob Ainsley painted an attractive image of the Glimmerglass Festival of operatic and musical theater in Cooperstown, NY.

Ainsley believes that the distinction between “high” opera and musical theater is an unnecessary one.



Resident artists Kaileigh Riess and Lauren Torey treated the audience to solos and duets from Glimmerglass's repertoire.

the manicured flowers on Main Street to the grand Otesaga Resort Hotel.

Ainsley was joined by two rising stars from the festival's resident artist program, soprano Kaileigh Riess and soprano Lauren Torey. Their performances punctuated his talk, illustrating the high caliber of talent the festival attracts. Riess, a graduate of the University of Southern California, opened with a rendition of “O mio babbino caro” from Puccini's “Gianni Schicchi,” while Torey, a Juilliard alumna associated with the Denyce Graves Foundation, performed “On the Steps of the Palace” from Stephen Sondheim's “Into the Woods.” These selections underscored Ainsley's belief that the distinction between “high” opera and musical theater is an unnecessary one.

The upcoming season at Glimmerglass, which coincides with the festival's 50th anniversary and the lead-up to the American semiquincentennial, was presented as a celebration of the American experience. Ainsley

detailed a slate that includes a massive new production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's “Oklahoma!” and a reimagined “Madama Butterfly.” The latter, directed by Ainsley's predecessor Francesca Zambello, addresses the opera's historical racial stereotypes by shifting much of the action to the American consulate, transforming the traditional Japanese wedding guests into gossiping American socialites at a tea party. Zambello, a titan in the opera world who also serves as the artistic director of the Washington National Opera, has been a pivotal figure in shaping the festival's modern identity.

The festival's primary venue, the Alice Busch Opera Theater, was also a topic of pride. Designed by the late architect Hugh Hardy, known for his work on iconic Broadway theaters, the house is a jewel-box structure where the side walls open to the summer breeze. Ainsley noted that the theater offers an intimacy that the Metropolitan Opera cannot match; with only 918 seats, the experience is personal rather than transactional.

As the afternoon concluded, Ainsley spoke of the theater as one of the last remaining places for civil community discussion. He pointed to Gregory Spears's 2016 opera “Fellow Travelers”—a lyrical masterpiece set during the McCarthy-era “Lavender Scare”—as an example of how art can tackle contemporary resonance without becoming partisan. For Ainsley, the festival is not just a series of performances but an engine for the entire opera business and a sanctuary where nature and culture meet. He left his audience with an invitation to leave the “sticky steps” of their daily lives and find their way to the mirrored waters of the lake this summer.

The RMA's next presentation, “Update on the 2025 Greenwich Real Estate Market” by David Michonski, is scheduled for 11 AM on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. RMA presentations are held at Christ Church Greenwich, Parish Hall, 254 E. Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830.

How has the Greenwich market fared in the past year and what may lie ahead? To

find out, David Michonski will provide us a fascinating insight into Greenwich home prices during 2025. Not only will he present easy-to-understand visuals of the market, but he will compare Greenwich prices with national average and median prices. David will also discuss the state of real estate brokerage today and important trends that will affect all homeowners going forward.

Michonski has been responsible for some of the largest and most celebrated real estate sales in America for some of America's most notable families. Over the past 30 years he has lectured, marketed, taught and consulted on real estate sales and marketing around the world. He has been a real estate consultant for the US Department of State and led the first team of U.S. advisors into Eastern Europe after the Berlin Wall fell. He has also managed the Greenwich office of Coldwell Banker. Michonski is the founder, chairman and CEO of Quigler, Inc., and the author of three award-winning real estate books, including “Get Your Highest Price,” a guide for consumers about what they should expect from their agent to get the highest price for their home, which book served as the inspiration for Quigler.

David graduated from

Colgate University with high honors, and studied at Harvard, Boston College and the Wharton School.

To stream the presentation by David Michonski at 11 AM on Wednesday, February 18, click on <https://bit.ly/30IBj21>. This presentation will also be available on local public access TV channels, Verizon FIOS channel 24 and Optimum 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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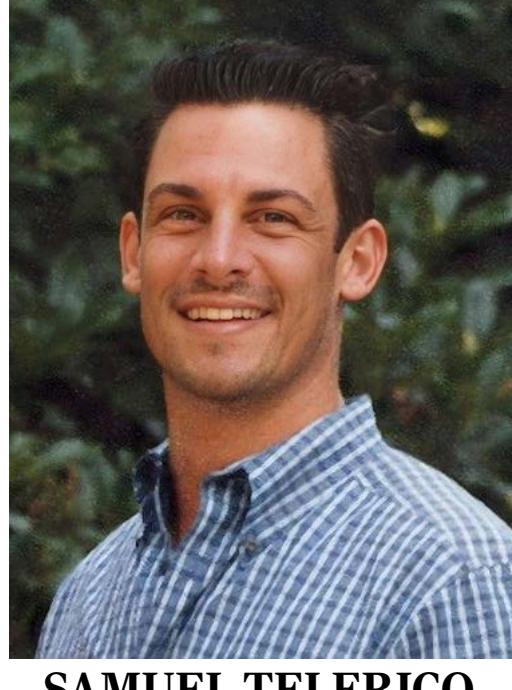
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Obituaries

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SAMUEL TELERICO

Our beloved Samuel Matthew Telerico, known in earlier years as "Chip", "Chip Sam", "Sammy" and "Sam", passed away from a tragic accidental fall on January 15, 2026. He was 59 years old. Sam is survived by his parents, local residents, Samuel T. Telerico and Gail P Telerico; sisters, Robin E. (Curtis) McCool of Easton, MD and Susan M. Telerico of Easton, MD; a niece, Callie E. McCool of Washington, DC; and nephew, Captain Harrison D. McCool of Aberdeen, NC.

Throughout his life, Sam was surrounded by large and loving extended families. He spent most of his earlier years active in the Old Greenwich and Riverside communities, attending local schools, graduating with the Greenwich High School Class of 1984 as class president, where he also played soccer, tennis and participated in theatre productions. Summers were spent at Rocky Point Club in the swimming and sailing programs. Every summer, he attended Camp Becket in the Berkshires, first as a camper, then developing skills in leadership and service. Later, he participated in international camp trips to Sweden, Russia and France and, as a college senior, he led a group of younger campers to Africa, where the group helped build a local church under the leadership of the YMCA - America international program.

Sam graduated from Dartmouth College in 1988, where he majored in History. He was a member of the Bones Gate Fraternity, Dartmouth Chamber singers and lettered in volleyball. He made many life long friends while attending Dartmouth.

Upon graduation, Sam began his career in New York City, in the advertising and film production industry, working for Maysles Films, J. Walter Thompson, Backer Spielvogel Bates Worldwide, Inc., among others. Later in years, guided by his passion for people and physical fitness, he became a Certified Master Trainer and found great fulfillment in providing fitness training with a special interest for older adults.

Sam will be remembered always for his bright spirit, his generous heart and his unwavering love for family, friends, faith and community.

Given his lifelong commitment and active participation in Christian faith, a memorial service will be held Saturday, February 21, 2026, at 11:00 am at Church of St. Michael the Archangel, 469 North Street, Greenwich, CT 06830. The service will be streamed at <https://www.stmichaelgreenwich.com>

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the following: Camp Becket Chimney Corners YMCA- <https://bccymca.org>. Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich <https://bgcg.org>



GREGORY LOUSTAUNAU

Loustaunau, Gregory F., "Greg" 77, of Katonah NY, died Thursday February 5, 2026. Greg was born on August 17th 1948 in Winchester MA to John Julian and Leola

Margaret (Reuter) Loustaunau.

A Katonah resident of 33 years, Greg grew up in Greenwich CT, sailing on the Long Island Sound and skiing the Catskill Mountains with family and lifelong friends.

Greg was a carpenter/builder for 50 years and was particularly proud of his home and lawn. Those who knew Greg remember his sharp wit, quick sense of humor, and knack for creative solutions.

Greg is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, and their 3 children, Jennifer Barker (Chad), Lea and Greg. He was incredibly proud of his grandchildren Jack and Madison Barker, and loved attending Jack's hockey games in recent years. Brother of Vivian Makmaltchi, Andrea Antico, John Loustaunau, Lawrence Loustaunau, and Leigh Pfefferkorn. Greg was also a beloved uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Greg leaves a legacy of love, laughter, and a life well lived. He will be deeply missed.

Visitation and Memorial Service will be held at Clark Associates Funeral Home, 4 Woods Bridge Road in Katonah NY on Monday, February 16, 2026 from 10:30AM - 1PM with a prayer service at the funeral home at 12:00 noon.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project in his memory.



MELISSA HEMINGWAY

With grace and love, Melissa Ann Hemingway began her 'eternal journey' on February 4, 2026, surrounded by her family.

She was born September 4, 1957 at New York Presbyterian in New York, NY. She attended Sts. John and Paul Elementary School then attended Mamaroneck High School graduating in 1976.

After high school, Melissa studied piano for three years with Mrs. Masterson, who was affiliated with the Philharmonic. She then studied for two years at the Conservatory of Music in White Plains, NY. Then for three years, she was involved in competitive dance.

Melissa enjoyed composing her own music whether it was classical jazz, blues, Celtic or rock. She also enjoyed writing stories as a hobby.

At 18 she contracted Lyme Disease and became a huge advocate for others who suffered from the disease. She was asked by Lyme doctors to help Lyme patients deal with their mental health, proper nutrition, medical support, and coping with the debilitating effects of the disease.

Melissa spent the first 40 years of her life in New York, followed by 18 years in Greenwich, CT, six years in North Carolina, and her final three years in St. Albans, Vt., where she lived comfortably with faithful feline, Meka.

Melissa is predeceased by her mother Muriel Hemingway, father Richard Hemingway, her dear sister Gay Hemingway, and nephew Luke Hemingway-Duffy.

Melissa held a deep love for those she grew up with, carrying them in her heart from state to state, especially Mary Kay Irwin Chandler and Jeff Moran. Dedicated friends throughout the years Rina Choiniere, John Beck and Paul Parker, Charlotte Wood, Wendy, Barbara Locricchio.

Melissa loved her sister Diane 'Ernie' Hemingway and held a close bond with her two nieces Whitney Hemingway-Duffy and Kaitlyn Shumway, as well as Whitney's daughter Aria, and Kaitlyn's children Zion and Zakaia, her nephew Ben and many other nephews and their families.

Though Melissa lived in Vermont for only three years, she formed meaningful friendships wherever she went - especially with the baristas at the Traveled Cup - Allison, Kaitlyn and Anna; the staff, especially Lonnie and Chris at Food City; Nichole at Maplefield's; Angie at Tim's restaurant; "Frenchie" (Jess) at Dollar Tree. She was especially grateful for the care and kindness of the Bayada team: Tracy Pilbin, Michelle Pelky, Sadie, Bridget and Lindsey.

A small reception of friends and family will be held at The Traveled Cup, 94 North Main Street, St. Albans on Sunday, February 15, 2026, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.



DOUGLAS FLOREN

JULY 8, 1941 - FEBRUARY 2, 2026

Douglas Carl Floren, of Boynton Beach, Fla., cherished husband, father, grandfather, and brother, passed away peacefully on February 2, 2026, at the age of 84. Doug's life was marked by unwavering dedication to his family, an extraordinary career, and the ability to find joy in the most simple things. He will be remembered for his generosity to every community of which he was part, and the love and loyalty he shared so readily with anyone who was close to him.

Doug was born in New York, New York, to Swedish immigrants Greta Bjorklund and Carl Gustav Floren on July 8, 1941. He graduated from the Trinity School in Manhattan and always said that his education was worth every minute of the two-hour, round-trip commute from his home in Queens. Doug was a proud member of Dartmouth College's Class of 1963 and captained the varsity men's tennis team. Doug served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve.

Doug's career was spectacular and brought him immense joy. He spent his entire professional life in asset management, approaching stock-picking as a "treasure hunt" and living by the mantra that finding a job you love means never working a day in your life. He worked at Chase, Smith Barney, Coastal Partners, and Ardsley Partners before founding DCF Capital, where he had the chance to work closely with his daughter Melissa and his son David, who is now managing partner.

Doug was a pioneer in biotechnology and pharmaceutical investing, and his knack for understanding drug development, research, and market dynamics was unparalleled. It was critical to Doug to transcend the routine capacities of an investor to collaborate as effectively and enthusiastically as he could with life science innovators, whose work he viewed as meaningful for all of society. Clinicians, researchers, and entrepreneurs sought out his unusually acute insight as they worked toward success, and in many cases these conversations developed into lifelong friendships. As Doug developed his personal and family philanthropy, he often supported scientific brilliance in its earliest stages, funding research on autoimmune disorders, cancer, SIDS, and many other areas where he believed the work could be truly transformative.

Doug's boundless enthusiasm was perhaps best observed when he was playing, coaching, or cheering for his children and grandchildren, especially when they played tennis, the sport he loved most. Off the courts, Doug was devoted to Dartmouth football. He was instrumental in bringing revered football coach Buddy Teevens back to Dartmouth and worked side by side with him to build the Floren Varsity House, designed to support all Dartmouth student-athletes. More locally, Doug and his wife, Livvy, gave generously to the town of Greenwich, where they raised their children. The many organizations they supported included the Floren Family Environmental Center, Greenwich Hospital, Greenwich Country Day School, and Greenwich Library.

Professional success never shifted Doug's commitment to the simple things. His favorite restaurants were diners, he loved cars that would last a decade and get good mileage, and his most cherished vacations were within driving distance. What Doug valued was time-time spent with his family, time with his close friends, and time learning.

As a father, Doug did not miss a single event in his children's lives, bringing his trademark curiosity and generous attention to their sports, school performances, and science fairs. From their earliest years, they were taught to value their own work, play, hearts, and dreams. This belief defined their childhoods. He reminded his children constantly that nothing was more important than identifying their interests and pursuing their passions, and he was proudest of them

when they took risks, regardless of the outcome. Doug's kids aspire to be half as wonderful as their dad believed them to be.

Doug Floren is survived by his wife of 58 years, Livvy Richardson Floren, whom he met in middle school and loved ever after, and by his four children, who were his whole world: Jennifer Floren Sozzi (Ray), Melissa Floren Filippone (David), and identical twin sons David Sven Floren (Nina) and Clay Lander Floren (Andrew Elmetts). He is also survived by his younger brother, Lennart Sven Floren (Susan Regis). He was the proud Poppy to twelve grandchildren, including his late infant grandson, Henry Gustav Floren: Bella, RJ, and Lina Sozzi; Greta, Dean, and Anna Filippone; Magda, Sasha, and Finn Floren; and Gustav and Griffin Floren-Elmetts. He was predeceased by his parents, Greta and Carl Floren.

Doug passed as he lived: gracefully and surrounded by love, with his four adult children and his wife by his side. He requested a family-only gathering. In his honor, please cheer for a child giving it their all.

NICHOLAS KOPELOFF

1939 - 2026

Dr. Nick Kopeloff passed away at the age of 86.

He practiced internal medicine in solo private practice in Greenwich for 34 years before retiring to pursue his passions for photography, bridge, and cooking. Unexpectedly, he also became a regular at the gym, beginning at the age of 70.

He attended high school at Fieldston in Riverdale, NY, earned his undergraduate degree at Columbia University, and received his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

His medical residency was interrupted by the military draft, and he served in Vietnam, including time on LZ Jamie with the 2/7 Cavalry. At the age of 30, this experience was transformative on many levels.

He was widowed in 2020, following the death of his wife, Melanie Duncan Kopeloff.

He is survived by his daughter, Melissa Truelove; his son-in-law, Adam Truelove; and his beloved grandchildren, Adrian and Nina Truelove.

Alongside the obituary he wrote for himself, we found copious handwritten notes, evidence that he never stopped asking questions, never stopped thinking like a physician, and was ruled by curiosity.

NICHOLAS AGNETO

Nicholas P. Agneto, Jr., born May 30, 1940, in Greenwich, CT, to Nicholas P. Agneto, Sr. and Mildred (Davidson) Agneto, lived a fruitful and meaningful life. He passed away peacefully on February 1, 2026, surrounded by his family, with a smile on his face as he danced home to the Lord.

Nick is survived by the love of his life, his "Bubbs", Geraldine Sacco Agneto. He was a devoted father to his son, Nicholas P. Agneto III and his wife, Kristen, and to his daughter, Dina Ann MacDougall and her husband, Scott. He was predeceased by his son, Philip Agneto, whom he carried in his heart always. He is also survived by his sister, Charlotte Perry of Bristol, New Hampshire, as well as seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews who loved him dearly.

Nicholas was truly a jack of all trades, both by skill and by spirit. Over the years, he worked as a Sealtest milkman, modeled for the Ford Agency, waited tables at Pellicci's, where he met the love of his life, Geraldine, built businesses as an Amway IBO and serial entrepreneur, and served with compassion as a para-educator to children with special needs. Especially Kris Buchetto and Emily Person. Yet, as meaningful as these roles were, his most important work began around the age of fifty, when he encountered Jesus Christ in a life-changing way. From that moment on, Nicholas devoted himself to preaching the Gospel, sharing his faith boldly and lovingly, and pointing others to the hope he himself had found. He always shared his favorite scripture, Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Those who knew Nick, knew they had a friend, a father, a brother, and a mentor, a real man who loved unconditionally. No matter who you were or where you came from, you were family to him. There were two times each year when everyone knew exactly where to find him. The first was his favorite place on earth, during the last week



BY CHUCK DAVIS

Goodness: A Missing Aspiration

“Without goodness, strength and success

become tools of manipulation; with

goodness, they become instruments of grace.”

In a world driven by ambition, innovation, and influence, one virtue seems quietly slipping out of vogue: goodness.

Goodness is not glamour. It doesn't trend. It rarely goes viral. It doesn't shout on stages or dominate political debates. Yet, it remains one of the highest and most necessary virtues—both timeless and transcendent. As C.S. Lewis once warned, “We laugh at honor and are shocked to find traitors in our midst.” In the same way, we may ignore goodness and then mourn its absence in our communities, families, and institutions.

What Happened to Being Good?

Once a primary goal of moral formation, goodness today is often overshadowed by success, relevance, and productivity. From childhood, we're more often taught to be smart, strong, or special; not necessarily good. Even the word itself has become diluted, associated with being “nice” or uncritical. But biblical goodness is far from passive. It's active, demanding, and deeply tied to justice, mercy, and truth.

The Apostle Paul lists goodness as a fruit of the Spirit:

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness...” (Galatians 5:22)

Goodness is not just moral cleanliness, it is moral courage. In Romans 12:21, Paul writes,

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

In that short command lies the battle of every age: choosing good in a world bristling with apathy, exploitation, venom, and falsehood.

Philosophy and the Moral Life

Plato defined goodness (or “the Good”) as the ultimate object of knowledge—the very source of truth and reality. He taught that to know the Good was to be drawn toward it, to desire it. But he also admitted, “The good is not easy to know.”

Aristotle, more practically, spoke of virtue as a habit formed by repeated choices. For him, goodness is not just what you are, but what you become through consistent action.

This aligns with Scripture's view of goodness as a lived reality:

“Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” (Galatians 6:9)

Doing good is costly. It's inconvenient. But it is never wasted, even if there is a time lag between goodness and reward.

Modern Echoes of an Ancient Virtue

And in a digital age obsessed with identity, author David Brooks challenges us in *The Road to Character* to pursue not just résumé virtues but eulogy virtues. Eulogy virtues are the kind of goodness that will be remembered when we're gone.

Recovering the Aspiration

To aspire to be good today may seem quaint. But perhaps it is the most radical thing we can do.

Being good means caring when it's easier to scroll past. It means telling the truth when a lie is more comfortable. It means forgiving when revenge would feel better. It means being faithful when the world says to look out for yourself.

Jesus, when described by Peter, is called simply: “[He] went about doing good...” (Acts 10:38)

And what was the reward for the goodness of Jesus? Crucifixion.

Could the same be said of us?

To recover goodness as a central aspiration is not to abandon strength, brilliance, or success. It is to anchor them. Without goodness, these things can quickly become tools of manipulation or self-exaltation.

In our families, our politics, our schools, and our churches, we don't need more charisma - we need more character. We don't need more platforms - we need more goodness.

As Dostoevsky famously wrote,

“The world will be saved by beauty.”

But perhaps that beauty must first be clothed in goodness.

Rev. Chuck Davis, PhD
Senior Pastor Stanwich Church
President Global Leadership Inc.

Obituaries, continued

JOHN ADILETTA

1948 - 2026

John Xavier Adilettta, age 77, of Bernardsville, NJ passed away on January 12, 2026.

Son of the late Joseph George Adilettta and Claire Fischer Adilettta, John was born in Westbury, NY and raised in Greenwich, CT, moving to Thompson, CT during his high school years. The eldest of six children, John valued family above all else. He was industrious, self-reliant and, as his stories often illustrated, unafraid to occasionally break the rules.

A graduate of Clark University, John became a respected business leader and seasoned executive with a long career of shaping and growing companies in the telecommunications, technology, and corporate services sectors. He was widely recognized for his vision, strategic leadership, and his ability to guide organizations through periods of growth and transition. He served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Aquis Communications Group, Inc., a company he co-founded and helped transform into a full-service telecommunications provider. He also served in executive leadership and director roles for a range of companies and was sought after for his sharp intellect, decisive manner, and extensive experience in operations, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate governance.

More than anything else, John was most proud of his two children, Joe and Julie. He never laughed harder or opened his arms wider than when he was with them. As they grew their own families, John delighted in their successes, the funny stories that always followed, and time spent with their partners and children. He loved nothing more than sharing a special meal together or thoughtfully helping them think through a problem.

John will be deeply missed by his son, Joseph (Erin) Adilettta; daughter Julie (Dave) Boyle; and grandchildren Lincoln, Amelia, Casey, Jasper, Damon and Maeve. He also leaves behind his beloved partner of twenty-five years, Barbara Baecht; and siblings, William (Susan) Adilettta, Patricia (Jeffry) Brigman, Joseph (Dawn) Adilettta, Mark (Debra) Adilettta, and Matthew (Karen) Adilettta. He is survived by seventeen nieces and nephews, about whom he enjoyed receiving updates; and his longtime friend and mother of his children, Lynn Szafran.

His family and friends will miss his exuberant hugs, his hearty laugh, and his

appreciation for quantitative analysis. He was deeply loved.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with John's family from 9:00AM to 11:00AM on Saturday, March 28, 2026, in the Gilman Funeral Home, 104 School Street, Putnam CT 06260, followed by a funeral home service at 11:00AM. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Christmas is for Children/ Holiday Hope at <https://www.holidayhopechildren.org/> donations or to Holiday Hope, P.O. Box 214, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920.

ALAN MEILINGGAARD

Alan Meilinggaard, 83, of Greenwich, CT, passed away at home on December 3, 2025, after a courageous battle with cancer. A devoted husband, brother, uncle and friend, Alan will be remembered for his warm smile, gentle nature, and the effortless way he made everyone around him feel comfortable.

Born on June 24, 1942, in Greenwich, Alan spent most of his life surrounded by the familiar streets and neighbors of his beloved Byram community. He carried immense pride in his hometown and cherished its sense of closeness and connection. His grandfather was a builder and developer, who made significant contributions in the area, including several buildings in Greenwich that still bear the Meilinggaard name. In fact, after a long and successful career in the banking stationery industry, Alan retired and recently returned to live in the family home that was built by his grandfather. He renewed his commitment to the neighborhood through active involvement in community organizations and by volunteering at New Lebanon Grammar School—the very school where he'd once been a student.

Alan's life was defined by the relationships he nurtured over the years. On March 17, 1985, he married the love of his life, Diane, with whom he shared four decades of devotion, laughter, and partnership. Friends and family often remarked on Alan's quiet joy, his humility, and his deep sense of care for those around him. He had the rare gift of making others feel genuinely seen and appreciated, whether through a kind word, a shared joke, or a reassuring smile.

An avid golfer, Alan could often be found on the course with friends, where his easygoing manner made every round memorable. He was also an enthusiastic

supporter of the New York Yankees, a lifelong fandom he celebrated in whimsical ways—including naming his Cairn terrier “Scooter,” after the beloved Yankees broadcaster, Phil Rizzuto.

Alan was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Katherine Meilinggaard; sisters, Dorothea Meilinggaard and Jane Meilinggaard Festo. Also deeply woven into the community, Elmer Meilinggaard was the Greenwich Tax Collector, up until his death in 1964, and Dorothea worked for the Town of Greenwich for 60 years, retiring as Assistant Town Clerk.

He is survived by his wife, Diane, who will forever hold dear the countless memories they made together; and his nephew, David Fluegel and wife, Cheri. Plans for a celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

As Diane reflects, “Alan was the kindest man I ever knew.” His life was one of quiet strength, steadfast love, and simple joy—a life that touched countless hearts and left an enduring mark on everyone fortunate enough to know him.

FRANK PUTRINO

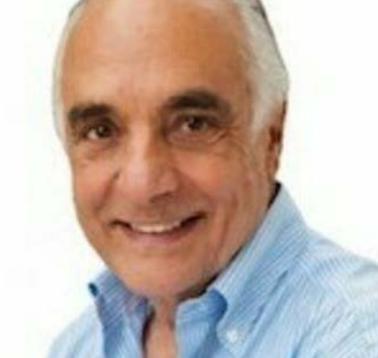
Frank “Red” Robert Putrino, a lifelong resident of Greenwich, passed away on January 30 at the age of 93. Born on October 17, 1932, he was the son of Joseph and Margaret Putrino.

Frank proudly served in the U.S. Army before beginning a long career as an electrician with Local Union 501. He enjoyed gardening, especially caring for his roses, and loved traveling and taking cruises with his wife, Lucy. He was an avid Yankees and Giants fan. He would watch any team if it meant being with his loved ones. Above all, Frank cherished his family.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Lucy. He is survived by his loving children, Bonnie Ann Strazza (Steve), Joseph Robert Putrino, and Michelle

“Shelly” Lynn Mallozzi (Bill); his cherished grandchildren, Jaime Alger, Steven Strazza (Amanda), Robert Putrino (Rachel), Michael Mallozzi, and Brian Mallozzi; and his great-grandchildren, Bode, Quint, Miles, Calder Putrino, and Rome Strazza. He is also survived by his brothers, Joseph “Bill” and John (Jane), along with many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister-in-law, Donna Putrino.

Family and friends gathered on Wednesday, February 11, at Coxe & Graziano Funeral Home, Greenwich. A prayer service was held Thursday at the funeral home, followed by the interment of ashes at St. Mary's Cemetery in Greenwich.



GIANCARLO DE BERARDINIS AUGUST 25, 1943 - JANUARY 29, 2026

Giancarlo De Berardinis, 82, passed away on January 29, 2026. Born in Italy, he immigrated to North America, living in Toronto before settling in Greenwich, Connecticut, where he became a beloved hairstylist and community figure. Alongside his late wife, Sharon, he owned a well-known salon on Greenwich Avenue and earned recognition for his artistry, warmth, and passion for people, hair and fashion.

After partially retiring, Giancarlo moved to Miami, Florida, where he opened another salon and spent his later years with his partner, Raminta Nenortas.

He is survived by his sons, Gianluca, Christian, and Adrian; daughters-in-law, Petra and Hillary; and grandchildren, Sebastian and Oliver, Celeste, and Olimpia. Brother, Massimo; and sisters, Elisa and Luciana.

Giancarlo will be remembered for his kindness, fierce work ethic, industry leadership and creativity, faith, passion for beauty in life and deep devotion to family. He will be dearly missed.

There was a Funeral Mass at St Mary's Church, in Greenwich, on Thursday, February 12. Entombment followed at Putnam Cemetery in Greenwich.

His family and friends will miss his exuberant hugs, his hearty laugh, and his

Worship Directory and Services

Assemblies of God

Harvest Time Church
1338 King St., 203-531-7778
www.htrchurch.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. Anchor Night for Young Adults, 3rd Fri of month. *Anchor Night! for Young Adults: Friday, February 20, 7pm. Marriage Conference: "A Day to Become a Better Us": Saturday, February 21, 8:30am.*

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. 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 Jeannemarie Baker at (203) 637-3661 (ext. 375) or ParishPartners@stc-sta.org. Walking with Purpose Book Club: Wednesdays, through February 25, 7:15-8:15pm, MomsStCath@gmail.com. Beginning Saturday, Feb. 14: Sacrament of Reconciliation will be every Saturday from 3:30-4:30pm. Ash Wednesday – Feb. 18: Mass, 7am, St. Catherine; Mass, 12:10pm, St. Catherine; Ash Wednesday Service, 4:15pm, St. Catherine; Mass, 5:15pm, St. Catherine; Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm, St. Agnes Chapel. New Book Club for Moms: Wednesdays starting Feb. 18 - April 1, 7:15pm, momsstcath@gmail.com.*

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. *Malta House Casual Friday Dinner Fundraiser: Friday, February 6, 6:30pm, St. Ann Club in Norwalk.*

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

Mass: Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:15pm. Sunday Masses: 8am, 9:45am, 12pm, 5:15pm. Daily Masses: Mon-Sat, 9am. *Parish Ash Wednesday Soup & Bread Dinner (GH): February 18, 7-8pm.*

St. Timothy Chapel

1034 North St.; 203-869-5421

Mass: Saturday Vigil Mass, 4pm. Sunday Mass, 11am.

St. Paul Church

84 Sherwood Ave.; 203-531-8741

www.stpaulgreenwich.org

Mass: Mon-Thu: 8am; Sat: 4pm (Vigil); Sun: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confessions: Daily, 7:30am; 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 Thu. of every month, 7:30pm. Installation of Rev. Michael J.V. Clark by The Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano: Saturday, February 21, 4pm Mass – A reception will follow at the parish center, 5-6:30pm, all are welcome.*

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. *Pastor Installation Day – Very Rev. Peter F. Lenox: Saturday, February 14, 4pm.*

Christian Science

First Church of Christ, Scientist

11 Park Pl; 203-869-1555

christiansciencect.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 Sermons: Feb. 15: Soul. Feb. 22: Mind. March 1: Christ Jesus. March 8: Man. March 15: Substance.*

Community

First Church of Round Hill

464 Round Hill Rd; 203-629-3876

www.firstchurchofroundhill.com

In-person worship: Sundays, 10am.

Round Hill Community Church

395 Round Hill Rd; 203-869-1091

www.roundhillcommunitychurch.org

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

Congregational

The First Congregational Church

108 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-1791

www.fccog.org

Worship: In-Person & Virtual: Sundays, 10am. Live-streaming on YouTube and Facebook, and broadcast on 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.

North Greenwich Congregational

606 Riverside 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. Livestream available for 10:30am service. Children's Chapel during 10:30am worship. Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: @2CCGreenwich. All are welcome here! *Shrove Sunday – February 15: Join us for a Dixieland Band during 10:30am Worship followed by a Donut Extravaganza! Ash Wednesday, February 18: Ashes to Go outside the church office from 8-9am & Worship at 7pm.*

Episcopal

Anglican Church of the Advent

606 Riverside 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 ser-

vice. Choral Evensong or Sung Compline: In-person or livestream, 5pm. Wednesdays: Preach and Teach Eucharist (new time for this midweek service), 12:15pm, In-person only

Chapel. Thursdays: Choral Evensong, 6:30pm, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary. *Friday Bible Study with Rev. Tim Hamlin: Fri, 10am. Messy Church Eucharist: Sun, 8:45am. Bagels & Bibles: Sun, 10:05am. Sacred Ground Group Discussion Series: Mondays, Feb. 23, March 2, 16, 30; April 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 6:30pm, on Zoom. Valentine's Treat Boxes – volunteer opportunities: Saturday, Feb. 14, 9am. Courage & Faith Presents: Fr. James Martin: Saturday, Feb. 14. Sunday Forum: Rev. Dr. Andrew McGowan: Sunday, Feb. 15, 11:15am. Joyful Noise with Anna Jacobson: Sunday, Feb. 15, 5pm. Mardi Gras (Shrove Tuesday) Celebration: Tuesday, Feb. 17, 5:30pm. Ash Wednesday Services – February 18: 7:30am, Holy Eucharist with Impositions of Ashes; 7:30am, Lay Eucharistic Ministers at the Greenwich train station offering Ashes-to-go; 7:30pm, Ash Wednesday Choral Eucharist. A Powerful Book Talk: Jenna Bush Hager & Debra Curtis, "Laws of Love & Logic": Thursday, Feb. 19, 6:30pm.*

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: @st.barnabasgreenwich). Small church feel - Big church experience.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

200 Riverside Ave.; 203-637-2447

www.stpaulsriverside.org

Worship: Sundays, 10:15am (in person and streaming). Coffee hour immediately following worship service in Selleck Hall. Sunday School (including frolic Fatih class for toddlers 2+) in the Children's Chapel downstairs – drop-off starts at 10am. Ongoing: Neighbor-to-Neighbor food drive box by office door. Pick-up is every Thursday morning. *Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, hosted by the youth group: February 17, 5pm, All are welcome, Free will offering accepted. Lent begins February 18: join in for Ash Wednesday services at 12noon & 7pm.*

St. Saviour's Episcopal Church

350 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-2262

www.saintsaviours.org

Worship: Please join us every Sunday for Holy Eucharist at 10am (in person and on Zoom). Coffee Hour immediately following our worship service. Please visit our website for the Zoom link and to sign up for our Newsletter. Come and See! *Ash Wednesday Service: February 18, 7pm.*

Iewish

Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich

75 Mason St.; 203-629-9059

www.chabadgreenwich.org

Please visit our website for details on Shabbat services, classes, programs and more. *Soul Spa: The Five Books of Miriam: Uplifting Feminine Voices: Sat, 10am-12pm, on Zoom. Unlocking the Jewish Prayerbook-Opening the Liturgy: Sun, 5-6pm.*

Congregation Shir Ami

One W. Putnam Ave; 203-274-5376

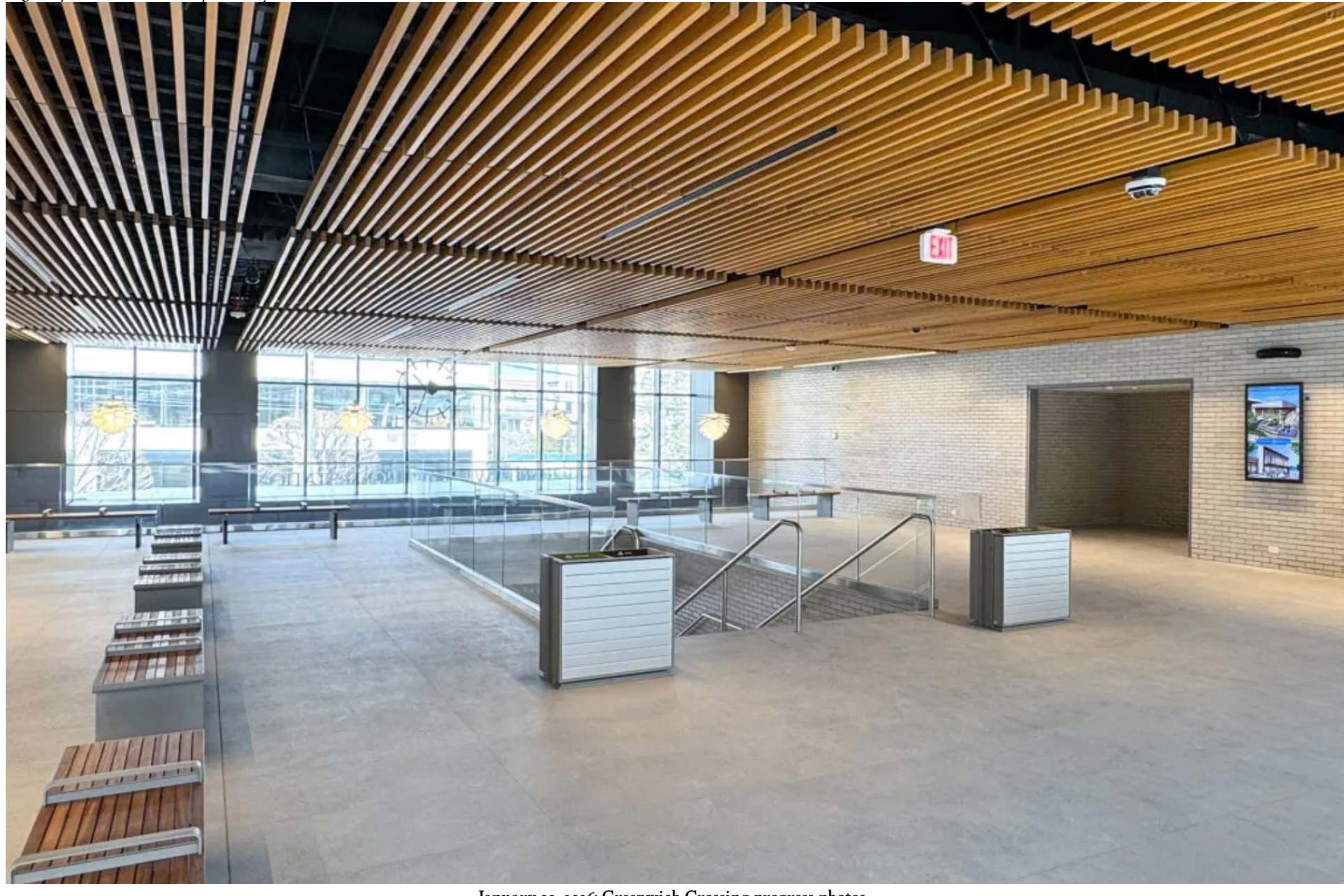
www.congregationshirami.org

All services, programs and celebrations are available online via Zoom. *Kabbalat Shabbat: Fridays, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church. Soul Spa - Meet the Midrash: Saturdays, 10am, through Aug. 9, on Zoom. Shabbat Service: Friday, February 20, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich.*

Greenwich Reform Synagogue

92 Orchard St.; 203-629-0018

www.grs.org



January 30, 2026: Greenwich Crossing progress photos.

TRAIN STATION CONTINUED From Page 1

Inside, the station now features full-glass entrance façades, a wood-slatted ceiling, designer lighting, renovated restrooms, new flooring, glass railings, updated signage and a new elevator. The elevator is expected to be operational in March. Metropolitan Transportation Authority elevators on the platforms remain open and accessible from both sides of the pedestrian bridge.

"This station represents far more than a renovation – it's a reinvestment in Greenwich and the daily experience of everyone who passes through it," said Ryan Harvey, CEO and president of The Ashforth Company. "We're incredibly grateful to the residents, commuters, and local businesses for their patience and support throughout construction. Opening the station is an important milestone, but what's most exciting is what comes next: the continued transformation of Greenwich Crossing into a vibrant, connected destination that will serve the town and region for generations."

The station reopening advances the broader Greenwich Crossing project, which includes a new 5,000-square-foot anchor restaurant with outdoor seating, renovated storefronts and new landscaping surrounding retail areas, the street and the train platform. The development is intended to link Greenwich Avenue's commercial corridor with the station area.

Renovations of remaining storefronts are nearing completion. Construction of the restaurant structure and additional landscaping is expected to continue through early spring 2026.

"This project reflects the strength of collaboration and craftsmanship across our entire team, and we are extremely thankful for their incredible work and the instrumental support of the Town of Greenwich and the Greenwich Building Department," said Andrew Ashforth, CEO and president of A.P. Construction and co-chair of the board of The Ashforth Company. "This renovation reinforces our long-term commitment to the town and our confidence in its future."



December 29, 2025: Greenwich Crossing progress photos.

Ashforth has longstanding ties to the site, including development of the Greenwich Plaza office complex and the station in 1970. The current redevelopment represents the latest phase of investment in the property.

The Greenwich Crossing design and construction team includes developer The Ashforth Company; construction manager A.P. Construction, a division of The Ashforth Company; architect Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners LLP; MEP/FP engineer AKF Group LLC; structural engineer Desimone Consulting Engineers; land surveyor and civil engineer Redniss & Mead; landscape architect Eric Rains

Landscape Architecture, LLC; lighting consultant Lightcraft; and leasing consultant Joyce Storm of Storm Partners, LLC.

Additional project updates and leasing information are available at greenwichcrossing.com.

The Ashforth Company, headquartered in Stamford, was founded more than 130 years ago. According to the company, it owns, develops and invests in commercial and multifamily assets and provides asset, property and construction management services. The company reports that it is invested in or manages more than 11.5 million square feet of office space and more than 7,000 multifamily units nationwide.

JoAnn Messina New Chair of Greenwich Green & Clean

Greenwich Green & Clean has elected JoAnn Messina as Chair of its Board of Directors, effective Jan. 1, 2026, as the nonprofit marks its 40th anniversary.

Ms. Messina succeeds John Blankley, who has served as board chairman for the past three years. The leadership transition comes at a milestone moment for the organization, which focuses on beautifying Greenwich's public spaces through community engagement and environmental stewardship.

Ms. Messina is the founding Executive Director of the Greenwich Tree Conservancy, a position she held for 17 years. In that role, she worked on tree preservation, planting initiatives and public-private partnerships aimed at strengthening the town's urban forest. She brings experience in nonprofit governance, community partnerships and program development to her new role at Greenwich Green & Clean.

"We are thrilled to welcome JoAnn as our new Board Chair," said Kanako MacLennan, Executive Director of Greenwich Green & Clean. "Her proven

leadership, deep knowledge of environmental stewardship, and love for Greenwich make her incredibly well-suited to guide GG&C into its next 40 years. As we welcome JoAnn to GG&C's Board, we are also deeply grateful to John for his three years of dedicated service and leadership as our Board Chairman, which has positioned the organization for continued success."

Greenwich Green & Clean was founded in 1986 and has organized volunteer-driven initiatives focused on planting, maintenance and seasonal displays in public areas across town. The group partners with residents, local businesses and municipal departments to support beautification projects and environmental initiatives.

In a statement, Ms. Messina said she is assuming

the position at a significant juncture for the organization. "I am honored to step into this role during such a meaningful year for the organization," she said. "Greenwich Green & Clean has shaped our town's beauty and sense of pride for four decades. I look forward to working with Kanako, the Board, and our community partners to continue this important work."

Mr. Blankley's tenure as chair coincided with ongoing volunteer engagement and program expansion, according to the organization. Ms. MacLennan credited his leadership with helping position the nonprofit for its next phase.

The board transition is scheduled to take effect at the start of the new year. Greenwich Green & Clean plans to continue its established programs while advancing initiatives aligned with its environmental stewardship mission.



Kanako MacLennan and JoAnn Messina

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD EDITOR

Mark Pruner | Mark@GreenwichStreets.com

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Pulitano
Cesar Rabellino
John Engel

NEW LISTINGS (two weeks)

Data Compiled by Cesar Rabellino (203) 249-9866

Address	List Price	Price/SqFt	SqFt	AC	BR	FB	Area
501 W Lyon Farm Drive 501	\$950,000	\$499	1,904	0	2	2	South Parkway
79 View Street West	\$1,295,000	\$518	2,500	0.12	4	3	Byram
20 Sound Beach Avenue	\$3,295,000	\$766	4,300	0.17	6	5	Old Greenwich
17 Pintail Lane	\$3,950,000	\$1,084	3,643	0.18	5	4	South of Post
5 Greenwich Cove Drive	\$4,295,000	\$1,298	3,308	0.24	4	3	Old Greenwich
108 Husted Lane	\$7,950,000	\$693	11,472	1.48	6	6	South Parkway
8 Old Round Hill Lane	\$8,995,000	\$723	12,445	2.55	7	10	North Parkway
2 Stillman Lane	\$8,995,000	\$880	10,216	1.2	6	8	South Parkway
133 Doubling Road	\$13,850,000	\$1,320	10,496	1.37	7	7	South Parkway

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

Data Compiled by Rob Pulitano (203) 561-8092

Address	Area	Price	Day/Time	Broker
4 Putnam Hill #2B	Greenwich	\$699,000	Sun 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
51 Glen Road	Greenwich	\$3,100,000	Sat 11-12-30 PM	Douglas Elliman
5 Greenwich Cove Drive	Old Greenwich	\$4,295,000	Sat 2-4 PM	Douglas Elliman
5 Greenwich Cove Drive	Old Greenwich	\$4,295,000	Sat 2-4 PM	Douglas Elliman
51 Glen Road	Greenwich	\$3,100,000	Sun 2-3:30 PM	Douglas Elliman
6 Reynwood Manor	Greenwich	\$4,350,000	Sat 1-3 PM	Houlihan Lawrence
115 River Road #7	Cos Cob	\$1,825,000	Sun 2-4 PM	Houlihan Lawrence

NEW SALES (two weeks)

Data Compiled by Cesar Rabellino (203) 249-9866

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres	SqFt
3 Putnam Hill 2B	\$680,000	\$680,000	\$715,000	77	2	2	0	1,300
148 E Elm Street 1	\$3,600,000	\$3,600,000	\$3,550,000	188	4	4	0.12	4,472
148 E Elm Street 2	\$3,600,000	\$3,600,000	\$3,525,000	247	4	4	0.12	4,095
1 Element Lane	\$6,999,000	\$6,999,000	\$6,999,000	35	6	6	3	12,781
3 Anderson Road	\$9,850,000	\$9,350,000	\$9,000,000	113	6	8	0.78	9,845
210 Bible Street	\$2,195,000	\$1,795,000	\$1,772,500	195	4	4	2	4,831
63 Valleywood Road	\$1,995,000	\$1,995,000	\$2,350,000	6	3	4	0.17	2,850
23 Woodland Drive B	\$2,650,000	\$2,650,000	\$2,590,000	29	4	4	0.22	2,526
26 Bramble Lane	\$4,395,000	\$4,395,000	\$4,519,018	13	5	5	0.31	4,382
24 Oakley Lane	\$4,900,000	\$4,900,000	\$4,900,000	0	5	5		

Forget What You Thought You Knew

Writing, usefulness, and what still belongs to us in the age of AI



BY JOHN ENGEL

Super Bowl Sunday ads were starting to show up. When I left the Army, I went to work at a marketing agency in Connecticut, and once again, the instruction was familiar: Forget what you think you know about writing.

Writing now meant sales letters, proposals, and PowerPoint slides – writing designed to persuade rather than command.

Different setting, different rules, and once again, a different definition of what made writing useful.

When the Internet arrived in the late 1990s, writing changed all over again. Websites weren't read the way essays were read; they were scanned, navigated, abandoned. Structure, hierarchy, and clarity mattered more than voice, because the reader could leave at any moment.

For the first time, writing wasn't just persuasive; it was precisely measurable.

Effectiveness could be tracked, tested, optimized, and improved, until "what worked" began to matter more than how it was written.

That brings us to 2026, where writing is being redefined yet again.

I've never thought of myself as having one job. I've thought of myself as having one skill that kept getting retrained. Writing was how I made sense of things as a student, as an officer, in marketing, and later in real estate. The setting kept changing, but the work was always the same: Take incomplete information, impose some order on it, and help someone decide what to do next.

That question feels especially sharp in 2026. Not because change is new, but because it arrives faster than reflection. It's the same question we hear in conversations about careers, in offices, and at kitchen tables with kids who are just starting out. The work was always the same: Take incomplete information, impose some order on it, and help someone decide what to do next.

My first job out of college was as an Army officer, working inside a system that does things very differently. The first thing you learn in the Army is: Forget what you learned about writing in college. In the Army, we don't write term papers. We write Operations Orders, all in the same five-paragraph format. "Etch these paragraphs in your brain." And we did. This writing is nothing like school.

Which brings us, inevitably, to artificial intelligence.

The question isn't whether AI can write. It can. What's less clear is whether it can replace the parts of writing that actually make people useful.

I was struck by that distinction this weekend, listening to Deacon Bill's homily that was thoughtful, grounded, and unmistakably human. It wasn't impressive because of how it was written, but because of what it understood about the people listening. It could not have been written by a system trained on language alone.

AI has made it clear that producing language is no longer a scarce skill. What's less clear is whether producing language is the work that actually matters.

Every generation has to relearn what makes people useful, usually in response to new tools and new systems. What feels different now is how quickly that reckoning is arriving.

For most of us, that process begins early, when we first start to sort out what we like to do and what we're good at.

If we're lucky, those things align. But liking something, and even being good at it, doesn't always translate into something useful in the real world.

In my case, book reports in high school led to majoring in English in college. College writing is persuasive by design: thesis, facts, conclusion. It felt like a useful skill to build a future around. *You can be anything with an English major.*

I leaned in, thinking writing might carry me into whatever came next. It was supposed to be a safe bet, the belief that writing was a durable skill that would remain useful across changing systems. That idea of usefulness turned out not to be true at all.

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That uncertainty is hardest to ignore when you think about people still in school or just starting their careers. They're being told, as every generation is, that the rules are changing. Learn something new? Let go of what no longer fits? Figure out how to be useful again. Learn to write. It never goes out of style.

This is also a real estate column, and a local one. In New Canaan, the value of our homes is still closely tied to the strength of our schools, and those schools are still judged on fundamentals that haven't changed much over time.

Reading. Writing. The ability to think clearly and communicate well.

If we're looking for the things most likely to shift in an AI-powered economy, those basics probably aren't among them.

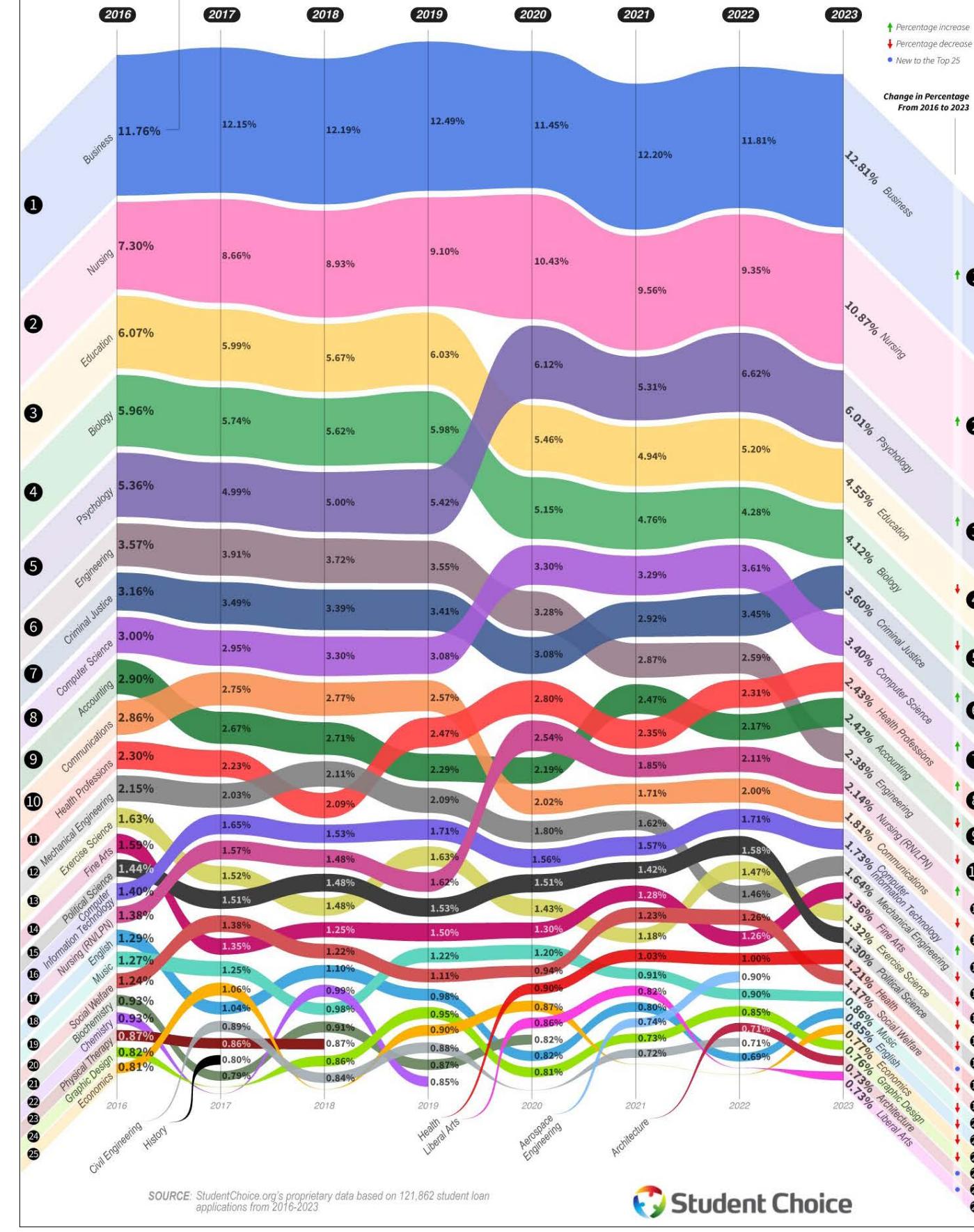
So this isn't a question about whether machines can write. Writing is just the place where the change is easiest to see. What's really being renegotiated is usefulness. The underlying work of judgment, interpretation, and understanding hasn't changed, even as the systems around it

keep resetting the terms. Each time that happens, we mistake a new interface for a new problem. In 2026, the task is the same as it's always been: Figure out what part of the work still belongs to us.

John Engel is a broker with the Engel Team at Douglas Elliman in New Canaan, and he writes. We all write. The average person writes 6.4 million words by text and 1.6 million words by email and reads many multiples of that, skimming as many as 490,000 words per day and reading between 150 and 600 million words in a lifetime. Where do they all go? The most important words are stored in our frontal lobes, called "semantic memory," and that's where you'll find this column.

HOW HAVE THE TOP 25 MOST POPULAR COLLEGE MAJORS CHANGED OVER TIME?

Based on an analysis of 121,862 undergraduate student loan applications submitted from 2016 to 2023.



84-Unit Affordable Housing Development

Key Details

- Applicant: 200 Pemberwick Road REO, LLC & 0 Comly Avenue LLC.
- Proposal: 84 residential units in a four-story building above podium garage.
- Size: 84,264 square feet.
- Location: Underused parking area at 0 Comly Avenue adjacent to existing office at 200 Pemberwick Road.
- Statute: Connecticut General Statutes 8-30g affordable housing.

A pre-application for an assisted housing development under Connecticut's affordable housing statute Section 8-30g has been filed with the Greenwich Planning & Zoning Commission for property at 200 Pemberwick Road and 0 Comly Avenue, according to recently posted town planning documents. The proposal would add 84 dwelling units in an 84,264-square-foot building, aiming to expand housing diversity and affordability in the Pemberwick neighborhood. The applicant entities, 200 Pemberwick Road REO, LLC and 0 Comly Avenue LLC, own the office parcel and adjacent parking lot where the development is proposed to be sited. The project envisions a four-story residential structure over a podium garage, comprising a mix of one-, two- and three-bedroom units. Documents on file with the town state the proposal is intended to align with the 2019 Greenwich Plan of Conservation and Development, filling in underutilized land rather than expanding into undeveloped areas and increasing the town's stock of affordable units. In a narrative submitted to the commission, attorney William I. Haslun II, representing the applicant, wrote that the plan would "add diversity to the housing stock and would considerably increase the number of affordable dwelling units in Greenwich."

The combined site encompasses roughly 5.5 acres, with existing office buildings totaling over 43,000 square feet on the Pemberwick Road portion that would remain in place if the project proceeds; housing would occupy the surface parking area on the 0 Comly Avenue parcel. Parking is proposed to be reconfigured to maintain a total of 210 spaces, with a portion dedicated to residential use and the balance shared with the existing office use.

State statute 8-30g allows developments that include a set percentage of affordable units to bypass certain local zoning restrictions, limiting the authority of land-use commissions in the approval process if the municipality has not met a statutory threshold of affordable housing. This mechanism is intended to encourage affordable housing production in communities with limited low- and moderate-income units; the pre-application process provides a nonbinding discussion forum before substantial investment in formal applications. The commission has not yet scheduled the pre-application for a public hearing, but the item appears on the town's pending applications list under project number PLPZ202600029 for an 8-30g assisted housing pre-application for 84 units over four floors. Community response and technical review by planning staff, environmental consultants, and other town departments will inform the development's evolution as it moves through Greenwich's land-use process. 8-30g projects typically prompt scrutiny of traffic, infrastructure impacts, environmental constraints, and compliance with both local and state regulations, particularly where flood zones and mixed-use contexts are involved. (Additional research indicates the site lies near flood zones and has been the subject of previous, larger development proposals, reflecting ongoing interest in residential reuse of the property footprint.)



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VIEW FROM
COMLY AVE.

A rendering of the proposed development - a view from Comly Avenue. (Courtesy of Greenwich Planning & Zoning)

Bingo Bridges Generations

By DEBRA McLAUGHLIN

Laughter, friendly competition, and meaningful connection recently filled The Nathaniel Witherell, the senior nursing and rehab facility located here in Greenwich. Thanks to a partnership made possible by Friends of Nathaniel Witherell, the non profit dedicated to improving the lives of seniors at The Nathaniel Witherell, Friends welcomed high school members of the Greenwich Junior United Way, a local student volunteer club, to host Bingo for seniors - an intergenerational program that delivers joy while supporting mental well-being.

Friends of Nathaniel Witherell exists to enhance the lives of seniors and veterans who reside at The Nathaniel Witherell through volunteering, advocacy, and fundraising, ensuring that life at The Nathaniel Witherell is filled with connection, purpose, and moments of happiness. One of the most impactful ways Friends fulfills this mission is by bringing the outside community in - especially young people whose energy and enthusiasm spark genuine smiles.

Greenwich Junior United Way is a student-led volunteer initiative for middle and high school students that focuses on leadership development, service learning, and community engagement. By participating in hands-on projects across Greenwich, students learn the value of giving back while building relationships with neighbors of all ages.

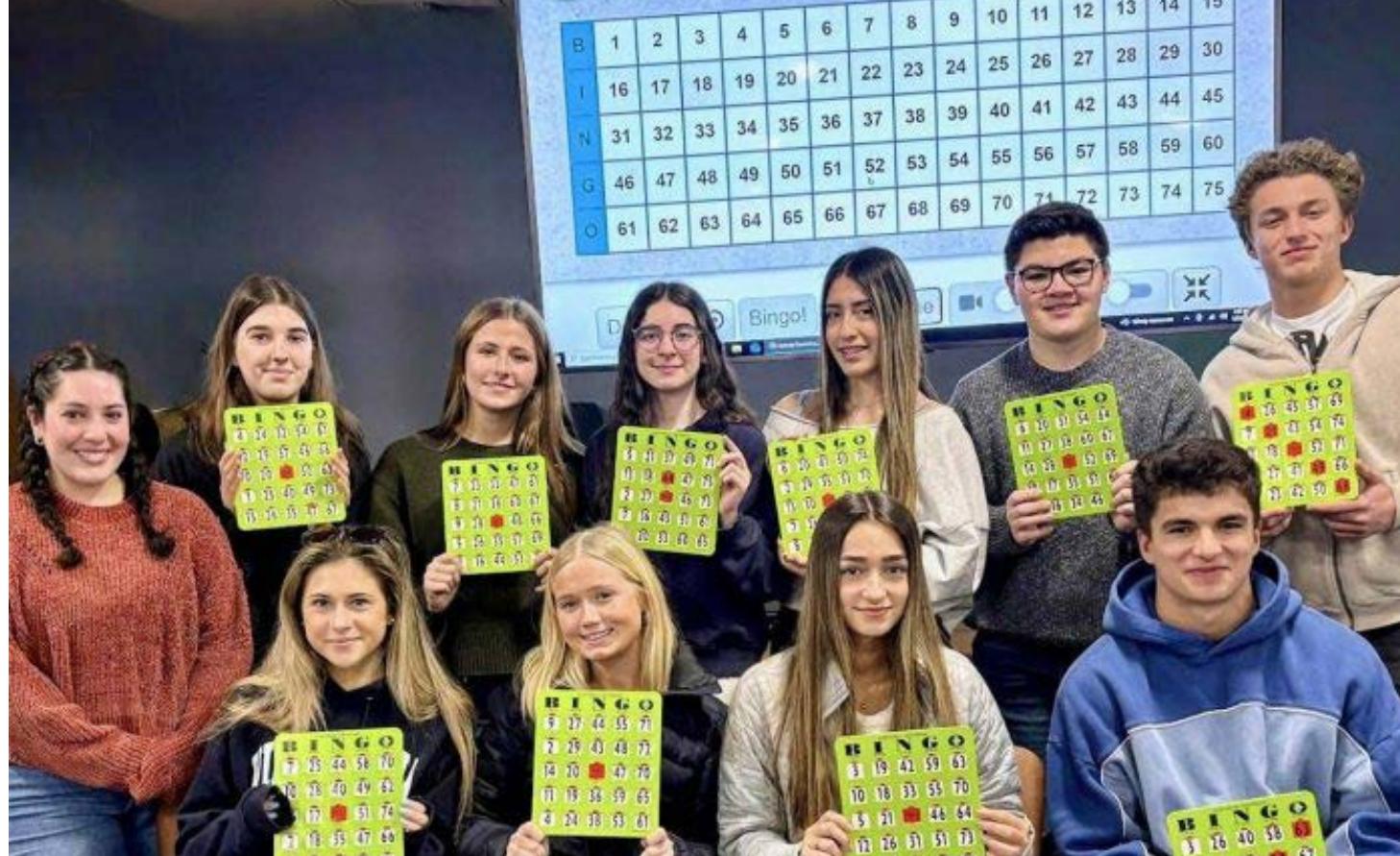
While the game of Bingo itself was simple, the impact was significant. Activities like Bingo promote cognitive engagement,

One of the most impactful ways Friends fulfills its mission is by bringing the outside community in - especially young people whose energy and enthusiasm spark genuine smiles.

social interaction, and a sense of belonging - all of which are proven to boost mental health among seniors.

Friends of Nathaniel Witherell continues to create moments that enrich daily life for seniors, strengthening mental health, reducing isolation, and building joyful connections across generations.

To learn more or support the work of Friends of Nathaniel Witherell, visit friendsofnathanielwitherell.org. To learn how students can get involved with Greenwich Junior United Way, visit greenwichunitedway.org/get-involved.



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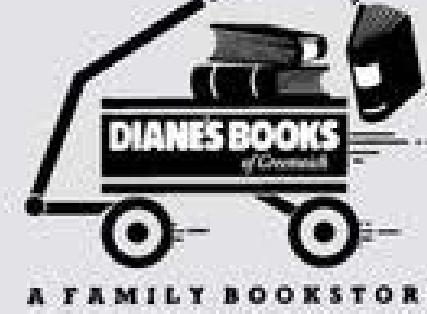
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You Made the Honor Roll!!! Congratulations!!!

Greenwich High School released its Honor Roll, listing students in grades 9 through 12.

The Grade 9 roster includes Michael Acerbo, Jace Alexandrou, Logan Amen, Mariana Annibal, Alexandra Anton, Kylie Atkins, Alison Balbuena Lucero, Jose Ballerio Kudlak, Rowan Bambino, Jonah Barraza, Evan Beilenson, Vyoma Bhatt, Charlotte Bishop, Eva Black, Paul Boguslaski, JinLee Brown, Luigi Carratelli, Rocio Carstairs Fagre, Livia Cassiano, Orly Christie, Jackson Cittadino, Eduarda Claramonte Salomone, Claudia Coccozza, Ava Collins, Caroline Collins, Emmett Collins, Amelia Connard, Goldie Cosloy, Marcela Da Silva, Danna Dias, Adelaide Duxbury, Lucie Eaton, Nathaniel Engle, Isabel Enslein, Beatrice Enterkin, Mayah Estrada, Sophie Fall, Ernest Gentile, Michael Gitelman, Anastasiia Gogoleva, Julia Guico, Amanda Guliner, Nikita Gusinski, Oscar Gutierrez, Zain Haque, Sean Harte, Thomas Healy, Hannah Hernandez, Hendrix Hill, Takehiro Hirohashi, Connor Hirst, Theodore Ho, Camila Hogg, Thomas Hogg, Lauren Hong, Emma Jakab, Mia Jaramillo, Mason Johnson, Kierat Jolly, Misha Joshi, Vanya Kapur, Chloe Kim, Florence Kim, Grace Kintner, Natan Kubieniec, Anderson Kwon, Lilah Lapin, Sofie LeDonne, Oliver Lissauer, Sienna Loflin, Hudson Maciejewski, Sadie Macom, Charles Magalik, Rhys Maloney, Bryndis McCabe, Christopher McCauley, Hazel McCauley, Brendan McConnell, William McGarvey, Connor McNally, Faith McRandall, John McShane, Soleil Meehan, Gabriel Mendonca, Ruby Millman, Grace Miranda, Sasha Miranowski, Caoilinn Moroney, Grace Muir, Caitlin Murphy, Harper Murphy, Jack Murphy, Eliana Nadel, Levi Naidoo, Ian Naik, Grayson Neak, Nora O'Brien, Michael O'Donnell, Eliana Orlosky, Jessica Orozco, Pablo Ospina Salazar, Samuel Otten, Harrison Park, Coco Pennette, Michael Pennette, Lavinia Pereira Morais, Ellie Perez, Kyle Ponte, Fiona Power, Paige Putnam, David Ramos, Lane Redlien, Pierce Reeves, Chloe Restrepo, Beatriz Ribeiro Barbosa, Scarlett Roberta, Sofia Rodriguez Guerrero, Harper Roy, Parker Ryan, Ena Savovska, Amelie Schrewelius, Lola Sherman, Issei Shimizu, Catelyn Shockley, Campbell Sippel, Kaitlyn Skibo, Kaylee Son, Samantha Staiti, Orson Stanton, Hannah Stubbs, Maya Toczydlowska, Anna Tomkiel, Graham Touma, Aylin Tuzmen, Willem van Hell, Anna Vieira, Carsten Wang, Elsa Wang, Jenner Wright, Brandon Wu, Elvin Xhekaj, Maya Yampolskiy, Juliana Yantorno, Kevin Yu, Siriwaranan Zeiden, Hayley Zullin, and Brandon Zwilling.

The Grade 10 roster includes Natalie Allen, Rafael Arteche, Asiah Ray Awayan, Indira Baig, Alexis Batista, John Behette, Marcus Belizaire, Alexander Bell, Isabella Bisagni, Rafaella Bitencourt, Harley Bjork, Ru Blackwell, Eleanor Bodey, Rachel Cacciatore, Claire Campinell, Paul Cappiali, Joseph Carroll, Margaret Carroll, Gianna Castellon, Jackson Chaney, Haylli Chavoya, Samuel Cheung, Lucas Coelho, Melanie Colin, Sofia Compagnoli Pieri, Marina Condax, Nathaniel Davis, Sophia de Mata, Charlotte Dengl-Kelly, Henry Doba, Hailey Dreher, Evan Dwyer, Amar'e Eddings, Maddison Eldridge, Lorena Erceg, Julie Erickson, Tyler Ernst, Elin Ever, Aidan Falco, James Falco, Amital Farstrup, Samantha Feldman, Wyatt Fix, Benjamin Friedman, Oliver Frisoli, Catalina Gagliardo, Zoe Garros, Emily Gaulin, Dylan Gavin, Stephen Gettings, Robert Gilmer, Mason Giorno, Solismar Gomez Nunez, Felix Gonzalez Lobo, Adriana Gonzalez, Mack Grillo, Alexis Guliner, Isabella Habbeck, Carlota Hidalgo Samperio, Will Hurwitz, Fredrik Hvatum, James Israel, Chloe Jordan, Sebastian Keyes, Alina Khilko, Bennet King, Quentin Koch, Matthew Kolc, Jack Kornberg, Abby Lopez-Mencia, Veda Madishetti, Cooper Malone, Jaden Martin Ramos, Ella Martino, Micaella Martins, Ryan McDonald, Alessandra McElwain, Micaela Morales, Michael Muir, Hunter Murphy, Reed Neff, Caitlin Neilon, George Newman, Calliope Nobay, Matyas Odor, Lucas Oliver, Nicholas Ovsag, Nathan Pardo, Nathaniel Park, Charlotte Parsell, Cassandra Peterson, Oliver Peterson, Christopher Pomara, Cali Prisinzano, Juan Puga, Allison Quinn, Samantha Ramos Santa Cruz, Juliette Reno, Alexander Rodriguez-Galeana, Claudia Rojas, Joseph Rossi, Milo Russo, Alysha Sadel, Samuel Sanches, Kaevl Sandhu, Arianna Louise Sario, Noah Schacher, Kate Scherer, Gavin Schietzelt, Eric Seides, Katharine Sessa, Isabella Shanahan, Rylee Solis, Sophie Sterling, Matthew Strizver, Alexa Stugart, Rebecca Vargas Camacho, Elsa Xhekaj, and Djellza Xhemajli.

The Grade 11 roster includes Teddy Aaron, Lindsay Abrego, Delilah Adovasio, Zary Afshar, Oliver Almeida, Pedro Araujo, Nicholas Aristizabal, Scarlett Arlotti, Nina Baldinucci, Teodoro Ballerio, Cecelia Belhumeur, Tyler Bell, Hunter Bodey, Octavio Calderini, Danny Carroll, James Clark, Will Conte, Maximo Corbo, Lavynia De Andrade, Gabriel de Carvalho, Marlow Douglas, Nathaniel Dunleavy, Nathan Fajardo-Moncayo, Luca Ferrario, Alexa Fields, Oliver Florin, Ryder Garcia, Emanuel Gastelu, Christopher Giannuzzi, Daniel Giella, Kayla Gomez, Daniel Gomez-Michaca, Lizmary Guzman Emiliano, Christopher Hartofilis, Adelaide Healy, Lisely Hernandez, Scarlett Hillman, Logan Horgan, Rudy Hugh-Jones, Greyson Israel, Storm Jablonski, William Jacobs, Neil Jucius, Ayden Keshvarzian, Ava Kotz, Emily Krumlauf, Kedan Landaverde, Juliette Lebreton-Cloutier, Matthew Malaj, Hayden Marache, Kai McGahey, Emma McQuillan, Luca Medico, Mia Melgar, Ashley Meyer, Meilyn Moreno, Claire Moskowitz, Kyota Murai, Troy Murray, Jake Natale, Jesse Natale, Reese Nizielski, John Oliver, Slater Palmer, Allyson Peralta Vargas, James Plavoukos, Mia Ramos Benitez, Evelyn Roach, Nathan Rudolph, Santiago Sandoval, Cristina Scott, Henrik Sides, Michael Slusarz, Cameron Sowter, Ryan Strassel, Charles Stuckey, Colin Suvansri, Sienna Syed, Sophia Tavarez, Masamassa Tedihou, London Thomas, Ariana Thompson, Leigh Tineo, Nini Jose Tiongko, Vincent Tripptrap, Kelly Vasillo, Talia Vasillo, Sophie Woodbridge, Lily Yardis, and Hayden Zinker.

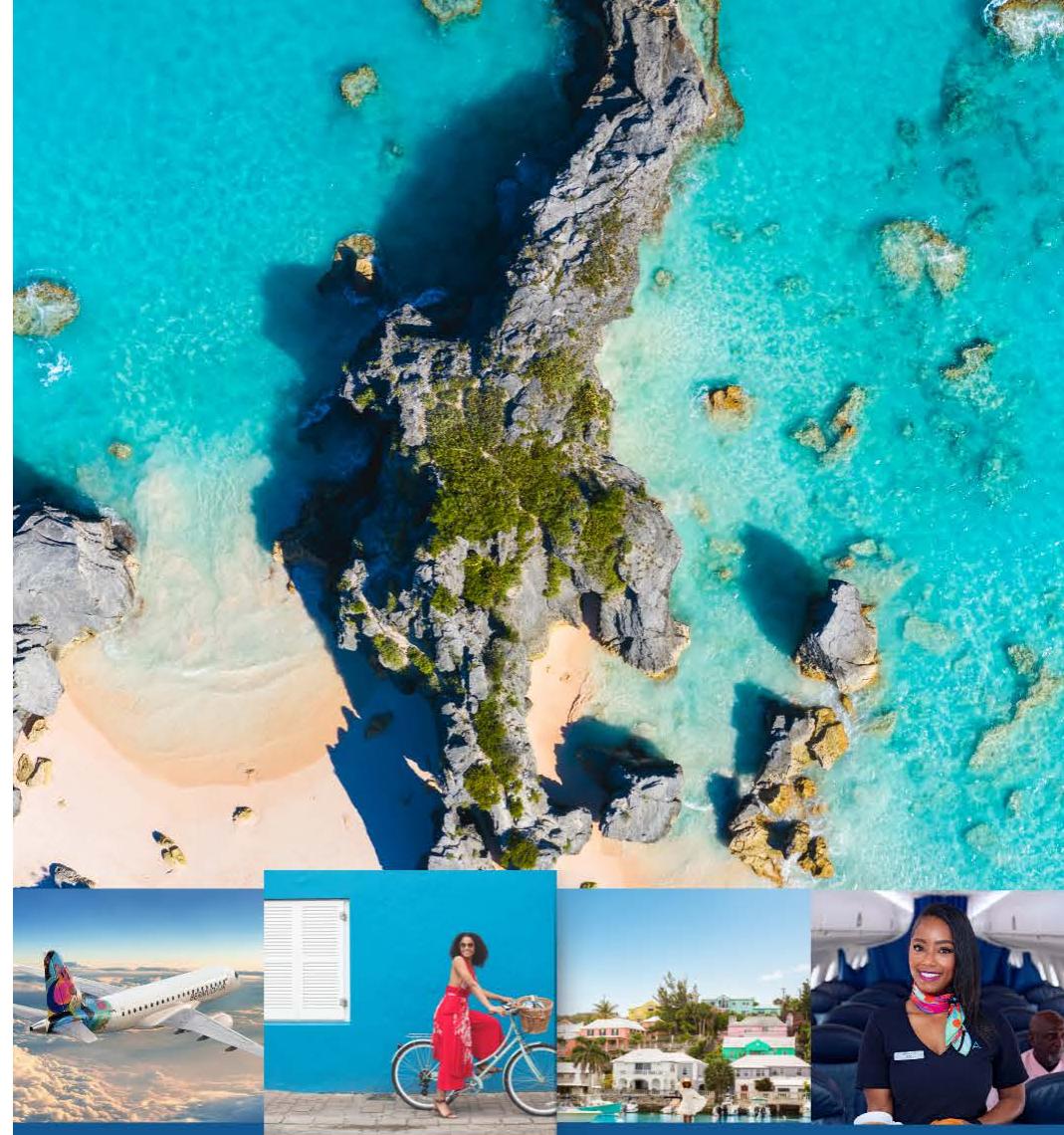
The Grade 12 roster includes Ethan Aburto, Albert Alexander, Kenneth Alexander, Aldren Alfonso, Phillip Altidor, Elizabeth Alvarado Hidalgo, Margaret Avesato, Federica Balaguer, Maxwell Benjamin, Murphy Bennett, Sean Bocchino, Manuel Bonilla, David Boside, Grayson Brehm, Contessa Brus, Colin Bucaria, Joseph Carpenito, Natalia Carrasco Velazquez, Mary Carmen Carrera, Mateo Carrillo, Kaylee Carty, Julian Castillo, Agustin Cerliani, Matteo Chiesara-Galiasso, Aran Coccozza, Demetrios Condax, Baxter Conte, Brody Craven, Aayush Dalal, Isabella Degani, Sophia DiPietro, Heidi Farnum, William Flatow, Christopher Garcia, Valentina Gentile, Sadie Gibson, Lucas Gonzalez, Lucas Granitto, Olivia Greco, Nicholas Hall, Briana Hernandez, Kelly Higgins, Craig Hill, Elena Lilu Hundorfean, Jocelyn Jefferson, Charles Jordan, Claire Kilcullen, Charles Koven, Alyssa Krcic, William Kruper, Mariia Levchenko, Charles Litner, Daniel Macom, James Mora, Carly Muniz, Nicholas Mussolini, Kirin Neak, Alison Neilon, Saoirse Neilon, Ryan Newcomb, Sydney Niemynski, Ryan Nordin, Hayden Odelfelt, Attila Odor, Leo Omelich, Natalia Orellana, Nadia Ortiz, Kate Perera, Christopher Pierre, Jennifer Pinto, Elmer Posadas, Justin Ramirez, Ava Robinson, Henry Rothbard, Alan Salazar, Joseph Sarno, Saki Sato, Maxwell Seifer, Piya Sharma, Caizer Makxi Shaughnessy, Christopher Sigua, Dylan Stanton, Max Stein, Norah Sullivan, Ellery Talbot, Christopher Tay, Emmanuel Tertiopoulos, Jamie Valencia, Elyannah Valenton, Brandon Vazquez, Hunter Woods, Benjamin Zackson, Hunter Zeppelin, and Tyler Zhang.

You Made the High Honor Roll!!! Congratulations!!!

Greenwich High School released its High Honor Roll roster this week, recognizing students in grades 9 through 12 for outstanding academic performance.

The Grade 9 High Honor Roll includes Aaryan Agarwal, Amaya Leah Ahsan, Rafael Aldunate, Adrian Aliaga, Riley Anik, Jack Anton, Francoise August, Luke Baker, Kaelani Becker, Rafi Begg, Ignacio Belinky, Lila Berbit, Nandana Binu, Parker Birbach, Ian Bishop, Theodor Blomgren, Lucy Blucher, Emily Bock, Nida Bozkurt, Samuel Buck, Clara Cahill, Destiny Cantey, Michael Casazzone, Caleb Cha, Alden Charette, Weihan Chen, William Chen, Theodore Choi, Rajsi Choudhary, Leo Cichy, Isaac Citron, Tia Connell, Victoria Cordero, Sadie Craw, Kate Crowe, Kailey Cruzate-Fernandez, Eva Csatorday, Chloe Culver, Preston Culver, Juliet D'Amore, Avery Davis, Ana Clara De Souza, Henry DeHaven, Nicholas DeLuca, Charles Depoliti, Charlotte DiPreta, Robert Dolan, Robert Dolan, Carolina Domenech, Carlos Domingos, Jacob Downs, Anna Dozier, Alexander Duda, Michael Dussinger, Jesse Dye, Luis Egusquiza Barco, Isaac Ellis, Isaac Farr, Reid Feldman, Leo Foell, Oliver Frankel, Theodore Gacicia, Sophia Gega, James Geiger, Luke Golden, Elisabed Gudushauri, Priya Gupta, Olivia Gutierrez, Liv Hadley, Lily Hall, Ogden Hammond, Ethan Hardie, Thomas Harris, Eric He, Emma Heavey, Aisling Hegarty, Olivia Henin, Carter Henske, Robert Hentzel, Beatriz Hirsch, Samuel Huang, Summer Jablonski, Tristan Jamison, Zoe Jean, Lola Jenkins, Lila Johnson, Aiden Kahng, Ava Kampf, Gregory Kasprzak, Ethan Kaufman, Calder Kelly, Evelyn Kelly, Addison Kim, Alexandra Klein, Jack Klocinski, Ethan Krawchuk, Devan Krishnan, Hannah Kutai, Alexi Kwasniewski, Catalina La Rovere Camargo, Liam Lancaster, Bella Landres, Christian Lee, Coco Lee, Carolena Lefebvre, Aaron Levine, Janae Lim, Sean Lipp, Angela Lizcano Sanabria, Lucia Loffredo, Eduardo E Lopez, Richard Lu, Steven Lubman, Anne Madden, Ellie Mao, Emma Marten, Jesse Martines, Arika Martinez-Wolfe, Meredith McDermott, Liam McGovern, Elizabeth McLean, Brady McQuillan, Maria Meistrell, Andrew Miller, Ava Moien Afshari, Felipe Monterosso, Alexander Morin, Katherine Muir, Deety Nadendla, Precious Nasozi, Katherine Neuenfeldt, Emma Nielsen, Siddharth Nimmagadda, Yana Pandiloska, Alexander Pavone, Parth Pednekar, Christopher Pereira, Kaitlyn Phillipps, Claire Pinheiro, Isabella Piskic, Reece Raffe, Avianna Rickert, Silas Riddle, Emma Riley, Giavanna Rios, Mae Roach, Elizabeth Rockel, Alex Rodriguez, Hector Rodriguez, Rafael Rodriguez, Natalie Rosen, Alexandra Rothstein, Quinn Roy, Rio Sato, Gabriela Schiffirin, Augustus Schuhmacher, Emma Seldess, Sophie Seldess, Mason Seltzer, Ethan Shi, Lia Shum, Thomas Sides, Madeline Smith, Olivia Smith, Isaca Snedeker, Anouk Sriskandarajah, Hailey Stahl, Blake Sterling, Elaine Su, Diya Subramanian, Fia Sullivan, Jack Sullivan, Leo-James Tanenbaum, Delaney Thomas, Dylan Thomas, Jacob Tirana, Sara Tirana, Elina Tsatsonis, Aristi Tyreli, Lodewijk van de Rotte, Rijk van Tuijl, Neil Varghese, Ethan Voehl, Emma Vogelhut, Kadiatou Wann, Jackson Waters, Declan Watson, Jacob Weinberg, Madeleine Weiner, Mark Wermuth, Richard Williamson, Morgan Wilson, Abigail Winig, Isabella Woods, Kiara Worden, Kai Yamasaki Fisher, Mia Young, Sofia Zamora, Liana Zapata, Xirui Zheng, Catherine Zhong, and Zayden Zou.

The Grade 10 High Honor Roll includes Tessa Addeo, Jacob Akrongold, Theodore Akyuz, Leonardo Alvarez, Franckza Isis Ancheta, Brooke Anderson, Reilly Anderson, Maxim Antipov, Ashwin Aurora, Jason Bai, Ella Barber, Riley Barber, Noland Barrett, Parker Bayer, Gemma Beasley, Nina Begonia, Mia Beltran-Lemus, Grace Bennett, Matthew Bergner, Isha Bharti, Jaiden Bhawnani, Lucia Biagini, Livia Binick, Gabriel Bisio, Lily Bittman, Wieger Boezen, Ndris Borici, Adriana Bozza, Isabela Braga Knjnik, Corinne Broderick, Jack Broderick, Yasmine Bruce, Charlie Burchell, Dane Burnstine, Jessica Ellen Campos, Gabryella Carvalho, Jin Cha, Dylan Chalmers, Aidan Chan, Alexander Chang, Chloe Charles, Angela Chen, Yachi Chen, Ava Chernoff, Albert Chin, Gianna Cianciullo, Leah Civitillo, Jacob Cohen, Micah Cohen, Shea Coleman, David Collier, Valentina Condax, Lilian Connard, Maria Costa Gonzalez, Wesley Craig, Francisco Crespo, Vivienne Crisan, Brendan Curley, Theodore Curreri, Zahra Dada, Samaya Dawkins, Bailee Dayon, Jacqueline De Weaver, Dashiell DeFelice, Olivia DeVries, Taylor DeVries, Vidya Dhruvakumar, Cameron Dionis, Anna Dolgov, Juan Domenech, Patrick Donovan, Melanie Dorado, Natalie Duff, Eric Dupon, Alexandra Dussinger, Emilie Egan, Norah Eldredge, Isabella Elliott, Khadija Elsoukkary, Andrew Erensen, Isabella Erensen, Sebastien Fahimi, Arthur Fang, Dane Fishback, Conner Foley, Eden Forbes, Caroline Fox, Noah Friedenberg, Chloe Fuzesi, Hannah Fuzesi, Michael Galano, Fernanda Garcia, Aikaterina Giannakopoulos, Kayla Glass, Jack Glor, Julia Goldstein, Jonathan Gonzalez, Mateo Grandjacques, Benjamin Gray, Charles Guliner, Elizabeth Gusho, Lars Gustafsson, Amaya Guzman Barros, Charlotte Hardwick, James Hayes, Mikayla Hayes, Stella Henry, Dakota Hines, Austin Ho, Judah Hochman, Silas Hoffman, Isabelle Hunt, Rylan Hurst, Noelle Iasillo, Marina Ibarzabal, Francesca Ilardi, Ailin Imana-Sanchez, Zane Jackman, Sara Jee, Lincoln Johnson, Mikah Kaalund, Evan Kane, Nikitas Kassaris, Rowan Kelly, James Kennedy, Owen Kennedy, SarahGrace Kerins, Daniel Kilgallen, Alexander Kim, Olivia Klingbeil, Caroline Kobata, Audrey Koester, Charles Kohlberger, Kevin Kolbig, Kira Kosharskyy, John Kosinski, Kareena Kumar, Simran Kumar, Erin Labonte, Vasiliiki Laha-Drinea, Arthur Lai, Nicole Lai, Ela Larrea, Rebecca Lehman, Angelique Leignadier, Carla Lenschow, Daniil Levakin, Abigail Levin, Francesco Lindia, Daniel Lisboa Da Cunha De Freitas, Alexia Lisjak,



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The Grade 11 High Honor Roll includes Nicole Acapana, Aliyah Ahmad, Bella Albanese, Levi Alexander, Isabella Alexandrou, Gabriela Aliaga, Fernando Alvarez, Rebeca Alves, Grant Andrews, Kayah Armstrong, Alec Arnott, Liam Arnott, Nahla Aurioles, Katelyn Bae, Casey Baker, Evamarie Barber, Maggie Barratt, Sophie Barratt, Eduardo Barreto, Devin Beiley, Victoria Bergholt, Nikash Bhandari, Arnav Bhatia, Dan Black, Anna Boezen, Alicia Bouchard, Nicholas Bound, Alistair Boyea, Mickey Briggs, Emma Bruzzone, Ella Burchell, Santiago Canale, Wheeler Carrescia, Justin Carroll, Ryder Caruso, Luma Cassiano, Ian Caulfield, Julieta Cerlani, Ellison Charette, Susan Chen, Vicky Chen, Caroline Cheney, Caden Cho, Elisia Cho, Khushi Choudhary, Avina Christie, Aleksander Chybowski, Gabriella Cimador, Brianna Cipollone, Liam Collins, Enzo Compagnoli Pieri, Noah Coppel, Diego Cordero, Owen Costello, Lily Coyne, Sydney Coyne, Gustav Craw, Lawrence Critchell, Ana Cruz Zurita, Charles Curtin, Maria Dabbadie, 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HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S
BEHIND THE SCENES
EPHEMERA TOUR

Love on Display: A Cultural History Written in Art



Venus, Eros, and attendants move across a dark ground, their gestures animated by a winged creature and dolphins. The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs: Picture Collection, The New York Public Library. "Venus seated on a swan and accompanied by Eros," 1844-1861.



BY AMELIA WOODHOUSE

As Valentine's Day approaches, expressions of love appear in their most compressed form. The flowers, the chocolates, the cards, the bottled spirits, the reservations all point toward a single, scheduled day.

Art history tells a different story. Across centuries, artists have returned to love as a subject that reflects how people imagine meaning. Traced over time, love in the arts reads as cultural evidence: shaped by belief, ritual, power, and place.

In the ancient world, love entered art with authority. Greek and Roman artists gave it divine form through Aphrodite and Venus, figures carved and painted as ideals of attraction, fertility, and influence. Desire functioned as a public force, tied to marriage, lineage, and civic order. Sculpture and poetry presented love as something that moved individuals and cities alike. Emotion carried weight and consequence.

During the medieval period, love took on structure. Courtly love emerged as a formal system that governed romance among the nobility. Poetry, song, and illuminated manuscripts presented devotion through rules of conduct: distance, loyalty, patience, longing. Love gained value through performance. Artists codified emotion into recognizable symbols, creating a shared language understood by audiences across regions. Romance became legible.

The Renaissance expanded that language. Classical mythology returned, yet artists also turned

inward, examining private feeling with new intensity. Love appeared in portraits, domestic objects, and literature as a personal experience shaped by desire and reflection. Petrarch's poetry helped circulate a model of love marked by fixation and introspection, influencing visual artists who echoed this emotional depth through gesture and expression. Art linked mythic imagery with human vulnerability.

By the sixteenth century, artists treated love as layered and ambiguous. Allegorical paintings packed multiple meanings into a single scene. Pleasure, time, jealousy, and deception coexisted in dense compositions that required careful reading. Works such as Bronzino's symbolic studies invited viewers to linger, interpret, and debate. Love became an intellectual subject as much as an emotional one.

As Europe moved into the Enlightenment and early

modern period, artists placed love within social frameworks. Paintings and plays examined courtship, marriage, and reputation. Domestic scenes and satirical works reflected how affection operated alongside class expectations and legal arrangements. Love functioned as negotiation, shaped by manners and public scrutiny. Art documented these dynamics with observational precision.

The Romantic movement of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries shifted focus toward intensity and individual experience. Artists elevated emotion as a primary source of meaning. Painters used landscape to mirror feeling. Writers and composers framed love as consuming and transformative. Opera embraced this scale, filling theaters with stories driven by devotion and sacrifice. Audiences gathered to experience heightened



A woman in blue leans toward a soldier dressed in red, her hand resting on his arm as he prepares to leave—an intimate moment of attachment and resolve set against the quiet tension of wartime. In Time of War (d. 1914). Birmingham Museums Trust / Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery.



An older couple stands close in a crowded room, the man resting his chin gently against the woman's head—an unguarded moment of closeness rendered in quiet black and white. Photo by Gaspar Zaldo, published Feb. 20, 2022.

emotion together, drawn by the power of shared response.

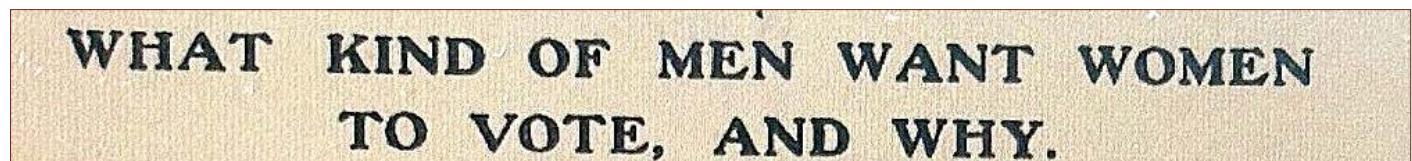
The arrival of modern life reframed intimacy again. Artists responded with scenes drawn from everyday life: couples in cafés, solitary figures, private interiors. Photography and film introduced new immediacy.

Across these periods, one pattern holds. Love in art thrives through visibility. Audiences play an active role, bringing attention and continuity to the work.

Artists have documented beautifully how people connect, commit, and belong. Their work endures because audiences continue to meet it with curiosity and presence.

This year Valentine's Day is on Saturday so add a visit to a museum or catching a show to the list of flowers, chocolates, cards, bottled spirits, and restaurant reservations. Happy Valentine's Day.

Surprises Seen at Greenwich Historical Society's Behind the Scenes Ephemera Tour



Statesmen, Philosophers and Scientists Have Endorsed Woman Suffrage.

Abraham Lincoln said: "I go for all sharing the privilege of government who assist in bearing its burdens, by no means excluding women."

Ralph Waldo Emerson said: "It is very cheap wit that finds it so droll that women should vote."

William Lloyd Garrison said: "Women are as much interested in legislation as men and are entitled to representation."

Henry Ward Beecher said: "We need the participation of women in the ballot box."

Philips Brooks said: "I am in favor of Woman Suffrage."

John Stuart Mill said: "To have a voice in choosing those by whom one is governed is a means of self-protection due to everyone."

John D. Long said: "I have never heard a reason against Woman Suffrage that was not an insult to the understanding of a very small boy."

Chief Justice Brewer said: "Female suffrage will come. It will introduce a refining and uplifting power into our political life."

Dr. Howard Kelley said: "Let us be brave enough and wise enough to give the homemaker a vote."

This list might be indefinitely prolonged to include such well

"What Kind of Men Want Women to Vote," Published by the Connecticut Woman Suffrage Association in Hartford, CT, 1913. Greenwich Historical Society Library Archives

By ANNE W. SEMMES

Since 1931 the Greenwich Historical Society has been collecting thousands of ephemera, those "items of collective memorabilia... typically written or printed... originally expected to have only short-term usefulness or popularity." As of Friday week, a first time and intriguing selection has been laid out on tables in its Archive Library, with docent-led tours ongoing to March 28.

"I'm excited to give our first ever tour of this brand-new exhibit," began Docent Ellery Leary. "There's so much to read of a lot of printed material because that's kind of what ephemera is... But we should all wash our hands - it's about the oil in your hands being destructive." And yes, take care with that delicate tissue-like "Order Sheet for Artificial Limbs" revealing an extraordinary Old Greenwich entrepreneur.

"And did you know," Leary continued, "there was an exact replica of the Petit Trianon in Versailles on North Street," so pictured on an invitation to a "Mystery Club" event. But it was that "League of Women Voters - Government Pattern - Connecticut Style" pamphlet that captivated. "It's sort of framed as being about sewing," said Leary. Dated 1949, it read, "The pattern of government should fit and suit every woman who sews," bringing laughter from onlookers as did another nearby leaflet entitled, "What Kind of Men Want Women To Vote, and Why?"

Other surprises - an 1884 illustration of the Indian Harbor Hotel (now the Indian Harbor Yacht Club) announcing its new season opening in June. A knockout 1975 "Greenwich Audubon Bicentennial Trail Book" with its American flag design cover, and full of "Trails For Walking...Riding...Biking." And just where is the John Sargent Woodland?

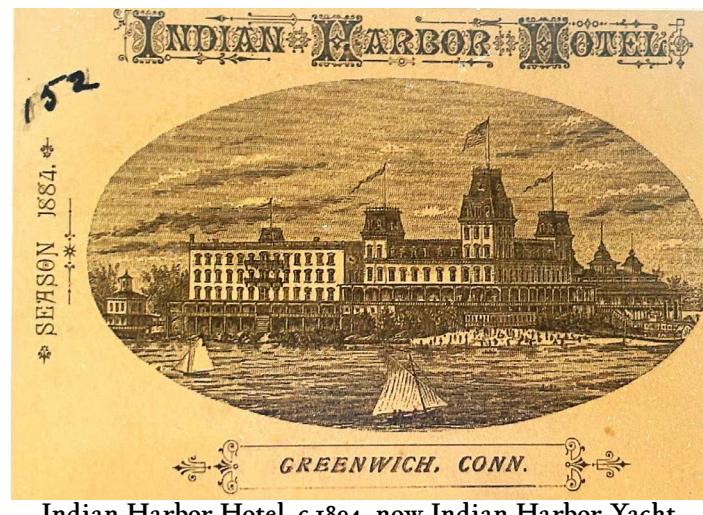
Leary noted, how with ephemera, "It's seeing the prices of things, how they go up over time." Surely seen in "The Pickwick Hotel Menu" with a full Shore Dinner costing \$4.75!

Definitely eye catching was that 1920 invitation to a Havemeyer Auditorium concert featuring "The Celebrated and Unequalled Interpreter of Songs," Yvette Guilbert! And at the present time there's a push to bring back that original Havemeyer auditorium performing history!

What surprised Leary was coming across a 1994 retrospective exhibit program on puppeteer Jim Henson. "I had not known that Jim Henson lived in Greenwich," he told. "You know he lived in the



Pickwick Arms Hotel Menu, Greenwich Historical Society Library Archives.



Indian Harbor Hotel, c.1894, now Indian Harbor Yacht Club. Greenwich Historical Society Library Archives.

House exhibit, they had found related items of ephemera. "There are actually records and correspondence from the Holley House," told Loh, "and members of the family writing back and forth to each other."

What had gripped Loh was discovering that "Order Sheet of Artificial Limbs" with its diagram and pictures of artificial limbs. She learned that a Mr. Abraham Mark of Old Greenwich had discovered on his estate "Willowmere" that his willow trees offered "a light-in-weight hardwood... which is an advantage for a prosthetic." Mark would create a sawmill by Willowmere Lake... He would saw the willow trees...fashion a limb and load them up on a barge that sailed from Greenwich into New York City where his store was, and there they would finish off the prosthetic. He did this as a result of so many injuries from the war."

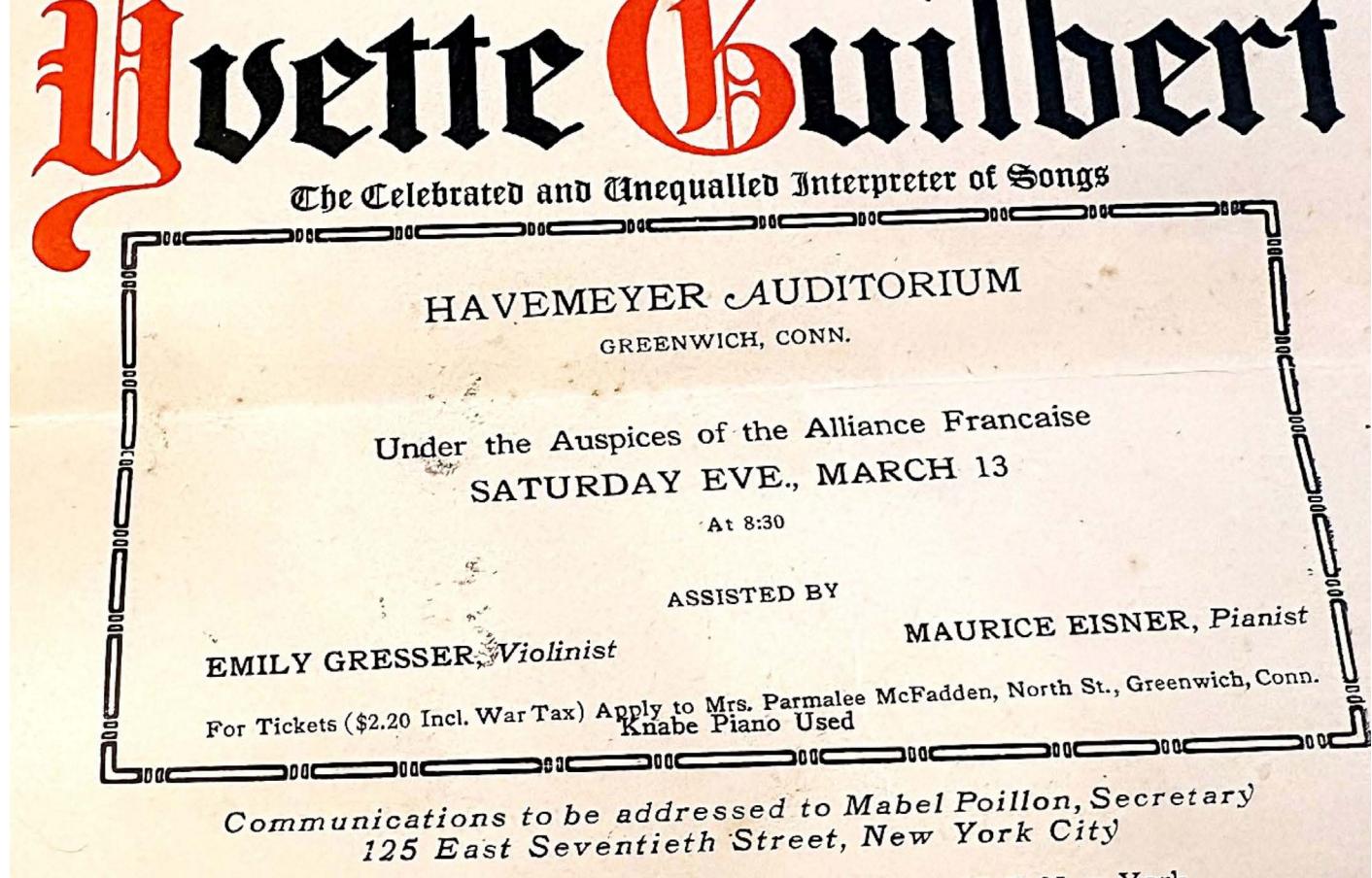
"He was the go-to prosthetic man," Loh learned. "What he did was to champion the cause that you need to take a look at the prosthetic and how it needs to work before you do your surgery. Because the way you do an amputation would be different based on the type of prosthetic. He transformed the way the surgeries were performed. They would look at the end result first and then work backwards. I thought that was really interesting."

With the number of fascinating items on display both Docent Loh and Docent Leary had addressed what might happen to all that ephemera in this digital age. Leary had touched on how the next generation would deal with their family ephemera. Might they engage with "Swedish Death Cleansing" in their decluttering?

"Something to think about with ephemera," said Docent Loh, "is the impact technology is having on it. So many things are created and stored digitally - evites, pictures, correspondence. In the future will they exist? If so, might they have been modified. What does that mean for history?"

The "Behind the Scenes Ephemera Tour" at the Greenwich Historical Society will continue to March 28.

Definitely eye catching was that 1920 invitation to a Havemeyer Auditorium concert featuring "The Celebrated and Unequalled Interpreter of Songs," Yvette Guilbert!



Havemeyer Auditorium Concert with Yvette Guilbert, 1920, Greenwich Historical Society Library Archives.

In 1954, while still a high school student, Jim Henson began his television career in Washington, D.C. The next year, Jim was given his own daily, local five-minute show, *Sam and Friends*, which soon led to network guest appearances. The lure of national television brought Jim and his family to New York in 1963.

By the time the Hensons arrived in Greenwich in 1964, Jim Henson was an accomplished television performer and the Muppets were a television fixture — in commercials, guest ap-



Exhibit Program on puppeteer Jim Henson, 1994, Greenwich Historical Society Library Archives.

The Crush Factor: When an Artist First Gets You

Most people who care about art remember the first time it felt personal. The memory arrives as a scene. A chair in a small theater. A quiet gallery corner. A concert hall just before applause. Something in the work reached across the space and landed with precision. Attention sharpened. The moment felt charged, intimate, and unmistakably alive.

That reaction comes from recognition. An artist shaped an idea, emotion, or question with such clarity that it aligned with a viewer's inner life. The work seemed to speak a familiar language. It reflected something already present but previously unarticulated. The feeling carried warmth, surprise, and relief all at once.

This experience often marks a turning point. Art shifts from background presence to active companion. A single encounter opens a door. Curiosity follows. People return, not out of habit or expectation, but because something meaningful took place. The connection feels worth revisiting.

Art has a particular ability to make people feel understood. A play captures the tension of a family moment through silence and movement. A painting holds an emotion steady long enough for recognition to settle in. A piece of music mirrors joy, grief, or resolve through rhythm and tone. These works offer companionship through shared feeling.

The sense of being understood carries weight because it arrives through craft. Artists translate lived experience into form. They make deliberate choices about structure, timing, color, and sound. Viewers and listeners recognize those choices instinctively. The exchange feels direct and human.

This connection often unfolds in shared spaces. Audiences sit together, breathe together, react together. Even in silence, a collective awareness takes shape. People leave with a sense of having experienced something alongside others, even when the response feels deeply individual. The memory lingers through conversation, reflection, and return.

The early stages of this attachment feel quiet. A person saves a program. A melody reappears unexpectedly days

Art has a way of reaching across a room and landing with precision, making a stranger feel understood through sound, image, or movement.

later. A line of dialogue resurfaces during an ordinary moment. These traces signal that something meaningful took root. Over time, similar experiences accumulate and shape how people seek out art.

Love for art develops through familiarity and trust. Viewers begin to recognize certain voices and styles. They notice how different works handle similar themes. They develop preferences grounded in feeling and attention. Each encounter adds texture to the relationship.

Joy plays a central role in this process. Joy appears through shared laughter during a performance, through the calm of sustained looking, through the lift of sound filling a room. These moments restore focus and energy. They create space for curiosity and openness.

Understanding grows alongside joy. Art offers frameworks for interpreting experience. It provides language for complex emotions and situations. Through story, image, and sound, people encounter perspectives that expand awareness and empathy. The experience feels grounding because it affirms common humanity.

Many first connections to art happen in familiar settings. A school auditorium. A neighborhood gallery. A small venue close to home. These environments encourage exploration. They allow people to encounter art as part of everyday life, accessible and immediate.

As people grow older, these early moments gain clarity. They reveal how art shapes perception and emotional

literacy. They explain why certain works remain touchstones across years and changes. The initial crush evolves into something steadier: affection, loyalty, attentiveness.

For young adults especially, these experiences feel formative. Art offers models of expression and care. It demonstrates how feeling and discipline work together. It shows how meaning emerges through sustained attention and honest craft.

The first time an artist truly connects with someone, perspective shifts. Curiosity deepens. Engagement becomes intentional. A person begins to seek out similar moments across different forms and voices. Each encounter carries the possibility of recognition.

The origin remains vivid. A moment in a shared space when something aligned with private understanding. A sense of connection formed through sound, image, or movement.

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ARTS & THEATER CALENDAR

GREENWICH LIBRARIES

Friday, Feb. 13

10 a.m.

Reading and Rhythm with Orchestra Lumos. Marx Family Black Box Theater. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15717247

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: "The Wedding Banquet." Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, Feb. 14

10:30 a.m.

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

3 p.m.

For Teens: Laser Engraved Lamps. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org

3 p.m.

Art Opening Reception: "Cosmic Collision" Harold Davis, Artist. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

Tuesday, Feb. 17

10 a.m.

Petite Concert. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

1 p.m.

Open Knitting Drop-In Program. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. 203-637-1066. adultprogramming@perrotlibrary.org

4:15 p.m.

Debate Club (Ages 9-13). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

Wednesday, Feb. 18

1 p.m.

LaserLab: Design & Create. Innovation Lab.

7 p.m.

Lynne and Richard Pascualino Signature Series: Walter Isaacson "We hold these truths..." Celebrating the 250th birthday of

America. Berkley Theater.

Thursday, Feb. 19

7 p.m.

Sun Kings: A Beatles Tribute. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

Friday, Feb. 20

4 p.m.

Creative Ventures: DIY Labyrinth Travel Game (Ages 7-13). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

Saturday, Feb. 21

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: "Miracle." Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, Feb. 21

10 a.m.

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

10:30 a.m.

Saturday Winter Craft with Nicole. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

2 p.m.

Kids Theater: The Gruffalo. Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

2 p.m.

Korean Games: Lunar New Year Celebration. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

2 p.m.

Flinn Reaves Lecture: Who's That Girl? Cindy Sherman and the Art of Identity. Berkley Theater.

2 p.m.

Jerry's Movie "A Letter to Three Wives." Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

3 p.m.

Li Garden Dance Company: Lunar New Year Celebration. Cos Cob Library Community Room.

Room. 203-622-6883.

3 p.m.

Take the Stage: Drama Workshop (Grades 6-12). Children's Constellation Room.

203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

BRUCE MUSEUM

Friday, Feb. 13

10:30 a.m.

Once Upon a Museum: Winter Storytime. Bruce Museum. Free with general admission, first-come, first-served. Also held Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 14 & 15. brucemuseum.org

Saturday, Feb. 14

1 p.m.

Science Solvers: Freezing Hearts (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Feb. 15. brucemuseum.org

Sunday, Feb. 15

2 p.m.

Cinema at the Bruce and the Avon Theatre Present: "Cutting Through Rocks." Bruce Museum. Registration is required. brucemuseum.org

Tuesday, Feb. 17

10 & 11 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings: Build an Ant (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Feb. 18. brucemuseum.org

6 p.m.

Bruce Socials: Trivia. Bruce Museum. \$10, includes pizza & a drink. brucemuseum.org

Wednesday, Feb. 18

10 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings Junior: Ants Big and Small (ages: 12 Months-30 Months). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.

Behind the Scenes Archival Collections: Ephemera. Greenwich Historical Society. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

Wednesday, Feb. 18

7 p.m.

"The Holley Boarding" brucemuseum.org

Friday, Feb. 20

7 p.m.

Winter Soiree: The Art of the Fête. Bruce Museum. RSVP. brucemuseum.org

Saturday, Feb. 21

1 p.m.

Art Adventures: Spin Art (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Feb. 22. brucemuseum.org

Sunday, Feb. 22

2 p.m.

Experiences at the Bruce: Discussion with Barrett Klein, author of "The Insect Epiphany: How Our Six-Legged Allies Shape Human Culture." Bruce Museum. Free with admission. Registration is recommended. brucemuseum.org

Through Sunday, May 10

Leonardo Drew: Alchemy. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/exhibitions

Through Sunday, May 17

Ants: Tiny Creatures, Big Lives. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/exhibitions

GREENWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesdays, Thursdays & Sundays

12 - 4 p.m.

Greenwich Historical Society Guided Exhibition Tours – docents will be leading visitors through the Permanent Collections Gallery and Special Exhibitions Gallery. 47 Strickland Rd. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/event/guided-exhibition-tours-4

Fridays

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.

Behind the Scenes Archival Collections: Ephemera. Greenwich Historical Society. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

Wednesday, Feb. 18

7 p.m.

French Cinémathèque - lively discussions on French films. Via Zoom. afgreenwich.org

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF GREENWICH

Wednesday, Feb. 18

7 - 9 p.m.

Astronomical Society "The Holley Boarding" brucemuseum.org

of Greenwich: Bowman Observatory Public Nights. Bowman Observatory, on the grounds of the Julian Curtiss School. Free. GreenwichStars@Gmail.com. astrogreenwich.org

ONGOING: ARCH STREET

A Jury Room Takes Shape at GHS Black Box Theater



Friday, February 27th - 7:30 pm
Saturday, February 28th - 7:30 pm
Thursday, March 5th - 4:00 pm
Friday, March 6th - 7:30 pm
Saturday, March 7th - 5:00 and 8:00 pm
GHS Black Box Theater

A tense vote unfolds as jurors raise their hands, capturing the pressure of consensus at the heart of 12 Angry Men.

On February 27, a long table and twelve chairs will define the center of the Greenwich High School Black Box Theater. Around them, student actors will assemble a jury room and invite audiences into a process that unfolds through deliberation rather than action. GHS Theater's winter production of *12 Angry Men* brings Reginald Rose's courtroom drama into a space designed for focus, proximity, and shared attention.

First broadcast live on television in 1954 and later adapted for the stage, *12 Angry Men* centers on twelve jurors charged with deciding a murder case. The evidence appears straightforward at the outset. A single juror requests discussion, and the room gradually fills with competing interpretations of testimony, memory, and

BY EMMA BARHYDT

motive. The drama develops through language and listening, revealing how personal experience shapes collective judgment.

The Black Box Theater offers an apt setting for this material. Located within the Greenwich High School campus, the venue supports productions that rely on ensemble work and audience engagement. Seating places viewers close to the performers, allowing every pause, shift in posture, and change in tone to register clearly. In a play driven by conversation, that closeness becomes essential.

GHS Theater Arts has used the Black Box for years as a laboratory for serious work. Students stage plays there that reward discipline and concentration, building skills across acting, technical theater, and stage management. The space emphasizes collaboration, as productions depend on balance rather than spectacle. *12 Angry Men* aligns with that tradition through its demand that every performer contribute meaningfully to the whole.

The play's structure places equal weight on each juror. Characters remain identified by number and role rather than name, directing attention toward ideas instead of backstory. For student actors, that framework encourages careful study of language and intention. Each line carries responsibility, as the arc of the play emerges through accumulated reasoning.

Themes of civic duty and personal accountability run throughout Rose's script. The jurors grapple with assumptions, habits of thought, and the pressure to reach consensus. The process unfolds

step by step, guided by questions rather than declarations. Within a school environment, those concerns intersect naturally with classroom discussions of government, ethics, and participation in public life.

The production schedule reflects the department's aim to welcome a broad audience. Performances take place Friday, February 27, and Saturday, February 28, at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 5, at 4:00 p.m.; Friday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m.;

and Saturday, March 7, at 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. All performances are held in the GHS Black Box Theater.

Director and students alike face a particular challenge with this script: sustaining tension through conversation alone. The absence of scene changes or visual shifts places emphasis on pacing and clarity. Each decision must feel earned. The reward lies in watching ideas evolve, sometimes subtly, sometimes abruptly, as perspectives shift around the table.

Audience members experience that evolution from within the room. The Black Box dissolves the distance common to larger auditoriums. Viewers share the same space as the jurors, observing the careful weighing of facts and the gradual formation of consensus. The result resembles a public meeting more than a traditional courtroom drama, grounded in dialogue and shared responsibility.

For Greenwich High School, staging *12 Angry Men* also underscores the role of student theater within the larger cultural life of the

town. School productions often serve as early points of entry into live performance for young audiences and families. When those productions engage enduring questions with seriousness and care, they reinforce the idea that thoughtful art belongs at the center of community life.

Rose's play endures because it trusts audiences to follow reasoning as drama. It assumes attention and patience, qualities cultivated through education and practice. In the hands of GHS Theater students, that trust becomes a learning process visible onstage, as performers navigate disagreement and discovery together.

As opening night approaches, the Black Box Theater prepares to host more than a performance. It will host an exercise in collective thinking, shaped by students and shared with the public. For several evenings at the end of February and beginning of March, a jury room will exist in Greenwich, inviting audiences to sit, listen, and consider how decisions take form.



Jurors raise their hands during a tense vote in a still from the 1957 film *12 Angry Men*, Reginald Rose's classic courtroom drama exploring conscience, doubt, and the weight of civic responsibility.

Historical Society Partners with India Cultural Center

On view now through March 1 at the Greenwich Historical Society, *My Story, Our Future: South Asian American Youth Voices in Connecticut* brings together student research, family oral histories, and material culture in a fourth annual exhibition curated by eleven Connecticut students.

The project is a partnership between the Greenwich Historical Society, the India Cultural Center (ICC), and the University of Connecticut's Asian and Asian American Studies program in the Department of Social and Critical Inquiry. Installed in the Historical Society's museum lobby, the exhibit presents personal narratives of South Asian American youth alongside objects and archival material that reflect immigration, community formation, and generational change.

An opening reception was held Sunday, February 1, attended by the participating students and their families, as well as state and local leaders including U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, Congressman Jim Himes, and Cayla Kumar, Miss Connecticut 2025. Connecticut State Senator Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox delivered keynote remarks, drawing from her experiences as a Southeast Asian woman in public life.

My Story, Our Future began in 2022 in alignment with Connecticut's mandated K-12 Asian American and Pacific Islander curriculum. The initiative was designed to build awareness of South Asian American contributions at the community level while documenting the challenges, struggles, and triumphs immigrant families have experienced through assimilation in the United States.

The program has played a role in informing the state's curriculum rollout, which expanded to grades K-12 in 2025. Under the guidance of Dr. Jason Chang, Associate Professor of History and Asian American Studies and Director of UConn's Asian and Asian American Studies program, students' oral histories have been incorporated into curriculum development and teacher training efforts statewide.

Chang and members of UConn's curriculum lab have used student interviews to help shape course materials, including a collection of podcasts and abstracts intended to support classroom instruction.

"It's exciting to see the students learn about their own family history and be able to share these stories not only with each other but to now also have an archival collection with the CT Digital Archive (CTDA) thanks to the support of CT Humanities," said Elizabeth George, UConn Workshop Instructor. She emphasized that the partnerships behind the initiative have enabled families' stories to be preserved for future generations.

ICC Executive Director Margie French noted that the project holds added relevance as the country



Student participants in the fourth annual *My Story, Our Future: South Asian American Youth Voices in Connecticut* exhibition gather with featured speakers and guests at the February 1 opening reception at the Greenwich Historical Society. The student-curated exhibit, presented in partnership with the India Cultural Center and UConn's Asian and Asian American Studies program, is on view through March 1. Photo credit: Mima Fiorino Photography

"Each year, these students become our partners as they learn and develop their skills in gathering oral histories and telling those histories through the display of material culture."

— Lauren Ackerley, Assistant Director for Education, Greenwich Historical Society

approaches its semi-quintennial anniversary.

"An organizing theme of celebrating America's 250th is to tell inclusive stories—stories previously untold—so all of Connecticut's residents can see themselves reflected in the 250-year history of our nation," French said.

Chang echoed that framing, describing inclusive storytelling as part of the ongoing cultural practice of democracy and civic learning.

In his remarks at the February 1 reception, Blumenthal said the student presentations were

"enormously moving and inspiring." Himes spoke about the ways immigrant communities contribute to the country's strength and civic life.

For the Greenwich Historical Society, the annual exhibition has become an ongoing collaboration with students developing historical and interpretive skills through hands-on research.

"The Historical Society is thrilled to host the *My Story, Our Future* program once again," said Lauren Ackerley, Assistant Director for Education. "Each year, these bright and creative students become our

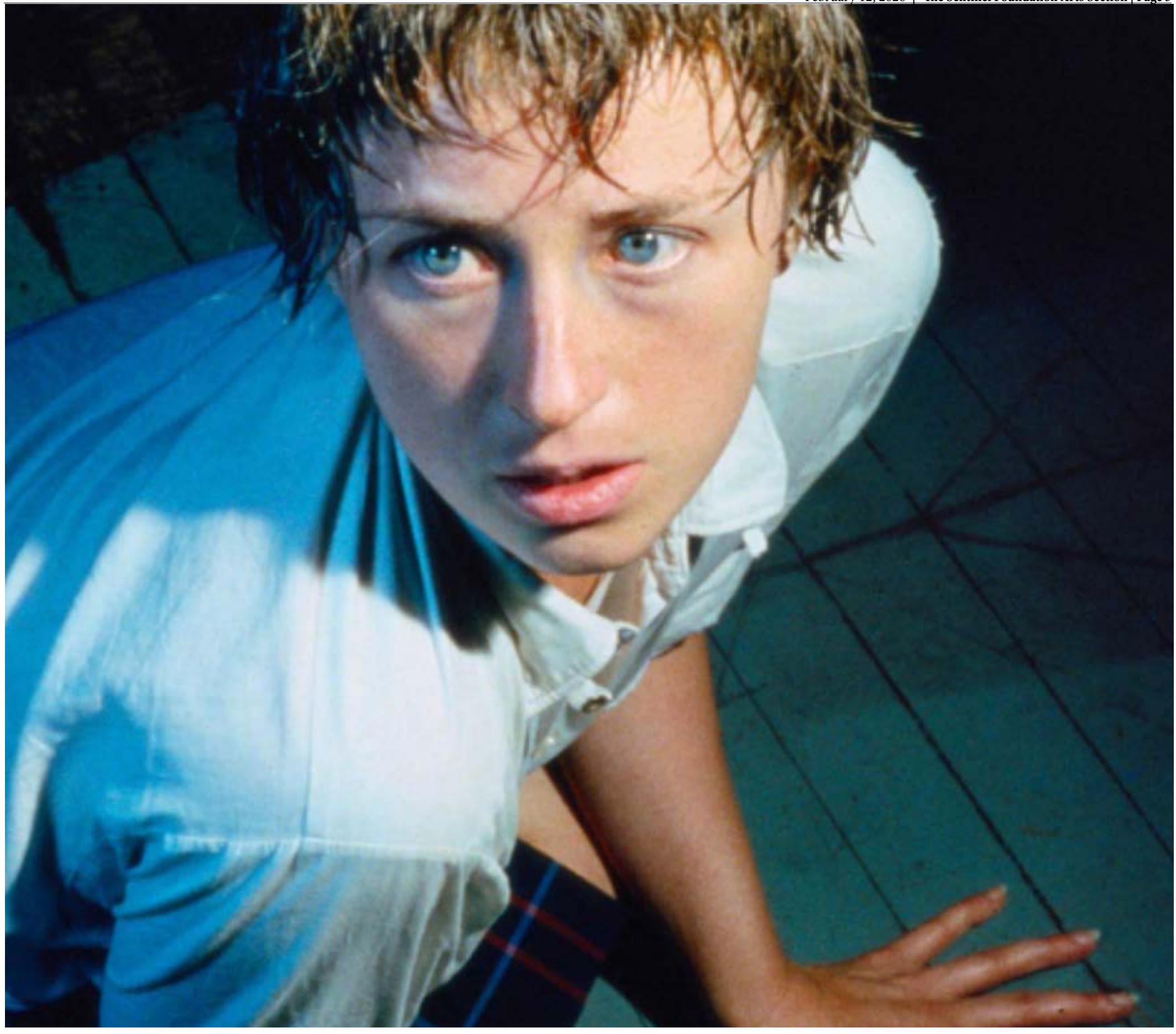
partners as they learn and develop their skills in gathering oral histories and telling those histories through the display of material culture."

Ackerley noted that the student-developed exhibit and accompanying oral histories capture intimate family narratives that strengthen students' understanding of their own histories while expanding public awareness of South Asian communities in Connecticut.

The Greenwich Historical Society, founded in 1931, works to preserve and interpret local history through exhibitions, programs, and education initiatives. Its campus includes the Bush-Holley House, a National Historic Landmark dating to circa 1730, as well as a museum, library, archives, and education center.

The India Cultural Center, a nonprofit serving communities in Fairfield County, Connecticut and Westchester County, New York, focuses on celebrating Indian arts and culture while fostering inclusion through educational and cultural programming.

My Story, Our Future: South Asian American Youth Voices in Connecticut is on view at the Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob. Museum lobby hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.



An early photograph by Cindy Sherman, shot from an elevated angle, evoking cinematic tension and examining how narrative forms through image and gesture.

Cindy Sherman's Enduring Questions of Identity

By EMMA BARHYDT

The Flinn Gallery at Greenwich Library will host the fourth annual Flinn Reeves Lecture on Saturday, February 21, with a program devoted to the work of photographer Cindy Sherman, whose images have shaped contemporary conversations around identity, representation, and visual culture for more than four decades.

The lecture, titled "Who's That Girl? Cindy Sherman and the Art of Identity," will be presented by Larissa Bailiff, a New York-based independent art historian and educator with extensive experience in museum education and academic instruction. The program will take place from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. in the Berkley Theatre. The event is free and open to the public through support from the Reeves Legacy Fund.

Bailiff's talk will examine Sherman's photographic practice within a broader artistic, historical, and social framework. Sherman, who has worked primarily through self-portraiture since the late 1970s, uses costume, staging, and camera angle to construct characters that resemble familiar cultural types. Her images often reference cinema, advertising, fashion, and art history, drawing attention to how identity is shaped through visual conventions rather than personal disclosure.

Rather than presenting biography, Sherman's photographs operate as studies of appearance and expectation. Bailiff will explore how this approach has encouraged viewers to consider the relationship between image-making and social roles, particularly in representations of women. Over time, Sherman's work has served as a point of reference for artists examining authorship, performance, and the power of the photographic frame.

The lecture will also address Sherman's influence on younger generations of artists. Bailiff plans to trace how Sherman's methods

continue to resonate in contemporary photography and visual media, especially among artists who use the body as a site of inquiry. Through this lens, Sherman's work offers insight into how cultural values, aspirations, and anxieties register visually across decades.

Bailiff brings more than twenty years of experience in academia and museum settings to the program. She has lectured widely at museums and libraries and has led educational programs and tours at the Museum of Modern Art. Her academic background includes a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Master's degree from the New York University Institute of Fine Arts. Her work emphasizes close looking and contextual analysis, inviting audiences to engage thoughtfully with both historical and contemporary art.

The Flinn Reeves Lecture series has become an annual fixture in Greenwich's cultural calendar, offering sustained engagement with significant figures and ideas in the visual arts. Hosted by the Flinn Gallery, the series reflects a commitment to public education and access, placing scholarly discussion within a civic setting designed for shared learning.

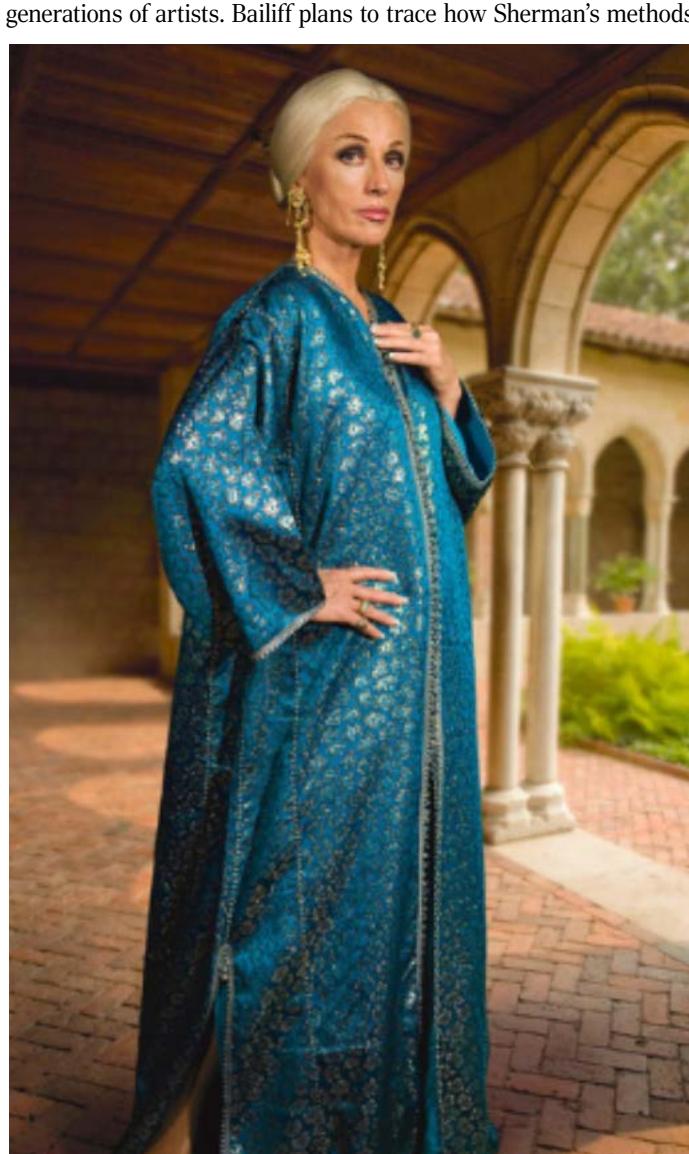
Cindy Sherman's work remains a focal point for discussions around representation in a media-saturated society. Her photographs resist fixed interpretation, instead encouraging viewers to question how meaning emerges through framing, gesture, and visual codes.

Sherman's photographs have encouraged viewers to consider how identity is shaped through visual conventions rather than personal disclosure.

Bailiff's lecture will provide audiences with historical grounding and critical tools for approaching that complexity.

The event takes place at Greenwich Library's Berkley Theatre, a space that continues to support public programs connecting art, education, and community life. By bringing nationally recognized scholars into a local forum, the Flinn Gallery extends opportunities for residents to engage directly with major currents in contemporary art.

The fourth annual Flinn Reeves Lecture offers a focused examination of an artist whose work continues to inform how images function in public life. Through Bailiff's presentation, audiences will gain a deeper understanding of Cindy Sherman's role in shaping visual discourse and the lasting relevance of her questions about *identity*.



A later photographic work by Cindy Sherman, presenting a carefully styled figure within an architectural setting, emphasizing performance, posture, and visual codes.



A staged photographic portrait by Cindy Sherman, featuring a costumed figure posed outdoors, part of the artist's long-running exploration of constructed identity.



Ice floes along the edges of a local Greenwich cove formed after days of below freezing weather. Anne W. Semmes inspired photo.

Students Earn Statewide Recognition in 2026 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards



Sacred Heart Greenwich students earn scholastic writing honors. Photos courtesy of Sacred Heart Greenwich.



Sacred Heart Greenwich students celebrate their Scholastic Art Awards. Photos courtesy of Sacred Heart Greenwich.

On February 6, Sacred Heart Greenwich announced that sixteen students earned honors in the 2026 Connecticut Regional Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, a competitive, juried program that recognizes outstanding creative work by middle and high school students across the state.

Six Sacred Heart Greenwich students received awards in the visual arts, while ten were recognized for writing. The honors place the students among a select group chosen from public, parochial, and independent schools throughout Connecticut.

The Connecticut Regional Scholastic Art Awards program evaluates submissions through a professional jury composed of working artists and university art faculty. Student work is selected for inclusion in a statewide exhibition at the Hartford Art School,

where pieces are reviewed on artistic merit across 18 media categories. Awards include Gold Keys, Silver Keys, and Honorable Mentions, with select works receiving additional distinctions.

Olivia F. '26 earned a Gold Key and was selected for Jerry's Artarama of West Hartford's Best in Digital Painting, Drawing and Collage for her work Labor of the Day Dreamer. Olivia studied under art teacher Mr. Jonathan Peck.

Margot G. '28 received a Gold Key for Coffee for Good in Film and Animation, under the instruction of Ms. Ellyn Stewart. Ava C. '26 earned a Silver Key in Photography for Chromatic Collision, with Mr. Kevin Williamson as her teacher.

Maisie P. '27 received multiple honors in Film and Animation. Her work Beneath the Rush earned a Silver Medal, while Threads of Love received an Honorable Mention. Both pieces were completed

Selected through professional, anonymous juries, the students' work now stands among the strongest creative submissions by young artists and writers across Connecticut.

under the guidance of Mr. David Pisani.

Additional art honorees include Vivianna L. '27, who received an Honorable Mention for her sculpture Le Ali di Carta, and Nora G. '27, whose digital work Friendship in a Storm also earned an Honorable Mention. Both students worked with Mrs. Marnie McLaughlin.

Student artwork selected through the regional competition becomes part of a public exhibition at the Hartford Art School, offering young artists professional presentation and statewide visibility early in their creative development.

The Scholastic Writing Awards, established in 1923, recognize students in grades 7 through 12 for excellence in creative writing across multiple genres. Entries are judged anonymously by leaders in the literary arts, with emphasis placed on originality, craft, voice, and vision.

Sacred Heart Greenwich students earned awards in personal essay, memoir, and poetry categories.

In the Middle School division, Taylor K., eighth grade, earned a Silver Key for Hark the Harold in Personal Essay & Memoir. Hollis K., eighth grade, received a Gold Key for My Five Memories. Emmie M., also in eighth grade, earned a Silver Key for A New Kind of Love. Catherine V., eighth grade, received an Honorable Mention for Growing Up but Never Apart. All four students worked under the instruction of Ms. Juliette Firla.

Upper School writing awards reflected strong representation in poetry. Alexandra L., 11th grade, earned an Honorable Mention for Menelaus's Wings, with guidance from Dr. Bill Mottoles.

Carolyn M., 11th grade, received multiple honors for her poetry, earning Silver Keys for Forever. and Glory, along with Honorable Mentions for Last Night and Will You Look?

Stephanie S., 10th grade, earned a Silver Key for They Were Lonely, Not Alone, under the instruction of Dr. David Smigen-Rothkopf. Brianna T., 12th grade, received an Honorable Mention for All She Ever Wanted, also working with Dr. Smigen-Rothkopf.

Additional Honorable Mentions were awarded to Maria W., 11th grade, for Still Swimming, and Miranda Z., 11th grade, for Wax Rose: Arrogant Humanity. Both students studied under Dr. Cristina Baptista.

The Scholastic Awards programs emphasize the role of educators in student success, recognizing teachers as central collaborators in the creative process. From studio critique to manuscript revision, faculty mentorship remains a defining element of award-winning submissions.

For Sacred Heart Greenwich, the 2026 honors reflect sustained investment in arts education and student expression across disciplines. The recognized works demonstrate a wide range of themes, techniques, and perspectives, offering insight into how young artists and writers interpret their experiences through visual and written forms.

Pull-Out Quote: "Selected through professional, anonymous juries, the students' work now stands among the strongest creative submissions by young artists and writers across Connecticut."



Thursday, February 12, 2025

SPOTLIGHT on FAMILIES

Brought to you by the Sentinel Foundation and its generous donors.

SENTINEL
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HOROSCOPEWHAT TO DO:
COMPREHENSIVE
COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

Calling all sophisticates, literary enthusiasts, and our very clever Sentinel readers!
Enter to Win Cash Prizes in our Cross-Over Contest!

Win the Literary Challenge

Once Upon a Valentine

February is the month of love—but not all love stories are the same. This month, we challenge you to put your literary wit to the test with two bite-sized contests inspired by classic literature. Join in our cross-over contest for both New Canaan & Greenwich.

For ages 18 & Under: "Love Letters to and from Storybook Characters"

The winner receives \$50 and publication in the Sentinel!

Ever wonder what Cinderella's glass slipper might write to her foot? Or what the Big Bad Wolf's love note to Little Red Riding Hood would say? In 50 words or fewer, write a Valentine's message from one famous storybook character to another—whether romantic, funny, or just plain weird!

EXAMPLES:

Dear Little Red,

Dinner plans have changed.

I was going to make you my main course, but how about we skip the chase, share some cake, and call it a truce?

—The Wolf

Dear Puss in Boots,

I like your hat. I like your boots. I like the way you trick people with big words. If I had nine lives, I'd spend them all going on adventures with you. Your fan, Jack (from the Beanstalk)

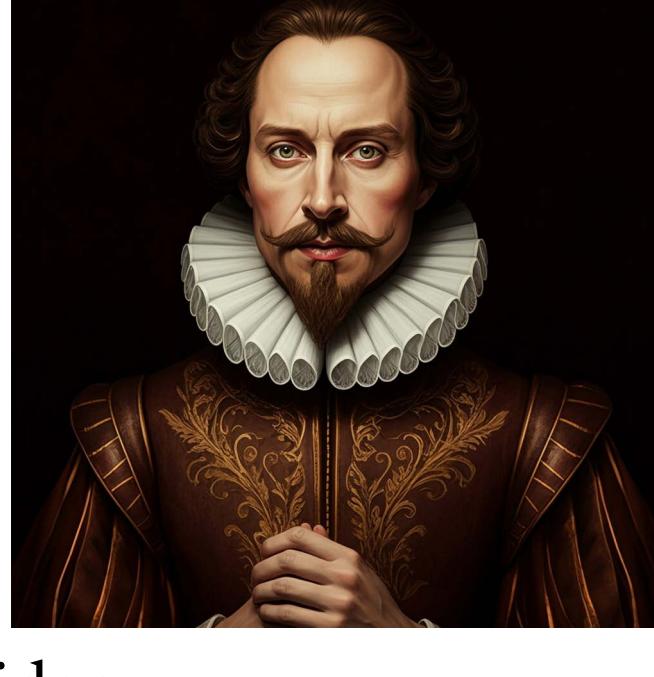
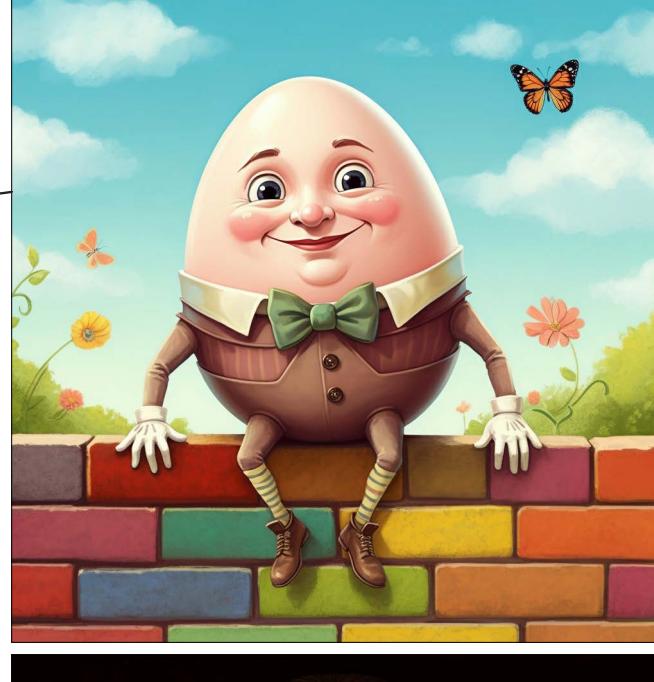
For ages 19 & Up: "Shakespeare in Six or Twelve Words"

Winners receive \$50 and publication!

The Bard was a master of love, tragedy, and mischief—now it's your turn. Summarize any Shakespearean love story in just six or twelve words - your choice. Whether it's "Much Ado: Enemies, rumors, wedding, still single"; Hamlet: "Dad's ghost returns. Bad idea, everyone"; or Macbeth: "Witches whisper fate, Daggers gleam, guilt stains his hands— All is lost." Make it clever, poetic, or laugh-out-loud funny!

Deadline: Friday, February 28, 2025. Winners announced in the March 5, 2025 issue.

How to Enter: Craft your clever response to this month's contest, then email Publisher@GreenwichSentinel.com to submit it. Multiple entries are welcome (up to three), and pseudonyms are accepted—giving you the freedom to be as inventive as you like.



Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

FRIDAY, FEB. 13

10:30 a.m.

Once Upon a Museum: Winter Storytime. Bruce Museum. Free with general admission, first-come, first-served. Also held Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 14 & 15. brucemuseum.org

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.

Behind the Scenes Archival Collections: Ephemera. Greenwich Historical Society. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

12 - 1:30 p.m.

Great Backyard Bird Count at Grass Island Park. Greenwich Audubon Center. All Ages welcome. RSVP is required. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

3 p.m.

FeederWatch Fridays. Greenwich Audubon Center. All Ages. Free. Register. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

4:30 p.m.

Plant Some Love – Valentine Planters Workshop for Families. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. \$35/GBC Member Family, \$45/Non-Member Family. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

6 - 8 p.m.

Family Valentine's Dance. YMCA of Greenwich. Register. greenwicheymca.org/events

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Valentine's Day Treat Boxes – volunteer opportunity for families. Christ Church Greenwich, 254 E. Putnam Ave. 203-869-6600. sig-nupgenius.com/go/5080C45A-FA92EA0FE3-60794825-2026#/

10 - 11:30 a.m.

Greenwich Audubon Center: For the Love of Birds: Cos Cob Neighborhood Bird Watch. All Ages. Register. (Bring your own binoculars & dress for cold weather). greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/14153164

11 a.m.

Museum Movers: Yoga for Kids (Ages 3-6). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.

Science Solvers: Freezing Hearts (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Feb. 15. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.

Birding at the Bruce Museum with Greenwich Audubon – a tour of the neighboring Oneida Sanctuary. Meet at the Bruce Museum Lobby. Free. brucemuseum.org

3 p.m.

Romance and Flavor: Celebrate Valentine's Day at Tomy's at the J House. 1114 East Putnam Ave. \$125. Reservations: 203-698-6999.

4 p.m.

Bruce Socials: Trivia – Mix & Mingle. Bruce Museum. \$16, Members, \$20, Non-members. brucemuseum.org

5 p.m.

Courage & Faith Presents: Fr. James Martin. Christ Church Greenwich. \$50-\$75. 203-869-6600. eventbrite.com/e/1980505779099

5 - 6:30 p.m.

Greenwich Audubon Center & Greenwich Botanical Center: Owl Prowl at Montgomery Pinetum. \$20, GBC/Audubon Non-Members; Free, GBC/Audubon Members. Register. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

SUNDAY, FEB. 15

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Teen Conservation Crew. Greenwich Audubon Center. Free. Register. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

2 p.m.

Cinema at the Bruce and the Avon Theatre Present: "Cutting Through Rocks." Bruce Museum. Registration is required. brucemuseum.org

TUESDAY, FEB. 17

9:30 a.m.

Perrot Memorial Library: Tod's Point. Meet at the second concession stand. Free. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org

10 & 11 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings: Build an Ant (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Feb. 18. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.

Open Knitting Drop-In Program. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. 203-637-1066. adultprogramming@perrotlibrary.org

4:15 p.m.

Debate Club (Ages 9-13). Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

6 p.m.

Bruce Socials: Trivia. Bruce Museum. \$10, includes pizza & a drink.. brucemuseum.org

7 p.m.

Athlete Pro-Talk Panel with Greenwich Connects. YMCA of Greenwich. Register. greenwicheymca.org/events

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

10 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings Junior: Ants Big and Small (ages: 12 Months-30 Months). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m.

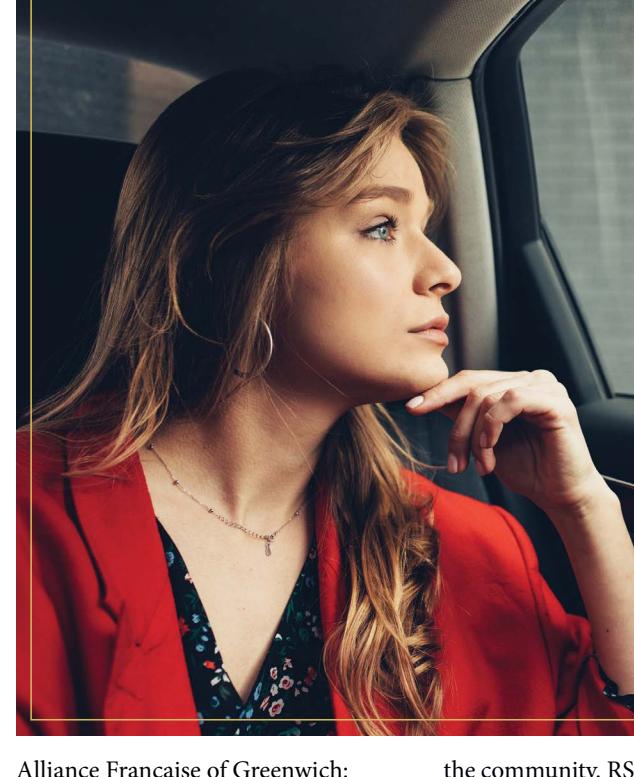
Retired Men's Association of Greenwich: David Michonski "Update on the 2025 Greenwich real estate market." Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. & on Zoom. Free & open to all. greenwichrma.org

1 p.m.

Navigating Aging & Care: Plan Smart. Age Confidently. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. 203-637-1066. adultprogramming@perrotlibrary.org

5 p.m.

TGIF Fitness Made Fun Dance Class For Individuals with Special Needs. YMCA of Greenwich. Free & open to



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the community. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Kid's Night Out – Pool Party (Ages 4-14). YMCA of Greenwich. Member: \$35, Non-Member: \$45. Register. greenwicheymca.org/events

7 p.m.

Winter Soiree: The Art of the Fête.

Bruce Museum. RSVP. brucemuseum.org

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

1 p.m.

Art Adventures: Spin Art (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Feb. 22. brucemuseum.org

7 p.m.

Winter Soiree: The Art of the Fête.

Val's Putnam Wines & Liquors

125 West Putnam Avenue

Greenwich, CT. 06830

Phone (203) 869-2299

Fax (203) 340-2890

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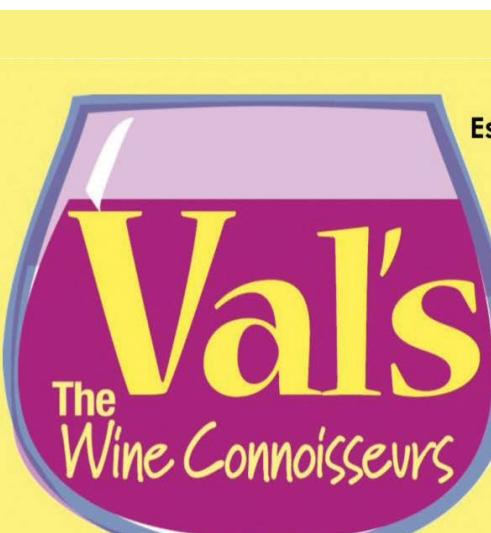
21 Glenville Street

Greenwich, CT. 06831

Phone (203) 813-3477

Fax (203) 813-3478

valswinesglenville@gmail.com



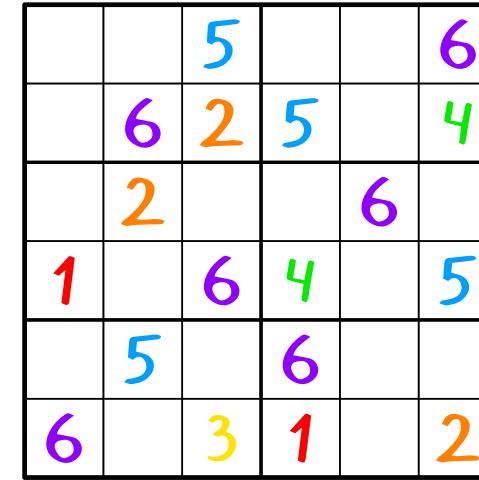
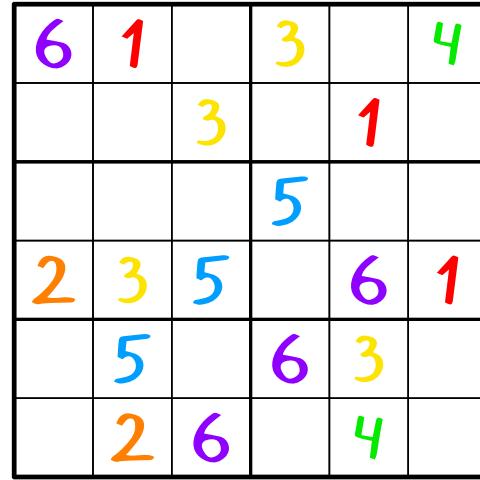
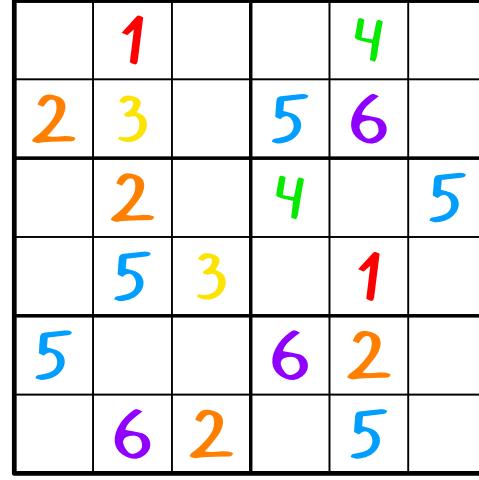
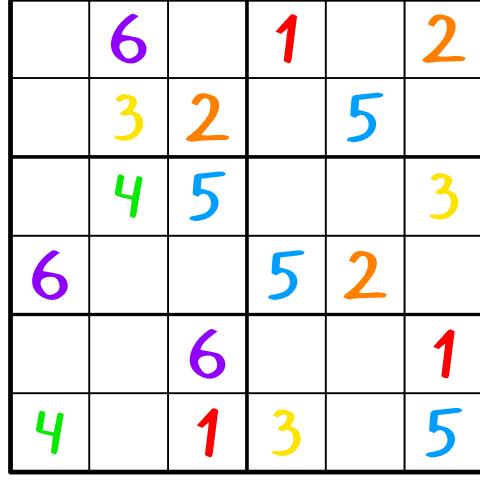
Established 1957

Val's Putnam Wines & Liquors

125 West Putnam Avenue

Greenwich, CT. 06830

Sudoku for Kids

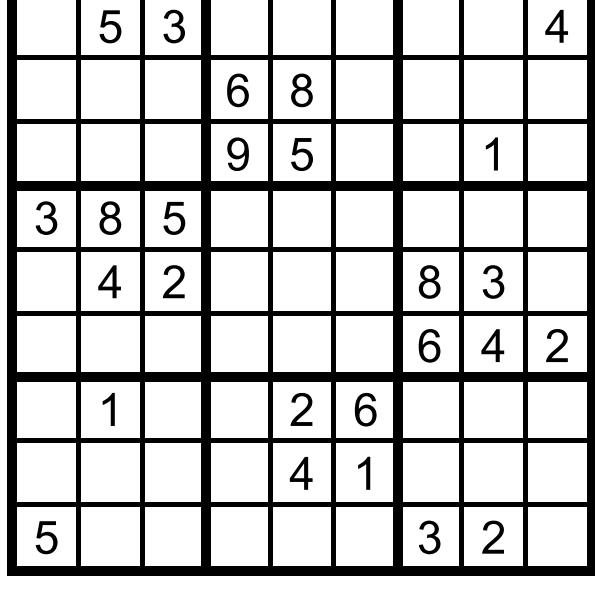


SUDOKU

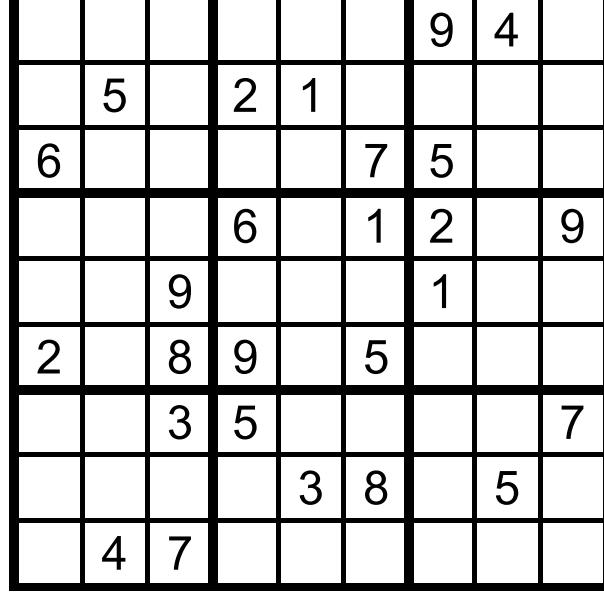
can contain each number

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

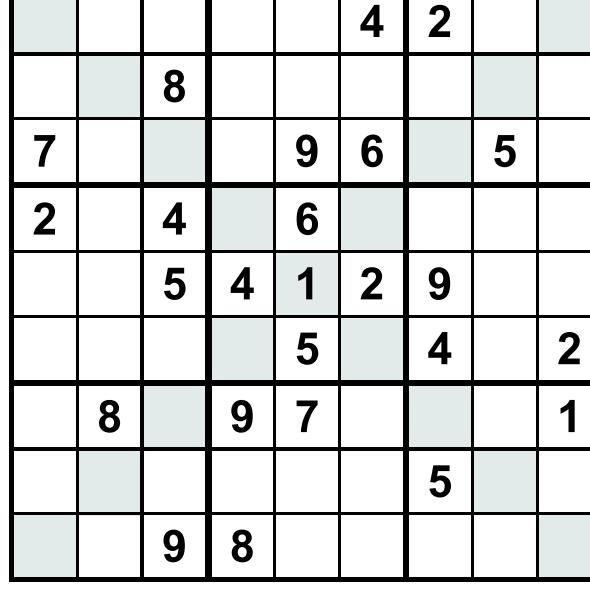
Easy



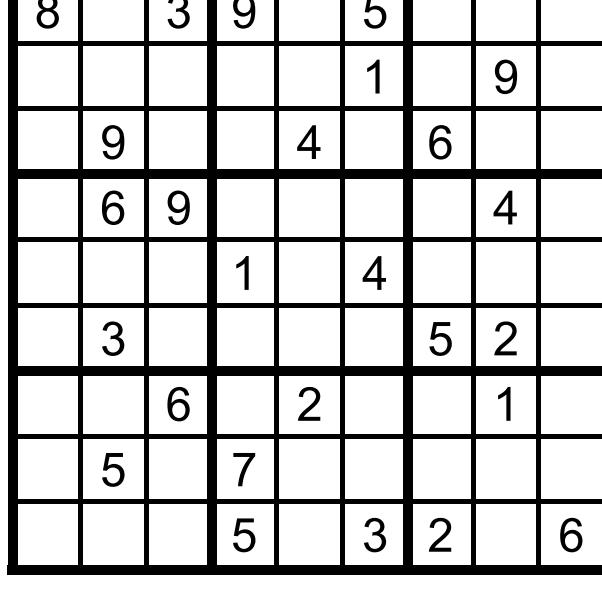
Hard



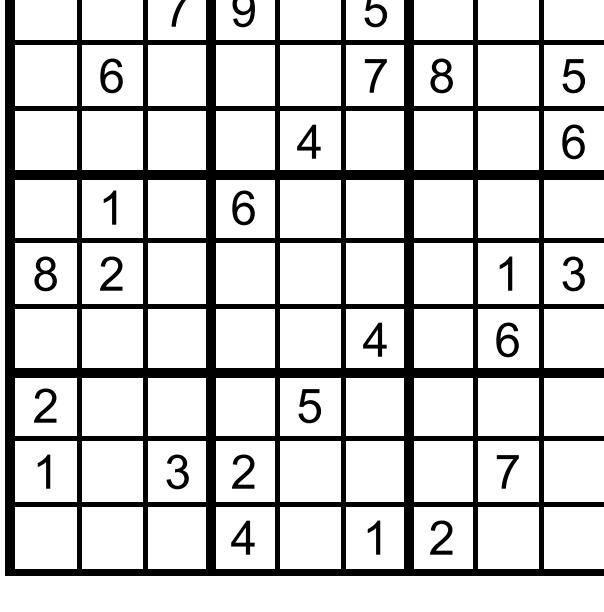
Very Hard



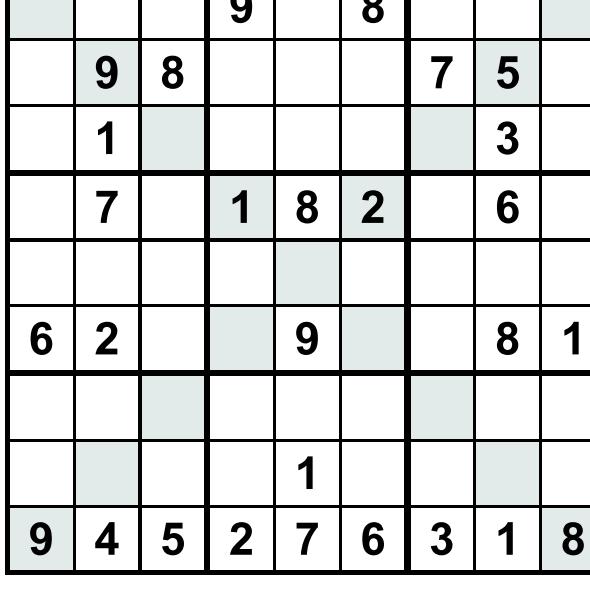
Easy



Hard



Very Hard



Mandela



Sudoku

Universal Crossword

Edited by Jared Goudsmit

ACROSS

- New York City mayor Adams
- California
- '50s Ford flop
- Not stereo
- The "R" of SRO
- Crime boss known as "The Teflon Don"
- Software for organizing a pledge drive?
- Award for "Sweeney Todd"
- SIGINT-gathering org.
- Kind of soup with wakame
- Tightly curled 'dos
- Stretch of time
- Software for screening a film?
- Large antelope
- Clog or slipper
- Pork cut
- Follow, as advice
- Salt, to a chemist
- Word after "vital" or "pipe"
- Raw metals
- "The ___ Bunch"
- Currency in Austria
- The whole ___ yards
- Often yellow ride
- Software for landing a plane? Abbr.

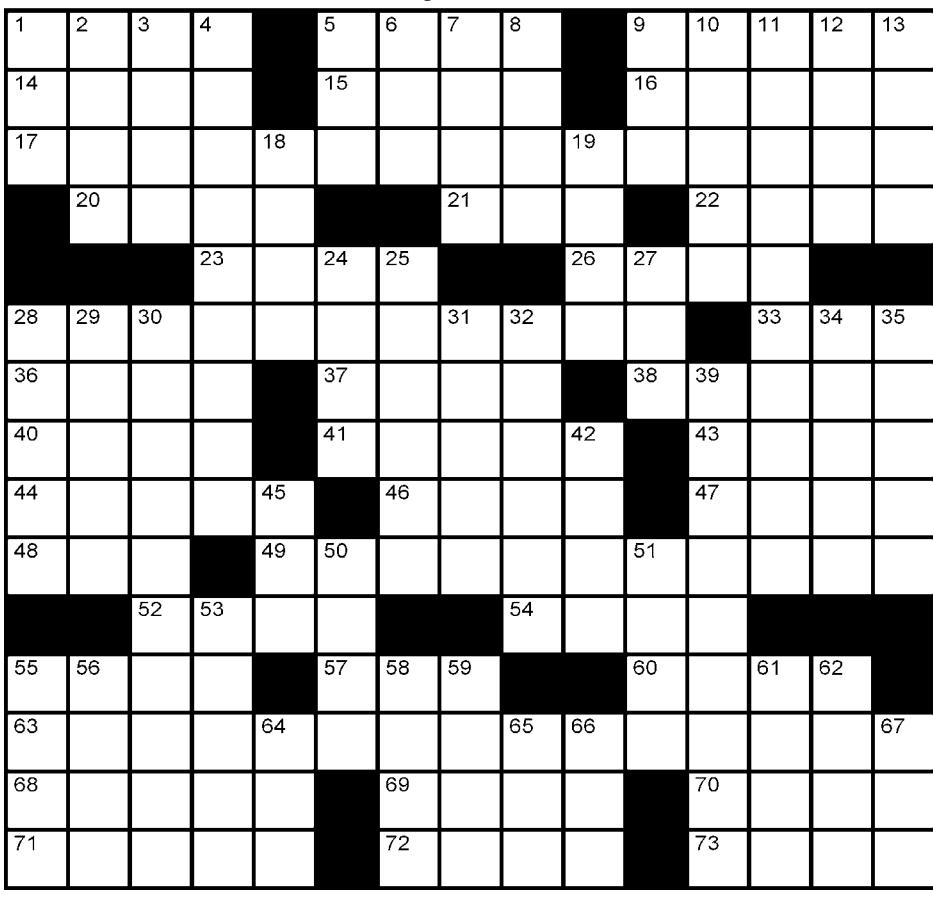
DOWN

- Fall Out Boy genre
- Decisively defeat
- A fan of
- Rural Iowa sight
- CUUP product
- Green New Deal rep.
- Actor Krasinski
- Rock bands' boosters
- Criticism may bruise it
- You'd better believe it!
- Violinist, violist and cellist, e.g.
- Guesses you might try to beat by speeding: Abbr.
- "Stretch" vehicle
- Nonverbal "Hi!"
- Scat singer Fitzgerald
- Klutz
- Iguazu Falls spray
- Software for estimating a mortgage?
- Arctic travel hazards
- Wriggly fish
- One of the Decade Volcanoes
- Vast void
- Place to buy pastrami on rye
- "It's not that ___" ("Don't overthink it")
- Place to buy pastrami on rye
- One of the Decade Volcanoes
- Vast void
- Place to buy pastrami on rye
- "It's not that ___" ("Don't overthink it")
- Self-important

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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7/17

See How They Run by Jake Halperin**Horoscopes****Horoscope: February 12-18, 2026**

As the Moon enters Capricorn on February 12, the week begins with a sense of structure and long-view focus. Mercury and Venus in Pisces lend a deeply intuitive and compassionate tone to communication and relationships. Then, on February 17, a powerful New Moon and solar eclipse in Aquarius lands like a cosmic reset – emphasizing innovation, collective goals, and your evolving role in the larger community. Eclipses open doors but close others – expect shifts where stagnation has lingered.

Weekly Forecast by Sign**Aries (March 21 - April 19)**

This week lights up your social life and long-term aspirations. The Aquarius eclipse may initiate a leadership role in a group, committee, or community cause – or prompt you to step back from alliances that no longer inspire. Around February 15-17, a sudden opportunity could arise to present a new idea to your network. Practical Advice: Update your LinkedIn or resume before the 17th; someone influential is watching. Choose collaboration over competition.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

Career spotlight incoming. The Aquarius solar eclipse may signal a new role, promotion, or redefined public image. If you've been privately considering a pivot, this is the week to quietly lay groundwork – especially February 16-18, when a mentor may offer a lead. Practical Advice: Plan for visibility. Prepare your elevator pitch or rehearse an ask – opportunities may come when you least expect them.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

This eclipse lands in your travel, education, and publishing sector. You may be offered a chance to teach, study abroad, or speak publicly on a topic you know well. Conversations with people from different cultures or belief systems feel charged with insight, especially February 14-16. Practical Advice: Revisit a stalled passport, application, or manuscript. A delayed goal may suddenly re-activate.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Eclipse energy turns inward: money, intimacy, and long-term entanglements are shifting. February 15-17 is ideal for renegotiating a shared financial agreement or cutting ties with an outdated emotional pattern. You may be called to support someone through a transformation – or experience one yourself. Practical Advice: Review joint accounts, tax documents, or wills. Set boundaries where others have overstepped.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

With the eclipse in your relationship zone, this is a turning point for partnerships. Whether it's love, business, or friendship, clarity arrives – often with dramatic flair. Someone may enter or exit your orbit in a way that redefines what partnership means to you. Practical Advice: Listen more than you speak. You don't have to solve the problem – just show up honestly.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

This is the week to finally tackle something you've put off: cleaning up your workspace, starting a new

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

The spotlight turns to your private life. A change may come through family, housing, or ancestral patterns. This eclipse may literally bring a move – or shift how you relate to the place you call home. February 15-17 is ideal for clearing emotional clutter. Practical Advice: Reorganize a room or file old paperwork. The outer change supports the inner one.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

The eclipse activates your communication zone. A writing project, marketing push, or legal matter could accelerate. Pay close attention to what's said around February 14-16 – important details or insights will surface in casual conversations. Practical Advice: Back up your devices and clean your inbox. Say the thing you've been meaning to say.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

The eclipse shifts your values and resources. You may launch a new income stream or reevaluate your budget – especially around February 15-17. A gift, offer, or unexpected expense may surface that reshapes how you handle your material life. Practical Advice: Detach from status symbols. True wealth this week comes through clarity and self-worth.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)

The solar eclipse in your sign is a rebirth. A new path may appear – not all at once, but through signs and synchronicities. Between February 16-18, you may feel a powerful desire to step into leadership or break free from expectations. Practical Advice: Do something symbolic: update your bio, cut your hair, close an old account. Declare your new era.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20)

You're the quiet powerhouse this week. The eclipse lands in your subconscious zone, guiding you inward. Dreamwork, meditation, or journaling will bring clarity – possibly even a breakthrough around the 17th. Someone from your past may reappear. Practical Advice: Trust the messages you receive in stillness. This is a week to rest, release, and reimagine.

Summary: February 12-18 bridges emotional depth with visionary resets. The New Moon and solar eclipse in Aquarius on February 17 brings breakthroughs in personal identity, innovation, and community contribution. Combined with Venus and Mercury in Pisces, this week favors intentional emotional clarity and purposeful connection – not only with others, but with the future version of yourself you're becoming.

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

- energize (10)
- walk like a penguin (6)
- chips in (11)
- trumpet-like red flower (9)
- cover stories (6)
- herb in Italian sausage (6)
- in a scathingly biting way (9)

SOLUTIONS

INV	RYL	DLE	ORA	TRI
WAD	BIS	TLY	LIS	MOR
ALI	NEL	TES	CON	TE
BU	DAN	IG	FEN	AMA

Previous Answers: FORENSICS 2. SWERVED 3. MANAGES 4. SHINED 5. LEADER 6. REVERENCE 7. PROCTOR

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

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THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER BY A.A. MILNE

CHAPTER VIII IN WHICH Piglet Does a Very Grand Thing

Half way between Pooh's house and Piglet's house was a Thoughtful Spot where they met sometimes when they had decided to go and see each other, and as it was warm and out of the wind they would sit down there for a little and wonder what they would do now that they had seen each other. One day when they had decided not to do anything, Pooh made up a verse about it, so that everybody should know what the place was for.

This warm and sunny Spot
Belongs to Pooh.
And here he wonders what
He's going to do.
Oh, bother, I forgot—
It's Piglet's too.

Now one autumn morning when the wind had blown all the leaves off the trees in the night, and was trying to blow the branches off, Pooh and Piglet were sitting in the Thoughtful Spot and wondering.

"What I think," said Pooh, "is I think we'll go to Pooh Corner and see Eeyore, because perhaps his house has been blown down, and perhaps he'd like us to build it again."

"What I think," said Piglet, "is I think we'll go and see Christopher Robin, only he won't be there, so we can't."

"Let's go and see everybody," said Pooh. "Because when you've been walking in the wind for miles, and you suddenly go into somebody's house, and he says, 'Hallo, Pooh, you're just in time for a little smackerel of something,' and you are, then it's what I call a Friendly Day."

Piglet thought that they ought to have a Reason for going to see everybody, like Looking for Small or Organizing an Exposition, if Pooh could think of something.

Pooh could.

"We'll go because it's Thursday," he said, "and we'll go to wish everybody a Very Happy Thursday. Come on, Piglet."

They got up; and when Piglet had sat down again, because he didn't know the wind was so strong, and had been helped up by Pooh, they started off. They went to Pooh's house first, and luckily Pooh was at home just as they got there, so he asked them in, and they had some, and then they went on to Kanga's house, holding on to each other, and shouting "Isn't it?" and "What?" and "I can't hear." By the time they got to Kanga's house they were so buffeted that they stayed to lunch. Just at first it seemed rather cold outside afterwards, so they pushed on to Rabbit's as quickly as they could.



"We've come to wish you a Very Happy Thursday," said Pooh, when he had gone in and out once or twice just to make sure that he could get out again.

"Why, what's going to happen on Thursday?" asked Rabbit, and when Pooh had explained, and Rabbit, whose life was made up of Important Things, said, "Oh, I thought you'd really come about something," they sat down for a little ... and by-and-by Pooh and Piglet went on again. The wind was behind them now, so they didn't have to shout.

"Rabbit's clever," said Pooh thoughtfully.

"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit's clever."

"And he has Brain."

"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit has Brain."

There was a long silence.

"I suppose," said Pooh, "that that's why he never understands anything."

Christopher Robin was at home by this time,

because it was the afternoon, and he was so glad to see them that they stayed there until very nearly tea-time, and then they had a Very Nearly tea, which is one you forget about afterwards, and hurried on to Pooh Corner, so as to see Eeyore before it was too late to have a Proper Tea with Owl.

"Hallo, Eeyore," they called out cheerfully.

"Ah!" said Eeyore. "Lost your way?"

"We just came to see you," said Piglet. "And to see how your house was. Look, Pooh, it's still standing!"

"I know," said Eeyore. "Very odd. Somebody ought to have come down and pushed it over."

"We wondered whether the wind would blow it down," said Pooh.

"Ah, that's why nobody's bothered, I suppose. I thought perhaps they'd forgotten."

"Well, we're very glad to see you, Eeyore, and now we're going on to see Owl."

"That's right. You'll like Owl. He flew past a day or two ago and noticed me. He didn't actually say anything, mind you, but he knew it was me. Very friendly of him, I thought. Encouraging."

Pooh and Piglet shuffled about a little and said, "Well, good-bye, Eeyore" as lingeringly as they could, but they had a long way to go, and wanted to be getting on.

"Good-bye," said Eeyore. "Mind you don't get blown away, little Piglet. You'd be missed. People would say 'Where's little Piglet been blown to?'—really wanting to know. Well, good-bye. And thank you for happening to pass me."

"Good-bye," said Pooh and Piglet for the last time, and they pushed on to Owl's house.



The wind was against them now, and Piglet's ears streamed behind him like banners as he fought his way along, and it seemed hours before he got them into the shelter of the Hundred Acre Wood and they stood up straight again, to listen, a little nervously, to the roaring of the gale among the tree-tops.



"Supposing a tree fell down, Pooh, when we were underneath it?"

"Supposing it didn't," said Pooh after careful thought.

Piglet was comforted by this, and in a little while they were knocking and ringing very cheerfully at Owl's door.

"Hallo, Owl," said Pooh. "I hope we're not too late for—I mean, how are you, Owl?"

Piglet and I just came to see how you were, because it's Thursday."

"Sit down, Pooh, sit down, Piglet," said Owl kindly. "Make yourselves comfortable."

They thanked him, and made themselves as comfortable as they could.

"Because, you see, Owl," said Pooh, "we've been hurrying, so as to be in time for—so as to see you before we went away again."

Owl nodded solemnly.

"Correct me if I am wrong," he said, "but am I right in supposing that it is a very Blusterous day outside?"

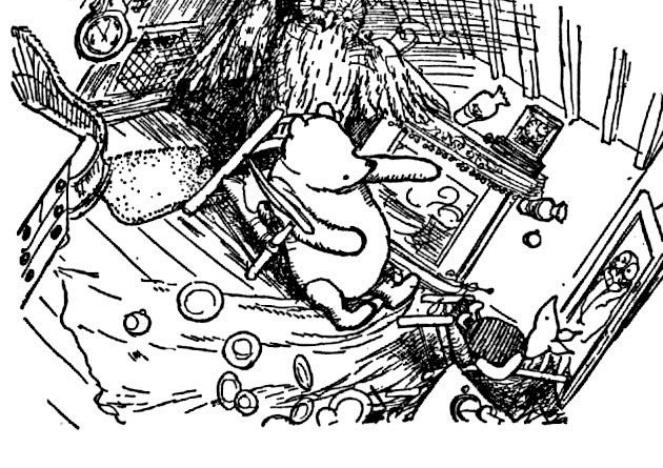
"Very," said Piglet, who was quietly thawing his ears, and wishing that he was safely back in his own house.

"I thought so," said Owl. "It was on just such a blusterous day as this that my Uncle Robert, a portrait of whom you see upon the wall on your right, Piglet, while returning in the late forenoon from a—What's that?"

There was a loud cracking noise.

"Look out!" cried Pooh. "Mind the clock! Out of the way, Piglet! Piglet, I'm falling on you!"

"Help!" cried Piglet.



Pooh's side of the room was slowly tilting upwards and his chair began sliding down on Piglet's. The clock slithered gently along the mantelpiece, collecting vases on the way, until they all crashed together on to what had once been the floor, but was now trying to see what it looked like as a wall. Uncle Robert, who was going to be the new hearth-rug, and was bringing the rest of his wall with him as carpet, met Piglet's chair just as Piglet was expecting to leave it, and for a little while it became very difficult to remember which was really the north. Then there was another loud crack ... Owl's room collected itself feverishly ... and there was silence.

In a corner of the room, the tablecloth began to wriggle.



Then it wrapped itself into a ball and rolled across the room.



Then it jumped up and down once or twice, and put out two ears. It rolled across the room again, and unwound itself.



"Pooh," said Piglet nervously.

"Yes?" said one of the chairs.

"Where are we?"

"I'm not quite sure," said the chair.

"Are we—are we in Owl's House?"

"I think so, because we were just going to have tea, and we hadn't had it."

"Oh!" said Piglet. "Well, did Owl always have a letter-box in his ceiling?"

"Has he?"

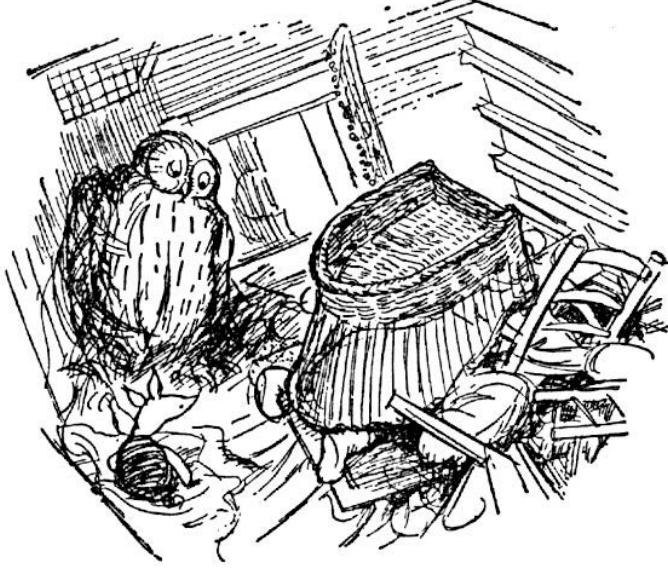
"Yes, look."

"I can't," said Pooh. "I'm face downwards under something, and that, Piglet, is a very bad position for looking at ceilings."

"Well, he has, Pooh."

"Perhaps he's changed it," said Pooh. "Just for a change."

There was a disturbance behind the table in the other corner of the room, and Owl was with them again.



"Ah, Piglet," said Owl, looking very much annoyed; "where's Pooh?"

"I'm not quite sure," said Pooh.

Owl turned at his voice, and frowned at as much of Pooh as he could see.

"Pooh," said Owl severely, "did you do that?"

"No," said Pooh humbly. "I don't think so."

"Then who did?"

"I think it was the wind," said Piglet. "I think your house has blown down."

"Oh, is that it? I thought it was Pooh."

"No," said Pooh.

"If it was the wind," said Owl, considering the matter, "then it wasn't Pooh's fault. No blame can be attached to him." With these kind words he flew up to look at his new ceiling.

"Piglet!" called Pooh in a loud whisper.

Piglet leant down to him.

"Yes, Pooh?"

"What did he say was attached to me?"

"He said he didn't blame you."

"Oh! I thought he meant—Oh, I see."

"Owl," said Piglet, "come down and help Pooh."

Owl, who was admiring his letter-box, flew down again. Together they pushed and pulled at the arm-chair, and in a little while Pooh came out from underneath, and was able to look round him again.

"Well!" said Owl. "This is a nice state of things!"

"What are we going to do, Pooh? Can you think of anything?" asked Piglet.

"Well, I had just thought of something," said Pooh. "It was just a little thing I thought of." And he began to sing:

I lay on my chest
And I thought it best
To pretend I was having an evening rest;
I lay on my tum
And I tried to hum
But nothing particular seemed to come.
My face was flat
On the floor, and that
Is all very well for an acrobat;
But it doesn't seem fair
To a Friendly Bear
To stiffen him out with a basket-chair.
And a sort of sqoze
Which grows and grows

Is not too nice for his poor old nose,
And a sort of squuch
Is much too much
For his neck and his mouth and his ears
and such.

"That was all," said Pooh.

Owl coughed in an unadmiring sort of way, and said that, if Pooh was sure that was all, they could now give their minds to the Problem of Escape.

"Because," said Owl, "we can't go out by what used to be the front door. Something's fallen on it."

"But how else can you go out?" asked Piglet anxiously.

"That is the Problem, Piglet, to which I am asking Pooh to give his mind."

Pooh sat on the floor which had once been a wall, and gazed up at the ceiling which had once been another wall, with a front door in it which had once been a front door, and tried to give his mind to it.

"Could you fly up to the letter-box with Piglet on your back?" he asked.

"No," said Piglet quickly. "He couldn't."

Owl explained about the Necessary Dorsal Muscles. He had explained this to Pooh and Christopher Robin once before, and had been waiting ever since for a chance to do it again, because it is a thing which you can easily explain twice before anybody knows what you are talking about.

"Because you see, Owl, if we could get Piglet into the letter-box, he might squeeze through the place where the letters come, and climb down the tree and run for help."

Piglet said hurriedly that he had been getting bigger lately, and couldn't possibly, much as he would like to, and Owl said that he had had his letter-box made bigger lately in case he got bigger letters, so perhaps Piglet might, and Piglet said, "But you said the necessary you-know-whats wouldn't," and Owl said, "No, they won't, so it's no good thinking about it," and Piglet said "Then we'd better think of something else," and began to at once.

But Pooh's mind had gone back to the day when he had saved Piglet from the flood, and everybody had admired him so much; and as that didn't often happen he thought he would like it to happen again. And suddenly, just as it had come before, an idea came to him.

"Owl," said Pooh, "I have thought of something."

"Astute and Helpful Bear," said Owl.

Pooh looked proud at being called a stout and helpful bear, and said modestly that he just happened to think of it. You tied a piece of string to Piglet, and you flew up to the letter-box with the other end in your beak, and you pushed it through the wire and brought it down to the floor, and you and Pooh pulled hard at this end, and Piglet went slowly up at the other end. And there you were.

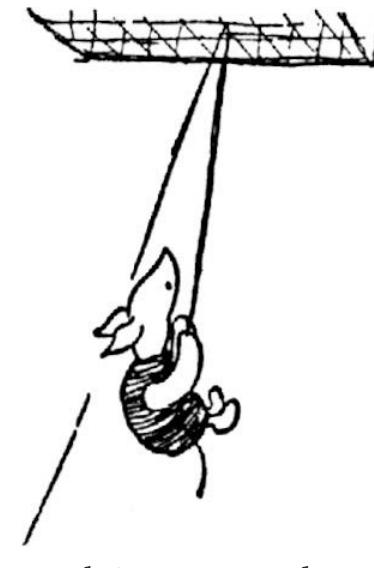
"And there Piglet is," said Owl. "If the string doesn't break."

"Supposing it does?" asked Piglet, wanting to know.

"Then we try another piece of string."

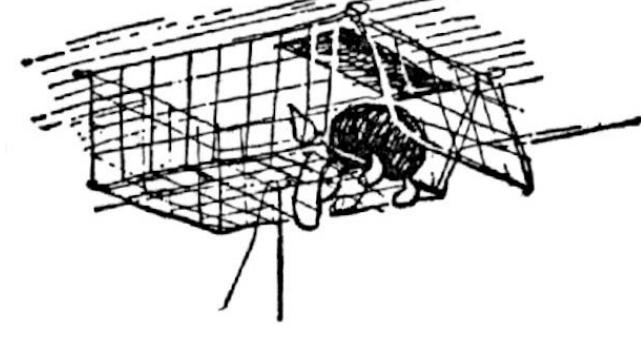
This was not very comforting to Piglet, because however many pieces of string they tried pulling up with, it would always be the same him coming down; but still, it did seem the only thing to do. So with one last look back in his mind at all the happy hours he had spent in the Forest not being pulled up to the ceiling by a piece of string, Piglet nodded bravely at Pooh and said that it was a Very Clever pup-pup-pup Clever pup-pup Plan.

"It won't break," whispered Pooh comfortingly, "because you're a Small Animal, and I'll stand underneath, and if you save us all, it will be a Very Grand Thing to talk about afterwards, and perhaps I'll make up a Song, and people will say 'It was so grand what Piglet did that a Respectful Pooh Song was made about it.'

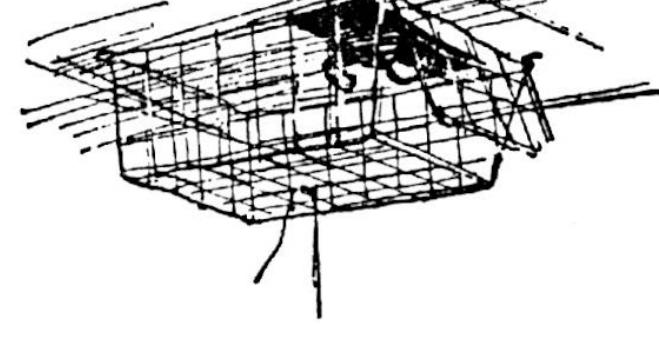


Piglet felt much better after this, and when everything was ready, and he found himself slowly going up to the ceiling, he was so proud that he would have called out "Look at me!" if he hadn't been afraid that Pooh and Owl would let go of their end of the string and look at him.

"Up we go!" said Pooh cheerfully.



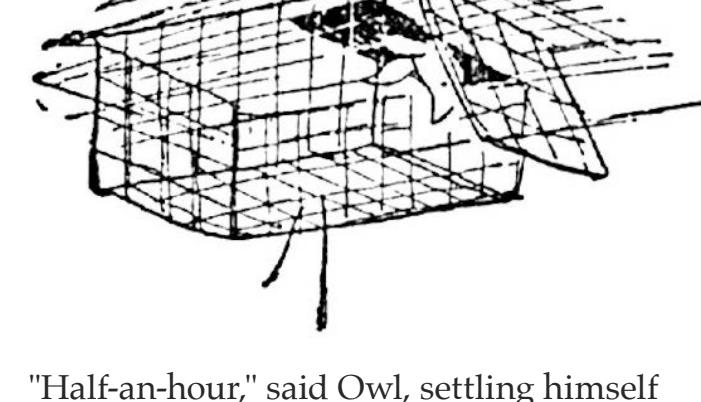
"The ascent is proceeding as expected," said Owl helpfully. Soon it was over. Piglet opened the letter-box and climbed in. Then, having untied himself, he began to squeeze into the slit, through which in the old days when front doors were front doors, many an unexpected letter that WOL had written to himself, had come slipping.



He squeezed and he squoze, and then with one last sqooze he was out. Happy and excited he turned round to squeak a last message to the prisoners.



"It's all right," he called through the letter-box. "Your tree is blown right over, Owl, and there's a branch across the door, but Christopher Robin and I can move it, and we'll bring a rope for Pooh, and I'll go and tell him now, and I can climb down quite easily, I mean it's dangerous but I can do it all right, and Christopher Robin and I will be back in about half-an-hour. Good-bye, Pooh!" And without waiting to hear Pooh's answering "Good-bye, and thank you, Piglet," he was off.



"Half-an-hour," said Owl, settling himself comfortably. "That will just give me time to finish that story I was telling you about my Uncle Robert—a portrait of whom you see underneath you. Now let me see, where was I? Oh, yes. It was on just such a blusterous day as this that my Uncle Robert—"

Pooh closed his eyes.

Feathered Devotion: The Remarkable Monogamy of Africa's Colorful Little Lovebirds

I stood, clipboard in hand, inside one of the world's premier avian breeding facilities, a vault of biodiversity where species once considered lost to the wild now fluttered and nested behind reinforced glass and precision-controlled habitats. Before me lay a matrix of enclosures housing some of the rarest birds alive – each with its own story of survival, adaptation, and sometimes, unexpected romance.

"What do you want to see next?"

The invitation hovered.

I glanced at my colleague, then back at our host, a seasoned aviculturist whose calm demeanor concealed a career spent rescuing bird populations from the brink. My mind ricocheted through possibilities: Kakapo? Spix's Macaw? Philippine Eagle?

Then, a thought occurred.

"Do you have any lovebirds?" I asked.

"Lovebirds?" he repeated, smiling now. "Yes... yes, we do."

He gestured us down a corridor, past scarlet ibises and towering crowned cranes, until we reached a modest side room. A soft rustling met our ears. Inside, in a wide enclosure wrapped with vines and nesting hollows, a pair of peach-faced lovebirds perched beak to beak, preening with the focus of a practiced ritual.

There's something disarming about seeing a creature do precisely what its name suggests – and mean it.

The *Agapornis roseicollis*, or peach-faced lovebird, is native to the arid woodlands of southwest Africa. Despite the parched terrain of its home, the lovebird is anything but dry in demeanor. These small parrots, no more than six inches from crown to tail tip, are bundles of color and character. With emerald bodies, coral-pink faces, and striking cobalt-blue rumps, they resemble living confetti – confetti with a remarkable social contract.

Unlike the majority of birds, whose pair bonds last a season or simply a nesting cycle, lovebirds mate for life. These bonds are not merely reproductive alliances; they are social, behavioral, and – it would seem – emotional. Mated pairs eat together, sleep together, groom each other, and even fly in synchrony. When separated, even briefly, they call out in distress.

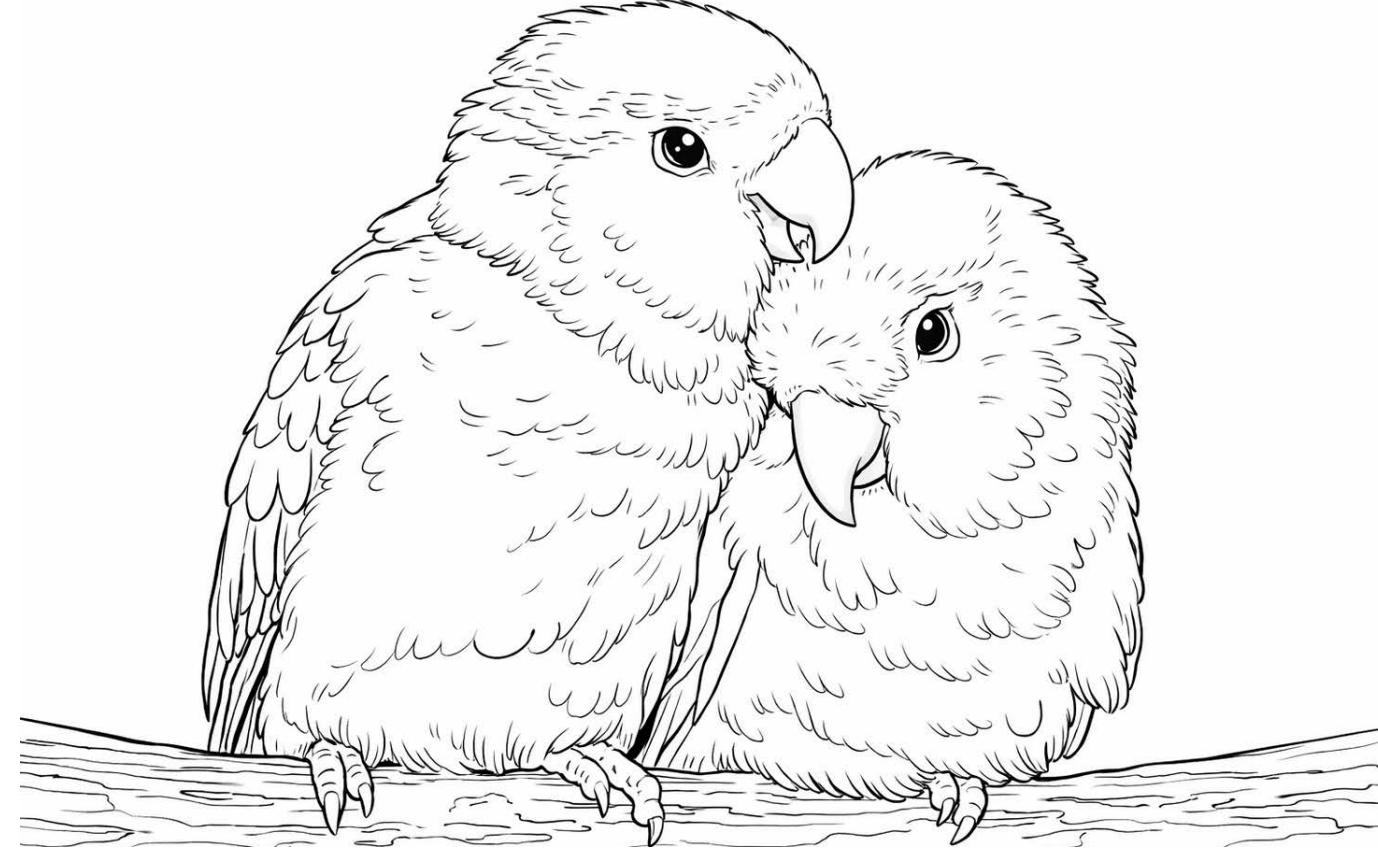


Love Birds. Digital 13 via Flickr under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

There's something disarming about seeing a creature do precisely what its name suggests – and mean it.

In captivity, individuals housed without partners exhibit signs of depression or anxiety – a testament to the strength of the pair bond in these birds.

These birds live an environment where water is scarce and temperatures swing wildly between



extremes. Coordination becomes survival. By relying on one another for grooming (to control parasites), feeding (through regurgitation), and protection (through alarm calls), bonded pairs act as miniature teams – optimizing their chances in a landscape that offers no favors.

Our host tossed a few millet seeds onto a tray, and we watched the pair descend in tandem. One paused to nibble, the other stood guard. Then they switched roles without a sound. No command. No hesitation. Just an instinct forged through generations of natural selection and refined by trust.

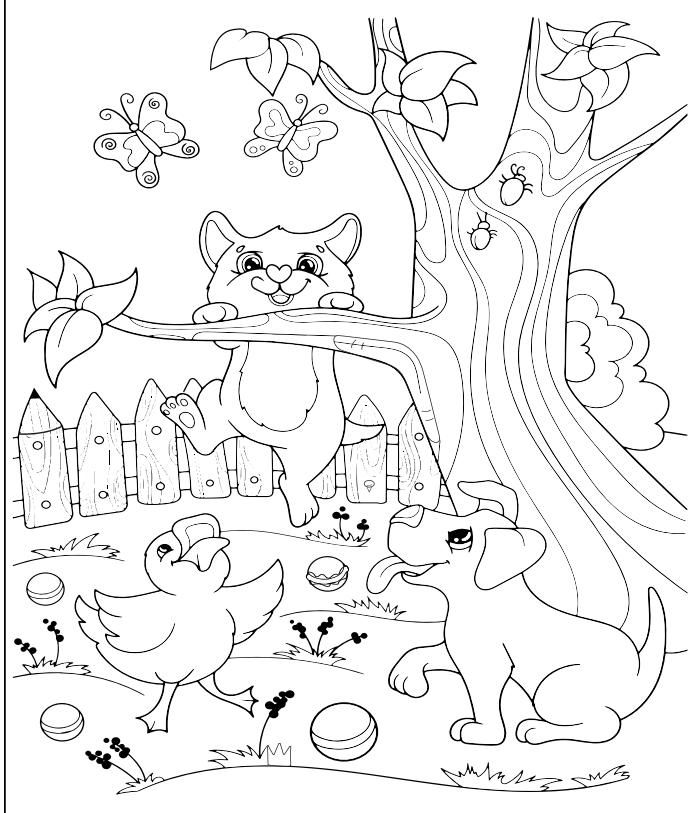
Their success is not just romantic – it's tactical.

Lovebirds remind us that devotion can be both beautiful and functional. These birds flourish because of interdependence. And they are not alone. Prairie voles, gibbons, and even some species of wolves exhibit similar pair bonding – lovebirds do it with feathers, flight, and flair.

As we stepped back from the enclosure, I felt a quiet admiration for the tiny pair still perched, side by side, on a branch no longer than a pencil. They weren't rare in the way the Kakapo or the Spix's Macaw are rare. But they were extraordinary nonetheless.

This Valentine's Day perhaps the simplest expression of love still matters most: shared attention, quiet loyalty, and the courage to sit beside someone come what may.

Find and color.



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- heart
- boomerang
- fastener
- hamburger
- pencil
- crown
- fishing rod
- apricot
- heart



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- magnifying glass
- spoon
- pencil
- tractor
- she said
- heart
- musical note
- lemon
- ampoule
- ring



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- glasses
- lightning
- ruler
- chemical
- ice cream
- pizza
- heart
- candy
- pencil
- walnut

1 - 3 p.m.

Playing with the Blues: Indigo Dye & Shibori Workshop. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. \$100/Member, \$110/Non-Member. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

2 p.m.

Flinn Reeves Lecture: Who's That Girl? Cindy Sherman and the Art of Identity. Berkley Theater - Greenwich Library, 101 West Putnam Ave. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/13840937

SUNDAY, FEB. 22**2 p.m.**

Experiences at the Bruce: Discussion with Barrett Klein, author of "The Insect Epiphany: How Our Six-Legged Allies Shape Human Culture." Bruce Museum. Free with admission. Registration is recommended. brucemuseum.org

THROUGH THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

"Rhythm and Colors" art exhibition. Les Beaux Arts Gallery, at Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm; Sun, 11am-12pm; closed Sat. 203-869-1091.

THROUGH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

"Bird Song" by Susan McHale Art Exhibit. Gertrude G. White Gallery - YWCA Greenwich, 259 East Putnam Ave. 203-869-6501. ywcagreenwich.org/events/january-and-february-art-is-in-residence-2

THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 1

'My Story, Our Future' Exhibition - South Asian American Youth Voices of Connecticut. Greenwich Historical Society Lobby. iccgreenwich.org/events

THROUGH TUESDAY, MARCH 3

"Performative Stories." Flinn Gallery - Greenwich Library, 101 West Putnam Avenue, 2nd Floor. 203-622-7947. flinngallery.org

SUNDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 12**8 - 11 a.m.**

Friends of Greenwich Point: Safe Roads Sundays program at Tod's Point kicks off. Traffic will be restricted to the main parking lots to allow for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, skaters & all outdoor enthusiasts. friendsofgreenwichpoint.org

THROUGH SATURDAY, APRIL 25

"POP Goes The World!" The Art of Bermano & Vinci. Greenwich Art + Design, 7 East Putnam Ave. GreenwichArtAndDesign.com

SATURDAYS, THROUGH MAY 2**9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Sam Bridge Winter Farmers' Market. Sam Bridge Nursery & Greenhouses, 437 North Street. sambridge.com/farmers-market

MONDAYS**7 - 8:30 p.m.**

Acting Technique with Sachi Parker MacLaine (Recommended for Ages 18+). Arch Street 2.0, 255 Field Point Rd. 203-629-5744. info@archstreet.org

2nd TUESDAY of the Month**6:30 p.m.**

Byram Veterans Association Bingo Nights. Association Hall, 300 Delavan Ave. Must be 18 years and older to play. Hot dogs & Chips for sale, cash bar & free dessert. 203-531-9846.

WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SUNDAYS**12 - 4 p.m.**

Greenwich Historical Society Guided Exhibition Tours - docents will be leading visitors through the Permanent Collections Gallery and Special Exhibitions Gallery. 47 Strickland Rd. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/event/guided-exhibition-tours-4

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.**

Behind the Scenes Archival Collections - Docent-led Tour. Greenwich Historical Society. Adults, \$15; Seniors/Students, \$10; Ages 6-18, \$10; Members/children under 5 & Active military/Blue Star, Free. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/book-a-tour

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:**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:**12 - 2 p.m.**

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

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

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. experienceataichi.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, Feb. 13****10 a.m.**

Reading and Rhythm with Orchestra Lumos. Marx Family Black Box Theater. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15717247

11:15 a.m.

Qi Gong. Online. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/16014751

1 p.m.

PrintLab: 3D Printing Studio. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org

3:30 p.m.

Introduction to Mahjong: 5-Week Series. Marx Family Black Box Theater. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15320639

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: "The Wedding Banquet." Berkley Theater. cgbibs@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, Feb. 14**9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

AARP Tax Help 2nd Floor Meeting Room. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15107765

10 a.m.

For the Love of Birds: Cos Cob Neighborhood Bird Watch. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

10:30 a.m.

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

11 a.m.

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

1 p.m.

Art Opening Reception: "Cosmic Collision" Harold Davis, Artist. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

Monday, Feb. 16**All Libraries Closed.****Tuesday, Feb. 17****10 a.m.**

Spanish Storytime. Cos Cob Library Community Room.

10 a.m.

Petite Concert. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

11 a.m.

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

1:15 p.m.

Baby Lapsit. Children's Constellation Room.

4 p.m.

Teens Teaching Teens: Engineering Fun! Children's Constellation Room.

5 p.m.

International Book Club (Zoom): Mona's Eyes by Thomas Schlesser.

7 p.m.

Take the Stage: Drama Work-

Foreign Affairs Book Group Community Room #5. Online. **Wednesday, Feb. 18**

10 a.m.

Early Walkers. Cos Cob Library Community Room.

10 a.m.

Movers & Shakers (Storytime Lottery). Children's Constellation Room.

10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Career Coach: File Explorer Byram Shubert Library Lot.

11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Baby Lapsit. Cos Cob Library Community Room.

12 p.m.

Brown Bag Book Club. Online.

1 p.m.

LaserLab: Design & Create. Innovation Lab.

3 p.m.

R.E.A.D. to a Dog. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

4 p.m.

Teen Advisory Board (Grades 7+). Teen Commons.

5 p.m.

Bookworms Book Club (Grades 2-3). Children's Constellation Room.

7 p.m.

Lynne and Richard Pasculano Signature Series: Walter Isaacson "We hold these truths..." Celebrating the 250th birthday of America. Berkley Theater.

Thursday, Feb. 19**10:30 a.m.**

Japanese Storytime. Cos Cob Library Community Room.

10 a.m.

PLAYdate! Marx Family Black Box Theater.

11 a.m.

Sensory Storytime (Storytime Lottery). Children's Constellation Room.

11 a.m.

Tech Help. Learning Lab.

12 p.m.

Audubon Book Club: Silent Spring. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

4 p.m.

Tai Chi Games for Kids & Family with Ken Dolan. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

5 p.m.

Jr. Book Club. Children's Constellation Room.

7 p.m.

Sun Kings: A Beatles Tribute. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

Friday, Feb. 20**10 a.m.**

Toddler Storytime. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

11:15 a.m.

Qi Gong. Online. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/16014755

3:30 p.m.

Introduction to Mahjong: 5-Week Series. Marx Family Black Box Theater. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15320639

7 p.m.

