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GREENWICH FORECAST

June 12-15, 2026

Friday, June 12
Very humid; late thunderstorm possible
High: 95°F | Low: 69°F

Saturday, June 13
Mostly sunny, very warm, less humid
High: 89°F | Low: 65°F

Sunday, June 14
Very warm with sun and some clouds
High: 86°F | Low: 64°F

Monday, June 15
Sunshine with clouds at times
High: 80°F | Low: 58°F

FRI – National Loving Day
High near 95°F, low around 69°F. Friday brings serious heat, heavy humidity and a late-afternoon thunderstorm risk, with storms capable of flooding downpours, hail and damaging wind gusts. The forecast calls for caution: keep errands early, carry water.

SAT – Family Health and Fitness Day & International Albinism Awareness Day
High near 89°F, low around 65°F. Saturday stays very warm, but the humidity eases and sunshine returns. Family Health and Fitness Day fits the forecast better than the day before.

SUN – Flag Day & World Blood Donor Day
High near 86°F, low around 64°F. Sunday brings very warm weather, with sunshine mixing with some clouds. The forecast gives Greenwich a workable outdoor day: warm enough for flags, porches and ballfields, but not as oppressive as Friday.

MON – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
High near 80°F, low around 58°F. Monday settles into a more moderate June pattern, with sun interrupted by clouds at times. The weather should be cooperative for visits, check-ins and community commitments.

TUES – Sea Turtle Day
High near 76°F, low around 60°F. Tuesday turns mostly cloudy, with rain possible. This day may ask for flexibility: keep the umbrella close, plan outdoor errands around the driest window.

WED – Eat Vegetables Day
High near 77°F, low around 58°F. Wednesday brings times of clouds and sun, with temperatures staying comfortable for mid-June.

News Brief

Other News

POLICE & FIRE
Police Car Show Supports Scholarships
The Greenwich Police Department Scholarship Fund held its 5th Annual Benefit Car Show on June 6 at Greenwich Town Hall to raise scholarship support for the children of Greenwich police officers. The event featured vintage, classic and specialty vehicles, with awards presented in categories including Best in Show, Chief's Trophy, People's Choice and more. [Please turn to page 14](#)

GREEN THOUGHTS
edited by
Anne W. Semmes
“Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you.” The late Frank Lloyd Wright, born June 8, 1867. He would say this to his students with his aim to design buildings that complemented - even seemed part of nature.



Polo players charge downfield during the Greenwich Polo Club's sold-out kickoff of its 45th season Sunday on Hurlingham Drive, where six Pro-Am teams competed before a large crowd. Photo by Bob Capazzo.

Greenwich Polo Club Kicks Off 2026 Season

BY LIZ LEAMY

Last Sunday was a glorious sunny June day as thousands gathered at the storied Greenwich Polo Club (GPC) on Hurlingham Drive for the memorable kickoff of its 45th season. This sold-out event was centered around a series of thrilling Pro-Am matches featuring six teams, Steel Polo/Over Under; Shalimar/Westman Atelier; Santa Cruz/Dracarys; Round Hill/La Promesa; Greenwich Sound/The Paddock EQ; and Amaro/DNA Polo in head-to-head contests. “This day has been so exciting,” said Jacqueline Smith Eley of Chesapeake, Virginia who was attending her first match at the Greenwich Polo Club with her daughter and Polo retailer, Crystal Eley. Eley’s pop up store, MaeHill luxury women’s golf apparel, was a hotspot at the event. “The agility and skill of the players and horses is amazing and I’m loving it and I’m also loving the camaraderie

among everybody here. It’s great.” Her daughter agreed. “The polo is incredible and this event has drawn an array of people from all around the world,” said Crystal Eley. “I’ve been having a great time. Everyone is so nice and everything is so well thought-out.” Adding to the drama of the matches was the lively activity taking place on the sidelines as the high-energy crowd cheered from the Greenwich Polo Club’s lawn and rows of tents on both sides of the massive field, as well as its iconic wooden grandstand. Throughout the afternoon, this high-energy contingent cheered for the competitors, both human and equine, who powered up and down the field with the expertise and acumen of true world-class athletes. “It was incredible to play out there today and the crowd was amazing. This is what polo is all about,” said Daniel Kahalani of Amaro/DNA Polo who was named the day’s Most Valuable Player (MVP) along with Chetan Krishna of

Santa Cruz/Dracarys. “Everyone works hard to be able to get a chance to play like this and to be able to play out here is thrilling. The field is amazing along with the history of the Greenwich Polo Club and to get an MVP award is like a dream.” In addition to the excitement of the matches, the event also featured an extensive lineup of retail and food truck vendors and non-profit organizations, including Rising Starr Horse Rescue based out of Wilton, Connecticut. “This is such a spectacular environment. You get to see world-class polo and connect with so many people,” said Alan Johnson who grew up in Greenwich and now lives in Brooklyn and whose band, Mojo, has been entertaining attendees of the Greenwich Polo Club for eight seasons running. “This is a great club and we are super grateful to Mr. Brant (Peter Brant, Founder of the Greenwich Polo Club) and everyone here for making this all happen.” For more information, please visit the GPC website at info@greenwichpoloclub.com

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES				
Address	Area	Price	Day/Time	
4 Putnam Hill #4H	Greenwich	\$985,000	Sun 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
38 Doral Farm Road	Stamford	\$1,195,000	Sun 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
26 Linwood Avenue	Riverside	\$2,425,000	Sat 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
26 Linwood Avenue	Riverside	\$2,425,000	Sun 1-3 PM	BHHS New England
195 S Water Street S.	Greenwich	\$10,000	Sun 12-2 PM	Coldwell Banker
38 Francis Lane	Greenwich	\$1,395,000	Sat 12-2 PM	Coldwell Banker
1188 King Street #108	Greenwich	\$5,500	Sat 1-4 PM	William Raveis

COLUMN

Use It Or Lose It!

* * *

Sustaining the institutions that really matter to us, individually and as a community, takes effort.

BY STUART ADELBERG

with little to no advance notice. The reaction from community members, is completely predictable and almost always the same – a mix of sadness and anger that something beloved, a treasured piece of the community, a cherished part of our collective past, is being taken away. We complain that this is information, to occur

Anna Jacobson Joyful Noise This Sunday

Greenwich residents looking for a spirited Sunday evening have a clear destination: Joyful Noise at Christ Church. This Sunday at 5:00pm, the church will host contemporary casual Eucharist worship with music by Anna Jacobson at 254 East Putnam Ave., followed by a reception. The service pairs worship, live music and community in an accessible setting for longtime parishioners, newcomers and neighbors who want an hour that feels welcoming, uplifting and shared. Joyful Noise is built for people to sing, listen, gather and reconnect.

Remembering Ruth Wilson

Ruth Pester Wilson, a beloved Greenwich educator who taught kindergarten and first grade at Cos Cob School for 28 years, died at 108 after a life closely tied to the town she helped shape. Wilson moved to Greenwich as a child, graduated from Greenwich High School, trained as a teacher and returned to Cos Cob School, where generations of families came to know her. First Selectman Fred Camillo, one of her former students, remembered her as an important figure to generations of Greenwich residents. He visited her often, especially on her birthday every year. Next week, the *Sentinel* will look back at Wilson’s long life, her classroom legacy, and the Greenwich she remembered across more than a century.

Medal of Honor

World War II’s Battle of Iwo Jima

BY ELIZABETH BARHYDT

Katie Lange’s Medal of Honor Monday profile for Pentagon News recounts the wartime service of Francis Junior Pierce, a Navy hospital corpsman whose actions on Iwo Jima placed him among America’s Medal of Honor recipients. Pierce, an Iowa farm boy who enlisted after Pearl Harbor, treated wounded Marines under intense fire, carried men to safety and continued fighting after he was wounded himself. The piece offers a concise account of courage, duty and sacrifice in one of the Marine Corps’ deadliest World War II campaigns, and it is worth reading as part of the Pentagon’s continuing Medal of Honor series.

[Please turn to page 4](#)

Honoring Veterans at America’s 250th

Medal of Honor

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[Please turn to page 4](#)



“Scotty” - perhaps the largest T-Rex dinosaur, found in Saskatchewan, Canada. Photo by Robert Harney.

Dr. Ksepka Introduces Creatures from the “Six Extinctions” on Exhibit at the Bruce

By Anne W. Semmes

Perhaps the largest T-Rex dinosaur in the world, called “Scotty,” has arrived from Australia to Greenwich in the Bruce Museum’s “Six Extinctions” exhibit which opened Sat. June 6. With its bones in crates coming from the Gondwana Studios with an accompanying team of three to put it together, all was overseen by paleontologist Dr. Daniel Ksepka, Curator of Science at the Bruce.

“We build a platform, put up an armature, and then insert the bones onto that,” told Ksepka who did “make sure no one puts the head on the wrong end.” He’d seen an exhibit where “the dinosaur’s arms were upside down.”

But this T-Rex dinosaur has “very reduced arms,” said Ksepka. “Most predatory dinosaurs have pretty large arms with three fingers. But this guy has two fingers left. So, they’re highly reduced... not doing much in terms of function.”

With its “Six Extinctions” title, the exhibit is divided into six sections, beginning with creatures from the oldest Ordovician extinction, some 400-plus million years ago, to the present Holocene or Anthropocene ongoing extinction.

To introduce these sections for museum goers, Ksepka describes a creature from each section. “You first go to the Ordovician Extinction, and back then everything was in the water. Imagine this 14-foot thing shoots by, pointed like a missile, but out the back are these tentacles.” He’s introducing the Endocerus. “This was an

ammonite...Basically, it looks like a squid in an ice cream cone made of shell... The closest thing we have today would be the nautilus. But it was the largest predator you would encounter at that time.”

“Then we move on land to the Devonian Extinction (375 million years ago). We start seeing primitive amphibians, armored fish the size of a school bus.”

Then comes the third Permian Extinction 252 million years ago. “There’s something my son Michael [age 9] loves, a Lystrosaurus, a Permian pig. It’s this weird, dumpy pig-like animal. It’s got little tusks...this kind of pudgy body. But in the Permian Extinction we get the worst thing that ever happened on earth, 95 to 99 percent of species were wiped out, but the Lystrosaurus survives. Because the ecosystem is opened up, they have a chance to prosper.”

So, there are “two sides to extinction.” “Things go extinct, but some animals survive... the dinosaurs get wiped out and the cretaceous mammals get to take over. And that’s why we’re here right now. If it wasn’t for that asteroid, we’d probably just be in our burrows.” That asteroid had brought “the worst mass extinction that ever happened.”

Next up was an Arthropleura, “a millipede that got to be a bit bigger than a surfboard. “This was a ridiculously fun creature. It too lived during the Permian Extinction period about 250 million years ago. It lived on land in North America and Europe, up to eight and a half feet long...it just crawled around eating decaying stuff in these ancient swamps.”

Add to those imported

creatures, the Tiktaalik, crafted by the Bruce’s exhibition preparator and artist Sean Murtha. “It’s an aquatic creature discovered in Greenland Ksepka described as “a missing link between fish and amphibians. It has four fins... crummy legs and its eyes are at the top of its head.”

Then we get to the Cretaceous Extinction of some 66 million years ago, and to “Scotty,” the T-Rex dinosaur. “When I was a kid they just had a number, now they all have names. And what’s cool is, he was actually discovered by a high school principal in Saskatchewan in Canada. So, it’s in the Royal Saskatchewan Museum.” Found in “iron rich sandstone, it took 20 years for them to fully remove it from the rock.”

“What’s great about these T-Rex animals,” told Ksepka, “is they’re individuals...They have a life history. So, this thing has a broken rib that’s healed up. At some point it got into a fight. It has a hole near the eye socket. It probably was bitten by another T-Rex... Sometimes you’ll find the bone that healed wrong... evidence of disease.”

“The T-Rex is a vertebrate, of course,” he said. “And what’s great about dinosaurs and many reptiles too, is when they grow - you know how a tree puts down rings each year - they basically do the same thing with their bones. So, you can take a toe

bone or a rib, cut it and count the rings and see how old it was when it died. The spacing will show you how it grew. So, you can say, did it have a growth spurt when it was a teenager? Did it have a harsh winter where it didn’t grow at all? Was it sick one year?... So, counting those rings can give you a little story of the animal.”

Ksepka is figuring this “Scotty” T-Rex was 25 years old. “If he was a paleontologist, he’d be in grad school and these T-Rexes generally died in their teens or 20s. They didn’t make it to be 100 years old.”

“Scotty’s not the oldest for sure,” he said, “but he had already reached that full size... They were laying eggs in their mid-teens...And they keep growing a little more.” But “Some animals keep growing forever like turtles - those turtles at Binney Park, they just grow a little bit more each year. They only really reach maximum size the day they die. So, birds and mammals tend to reach the size and stop, but reptiles keep going forever if you let them.”

But returning to those mammoth creatures on show at “Six Extinctions,” Ksepka told, “A lot of these creatures are big and gruesome and intimidating and that’s what brings people in.” But Ksepka is hoping, “People will come to see the T-Rex and then learn about all these other creatures

“What’s great about these T-Rex animals is they’re individuals...They have a life history.”
Dr. Daniel Ksepka.



Dr. Daniel Ksepka, Curator of Science at the Bruce Museum describing the upcoming “Six Extinctions” exhibit.

that are underappreciated, like the surfboard millipede and the Permian pig. These are amazing creatures that were wiped out by natural causes, volcanoes, ice ages, asteroid impacts, but right now equally beautiful creatures are being wiped out by humans.”

“Part of the message of this show,” he continued, “is that there’s an extinction happening right now and it’s of our own making.” The need now was

to “get our act together before more species join the Passenger Pigeon and the Great Auk... Most extinctions don’t happen because we’re trying to wipe out the species... It’s just that we’re destroying the rainforest, we’re changing the climate, we’re putting too much acidity in the ocean. So, most of these extinctions are a byproduct of what we’re doing to modify the land, not that we’re out to get the last Dodo.”

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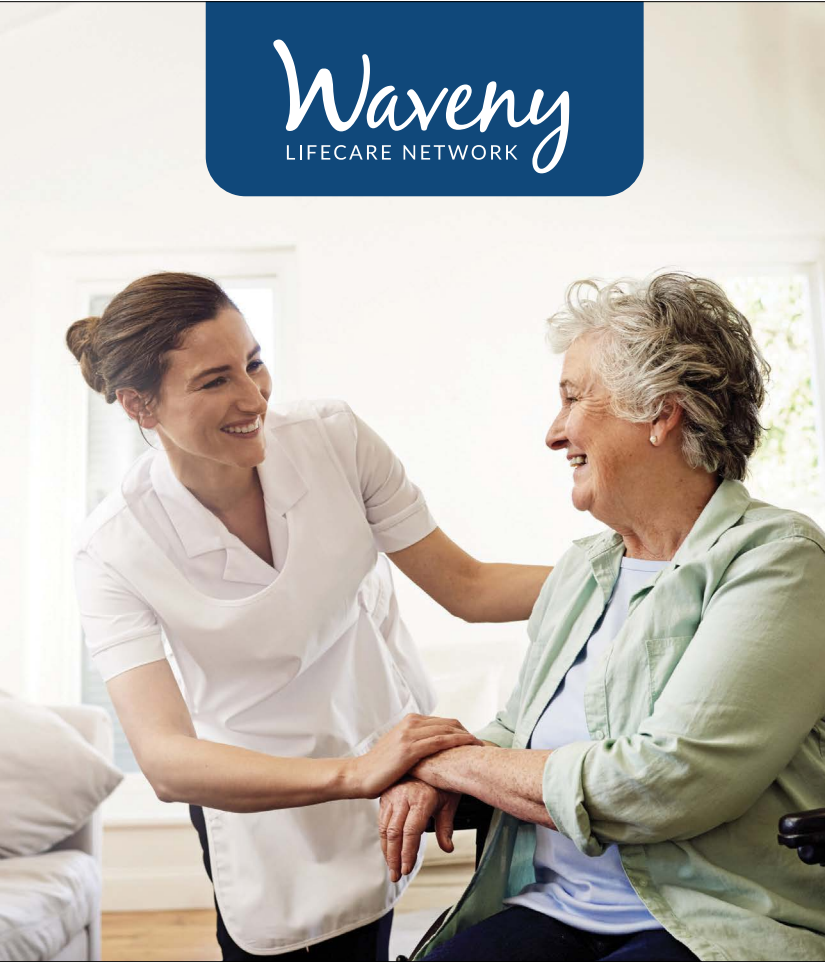


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GPD Scholarship Benefit Car Show: A Blue-Ribbon Winner

By Liz Leamy

Last Saturday turned out to be a balmy sunny June day in spite of rainy weather forecasts as hundreds of people convened at the Greenwich Town Hall lot to view the spectacular showcase of classic, custom and exotic cars on display in support of the Greenwich Police Department Scholarship Fund.

This popular annual event, that was free of charge to all visitors and ran from 10am to 2pm, was memorable on so many levels as virtually everyone there could be seen chatting, laughing and having a good time while walking around looking at the incredible lineup of cars and trucks, all of whose owners and handlers were there to provide information and insights in regard to them.

“This is a fantastic event and the fact that it supports the Greenwich Police Department’s Scholarship Fund is everything,” said Sam Romeo, longtime Greenwich resident and Chairman of Greenwich Communities

(formerly Greenwich Housing Authority), whose showstopping 1959 red and white Corvette drew lots of admirers. “The Greenwich Police Department puts this event together every year and we always like supporting it. People come from all over and you run into a lot of friends you haven’t seen in a while.”

Others agreed.

“This is a great event,” said Jill Oberlander of Greenwich who is running for the State Senate to represent the 36th District this fall. “It’s so interesting to look at all of the cars here and thank you to the Greenwich Police Department for putting this on and bringing the community out to support its Scholarship Fund.”

Along with the extensive showcase of automobiles, there was a 50/50 raffle in which half the proceedings went toward the GPD Scholarship Fund, lively classic rock and roll music from the 1950s and 1960s playing through loudspeakers and a variety food truck



Donnie Romeo’s 1966 blue Mustang that was part of the incredible showcase at the car show to help benefit the GPD Scholarship Fund held at Greenwich Town Hall last Saturday. (Photo by Liz Leamy)



Sam Romeo of Greenwich, Chairman of Greenwich Communities (formerly Greenwich Housing Authority) at the car show last Saturday at Greenwich Town Hall lot to benefit the GPD Scholarship Fund. His 1959 Corvette that he has owned for 38 years was a big hit with the crowd there. (Photo by Liz Leamy)



John Castellano and Jill Oberlander stand in front of a 1934 Ford Coupe at the car show to help benefit the GPD Scholarship Fund held last Saturday at the Greenwich Town Hall. (Photo by Liz Leamy)

vendors there to designate this event as a winner on all counts.

“This is something we look forward to and every year the turnout seems to

get bigger and bigger,” said Ken Schlosser, a Town of Greenwich employee who was there with his 1983 Chevy C10 pickup truck, another big hit with the

crowd. “It’s always great being part of this event. It’s for a great cause.”

Donnie Romeo, Town of Greenwich Constable, shared similar sentiments.

“This is such a nice event and we look forward to being part of it every year,” said Romeo, whose striking 1966 navy Ford Mustang drew many people. “Everybody here is having a good time and you see friends you get to spend time and catch up with, which is always nice. It is a day that represents Greenwich through and through.”

This year, the GPD is celebrating 130 years of service, with it having been first instituted in 1906, with the town having been monitored by private night watchmen years prior to that historic moment in time.

Today, the GPD, whose Chief of Police is James J. Heavey, is the seventh-largest municipal police department in Connecticut with 152 sworn officers serving a population of more than 63,000 residents covering an area of 67.2 square miles.

The GPD Scholarship Fund, which has been in existence since 1963, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that helps provide financial assistance for the undergraduate college studies of children of active-duty GPD officers.

Donations can be made here: <https://www.gpdscholarshipfund.org/>

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By Katie Lange: As the chaos of World War II's Battle of Iwo Jima unfolded, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Francis Junior Pierce refused to leave any wounded men behind. The hospital corpsman showed fearlessness throughout the turmoil. That valor led him to receive the Medal of Honor.

Pierce was born Dec. 7, 1924, in Earlville, Iowa, to Frank and Rose Pierce. He grew up on a farm and had a younger brother named Donald.

After completing training to be a hospital corpsman, Pierce served the early part of the war at various duty stations in the Carolinas. He rose to the rank of pharmacist's mate before being transferred in January 1944 to the newly activated 4th Marine Division in Camp Pendleton, California. Soon after, the unit was deployed to the Pacific.

For the rest of the year, Pierce's unit, the 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines, remained almost continuously in combat,

Their next stop – Iwo Jima, a tiny volcanic island that, if taken from the enemy, would put Allied aircraft in striking distance of the Japanese mainland. It became the bloodiest campaign of the war for the Marine Corps, a monthlong battle in which 27 men later received Medals of Honor for their heroics, including Pierce.

Four men stand or kneel above two men on stretchers, giving them aid. All are in a small concrete shelter not high enough to stand up in.

Pierce then stood out in the open and blasted his weapon toward the enemy to draw their fire, giving six other stretcher bearers a chance to reach cover. From there, he focused on the Marines who'd been injured before the latest chaos erupted.

As Pierce was attending to the profuse bleeding of one of the Marines, the victim was struck again by a bullet from an enemy hiding in a cave about 20 yards away. With no concern for his own safety, Pierce put himself in harm's way to draw out the attacker and kill him using the last of



President Harry S. Truman, center right, presents the Medal of Honor to three former servicemen during a White House ceremony, June 25, 1948. From left to right, the recipients are Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jackson Pharris, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Francis J. Pierce and Army Staff Sgt. John R. Crews.

Pierce's fearless actions inspired his entire battalion.

Now unarmed, Pierce lifted the wounded Marine onto his back before moving across 200 feet of open, bullet-strewn terrain to get him to safety. It was a harrowing trip, but Pierce pushed through his exhaustion — as well as warnings from his peers — to go back across the same fire-swept path to rescue the second Marine. That effort paid off, and they both reached safety.

Dozens of men stand on a small, desolate hill to salute an American flag that's been raised on a tall flagpole.

The next day, Pierce led a combat patrol to a sniper's nest. As he was attending to a stricken Marine, he was shot in the shoulder and suffered shrapnel injuries. Pierce refused aid for himself, though, instead directing others to continue attending to the

Pierce's fearless actions inspired his entire battalion. He was initially awarded a Silver Star and the Navy Cross, but they were later combined and replaced by the Medal of Honor.

Pierce received the nation's highest honor for valor on June 25, 1948, from President Harry S. Truman during a White House ceremony. The medal was also bestowed upon Army Staff Sgt. John R. Crews and Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jackson Charles Pharris that day.

A side from
Pierce, three other pharmacist's
mates were awarded the Medal
of Honor for their actions on
Iwo Jima: Navy Petty Officer 3rd
Class Jack Williams, Navy
Petty Officer 2nd Class George
Wahlen and Navy Petty Officer 1st
Class John Willis.

military uniforms stand together, with a man in business attire standing in the center, who places a medal around the neck of the man in the middle.

Pierce was discharged from the Navy in 1945 and worked for a short time as a logger back in his home state. Later that year, however, he moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, to finally meet Lorraine Decker, with whom he'd been corresponding throughout the war, according to the Grand Rapids Press newspaper. The pair married in August 1946 and had two sons.

Pierce went to work as an officer for the Grand Rapids Police Department, working his way up the ranks from beat patrolman to deputy chief by the time he retired in 1982. The Grand Rapids Press said among his many duties, he was the city's bomb disposal expert.

After Lorraine Pierce died in the 1970s, Pierce spent his remaining years with his second wife, Madelyn, before succumbing to lung cancer on Dec. 21, 1986, at age 62.

Pierce is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in Grand Rapids.

In 2003, toy maker Hasbro released a commemorative G.I. Joe figurine of Pierce. To date, he's the only hospital corpsman to be honored with his own action figure.

This article is part of a weekly series called "Medal of Honor Monday," in which we highlight one of the more than 3,500 Medal of Honor recipients who have received the U.S. military's highest medal for valor.

Source: U.S. Department of War. Republished from Department of War public-domain material.

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When School Stops: Helping Kids Find a Summer Rhythm



BY SHARI SHAPIRO

Before the school year fully slips away, I want to say something to a group of people who rarely hear it.

To the school counselors, the social workers, the guidance staff in every one of our schools, and to our own TeenTalk counselors in those buildings every day: thank you. Most of what you do can't easily be seen but it is felt. There's no record of the student you pulled aside before a bad morning became a bad week. No note home about the kid who ate lunch in your office because the cafeteria was too much that day. The work that matters most is usually the crisis that never happened, and a whole year of it just came to a close.

Which brings me to the thing I've been thinking about as the

buildings get quieter.

You can usually tell the rhythm of the year. There's a certain sound to a weekday morning, even a rushed one. A cartoon in the background, a daughter running downstairs hunting for a shoe, the bus you can hear two streets over. You've already been up the stairs twice to get your son out of bed and you're about to go a third time. You don't think of it as anything until you've done it 180 mornings straight, and then one day in June it's just gone.

School runs on that same rhythm, all day long. They know when to be up, what room to sit in, when lunch is. They don't think about it, they're just in it. And a kid who knows what the day holds doesn't have as much to worry about.

And then, in a single week in June, the rhythm stops.

And summer's supposed to be the good part. A lot of the time it is. But you know how it goes by July. The kid who's up too late and sleeping till noon, snappish at the breakfast that's now lunch, hanging around the house not quite knowing what to do with themselves. You find yourself wondering where that smiling

School runs on that same rhythm, all day long. Kids know when to be up, what room to sit in, and when lunch is. They don't think about it, they're just in it. And then, in a single week in June, the rhythm stops.

kid from May went.

Usually nothing happened. The rhythm broke, and nothing came in to take its place.

The good thing is you don't have to rebuild school at the kitchen table. You just have to give the summer a little rhythm of its own. A few anchors will carry you further than any schedule taped to the fridge.

Pick a time everybody in the house more or less gets up by, and hold it loosely. It doesn't need to be early. A kid who gets going around the same time each day will settle in better than one who doesn't. And eat a meal together whenever you can. You learn more about how a kid is really doing by passing the butter across the table than you ever will by asking how they're feeling.

Put one or two things on the calendar every week that

they can count on. Tuesdays at the pool, or pizza every Friday, anything they can look forward to. Kids will start asking on Wednesday if it's pool day yet, and that asking is the whole point.

And get the phone out of the bedroom at night if you can manage it. Nothing good happens on that thing at midnight, and a kid running on four hours of sleep is a different kid the next afternoon. You won't win it every time. Trust me, this one is worth the fight anyway.

You don't have to fix anything. You're not their counselor, and you don't need to be. You just have to be there, more or less the same every day. Kids can handle a lot when they know someone they love will be standing in the kitchen in the morning.

Some summers, a kid needs



more than a good routine, and you can feel it without having the first idea what to do about it. That's what we're here for. Kids In Crisis runs a helpline that's open around the clock, all summer, for exactly those moments when you can't tell if what you're seeing is an ordinary rough patch or something more. You don't need an emergency to call. You can reach us anytime at 203-661-1911, by phone or text, and our TeenTalk counselors don't disappear just because the buildings are quieter.

The counselors I started this letter thanking spend all year being that steady presence for our kids. Summer is just the season when the rest of us get to take a turn.

Shari L. Shapiro is the Executive Director of Kids In Crisis. KidsInCrisis.org: Their primary catchment area is Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Newtown, Norwalk, Ridgefield, Stamford, Weston, Westport, Wilton, and the Greater Bridgeport area, but Kids In Crisis services are available to anyone in Connecticut.

COLUMN

The Real Academic Edge

BY MICHAEL F. BABER

In communities like ours, conversations about education often center on outcomes: grades, college admissions, rankings, test scores, internships, and résumés. These things matter. They reflect hard work, discipline, and aspiration. But increasingly, I find myself wondering whether we are asking a deeper and more important question:

What actually gives a young person a lasting academic edge in today's world?

For many years, the answer seemed relatively straightforward. More rigor. More acceleration. More advanced coursework. More credentials earlier and earlier. Yet educators and parents alike are beginning to recognize that something essential can get lost when achievement becomes disconnected from personal formation.

The students who will flourish in the future will not simply be those who can memorize the most information. In an age when information is instantly accessible and artificial intelligence can summarize, generate, calculate, and synthesize at astonishing speed, the future belongs not merely to students who know things, but to those who can think deeply, discern wisely, communicate clearly, collaborate effectively, and lead ethically.

In other words, the true academic edge is becoming increasingly human.

We see this shift unfolding across higher education and the workplace alike. Colleges consistently speak about the importance of

resilience, intellectual curiosity, initiative, adaptability, and character. Employers regularly note that technical proficiency alone is insufficient. They are searching for people who can solve problems, navigate ambiguity, work with others, and exercise sound ethical judgment.

This raises an important challenge for schools and for families: How do we cultivate not only achievement, but wisdom? How do we prepare young people not simply to succeed, but to lead meaningful lives?

Part of the answer lies in rediscovering the relationship between intellectual growth and human formation.

Great schools do more than deliver content. They create cultures where curiosity is valued, where students learn to speak with confidence and listen with humility, where young people are challenged to wrestle with ideas rather than merely consume information. The strongest academic environments are often those where students feel known, supported, and encouraged to take intellectual risks, the ones that create lifelong learners.

This is especially important for young women. Research and experience continue to show the transformative effect that environments of high expectations and authentic encouragement can have on girls' confidence in leadership, public speaking, mathematics, science, and innovation. When students are consistently invited to lead, question, present, collaborate, and stretch beyond perceived limits, they often discover capacities

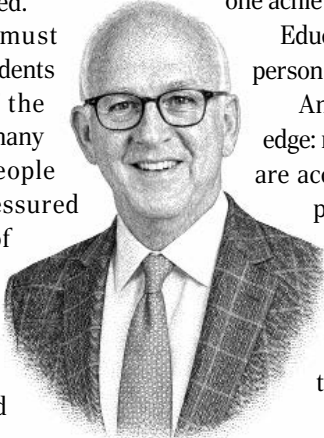
Education, at its best, forms the whole person.

they did not yet know they possessed.

At the same time, schools must resist the temptation to define students solely by performance. One of the great concerns voiced quietly by many parents today is that young people are increasingly exhausted, pressured to perform constantly, fearful of failure, and unsure whether their value exists apart from achievement. We should want more for our children than impressive transcripts accompanied by anxiety and fragility.

The healthiest academic cultures are rigorous and humane at the same time.

They cultivate excellence while also teaching balance, perspective, empathy, gratitude, and purpose. They create environments where students feel known, supported, and connected to one another through meaningful friendships and authentic relationships with teachers, mentors and peers. They remind students that character matters. That integrity matters. That how one achieves is just as important as what



one achieves.

Education, at its best, forms the whole person.

And perhaps that is the real academic edge: not simply producing students who are accomplished, but producing young people who are intellectually alive, morally grounded, resilient in adversity, generous in spirit, and prepared to contribute meaningfully to the world around them.

Those qualities may not always fit neatly into rankings or metrics. But in the long run, they are often the qualities that shape thoughtful leaders, strong communities, and lives well lived.

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

COLUMN

The Greatest Final Exam You Never Took

BY ADAM ROHDIE

Two weeks ago, I traveled into New York City by train and subway with our Global Economics class. Our destination was Hudson Yards and the corporate headquarters of L'Oréal.

For the last semester this year, the students in this class had been working toward a single goal: How could L'Oréal's luxury fragrance division connect with the Gen Z market in a more meaningful way?

What happened on the 57th floor in that corporate boardroom was nothing short of transformational.

Working in teams, our students presented

four completely original proposals grounded in extensive research, meaningful data analysis, consumer psychology, and untapped opportunities for the company. During the presentations, I found myself watching the division CEO and his chief of staff as much as I watched the students. More than once, I saw executives literally pick their jaws up off the table. More than once, I heard some version of: "We need to be doing this immediately."

What this experience proved is something educators have long known but too few schools fully embrace: applied learning is deep learning. Sticky learning. Lasting learning.

Some reading this may still wonder whether this type of class truly covers the foundational concepts expected in a Global Economics course. Others may question whether this kind of experience is genuinely "rigorous."

What made this the greatest final exam imaginable is that both criticisms miss the point entirely.

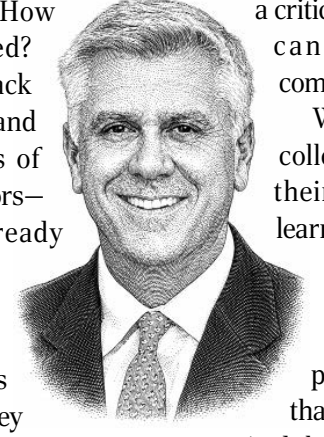
Every core concept that might have appeared in a traditional economics textbook was not simply memorized — it was wrestled with in a real-world setting. Supply and demand, market segmentation, consumer behavior, branding, globalization, data analysis, economic incentives — all of it became real because the students had to apply their knowledge to solving a real challenge and then present their findings to an authentic audience—not just parrot back concepts on a test. That is true "rigor"—providing students with the opportunity to think critically, to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize knowledge, and to apply that knowledge in new and unpredictable situations.

Imagine what school could become if more students experienced learning this way.

This approach engages students in deep and meaningful ways. How do we know they are engaged? Well, in addition to the feedback received from the executives and their teachers on the results of their efforts, this group of seniors—after regular classes had already ended for the year, closing in on graduation, and already accepted to college—eagerly and voluntarily returned to campus to perfect their presentation. They worked continuously, staying well into the night to prepare the best possible presentation. Their teachers actually had to tell them to stop working and go home.

That is rigor at its best—students so invested in their work that the adults have to tell them to stop.

This experience and so many others like it, have provided students with a narrative that differentiates them from their peers and which colleges and universities recognize and are excited about. These institutions are moving decisively in this direction as well. Visit almost any university campus today and ask to see its newest building, and chances are it will house some version of the College of Applied Economics, Applied Sciences, Applied Mathematics, or Applied Technology. For our students, this is no longer an emerging trend. It is simply how they learn. Universities recognize that when



knowledge and concepts 'stick', it provides a critical foundation to which students can apply more increasingly complex ideas.

When our students speak to college admissions officers about their work, they do not describe learning as something done to them. They speak about applying their ideas, solving real problems, collaborating with professionals, and creating work that matters beyond the classroom. And they speak with the unmistakable sparkle in their eyes that comes from genuine Interest and engagement.

As we approach the close of another school year, I invite you to think back to a final exam you once took in high school. Was it connected to the real world? Were you passionate about it? Did your teachers ever have to pull the reins back because you were simply too engaged?

Imagine what school could become if more students experienced learning this way. Imagine what might happen if more schools had the courage to move in this direction.

That is when learning truly begins to soar.

Adam C. Rohdie has been Greenwich Country Day School's Head of School for twenty-two years, and is also an Upper School history teacher and coach.

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The Melody Men Sing Broadway

By Bob Giaquinto

At the June 3rd meeting of the Retired Men's Association the association's chorus The Melody Men gave a euphoric performance to fellow RMA members and guests. The show consisted of 17 RMA members, namely emcee and music director Tom Healy, arranger and piano accompanist Bob Morgan, Charlie Adams, Michael Ambrosino, Gran Burgess, Tony Cocchi, Don Conway, Bob Curry, Anders Ekernas, Mike Hayden, Peter Junius, Doug MacLaury, Joe Mancinelli, Bill McKiegan, David Michonski, Bob Phillips and Horst Tebbe. The Melody Men have been singing since 1975 and this was their 14th one hour performance this spring. They will next appear at the America 250th Greenwich celebration at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park on June 28. The theme for today was 18 songs from Broadway musicals.

The first song was "There's No Business Like Show Business."

#2 was "76 Trombones."

#3 was "Getting to Know You" from the show "The King and I." This song featured a fantastic solo by Don Conway.

#4 was "Hello Dolly" featuring the singing duet and guitar playing of Tony Cocchi and Charlie Adams.

#5 was "Get Me to the Church on Time" featuring soloist Bob Curry.

#6 was "Cabaret" featuring the duet of Don Conway and Michael Ambrosino, the delicate, artistic dancing of Tom Healy plus Joe Mancinelli on tambourine.

#7 was "Standing on the Corner"

#8 was "Hey Look Me Over"

#9 was "Everything's Coming Up Roses." This was a solo by Tom Healy.

#10 was "They Call the Wind Maria," featuring the singing duet and guitar playing of Tony Cocchi and Charlie Adams, including Joe Mancinelli on tambourine.

#11 was "The Impossible Dream" from the show "Man

of La Mancha," featuring Joe Mancinelli

#12 was "Tomorrow (The Sun Will Come Out Tomorrow)" featuring Joe Mancinelli, from the show "Annie."

#13 was "If I Were a Rich Man" from the 1964 show "Fiddler on the Roof," featuring Tony Cocchi, hat and all.

#14 was "Put on a Happy Face" featuring Doug MacLaury and Joe Mancinelli.

#15 was "I Got Rhythm"

#16 was "Sweet Caroline" which was sung by the Melody Men and some of the audience, and of course, made famous by Neil Diamond

#17 was "There Is Nothing Like a Dame" from the 1949 show "South Pacific," featuring Don Conway, Bob Curry and Peter Junius.

#18 was "We Want to Be Happy" which included clapping by the Melody Men and the crowd.

At the show's conclusion, the Melody Men received loud applause from the appreciative crowd.

In my opinion, these 17 Melody Men entertained me for 60 minutes singing 18 wonderful and memorable songs from 18 classic Broadway musicals. I further recommend listening to the audio replay of their impressive performance.

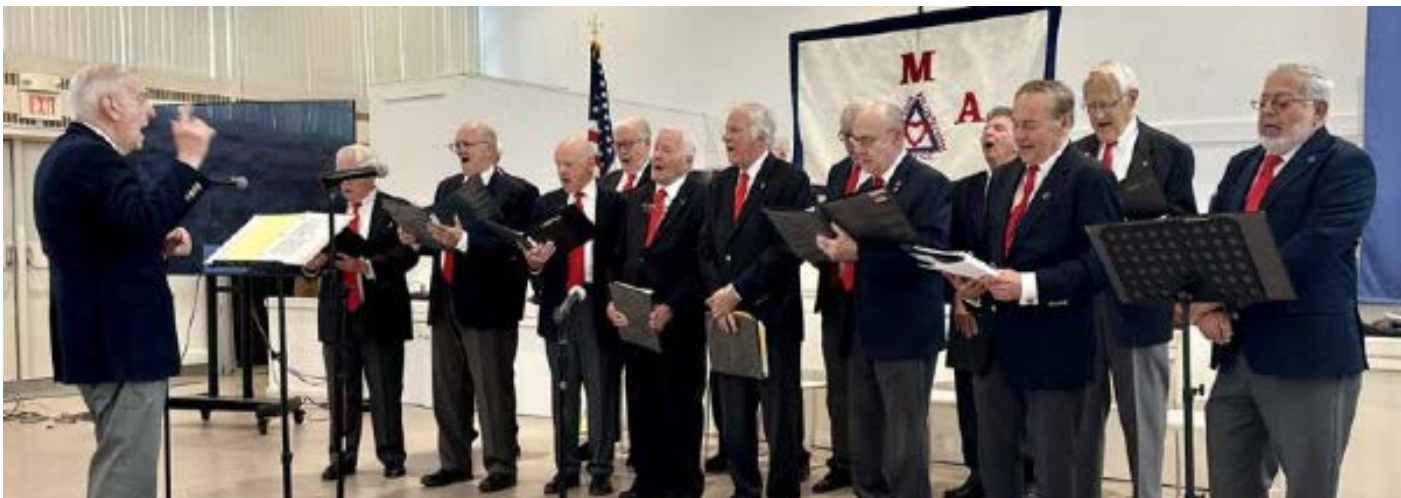
After the performance, music director Tom Healy showed gratitude to Peter Junius for his years of singing with the Melody Men. Peter is moving back to Chicago.

The performance can be viewed by going to the RMA website at <https://greenwichrma.org>, clicking on "Speakers," then "Past Speakers," and then "RMA Vimeo Library."

The RMA's next presentation, "Tell Me More About That": Solving the Empathy Crisis One Conversation at a Time," by Rob Volpe is scheduled for 11 AM on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. RMA presentations are held at Christ Church Greenwich, Parish Hall, 254 E. Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830.

We are living through an

“Things that Washington (as President) decided to do on his own set precedents for many years to come.”



The Melody Men

empathy crisis. You can feel it in the way political conversations end friendships, social media turns disagreement into contempt, and algorithms reward outrage over nuance. The result is a society that is more polarized, more reactive, and less able to see across differences than at any point in recent memory. We know empathy matters. We're just not very good at it. Yet the solution is something every one of us was born with the ability to use.

In this presentation Rob Volpe draws on real human interactions, documented during his years as a professional researcher. Empathy, it turns out, is a skill you can build. Showcasing vivid, real-life conversations from his book, Rob brings the Five Steps to Empathy to life in a way that is practical and deeply human — from a young woman with narcolepsy who upended every assumption, to a man in Indianapolis whose story of homelessness quietly changed how Rob moved through his own city.

This talk is not about being soft, or changing your beliefs. It is about being effective — as a colleague, a partner, a neighbor, or a leader. Because the most powerful thing you can say to



Adams & Cocchi

another person is also the simplest: Tell me more about that.

Rob Volpe is the Founder/CEO of Empathy Activist and the founder of insights and strategy firm, Ignite 360. Award-winning author of the book Tell Me More About That: Solving the Empathy Crisis One Conversation at a Time, Rob creates training, coaching and consulting programs that drive results for organizations through the

strategic use of empathy. In his bi-weekly newsletter Rob explores the intersection of human connection, empathy and current events. A regular contributor for Entrepreneur as well as lifestyle TV programs across the US, Rob frequently speaks on the topic at conferences, colleges, podcasts and with the media. He is a graduate of Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications and lives in

San Francisco.

To stream the presentation by Rob Volpe at 11 AM on Wednesday, June 17, click on <https://bit.ly/301Bj21>. 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.

Skin Disorders: From Commonplace to Critical

By George Bicher

At the May 27 meeting of the Retired Men's Association Spike Lipschutz introduced the speaker, Dr. Richard Connors, a well-known and highly respected dermatologist who has cared for patients in our communities, including many RMA members, for over 45 years.

Dr. Connors graduated from Weill Cornell Medical School, did his residency training at New York Hospital, and completed a dermatopathology fellowship at New York University. He served as Assistant Professor in the NYU Dermatology Department for 43 years, teaching dermatology fellows. He has a private practice in Greenwich and has been a member of the Greenwich Hospital Medical Staff for many years. The title of Dr. Connors presentation was "Skin Disorders: From the Commonplace to the Critical."

In what felt more like a community gathering than a medical seminar, Dr. Connors took his audience on a journey across the human landscape, from the itchy indignities of high school to the life-threatening precipices of the oncology ward. He spoke with the easy authority of a veteran who had witnessed dermatology evolve from an era of "smelly coal tar" into a high-tech frontier of immunotherapy. Yet, despite the breakthroughs, Dr. Connors remained a self-described

"neutral observer"—a solo practitioner in a world of corporate medical groups, still stunned by the \$2,500 price tag on a single tube of cream.

He began with the "commonplace," introducing his own "Therapeutic Success Index" to grade how well modern medicine can actually help a patient. On this one-to-three scale, he gave acne a triumphant "3," recalling his own teenage years plagued by high school breakouts that would have made him a candidate for Accutane had it existed then. He noted that while dermatology was once mocked as a field where "no one improves, but no one dies," immunology has redefined the stakes. He spoke of warts with less optimism, grading their treatment a "1," but found a critical success in the Gardasil 9 vaccine. He urged the audience to ensure that their grandchildren received the shot, citing the dramatic decrease in cancerous genital lesions among those vaccinated against the human papillomavirus.

The presentation moved into the environmental hazards of a Connecticut summer. Dr. Connors warned of the "leaves three, let it be" rule for poison ivy, explaining that the chemical urushiol—which he noted almost never degrades—can cause a rash even from a dead vine pulled in April. He shared a curious case of "lime juice" dermatitis, or phytophotodermatitis,

where furocoumarins in citrus or celery sensitize the skin to the sun, leading to "accentuated burns" for those who spray lime on a salad before lounging on a deck.

As the talk shifted to the "critical," Dr. Connors described the dormant chickenpox virus as a "brown bear in the winter," sleeping in the nerve centers before waking as shingles. He spoke with urgency about the Shingrix vaccine, noting that for seniors, the resulting pain can be a torment that lasts for years. He also touched on the dangers of the deer tick, though he was quick to mention that a tick must usually be attached for thirty-six hours to transmit Lyme disease. More devastating, he said, was Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, caused by the Rickettsia bacterium; he warned that if the resulting "purpuric" rash is not treated with doxycycline within five days, the prognosis can be grim.

In the latter half of his talk, Dr. Connors focused on the malignancies of the epidermis. He credited Dr. Frederick Mohs, a general surgeon at the University of Wisconsin, for developing the methodical shaving technique now known as Mohs surgery. To illustrate the precision of modern care, he introduced Dr. Kishwer Nehal, a former resident of his at New York University who now leads the dermatologic surgery department at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Nehal

uses surface microscopy to define the invisible borders of lentigo maligna, a challenge because the margins are often more extensive than they appear to the naked eye.

The most sobering moment for the local crowd came when Dr. Connors pulled out statistics from the Connecticut Tumor Registry. He revealed that Greenwich is a "melanoma capital," with an incidence rate that rivals or even exceeds Queensland, Australia. While the national average is roughly 22 cases per 100,000 people, Greenwich—with its fair-skinned population and a culture of boating at Tod's Point or Nantucket—frequently records between 46 and 61 cases annually. He even touched on Merkel cell carcinoma, a red nodule he described as "more serious than melanoma," typically found in fair-skinned senior men.

Dr. Connors did not shy away from the financial reality of these breakthroughs. He detailed the "waterboarding" process of insurance prior authorizations, where doctors are forced to try ineffective treatments before being allowed to prescribe what actually works. He pointed to new Janus kinase inhibitors like Opzelura, which costs \$2,500 for a small tube, and Rinvoq, which carries a staggering price tag of over \$21,000 for a three-month supply. He remained stunned that companies would charge so much for medications



Dr Richard Connors gave an informative overview of the state of the art in prevention and treatment of skin diseases.

Dr. Connors described the dormant chickenpox virus as a "brown bear in the winter," sleeping in the nerve centers before waking as shingles.

that can finally clear "once-intractable" inflammations. He encouraged the use of simple, wide-brimmed hats and mineral sunscreens like those from La Roche-Posay, warning that "wrinkle machines"—tanning beds—are the primary reason his generation is now "popping out" skin cancers decades after their last summer burn.

The presentation ended with an informative Q&A session.

The talk can be viewed by going to the RMA website at <https://greenwichrma.org>, clicking on "Speakers," then "Past Speakers," and then "RMA Vimeo Library."

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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.

The Medicine Cabinet That Flows Downstream



By RUSSELL R. BARKSDALE, JR.

By most measures, Connecticut is a state that takes pride in its waterways—its reservoirs, rivers, and coastal estuaries. Yet beneath that surface runs a quieter, largely invisible problem—the steady seep of pharmaceuticals into the very waterways we depend on. The solution, however, begins not at the water's edge, but in our own homes, with the simple act of disposing of unused medications appropriately.

Wastewater treatment plants were never designed for the 21st-century medicine cabinet. Their job is to remove solids, bacteria, and conventional pollutants. But today's waters carry a far more complex chemical signature—traces of antidepressants, antibiotics, pain relievers, and synthetic hormones. These compounds pass through treatment systems and are discharged into rivers, where they can linger and accumulate.

Connecticut, to its credit, has one of the nation's more rigorous water protection frameworks. Discharges are tightly regulated through permitting systems, and the state

is among a small number that prohibit wastewater releases into public drinking water supply watersheds. Industrial users must pre-treat waste, and enforcement actions often backed by federal law can carry steep penalties.

But here lies the disconnect: the legislative system is designed to stop illegal dumping, not the legal, everyday flow of pharmaceuticals. Most medications enter the water supply not from rogue actors, but from ordinary use—after passing through the human body or being flushed down a drain. These compounds are classified as “contaminants of emerging concern,” and, critically, there are no numeric regulatory limits for most of them. In effect, they are monitored but not meaningfully controlled.

A landmark study of the Quinnipiac River found a chemical fingerprint that reads like a pharmacy receipt—caffeine in nearly 90

When well-operated, Residential Care Homes can provide an attractive alternative to larger assisted living and nursing homes.

percent of samples, along with antibiotics, heart medications, and common pain relievers. Some drugs, such as acetaminophen, break down relatively well. Many others do not. Synthetic hormones, antibiotics, anticonvulsants, and cardiovascular drugs are chemically stable and pass through treatment largely intact.

Advanced technologies—ozonation, reverse osmosis, activated carbon—can remove far more, but they are expensive and not yet standard across municipal systems. For now, most treatment plants are simply not built to address this class of contaminants. Among these compounds, one stands apart—ethinyl estradiol, the synthetic estrogen used in oral contraceptives. Designed to act at extremely low doses, it does precisely that in the wild. In fish, it disrupts endocrine systems, leading to the feminization of males.

The consequences are stark—reduced fertility, impaired reproduction, and, in some cases, population collapse.

Regrettably, this is not theoretical. In parts of the northeastern United States, a majority of male smallmouth bass have been found to exhibit intersex characteristics. In a Canadian whole-lake experiment, exposure to estrogen levels comparable to those found downstream of treatment plants led to the near disappearance of a fish population within a few seasons.

Other pharmaceuticals bring different but equally troubling effects. Antidepressants can alter fish behavior, making them bolder and more vulnerable to predators. Antibiotics contribute to the spread of resistant bacteria. Common pain relievers can damage tissues and organs, while certain anticonvulsants persist in the environment for years.

To be clear, this is no evidence of Connecticut not enforcing its water laws. When violations are caught, penalties are significant. A recent Clean Water Act case tied to a fish kill resulted in roughly \$1 million in combined penalties and restoration costs. Other violations have led to

fines, probation, and mandated environmental remediation. These are serious consequences, and they can serve as a major deterrent if identified.

But they address only part of the problem. Pharmaceutical pollution is not, in most cases, illegal. It is diffuse, continuous, and largely unregulated at the point where it enters the system. We are, in effect, confronting a form of contamination that is both ubiquitous and permissible.

The unifying issue is not acute toxicity, but chronic exposure. What would be a negligible dose for a human becomes, over time, a steady biochemical pressure on aquatic ecosystems.

Taking Action Locally: Safe Disposal Programs

The larger solution will require systemic change—investment in next-generation treatment technologies, expanded monitoring, and a regulatory framework that catches up with modern chemistry. However, there are immediate, practical steps individuals can take to mitigate this issue. The most effective action is to stop flushing medications and instead use authorized drug take-back programs.

Local police departments in Connecticut have made this process straightforward, secure, and accessible. Both New Canaan and Greenwich offer year-round, 24/7 medication drop boxes that safely handle unused medications without allowing them to enter the wastewater system.

New Canaan Police Department

The New Canaan Police Department provides a secure medication drop box located directly in the lobby of the police station at 174 South Avenue. The program is entirely anonymous, with no personal information collected, and no questions asked. Residents can drop off over-the-counter medications, prescription drugs, medication samples, pet medications, and medicated lotions or ointments. Tablets, capsules, and patches are accepted, as well as liquid products, provided they remain sealed in their original containers

with tightly secured caps. The department ensures that all collected medications are safely incinerated, preventing them from contaminating soil or waterways. Please note that needles, sharps, hazardous waste, and thermometers are not accepted in the drop box.

Greenwich Police Department

Similarly, the Greenwich Police Department has been a pioneer in this effort, being one of the first departments in Connecticut to participate in the DEA's drug disposal bin program over a decade ago. Their prescription medicine collection box—a distinct green mailbox—is located underneath the walkway in the lobby of the Greenwich Public Safety building at 11 Bruce Place.

This un-manned operation is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, free of charge. Accepted items include over-the-counter and prescription medications, medication samples, pet medications, medicated lotions, vitamins, and nutritional supplements. Residents are advised to drop off medications in their original containers after removing any personal information. As with New Canaan, items like needles, aerosol cans, liquids, inhalers, and hazardous waste are strictly prohibited. The department emphasizes that medications should never be dumped down the toilet or sink, nor brought to the Holly Hill facility.

In addition to these permanent drop boxes, both departments regularly participate in the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, hosting community events to encourage the safe disposal of unneeded medications.

Connecticut's rivers have long carried the imprint of its history—from industry to conservation. Today, they also carry the chemical residue of human progress. We have built a system that is effective at stopping obvious pollution. The harder question is whether we are prepared to confront the pollution we all contribute to—quietly, legally, and every day. By utilizing local resources like the drop boxes in New Canaan and Greenwich, we can take a vital step toward protecting the waters that sustain us. It will take increased education and effort, but the solution is well within our reach.

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

More Options for Seniors with New Residential Care Homes Coming to our Area

By MIMI SANTRY, CSA

A physician-led group is embracing the concept of Residential Care Homes (RCHs) and will be opening a series of senior residences called The Sycamore Collection, Inc. It is intended that these homes will operate under strict safety and operating standards and be fully licensed by the CT Department of Health. The management team have appointed Maria Scaros, formerly the longtime leader of The Greens at Greenwich, to be their Executive Director. Maria will use her 30 years of experience to create a homelike environment for up to six residents, striving to provide them with exceptional care and a loving and supportive atmosphere. This will provide a nice alternative for families seeking care and housing for those with dementia. Their first home in Stamford is expected to open in early summer, and the second will welcome residents in the Fall 2026. The Sycamore Collection will be exclusively private pay and not accept government monies such as Medicaid.

Maria Scaros was kind enough to share her views on why Residential Care Homes such as The Sycamore Collection homes might offer an attractive alternative for seniors requiring care.

What are Residential Care Homes?

“Typically located in residential neighborhoods, these homes generally serve between four and ten residents in a more intimate, home-like setting. They provide meals, medication management, assistance with activities of daily living, and 24-hour supervision for seniors who may no longer be able to safely live independently. The smaller size can allow for more individualized care, greater caregiver consistency, and a quieter environment that may feel less institutional for residents.”

Why are do you think it's time for more Residential Care Homes in CT?

“The Northeast has traditionally depended on larger assisted living communities, memory care residences, and skilled nursing facilities to care for older adults. RCH have been relatively uncommon despite the region's aging population and increasing demand for senior housing and care options. In states such as California, Arizona, Nevada,



Maria Scaros, Executive Director of The Sycamore Collection, Inc.

When well-operated, Residential Care Homes can provide an attractive alternative to larger assisted living and nursing homes.

and parts of the South, these smaller residential settings have become a meaningful alternative to traditional assisted living communities. Nationally, residential care homes are far more common than many Connecticut families realize. Federal data estimates there are more than 30,000 residential care communities across the United States serving nearly one million residents. Yet Connecticut continues to have relatively few small congregate senior homes compared to many other states.”

Are these homes appropriate for seniors, especially those with dementia?

“Our Sycamore Collection homes have been carefully designed to support the safety of the residents. Each apartment will have a private ADA accessible bathroom. We are incorporating technology that is not traditionally seen at Residential Care Homes. By partnering with Foresite Healthcare, our homes will feature non-invasive fall detection, gait analysis, vital sign trending and AI health prediction.”



The homes, which can accommodate 6 residents, will be properly licensed by the State of CT Department of Health, and we plan to operate according to strict safety standards. We will be surveyed every three years yet responsible for monthly, quarterly and annual reports.

Where will The Sycamore Collection homes be situated?

“We are taking over two homes in Stamford that were previously used by an unlicensed operator and sadly did not have a great safety record. We are making significant changes to address safety issues. We are a completely different model and have no ties to the previous owner/operator. Our intent is to create a care model for other homes that can be duplicated throughout the region. The Sycamore Homes will provide a better alternative, not a compromise.”

Please explain who is on the management team of The Sycamore Collection?

“The Sycamore Collection homes are

family-owned and operated by a group of physicians including an emergency room physician, an oncologist, an orthopedic surgeon, a chiropractor and master's level educator. The operators are seasoned medical professionals who want to provide a safe and caring environment for seniors.”

Will you work full time and who will you have supporting you?

“I will be working full time, splitting my time between two houses in Stamford. The owners of the Sycamore Collection are very supportive and committed to creating the best alternative in dementia care. They are always available for support. I look forward to supervising operations, facilitating programs, teaching and being present in every way to residents, families and staff. We will be selecting our own staff that will be specially trained in dementia care. If ever we should require agency caregivers, they will be consistent and trained by our staff.”

Will you have a dedicated RN/LPN or Physician associated with your homes.

“We will have a dedicated visiting Nurse Practitioner and PA that will oversee Primary Care within the homes and will offer imaging (XR, US), lab testing on site as needed. They will also offer in-service education.

Visiting PT, OT, Speech. Psychology, Massage Therapy, Podiatry, Dentistry and Audiology will also be part of our consulting staff.

We will also offer access to visiting Neurology and dementia specific care for residents and families that are interested.”

You were well-known at The Greens for introducing art/music and drama therapy. Will you do the same at these new communities?

“ABSOLUTELY. The creative arts therapies are my passion. The way in which they engage and awaken the brain are well documented through research. We will also develop an internship program for master's level students.”

The readers of The Sentinel thank Maria Scaros for sharing this exciting news about the launch of The Sycamore Collection. When well-operated, Residential Care Homes can provide an attractive alternative to larger assisted living and nursing homes.



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Stuart Adelberg Column From Page 1

surely, “another example of the cruelty of time marching on bringing us all another step closer to a world that doesn’t honor the past.” I don’t mean to come across smug or make light of these words. The reasons for the closures vary and it is, in fact, sad to lose something that evokes memories of a happier time. But at the end of the day, a business or organization that is thriving financially and turning away customers is certainly less likely to be shuttered without any warning than a neglected facility or a business that looks like it has more employees than patrons.

So, before we mourn the loss of something we theoretically valued, we need to ask ourselves when we last visited that business, participated with that organization, or otherwise demonstrated our support.

We don’t owe a business our patronage and organizations, of course, need to repeatedly earn our continued support. But I find it almost amusing when someone tells me how upset they are to learn that a local restaurant or retail establishment has gone out of business only to find out that their memories of the place date

My point here is not to shame anyone or to blame any of us for the loss of our cherished businesses and organizations. It is simply a reminder that sustaining the institutions that really matter to us, individually and as a community, takes effort.

back to the days when they were struggling to find a parking space for their 1957 Chevy.

The same goes for local organizations. It is wonderful to have fond memories of the days when your children, who now have children of their own, once participated. It is understandable that we all move on as our families grow and our needs and desires change.

But the organization that you loved and supported when your children were little still needs and values that support even though your kids are now grown up just as that organization that helped your grandparents thrive in their final days, is now struggling to assist other people’s grandparents. None of us owe any of these organizations our support forever – but if

they have truly touched your life in a meaningful way, you do have it in your power to help them survive and thrive for the next generation. Choosing not to do so is certainly our right, but it does seem a little disingenuous to mourn the loss of a valuable program you have not helped support in decades.

My point here is not to shame anyone or to blame

any of us for the loss of our cherished businesses and organizations. It is simply a reminder that sustaining the institutions that really matter to us, individually and as a community, takes effort. When we are sad to learn that restaurants, retail stores, local theaters, or other organizations have been shuttered, it’s frankly too late for that sadness. If we value the institutions that define our community, and I know from our reactions to these closures that we do, then we have a responsibility to demonstrate those good feelings before they disappear with our patronage, our enthusiasm, our encouragement, and our continued generosity and support.

Greenwich Marks 10th Pride Celebration at Town Hall

Greenwich marked its 10th Pride celebration June 6 at Town Hall, including First Selectman Fred Camillo proclaiming June as Pride Month. Residents gathered for remarks, community tables, children’s activities and the raising of the Progress Pride flag.

The annual event connects the town’s Pride observance to the legacy of the Stonewall riots, which began June 28, 1969, after police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village, New York City. The raid led to six days of riots and protests by members of the city’s LGBTQ community and became a defining event in the gay liberation movement in the United States.

Pride Month grew out of marches commemorating the anniversary of Stonewall, first held in major cities across the country. The movement increased public visibility for LGBTQ Americans from 1970 through the Supreme Court’s 2015 decision in Obergefell v. Hodges, which legalized same-sex marriage nationwide.

In Greenwich, the June 6 event brought together political leaders from both parties, faith leaders and special guests. The program emphasized public recognition, religious belonging and community support.

The Rev. Dr. Maxwell Grant spoke about a friend who came out to him after trusting him as a safe confidant. Grant described the personal questions that can confront LGBTQ people as they assess whether they will be accepted by their families, communities and faith settings.

“Each day can make you wonder—and you know this well: is my community, is my family, is my own soul welcoming enough; safe enough; loving enough... for me to be the person that I am, as I am, in my own



Rev. Dr. Maxwell Grant. Photo by Steele Barhydt.

skin,” Grant said. Rabbi Jordie Gerson spoke about religious teaching and inclusion, saying, “...the Torah was not given to one kind of person...the stories, the ethics, and wisdom of our tradition were given to all of us.”

Jillian Celentano, a psychologist and author of *Transitioning Later in Life: A Personal Guide*, delivered the keynote address. Celentano recounted her personal journey and spoke about the need for communities to protect vulnerable members. She cited research from the nonprofit Trevor Project finding that if an LGBTQ youth knows one safe adult, the risk of that youth attempting suicide falls by more than 40 percent.

The formal program concluded with event organizer Allison Kahn and a group of local residents



Psychologist Jillian Celentano describes the motivations behind her book as Congressman Jim Himes looks on. Photo by Steele Barhydt.

raising the Progress Pride flag over Town Hall.

Before and after the ceremony, the grounds outside Town Hall became a community gathering. Attendees played games, sat on the grass and visited tables hosted by LGBTQ advocacy groups and local organizations.

Regional Youth Ministry, which seeks to create a safe worship space for LGBTQ youth, hosted one table. Its founder, Kayleigh Laicher, “believes that queer people help us see God in their wholeness here on earth” and spoke about the importance of young people hearing that “this youth pastor loves them” so they can feel accepted in their faith.

The Perrot Memorial Library hosted a table promoting children’s reading programs and events, including “Rainbow Tie-Dye for Pride Month,” a

June 23 program for children ages 7 to 12, where participants are invited to tie-dye a mini tote bag.

The Democratic Town Committee also hosted a table, offering bubble-makers and a newsletter sign-up list.

At least three tables offered Pride-themed stickers, including designs with cartoon sharks and dinosaurs carrying rainbow flags. Some tables served lemonade, and an ice-cream truck parked outside distributed free ice cream.

The June 6 celebration opened a month of Pride-related programming in Greenwich. Over the past decade, the town’s Pride observance has begun with a proclamation at Town Hall and continued through community events focused on LGBTQ residents, families and allies.



Please send obituaries, photos, and service information to Caroll@GreenwichSentinel.com
The Sentinel does not charge for obituaries.



FRANK HOFFMEISTER

Frank Hoffmeister, 82, of Grimes, Iowa died May 12 at Walnut Ridge Care Center in Clive.

He was born December 2, 1943 in the Bronx, NY and as a young boy had two loves: baseball and singing. He began his extensive singing career as a professional boy soprano soloist at Christ Church in Greenwich, CT. where he lived after his parents moved from the Bronx. He graduated from Greenwich High School. Although his love for baseball would continue only as a treasured sport and as adult player on various amateur teams, and an avid Boston Red Sox fan, music would become his destiny.

He received his B.S. in Music Education from Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY; his M.M. in Vocal Performance from New England Conservatory of Music in Boston; and he completed Advanced Study at the London Opera Centre in London, England. He met Soprano Joyce Andrews in New York City and they married in 1979, making New York City their home.

Frank enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a Professional Tenor and sang and performed in all 50 states in the U.S. He performed in South America four times as well as in many European countries. With 21 recordings to his credit (including Waverly Consort, Boston Camerata, New York Vocal Arts, Bach Ensemble with Joshua Rifkin), Frank also recorded numerous solo CDs. Highlights of his career included singing and recording with Leonard Bernstein and the Boston Symphony Orchestra and performing as soloist with many orchestras, chamber ensembles and choral ensembles. These included: Newport Music Festival, New York Chamber Ensemble, New York Chamber Soloists, Baltimore Symphony, Portland Oregon Symphony, Portland Maine Symphony, Rome Italy Radio Orchestra, Vermont Symphony, Chicago Symphony Hall, Carnegie Recital Hall, New Hampshire Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Ensemble, Opera Company of Boston, and The American Opera Company.

Frank was sought after throughout his career as a Tenor Soloist for the beauty of his sound and his consummate musicianship. Frank joined the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Music Faculty in 1987 where he taught voice and opera for 24 years. Previously he taught voice at the University of Southern Maine and Harvard University. While at UW Oshkosh Frank received grants to research the songs of Charles Villiers Stanford at the British Library in London, resulting in his published Vocal Anthology. He also researched the vocal music of Benjamin Britten at the Red House Library in Aldeburgh, England which had been the home of renowned musicians Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears.

Frank, Joyce and Alice lived in England during his two sabbaticals and made life long friends there. Throughout their many years as husband and wife, Frank and Joyce performed together in countless professional venues and taught together at UW Oshkosh as Full Professors in Music. Here Frank passed on his esteemed musical experiences to many young singers. After their retirements from the university, he and Joyce relocated to Des Moines, Iowa to be near their daughter Alice, her husband David, and their twins Eva and Milo. Frank dearly loved his entire family and his grandchildren were the joy of his life. Frank and Joyce continued their love of travel throughout Europe, Mexico, Hawaii, the Caribbean, and the U.S. Frank often considered he was fortunate to have been married to Joyce as she was his duet partner, colleague, travel agent and support throughout their life together for almost 48 years.

Frank leaves behind his wife, Joyce, his daughter Alice (Fuglsang) and son-in-law David Fuglsang and their children Eva and Milo of Urbandale; his brother Malcolm, sister-in-law Joyce, and sons Jason and Christian with their families in Connecticut. Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Mildred Hoffmeister.

Memorials may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research and the American Parkinson Disease Association. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.



ROSEMARIE FOREST

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Rosemarie “Rosie” Forest, on May 8. Rosie was born on Sept. 12, 1952, in Greenwich, where she was raised, and spent her life caring for the community she loved so deeply.

Rosie dedicated her entire career to nursing, a profession that perfectly reflected her compassionate, selfless spirit. She spent her life caring for others and was still doing what she loved until the time of her passing. She provided comfort, compassion, and love for her patients at Nathaniel Witherell in Greenwich for over 30 years. Her kindness, warmth, and unwavering dedication touched countless patients, families, friends, and colleagues throughout her many years of service.

Outside of work, Rosie had a deep love for travel, needlepoint and the beach. She explored destinations in many countries, though she often said her favorite place was the Greek Isles, whose beauty brought her immense joy. Closer to home, she cherished time spent at Tod's Point, where she was often one of the first people there in the early morning hours, enjoying the quiet tranquility of the beach.

Rosie was predeceased by her parents, Walter “Tom” Forest and Rose Scott Forest. She also endured tremendous losses in the past year with the passing of her beloved sisters, Dede Forest, and Margaret “Penny” Sirbono.

She is survived by her brother, Walter Forest, sister-in-law Pat Forest; her brother-in-law, James “Bud” Sirbono; and her cherished nieces, Tracey Sirbono, Leighann Latham (her husband Mark), Kristen Smigelski (her husband Frank), and Dineen Forest. She also survived by and deeply loved her great-nieces and great-nephews – Ryan, Avery, Brett, Matt, Alexia, Ella, and Dylan all of whom brought endless happiness to her life. Also cherishing her memory is her lifelong friend of more than 60 years, Richard Schinto, whose friendship and companionship meant so much to her throughout her life.



LOUIS LACAGNINA

Louis Lacagnina died peacefully on May 5 after a battle with cancer. He was born in Greenwich on July 18, 1944 to Louis and Prudence(Gifford) Lacagnina.

Lou was a graduate of St Mary's High School where he was a standout football player. After graduating he proudly served in the US Navy aboard the USS Enterprise, traveling throughout the world. He then became a commercial electrician, contributing to many local projects.

An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, fishing and boating and held a Captains License.

He is survived by his sister Nancy (John) Ziac; his daughter Jen Dawson, grandsons Aidan and Dylan; his son James (Jo), grandsons Nick (Emily) and Josh (Ryann) and nephews and cousins. He is also survived by his partner of over 25 years, Frann Ward along with her sons Tug(Megan) and David (Jennifer) and her grandchildren who he considered his own.

Following his wishes, services are private.



MELISSA STEIDL

Melissa Williams Cooper Steidl was a beloved spouse, mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, aunt and friend.

Born on Sept. 15, 1961, she grew up in Greenwich, CT, where she enjoyed figure skating and swimming. At Greenwich High School, she played viola in the orchestra and was captain of the color guard in the marching band.

After graduating from The University of Vermont, she led a career that reflected her superlative ability to make order of chaos, including assisting a celebrated Madison Avenue Advertising executive, managing a recording studio, and founding her own bookkeeping business, which she managed for two decades.

She married Karl Steidl in 1988, and they raised a daughter, Lindsay, and a son, Kurt, in Ridgefield, CT, where they lived for 25 years, always active in school, church, and community committee work. Ever devoted to supporting her children's interests, she traveled many thousands of miles to horse shows and basketball games around the country.

After both children married and started families of their own, Melissa and Karl moved to North Carolina, where Melissa continued her longtime membership in the P.E.O sisterhood and became a Paul Harris Fellow in the local Rotary Club.

Obituaries

Throughout her life she was an enthusiastic world traveler; Russia, South America, the British Isles, the Mediterranean, Scandinavia and most all of Europe were among the many places she explored.

She is survived by Karl Steidl, her husband of 38 years, Lindsay Beadon (Christopher), Kurt Steidl (Niki), grandchildren Ella Beadon and Daphne Steidl, and siblings Thea Cooper and Jeffrey Cooper. She will be dearly missed.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, June 10 at 10:00 AM at The Ridgebury Congregational Church, 605 Ridgebury Road, Ridgefield, CT, with reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to P.E.O. International or Rotary International.



ROBERT LEIBROCK

Robert Edward Leibrock, age 69, of Sharon, CT, passed away on May 1. He was the loving father of Robert W. Leibrock, Holly Leibrock, Heather Emberlin, and Cole Leibrock.

Bob was born August 12, 1956, the son of the late William and Virginia (Mead) Leibrock. He graduated from Greenwich High School and spent his career as an arborist with the Town of Greenwich. He also ran his own business, B&B Tree, and was continually involved in a variety of real estate endeavors. Family was central to Bob's life, and when his children were young, he made time to coach their sports teams and be a constant presence in their lives.

After moving from Greenwich to Sharon in 1999, Bob proudly established Cobblestone Farm, a family farm with cows, horses, goats, chickens, pigs, and various other animals. Known to his grandchildren as "Pa", he found great joy in sharing farm life with them, including endless tractor rides.

Bob maintained a lifelong connection to northern Maine, where he began traveling as a child to the family's hunting cabin, Camp Leibrock. Over the years, it became a place of comfort, tradition, and enduring friendships. He spent countless days there hunting, fishing, and enjoying time with family, and took pride in refurbishing an old dairy farm. Bob also loved introducing friends from Glenville to the area, sharing with them a place that meant so much to him.

He is survived by his sons, Robert (Lorinn) and Cole (Carly); daughters, Holly (George) and Heather (Jason); nine grandchildren: Mackenzie and Hadley Casey, Weston Leibrock, Ella and Faye Emberlin, Emmerson, Beckett, Thatcher, and Kinley Leibrock; his brother, Doug; nephew, Martin; and son-in-law, Ethan Casey. He is also survived by his former wife, Shirley Hoffkins, with whom he shared many years, raising their four children. He was predeceased by his brothers, William and Martin; and his sister, Linda.

Calling hours were held at the Kenny Funeral Home, in Sharon, CT, on May 11. A graveside service and burial were held at Greenwood Union Cemetery, Rye, NY, on May 12. A celebration of life followed the burial ceremony at George Seafood & Steakhouse, Greenwich. Memorial contributions may be made to The Corner Food Pantry, 80 Sharon Rd. North East, Lakeville, CT 06039.



ALLEGRA DI BONAVENTURA

Allegra di Bonaventura passed away on April 29, in New Haven, CT. She was 62. A true New Englander - raised in Greenwich, CT - Allegra was deeply connected to her family and friends, to Yale, and to New Haven, her home for more than 30 years.

Those who knew her admired her incisive mind, gleeful humor, and unfailing kindness. She had a rare gift for finding common ground and helping people through difficulty with intelligence, goodwill, integrity, and imagination.

Allegra began her career studying language, culture, and history in Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. At a remarkably young age, she earned master's-level academic credentials from the University of Mainz, the Sorbonne, and the London School of Economics. Later, while raising two young children, she received a PhD in History with distinction from Yale and a JD from Yale Law School.

Allegra became a remarkable writer, historian, and polyglot. Her book For Adam's Sake received the New England Historical Association's James P. Hanlan Book Award and was named one of The Wall Street Journal's best books of 2013.

In her roles as dean at Yale Law School and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Allegra brought together wide-ranging knowledge, deep compassion, and respect for tradition. She

became an effective advocate for Yale students and colleagues, an unflinching editor, and a rock-solid moral guide. You wanted Allegra in your corner; she never hesitated to do what was right. Over her many years at Yale, she inspired and supported lawyers, scientists, and scholars in their personal and professional journeys.

Allegra's family cherished her unconditional love and loyalty, her strength and perspective, and the effervescent joy she brought to ordinary days. Her husband and children will miss a devoted wife and mother with a lively sense of humor, an eye for style, and a gift for telling vivid, true stories. Allegra brightened the present and brought the past to life.

She is survived by her husband, James Rosenbluth; her children, Andrew, and Alessandra Hogan; her stepchildren, Benjamin, John, and William Rosenbluth; and her siblings, Lorenzo and Laura di Bonaventura.



ALICE BATES
APRIL 22, 1930 – APRIL 25, 2026

Alice Haines Bates passed away peacefully in her home on April 25 with family members close by. She and her beloved late husband Barstow Bates were residents of Old Greenwich for more than 50 years along with their children: Devon Beckett; Polly Duff; Rowland Bates; Thomas Bates and adopted son Hoa Tran all growing up on Hendrie Drive.

Alice was a proud graduate of Connecticut College, class of 1951 as well as receiving a Master's degree from the University of Bridgeport. Besides raising four children, Alice was a teacher in the Greenwich School system for some 20 years working at Eastern, Western and Greenwich High School, specializing in Reading. For the past 23 years she lived at Ashlar Village in Wallingford, CT where she hosted a weekly reading group for anyone interested to visit, while she read books and articles on any suggested topic or title. This was one of her greatest joys during retirement, to continue to bring printed words to life for those whose eyesight was failing.

A woman of many talents, Alice was an accomplished painter in oils and watercolors. She specialized in waterfront landscapes, mostly depicting her lifetime of summers on Nantucket and her artist-travels to the American west; France; Greece and other far-off places. She and Bart would regularly attend Connecticut sidewalk and park art festivals to show her work, but often she would simply give a piece to friends who admired a painting. She felt blessed to be able to spread the beauty of the world to others through her brushstrokes. Alice was a fierce protector of the lands that she loved to paint, and a devoted participant of the Sierra Club, the Nantucket Conservation Foundation and native American tribal communities.

Alice joins Bart, her husband of 65 years, and their daughter Polly Duff who passed suddenly in August 2025. She leaves behind: their daughter Devon Lane Beckett and spouse Bill Beckett; sons Thomas Phelps Bates and spouse Martha Avery Bates; Rowland Bates and spouse Elizabeth Mays; and their adopted son Hoa Thai Tran and spouse Jeff Nebenzahl. In addition, many grandchildren: Sarah Bates Keerthi and spouse Bahu Vijayakeerthi; Emily Corbiere Bates; Charles Duff and spouse Sonia Duff; Patrick Duff; Christopher Bates and spouse Julie Nickerson Bates; Trevor Ferry-Bates and spouse Miquel Ferry-Bates; and Graham Bates and significant other Lauren Waibel. Great grandchildren include: Madison Rodriguez; Charlotte and Carson Duff; Sidarth Bates Keerthi; and Theodore Bates.

A celebration of life will be hosted by her family at Ashlar Village in Wallingford on July 11, 2026 at 11 AM. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to the Native Land Conservancy, Inc. in Mashpee, Massachusetts; the Native American Heritage Association in Front Royal, Virginia; or the Nantucket Conservation Foundation on Nantucket, Massachusetts.



GERALD HOBBY

Gerald John Hobby, lifelong Greenwich resident, passed away peacefully on April 18 at Greenwich Hospital, at the age of 81, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on January 7, 1945, in Greenwich, to the late Frederick L. and Margaret DeLeo Hobby. Gerald was a graduate of J.M. Wright Technical School in Stamford, CT. He went on to be the Department Head of Carpentry at J.M Wright



By DIANA SANDERSON

Have you ever “enjoyed” an opportunity to build a piece of IKEA furniture? I realize that some of our *Sentinel* readers may not exactly be familiar with this experience, so let me paint a picture of the process for you.

When I moved to Europe for my work with students, I packed only 4 bags and a few boxes. My new apartment came without furniture, but everyone knows that IKEA is king when it comes to furnishing a small European flat on a budget! You walk through the warehouse-size maze, looking at long lines of sofas, wardrobe closets, kitchen tables and more. After choosing items to create a nice living room, you hit up the inventory section where there are rows upon rows of brown boxes, which eventually get delivered to your home.

There is a specific dread that strikes when multiple flat-pack cardboard boxes arrive on the doorstep. They each contain 47 pieces of particle board, a plastic bag filled with 300 identical-looking silver pegs, and an instruction manual of a cartoon man looking vaguely smug while holding a wrench.

My default setting of hyper-

independence is to look at that box and think, “I can do this alone. I am a capable adult.” Three hours later, I am sitting on the living room floor, surrounded by upside-down cushions, wondering if I can use a shoe as a hammer.

Why do we do this to ourselves?

We live in a culture that treats needing help like a minor flaw. We’ve turned “self-made” into a badge of honor. I’ll let you in on what I’ve learned by moving abroad: stubbornly refusing assistance isn’t a virtue. In fact, it robs me—and everyone around me—of a brilliant, slightly chaotic joy.

The Underappreciated Art of Being a Good Receiver

We talk a lot about the joy of giving, but what about the joy of receiving? There is a profound relief in just throwing your hands up and saying, “I’ve gone about as far as I can go on my own, I need some help from someone who has done this before.”

When we finally cave and accept help, the relief is almost intoxicating. Accepting help forces us into the present moment, usually resulting in a shared experience over trying to solve a problem together. It is the ultimate bonding experience.

But it’s not just a relief for you. By allowing someone to help, you are actually handing them an incredible gift.

What’s in it for Them? (Spoiler: A Lot)

When we let people into our problems, we give them the “Helper’s High.” It’s a literal biological phenomenon. Helping others releases endorphins and oxytocin. By refusing help, you are keeping all the

We Are All Pieces of the Same Puzzle
COLUMN

Did you find yourself nodding along to this week's column?

feel-good brain chemicals to yourself. Don’t be an oxytocin hoarder. We also show them validation. Asking for someone’s expertise says, “I respect your skills and I trust you with my vulnerability.” And ultimately, it can be a Cure for Isolation. In a world where we mostly interact through polished social media, being asked to solve a real, tangible problem for a friend creates a fast-track bond that an hour of small talk never could.

If you need a higher authority on this, look no further than the Bible. We often think of Jesus as the ultimate provider—healing the sick, feeding the thousands, turning water into premium vintage. But Jesus was also an absolute master at the art of accepting help.

He didn’t stride through first-century Judea completely self-sufficient. He relied on a group of women (like Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna) to financially support his ministry out of their own pockets (Luke 8:3). When he was tired, he sat by a well and asked a Samaritan woman—a total stranger from a group his culture despised—for a drink of water (John 4).

And perhaps most poignantly, on the way to the crucifixion, when the physical weight of the cross was too much for him to bear, he didn’t miraculously levitate

it. A man named Simon of Cyrene was pulled from the crowd to carry it for him (Mark 15:21).

If the Creator of the universe can look at another human being and say, “I need you,” then surely you can ask for backup when life gets heavy. Or when the instructions are in Swedish, as in my new living room furniture.

So, there I was, in a new city where I don’t speak the language and have few friends, sitting on the floor of my apartment, among the pieces of a half-built sectional sofa. I had never stepped foot in an IKEA before, but now I had about 10 boxes full of parts and pieces. My colleague called and insisted on sending over her husband, Dominik, who spoke no English, to help. At first, I was hesitant, but she reassured me that they had mastered their own IKEA living room before. Sure enough, through Google-Translate and a little bit of charades, we managed to build 4 pieces of furniture for my living room—which became the weekly homebase for many students who visited between classes throughout the years. It also solidified a fun friendship with my colleagues as we experienced the hilarious situation together and still talk about even today.

What started out as a need to help build my living room furniture, continues

now as a decade-long friendship of exchanging help in numerous ways. From advice about youth ministry, to language lessons, and even assisting financially on an urgent house project for their family, I have felt the joy of receiving and giving help in their lives.

Independence is overrated. Interdependence is where the fun is. And if you happen to have a half-built Swedish sectional sofa currently mocking you from the corner of your room, pick up your phone. Your next great friendship might just be one “Help me?” text away.

Did you find yourself nodding along to this week’s column? What’s the hardest piece of furniture you’ve ever tried to build alone—and who saved you from it?

Diana Sanderson is a Connecticut-based leader of Young Life’s Central and Eastern Europe regional team. Through Young Life Europe, she helps support Christian opportunities for young people, leaders, families, churches and volunteers across countries including Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland and Romania. Her column for the Sentinel offers readers a perspective on faith, service, youth ministry that connects us to communities the communities she serves in Europe.

LETTER

As faith leaders here in Greenwich, we want write about why Pride matters —not only to the LGBTQIA+ community, but to all of us. At its heart, Pride is a celebration of human dignity, courage, and love: love that refuses to be hidden, diminished, or shamed; love that reveals something holy about the breadth and beauty of God’s creation.

In this week’s Torah portion, Be’ha’alotecha, Moses’ brother and sister, Miriam and Aaron, famously speak against their brother “because of the Cushite woman whom he had married.”

This moment is notable for several reasons. It is the first recorded instance of gossip in the Torah. It is also a critique of an interfaith marriage, since Tziporah is not an Israelite. But perhaps most importantly, it reminds us how quickly religious communities can turn another person’s love into an object of suspicion, commentary, or control. Again and again, communities have taken someone else’s love and made it subject to public judgment.

This is the dark side of religious life: judgment, self-righteousness, intolerance, cruelty, policing, and social control.

But it is not the whole story. Not long before this incident, in the opening lines of Be’ha’alotecha, we read about Aaron lighting the lamps of the menorah in the Tabernacle at the center of the camp. But Aaron does not simply light the lamps. The Hebrew verb is multivalent: he lifts them up. He raises them up. He brings light forward so that it can be seen.

Why Pride Matters to Us All

In other words, the same tradition that knows how easily communities can shame and police also gives us a different model: lift people up. Bring them into the light. Let God, and the community, see them fully.

Last week, Christian churches celebrated Pentecost, known informally as “the birthday of the Church.” At its heart, Pentecost is about the miracle of understanding, when people of many cultures suddenly heard themselves addressed by Jesus’ disciples in their own particular languages. It is the vision of anew world with welcome and unity at its center.

But Pentecost is also a story of courage. The disciples, who had been hiding in an upper room in the face of danger and oppression, step out into public. They leave the place of fear and begin to live out loud.

Keeping these stories from our two traditions in mind, we, as Jewish and Christian clergy, celebrate the spirit of Pride with the LGBTQIA+ community here in Greenwich.

We do so with joy. And we do so with grief. We grieve that faith communities have so often failed our queer siblings —through outright hostility and exclusion, and through the quieter failure to embrace them wholly, with genuine welcome and delight.

And we affirm that there is a more faithful response. That response is to embrace the light and resist the darkness. It is

Our faith traditions both remind us, over and over again, of our responsibility to lift each other up. To love each other without judgment.

to work for justice, insist on love, and celebrate the courage of people stepping out of closets and into the fullness of their own sacred selves.

Our faith traditions both remind us, over and over again, of our responsibility to lift each other up. To love each other without judgment. And each June, Pride gives us an occasion to celebrate the beautiful tapestry of family structures, gender expressions, identities, and communities that love makes possible.

God bless Pride.

Rabbi Jordie Gerson, Greenwich Reform Synagogue & Rev. Dr. Maxwell Grant, Second Congregational Church



By RABBI MITCH

Rev. James Lemler (Rector of Christ Church 2007 – 2017) and I used to participate in a weekly local radio show sponsored by the *Greenwich Sentinel* on WGCH.

Each week, we would discuss religious topics, sharing both our common ground and our differences.

During one show, a caller asked us, “Why do we pray?”

Rev. Lemler answered first, then succinctly stated that there are two common types of prayer: “asking God for help” and “offering God gratitude.”

He offered an example and shared the shortest prayer in the Bible.

Moses prays to God on behalf of his sister Miriam: "God, please heal her; please."

Normally, I responded smoothly after the Reverend

spoke. However, this time, I hesitated.

The Reverend turned to me somewhat in surprise, and then asked: "Don't I agree with him?"

I gave a thoroughly rabbinic answer: "Yes; No; Maybe!"

Often, we pray and expect God to listen, care about what we articulate, and act on our behalf.

At other times, we sense only Divine silence and feel our prayers are self-reflective.

Consider, for example, an episode from the Book of Exodus.

Pharaoh initially freed the Israelites, but soon changed his mind, sending soldiers after our spiritual ancestors as we fled.

When the Israelites were caught between the Egyptian soldiers and the Reed Sea, Moses fell on his face and pleaded to God to save the Jewish People.

God says to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Speak unto the Children of Israel that they may go forward."

In essence, God was telling Moses and the Israelites that this moment called for action, not prayer.

God told the Israelites to “move forward,” and at best, we can infer that God will be right behind them.

Classical Midrash teaches that Moses internalized this lesson, so when his sister later fell ill, he offered a short five-word prayer because his time was better spent staying by Miriam’s sickbed, providing as much physical, mental, and spiritual support as he was able.

The rabbinic tradition teaches a core principle: God best helps those who help themselves.

I recall first encountering this idea as a sixth grader.

I was struggling with a specific lesson in math, went to bed the night before a big test, and prayed to God for Divine help to earn an acceptable grade.

When I got my test back, I was horrified by a C+.

When I came home, I dreaded showing the grade to my mother z'l, and even more concerned that she would then share it with my father z'l.

I told my mom that I had prayed to God and asked for God’s help.

“Why didn’t God listen to me?”

My mother first asked me, “Why do you think God didn’t hear your prayer?”

I thought the answer was obvious - I had received a bad

that donations be made in Gerald's memory to St.

Jude Children's Research Hospital.



LINDA PAGANO

Linda Ann Pagano, a longtime resident of Greenwich, CT, passed away on Thursday, April 9, at the age of 78.

Born on January 4, 1948, in Jersey City, New Jersey, she was the daughter of Paul and Mary Imbergamo. Linda dedicated many years to early childhood education, serving as a preschool teacher and administrator at First Presbyterian Church and First Church Preschool in Greenwich.

Linda found great joy in cooking and baking for her family, friends, and neighbors, and she took pride in tending to her garden. She will be remembered for her warmth and the care she showed to those around her.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 58 years, Louis Pagano Jr.; her loving children, Anthony Pagano and his wife Christine, and Michele Pagano; and her siblings, Daniel Imbergamo and Nanci Tychinski. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother, Michael Imbergamo.

An informal celebration of life will be held on Sunday, May 17 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Cox & Graziano, 134 Hamilton Avenue, Greenwich, CT. To honor Linda and her compassionate nature, donations may be made to Neighbor to Neighbor in Greenwich or SilverSource in Stamford, CT.

The Sentinel does not charge for obituaries. Every member of the community deserves to be remembered and honored without families facing added financial burdens. Obituaries may be sent to Caroll@GreenwichSentinel.com.

The cost of publishing obituaries is covered by The Sentinel Foundation, a nonprofit that supports the local Top 5 Things to Do Today daily email, obituaries, education and entertainment pages, worship pages, and sponsorship of charitable organizations and events.

OBITUARIES

From Page 10

Technical School for over twenty years. He was the proud builder of many houses throughout the Greenwich and Darien area.

Gerald is survived by his wife of 63 years, Barbara; daughters, Mary Lynn and Jill (Michael); granddaughter, Thea; siblings, Sally Hobby Owen, Frederick L. Hobby, Jr., Josephine Hobby Koellmer, and Margaret Hobby Koellmer; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a brother, William H. Hobby; and sister Margaret "Peggy" Hobby Drenckhahn.

Gerald is a descendant of the Hobby family, the founders of Greenwich, CT. He enjoyed history and played golf in his spare time.

A service to celebrate Gerald's life will be held on May 16, 2026, 11:00 a.m. at St. Roch's Church in Greenwich. In lieu of flowers, the family requests

More Than a Coastline: How the Sound Shapes Us

By PAIGE JACKSON

When people picture Connecticut, they often envision sailboats, historic coastal towns, and waterfront communities. At the center of that image is the Long Island Sound, the estuary that stretches along Connecticut's southern border and has influenced the state's development for centuries. In Fairfield County, the Sound serves as far more than a scenic backdrop—it is a driver of the local economy, a moderator of climate, and a defining feature of the region's culture and identity.

Long before Fairfield County became known for its beaches and waterfront homes, the Sound served as a transportation corridor and economic lifeline. Connecticut's coastal communities developed around harbors that connected them to regional trade networks throughout New England and New York. Maritime industries, such as shipbuilding, fishing, and commerce, helped shape many of the shoreline towns that remain central today. While modern activity has shifted toward tourism, recreation, and residential development, the Sound's role as a driver of growth has remained remarkably consistent over time.

According to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), more than 3.6 million people live within the Connecticut side of the Long Island Sound watershed. The estuary connects communities across Connecticut and New York while supporting industries, recreation, transportation, and wildlife habitats that are critical to the region.

The Sound's economic impact is substantial. Connecticut's tourism industry generated approximately \$19.5 billion in economic activity in 2024, according to the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. Recreation associated with the Long Island Sound—including boating, fishing, swimming, and tourism—accounts for billions of dollars annually. In Fairfield County, coastal attractions draw visitors from throughout the Northeast, particularly from nearby metropolitan areas such as New York City.

Local businesses have developed around this connection to the water.

Marinas, sailing schools, charter fishing operations, waterfront restaurants, and beach facilities contribute to a coastal economy that supports thousands of jobs. Destinations such as Jennings Beach in Fairfield, Sherwood Island State Park in Westport, and Greenwich's waterfront districts attract residents and visitors seeking access to the shoreline. Community organizations like yacht clubs also play a significant role in local culture, fostering recreational opportunities and strengthening ties between residents and the Sound.

Beyond economics, the Sound influences everyday life through its effect on the regional climate. Large bodies of water heat and cool more slowly than land, allowing the Sound to moderate temperatures along the Connecticut coast. As a result, coastal communities often experience cooler summers and milder winters than inland areas. This maritime influence contributes to the comfortable climate that has long made Fairfield County an attractive place to live and visit.

The influence of the Long Island Sound is also visible in the county's built environment. Coastal Connecticut architecture differs from that of many other American shorelines, reflecting both New England traditions and the practical demands of living near the water. Here, homes often feature cedar-shingle exteriors, large windows, elevated foundations, and designs intended to maximize natural light and waterfront views while withstanding coastal weather conditions.

Unlike the brightly colored beach houses common along parts of the Southeast, Connecticut's coastal communities are characterized by historic town centers, maritime heritage, and residential neighborhoods that blend with the natural landscape. Many waterfront homes draw inspiration from Colonial, Cape Cod, and Shingle Style architecture, connecting modern coastal living to the region's centuries-old history.

This architectural identity contributes to the character that attracts residents and visitors alike. The shoreline's visual appeal is not defined solely by beaches and harbors, but also by communities that have evolved alongside the Sound while

More than 3.6 million people live within the Connecticut side of the Long Island Sound watershed.



maintaining a distinctly New England sense of place.

The Sound also supports a diverse ecosystem. Salt marshes, tidal wetlands, shellfish beds, and coastal habitats provide breeding and feeding grounds for numerous species of fish, birds, and marine life. Environmental scientists consider these habitats essential not only for biodiversity

but also for protecting shorelines from erosion and storm impacts. Healthy wetlands can absorb floodwaters, improve water quality, and increase resilience against extreme weather events.

However, the benefits of living along the coast come with challenges. Coastal communities face increasing risks from flooding, storm surge, and

sea-level rise. Nor'easters and tropical storms have repeatedly demonstrated the vulnerability of Connecticut's shoreline infrastructure. Rising insurance costs, property damage, and investments in flood mitigation have become growing concerns for homeowners, businesses, and municipal governments throughout Fairfield County.

In response, environmental organizations, government agencies, and local communities have invested in conservation and restoration efforts. Save the Sound, founded in 1972, has become one of the region's leading environmental advocacy groups, conducting water-quality monitoring, habitat restoration, and policy initiatives aimed at protecting the estuary. Organizations such as The Nature Conservancy and SoundWaters also work to preserve coastal ecosystems and educate the public about the importance of environmental stewardship.

The Long Island Sound is one of the largest estuaries in the United States and was designated an Estuary of National Significance by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1987. The designation recognizes the Sound's ecological importance and supports collaborative efforts among federal, state, and local partners to improve water quality and protect coastal habitats.

Protecting the Sound ultimately depends not only on government preservation and charitable organizations, but also on public engagement and support. For the residents of this beloved area, the most direct steps are to donate and write to your state representatives to support and encourage their legislative initiatives, but you can also take steps in your day-to-day life. Next time you spend the day at the beach, bring a trash bag to pick up nearby clutter. Consider shopping mindfully, reusing packaging, minimizing waste, or volunteering for charity events, such as Save the Sound's Coastal Cleanup, which just took place in May. Most importantly, remember, even small actions are still progress. To broaden your understanding, consider further learning with Sound Waters' educational programs and on-the-water experiences. Individual and collective stewardship stays an important role in preserving the Sound for generations to come.

The Technology Driving Care at The Witherell

By DEBRA McLAUGHLIN

At The Nathaniel Witherell, exceptional care does not happen by chance. It is built with intention, discipline, and expertise through the work of professionals who ensure that every nurse, therapist, and clinician is fully equipped to deliver at the highest level.

Zachary Cecere, Technology Projects and Operations Administrator, is one of those professionals. His work is not always visible to seniors and veterans who call The Nathaniel Witherell home and families, yet it is essential to every moment of care delivered inside the building.

Technology as a Clinical Advantage

At The Nathaniel Witherell, information technology functions as a core component of clinical care.

Cecere oversees systems that provide the care team with immediate, accurate, and comprehensive access to each individual's medical history. The facility's Electronic Medical Records system serves as the operational backbone, enabling staff to document, review, and act on critical information in real time. This level of precision ensures that care decisions are informed, coordinated, and responsive. The result is a standard of care that is proactive and continually advancing.

The Systems Families Do Not See but Depend On

Care at The Nathaniel Witherell is grounded in human connection, but it is supported by a sophisticated technological infrastructure.

Cecere and his team maintain a secure, HIPAA-



Zachary Cecere, Technology Projects and Operations Administrator

compliant wireless network that enables modern care delivery across the building. They are responsible for more than 400 devices, including computers, servers, and networking equipment, all of which must operate reliably at all times. Access to full medical history instantly by the care team, reduces risk, and strengthens every clinical decision.

Protecting What Matters Most

In healthcare, safeguarding individuals' information is a critical responsibility.

Cecere ensures that The Witherell meets the highest standards of data security and compliance. Sensitive information is protected through advanced encryption. Access is strictly limited to only the resources needed for an employee's specific job function. Systems are

continuously backed up to provide redundancy and ensure uninterrupted availability for care teams. This approach not only meets regulatory requirements but also reinforces the trust families place in The Nathaniel Witherell to protect both the health and privacy of their loved ones.

Advancing Care Through Innovation

Technology at The Nathaniel Witherell continues to evolve with purpose.

The expansion of telehealth and early detection technologies is transforming the health of seniors at The Nathaniel Witherell. These tools bring medical specialists directly into the building, reducing the physical strain and disruption associated with external transport. The impact is significant. Health concerns can be identified earlier,

At The Nathaniel Witherell, information technology functions as a core component of clinical care.

interventions can happen faster, and hospital readmissions can be reduced. Most importantly, people cared for at the facility are able to remain in the comfort, stability, and familiarity of the place they call home.

An Essential Extension of Care

For Cecere, the goal is clear. Technology must support care in a way that is seamless,

reliable, and intuitive.

Every system is designed to allow clinicians to focus their time where it matters most, with individuals receiving care at The Nathaniel Witherell. In a skilled nursing environment, this balance is essential to maintaining both clinical excellence and meaningful human connection. The Greenwich community should recognize that behind

every moment of care at The Nathaniel Witherell is a strong and deliberate infrastructure that makes it possible. Zachary Cecere leads that effort. Through his work, technology becomes a direct extension of the care, dignity, and stability that define life at The Nathaniel Witherell.

To learn more about The Nathaniel Witherell visit <https://www.thenathanielwitherell.org>.

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NEWS BRIEFS

From Page 1

Choice, Best Engine, Best Exterior and Best Interior. The fund provides financial assistance to eligible children of Greenwich police officers pursuing undergraduate studies. Photo credit: Greenwich Police Department



Greenwich Police Investigate School Swatting Reports

Greenwich police responded this week to two separate swatting incidents at public schools in town. Both reports were investigated and determined to be unfounded. No credible threat or public danger has been identified.

Greenwich Emergency Crews Restore Power

Greenwich emergency crews responded after severe storms caused more than 80 fire-related calls and left more than 2,000 customers without power, including Town Hall. Reported incidents included downed trees, downed and burning wires, transformer fires, generator issues, carbon monoxide alarms, stalled elevators and fire alarm activations. A separate Stamford incident later caused outages affecting nearly all of Greenwich, while town departments and Eversource continued cleanup, repairs and power restoration.

FROM TOWN HALL

DPW Food Drive Supports Families



The Greenwich Department of Public Works supported Neighbor to Neighbor’s Fill-A-Truck food drive during May. The effort collected 170 pounds of food in person and 793 pounds through virtual donations, totaling nearly 1,000 pounds for local families in need. Photo credit: Town of Greenwich

Town Hall Salutes U.S. Army

A flag-raising ceremony marking the anniversary of the founding of the United States Army will be held outside Town Hall on Sunday, June 14, at 10 a.m. The event, organized by American Legion Post 29, will recognize current and former members of the Armed Services and their families. Similar ceremonies are planned throughout the year to mark the founding anniversaries of other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Greenwich Reimagines Arch Street Future

The Arch Street Task Force will hold the first of two public hearings on June 15 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room on potential future uses for the town-owned building at 100 Arch St., formerly home to the Arch Street Teen Center. The discussion will cover possible reuse of the vacant building, its connection to Roger Sherman Baldwin Park and the waterfront, and prior park design concepts. The hearing will also be available on Zoom.

AROUND TOWN

North Street Bridge Work Advances

North Street has been closed since June 8 for the North Street Bridge Replacement Project and is scheduled to remain closed through Aug. 28, 2026. An official detour is in place, and drivers should allow extra travel time and follow posted signage. The schedule is weather dependent and subject to change.

Glenville Safety Project Nears Completion

The Glenville Corridor Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Project, covering about 1,500 feet from Glen Ridge Road/Glenville Street to Weaver Street, is nearing completion after years of planning, delays and funding challenges. The project includes upgraded traffic signals, new sidewalks, intersection improvements, paving, re-striping and pedestrian safety changes, with an overnight road closure scheduled from June 21 to June 25 between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. Parking directly in front of Glenville Pizza has been removed and replaced with an extended curb, grass area and sidewalk, while parallel parking remains available just west of the restaurant.

Goddard School Plans Greenwich Preschool

The Goddard School has submitted a pre-application request to the Greenwich Planning & Zoning Commission to convert the former Acme Supermarket at 160 West Putnam Ave. into a preschool and daycare facility. The proposal includes enrollment for up to 216 children, about 40 staff members, a 6,000-square-foot playground, approximately 32 on-site parking spaces and about 50 additional spaces across the street at 132 West Putnam Ave. A separate proposal for the former Acme overflow parking lot calls for a four-story, nine-unit apartment building with egress through 49 Brookside Drive.

Fairfield Road Culvert Project Advances

The Greenwich Department of Public Works held a public information meeting June 11 on the Fairfield Road Culvert Replacement Project, which would replace the culvert carrying Fairfield Road over the East Branch of Brothers Brook. The structure received a poor condition rating after its most recent inspection, and the project is more than 60 percent through design as the town coordinates utilities and seeks funding through the Connecticut Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program. Pending full grant approval, construction is expected in spring 2027.

Greenwich Train Station Elevator Reopens

The elevator inside Greenwich Train Station has reopened for public use following completion of a required state inspection. The inspection process was handled at the state level and was outside the control of the Town of Greenwich and The Ashforth Company, which owns the station and is overseeing the station construction project.

LOCAL BUSINESSES & NON PROFITS

Sound Beach Band Welcomes Musicians

The Sound Beach Community Band is seeking concert band musicians for its 2026 performance season. Founded in 1955, the Greenwich-based ensemble includes instrumentalists from middle school students accepted by audition to active and retired professional musicians, with weekly rehearsals running from June 9 through Aug. 25 under Music Director Zachary Kampler. Scheduled

performances include concerts and ceremonies June 28 at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park, July 2, July 26 and Aug. 30 at Binney Park, July 4 at Greenwich Town Hall, Sept. 11 at Cos Cob Park and Dec. 5 in Old Greenwich; membership information is available at soundbeachband.org or by emailing join@soundbeachband.org.

Toby’s Tavern Series Opens Strong

Greenwich Historical Society launched Thursdays at Toby’s Tavern on June 11 with a concert by the Florian Shantz Jazz Combo on the Great Lawn. The twice-monthly evening series will include lectures, concerts, exhibitions, and after-hours access to the Historical Society’s campus. The next program, “Paris, Capital of Fashion,” a lecture by Valerie Steele, is scheduled for June 18, with additional programs planned through July and August.

Greenwich Blood Drive Supports Community

A blood drive will be held Saturday, June 13, from 8 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at YWCA Greenwich. Donors of all blood types are needed, and appointments are recommended online or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS and using the code FPCG. Donors will receive a \$15 e-gift card and be entered for a chance to win one of two \$7,500 gift cards.

Grant Expands Food Rescue Efforts

Food Rescue US–Fairfield County received a \$100,000 grant from Impact Fairfield County on Tuesday at Greenwich Town Hall to expand its food rescue operations, including in Greenwich. The organization redistributes nearly 3.8 million pounds of surplus food each year through a network serving close to 200 human service agencies across the region. The grant will support expanded staffing as food insecurity in the area has risen 11 percent over the past two years.

Garden Club Celebrates Historic Hops

The Riverside Garden Club scheduled an Open Garden Day at Putnam Cottage, also known as Knapp’s Tavern, for June 7, with a rain date of June 14, in recognition of the nation’s 250th anniversary. The event included tours of the restored Colonial Herb Garden, where hops plants were found, and light refreshments. Two Roads Brewing Company of Stratford brewed ale using hops grown in the garden, with parking available at Putnam Cottage and across the street at Christ Church.

Garden Conservancy Plans Greenwich Headquarters

The Garden Conservancy will relocate its headquarters from Garrison, New York, to Greenwich, beginning with a move in July 2026 to 4 Greenwich Office Park. The nonprofit said the new office will provide 25 percent more space than its Garrison headquarters, which it has occupied since 2012 and which is being sold by its owners. Sleepy Cat Farm, a 13-acre private residence, garden, and working organic farm in Greenwich, is expected to become the organization’s permanent headquarters over the next decade or longer.

Abilis Expands Stamford Therapy Center

Abilis has moved The Therapy Center at Abilis to The Cohen Abilis Advancement Center at 78 Harvard Avenue in Stamford, expanding its space for physical, occupational and speech therapy services. The center serves infants, children and adults with developmental disabilities, physical and emotional needs, and developmental, motor or speech delays, including children enrolled in Connecticut’s Birth to Three program. Abilis is one of 11 state-designated providers qualified to diagnose autism and provide intensive treatment services for children with autism spectrum disorder.

PEOPLE IN TOWN

Alliance Française Honors Caroline Dolan

The Alliance Française of Greenwich presented its annual college scholarship to Greenwich High School graduating senior Caroline Dolan during the school’s 2026 World Language Award Ceremony on May 26. The scholarship is awarded to a senior recognized for achievement in French language studies and interest in Francophone cultures. The ceremony honored students across world language programs for academic performance and continued language study.

Greenwich Honors Wastewater Leader Feminella



The Town of Greenwich has named Rich Feminella, Wastewater Division Manager, its Employee of the Month. Feminella has worked for the Town for nearly 18 years and oversees the team responsible for maintaining Greenwich’s wastewater infrastructure. The division’s work supports public health, environmental protection and the daily operation of essential Town systems. Photo credit: Town of Greenwich

THE ENVIRONMENT

Connecticut Celebrates Wild Turtle Week

Connecticut is home to 12 turtle species, including four sea turtle species. Snapping turtles are common statewide and usually remain in aquatic habitats, but females may travel long distances during nesting season to lay eggs. During Wild Turtle Week, Connecticut Fish and Wildlife highlighted the species’ presence, habitat and nesting behavior.

SCHOOLS

Greenwich Schools Honor Difference Makers

Greenwich Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Toni Jones named the district’s June honorees for the Difference Makers 2.0 recognition program. The monthly award recognizes full- and part-time employees nominated by school and district leaders for their contributions to the GPS community. The June list includes 18 employees from schools and district departments, bringing the year’s total to 167 honorees.

Sacred Heart Celebrates 177th Commencement



Sacred Heart Greenwich graduated its 177th class on June 5 at its King Street campus, awarding diplomas to 69 young women. The Class of 2026 included nine students who had attended the school since Lower School, 12 student-athletes committed to collegiate athletics, and students recognized by organizations including the National Merit Scholarship Program, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the American Scholastic Press Association, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, and the YWCA. Valedictorians Arianna Chin and Clare Junius and salutatorian Lexi Parsons delivered remarks, and former IBM executive Linda Sanford gave the commencement address. Photo credit: Sacred Heart Greenwich

Furano Earns Greenwich Paraeducator Honor



Greenwich Public Schools announced June 10 that Emilia Furano of Hamilton Avenue School has been named the district's 2026 Paraeducator of the Year. Furano was selected from 15 school-based candidates and will represent the district for the Connecticut State Department of Education's 2027 Anne Marie Murphy Paraeducator of the Year Award. The state selection process includes application reviews in July, semifinalist interviews in August, finalist site visits in September, and recognition of the winner Dec. 2 at the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts in Hartford. Photo credit: Greenwich Public Schools

Greenwich High Honors Student Leaders

The Greenwich High School Class of 1984 Reunion Committee dedicated two plaques Tuesday outside the school's main office honoring all senior class presidents since 1971 and memorializing Sam "Chip" Telerico, the Class of 1984 senior class president. Telerico led the class reunion committee after graduation and died in January following an accidental fall in Old Greenwich. The dedication was attended by members of the Class of 1984, Telerico's family, Greenwich High School Principal Ralph Mayo, and student leaders from the Classes of 2026 and 2027.

Coyne Joins Ridgefield Education Leadership

Western Middle School Principal Suzanne Coyne will leave Greenwich Public Schools at the end of the school year to become a middle school special education administrator in Ridgefield. Coyne has worked for Greenwich Public Schools since 1997 and has served at Western since 2014, first as assistant principal and later as principal. The district is expected to begin the process of selecting her replacement.

New Lebanon School Earns Recognition

New Lebanon School has been selected as one of six schools named a 2026 Connecticut Blue Ribbon School. The designation recognizes academic excellence, inclusive and supportive learning environments, and efforts to improve outcomes for all students. State evaluators noted that New Lebanon School showed particularly strong academic achievement and growth.

Greenwich Freshman Joins SoundWaters Research

Greenwich High School freshman Alisia Ortiz participated this spring in the SoundWaters Research Intensive, a field-based science program at the Cohen SoundWaters Harbor Center on Stamford Harbor. Ortiz worked with students from Stamford High School and AITE to study settling organism populations in Long Island Sound. The program gives high school students experience conducting research in marine science, biodiversity, water quality and environmental change.

Riverside Renovation Advances With Savings

The Greenwich Board of Education voted 6-2 on May 28 to restore two Pre-K classrooms to the Riverside School renovation specifications, making the project eligible for a higher state reimbursement tied to early childhood education. The change is expected to save the town up to \$5 million on the project, which includes \$2 million budgeted for architectural and engineering work in 2026 and an estimated \$48 million construction cost in fiscal year 2027. Riverside School, built in 1932, has 431 students and building deficiencies including accessibility needs, entrance security issues, no sprinkler system, and an undersized kitchen and cafeteria.

Central Middle School Construction Advances

Greenwich Public Schools' latest construction update says work on the new 125,000-square-foot Central Middle School remains on schedule for an August opening, with demolition of the existing building set to begin in July. June work includes interior finishes, mechanical system commissioning, landscaping, hardscaping and paving. July and August work includes demolition, sewer work on Indian Rock Lane, safety upgrades on Orchard Street, fire suppression work, and installation of the student drop-off and pick-up driveway.

Community Supports Greenwich Academy Counselor

Tara Fetzer, a therapist and Lower School counselor at Greenwich Academy, is undergoing treatment for an extremely rare and aggressive malignant brain tumor diagnosed earlier this year. A

GoFundMe fundraiser created to help cover treatment, care and related family expenses had raised more than \$154,000 by Monday morning, surpassing its initial \$50,000 goal. The fundraiser notes that some costs are not fully covered by insurance and that Fetzer has reduced her work to focus on treatment and recovery.

Sacred Heart Plans STEM Building

Sacred Heart Greenwich's pre-application for a proposed three-story STEM building at 1177 King Street went before the Planning & Zoning Commission on June 9. The project includes an approximately 26,000-square-foot academic building, a glass bridge connection to the existing main academic building, demolition of the Duchesne Duplex faculty housing unit, access and utility upgrades, stormwater improvements, and limited parking changes.

SPORTS

Greenwich Nationals Win Spring Championship

The Greenwich Nationals Baseball Club's 8U team won the Greater Hudson Valley D3 Spring Championship on June 6, defeating the Pomperaug Panthers, 6-1, at Banksville Community Field House. The 8U and 9U teams both reached the championship round for the first time in program history. The 8U roster included players from public and private elementary schools across Greenwich.

Track Team Shows Championship Composure

Hamden athlete, who had received a religious accommodation to avoid Saturday competition, competed the next day in the long jump and triple jump at the Class MM meet. His third-place finish in the triple jump added six points to Hamden's Class LL team score, moving Hamden ahead of Greenwich, 83 to 82.5, after Greenwich had led at the end of the May 30 meet. Greenwich filed a protest, which the CIAC rejected.

LOCAL POLITICS

Greenwich RTM Meeting Moves Forward

The Representative Town Meeting's June 8 regular meeting has been canceled and rescheduled as a special meeting on Monday, June 15, at Central Middle School, 9 Indian Rock Lane, with Zoom access available.

Greenwich Receives National Election Honors

The Connecticut Secretary of the State's office announced Wednesday that the Greenwich Registrars of Voters received two national Clearinghouse Awards from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission for election administration. Greenwich was recognized for its poll worker training cards and Polling Place Sponsorship Program in the category of Best Practices in Recruiting, Retaining, and Training Poll Workers. According to the state office, Greenwich is the first Connecticut municipality to receive a Clearie Award.

AROUND CT

Connecticut Opens Cooling Centers Statewide

Connecticut's Extreme Hot Weather Protocol is in effect from 10 a.m. Thursday, June 11, through 6 p.m. Sunday, June 14, as temperatures are expected to exceed 90 degrees each day and heat index values may reach or exceed 100 degrees. The protocol coordinates state agencies, municipalities, utilities and United Way 2-1-1 to provide updated cooling center information statewide. Residents can find cooling centers at www.211ct.org or by calling 2-1-1, and are advised to limit heat exposure, stay hydrated and check on people and pets at higher risk.

FROM HARTFORD

AmeriCorps Connecticut Opens Service Opportunities

Gov. Ned Lamont and Connecticut Higher Education Commissioner Timothy Larson announced that AmeriCorps Connecticut programs are recruiting members for the 2026-2027 service year. Positions are available statewide in programs focused on public health, student mentoring, STEM education, substance use prevention, mental health, and community wellness. Interested residents can register for virtual information sessions held Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer at <https://ctohe.jotform.com/260833542232855> or learn more at www.servect.org.

State Strengthens Charity Fund Oversight

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong and Department of Consumer Protection Commissioner Bryan Cafferelli announced Wednesday an investigation into former New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart's handling of charitable assets connected to the Mayor's Trophy Charitable Fund. The investigation involves a donor-advised fund managed by the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain and a separate M&T Bank checking account with the same name that is not managed by the Foundation. The state issued a subpoena to Stewart, a letter of inquiry to the Foundation, and a subpoena to M&T Bank.

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142 Putnam Park 142	\$727,350	\$727,350	\$700,000	16	3	2	13	0
51 Forest Avenue 23	\$869,000	\$869,000	\$905,000	48	1	2	0	1,160
51 Forest Avenue 138	\$1,225,000	\$1,225,000	\$1,301,000	36	2	3	0	1,281
189 Riversville Road	\$2,050,000	\$2,050,000	\$2,200,000	49	4	2	2.03	2,171
40 Thunder Mountain Rd	\$2,500,000	\$2,600,000	\$2,600,000	14	4	3	2.26	2,687
27 MacArthur Drive	\$3,095,000	\$3,095,000	\$3,525,000	7	5	3	0.2	3,282
49 Willow Road	\$4,950,000	\$4,950,000	\$5,500,001	9	5	4	0.24	4,600
36 Dunwoodie Place	\$9,230,000	\$9,230,000	\$9,230,000	0	6	8	2.07	
1535 E Putnam Ave 307	\$415,000	\$415,000	\$410,000	17	1	1	0	676
453 E Putnam Ave 4B	\$844,900	\$844,900	\$850,000	27	2	2	0	1,464
54 Almira Drive A	\$990,000	\$990,000	\$1,100,000	27	3	2	0	1,735
18 Stone Avenue 1	\$1,029,000	\$1,029,000	\$1,081,000	10	3	3	0.52	2,082
228 Pemberwick Road	\$1,595,000	\$1,595,000	\$1,600,000	95	4	3	0.17	2,869
5 Sunshine Avenue	\$2,350,000	\$2,350,000	\$2,705,000	13	4	3	0.26	3,272
201 Shore Road	\$2,499,000	\$2,350,000	\$2,025,000	541	5	3	0.62	3,598
153 Lockwood Road	\$2,589,000	\$2,589,000	\$2,735,000	6	5	3	0.22	2,729
29 Old Stone Bridge Road	\$2,795,000	\$2,795,000	\$3,000,000	7	4	4	1.05	3,734
32 Meyer Place	\$2,925,000	\$2,795,000	\$2,795,000	171	5	4	0.31	4,108
379 Round Hill Road	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	\$4,685,000	24	7	5	1.02	5,842
45 Willow Road	\$6,550,000	\$6,550,000	\$6,450,000	11	6	5	0.33	6,141
34 Cedarwood Drive	\$8,500,000	\$8,500,000	\$9,640,986	10	6	7	2	9,140
10 Birch Lane	\$8,750,000	\$8,750,000	\$8,650,000	260	5	5	1.35	9,619

NEW LISTINGS							
Address	List Price	Price/SqFt	SqFt	AC	BR	FB	Area
169 Mason Street 2H	\$330,000	\$892	370	0	1	1	South of Post
33 Sound Beach Avenue	\$1,000,000	\$962	1,040	0.14	2	1	Old Greenwich
9 Rex Street	\$1,599,000	\$616	2,596	0.12	4	3	Pemberwick
48 Rockmere Avenue	\$1,650,000	\$1,008	1,637	0.12	4	2	South of Post
19 Georgetowne North 19	\$1,695,000	\$511	3,320	0	3	4	South Parkway
27 Park Avenue	\$1,795,000	\$1,662	1,080	0.22	4	1	Old Greenwich
46 Hillside Drive	\$2,395,000	\$826	2,901	0.76	6	3	South Parkway
45 William Street B	\$2,495,000	\$739	3,376	0.28	3	3	South Parkway
208 Bedford Road	\$2,500,000	\$505	4,955	2.01	4	3	North Parkway
6 Meadowbank Road	\$2,995,000	\$1,093	2,740	0.19	4	4	Old Greenwich
12 Bailiwick Road	\$3,095,000	\$805	3,843	2.92	4	4	Glenville
212 Milbank Avenue South	\$4,950,000	\$1,679	2,949	0	2	3	South of Post
633 Steamboat Road 5	\$5,995,000	\$2,240	2,676	0	3	3	South of Post
11 Hearthstone Drive	\$5,995,000	\$960	6,245	0.3	5	7	Riverside
74 Rock Maple Road	\$7,950,000	\$892	8,911	4.08	5	6	South Parkway
68 Dearfield Drive	\$7,995,000	\$751	10,646	0.66	8	11	South Parkway
55 Calhoun Drive	\$8,795,000	\$1,063	8,273	1.42	6	7	South Parkway
31 Sawmill Lane	\$9,750,000	\$843	11,567	3.02	6	6	South Parkway
122 Round Hill Road	\$13,950,000	\$1,515	9,208	7.2	7	5	South Parkway
76 Putnam Park #76	\$920,000	\$558	1,648	0	3	2	South of Post
149 Putnam Park 149	\$999,000	\$603	1,657	0	3	2	South of Post
22 Nedley Lane	\$1,100,000	\$679	1,620	0.38	3	2	Glenville
51 Forest Avenue 172	\$1,295,000	\$825	1,569	0	2	2	Old Greenwich
14 Greenwich Hills Drive	\$1,295,000	\$703	1,843	0	3	2	Glenville
86 Sound Beach Ave Ext	\$1,449,000	\$869	1,668	0.35	3	2	Riverside
8 View Street 7	\$1,495,000	\$688	2,172	0	3	2	South of Post
14A W End Avenue	\$1,595,000	\$734	2,174	0.22	3	2	Old Greenwich
4 Cos Cob Avenue	\$1,650,000	\$607	2,720	0.14	4	3	Cos Cob
11 Stuart Drive	\$1,695,000	\$1,009	1,680	0.17	3	2	Old Greenwich
502 W Lyon Farm Dr.	\$1,750,000	\$829	2,110	60	3	3	South Parkway
441 Cognewaugh Road	\$1,795,000	\$619	2,899	1.45	4	3	Cos Cob
9 Deluca Drive	\$2,395,000	\$825	2,902	0.28	4	3	Cos Cob
26 Linwood Avenue	\$2,425,000	\$916	2,648	0.19	4	3	Riverside
106 Orchard Street	\$2,450,000	\$692	3,539	0.4	5	4	Cos Cob
26 Circle Drive	\$3,850,000	\$683	5,638	0.49	4	4	South of Post
14 Shorehame Club Road	\$4,000,000	\$1,986	2,014	0.28	4	2	Old Greenwich
5 Grant Avenue	\$4,100,000	\$1,094	3,748	0.32	6	4	Old Greenwich
9 Paddock Drive	\$4,250,000	\$1,017	4,181	4	5	4	North Parkway
456 Round Hill Road	\$4,595,000	\$1,007	4,564	4.58	5	3	North Parkway
12 Woodside Road	\$9,350,000	\$1,322	7,072	2.02	6	6	South Parkway

May 2026 Real Estate Stats & Affordable Housing



BY MARK PRUNER

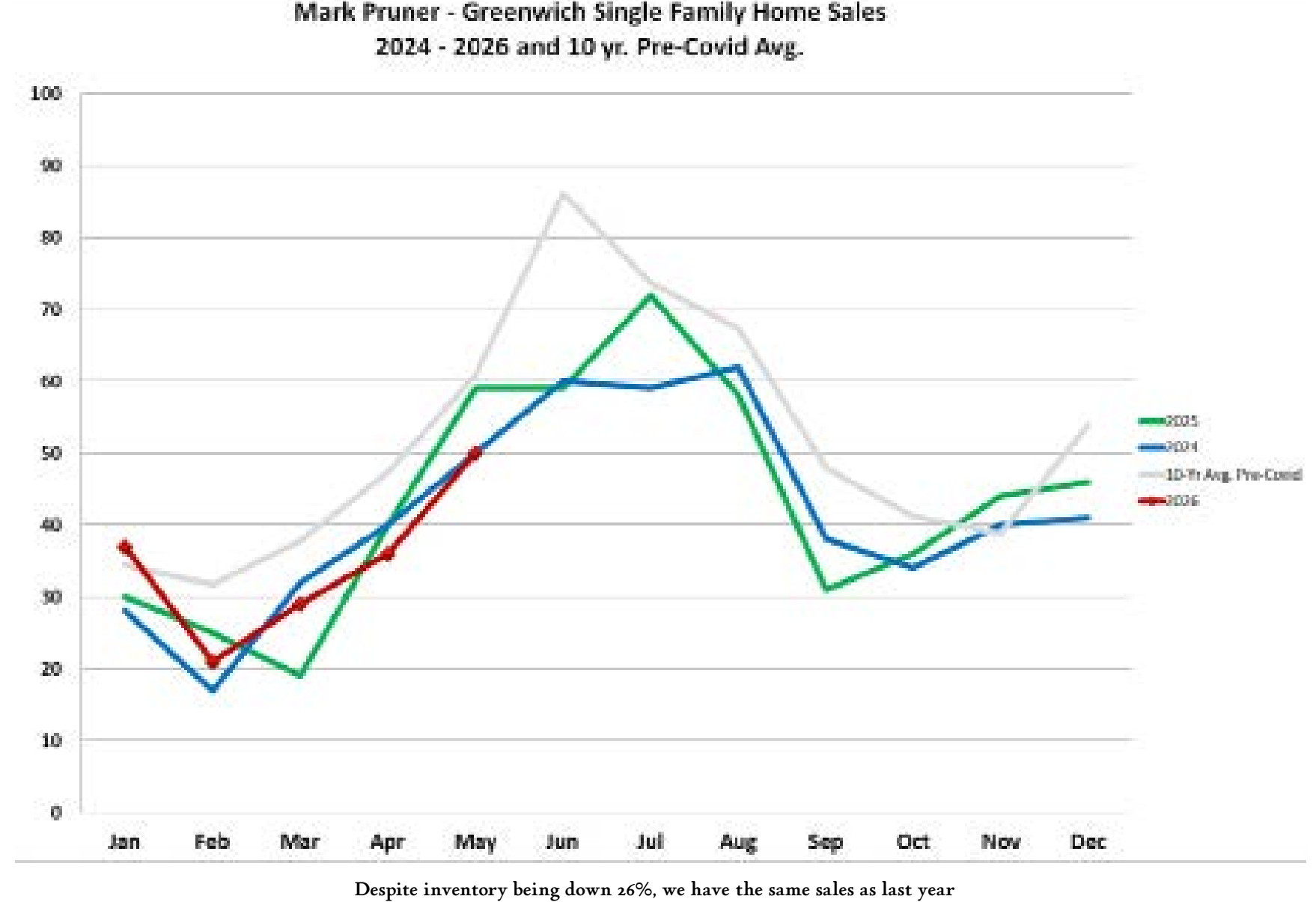
So far 2026 has been much like 2025, but worse. Through the end of May we have had 173 sales, the exact same number that we had in 2025. In May 2025, our median sales price was \$3,200,000. In May 2026, the median sales price was \$3,600,000 or an annual increase of 12.5%. The median sales price per square foot has gone from \$792/sf to \$897/sf or a slightly larger 13.3%. At the same time, our inventory went down from 151 single family homes last year to only 108 houses this year or a 28.5% drop. Our contracts are down only 2 from 112 contracts last year to 110 contracts as of the end of May this year.

All of that actually sounds pretty good. Our prices are up 13% in one year and sales are flat even though our inventory is down 28.5%. That is really remarkable. The reason that it is worse is that this market is not sustainable. We can't keep having prices go up so fast, year after year and at the same time, have supply continue to drop by double digits every year.

I know all you Friedman economists are saying this is just supply and demand and the invisible hand of the market is dictating prices. The problem is just when will the hand of the market finally start bringing prices and supply back into balance? Since 2019, our median sale price is up 93%, yet we are not seeing these increased prices bring more houses on the market.

Now, my brother and fellow Greenwich Streets Team member, Russ, who has been doing this for 39 years, argue that higher prices did bring more inventory on. In Covid our sales went from 526 sales in 2019 pre-Covid, to 861 sales in 2020, the first year of Covid, to an all-time high of 1,006 sales in 2021. If that wasn't supply responding to more demand and higher prices what was?

Russ is right, fear of Covid drove people living in high density cities with shared common hallways and elevators drove people to the open, green spaces of suburbia with Greenwich be-



Despite inventory being down 26%, we have the same sales as last year

ing the best of available options. Luckily for these buyers, Greenwich had hundreds of unlisted houses in our shadow inventory. Enough to meet much of this fear-driven, heightened Covid demand. These post-Great Recession sellers were the owners who had waited out declining prices in backcountry and mid-country and the small price gains in much of the rest of the town. When prices turned up, they were ready to sell.

Then along came 2022, which was a transition year. We had a very close to average 639 sales. The next two and a half years have been the post-Covid era of low inventory, leading to below average sales. We have averaged 515 sales per year, compared to our 21st Century average of 651 sales per year. The problem is that we can't create much new single family home inventory from vacant land.

Nearly every lot that could have had a house built on it has a house on it. Practically all new construction is preceded by destruction of a house. The end result is that there is no net game in the number of houses, nor

in the number of buildable lots. Yes, a few owners of marginal vacant lots are willing to roll the dice and try to build, but these lots have issues. A gentleman bought four-acres in backcountry for a couple of hundred thousand dollars. He got this "bargain" because the property is 90% wetlands. Chances he can build are very slim, but hope, for some, springs eternal.

Septic issues also lead to unbuildable issues. If you don't have two feet of good soil, the Health Department will not let you build an engineered system where you bring in enough soil to build up the leaching fields that you need for a new house and the reserve fields that are also required. Lot shape is also a killer. If your lot can't contain a circle that ranges from 100' to 300' feet in diameter for the larger zones you are going to have to apply for a variance. (Under a half-acre, the circles change to rectangles with the long side from 85' to 100'.)

So, what does the market do, when the demand is there, but you can't create supply. It creates another type of supply.

In the next three years, we may have over 200 new condos and apartments come on the market the downtown area and potentially 198 more in backcountry. The odds are that they will sell quickly as buyers really want new. Then again, it's amazing how high some developers price new construction leading to over a year in marketing.

Many of these projects used 8-30g to get built. As a result, 30 and even 40% of these units have to be affordable and also comparable to the other market rates units. This means that a few families get the bargain of a lifetime, as they can buy units comparable to the other units going for prices that can be over \$5 million. The problem is that in the same space that you could house three families in need of affordable housing, you house only one. If you took that same money and built the affordable housing in Norwalk or Bridgeport you could have built 4 or 5 affordable units not just one.

The upstate legislators feel

that expensive towns should provide their fair share of housing for working people, which got enacted into law this year in the Connecticut. On the flip side you get less housing units. Conversely, if you put all the affordable housing in distant cities, you get even more crowded highways, when the portion of I-95 in Fairfield County is already the most crowded highway in the U.S. Remote affordable housing also means that emergency personnel live in Danbury and Long Island. These critical personnel may not be able to get here in a weather emergency. There is not an easy way to resolve this.

Meanwhile, back in Greenwich, in May 2026, we eked out 50 monthly sales ending with an inventory of only 108 sales. May 2026 sales were down 9 houses from last May. Under \$4 million our sales were down even more. We had 14 fewer houses sell. By the end of May, we only had 38 houses on the market in that price range. This trend will continue as between \$800K and \$2M, our contracts are down 16 contracts from last year. This is a drop of 47% in contracts in

our lower price range. Below, \$800K, we only have 1 contract and 1 sale in May with twice that in inventory with 2 listings.

Due to the law of small numbers, our increase of inventory from \$600K - \$1M from 1 house last year to 6 houses this year, meant that months of supply went from 0.6 months in 2025 to 5.8 months of supply in May 2026. Expect months of supply to drop by several months in June as these houses get sold, assuming that we don't get more inventory.

The rest of the year is up in the area. This is the week that inventory has peaked in the post-Covid years. This year Inventory has gone up for the last two weeks. If it continues to go up in June, then we may finally break out of the relentless decline in listings of the last 30 months.

Only time will tell.

Mark Pruner is a Realtor with Compass Connecticut in Greenwich and a founder with Russ Pruner and Dena Zarra of the Greenwich Streets Team. He can be reached at 203-817-2871 or mark.pruner@compass.com.

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A Rich and Rainy Bird Walk and Breakfast with Surprising Audubon Center News

So, when you hear one of those birds singing,” he told, “it’s not just singing because it’s setting up its territory it’s singing out of relief - they’re happy that they made it from that long, long journey.” Ryan MacLean



Following leader Ryan MacLean, he spots an arriving Baltimore Oriole. Photo by Anne W. Semmes.

By ANNE W. SEMMES

It was cloudy and drippy that Saturday early morning at Audubon Greenwich when 100-plus curious and undeterred bird watchers arrived to participate in this every Spring Bird Tour and Breakfast. Also arriving, a fascinating array of May migrating birds, and those bird watchers would be divided into groups with leaders to describe for them the who, what, and why of those migrating birds. This reporter was gifted to be in Audubon Senior educator Ryan MacLean’s group.

“So,” began MacLean, as we followed him, headed for the woods and the Byram River basin, “the reason we host this program at this time is it’s the parade of birds not just coming here to breed but, on their way north.” And when its rainy those woods become “an international bird hotel...they need a place to drop in very quickly.” Yes, having traveled from their winter quarters in Costa Rica or Belize, their having “to fly all the way across the Gulf of Mexico in one night to get up to the Gulf Coast and eventually get up here.”

“So, when you hear one of those birds singing,” he told, “it’s not just singing because it’s setting up its territory it’s singing out of relief - they’re happy that they made it from that long, long journey. Those birds you are hearing are champions that made it.” (And at Breakfast we would learn just how many champion species were seen by us all.)

The first song heard before entering the woods was a Yellow Warbler. “They don’t like the woods. They like more scrubby open habitats. You hear it – ‘sweet, sweet, sweet, you are so sweet’...They’re using these willows to breed in.”

We enter an orchard of apple trees bursting into bloom. “Apple blossom flowers attract insects, which in turn attracts birds... But birds not only eat insects, but also drink nectar like Baltimore Orioles, which I just heard.” A Bluebird is seen briefly on a tree stump. He then hears again that Oriole. “They have a more husky, lower pitched whistle” while the Orchard Oriole, “its smaller cousin, sounds like they have more of a sore throat.” He suddenly spots that Baltimore Oriole. “See, it’s in the left side of the crab apple tree, at about 10 o’clock.” He shines his green laser dot just below the bright orange bird - some capture that image with their iPhone.

“So, what you’re seeing right here is if you have buds, you have bugs. If you have bugs, you have birds. All the right elements for this international bird hotel and restaurant are right here.” Proof positive, he hears a warbler. “It’s a Northern Parula. It’s going straight from here up to Maine, to the Adirondacks. They make nests out of Old Man’s Beard lichen that hangs from the trees. You’ll hear like a squeaky toy winding up.”

We’re in the deep forest with our binoculars searching up into the canopy. “So, look straight

up. There’s a Black-and-white Warbler above us at a 90-degree angle.” He warns of warbler neck, a “common ailment that we get at this time of year... So, find yourself a good massage therapist... Typical warbler behavior is, unfortunately, they like to be up at the tops of trees and they move quickly, foliage gleaning from one branch to another.”

He hears a bird that once bred at Audubon 80 years ago, a Chestnut-Sided Warbler. “Instead of the Yellow Warbler’s ‘sweet, sweet, sweet, I’m so sweet.’ The Chestnut says ‘sweet, sweet, sweet, I’m sweeter’... That bird is just a migrant... they prefer younger growth forests.”

And these migrants “are not looking for mates or anything until they get up to Maine or whatever... Right now, it’s just a matter of surviving...finding as much as they can so they can keep making that journey. ...This is the magic of spring migration where you only get these experiences when these birds are shopping for food.” If it had been sunny – “those birds would have kept going. So, that’s why sometimes braving the elements gets you the most birds.”

Time for bird watchers Bird Breakfast

As the birders piled up their plates with pancakes and bacon, scrambled eggs and roasted potatoes, Educator MacLean welcomed all with some Audubon Center history. “You are visiting the oldest nature education center of the National Audubon Society in the country, and this is one of our longest running events for over 50 years. People have come to this barn at the peak of spring migration... People like Roger Tory Peterson have been in this exact same corner.”

Then it was time for MacLean to go through a checklist of 200 possible bird species, calling out each one for a possible count. “If your group saw that bird, all you got to say is one word, yes.” And that count would include spotting’s from groups going to four other Audubon sanctuaries across town. But first, “We’re going to say yes to those two Common Loons that flew over the parking lot!”

“Swainson’s Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush,” he called out, placing a check on the list by each species seen. “Now the fun stuff: White-eyed Vireo. Blue-headed Vireo. “Yes!” “Nice,” he noted. “Now it’s warbler time. Blue-winged Warbler. Nice. Golden-winged Warbler, I wish. Tennessee Warbler. Not yet. Northern Parula. Yes. Yellow Warbler, just listen outside right now. Chestnut-Sided Warbler. Yes. Magnolia Warbler. Yes. Cape May Warbler. Black-throated Blue Warbler. Yeah... Blackpoll Warbler...” And finally, the yeses for species were counted. “So that’s 72 species,” and “Migration’s not over yet!”

Before the species count MacLean had noted that this Spring Bird Tour has coincided with World Migratory Bird Day, “which is a day that Environment for the Americas coordinates with Audubon and other conservation partners and organizations to promote how important it is that we continue to protect these birds that you’re seeing and hearing today, that we make sure that they are here with us all through these next generations.”

Also, before that impressive species count MacLean would address attending Audubon Center director Rochelle Thomas. “Three and a half years ago when Rochelle came on board, we were just coming out of the pandemic and rebuilding what our Center looked like to the public and to all the birds that live here. One of the first meetings we had with Rochelle, we mentioned our Bird Breakfast and how important and special an event it was. Not only did she say, ‘Yes, let’s bring it back, let’s do it,’ but look how strong it is still going today!”

Audubon Center Director Rochelle Thomas Stepping Away

“Rochelle Thomas has championed every single aspect of our Center,” noted MacLean, “our habitat, our community, and for that all of us - thank you.”



Birdwatchers arrive at the Greenwich Audubon Center for the Spring Bird Tour and Breakfast.

Photo by Anne W. Semmes.



Birdwatchers with their binoculars trying to capture those swift-moving warblers in the canopy.

Photo by Anne W. Semmes.

He then shared the news that Rochelle was stepping away as Center director. “Rochelle is only going about 15 minutes down the road to become executive director of Mianus River Gorge.”

“Many of you have come from areas of the Greenwich conservation community that Rochelle has built partnerships with that we know are going to last forever... We may even see her come back to do a talk later in the year, but a few of us on the staff and volunteers that are here have a couple of surprises.”

Those surprises included from the Center board members a thank-you cake featuring a Rochelle favorite Wood Thrush, and a proclamation from Greenwich Town Hall, from the First Selectman, not able to be present. “Whereas we thank Rochelle Thomas,” it read, “for revitalizing Greenwich Audubon Center in her years as its director and all she did to make sure it became a Center of community conservation... and whereas we celebrate the long lasting partnerships that Rochelle has built between the Greenwich Audubon Center and the town conservation groups as well as local organizations focused on conservations as these partnerships continue to create a stronger and

greener Greenwich, and whereas we acknowledge Rochelle’s lasting commitment to bending the bird curve and Audubon’s mission to protect birds and the places they need, and whereas Rochelle’s Audubon staff and colleagues acknowledge that during her years of service, she has fostered and built a team that has found joy in working with her to achieve a shared mission and goals, and whereas we wish Rochelle wholehearted success in her next chapter and look forward to working together with her on our shared conservation goals as she begins her new role at Mianus River Gorge.”

“Now therefore I, Fred Camillo, First Selectman of the Town of Greenwich do hereby proclaim today as Rochelle Thomas Community Conservation Day.”

“Thank you all so much,” responded Thomas. “I feel like when I started here at the Center, things had so much potential. I think things are on this tremendous upswing. I look forward to staying connected and being a part of the Center as a volunteer... But I’ve loved getting to know all of you in the community. Greenwich is such an amazing place. There are so many people interested in conservation and the work that we do.”



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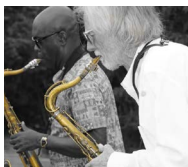
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SUJARI BRITT PERFORMS
AT GREENWICH
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FOR THE
LOVE OF
GOD, IT'S
SUMMER

At the Bruce, Revolutionary Fashion Spoke in Muslin, Hair, and Handbags



Pierre-Paul Prud'hon, *L'impératrice Joséphine* (1763–1814), 1805. Musée du Louvre, Paris.

By EMMA BARHYDT

At the Bruce Museum on June 1, fashion entered the room as a public language: intimate, theatrical, and charged with the politics of a new age.

The Greenwich Decorative Arts Society presented “Liberty, Equality, Fashion: Women Who Styled the French Revolution,” a lecture by Anne Higonnet, the Barbara Novak Professor of Art History at Barnard College, Columbia University, and author of *Liberty, Equality, Fashion: The Women Who Styled the French Revolution*. The talk began at 1:00 p.m., the society’s usual start time, after a corrected notice clarified the hour. Afternoon tea followed the lecture, giving the event the shape of a true Greenwich cultural afternoon: scholarship first, conversation after.

Higonnet’s subject was clothing, although the afternoon quickly widened into an account of power, sexuality, survival, celebrity, and the female body in public life. Her lecture centered on three revolutionary women who turned themselves into style celebrities: Joséphine Bonaparte, future Empress of France; Térézia Tallien, declared the most beautiful woman in Europe; and Juliette Récamier, muse of equal rights advocates.

By 1794, all three had emerged from the worst violence of the French Revolution, just barely. Their response

was astonishingly visual. They overthrew centuries of royal dress codes with the force of women who understood that appearance could carry political meaning. Away went corsets, petticoats, brocades, and towering coiffures. In their place came light, mobile dresses, cropped hair, and the handbag.

The change sounds elegant from a distance. Up close, it was audacious. These women made the body visible in a new way. The dresses moved. The hair exposed the neck. The fabrics clung and flowed. The reticule, the small handbag that accompanied the new silhouette, placed private belongings directly into a woman’s hand. Fascination alternated with shock as Joséphine, Térézia, and Juliette boldly took control over their sexuality and their public image.

The French Revolution had defeated monarchy and ushered in a new language of universal human rights and elected government. Through fashion, these three women extended that revolution into everyday life. Their clothes suggested that liberty could be felt on the skin, seen in a stride, carried in a handbag, and read in a portrait. The political ideals of the age had entered the wardrobe.

The accompanying images from Higonnet’s lecture show how deeply this new fashion shaped the visual culture

The political ideals of the age had entered the wardrobe.

of the period. In Pierre-Paul Prud’hon’s *L’impératrice Joséphine* (1763–1814), Joséphine reclines outdoors in a white dress and red shawl, her body arranged with cultivated ease against a wooded landscape. The portrait presents her as graceful, composed, and fully aware of the force of her own image.

Jean-Louis Laneuville’s *Citizen Tallien in a Cell in La Force Prison* carries a sharper emotional charge. Térézia Tallien sits in confinement, holding her cut hair. The cropped length evokes the terror of execution and the fragility of survival. Her white dress, red sash, and enclosed stone setting make the painting feel almost documentary, an image of beauty marked by history.

Jacques-Louis David’s *Portrait de Juliette Récamier, née Bernard* (1777–1849), widely

known as *Portrait of Madame Récamier*, gives revolutionary fashion one of its most famous forms. Récamier reclines on a classical couch in a simple white dress, her hair cropped, her arms bare, her body stretched into a long and elegant line. The room is spare, and the restraint gives the figure extraordinary authority. She appears self-possessed, modern, and iconic.

The lecture also included François Gérard’s *An Allegory of Empress Joséphine as Patroness of the Gardens at Malmaison*, an image that links Joséphine to flowers, cultivation, and the refined world she built around Malmaison. Here, fashion and garden design belong to the same language of taste and influence. The figure, the flowers, the architecture, and the landscape all contribute to a carefully



Spring Follies Returns to Greenwich with Songs, Poems, Paintings, and a 102-Year-Old's Wisdom



Top: Winona Mullis read from her journal during the Spring Follies, offering a reflection on honoring the past while embracing the future. Bottom: Mariarosa Busani presented her paintings with assistance from Abby Meyers and Juliette Ross during the Spring Follies program at Greenwich Town Hall.



Beatrice Galinat played piano as Donna Spellman looked on during the second annual Spring Follies, presented by Open Arts Alliance and the Wallace Center at Greenwich Town Hall.

By Amelia Woodhouse

On May 1, the second annual Spring Follies, presented by Open Arts Alliance and the Wallace Center, brought song, poetry, storytelling, piano, visual art, and personal reflection to Greenwich Town Hall.

The event, created for members of the Wallace Center, gave performers a public platform to share work developed through a four-week collaborative process. Last year's inaugural Spring Follies filled every available seat in a meeting room at the Greenwich Arts Council. For its second year, the program moved to Greenwich Town Hall, where participants appeared on the dais before the room's blue mural of local scenes.

The move put performers in a room usually reserved for municipal business. Wallace Center participants arrived with songs, poems, journals, paintings, icons, instruments, and stories. The audience arrived ready to listen.

Abby Meyers, a senior at Greenwich High School and a member of Open Arts Alliance's Leadership Council, served as master of ceremonies. Juliette Ross, a junior at Greenwich Academy and also a

member of the Leadership Council, joined her throughout the program. The two students guided the event, assisted visual artists as they presented work, and performed together.

Meyers and Ross sang "I Love You Truly" in honor of Sylvia Gordon, one of the original Spring Follies participants. The tribute linked the afternoon to the first year of the program and to one of the people who helped shape its beginning. The students' presence also placed youth directly inside a program centered on older adults. They hosted, helped, sang, listened, and stood beside participants as collaborators.

The musical portion of the program moved from one voice and personality to another. Gino Arcuri sang at the microphone, as did Palma Buzzeo, and Maryann Ferrara Ramos. Anne Marie Hynes performed with Marcia Preston, and Janice Riddell sang while accompanying herself on guitar.

Beatrice Galinat played piano while Donna Spellman looked on. The arrangement carried the plain mechanics of live performance: a chair, a keyboard, a page, a

“Spring Follies participants reached out with confidence, talent, and courage to sing, play an instrument, read an inspiring passage or poem, and more.”

performer, and a room waiting for the first notes. Galinat also recited an original poem, adding written work to her musical contribution.

Poetry and prose held a large place in the afternoon. Mary Jenkins performed an original story. Lee Paine read original poetry. Marcia Preston read original poetry as well. Jean Pennicott delivered a recitation of Roy Campbell's "Tristan da Cunha." Winona Mullis read from her journal, offering a reflection on honoring the past while embracing the future.

Mariarosa Busani presented her paintings with assistance from Meyers and Ross, who helped hold the works for the audience. Judy Natale presented her hand-painted icons, also with Meyers and Ross assisting. Paintings and icons appeared in the

room with the artists who made them, close enough for the audience to connect each piece with its maker.

Carol Nizlek Lindstrum, a Wallace Center member and third-generation Greenwich resident, attended the performance and later described what stayed with her.

"Too many of us elders focus too often on what's wrong," Lindstrum said. "But Spring Follies participants reached out with confidence, talent, and courage to sing, play an instrument, read an inspiring passage or poem, and more. Imagine balancing on two canes to find the piano—and then playing it like Liberace—or hearing words of wisdom from the lips of a 102-year-old woman."

A public performance asks for preparation, timing, and the willingness

to be seen. The participants brought those qualities to Town Hall, and the room answered with attention.

The event was organized by Open Arts Alliance and the Wallace Center, with John Curtis, artistic associate at Open Arts Alliance, and Donna Spellman co-facilitating the program. Curtis described the Spring Follies process as nurturing and collaborative, built around the question of what brings each participant joy. At Town Hall, joy took practical form: rehearsal, transportation, sheet music, printed pages, microphones, refreshments, student volunteers, staff coordination, and a date held on the calendar.

Curtis credited Lori Contadino and Patricia Bykowski at the Wallace Center for their support of the program and their

dedication to Wallace Center members. Christine Carmody and Steven Bonistall of the Wallace Center Café provided refreshments after the performance, giving performers and guests time to gather after the final number.

The Spring Follies worked as both a showcase and a community gathering. The performance supplied the center, while the activity around it supplied the texture: paintings held for the room, a shared microphone, student hosts, audience members seated close enough to recognize the performers, and refreshments afterward.

The Spring Follies gave Wallace Center members a stage, and they filled it with songs, poems, paintings, icons, stories, music, and reflections drawn from their own lives.

Greenwich Arts Council to Host First Artful High Tea

A cake has an entrance. It arrives boxed, level, carried with both hands, then placed where everyone can see it. Before the first slice, it has already done some of its work: announcing the occasion, gathering attention, and turning appetite into ceremony.

That is the kind of creative territory the Greenwich Arts Council will explore at its first

Artful High Tea on Thursday, June 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 299 Greenwich Avenue. The afternoon will feature tea, tea sandwiches, sweets, bubbly, table décor, and a guest talk by Lisa Maronian of Sweet Lisa's, who will share the creative story behind her celebrated cake business. Proceeds will support the Greenwich Arts Council.

The event pairs two forms of presentation that understand timing: the tea table and the cake. Both depend on proportion, sequence, and restraint. Too much decoration overwhelms the eye. Too little leaves the occasion underdressed. The best version feels effortless only after someone has made a dozen choices about height, color, texture, spacing,

and taste.

For Artful High Tea, the planning committee includes local artist Megan Ely, whose involvement adds another Greenwich creative voice to the afternoon. The event's visual world will include topiaries, giving the tea a clipped, garden-party structure. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

BackCountry Jazz Opens Greenwich Jazz Festival With a Benefit at Round Hill

BackCountry Jazz will open the 2026 Greenwich Jazz Festival on Thursday, June 25, with “A Great Night of Jazz,” a benefit concert at Round Hill Community House.

The event, scheduled from 6:30 to 9:30 pm at 397 Round Hill Road, will bring together cocktails on the terrace, dinner by Chef Geoff Lazlo of The Country Table, drinks from Glenville Wine and Spirits, and a concert by five musicians with deep standing in jazz: pianist Donald Vega, guitarist Anthony Wilson, tenor saxophonist Bennie Wallace, drummer Herlin Riley, and bassist Peter Washington.

The evening is BackCountry Jazz's largest fundraising event of the year. Proceeds support the organization's summer artistic and education programming, including its free music camp in Bridgeport. According to BackCountry Jazz, more than 90 percent of campers come from Bridgeport.

That Greenwich-to-Bridgeport connection gives the Round Hill event its charge. A table sold in town helps pay for instruction, lunch, instruments, workshops, masterclasses, ensemble training, and performance opportunities for young musicians across Fairfield County.

BackCountry Jazz describes its mission as celebrating, preserving, and expanding jazz through presentation, performance, and education. The organization presents the Greenwich Jazz Festival and provides year-round, tuition-free music education programs for under-resourced youth. Since 2012, it has served more than 29,000 students.

The June 25 lineup reflects the festival's standard. Vega, a 2025 Grammy-nominated pianist, composer, and Guggenheim Fellow, brings precision and range to the keyboard. Wilson, a Grammy-nominated guitarist, is known for his imagination and improvisational command. Wallace, BackCountry Jazz's artistic director, brings the full-bodied tenor sound that has shaped his career as a performer,

composer, and bandleader. Riley brings a drummer's authority, warmth, and drive. Washington, a 2026 Grammy-winning bassist, brings the kind of time and tone that can hold a whole band in place.

Together, they make the opening night feel less like a ceremonial start and more like a working definition of what BackCountry Jazz does: put masters on the bandstand, bring audiences close to the music, and use that momentum to train the next generation.

The organization's education programs emphasize improvisation, rhythm, ear training, jazz technique, ensemble playing, composition, listening, and performance. Students work individually and in groups, learning their instruments while also learning how to enter a musical conversation. Jazz gives young players few places to hide. They have to count, listen, respond, wait, risk, and recover. They have to develop taste as well as skill.

The 2022/2023 BackCountry Jazz report gives a clear picture of the scope. During that year, the organization served more than 1,200 young people in Bridgeport and surrounding areas. Its summer music camp provided 7,200 hours of summer learning and 1,320 free lunches. Its after-school jazz workshops provided 1,440 hours of lessons and workshops. The BackCountry Jazz BeBoppers, an advanced student ensemble, gave 10 public performances. The organization awarded professional-level instruments, provided music and instrument supplies, hired alumni as interns and teaching apprentices, and reported that six high school graduates from its programs were accepted to college music programs with scholarships.

This year's summer program begins July 6. The four-week immersion is open to students ages 10 to 20 and includes workshops, masterclasses, small-group ensembles, jam sessions, and individual instruction. The program also provides lunch for all campers through its free Nutritious Meals Program.

Inside the program, the work looks hands-on and immediate: students seated with saxophones, music stands open, an instructor demonstrating a phrase on trumpet, a djembe nearby, everyone close enough to catch the correction in real time. The room has the feeling of music being built piece by piece, with no shortcut around listening.

That proximity is central to the BackCountry Jazz model. Students learn from professional musicians who can show, in the span of a few measures, how rhythm settles into the body, how a line can bend, how a solo can build, and how a group can move as one while leaving space for individual sound.

Bennie Wallace has written about jazz as music made in real time. In BackCountry Jazz's 2022/2023 report, he cited Dizzy Gillespie's advice to “keep one foot in the future and one foot in the blues.” For this organization, that idea has practical meaning. The blues keeps the work grounded. The future sits in rehearsal rooms, holding saxophones, drumsticks, trumpets, basses, and sheet music.

The students speak about the program with a clarity that makes the case better than any mission statement could.

“BackCountry Jazz means the world to me,” Kevin said. “I love listening, learning, and playing music among others who love the same. The education and family I have discovered there has touched my music and my life.”

Vinton began attending BackCountry Jazz programs in the fourth grade and has been mentored by the organization for more than 10 years. Current event materials state that he will attend the Juilliard School as a first-year undergraduate in September 2026.

Deborah described BackCountry Jazz as one of the greatest impacts on her life. Through the program, she said, she worked with musicians who inspire her every day and learned about music and life through that experience.

Those students give the benefit its real stakes. BackCountry Jazz teaches



Guests gather outdoors for a past Greenwich Jazz Festival concert. Photo courtesy of BackCountry Jazz.

BackCountry Jazz puts masters on the bandstand, brings audiences close to the music, and uses that momentum to train the next generation.

music, and the habits travel: attention, patience, timing, discipline, confidence, and accountability to a group.

The Greenwich Jazz Festival gives the organization's work a public stage. In 2022 and 2023, the festival presented 15 free outdoor concerts, drew more than 3,700 attendees, and featured 34 jazz artists. Past festival materials list Herlin Riley, Peter Washington, Donald Vega, Anthony Wilson, Godwin Louis, Samara Joy, Bill Frisell, Terell Stafford, Julieta Eugenio, Simon Moullier, Akiko Tsuruga, Tyreek McDole, and others.

The festival's outdoor concerts have a recognizable Greenwich summer feeling: lawn chairs arranged across the grass, listeners facing a small stage, trees framing the edges, music carrying through the open air. In another festival image, Tim Warfield and Bennie Wallace play saxophones side by side at the 3rd Annual Greenwich Jazz Festival in 2024, the

horns shining gold against a mostly black-and-white frame. It is a sharp visual shorthand for the music itself: history in the hands, invention in the breath.

The June 25 benefit will move the festival indoors and onto the terrace for a more formal opening-night celebration. Chef Geoff Lazlo's buffet will include grilled bavette steak with ginger soy marinade and chimichurri; grilled branzino with yogurt dill sauce; quinoa and roasted summer vegetables with basil and white balsamic vinaigrette; herb-roasted Yukon gold potatoes; sugar snap peas and baby carrots with herb butter; Caesar salad with garlic croutons and anchovy vinaigrette; and mixed berry cobbler with brown butter oat crumble and chantilly cream. Glenville Wine and Spirits will provide fine wine, serious drinks, mocktails, and local beers.

The menu, setting, and concert all serve a practical purpose. A ticket helps keep the summer program accessible. A table helps

underwrite instruction. A donation helps support meals, supplies, instruments, and contact with working musicians.

For Greenwich, the event also places Round Hill Community House within the festival's broader map of cultural spaces. The town's artistic life grows through evenings like this, when people gather, listen, and help carry something forward. On June 25, that “something” will be jazz: played by masters, heard by neighbors, and passed to students learning the music from the ground up.

“A Great Night of Jazz” will take place Thursday, June 25, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Round Hill Community House, 397 Round Hill Road, Greenwich. For questions, contact Executive Director Jeanette Wallace at 203-561-3111 or jeanette@backcountryjazz.org. Tickets, tables, and donations are available through BackCountry Jazz and the benefit concert page.



Left: BackCountry Jazz students work with faculty during summer programming. The 2026 summer program begins July 6. Right: Tim Warfield and Bennie Wallace perform at the 3rd Annual Greenwich Jazz Festival in 2024. Photo courtesy of Andrew James and Bourbon Street Buzz via BackCountry Jazz.



For the Love of God, It’s Summer

The school year is ending. Some graduation tents are already coming down. The last of the good shoes have been kicked into closets. Diplomas have been placed somewhere reasonably safe until someone remembers to frame them. Summer, in all its humid, golden, mosquito-bitten glory, has arrived.

Put down the phone. Yes, yours, and yes, we need to take the advice in this editorial too.

We mean all of us. The teenager scrolling in bed until 2 a.m. The parent “just checking one thing” in the kitchen. The college student home for three weeks who is physically present and spiritually inside TikTok. The 27-year-old who lives alone with her dog and keeps meaning to start painting again. The grandmother at her 82nd birthday party who deserves more than half a room of people filming the candles instead of singing to her.

The phone is the problem. It trains us to consume before we create. It trains us to compare before we attempt. It trains us to document an experience before we have fully had it. It makes boredom feel like an emergency and awkwardness feel like failure. It convinces far too many people that if something cannot be posted, polished, monetized, or made aesthetically coherent, it may not be worth doing.

What a bleak little lie. Summer should be a rebellion against that lie. This is the season for doing things joyfully, messily, experimentally, and for no clear reason beyond the fact that the soul needs somewhere to put its hands.

Make art.

- Please note we did not say become an artist. We did not say sell your work, build a portfolio, develop a personal brand, or make something good. We said make art.
- Draw the shells collected at the beach.
- Paint the view from the porch.
- Write a ridiculous poem about the hydrangeas.
- Make a playlist for the exact feeling of driving home with the windows down after dinner.
- Take photographs of shadows on the sidewalk.
- Learn three chords.
- Start a family sketchbook.
- Arrange flowers in the fanciest vase available.

Bake a cake and decorate it with reckless, frosting-covered confidence. Parents, this especially includes you. Children need adults who model wonder. They need to see parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, teachers, and friends making imperfect things. They need to see adults try, laugh, make a mess, start over, get frustrated, keep going, and take delight in the process.

A five-year-old does not need another curated activity as much as they need someone to sit beside them and draw a terrible dog. A teenager does not need another lecture about screen time as much as they need an invitation into something real without making it secretly instructional. Yes, the teenager may roll their eyes. That is their ancient and sacred duty. Invite them anyway.

Go to a museum and let everyone choose the one piece they would steal if laws and morality were suspended. Bring watercolors to the beach. Have everyone at dinner draw the person across from them. Make a family movie. Let a child teach an adult how to take a better photo. Ask the 24-year-old home for the weekend to help cook something special. Bring paints to grandma’s birthday and have every person add one flower to the canvas.

The goal is to remember that being alive is participatory.

We are becoming very good at watching other people’s lives. We watch other people decorate homes, cook dinners, travel, raise children, fall in love, make pottery, sing songs, and arrange farmers market tomatoes in photogenic bowls. Then we wonder why we feel a bit hollow.

Art pulls us back into the room. It asks us to notice. It asks us to choose. It asks us to risk the small humiliation of being a beginner. That humility is good for us. It makes us softer, braver, and more willing to have interior lives that do not require applause.

Once something has been made, share it with a person.

The goal is to remember that being alive is participatory.

Not necessarily online, perhaps especially not online. Read a friend your poem. Send your sister a photo of the lopsided cake. Play the song badly for a roommate. Hang the child’s painting in the hallway and hang the adult’s beside it. Bring the sketchbook to coffee. Start a porch craft night. Ask everyone at dinner to share one creative thing: a photo, a recipe, a memory, a joke, a song, a pressed flower, a paragraph, anything. Art gives shape to feeling. Community gives that feeling somewhere to go. Together, they become culture: living, breathing evidence that people are paying attention to their own lives and to one another.

Summer is practically throwing materials at our heads. The flowers are showing off. The tomatoes are coming. The beaches are open. The grass is loud with bugs. The evenings last forever. Every porch is a potential studio. Every picnic table is a potential writing desk. Every family gathering is a potential chorus, workshop, photo series, oral history project, dance floor, comedy hour, or wonderful collaborative disaster. For the love of God, it is summer. So here is your summer homework from the *Greenwich Sentinel*. This week, make one thing.

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ARTS & THEATER CALENDAR

GREENWICH LIBRARIES

Friday, June 12

2 p.m.

Laser Engraved Frames - Flinn Gallery “extraORDINARY things.” 2nd Floor Meeting Room. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, June 13

10 a.m.

Summer Crafty Bilingual Storytime. Main Children’s Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

11 a.m.

Stories and Music with Darwin and Friends. Byram Shubert Library. 203-531-0426.

3 p.m.

Knit-Flicks: My Cousin Vinny. Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.

3 p.m.

Share Your Story Reception. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

Monday, June 15

4 p.m.

Ashforth Family Concert: Plant a Seed and Read Musical Storytime (Summer Reading Kick-Off). Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room.

Tuesday, June 16

10 a.m.

Spanish Storytime (Outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.

10 a.m.

Summer Sing-along. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

Wednesday, June 17

3 p.m.

R.E.A.D. to a Dog (All Ages). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

7 p.m.

Book Discussion: “Palm Beach Confidential,” with Author Susannah Marren. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrot-library.org

Thursday, June 18

10 a.m.

Japanese Storytime (outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.

4 p.m.

Tai Chi Games for Kids (Ages

5+). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

4 p.m.

The Significance of Seeds presented by Earthplace. The McArdle Family Community Room.

7 p.m.

Lecture: Professor Robert Henrey. “Two Revolutions: The Unintended Consequence of France’s Embrace of America.” Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

7 p.m.

House of Fidelity with Justin Baer. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

Friday, June 13

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: “Sinners.” Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, June 14

2 p.m.

Jerry’s Movies: “Sunset Boulevard” directed by Billy Wilder. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

BRUCE MUSEUM

Sunday, June 14

1 p.m.

Science Solvers: We Love Rocks! (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. brucemuseum.org

2 p.m.

Cinema at the Bruce and Avon Theater presents: Frida Kahlo.

Tuesday, June 16

10 & 11 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings: Summer Sunshine (Ages 2 1/2-5). Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, June 17.

Wednesday, June 17

10 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings Junior: Hello Sunshine! (Ages: 12-30 months). Free with admission. First come, first served.

5 p.m.

Experiences at the Bruce: Collecting and Curating Braque: Régis Krampf and Jordan Hillman in Conversation.

Thursday, June 18

2 - 3:30 p.m.

Lifetime of Looking – a public program for adults experiencing cognitive decline, and their family members/caregivers. Free with admission, advanced registration is required. 203-413-6743. srice@brucemuseum.org

Sunday, June 21

1 p.m.

Art Adventures: Your Plate Squared (Ages 4 & up). Free with admission. No reservations required. brucemuseum.org

2 p.m.

Cinema at the Bruce and Focus on French Film present: “Columours of Time.” \$10.

Through Sunday, July 5

“Gisela Colón: Radiant Earth.”

Through Sunday, Aug. 2

“Georges Braque: Tactile Space Selections from the Régis Krampf Collection.”

Through Sunday, Sept. 6

“Six Extinctions.”

GREENWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, June 13

12 p.m.

Perrot Memorial Library & Greenwich Historical Society: Juneteenth Storytime. Free. Register. greenwichhistory.org/events

Sunday, June 14

12 p.m.

Time Travelers Family Sundays: Stars, Stripes, & Ships! Family Fun on Flag Day.

Thursday, June 18

6:30 p.m.

Paris, Capital of Fashion A Lecture with Valerie Steele. \$55, Members; \$60, Non-Members.

Saturday, June 20

11 - 11:30 a.m.

Curator Tour: Fashioning America: 250 Years of Greenwich Style.

Through October 1

Celebrating America’s 250th with a Flower Flag– the town garden clubs are planting an American flag of flowers on the lawn of the Greenwich Historical Society. M-F, 9am-5pm; Sat-Sun, 12-4pm. Through October 1.

Through January 10, 2027

“Fashioning America: 250 years of Greenwich Style” exhibi-

tion. greenwichhistory.org/fashioning-america-250-years

CHRIST CHURCH OF GREENWICH

Saturday, June 13

5 p.m.

Organ Recital with Katelyn Emerson. Christ Church Greenwich & Livestream. Free Admission. christchurchgreenwich.org/upcoming-events

GREENWICH AUDUBON CENTER

Sunday, June 14

1 - 2 p.m.

Stories in Nature: A Book Reading & Signing with Dr. Dale Atkins. Greenwich Audubon Center. RSVP. Free, donations welcome. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF GREENWICH

Wednesday, June 17

9 - 11 p.m.

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

GREENWICH ARTS COUNCIL

Thursday, June 18

2 - 4 p.m.

Artful High Tea. Greenwich Arts Council, 299 Greenwich Ave. RSVP by June 15. greenwich-artsCouncil.org/artfulhightea

YMCA OF GREENWICH

Saturday, June 20

11 a.m.

Dad’s Fun Day. YMCA of Greenwich. Free & open to the community. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

THE J HOUSE GREENWICH

Saturday, June 20

11 a.m.

Snapology Space Wars Robotics (Ages 6-10). The J House Greenwich. \$35 per child. eventbrite.com/e/1553402762479

ONGOING:

ARCH STREET

Mondays

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Acting Technique with Sachi Parker MacLaine (Recommend for Ages 18+). Arch Street 2.0, 255 Field Point Rd. 203-629-5744. info@archstreet.org

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE OF GREENWICH

Wednesdays

5 p.m.

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

GREENWICH ART SOCIETY

Through Thursday, June 11

109th Annual Juried Exhibition. Bendheim Gallery, 299 Greenwich Ave. greenwichartsociety.org

HEATHER GAUDIO FINE ART

Through Saturday, June 13

“Apertures” – debut solo exhibition by painter Patrick Alston. Heather Gaudio Fine Art, 382 Greenwich Ave. 203-801-9590. heathergaudiofineart.com

FLINN GALLERY

Through Wednesday, June 17

“ExtraORDINARY Things” exhibition. Flinn Gallery, 101 West Putnam Ave. – 2nd Floor. 203-622-7947. flinngallery.org

BYRAM SHUBERT LIBRARY

Through Saturday, June 27

Art Society of Old Greenwich: “Visual Voyagers.” Byram Shubert Library. 203-531-0426.

LES BEAUX ARTS GALLERY

Through Friday, July 10

“The Color of Nature” exhibition by Beverly Miller Orthwein. Les Beaux Arts @ Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-3pm, Sunday: 10am-12pm, closed Saturday. 203-869-1091. roundhillcommunitychurch.org/news/prayer-group-every-other-tuesday-g79ps-tzamb

COFFEE FOR GOOD

Through August 31

Coffee for Good – MDAC America 250 Art Show. Coffee for Good, 48 Maple Ave. Free. 203-979-4898.

SOROKIN GALLERY

Through November 30

“Sublime Landscapes.” 96 Greenwich Avenue. sorokingallery.com

SUBMISSION LINK — EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE ARTS SECTION

Schools, theaters, individuals, everyone who loves art! To share upcoming exhibitions, performances, readings, or community arts events for coverage consideration, please submit details (date, time, location, description, and contact information) through our Arts Section Submission

Link: [https:// www.greenwichsentinel.com/artsand-theater-section/](https://www.greenwichsentinel.com/artsand-theater-section/)



Jacques-Louis David, *Portrait de Juliette Récamier, née Bernard* (1777–1849), 1800. Musée du Louvre, Paris.

REVOLUTIONARY FASHION
From Page 1

composed public identity.

Then there is the reticule. In the fashion-plate detail from *Journal des Dames et des Modes*, a gloved hand holds a patterned handbag with red ties and tassels. The object is small, but its role in the story is large. The old gowns had hidden pockets within layers of fabric. The new dresses required a new accessory. Practicality became style, and style became a sign of movement through public life.

Higonnet treated these objects and images as evidence. A dress could reveal a political shift. A haircut could carry the memory of the guillotine. A handbag could suggest a woman moving through the world with her own possessions, her own errands, her own sense of direction. The decorative arts, handled with seriousness, preserve this kind of history with unusual intimacy. They keep the great arguments of an era close to the textures of daily life.

Women’s freedom in revolutionary fashion proved powerful enough to unsettle the order around it. After one short decade, Napoleon turned the revolution in dress backward. The audacity of Joséphine, Térézia, and Juliette receded from cultural memory for much of the next two centuries. Higonnet’s work brings that story forward again, restoring complexity to women who were survivors, celebrities, muses, patrons, and makers of a new visual politics.

Higonnet brought formidable scholarly authority to the afternoon. She received her BA from Harvard College in 1980 and her PhD from Yale University in 1988. She has published, most recently, the widely reviewed *Liberty, Equality, Fashion: The Women Who Styled the French Revolution*, as well as pieces in *Vogue*, *Town & Country*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. She has written five other books as well as many essays, and has directed two book-scale digital projects. Her research has been supported by Getty, Guggenheim, Social Science Research Council, and Harvard-Radcliffe Institute fellowships, as well as grants from the Mellon, Howard, and Kress Foundations. She is also a prize-winning teacher of popular lecture courses. Since 2024, a hybrid version of her Clothing course has been offered in partnership with National Education Opportunity Network to public high schools across the nation.

After the lecture, afternoon tea extended the conversation. Guests had come to hear about fashion, and they left having considered revolution, image-making, women’s autonomy, and the fragile boldness of a decade when clothing briefly expressed liberty for women in a form the world could see.

Joséphine, Térézia, and Juliette understood that appearance could become action. They dressed after terror. They dressed for visibility. They dressed for a future still being invented. On June 1 at the Bruce Museum, through Higonnet’s scholarship and the images she shared, their dresses spoke again.

For information about future Greenwich Decorative Arts Society programs, or to RSVP for upcoming lectures, email greenwichdecorativearts@gmail.com.



Jean-Louis Laneuville, *Citizen Tallien in a Cell in La Force Prison, Holding Her Cut Hair*, 1796.
Photo courtesy of Anne Higonnet.



Baron François Gérard, *An Allegory of Empress Josephine as Patroness of the Gardens at Malmaison*, ca. 1805-6.
Photo courtesy of Anne Higonnet.

Music With a Mission: Sujari Britt Performs at Greenwich Historical Society

By Piya Sharma

The Greenwich Historical Society’s barn felt unusually still on Sunday June 1st, 2026, as cellist Sujari Britt and pianist Maxim Pakhomov took the stage for an intimate concert that marked the launch of a fundraising campaign for Project Music.

The performance served as both an evening of classical music and a fundraiser supporting future opportunities for young musicians.

Project Music is a Stamford-based nonprofit dedicated to providing free music education and opportunities to students. The organization is moving forward with plans to expand programming, including sending local students to perform and study in Italy next summer.

Britt, who has spent much of her life performing around the world, volunteered to help kick off that effort.

Before the music began, Project Music founder Rachel Morrow shared the story of how she first met Britt when the cellist was just 13 years old. At the time, Britt was competing in a charitable competition hosted by the Stamford Young Artists Philharmonic, where Morrow at the time served as executive director.

The two eventually reconnected, and Morrow was able to follow the remarkable path Britt’s career had taken. Homeschooled as a child, Britt completed her high school requirements early and entered the Manhattan School of Music at just 13 years old. She graduated at

16 before continuing her studies in Europe, where she has since built an international performing career. At eight years old, she even performed for President Barack Obama at the White House.

Now 25, Britt has returned to Connecticut not only as a performer, but as someone eager to create opportunities for the next generation of musicians.

Joined by Pakhomov, Britt opened the concert with selections from Yuri Shaporin’s Pieces for Cello and Piano, Op. 5. From the opening piece, Britt performed with an intensity and focus that remained evident throughout the afternoon.

With her eyes often closed and every emotion reflected across her face, Britt became completely immersed in the music. The technical skill on display was undeniable, and it was matched by an expressive stage presence that drew audience members’ attention throughout the performance.

That connection was immediate, and the audience response was just as powerful. Between pieces, the room fell into a deafening silence while audience members reflected on what they had just heard.

Held breaths lingered throughout the room as listeners recovered from the chaos, the softness, the energy, the anger, the melancholy, the sweetness, the love - everything Britt managed to pull from her cello.

Surrounded by the historic barn’s warm wooden interior, illuminated by afternoon sunlight and a glowing chandelier overhead,

“There’s a very common human sound with music in general. It’s the one language we can all speak.” –Sujari Britt, speaking after her June 1 performance at the Greenwich Historical Society for Project Music.

with gardens stretching just beyond the windows, you couldn’t help but feel a sense of magic.

As the concert continued, Britt guided listeners through works by composers including Sergei Rachmaninoff, Antonín Dvořák and Aleksandr Glazunov. Before performing Glazunov’s Two Pieces, Op. 20, she spoke enthusiastically about the music, describing the first piece as one of her favorites and highlighting the rich textures and character of the second.

One of the most striking aspects of the afternoon was the contrast between Britt’s presence on and off stage. Between pieces, she smiled easily, joked with audience members and carried herself with an infectious energy. Then, as soon as the music began, she seemed to disappear completely into it.

When Britt plays the cello, it feels as though she is inviting the audience into a world entirely her own.

That connection is something she has felt since she first picked up the instrument. As she writes on her website, “The depth, range and sweetness of the cello seemed to me to resonate my own

strong voice.”

Pakhomov proved an ideal musical partner throughout the performance. Originally from Russia’s Far East region, he completed his studies at the Moscow State Conservatory and has appeared throughout Europe and the United States. Together, the pair moved effortlessly through moments of drama, tenderness and joy, creating a performance that felt both technically impressive and emotionally honest.

Following the concert, in a brief interview, Britt spoke about the universal nature of music and the way it connects people across cultures.

When asked whether children connect to music differently depending on where they live, her answer was simple.

“There’s a very common human sound with music in general,” she said. “It’s the one language we can all speak.”

She believes children’s natural curiosity often makes them especially open to new musical experiences.

“I think that kids, because they are kids, have a lot of curiosity and

a language barrier doesn’t exist,” she said.

Britt also challenged the common perception that classical music belongs solely to the past. While audiences may be most familiar with composers such as Mozart and Beethoven, she emphasized that contemporary music continues to shape the genre and that listeners often surprise themselves when they approach unfamiliar works with an open mind.

For young musicians, her advice was refreshingly straightforward.

“Just go for it,” she said. “Even if something bad happens, you learn. You learn your lesson.”

In many ways, that message captured the purpose of the afternoon. The concert celebrated an accomplished musician, but it also served as a reminder of what can happen when young artists are given the opportunity to explore, experiment and grow. Through both her performance and her support of Project Music’s mission, Britt helped ensure that more students will have the chance to discover where music might take them.



Cellist Sujari Britt performs with pianist Maxim Pakhomov inside the Greenwich Historical Society’s barn.



The gardens at the Greenwich Historical Society framed the June 1 concert, where the site’s historic barns and stone paths gave the afternoon a distinctly Cos Cob setting.

GREENWICH ARTS COUNCIL From Page 3

flyer follows the same cue, with pale green illustrations of a tiered cake, teapot, flowers, a rabbit, and tabletop ornaments along the bottom edge. The design has a lightly storybook quality, more English garden than banquet hall, with enough polish to make the afternoon feel intentional.

Maronian’s talk will bring the focus to the work behind Sweet Lisa’s. Cake design sits in a demanding category of creative labor because the finished object has to satisfy several standards at once. It has to stand. It has to travel. It has to taste good. It has to match the mood of a birthday, wedding, shower,

graduation, holiday, or anniversary. It has to be decorative and edible, sturdy and delicate, personal and polished.

That combination gives cake design its particular pressure. A painting can return to the studio. A dress can be altered. A cake is made for an hour that has already been circled on someone’s calendar. By the time guests arrive, the work has to be finished, placed, and ready to be admired under real-life conditions: conversation, cameras, children, weather, knives, and plates.

In that sense, Maronian’s business offers a useful lens for an arts council audience. Sweet Lisa’s belongs to a creative world many people encounter through celebration, which means the artistry can feel familiar before it is fully considered. The baker’s choices become part of family memory, yet the process behind those

A cake is made for an hour that has already been circled on someone’s calendar.

choices usually remains in the kitchen.

Artful High Tea brings that process forward. The afternoon gives guests a chance to hear how a cake business develops its style, manages custom work, and turns a client’s idea into something physical. It also gives the Greenwich Arts Council a fundraiser with a distinctly social form: a room arranged for conversation, a speaker with a hands-on creative practice, and guests whose tickets

help support the Council’s programming.

The word “artful” earns its place here because the event treats presentation as substance. The table, the sweets, the topiaries, the talk, and the pacing of the afternoon all belong to the same subject: how people make occasions feel considered.

Greenwich has plenty of large cultural evenings on its calendar. This one works at a closer scale. It asks guests to spend part of a Thursday afternoon inside an arts organization, listening to a creative entrepreneur talk about work that is precise, perishable, and deeply tied to celebration.

The Greenwich Arts Council’s Artful High Tea will take place Thursday, June 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 299 Greenwich Avenue. Tickets are available at greenwichartscouncil.org/artfulhightea.

Le Pain Quotidien Welcomes the Season with Strawberries, Spring Peas, Lavender, and a Tuna Toast Worth Reordering

By Emma Barhydt

There is something especially cheerful about a seasonal menu arriving just as Greenwich Avenue begins to feel like summer again. The sidewalks are busier, the iced drinks are back in everyone's hands, and suddenly a weekday lunch has the potential to feel like a small occasion. At Le Pain Quotidien on Greenwich Avenue, the new seasonal menu leans into that feeling beautifully, with strawberries, pistachio, lavender, spring peas,

There are dishes that are good because they are impressive, and then there are dishes that are good because you immediately want them again."

fresh herbs, and a few playful pastry additions that give the whole lineup a sense of brightness. The strongest item on the menu, for me, was the new Tuscan Tuna Toast. In fact, I liked it so much that I am ordering it for delivery again as I write this, which is perhaps the most honest form of endorsement. The toast is built with marinated tuna, white bean spread, arugula, fennel slaw, radish, and herbs, and it manages to be both substantial and bright. The white bean spread gives the dish a creamy, satisfying base, while the fennel and radish add freshness and crunch. The tuna itself is flavorful without being heavy, and the herbs pull everything together in a way that feels very Mediterranean, very spring, and very "I made a good lunch decision today." It is also a smart menu item because it fits the moment. It is not too fussy, not too rich, and not overly casual either. It has enough elegance to feel



The Tuscan Tuna Toast features marinated tuna, white bean spread, arugula, fennel slaw, radish, and herbs. Photo by Emma Barhydt

like a treat, but it is still practical enough for lunch between errands, a working afternoon, or a quick meal delivered to your desk. There are dishes that are good because they are impressive, and then there are dishes that are good because you

immediately want them again. This falls firmly into the second category. The Pistachio Strawberry French Toast was another major highlight, and one that surprised me. I am not usually a French toast person. I want to be, in theory. It always sounds lovely. But too often it becomes too sweet, too soft, or too heavy. This version, however, won me over completely. Made with brioche, pistachio frangipane, chantilly cream, fresh strawberries, and pistachios, it has all the indulgence one wants from a brunch dish without becoming one-note. The pistachio cream is the key. It has the smooth richness of something like Nutella, but with the nuttier, more refined flavor of pistachio. Paired with fresh-cut strawberries, it gives the dish a balance that keeps it from tipping too far into dessert territory, though it certainly feels celebratory. The strawberries bring brightness, the chantilly cream adds softness, and the pistachios give it texture. It is sweet, yes, but it is also layered and genuinely memorable. For someone who normally passes on French toast, I would absolutely order this again. On the savory side, the Spring Pea & Cheddar Frittata is a quieter success, but a very good one. It is oven-baked, served with a small green salad, and full of spring peas and cheddar. It is also gluten free, which makes it a welcome option for anyone looking for something wheat-free that still feels hearty and satisfying. The texture is tender, the peas add a gentle sweetness, and the cheddar gives the dish enough richness to feel comforting. It is the kind of brunch plate that feels wholesome without being austere, which is a difficult balance and one worth appreciating.

The accompanying greens help lighten the plate, and the whole dish has that early-summer quality of being simple, fresh, and unfussy. It would be a good choice for someone who wants something savory but not too heavy, especially alongside one of the seasonal drinks. Speaking of drinks, the Sparkling Lavender Lemonade is exactly the sort of beverage a seasonal menu should have. It is pretty, pink, lightly floral, and refreshing. Lavender can be tricky. Too little and it disappears; too much and suddenly the whole thing starts to feel more like a candle than a drink. This lemonade gets the balance right. The floral note is present but not overpowering, and the sparkle gives it a lively, warm-weather feel. It is a lovely afternoon drink, especially for anyone who wants something festive but not caffeinated. The Iced Sticky Toffee Chai was also enjoyable. It is sweet, spiced, and creamy, with the cozy warmth one expects from chai even in iced form. To be fair, chai has a bit of a built-in advantage. A good chai is almost always pleasant, and this one delivers exactly what it promises: comfort, spice, and enough sweetness to feel like a small treat. The sticky toffee element gives it a dessert-like quality, making it a good choice for those who prefer their iced drinks on the richer side.

The pastry items were a little more mixed for me, though still enjoyable in flavor. The Strawberry Babka Brioche is a charming idea, and visually it certainly fits the season. The strawberry flavor is pleasant, and the brioche has that sweet, bakery-case appeal. That said, I found it a bit dry on its own. I do think it could be much better with the right drink beside it, especially something creamy and bright. Dunked into an iced strawberry matcha latte, for example, it would probably make much more sense. Some pastries are soloists; this one may simply need a duet. The Earl Grey Blueberry Crookie is another interesting addition. The flavors themselves are lovely. Earl Grey and blueberry are a natural pair, with the tea bringing a subtle floral note and the blueberry adding fruitiness. The cookie portion was buttery and fragrant, and the croissant base brought the familiar flakiness one expects from Le Pain Quotidien's pastry case. Still, the "crookie" as a concept remains a little puzzling to me. A croissant-cookie hybrid is fun, certainly, and

there is nothing wrong with a bit of whimsy in a bakery. But structurally, I was not fully convinced. I enjoyed the flavors more than the format. That said, there is something to admire about a seasonal menu that is willing to have a little personality. Not every item needs to be perfectly conventional. The crookie and babka may not have been my personal favorites, but they still brought creativity and color to the menu, and I can imagine both finding devoted fans, especially among those who enjoy sweeter pastries with coffee or tea. There were several other new seasonal items I did not try on this visit, but they round out the menu nicely. The Chipotle Chicken Club Toastie looks like the heartier lunch option of the group, with crispy prosciutto, chipotle aioli, Gruyère, tomato, and hard-boiled egg. The Avocado & Charred Corn Caesar offers another seasonal savory choice, bringing together kale, romaine, charred corn, avocado, grape tomato, cucumber, and radish. For pastry lovers, there is also a Poppyseed Passionfruit Crookie, which sounds like an even sunnier variation on the croissant-cookie idea, and a Cheddar Scallion Scone for those who prefer their bakery case choices savory. The drink menu also includes an Iced Strawberry Matcha Latte and an Iced Shaken Banana Chai,

both available in small and large sizes. Overall, Le Pain Quotidien's new seasonal menu is bright, welcoming, and well-timed for the warmer months on Greenwich Avenue. The savory items are especially strong, with the Tuscan Tuna Toast leading the pack and the Spring Pea & Cheddar Frittata offering a comforting gluten-free option. The Pistachio Strawberry French Toast is the surprise star for anyone with a sweet tooth, even reluctant French toast eaters like myself. Add in the Sparkling Lavender Lemonade and a creamy chai, and the menu feels fresh without trying too hard. The Greenwich location of Le Pain Quotidien is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday through Sunday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The restaurant also offers online ordering, with click-and-collect listed through its website and delivery available through online ordering platforms. For a quick lunch, a sweet brunch, or a cheerful seasonal drink while wandering Greenwich Avenue, this menu has plenty worth trying. My personal order would be the Tuscan Tuna Toast, the Pistachio Strawberry French Toast to share, and the Sparkling Lavender Lemonade. The toast, however, is not optional. I have already ordered it again, and I stand by my choices.



Fresh strawberries and pistachio cream bring brightness and richness to Le Pain Quotidien's seasonal French toast. Photo by Emma Barhydt

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The Iced Sticky Toffee Chai and Sparkling Lavender Lemonade are among Le Pain Quotidien's new seasonal drink offerings on Greenwich Avenue. Photo by Emma Barhydt



The gluten-free Spring Pea & Cheddar Frittata is oven-baked and served with a small green salad. Photo by Emma Barhydt



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Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

8 - 9:30 a.m.
CT Association of Filipino and American Families Day Flag Raising Breakfast. Greenwich Town Hall – breakfast to follow in the Cone Room. greenwichct.gov/calendar

8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Active Older Adult Pickle-ball Tournament. YMCA of Greenwich. \$40, Members & Non-Members. Register. greenwichymca.org/events

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Greenwich Audubon Center: Birds & Butterflies at Caramoor Center for Music & the Arts. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

8 - 10 a.m.
Let’s Go Birding Together! A Pride Month Birding Tour (Ages 6 & up). Greenwich Audubon Center. RSVP. Free, donations welcome. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

10 a.m.
“Steps for Strength” – 1-mile fun run/walk – dedicated to raising awareness for Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS). Greenwich High School’s track. Registration/Check-in Opens at 9:30am. 203-399-8390. tinyurl.com/stepsforstrength

12 p.m.
Perrot Memorial Library & Greenwich Historical Society: Juneteenth Storytime. Greenwich Historical Society. Free. Register. greenwichhistory.org/events

5 p.m.
Organ Recital with Katelyn Emerson. Christ Church Greenwich & Livestream. Free Admission. christchurchgreenwich.org/upcoming-events

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

10 a.m.
Flag Day Dedication Ceremony. Greenwich Historical Society. All are welcome. greenwichhistory.org/events

10 a.m.
United States Army Founding Day Flag Raising. Front Steps of Greenwich Town Hall. greenwichct.gov/calendar

10 a.m.
Friends of Greenwich Point: Tides + Tunes Summer Concert Series: Jumpin’ Jams. Tod’s Point (Rain location: Bosco’s Bar & Grill). Free. friendsofgreenwichpoint.org

12 p.m.
Time Travelers Family Sundays: Stars, Stripes, & Ships! Family Fun on Flag Day. Greenwich Historical Society. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

1 p.m.
Science Solvers: We Love Rocks! (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. brucemuseum.org

1 - 2 p.m.
Stories in Nature: A Book Reading & Signing with Dr. Dale Atkins. Greenwich Audubon Center. RSVP. Free, donations welcome. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

2 p.m.
Cinema at the Bruce and Avon

Theater presents: Frida Kahlo. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org

4 p.m.
Friends of Greenwich Point: Tides + Tunes Summer Concert Series: Paloma Skye. Tod’s Point (Rain location: Bosco’s Bar & Grill). Free. friendsofgreenwichpoint.org

MONDAY, JUNE 15

6 p.m.
FS Arch Street Task Force Public Hearing. Greenwich Town Hall Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom. greenwichct.gov/calendar

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

10 a.m.
Perrot Memorial Library: Perrot Walks at Binney Park. Meet outside the front entrance of the Library. Free. 203-637-1066 x15. perrotlibrary.org

10 a.m.
Greenwich Land Trust: Growing Native Shrubs from Stem Cuttings. Mueller Preserve, 370 Round Hill Rd. Register. gltrust.org/upcoming-events

10 & 11 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings: Summer Sunshine (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, June 17. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.
Open Knitting Drop-In Program. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. 203-637-1066. adultprogramming@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.
Perrot Memorial Library: The Zero Waste Home: Practical Steps for Sustainable Living, a Zoom Program. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

10 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings Junior: Hello Sunshine! (Ages: 12-30 months). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m.
Retired Men’s Association of Greenwich: Rob Volpe, Author, “Tell Me More About That: Solving the Empathy Crisis One Conversation at a Time.” Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. & on Zoom. Free & open to all. greenwichrma.org

11 a.m.
Panel: Voices of Experience: Growing Up Around Alcohol and Family Dysfunction. Online. Free. Register. form.jotform.com/catalogstct/voices-of-experience-Alcohol-event

1 p.m.
Mah Jongg Group. YMCA of Greenwich. \$5, members; \$10, non-members. Prior registration is required. greenwichymca.org/events

5 p.m.
Experiences at the Bruce: Collecting and Curating Braque: Régis Krampf and Jordan Hillman in Conversation. Bruce Museum. \$16, members; \$20, non-members. brucemuseum.org

7 p.m.
Book Discussion: “Palm Beach Confidential,” with Author Sussannah Marren. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.

Parks & Rec. Summer Concert Series: Bob Button Big Band Show/Dance Tunes. Binney Park. Free. Weather cancellation info: 203-861-6100 (after 4 pm). greenwichct.gov/2084/Summer-Concerts

9 - 11 p.m.
Astronomical Society of Greenwich: Bowman Observatory Public Nights. Bowman Observatory, on the grounds of the Julian Curtiss School. Free. Greenwich-Stars@Gmail.com. astrogreenwich.org

11:59 p.m.
Preorder peaches from Georgia Peach Truck by June 17, and pick up on June 24 at McArdle’s Florist & Garden Center, 48 Arch St. georgiapeachtruck.com/product-category/mcardles-florist-garden-center

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

8 - 10 a.m.
Friends of Greenwich Point: Summer Meadow Work - Volunteers Needed. Tod’s Point. Some gloves and tools will be provided. Volunteer hours provided for students. RSVP: info@friendsofgreenwichpoint.org. friendsofgreenwichpoint.org

10 a.m.
Toddler Rave. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

2 - 3:30 p.m.
Lifetime of Looking – a public program for adults experiencing cognitive decline, and their family members/caregivers. Bruce Museum. Free with admission, advanced registration is required. 203-413-6743. srice@brucemuseum.org. brucemuseum.org

2 - 4 p.m.
Artful High Tea. Greenwich Arts Council, 299 Greenwich Ave. RSVP by June 15. greenwich-artsCouncil.org/artfulhightea

3:45 p.m.
Pre-K Rave. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

6 p.m.
All Things Peonies: Seasonal Floral Design Workshop with Dijana Xocoy of Toolbox Florals. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. \$145, Members; \$160, Non-Members. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

6:30 p.m.
Paris, Capital of Fashion A Lecture with Valerie Steele. Greenwich Historical Society. \$55, Members; \$60, Non-Members. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

12 - 1 p.m.
The Town of Greenwich annual Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration – Ceremony, Proclamation & Flag Raising. Outside Greenwich Town Hall.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
The Greenwich Arts Council and the Town of Greenwich Department of Parks and Recreation: Sandblast. Tod’s Point. Valid Resident Park Pass or Single-entry Ticket required for entry. greenwichct.gov/calendar

9:30 a.m.
YMCA of Greenwich Trailblazers Hiking Club: Cliff Walk Hike + Optional Open-Air Trolley Mansions Tour, Newport, RI. Register. greenwichymca.org/events

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Dad’s Fun Day. YMCA of Greenwich. Free & open to the community. RSVP. 203-869-1630. info@gwymca.org. greenwichymca.org/events

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
America 250: See George Washington’s Inaugural Bible. Greenwich Library. Free. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/16398641

11 a.m.
Snapology Space Wars Robotics (Ages 6-10). The J House Greenwich. \$35 per child. eventbrite.com/e/1553402762479

11 - 11:30 a.m.
Curator Tour: Fashioning America: 250 Years of Greenwich Style. Greenwich Historical Society. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

1 p.m.
Art Adventures: Your Plate Squared (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. brucemuseum.org

2 p.m.
Cinema at the Bruce and Focus on French Film present: “Colours of Time.” Bruce Museum. \$10. brucemuseum.org

MONDAYS

7 - 8:30 p.m.
Acting Technique with Sachi Parker MacLaine (Recommend 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. greenwich-history.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. experiencetaichi.org

5 - 7 p.m.
Kids In Crisis Lighthouse LGBTQ Youth Group Meeting - open to all LGBTQ youth in middle & high school. Wilton Historical Society, 224 Danbury Rd, Wilton. Free. 203-661-1911. lighthouse@kidsincrisis.org. kidsincrisis.org/get-help/lighthouse

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY:

8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Book Exchange – choose from a huge selection of books. Holly Hill Recycling Center. Free, or, donate books. (Open every Fri & Sat. books4everyone.org

GREENWICH LIBRARIES: greenwichlibrary.org

Friday, June 12
10 a.m.
Summer Garden Storytime (outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.

2 p.m.
Laser Engraved Frames - Flinn Gallery “extraORDINARY things.” 2nd Floor Meeting Room. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, June 13
10 a.m.
Summer Crafty Bilingual Storytime. Main Children’s Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

11 a.m.
Stories and Music with Darwin and Friends. Byram Shubert Library. 203-531-0426.

11 a.m.
Technology Help. Community Room #5. 203-625-6560. csherman@greenwichlibrary.org

1 p.m.
Cloak and Dagger Book Club. Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.

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

3 p.m.
Knit-Flicks: My Cousin Vinny. Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.

3 p.m.

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

Share Your Story Reception.
Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

Monday, June 15

10 a.m.
Summer Storytime. Main Children's Room.

11:30 a.m.
Blood Pressure Screening. Community Room #5.

3:15 p.m.
Battle of the Book Club with Ms. Flynn: The Carrefour Curse by Dianne Salerni. Byram Shubert Library Conference Room.

4 p.m.
Ashforth Family Concert: Plant a Seed and Read Musical Storytime (Summer Reading Kick-Off).
Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room.

Tuesday, June 16

10 a.m.
Spanish Storytime (Outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.

10 a.m.
Summer Sing-along. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

5 p.m.
International Book Club (ZOOM): The Correspondent by Virginia Evans.

7 p.m.
Foreign Affairs Book Group. Community Room #5.

Wednesday, June 17

10 a.m.
Summer Storytime. Main Children's Room.

10 a.m.
Storytime with Patty (Birth-5 years). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

12:30 p.m.
Summertime Baby Lapsit. The McArdle Family Community Room.

3 p.m.
R.E.A.D. to a Dog (All Ages). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

4 p.m.
Introduction to iPad. Learning Lab.

5 p.m.
Bookworms Book Club (Grades 2-3). Children's Constellation Room.

Thursday, June 18

10 a.m.
Japanese Storytime (outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.

11 a.m.
Tech Help. Learning Lab.

11:15 a.m.
Qi Gong. Online.

4 p.m.
Tai Chi Games for Kids (Ages 5+). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

4 p.m.
The Significance of Seeds presented by Earthplace. The McArdle Family Community Room.

7 p.m.
Lecture: Professor Robert Henrey. "Two Revolutions: The Unintended Consequence of France's Embrace of America." Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

7 p.m.
House of Fidelity with Justin Baer. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

Friday, June 19

10 a.m.
Summer Garden Storytime (outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.

7 p.m.
Friends Friday Films: "Sinners." Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org

Saturday, June 20

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

wichlibrary.org

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
America 250: See George Washington's Inaugural Bible. Greenwich Library – Jewel.

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

2 p.m.
Jerry's Movies: "Sunset Boulevard" directed by Billy Wilder. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR: ntngreenwich.org

Everyday, all day
• 24/7 Food Drive Collection site at North Greenwich Congregational Church, 606 Riversville Road. The weatherproof bin is located outside of the Parish Hall.
• Greenwich Reform Synagogue, 92 Orchard St., Cos Cob.

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

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

GREENWICH HOSPITAL: greenwichhospital.org/about/community/community-health

Better Breathers

Meets monthly – 11 a.m.

Via Zoom or in the Mianus Conference Room at Greenwich Hospital

For individuals with pulmonary conditions such as COPD, asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, lung cancer and more. Call 203-863-3173. Free.

Chronic Physical Disabilities Support

Second and fourth Thursdays of each month 11 - 2 p.m. | Zoom meetings

Join peers who have limited mobility due to chronic physical disabilities. Share resources, stories and perspectives. Pre-registration required. To register, call 203-863-2939. Free.

Family Caregiver Support

First and third Thursday of each month | 1 - 2 pm | Zoom meetings

Self-care and stress management for primary caregivers of individuals with dementia, a chronic condition or terminal illness. A brief prescreening is required for registration. Call 203-863-4375. Free.

Stroke Support

Monthly: Second Thursday | 1 - 2 p.m.

For patients recovering from stroke, caregivers, and families. Education, coping strategies, and peer support. Contact: sabrina.chateauvert@greenwichhospital.org

Movement Disorder Support Group

Bi-monthly: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays | 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

For patients with Parkinson's, dystonia, tremor, and other movement disorders. Contact: marisha.tamakuwala@greenwichhospital.org

ALS Support Group

Monthly: Third Thursday | 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Emotional and practical sup-

port for patients and caregivers. Contact: william.zaccagnino@greenwichhospital.org

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Support Group

Monthly: Third Thursday | 1 - 2 p.m.

For patients, caregivers and families. Contact: sabrina.chateauvert@greenwichhospital.org

Parkinson's Support Group

First and Third Wednesday of each month | 1:30 - 2:30 pm

For patients, families and caregivers. Long Ridge Medical Center, Conference room, 260 Long Ridge Road, Stamford. Call 203-863-4444. Free.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: redcrossblood.org

Friday, June 12

11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Westchester Medical Center - Taylor Pavilion South, 100 Woods Rd., Valhalla, NY.

Saturday, June 13

7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
YWCA, 259 E. Putnam Ave., Greenwich.

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Church of St. Patrick, 29 Cox Ave., Armonk, NY.

Sunday, June 14

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Monday, June 15

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

11:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Masonic Lodge DARIEN, 354 Post Road, Darien.

Tuesday, June 16

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

1:15 - 6 p.m.
NBC Sports, 1 Blachley Road, Stamford.

Wednesday, June 17

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Thursday, June 18

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Friday, June 19

12 - 5 p.m.
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Stamford, 1230 Newfield Ave., Stamford.

Saturday, June 20

7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
UCONN, One University Place, Stamford.

Sunday, June 21

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Monday, June 22

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church Stamford, 1101 Bedford St., Stamford.

Tuesday, June 23

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

TOWN MEETINGS: greenwichct.gov/calendar

Monday, June 15

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

6 p.m.
FS Arch Street Task Force Public Hearing. Town Hall Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom.

7 p.m.
RTM Full Meeting – Cancelled and Rescheduled due to storm.

Tuesday, June 16

11:30 a.m.
FS Operations Planning Committee Meeting. Mazza Room.

1 p.m.
BET Budget Committee. Town Hall Meeting Room.

7 p.m.
Board of Human Services Meeting.

Wednesday, June 17

10 a.m.
BET Debt & Fund Balance Policy Committee. Town Hall Meeting Room.

10:30 a.m.
FS Active Transportation Task Force Meeting. Virtual via Zoom.

12 p.m.
FS Nominating Advisory Committee Meeting. Via Zoom.

1 p.m.
BET HR Committee. Mazza Room.

7 p.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Regular Meeting.

7:30 p.m.
Claims Committee Meeting. Law Dept. Conference Room.

Thursday, June 18

10 a.m.
BET Audit Committee June 18, 2026, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM @ Cone Room.

1 p.m.
BET IAC Committee. Mazza Room.

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, June 13

10 a.m.
Steps for Strength – 1-mile fun run/walk. Greenwich High School's track. tinyurl.com/steps-forstrength

Saturday, June 20
Swim Across America – Fairfield County: "Make Waves to Fight Cancer." swimacrossamerica.org/fc

Monday, June 22

11:30 a.m.
YWCA Greenwich Annual Golf Tournament. Greenwich Country Club. ywcagreenwich.org/events/annual-golf-tournament

Thursday, June 25

5 p.m.
Bruce Museum's Annual Meeting and Exhibition Celebration. brucemuseum.org

6:30 p.m.
Greenwich Jazz Festival Opening Night. Round Hill Community House. backcountryjazz.org

Sunday, June 28

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
"Sunday in the Park with George." Roger Sherman Baldwin Park.

Saturday, July 11

7:30 a.m.
The Greenwich Swim Committee's 37th Annual One Mile

Swim. Tod's Point. gscevents.org/race-entry.html

Friday, Sept. 5

6:30 p.m.
Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich 'Heads & Tails' benefit. e.givesmart.com/events/ILB/

Thursday, Sept. 24

9 a.m.
Stepping Stones Museum for Children's 23rd annual Swing Into It! Golf Tournament. Stanwich Club, Greenwich. steppingstonesmuseum.org/experience/swing-into-it

Our Neighboring Towns

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

7:30 p.m.
Curtain Call presents "Guys & Dolls." The Kweskin Theatre, 1349 Newfield Ave., Stamford. Performances: Fri & Sat, 7:30pm, & Sun, 2pm (through June 27). curtain-callinc.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

11 a.m.
A Rescue Feast with Second Chance Foods. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org

7 p.m.
Connecticut Stage Company: What the Constitution Means to Me. New Canaan Library, 151 Main St., New Canaan. newcanaanlibrary.org/events/upcoming

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.
Voices Center of Resilience: Parents Helping Parents – a peer-to-peer support group for those who have suffered the loss of a child. VOICES office, 80 Main St, New Canaan. Free. Register. voicescenter.org

7 p.m.
Lecture: Project Limulus: Horse-shoe Crabs Restoration. Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Ave, Bridgeport. Free to attend; a suggested \$15 donation is appreciated. 203-394-6565. info@beardsleyzoo.org. beardsleyzoo.org

7 p.m.
Trivia Night. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

7 p.m.
Reimagining Grief with Kate Derge. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org

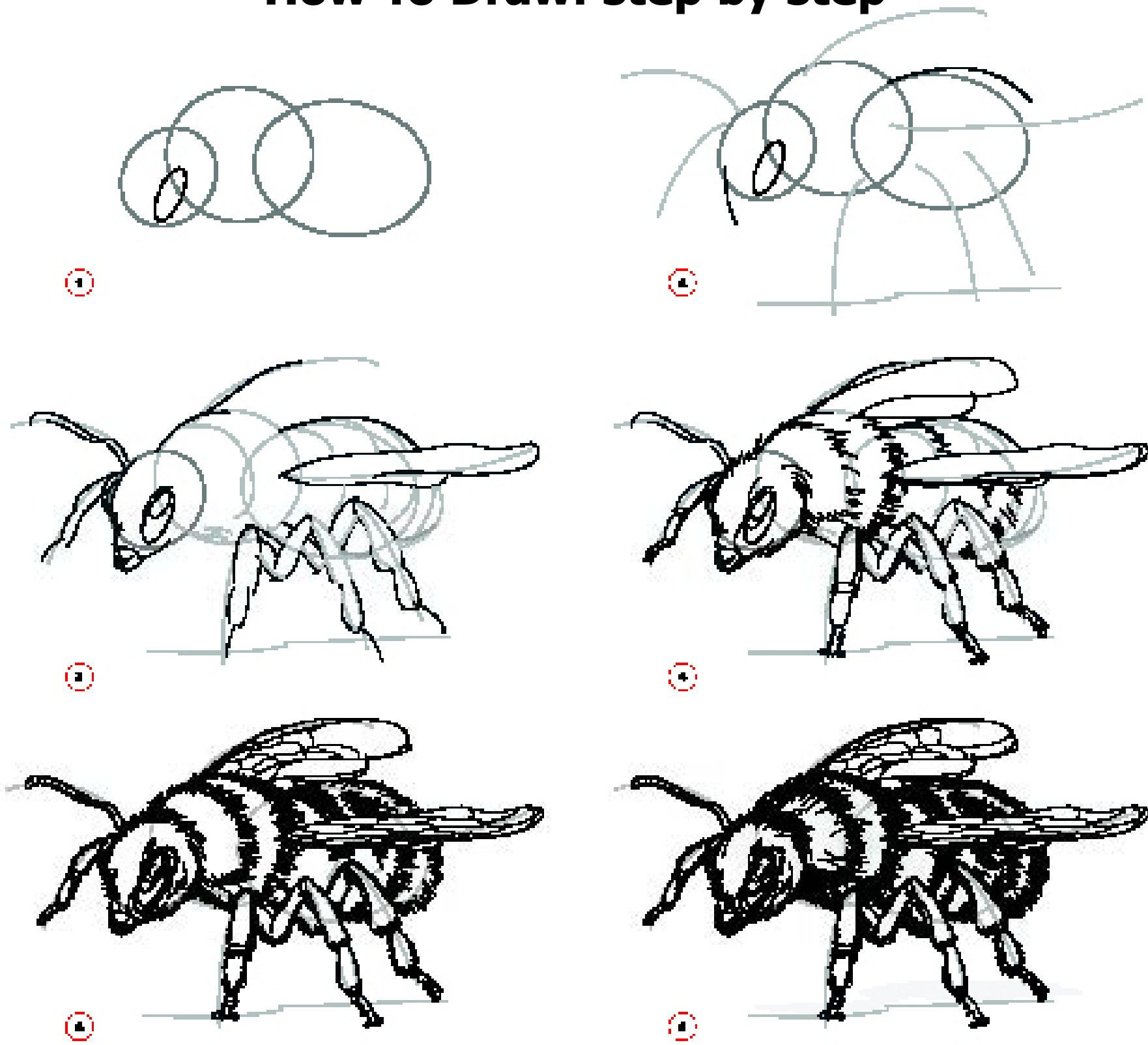
SATURDAY, JUNE 20

10:30 a.m.
Learning with Nature – Tomato Loves Basil. grace farms, 365 Lukes Wood Rd., New Canaan. 203-920-1702. gracefarms.org

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

3 p.m.
Orchestra Lumos: The History of Jazz in 80 Minutes. Stamford Museum and Nature Center, 151 Scofieldtown Rd., Stamford. orchestralumos.org/the-history-of-jazz-in-80-minutes-june

How To Draw: step by step



		3	
	3		1
2		1	
3	1	4	

1		4	
		1	
3	4		1
		3	

	4		3
		1	4
	1	3	
2			1

4	1		
3		4	
	4	3	2
2			

SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

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

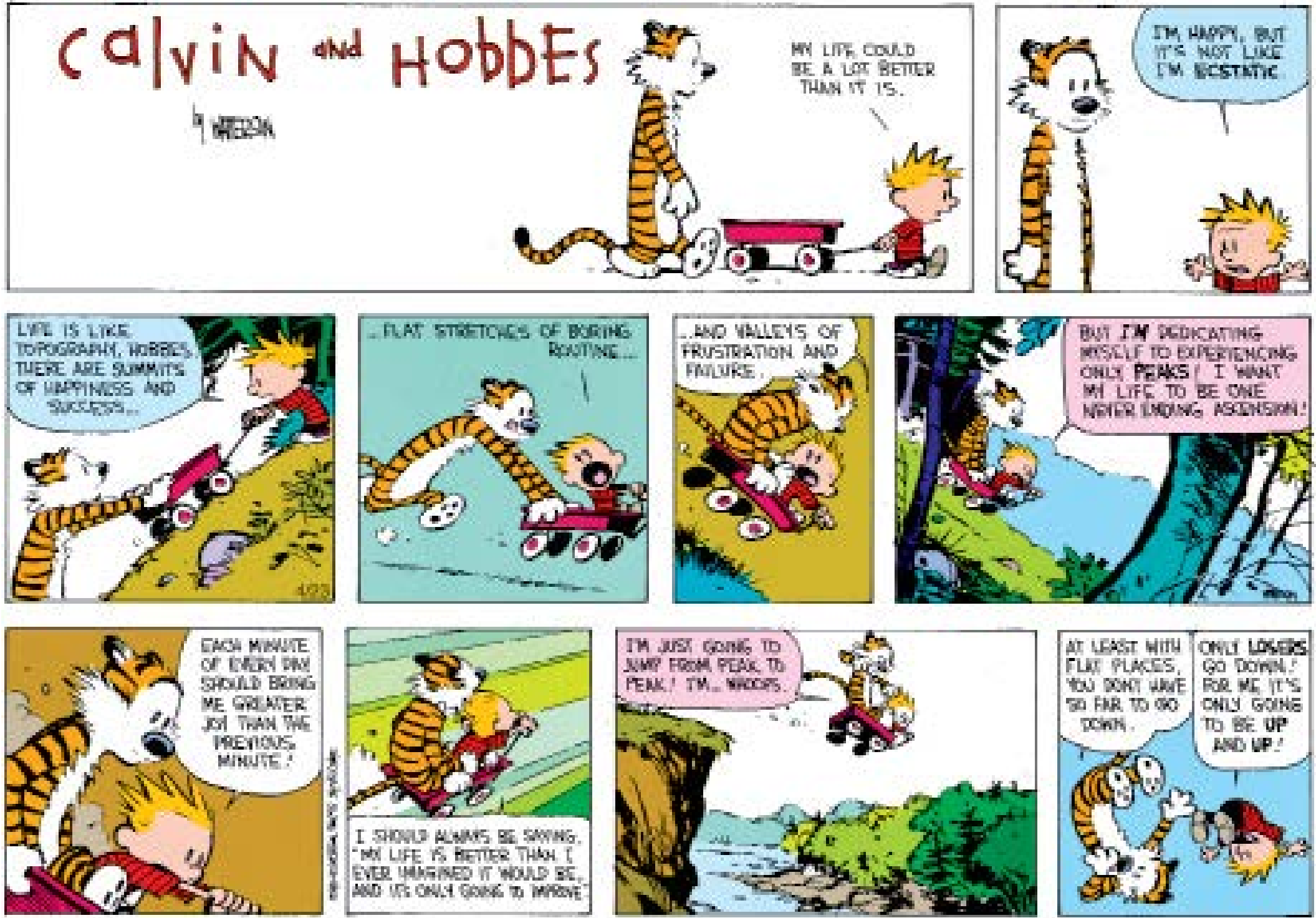
Very Hard								
				1	8	5	4	2
1	4		7					6
8	3							
		1	3		4	2		
							6	3
2					1		5	9
5	9	3	8	6				

Sudoku answers

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

EDUCATION

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



5

4

10

LEFT ?

RIGHT ?

6

4

4

4 = 4

1 = 4 - 3

1 = 7 + 1

1 - 1 + 1 = 1

10

10

The Garden's Ten Tiny Friends

The little boy had gone into the garden with a magnifying glass, which is a very good thing to take into a garden, because gardens are full of Very Small Creatures who do not always intro-

duce themselves. First he saw a ladybug, who was hurrying over a leaf as if she had remembered an appointment.

"Good morning," said the boy.
"Good morning," said the ladybug, though she did not stop, because ladybugs are often polite but seldom idle.
Then he saw a grasshopper, a beetle, a caterpillar, a snail, a dragonfly and several other important creatures, each doing something that seemed mysterious and necessary.
The boy counted them carefully.
"One, two, three," he said, and then he counted again, because counting insects is difficult when they have legs and opinions.
The caterpillar waved from a leaf.
"Are you lost?" asked the boy.
"Not at all," said the caterpillar. "I am simply going somewhere slowly."
This made excellent sense to the boy. So he lay down in the grass and looked at the garden again. It was no longer just leaves and flowers. It was a whole little world, busy from top to bottom, where even the smallest beetle had somewhere to be.
And the boy decided that finding ten objects was pleasant, but finding ten friends was better.

