

News Brief

POLICE & FIRE

Greenwich Officer Earns MADD Recognition



Greenwich Master Police Officer Josh Weinstock received a five-year award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving after making 248 DWI arrests during the period recognized. Weinstock, who joined the department in 2020, also serves as an EMT, Field Training Officer, Drug Recognition Expert, forensic phlebotomist, and member of the Motor Unit. Photo credit: Greenwich Police Department

Firefighters Contain Greenwich House Fire



Greenwich firefighters responded Sept. 23 to a barbecue grill fire that spread into a home. Crews extinguished the fire, and the scene was turned over to the Fire Marshal's Office for investigation. One civilian with burns and one firefighter were transported to a hospital. Photo credit: Greenwich Firefighters

FROM TOWN HALL

Greenwich Alliance Celebrates Twenty Years

The Greenwich Alliance for Education will mark its 20th anniversary beginning Friday, Sept. 25, with Greenwich Alliance Day across Greenwich Public Schools. Students districtwide will create individual pieces of art that will be combined by the Developing Artist Program into a mosaic column. The Alliance is Greenwich's public education foundation and supports programs in the arts, educational initiatives, and student learning opportunities.

Greenwich Leaf Blower Rules Ease

Greenwich's seasonal restriction on gas-powered leaf blowers will end Sept.

Please turn to page 4

GREEN THOUGHTS

edited by Anne W. Semmes

"Conserving resources was an American idea which began with Teddy Roosevelt.

The environmental movement is built on that foundation." Stewart L. Udall, U.S. Secretary of the Interior under President John F. Kennedy, The Norwalk Hour newspaper, March 2, 1990.



Sir Alexander McCall Smith shares a laugh with Greenwich Detective Christy Girard.

Dogwood Brings Worldwide Bestselling Author McCall Smith to Greenwich

Best-selling author of over 100 books and the creator of *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* talks writing, kindness, conversation, Botswana, bulldozers and why a supermarket-cart chase can be exciting enough

Sir Alexander McCall Smith has spent much of his literary career writing about people who listen. That may explain why an evening with the creator of *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* became a conversation about conversation itself: how people

speak to one another, what writers hear when they listen, what modern life loses when everyone retreats into a phone, and why ordinary exchanges can be as revealing as any spectacular crime. McCall Smith, interviewed before a Greenwich audience by Detective First Grade Christy Girard of the Greenwich Police Department, moved from law to literature, from Botswana to Edinburgh, from airplane announcements to Italian bulldozers. Girard was an unusually fitting interviewer. A longtime Greenwich investigator whose work has included homicides and cold cases, she was the lead investigator who helped solve the 1986 "Baby John" homicide after taking up the

case in 2016. Her work earned her the department's 2021 Dr. John Clarke Award for Officer of the Year. A real detective interviewing the creator of one of fiction's most recognizable detectives could have become a serious examination of investigative technique. Instead, Girard proved nearly as willing as McCall Smith to go looking for a joke. Born in what was then Southern Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, McCall Smith became a professor of medical law at the University of Edinburgh. He worked at the intersection of law, medicine and ethics before fiction became his principal occupation. "I think that many writers, I suspect, have several

existences," he said. "And writers often have to have the respectable job, the day job, and then there are writers in the background." That first existence, he suggested, was useful preparation. Law, like fiction, is built around human events. "The law, in a sense, is about stories," he said. "If you read a law report in a common law tradition, common law jurisdiction, it's a story about events from which certain legal principles may be deduced or induced." The instinct to write arrived much earlier. McCall Smith recalled sending his first manuscript to a publisher when he was eight. Written in pencil, it was called *He's Gone*. Please turn to page 14

Greenwich Publisher to Release of Pope Francis' Book, Hope, Unfailing in English

Measure Publishing LLC will publish and distribute an English-language edition of *Hope, Unfailing: Inspired Thoughts for Life's Journey*, described by the publisher as the final book written by Pope Francis. The work was first published in Italian as *La speranza non delude mai: Pellegrini verso un mondo migliore*, or *Hope Never Disappoints: Pilgrims Toward a Better World*. The English edition presents Francis' reflections on hope as a source of strength during periods of personal hardship and global uncertainty. Written in preparation for the Catholic Church's 2025 Jubilee Year, the book considers how people can resist resignation during a period shaped by war, poverty, famine, migration, environmental disasters and social division. Francis presents hope as an active commitment requiring justice, solidarity, love and service to others. "Pope Francis held that hope is before us in its many manifestations, discoverable, if we seek to be strengthened by it: he said hope is present in the face of a woman carrying a new life in her womb, in the face of a poor person still believing in the

future, of a refugee searching for a better tomorrow, or in the face of a soldier or of a civilian who prays for the soldier's safe return home, or in a pensioner and a child, walking hand [in] hand, free and safe," publisher Steve Acunto said. Those human figures provide the framework for Francis' consideration of family life, education, economic inequality, migration, armed conflict and the responsibilities shared by different generations. "For Pope Francis hope is the message for our age and may be a source for serious reflection on the family, on education, on our social, political and economic outlook, on geopolitics and migration, on our human ecology, our climate, our use of technologies including AI, and, ultimately upon peace, ours personally joined to that of the world," Acunto said. The 176-page edition includes French flaps and an eight-page color insert featuring photographs of Pope Francis. Quotations and citations throughout the volume provide context for his spiritual, social and ethical reflections.

Greenwich Schools Report Hiring Progress, Nine Paraprofessional Vacancies

Greenwich Public Schools reported hiring approximately 140 to 150 employees over the summer but still had nine paraprofessional vacancies, district officials told the Board of Estimate and Taxation's Human Resources Committee during a review of school staffing, municipal recruitment and workplace safety. At the September 16 meeting, Jonathan Budd, the district's chief human resources officer, said the hiring total included teachers, administrators, professional assistants, building substitutes and other employees. The district had hired 40 paraprofessionals, also called professional

assistants, while continuing to recruit for remaining openings. Budd credited earlier hiring and an employment contract that allows professional assistants to advance through pay steps faster and receive stipends for challenging assignments. He said applicants had come from Stamford and New Canaan. "And we want people who are here not just for the salary and benefits, but it's nice if better salary and benefits got them here," Budd said. The hiring total did not represent an equivalent expansion of the workforce. Budd said the district had not replaced every retiring or Please turn to page 3

Financial Column

Together in Marriage, Separate in Accounts?

BY JULIE JASON

Couples have options for how to handle their finances. The most obvious choice is whether to hold bank and investment accounts jointly or separately. Data show that the number of joint bank accounts is trending downward. As reported by U.S. Census Bureau economist Alex Opanasets, the Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation indicated that only 40% of married couples held all their bank accounts jointly, compared with 53% in 1996 (tinyurl.com/2vwbrba9). Different age groups



Please turn to page 5

BET Highlights

BY TOM McDERMOTT

Board of Estimate & Taxation Chair David Weisbrod began the September 22 Regular Meeting with a request for a moment of silence in honor of Dick Kriskey, who devoted himself to the Town of Greenwich throughout his life. Weisbrod praised his service as BET Chair, his six years on the Board of Education, the library board, and service on the RTM. "Those who knew him saw him as a good and kind and thoughtful person who loved Greenwich." Town of Greenwich Assessor Lauren Elliott noted in her report that in 2026 the town assessed a 10% penalty when commercial

Please turn to page 10

Stephanie Hazard's New Book on Recovery

A Return to Greenwich, and a Book About Learning to Begin Again

BY BETH BARHYDT

Before Stephanie Hazard arrived to discuss her new book about recovery, she drove past the club where she was speaking and turned around at her former home on Lake Avenue. She had lived there as a single mother, beginning the work of getting sober while raising her son, Jack. Sometimes she took him to 12-step meetings because she had no one to watch him. Other people played with him in the powder room while she sat and listened. Years later, Hazard returned to the neighborhood as a recovery coach and the author of *Making Sobriety Stick: A Recovery Coach's Guide to Sustainable Change*. Interviewing her was Icy Frantz, the friend who had introduced her to a therapist at the beginning of her recovery. The Greenwich conversation brought together two women whose connection to the subject preceded the book. Frantz told the audience that recovery had been part of her own life for 38 years. Hazard credited her friend with helping her find an early source of

Please turn to page 8

RMA Speaker Asks: Can We Turn the Ship Around? America’s Coming Fiscal Crisis

By TIM BROOKS

At the September 16th meeting of the Retired Men’s Association speaker, Jim Lockhart opened with the story he told in every government job he has held, at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, at Social Security, and while overseeing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. An aircraft carrier he called the USS Franklin Delano Roosevelt, after the father of Social Security, is steaming through fog with its radar out when the captain gets a message to turn hard to port ("rather than hard to starboard, because I wanted to be bipartisan"). The admiral storms to the bridge: "Who do you think you are, telling a three-star admiral what to do?" A tentative answer comes back: "I'm a second-class Coast Guard petty officer manning a lighthouse. If you don't change course, you'll run aground."

Introduced by Bob Meaney as a Greenwich resident, an RMA member, and a former U.S. Navy nuclear submarine officer, Jim was from 1989 Executive Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, then Principal Deputy Commissioner and Chief Operating Officer of Social Security, then Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, and served on the TARP Oversight Board through the 2008-2009 financial crisis. In the private sector he sat on four public-company boards, including Virgin Money in the UK, and was Vice Chair of WL Ross & Co. from 2009 to 2018. He is a former Chair of the Bruce Museum and a Senior Fellow at the Bipartisan Policy Center, where he co-chaired its Commission on Retirement Security. He holds a Yale BA and a Harvard Business School MBA, and is the author of the recent book “America: Underwater and Sinking.”

He had last spoken to the RMA on the same subject three years ago. The country has backslid since, he said, and the admiral has not turned around. The numbers came fast, in trillions. Deficits run \$2 trillion a year, and total federal debt has passed \$40 trillion, 122 percent of GDP. The 10-year Treasury, the rate that drives mortgages, touched five percent for the first sustained time since 2007, and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, he noted, has warned the President that "the bond market has taken out more governments than howitzers." "I wish someone in command would pay attention."

Borrowing Ben Bernanke's line that the federal government is "an insurance company with an army," Lockhart counted more than 150 federal insurance programs, covering cows, trees, and art along with health and retirement, and showed a spending line pulling steadily away from revenue, with interest costs climbing the list. On the current path the Treasury's own long-range projection reaches 576 percent of GDP in

75 years. "Well before then, you're a third-world country."

Recognizing that he was talking to a retired men's organization, Lockhart turned to Social Security, which turned 91 in August and which, he said, will never be on a sustainable path until it is fixed. Benefits paid last year were about \$1.6 trillion against \$1.4 trillion collected, the difference drawn from the trust fund. Al Gore's “lockbox” will be empty within six years. This year's trustees report moved the date from 2033 to 2032, partly on lower birth and immigration assumptions and partly because this year's budget bill cut the income tax on benefits that had been feeding the fund.

When it runs dry, benefits are cut 22 percent across the board, and Connecticut, he showed, will take the biggest average cut of any state, \$556 a month. Nobody has fixed the program since Reagan and Tip O'Neill in 1983, and in Lockhart’s telling Presidents Biden and Trump have each made the arithmetic worse, "doing something that's very easy in Washington, buying votes." "Every president seems to say, 'I'm going to protect Social Security, and I'm going to protect it by doing nothing.'" A proposal to pay a \$5,000 dividend to every adult, floated the week before, would cost \$1.2 trillion.

Lockhart did not leave the room without hope. Against a photograph of a much younger submariner aboard the USS George Washington Carver ("I had a lot more hair in those days"), he made the point of his book's title: it is time to surface. What is needed as soon as possible, he argued, is a bipartisan, bicameral fiscal commission, established by Congress and approved by the President, charged with getting the deficit back to three percent of GDP over time, from the six percent gap between spending and revenue today.

Nine years ago he co-chaired a Bipartisan Policy Center commission with former Senator Kent Conrad whose package would have fixed Social Security "forever": gradually raise the retirement age, make benefits more progressive while raising them for the lowest earners, adopt a more accurate price index, and gradually raise both the payroll tax and the cap on taxable wages. Half the fix would be from taxes and half from benefits. The same commission should take on Medicare, Medicaid, the discretionary programs that survive only because one congressman loves them, and tax deductions. DOGE, in his view, cut in the wrong places. "We need to start now."

Asked to explain budget reconciliation, which the White House has said it would use to fund the \$5,000 checks, he said it was meant to pay for itself and now carries "so many goodies," and gave his humble opinion that the dividend



Jim Lockhart warned of the risks of recession aggravated by the huge deficits in the federal budget. RMA Photo.

What is needed as soon as possible is a bipartisan, bicameral fiscal commission, established by Congress and approved by the President, charged with getting the deficit back to three percent of GDP over time.

would never pass. Hollister Sturges asked about the understaffed IRS. Having met its new chief executive three months earlier, Lockhart said the claim of doing as much with less staff is simply not true: audits have fallen, taxpayers play games, and tens or even hundreds of billions go uncollected.

A member who thanked him "for such an optimistic presentation" asked what the day of reckoning would look like. Lockhart drew on 2008: people lose confidence, lenders pull money out, rates spike, a market craters, and a deep recession follows. "We could have a big blip."

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.”

The RMA's next presentation, “Sleep and Aging: Tips and Information for a Better Night’s Sleep” by Julia Chafkin, Ph.D. is scheduled for 11 AM on Wednesday, September 30, 2026. RMA presentations are held at Christ Church Greenwich, Parish Hall, 254 E. Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830.

Please join us on September 30th for a presentation on sleep and aging with Julia Chafkin, Ph.D. a clinical psychologist at Weill Cornell Medicine. Dr. Chafkin will provide information about sleep mechanics and architecture, how sleep changes with age, factors that can interfere with sleep, tips and tricks to improve sleep, and information about stress and sleep.

Dr. Chafkin is an Assistant Professor of Psychology in Clinical Psychiatry at the

Weill Cornell Institute of Geriatric Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medicine. She completed her doctoral studies at The University of Texas at Austin, and her predoctoral internship at Duke University School of Medicine. She completed her postdoctoral fellowship in the Adult Outpatient Department at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Westchester Behavioral Health, Weill Cornell Medicine. Dr. Chafkin is a licensed clinical psychologist with interests in the treatment of mood and anxiety disorders. Her research interests are in biological and behavioral markers and predictors of psychopathology during critical periods across the lifespan.

To stream the presentation by Julia Chafkin, Ph.D. at 11 AM on Wednesday, September 30, click on <https://bit.ly/30IBj2l>. This presentation will also be available on local public access TV channels, Verizon FIOS channel 24 and Optimum channel 79.

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

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



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**Sunday, September 27
10:00 am**

**Round Hill
Community House**

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In memory of Gigi, we share Donna Mitchell Mabes' photograph of her little white dog in Bruce Park. The image won third place in the Greenwich Parks and Recreation Photo Contest.

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ROUND HILL STORE
From Page 1

patrons who use the store.

The survey responses reflected interest in some upscale offerings as well. The challenge for the owners is to accommodate those tastes while retaining options for customers looking for an affordable meal.

That range of expectations gives the discussion a practical focus. Residents are asking for improvements to what the store serves and how it feels, with attention to the different people who come through its doors. Price is part of that conversation, alongside quality and comfort.

The wish for café surroundings also connects to Royce and Brumberg’s broader vision. A place where people can meet, mingle and chat would make gathering an explicit part of the property’s future. Their description puts the conversations that might happen there alongside the purchases customers might make.

The new owners of the backcountry hub, The Round Hill Store, Chuck Royce and Ryan Brumberg, flanking Chuck’s wife Deborah and his daughter Alexandra Kittle.

SCHOOL HIRING
From Page 1

resigning secondary school teacher in subjects including English, mathematics and science, while adding positions in special education. He believed overall staffing, measured in full-time equivalents, had declined; detailed figures would follow in October.

Class sections remained flat overall after a late addition at Cos Cob School offset an earlier reduction, Budd said. The district also opened its 19th preschool class at Parkway School, restoring a program that had previously operated there.

Committee members sought more information about enrollment, classroom space and staffing needs. Chair Elliot Alchek requested enrollment data, available projections and class-size information for the

October meeting. Budd said the Board of Education would receive enrollment information after the October 1 reporting date.

A discussion of possible preschool relocations did not establish a plan to move classes from Cos Cob to Riverside. Budd said he had not heard the details of that possibility and noted that Cos Cob currently had three preschool classes.

Budd also reported that another round of state assistance was expected to help paraprofessionals pay for health insurance. Last year, employees with family coverage received approximately \$3,000 each, he said. The forthcoming payments had not yet been specified, and amounts depend on insurance costs and employee contributions.

Town Human Resources Director Mary Pepe reported that recruitment was underway for a deputy police chief following James Bonney’s September

1 retirement. All candidates were internal, she said, and the department was preparing for the captain’s vacancy expected to result from a promotion.

The town was also recruiting an automation specialist by repurposing an administrative assistant position in its information technology department. Pepe described the salaries as relatively comparable, although the positions belonged to different unions.

Workers’ compensation reports showed a slight increase

in incidents, particularly assaults and slips and falls, according to Pepe. She cautioned that incident counts alone do not explain costs because a small number of serious injuries can substantially affect the totals.

Pepe said safety analysts investigate incidents involving medical treatment or lost work time, with corrective measures and training pursued when needed. A fuller safety presentation was planned for November.

The committee also

discussed an October presentation on artificial intelligence by town Chief Information Officer Tom Klein. Alchek described a proposed focus on practical safeguards, including protection of sensitive town information. Members differed over whether broader ethical questions belonged in the committee’s discussion.

Pepe said human resources staff were exploring AI but did not intend to use it at that point for recruitment or major employment decisions such as terminations.

Doug Fenton reported progress on a request for proposals for the town’s compensation study, with a draft expected to be at or near completion by the next meeting. Members approved the July 15 and July 20 meeting minutes, 4-0-0.

Budd said his October school board update would also address findings from exit interviews and provide additional information about the district’s summer hiring and staffing changes.

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Part of Round Hill Neighbor Day

70Years

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The Representative Town Meeting will consider a \$799,200 appropriation Sept. 28 for traffic-signal, pedestrian-safety, and accessibility improvements at the intersection of Greenwich Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Bruce Park Drive, and Steamboat Road. A \$657,653 state Community Connectivity grant is expected to cover about 82 percent of the construction cost.

Greenwich has good reason to love its police department. For 130 years, its officers have accepted responsibility for the town's safety, including the hours when the rest of us can take that safety for granted. This anniversary is an opportunity to recognize how much of our daily peace depends on their work, and how much they contribute beyond it.

Consider Chief Jim Heavey. In 2024, the American Red Cross honored his 50 years of service. By then, he had donated more than 100 pints of blood and taught thousands of people lifesaving skills. His association with the organization began with a first aid course at 14. Evidently, he took the assignment seriously.

Heavey grew up here, and his commitment to Greenwich has the depth of someone who understands that a hometown comes with obligations. An Eagle Scout, he spent years as Scoutmaster of Troop 35 and has continued serving as an assistant Scoutmaster. He has volunteered with the Glenville Volunteer Fire Company and American Legion Post 29. Most people would consider running a police department sufficient civic involvement. He appears to regard it as a good beginning.

There is something reassuring about a chief whose experience of leadership includes getting young people through a camping trip. Scouting requires patience, preparation and an understanding that responsibility must be taught by example. Those qualities serve a police department well. They also help explain why Heavey's place in Greenwich extends into so many families' lives.

His officers bring that same willingness to participate. When Scouts camped on Great Captain Island in 2024, marine officers Kevin Ingraham and Steve Frano brought a public safety vessel to the island and explained its equipment. Young people who might otherwise see a police boat from shore could meet its crew and understand its purpose. The next time they see that vessel, they know something about the people aboard.

The connection continues through the seasons. Officers help collect food for Neighbor to Neighbor and toys for Barbara's House. The annual Battle of the Badges brings police, firefighters and EMS together to recruit blood donors during the holidays. The departments compete for bragging rights. Greenwich can happily tolerate that jurisdictional dispute.

These efforts accompany work requiring considerable skill and courage. James Bonney earned recognition for a lifesaving water rescue. Jason Lyman received a lifesaving award for performing CPR. Daniel Bucci has helped women learn to defend themselves while also investigating burglaries. Their service illustrates the range of needs that can arrive with a call for help. A town needs officers who can act decisively and who care what happens to the person in front of them.

We value their presence on Greenwich Avenue and throughout our neighborhoods. An officer people recognize and can approach helps a town feel connected and cared for. That familiarity grows through years of showing up. We should appreciate the time and attention it takes.

On October 17, the anniversary Policeman's Ball at Riverside Yacht Club will support the Greenwich Police Department Scholarship Fund, which has helped officers' children pursue their education since 1963. Eight officers now serving Greenwich were scholarship recipients themselves. As Heavey wrote, "They once benefited from the generosity of this community, and now they have chosen to serve it."

Their families know what this profession asks. They arrange holidays around shifts and accept that someone else's emergency can interrupt their plans. Helping their children is a fitting expression of our gratitude.

Greenwich is fortunate to have officers who give so much of themselves to the place they protect. The anniversary belongs to generations of them, including those whose good work never became a headline. We hope residents will support the scholarship fund and take this occasion to say thank you. **Attendance is one option; a contribution is another, an ad in the event program book is a very good option as well.** For 130 years, the department has answered Greenwich's calls. This is a good moment for Greenwich to answer theirs.

SUBMITTED AS A LETTER

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Tina Courpas and her re-election to represent the 149th District in the Connecticut House of Representatives. What stands out to me is her willingness to listen, ask tough questions, and make difficult decisions with an eye toward Connecticut's long-term affordability.

During her first term she demonstrated her leadership on fiscal responsibility by defending the state's budget controls known as the fiscal guardrails that help pay down pension obligations and making sure new spending is backed by clear results and accountability.

In 2017 Connecticut enacted the fiscal guardrails that limited state spending and require unexpected, volatile tax revenues to be used to pay down Connecticut's massive unfunded state employee pension debt. Since then, Connecticut has reduced its unfunded pension debt by \$2 billion, but as of 2024 the state still had the second-highest pension debt per resident in the country at \$10,151 per person and had only funded 59.5% of its pension liability (only 4 states had funded less).

Despite the size of its 2024 pension debt the legislature during the 2025-2026 legislative session repeatedly violated

the fiscal guardrails and directed \$2.814 billion into other programs, money which could have instead gone to pay down the pension debt that future generations will now have to pay.

And what's more, during this term the legislature approved state employee pay increases that will result in 60% pay increases for state employees since 2019, making Connecticut state employees the highest-paid state employees in the country – pay increases that will in turn give them larger pensions that Connecticut taxpayers, few of whom have received such massive pay increases, will have to pay for in the future.

Tina voted against the diversion of this \$2.814 billion and against the latest pay increases for state employees, demonstrating that she understands that keeping Connecticut affordable requires making difficult choices today rather than passing greater costs on to future generations.

Please join me in supporting Tina Courpas on November 4 and giving her the opportunity to continue representing our Greenwich and Stamford district in Hartford.

Sincerely, Lucia D. Jansen
Greenwich, CT

SUBMITTED AS A LETTER

Dear Greenwich Voters,
Connecticut's system for funding public education needs to catch up with the realities facing our schools, communities and taxpayers today.

Two formulas deserve particular attention: the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula and the school construction reimbursement formula.

Both are designed to distribute state resources based in part on student needs and municipal wealth. Those are important considerations. But we should also be asking a basic question: Do these formulas still reflect the actual costs of educating students, building schools and maintaining strong public education in Connecticut today?

There is good reason to ask.
For FY2025-26, Greenwich Public Schools has an operating budget, (not including the Capital Budget) of approximately \$253 million. This year Greenwich's primary state ECS entitlement is approximately \$1.02 million. In 2014 Greenwich received \$3,418,642

With more than 8,000 students in Greenwich Public Schools, that amounts to roughly \$123 in ECS funding per student.

ECS is intentionally designed to direct greater state resources toward communities with higher student needs and lower fiscal capacity. That principle is important and should remain. But Greenwich taxpayers are left funding the overwhelming majority of our school operating costs locally while also contributing substantially to Connecticut through state taxes.

School construction presents another challenge. For FY2026, Greenwich's statutory state reimbursement rate is 20% for general school construction and just 10% for new construction, the minimum rates under Connecticut's reimbursement system. Certain projects or portions of projects can qualify for additional reimbursement under state law, but Greenwich begins at the bottom of the reimbursement range.

That matters when school construction projects can cost tens or even hundreds of millions of dollars.

A formula can be uniform on paper while producing very different practical consequences for different communities. And high property values do not mean that taxpayers have an unlimited ability to absorb rising education and construction costs.

This is not simply a Greenwich concern. Connecticut itself has recognized that its education-funding system needs

Earlier this year, Governor Lamont established the Blue-Ribbon Commission on K-12 Education Funding and Accountability, calling for a comprehensive review of how Connecticut funds its public schools.

Greenwich needs to have a strong voice in that conversation.

We should ask Connecticut to:

- Update the ECS formula so its underlying assumptions reflect the current cost of educating students.
- Regularly review education funding to account for inflation and changing educational requirements.
- Examine whether the measures of municipal wealth used in the ECS formula accurately reflect a community's fiscal capacity.
- Review school-construction reimbursement rates and the assumptions used to calculate them.
- Provide greater transparency so taxpayers can understand how their municipality's state education aid and construction reimbursement rates are determined.
- Recognize that high property values do not necessarily mean taxpayers have unlimited capacity to absorb additional education and construction costs.

This is not an argument for taking resources away from students or communities with greater needs.

It is an argument for making sure the formulas used to distribute billions of dollars in education funding are current, transparent and fair to every Connecticut taxpayer.

Greenwich residents contribute substantially to Connecticut. We should expect a seat at the table when the state determines how education dollars are allocated and how much of the cost of our schools must be borne locally.

Connecticut is already reconsidering how it funds education.

Greenwich should help shape what comes next.

Michael Mason
Candidate for the 151st district

SUBMITTED AS A COLUMN

Debt Policy and the Capital Tax Levy

By Andreas Duus

As it has periodically in the past, the Board of Estimate and Taxation (“BET”) is revisiting the Town’s debt policy to consider the possible extension of the maturities of new bonding. This has been a change sought by the Democrats for many years, if not decades. The better course remains, however, to retain the existing policy while increasing the annual Capital Tax Levy (“CTL”) by at least an additional \$2 million—raising the annual increase from \$3 million to \$5+ million—to reflect the Town’s substantially higher capital-spending plans.

Background
Ultimately, the Town pays for all capital projects with tax revenues or other public revenues. Debt is a financing tool that separates the timing of capital expenditures from the collection of the revenues needed to pay for them.

At one extreme, the Town could avoid debt entirely and fund current capital expenditures solely from current tax revenues. By eliminating interest expense, this would generally be the lowest-cost method of financing. Remarkably, that is essentially what Greenwich did for

approximately seven decades—avoiding issuing term debt from the aftermath of the Great Depression until 2000, when the Town issued five-year general-obligation bonds to finance its acquisition of the Pomerance property.

At the other extreme, the Town could finance each capital project with debt whose repayment period approximates the useful life of the asset. Advocates of this approach argue that it is more equitable because the taxpayers who benefit from an asset help pay for it over time. It also reduces the immediate burden on current taxpayers, although it increases interest expense and long-term indebtedness.

Neither extreme provides the flexibility the Town requires. Each year, Greenwich funds a portfolio of capital projects that vary greatly in size, duration and useful life. Many larger projects require expenditures over several years. The Town’s current policy is therefore a lower-cost, flexible hybrid: it funds part of its capital program from current tax revenues and finances much of the balance with relatively short-term debt.

The Town’s Current Policy Provides Low Cost and Flexibility

For approximately two decades, generally under Republican leadership, the Town has generally financed its capital program through two successive one-year bond anticipation notes (“BANs”), followed in the third year by five-year amortizing debt. The financing requirements for individual projects are aggregated into a single annual BAN issue and, subsequently, a single issue of five-year notes or bonds.

Because the municipal yield curve is generally upward-sloping and the Town’s borrowings have relatively short maturities, Greenwich ordinarily pays lower interest rates than it would on longer-term debt. The short repayment period also reduces the Town’s risk of borrowing at rates above future inflation and preserves borrowing capacity.

The BET has prudently established several policy guidelines under Republican leadership, including a requirement that at least 10% of capital expenditures be funded from current taxes and a limit under which annual debt service may not exceed 11% of the operating budget.

It may not be an overstatement to say that

Greenwich’s debt policy is unusual among large municipalities. The Town has been financially strong enough to follow this conservative approach and avoid the excessive reliance on long-term debt seen elsewhere. Credit-rating agencies have identified Greenwich’s low debt burden, rapid repayment of principal and financial flexibility as important supports for its AAA credit rating. As a result, the Town may fund at lower interest rates while retaining ample access to the municipal credit markets.

The policy allows an exception for projects supported by separate revenue streams, including sewer projects (supported by sewer taxes) and the Nathaniel Witherell (supported by fees). The State permits debt issued for such projects may have a final maturity as long as 20 years.

The Capital Tax Levy is a Critical Adjunct

The annual Capital Tax Levy is a critical adjunct to the Town’s debt policy. It is not a separate tax imposed in addition to Greenwich property taxes. Rather, it is a separately identified portion of the Town’s overall property-tax requirement that is earmarked in the budget to pay debt service

and directly fund a portion of capital expenditures.

The CTL ensures that current taxpayers contribute toward current capital investment. In doing so, it limits long-term indebtedness, reduces interest expense and helps the Town remain within its debt-policy guidelines.

Formally introduced during the administration of former First Selectman Jim Lash, the CTL was intended to grow along with the Town’s capital requirements. During the nine fiscal years beginning with FY 2018–19—the earliest year for which comparable data are readily available—the CTL has increased from \$50.8 million to \$66.0 million, including the most recent \$3 million annual increase (The Republicans on the BET had sought a \$5 million increase). Over much of that period, growth in capital spending and borrowings was relatively modest.

That situation has now changed. Capital spending budgeted for the Town’s General Fund for the current fiscal year is approximately \$92 million—about a third higher than the prior ten-year average. Projected capital spending rises even further, to approximately \$148 million and \$135 million, in the

following two fiscal years. In the meeting of the BET Debt Policy Committee this past week, one Democratic member suggested that future capital spending may never return to the former lower levels.

If the CTL continues to increase by only \$3 million annually, the combination of projected higher borrowing and higher debt service would cause the Town to fall outside two of its debt-policy guidelines by FY 2031. Increasing the CTL by \$5+ million annually—an additional \$2+ million above the current annual increase—would substantially erase the non-compliance gap with those guidelines without altering the Town’s underlying debt policy.

In summary, higher capital spending should not be allowed to “wag” debt policy. Decisions about which capital projects to undertake should be made on their merits. Once those investment decisions have been made, however, the Town must adopt a financing plan that preserves its fiscal discipline. When capital spending rises substantially, the Capital Tax Levy should rise accordingly.

SUBMITTED AS A LETTER

I have known Tina Courpas for over a decade. I strongly encourage all residents of the 149th district to support her re-election as our State Representative.

Tina Courpas is one of a vanishing breed of politician—she is a brilliant, energetic and thoughtful leader who cares deeply about the future of our state and understands the longer-term implications of policy decisions made by elected officials. A Columbia Law School grad who worked at a top-tier law firm, Tina has the experience and intellectual chops to craft, analyze, negotiate and understand the impact of legislation.

Tina is a savvy realist, but she is not a cynic. The daughter of Greek immigrants—Tina speaks fluent Greek and attends Greek Orthodox church—she believes strongly that our political system can effect positive change in people’s lives. She has wanted to be an elected representative since she was a little girl.

Tina has a tireless work ethic. She voted in 100% of the 316 roll-call votes held during her term, including one vote cast when she was seriously injured, and had to take an Uber from her home in Glenville to Harford to vote during a nighttime session.

SUBMITTED AS A LETTER

Jill Has A Senior Agenda Grounded in Compassion

To the Editor:

I met Jill Oberlander many years ago. Early on, I learned that one of her great strengths, among the many she has, is her compassion.

Simply put, Jill cares.

The ethic of caring came to Jill early in life. Her father was an OB-GYN who provided care to many of his patients who could not afford it. His

concern and care for others was passed on to Jill.

Today, that compassion is evident in her approach to senior care.

Jill believes that after a lifetime of working, raising families and contributing to our communities, older residents should be able to remain here, live independently and receive dependable care when needed.

Jill’s approach to senior care is practical. She intends to look at expanding the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders beyond its current enrollment limits, improving access to home health aides, transportation, meal programs and other community-based services. When nursing-home care becomes necessary, Jill will demand clarity on safety, staffing and quality.

And importantly, she will push to make it easier for families to understand and apply for available programs.

Older residents deserve security, independence and dignity. Jill has the experience, judgment and values to turn these goals into responsible, compassionate public policy.

Yours truly, Lucy Krasnor

SUBMITTED AS A LETTER

How Do You Get Important Work Done That Actually Works?

If there is one thing I’ve learned from serving in Greenwich government, it’s that most of the problems we deal with locally don’t come with a Republican solution or a Democratic solution. They come with a responsibility to sit down, listen to each other, and figure out what works.

That’s exactly what we did during my four years on the Greenwich Board of Education. The eight-member Board was evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats, and the first votes for Chairman ended in a 4-4 partisan deadlock. We eventually found a way forward, and I was elected Chairman unanimously, with Democrat Christina Downey serving as Vice Chair.

Our balanced and effective approach

mattered to me because our schools had enough challenges without adding partisan politics. We were dealing with budgets, major construction projects, the aftermath of COVID, curriculum issues, and the everyday responsibility of educating thousands of Greenwich children. As Chairman, I wrote at the time that everyone needed a voice and that our job was to bring different perspectives to the table, make decisions, and then work together to carry them out.

This same approach is what I’ve tried to bring to the Board of Estimate and Taxation. I currently serve on the Budget Committee with members of both parties. The BET is evenly divided between six Democrats and six Republicans, and its responsibilities are

substantial: preparing the Town budget, establishing the mill rate, and making decisions about how the town spends taxpayers’ money.

During this year’s budget process, I said my goal was to understand what each department actually needed and work from there. Members of both parties described the process as more cooperative and disciplined, and the full BET ultimately worked through the Town budget with unanimous votes on key actions.

Does that mean everyone agrees on everything? Of course not. They shouldn’t. Republicans and Democrats bring different priorities and different ideas to the table, and those differences can be significant at times.

But disagreement doesn’t have to mean dysfunction.

To me, successful public service means getting something done after the debate is over. You listen, you make your case, you look for common ground, and sometimes you compromise. Then you decide and you move forward.

That has been my experience on the Greenwich Board of Education and the BET. We have been able to disagree without treating one another as enemies, and we have gotten important work done because of it.

Connecticut could use more of that.

Joe Kelly is a candidate for the Connecticut State Senate to represent the 36th District.

SUBMITTED AS A LETTER

Joe Kelly a Pragmatic Problem Solver

Dear Neighbors,

I am writing to urge you to support Joe Kelly in the race for Connecticut State Senate in the 36th District. Our state faces multiple challenges that demand real solutions, and Joe is the leader we need to address them. Whether it is local control over planning and zoning, acting with fiscal discipline or addressing our crippling electric rates, Hartford needs Joe’s common sense approach to building consensus.

I believe the energy issue is a good example to highlight. Years of Democrat control of the State Legislature has resulted in Connecticut families being crushed by some of the highest

electricity costs in the nation. Month after month, residents open their utility bills only to find continued increases that strain household budgets and threaten our state’s business competitiveness. This is not acceptable, and it demands bold action from someone who understands both the problem and how to fix it.

Joe Kelly has a proven track record as a pragmatic problem-solver who listens to constituents and delivers results. Unlike career politicians who have presided over increasing utility costs while doing little to remedy the situation, Joe brings a fresh perspective and actual industry experience to hold utilities

accountable and find real solutions to bring relief to our communities.

As Democrat policies continue to fail our state, Joe is proposing substantive reform. He understands that we need to challenge the regulatory frameworks that permit our utilities to pass costs to consumers without meaningful oversight. Joe recognizes that energy policy reform, including diversifying our energy sources, streamlining regulations, and demanding accountability, must be central to any legislative agenda.

Connecticut’s residents deserve a state senator who will prioritize their wallets and their quality of life. We cannot afford another

term of incremental politics and empty promises. We need someone willing to take on entrenched interests and fight for policies which benefit all residents of the state.

Joe Kelly has earned the support of people across the political spectrum who believe in principled leadership. He will bring energy, integrity, and determination to Hartford.

Please join me and vote for Joe Kelly for State Senate on November 3rd.

*Respectfully, Jerry Cincotta
Former Chairman, Greenwich Republican
Town Committee*



We saved you a seat!

We welcome your opinion at <https://www.greenwichsentinel.com/send-letter-to-the-editor/>. Letters may be submitted under your name or anonymously – an accommodation we make in recognition of today’s rancorous and sometimes frightening climate, in which honest opinions too often invite disproportionate reprisals. Being afraid of speaking up is a gut-wrenching reality for too many.

All submissions should be civil in tone and free from personal insults. We are committed to printing all opinion pieces as they come in that are within our guidelines and that will fit on our pages. How pieces are submitted is a direct reflection of how they are typically published. Pieces submitted as Letters are usually run as Letters and those submitted as OpEds that meet the guidelines are run as OpEds, etc. These letters are in no way the opinion of the Greenwich Sentinel, they are the opinion of the writers. If you disagree with an OpEd or letter, please submit your own opinion! We would like to hear from everyone and we hope our readers do too.



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HAZARD STORY From Page 1

support.

The book, published Sept. 22 by Diversion Books and distributed by Simon & Schuster, combines personal experience with practical guidance. Hazard described work that can include daily calls, meetings, help preparing meals or living in a client’s home as a recovery companion.

“I am their person. I am their accountability partner,” she said.

The decision to write began with another conversation, on a Nantucket beach on Aug. 11, 2020. Hazard and Jack were discussing what a book about recovery coaching might involve when a man approached.

Hazard initially feared they had violated pandemic restrictions. Instead, the stranger had overheard them. His son, Zachary, had died of a heroin overdose the previous summer, he told her. He wanted her to write the book.

“It was undeniable to me that I got my marching orders from a complete stranger,” Hazard said.

She stayed in contact with the man, Paul, obtained permission to tell his story and sent him the first signed copy. He later attended a celebration on Zoom, she said.

Hazard’s account of coaching focused on the transition from treatment to ordinary life. A person leaving a residential program returns to relationships, responsibilities and familiar surroundings. She sees continuing support as central to navigating that return, although a coach can become involved before treatment or after a relapse as well.

She distinguished her role from those of therapists, counselors and 12-step sponsors, explaining that coaches work alongside them. Her own recovery includes a 12-step program, but she said a client’s choices should guide the support she offers.

That flexibility extends to language. Hazard described meeting a young man who rejected the suggestion that he needed

Stephanie Hazard discusses her new book, *Making Sobriety Stick: A Recovery Coach’s Guide to Sustainable Change*, with longtime friend Icy Frantz about recovery and continuing support during a Greenwich conversation with an audience of about 50 people.

recovery. When the conversation shifted to wellness and feeling less anxious, he became willing to participate.

“I can’t assume that anybody is going to resonate with the word recovery,” she said.

Her clients have also changed her understanding of herself. One woman’s discussion of trauma prompted Hazard to reconsider experiences she had not understood in those terms, she said. She subsequently worked with therapists trained in trauma and pursued additional training herself.

Speaking openly required confronting subjects she had kept private, including sexual abuse and an eating disorder. Listening to others speak honestly about their experiences helped her begin, she said; the compassion she felt for them made it easier to extend compassion to herself.

Writing demanded its own adjustment. Hazard described getting up from the page to vacuum, wash dishes or do laundry before recognizing how difficult she found the intimacy of writing about herself.

She eventually established an early morning routine, generally working for two hours before the day’s coaching responsibilities. An 84-page proposal took almost two years to reach a book deal, she said.

Even the title required negotiation. Hazard had wanted to call the book *Recovery Compass*. When the publisher proposed *Making Sobriety Stick*, she worried that readers would misunderstand the scope of coaching or assume sobriety was a prerequisite for seeking help. She insisted that recovery coaching appear in the subtitle.

Frantz’s questions moved between those practical publishing decisions and the experiences behind them. Having completed a 28-day treatment program herself, she recalled fearing that she would leave and find herself back in a bar. Her questions about continuing support came from that memory.

Hazard acknowledged the limits of her work: a client can relapse while working with a coach. She also described relying on supervision, a therapist, a sponsor and trusted women in her own life to process difficult experiences.

“Professional training doesn’t take away your humanity,” she said.

Asked what she hoped readers would remember six months after finishing the book, Hazard returned to the possibility of trying again after a setback. She wanted people to resist treating a recurrence as the end of their story.

Frantz recalled advice that had helped her understand a relative’s repeated attempts at

Kathleen A. Corbet Honored

LeadingAge Connecticut & Rhode Island has named Kathleen A. Corbet its 2026 Annual Trustee of the Year. A former chair of the Waveny LifeCare Network Board of Directors, Corbet is recognized for steadfast leadership during and after the COVID-19 pandemic and for philanthropic support that helped establish Waveny’s tuition-free nursing school for certified nursing assistants.

The Annual Trustee of the Year distinction honors current or former trustees and board members who demonstrate exceptional governance leadership and a deep commitment to the regional healthcare community. LeadingAge Connecticut & Rhode Island represents more than 178 healthcare organizations that advance quality, compassionate, innovative, and dignified care.

Corbet led Waveny’s board through one of healthcare’s most challenging periods. In close partnership with management, she helped guide the policies and protocols that supported the organization throughout the pandemic—strengthening protections, expanding access to timely COVID-19 testing, and helping secure essential personal protective equipment. Her background in capital markets and financial systems also

strengthened the board’s approach to strategy and governance and led to the combination of Waveny with Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Fairfield County in 2021.

Corbet’s commitment to Waveny’s mission extends well beyond board service. In 2022, her generous gift helped establish the Kathleen M. Fruin, RN, Nursing School. Its distinctive tuition-free, earn-as-you-learn model hires students as Waveny employees from their first day while providing education, mentorship, and clinical training at no cost to the student.

“Kathleen never treated board service as ceremonial,” said Russ Barksdale, President and CEO of Waveny LifeCare Network. “She was present for the hardest decisions in our organization’s 50-year history. When the pandemic intensified the national nursing shortage, Kathleen helped Waveny find a meaningful answer. More than 250 graduates later, many of the professionals caring for our patients received education and training made possible through her generosity.”

Corbet now serves as Campaign Committee Chair for The Future of Care campaign, Waveny’s \$15 million-plus fundraising campaign. The campaign will add 30 private inpatient short-term rehabilitation

rooms, nearly doubling annual capacity; expand the Nursing School; and support Charity Care for patients who have exhausted their financial resources.

“I am truly grateful to be recognized by LeadingAge of Connecticut and Rhode Island, and I share this honor with my fellow board colleagues and the Waveny management team. The combination of business strategy and mission-driven compassionate care has been

personally rewarding and ensures sustainable and high-quality outcomes for all those we serve,” said Kathleen Corbet.

Waveny LifeCare Network is a nonprofit healthcare organization based in New Canaan, Connecticut. Waveny serves older adults and their families through a continuum of care that includes inpatient short-term rehabilitation, enriched senior living, skilled nursing, home care, memory care, and hospice.

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By DEBRA McLAUGHLIN

Greenwich residents care deeply about seniors and veterans. At The Nathaniel Witherell, volunteers help ensure that residents can continue practicing their faith, receiving pastoral support and remaining connected to the traditions that bring comfort and purpose.

Greenwich Chaplaincy Services provides several worship services and learning programs throughout the week. Yet a prayerful experience in the chapel can only happen when residents are able to get there. That takes a committed team of volunteers who escort residents safely to and from services, offer companionship along the way, and help create a welcoming spiritual community.

Friends of Nathaniel Witherell makes that connection possible through the volunteer program

it operates and supports. The organization helps bridge community and care by bringing volunteers into The Nathaniel Witherell to support programs that enrich daily life for local seniors and veterans.

For Chaplain Jenny Byxbee, the journey to worship is an important part of the experience. “Meaningful pastoral care happens just as much during the journey of transporting residents as it does inside the chapel,” she said. “After all, the sacred space is within our hearts.”

A walk or wheelchair ride to the chapel may appear to be a simple act, but it can offer conversation and personal connection. Volunteers do far more than provide transportation. They help residents feel seen, supported, and spiritually engaged.

This work reflects the broader mission of Friends of Nathaniel Witherell. In addition to operating a

Worship Begins with the Journey

A walk or wheelchair ride to the chapel may appear to be a simple act, but it can offer conversation and personal connection.



Sally Van Leeuwen transporting a member at The Nathaniel Witherell to church

Worship Directory and Services

Assemblies of God

Harvest Time Church

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

Worship Services: Sun, 9 & 10:45am. All services are streamed on the church's website and YouTube channel. In addition to Sundays, there are also groups for children and teens on Wednesday evenings. Anchor Night for Young Adults, 3rd Fri of month. *HT Discover - Sunday Session: September 27, 9:30am.*

Baptist

First Baptist Church

10 Northfield St.;
203-869-7988

www.firstbaptistgreenwich.com

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

Greenwich Baptist Church

10 Indian Rock Ln;
203-869-2807

www.greenwichbaptist.org

Worship: Sun, 11am (in person and online through Facebook & YouTube). Children Sunday School: 9:30am, ages 9-14y. Adult Bible Study: Sun, 9:30am, Fellowship Hall. Prayer Gathering: Wed, 7pm, Pastor's Office or virtual on Google Meets. *All Church PotLuck Luncheon: Sunday, October. 4 (Every 1st Sunday of the month), following Service, Everyone is welcome.*

Catholic

Sacred Heart Church

95 Henry St.; 203-531-8730
www.sacredheartgreenwich.org

Mass: Mon-Fri, 7am (in the Chapel); Saturday Vigil, 4pm (in Church); Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confessions: Sat, 3-3:30pm or by appointment. Divine Mercy Prayer Group: Wed, 7-9pm. Prayer Group: Thu, 4-5pm, in the Chapel, 38 Gold St. All are welcome. *Ministry to the Homebound: if you, or someone you know, is homebound and would like a priest visit you, call the Rectory at 203-531-8730. Stations of the Cross: All Fridays during Lent, 6:30pm, in the Church, All are welcome. Annual Baby Shower benefitting Malta House: through Sept. 27, contact Kathy Wiegand at 203-559-8086 with any questions.*

St. Catherine of Siena & St. Agnes

4 Riverside Ave; 203-637-3661
www.stc-sta.org

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

Masses: Saturday, 3-4pm – Confessions (Specific dates confirmed weekly in bulletin.) Vigil Mass, 5pm. Sunday: 7:30am, 9am (Family Mass), 10:30am (Traditional Mass), 5pm (Teen Mass), all at St. Catherine's Church). Masses in other Languages: French Mass - 2nd Sunday of the month, 11am. Italian Mass - 3rd Sunday of the month, both at St. Catherine's Chapel. Spanish Mass, 6:30pm, St. Catherine's Church. Daily/Weekdays: Mon, Tue, Thu & Friday: 7am – Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Church; 5:15pm – Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Chapel. Tuesdays: Rosary, 6pm, St. Catherine's Chapel. Wednesdays: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30am-4pm, St. Catherine's Church. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30pm. Ongoing: *Food & Essentials Drive for Neighbor to Neighbor (there will be a car or SUV with an open trunk in the parking lot across from St. Catherine's church on Tuesdays, 9-11am. Join Music Ministries for choir rehearsals – Traditional, Contemporary, Teen, Cherub, Family Mass Choir – contact Music Director, Dr. Liya Petrides at music.director@stc-sta.org with questions. Volunteer Opportunity: Share Your Time and Compassion! Our Parish Partners Ministry of Hope is seeking kind-hearted volunteers to support our homebound parishioners. To sign up or learn more, please contact Jeannemarie Baker at (203) 637-3661 (ext. 375) or ParishPartners@stc-sta.org. Parish Family Picnic: Saturday, Sept. 26, 11am-4pm, Rain date: Sept. 27. Tobias Naumann – two-day recital program: Saturday, Sept. 26, 2:30pm at St. Agnes Chapel & Sunday, Sept. 27, 2:30pm at St. Catherine, Free – donations welcome. Blessing of the Animals:*

Sunday, Oct. 4, 12:30pm.

St. Mary Church

178 Greenwich Ave.;
203-869-9393

www.stmarygreenwich.org

Public Mass: Sun: 9, 10:30am, 12:15 & 5:15pm. Sat Vigils: 4 & 7pm (Spanish). Daily: Mon-Fri, 12:05pm (Church doors will open from 10am-3pm). Confessions (English): Tue: 7-8pm; Sat: 3-3:45pm. Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Fri of the month: 12:30-5pm. *Join Father Michael Jones as we sail from Barcelona on the beautiful Silver Ray from Oct. 29 to Nov. 8, visit stmarygreenwich.org to view itinerary and pricing. Religious Education classes begin the week of October 13.*

St. Michael the Archangel

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

Mass: Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:15pm. Sunday Masses: 8am, 9:45am, 12pm, 5:15pm. Daily Masses: Mon-Sat, 9am. St. Michael Young Adults (SMYA): 2nd Thu, 7-8:30pm. *Parish Picnic: Sunday, Sept. 27, 8am-5pm. Blessing of the Animals: Saturday, Oct. 3, 12pm. St. Michael's Ministries Fair – A Place to Belong, Believe, Become: Faith Formation: Sunday, Oct. 4.*

St. Timothy Chapel

1034 North St.; 203-869-5421

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

St. Paul Church

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

Mass: Mon-Thu: 8am; Sat: 4pm (Vigil); Sun: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confessions: Daily, 7:30am; Sat, 3-3:45pm. Mass on Holy Days: Vigil: 5:30pm, 9am & 12:15pm. Visit the website for information regarding the Bereavement Group (twice monthly) and weekly volunteer opportunities at the Don Bosco Kitchen and Food Pantry with the St. Paul Mercy Volunteers. All masses are available via livestream through the website. *Evenings For Married Couples: 1st Thu. of every month, 7:30pm. Genesis to Jesus – A Scripture Study About the Bible: Fall Mondays: Sept. 28; Oct. 5, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 7-8:30pm, \$25.*

St. Roch Church

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

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

Christian Science

First Church of Christ, Scientist

11 Park Pl; 203-869-1555
christiansciencect.org/greenwich

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

Community

First Church of Round Hill

464 Round Hill Rd;
203-629-3876

www.firstchurchofroundhill.com

In-person worship: Sundays, 10am.

Round Hill Community Church

395 Round Hill Rd;
203-869-1091

www.roundhillcommunitychurch.org

Weekly Sunday Worship services in the Sanctuary at 10am or online at roundhillcommunitychurch.org anytime. Children's Worship (grades K-5) meets during the 10 am service. Please call the Church Office or visit the website for the most up-to-date information, events, and schedules. *Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, Sept. 27, 10-11am. Student Talent Show Sunday, Oct. 4, 3-4:30 pm.*

Congregational

The First Congregational Church

108 Sound Beach Ave;
203-637-1791

www.fccog.org

Worship: In-Person & Virtual: Sundays,

10am. Live-streaming on YouTube and Facebook, and broadcast on WGCH (1490 AM). Connect during the week: Friday: Friday Email Blast (sign up by calling the church office); Church school before worship most Sundays, 9am for preschoolers through grade 6. Online programming available via Zoom. A joyful community diverse in spiritual backgrounds and beliefs. *World Communion Sunday: October 4, 10-11am.*

North Greenwich Congregational

606 Riversville Rd; 203-869-7763
(Instagram photos and videos @north_greenwich_church)

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

Second Congregational Church

139 E Putnam Ave;
203-869-9311
www.2cc.org

Sunday worship: 8:30 & 10:30am. *Livestream available for 9:30am service.* Children's Chapel during 10:30am worship. Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: @2CCGreenwich. All are welcome here! *2CC Moms' Group Back to School Safety Chat: Thursday, Sept. 24, 7pm.*

Episcopal

Angelic Church of the Advent

606 Riversville Rd; 203-861-2432
facebook.com/greenwichanglican

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

Christ Church Greenwich

254 E. Putnam Ave;
203-869-6600

www.christchurchgreenwich.org

Holy Eucharist: Sundays, 8am, In-person only, Chapel. Messy Church Eucharist: every Sun, 8:45am, In-person only, Parish Hall. Holy Eucharist: 10am, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary, Children's Chapel during the service. Choral Evensong or Sung Compline: In-person or livestream, 5pm. Wednesdays: Preach and Teach Eucharist (new time for this mid-week service), 12:15pm, In-person only Chapel. Thursdays: Choral Evensong, 6:30pm, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary. *Friday Bible Study with Rev. Tim Hamlin: Fri, 10am. Messy Church Eucharist: Sun, 8:45am. Bagels & Bibles: Sun, 10:05am (through May). Provide Part of a Dinner for the Women of Inspiration: Wednesdays: Oct. 2, Nov. 4 & Dec. 2. Centering Prayer: Tuesdays, Oct. 6 & 20, Nov. 3 & 17, Dec. 1 & 15, 12pm. Caregivers Connect with Rev. Suzy Post: Tuesdays, Oct. 6, Nov. 3 & Dec. 1, 5:30pm, Via Zoom. Men's Breakfast with the Revs: The Trinity – Three Conversations Over Breakfast: Saturdays, Oct. 10 & Nov. 14, 7:30am. Young Members Reception: Thursday, Sept. 24, 6pm, Rectory (10 Park Pl., across the street from the church). A Proper British High Tea: Saturday, Sept. 26, 1-4pm, Dogwood Books. A Very Special Guest Preacher: The Most Rev'd & Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, 106th Archbishop of Canterbury: Sunday, Sept. 27, 8am, Registration is required. Men's Welcome Back BBQ Tuesday, Sept. 29, 6pm. "Oktoberfest" Fall Celebration: Friday, Oct. 2, 6:30pm. Sunday, Oct. 4: Blessing of the Stuffedies at Messy Church, 8:45am; A Touch of nature with Jungle Jerry and his live animals, 10am; Sunday Forum: "In the Footsteps of St. Paul" with Rev. Marek, 11:15am; Blessing of the Animals, 4pm; Choral Evensong sung by the Christ Church Singers, 5pm.*

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

954 Lake Ave.; 203-661-5526
www.stbarnabasgreenwich.org

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

website, and on social media (Instagram: @st.barnabasgreenwich). Small church feel - Big church experience.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

200 Riverside Ave.;
203-637-2447

www.stpauls-riverside.org

Worship: Sundays, 10:15am (in person and streaming). Coffee hour immediately following worship service in Selleck Hall. Sunday School (including frolic Fatih class for toddlers 2+) in the Children's Chapel downstairs – drop-off starts at 10am. Ongoing: Neighbor-to-Neighbor food drive box by office door. Pick-up is every Thursday morning. *Annual Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, Oct. 4, 2pm, under the tent.*

St. Saviour's Episcopal Church

350 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-2262
www.saintsaviours.org

Saint Saviour's Episcopal Church, Building Community through Faith, Service, and Hope. Please join us Sunday mornings for our family friendly Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am (in person and on Zoom). Coffee Hour follows immediately after our worship service and will be outdoors, weather permitting. Please visit our website for the Zoom link for our services and to sign up for our Weekly Announcements. Come and See!

Jewish

Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich

75 Mason St.; 203-629-9059
www.chabadgreenwich.org

Please visit our website for details on Shabbat services, classes, programs and more. *Soul Spa: The Five Books of Miriam: Uplifting Feminine Voices: Sat, 10am-12pm, on Zoom. Unlocking the Jewish Prayerbook-Opening the Liturgy: Sun, 5-6pm. Sukkot Celebration & Drum Circle: Monday, Sept. 28, 4pm, RSVP.*

Congregation Shir Ami

One W. Putnam Ave;
203-274-5376

www.congregationshirami.org

All services, programs and celebrations are available online via Zoom. *Kabbalat Shabbat: Fridays, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church. Soul Spa - Meet the Mishra: Saturdays, 10am, through Aug. 9, on Zoom. Simchat Torah Havdalah: Saturday, Oct. 3, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church.*

Greenwich Reform Synagogue

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

Join Rabbi Gerson and Cantor Rubin every Friday, 6pm for Shabbat Services, and once a month for Tot Shabbat, 5:30pm. All in person services are also live streamed on Zoom. *Sushi in The Sukkah: Saturday, Sept. 25, 5:30- 7:30pm. Welcome Back BBQ: Sunday, Sept. 27, 11:30am-1:30pm. Schmooze and Snacks in the Sukkah: Wednesday, Sept. 30, 121:30pm. Sukkot/Simchat Torah Tot & Family Services/Pizza in the Hut: Friday, Oct. 2, 5:15-7:30pm.*

Temple Sholom

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

www.templesholom.com

Services - In-person and virtual Friday night Shabbat services, 6:30pm & Saturday morning Shabbat services, 10:30am. *Decorate and Celebrate: A Young Family Sukkah Party hosted by the SMNS Parent Association: Monday, Sept. 28, 5pm. Sisterhood Ladies Night Out Welcome Event: Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7pm. Spirits in the Sukkah: 30/40's Affinity Group: Thursday, Oct. 1, 7:30pm.*

Lutheran

St. Paul Lutheran Church

286 Delavan Ave.;
203-531-8466
www.firstpaul.com

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

Methodist

Diamond Hill United Methodist

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

robust volunteer program, Friends funds music therapy and creative arts, supports daily activities, provides technology that connects residents with loved ones, develops therapeutic gardens and outdoor spaces, and creates programs that bring generations together.

You can make life better for local seniors and veterans. By giving your time, you can help ensure that residents continue to experience spiritual community, companionship and the extraordinary moments that make life at The Nathaniel Witherell fulfilling.

To volunteer or learn more, contact Lisa Harding at lisaharding@friendsofnw.org or 203-618-4227, or visit friendsofnathanielwitherell.org.

For information about Greenwich Chaplaincy Services visit greenwichchaplaincy.org.

www.diamondhillumc.com

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

First United Methodist Church

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

Sunday worship, 10am, in English, in-person and Zoom. New Life KUMC Sunday worship in Korean, 1pm, in-person. New Life Korean School Saturdays 9-12pm.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal

42 Lake Ave.; 203-661-3099

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

Nondenominational

Stanwich Church

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

Sunday Morning Worship Service: 9am & 10:45am. Kids Ministry for grades 5 and under, and Student Ministry for grades 6 & above, are offered. Live stream and recorded media are available at stanwich-church.org. We'd love to meet you here! *God the Great Inviter - 4-week course begins Tuesday, Oct. 6, 6:30pm (co-ed) | Greenwich Campus: Wednesday, Oct. 7, 9am (women) | Greenwich Campus.*

Center for Spiritual Development.

NSAC

293 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-4615
www.Center4SpiritualDev.org

Sunday Service (hybrid: in-person & virtually on zoom): 7pm. Virtual Children's Lyceum (ages 5-14): 3rd Sunday of the month, 10-10:40am. Healing Service: 3rd Thursday of the month, 7-7:30pm. (Email Albertsonpcc@gmail.com for registration and Zoom Links). *You are Electric Workshop with Author/Speaker/Coach Carolyn Finch, SLP CN AK: Sunday, Oct. 4, 12:30-2:30pm, \$30, to register contact: CSDPastor@gmail.com.*

Trinity Church

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

All are invited to Trinity's morning Worship Service at 10am every Sunday. We meet at the Hyatt Regency, 1800 E. Putnam, Old Greenwich. Kids programs are offered for up to 5th grade and Youth programs are available for middle & high schoolers. Livestream and recorded messages can be viewed at www.trinitychurch.life. Hope you can make it! *A Conversation with Amy Orr-Ewing: Sunday, Oct. 4, 12:30-2pm.*

Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church

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

Worship: Sundays, 10am. *Gather at "The Well" Service: Sunday, Sept. 27, 5-6pm.*

Grace Church of Greenwich

89 Maple Ave.
203-861-7555

www.gracechurchgreenwich.com

Worship: Sundays, 10am, The Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, 4 Horseneck Ln. & 4:30pm, Woman's Club of Greenwich, 89 Maple Ave. Church Lunch: 1st Sunday of every month, 12-2pm, Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich. Prayer Meeting: 3rd Sunday of every month, 10-10:30am, Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich. All are welcome. *Church Lunch: Sunday, Oct. 4, 11:15am-12:30pm (first Sunday of every month).*

Living Hope Community Church

38 West End Ave;
203-637-3669

www.LivingHopect.org

Worship In-person & online (Living-Hopect.org/livestream): Sundays: 10am. *Forum for Fathers: Are you a man with or who has kids or family members with ADHD? We meet Sundays at 9am at the church to pray, seek God, and encourage each other. Contact Todd.klair@gmail.com for more information. U.N.I.T.Y. in Marriage: Friday, Oct. 2, 7-8:30pm; Saturday, Oct. 3, 8:30am-5pm & Sunday, Oct. 4, 8:30-9:45am.*

BET Changes Guidelines for BOE Budget from Estimated to Carryforward

By LAURA KOSTIN

The Board of Estimate & Taxation (BET) Budget Committee has released its Draft Budget Guidelines for the 2027-2028 fiscal year. The guidelines, contained in a memorandum to Town Departments and the Board of Education say in part, “The Board of Estimate and Taxation (“BET”) guidelines for FY28 are meant to inform and guide the formulation of the FY28 operating and capital budgets... Town and Board of Education budgets support essential public services and quality of life amenities that are valued by Greenwich residents. Our shared

goals remain consistent: delivering the high quality services that Greenwich residents expect, investing appropriately in infrastructure, and keeping tax rates low and predictable.” The memo posted online recommends the Town and BOE explore the increased use of shared services and headcount in ways that might yield savings over the next couple of years. Already, there is collaboration between the Greenwich Public Schools and Town departments including Parks & Recreation, the Greenwich Police Department for security and Public Works. As for anticipated operating

increases the Committee “projects an increase of 3.1% for the Town and 3.7% for the Board of Education (excluding the allocation of benefits) for a total operating increase of 3.46%. The Budget Committee is looking for specific recommendations for structural change to reduce the percentage increase in the operating budget overall. We recognize each Town department and the BOE have differing service models and staffing needs and there is no “one size fits all” approach. The carryforward budget is the cap, net of any proposed investments to bring down future costs or increase productivity.”

When asked about the use of the word “cap” BET Budget Committee Chair, Laura Erikson said, “The estimated budget, or carryforward budget, is the starting point for the FY28 budget discussions. This is typical because it is the best information we have at this time. In past years, guidance has been given by stipulating increases lower than the estimated budget (“a reductive approach”) or by listing specific recommendations designed to lower operating costs below the estimated budget. The BET is receptive to hearing new information as it becomes available. At this point in time, the

carryforward budget is the cap. We are encouraging departments and the BOE to review their operations to best meet their goals and objectives. We welcome new initiatives to improve services and productivity, but we also expect that programs or services that aren’t working as intended will be reevaluated as part of that exercise...” The Board of Education Budget Committee is set to meet on October 2nd, its first meeting since the guidelines were released. The next BET Budget Committee meeting is set for October 13th.

Greenwich School Board Begins First Review of FY28 Capital Plan

By SENTINEL STAFF

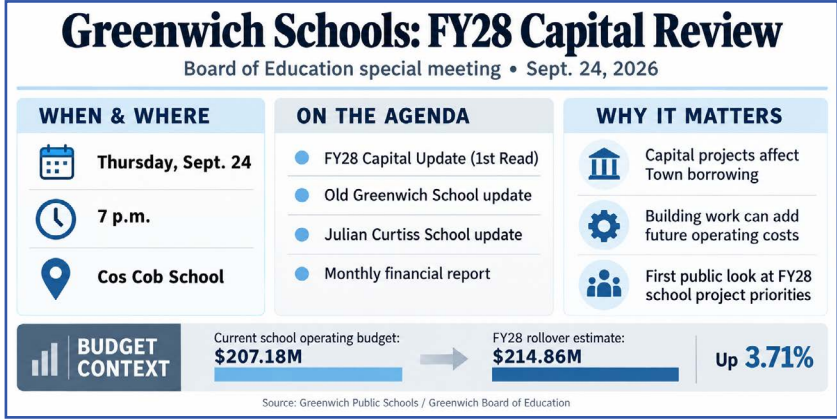
The Greenwich Board of Education will begin its first formal review of the district’s fiscal 2028 capital plan Thursday night, opening a budget season that is likely to receive closer scrutiny of both long-term building needs and the costs of operating the school system.

The Sept. 24 special meeting begins at 7 p.m. at Cos Cob School. The agenda includes the first reading of the FY28 capital update, summer reports from the Old Greenwich School and Julian Curtiss School building committees, the district’s monthly financial report and several other items.

The meeting arrives as the Town and school district begin assembling the spending plans that will govern the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2027.

Capital spending is separate from the school district’s annual operating budget, but the two processes increasingly intersect. Construction projects compete for Town borrowing capacity, while completed projects can produce new operating costs for staffing, utilities, maintenance and technology.

The Board of Education’s current list of major district priorities includes the Central Middle School building, Old Greenwich School, Julian Curtiss School, Greenwich High School



projects and other facilities work. Thursday’s review will provide the first public look at how district officials are arranging those needs for FY28 and future years. It also comes as the Board of Estimate and Taxation develops a new set of expectations for the Town’s next operating budget. A three-year school budget model prepared earlier this year projected a FY28 operating-budget rollover of approximately \$214.86 million, an increase of about 3.71% from the current \$207.18 million budget before additional new items or potential savings are considered. With new items included in that earlier model, spending would reach roughly \$216.09 million, a 4.3% increase. Those figures are planning

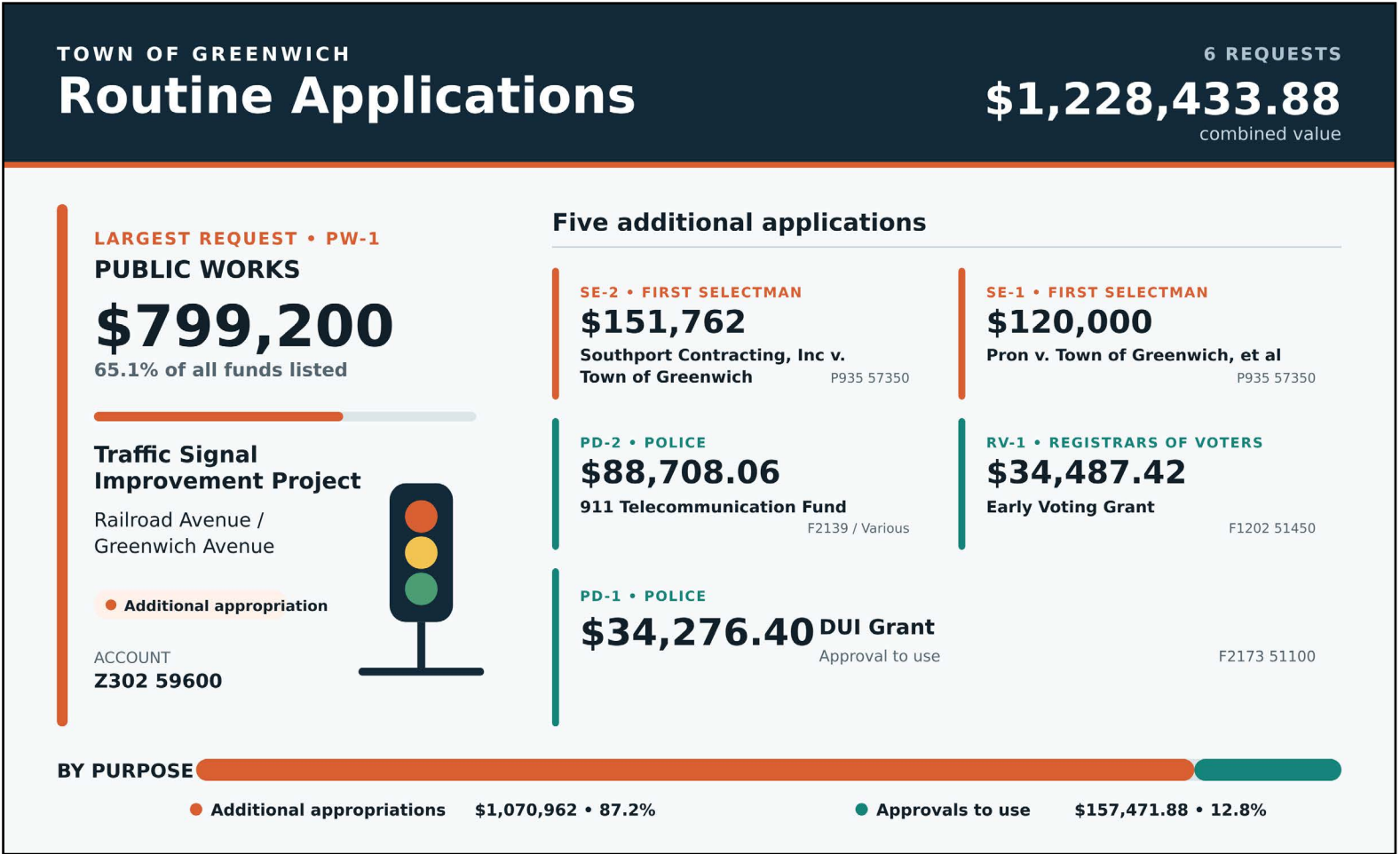
estimates rather than an adopted FY28 school budget. The distinction will become important as the process moves forward. The superintendent’s proposed operating budget will not be presented until later this fall, and the Board of Education will debate and ultimately adopt its own request before it proceeds through the Town budget process. What is different this year is the emphasis being placed on the assumptions underneath that number. The BET’s preliminary FY28 guidance has asked Town departments and the Board of Education to look more closely at staffing, historical spending, revenue opportunities, technology and whether resources are producing measurable results. Officials

have also been asked to examine opportunities involving attrition, redeployment, consolidation and technology where those approaches could improve efficiency. None of those directives by itself requires staffing cuts or reductions to school programs. They do indicate that the coming budget discussion is likely to focus on more than the annual percentage increase. For the schools, several questions will become clearer over the next several weeks: whether enrollment changes are producing corresponding staffing changes; whether accounts that have repeatedly finished below budget can be adjusted; which costs are rising because of contracts or unavoidable obligations; and whether technology investments can reduce administrative expenses elsewhere. Capital planning raises another set of questions. Greenwich has undertaken several significant school construction projects in recent years, including the new Central Middle School, while work continues on Old Greenwich School and Julian Curtiss School. The timing and cost of future projects will affect the Town’s broader capital plan and debt requirements. Greenwich Public Schools issued its

latest capital projects update Sept. 18, reflecting the number of major facilities projects moving simultaneously through the district. Thursday’s agenda includes separate summer updates on both Old Greenwich School and Julian Curtiss before the broader FY28 capital presentation. The Sentinel will follow the FY28 budget process as those plans become more specific, including capital requests, operating projections, enrollment, staffing levels, actual spending trends and any proposed changes in programs or personnel. The next scheduled Board of Education Budget Committee meeting is Oct. 2 at 10 a.m. at the Havemeyer Building, with a virtual option, according to Greenwich Public Schools. Members of the public may attend Thursday’s meeting at Cos Cob School or participate virtually. Public comment is available at the Sept. 24 meeting, with speakers required to register by noon that day, according to Greenwich Public Schools. The first capital discussion will not settle the FY28 school budget. It will begin to show what Greenwich expects to build, maintain and pay for over the next several years — and what choices will accompany those plans.

BET From Page 1

filings were late or not made at all. “We have additional revenue of \$439,555, up from last year.” She reported 102 appeals against the Grand List so far in 2026, with five withdrawals. The Assessor told BET member Elliott Alchek, in answer to his query, that there was a bit of a slowdown in building this year and a limited supply of houses for sale. “At the end of revaluation, we were at 92 to 95 percent of value; we probably slipped to 88 to 90 percent of value.” All Routine Budget Adjustment Applications were unanimously approved (see chart), except a Public Works additional appropriation request for \$799,200 for the Railroad/Greenwich Avenues Traffic Signal Improvement Project, by far the biggest item on the list. It was moved to Non-routine Applications. BET member Leslie Tarkington said she had expressed support for the vote to request the appropriation. She noted it received grant funding and had no bump-outs at the corner. She described traffic and pedestrian concern and made note of DPW already having paving/ADA funds available in capital accounts. Harry Fisher said that updated signal technology like Arch Street significantly improves intersection efficiency and pedestrian safety. The Board then approved 12-0. Comptroller Joan Lynch told the BET that full year 2026 is projected to close with a \$3 million surplus, driven by favorable conveyance tax and building permits totaling \$8 million. She also said that full year 2027, two months in, was looking favorable. Lynch was congratulated regarding receiving a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial



Reporting from the Government Finance Office Association (GFOA). A treasurers report was unanimously accepted. During the Special Project Team Reports, largely about school projects, Mr. Fisher gave an update on the Central Middle School sewer project. Mr. Fisher explained that the moving of a sewer line from the school property to Indian Rock Road had run into

problems. The amount of rock-chipping required seemed prohibitive and costly. In negotiations with DPW, it was decided to go back to using the sewer line on the property, while moving a ball field a few feet. This would avoid spending “hundreds of thousands of dollars” on rock-chipping, according to Fisher who added, “We’re in good shape.” In his Chair’s report, Weisbrod raised the issue

of mounting legal fees in the lawsuit between the Town and the Board of Education, noting “we are the financial stewards of the Town” and “I believe it is necessary to conduct a review to shed light on current – over \$700,000 – and projected legal bills and possible risk of reputational damage to the Town without a settlement.” He charged the BET Legal and Audit Committees to conduct the review.

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Obituaries

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



BROOKS WALKER

Brooks Elise Walker, beloved daughter, sister, aunt and friend, passed away unexpectedly on September 14, 2026, in Denver, Colorado.

Daughter of Eben Walker and Patty Brooks Walker, Brooks was born on January 28, 1990 and grew up in Riverside, part of a happy posse of her brothers and neighborhood friends. She attended Riverside School and Greenwich Country Day School for elementary and middle school. Brooks was a figure skater and sailor in elementary school, and later sailed competitively at Riverside Yacht Club, Greenwich High School and Georgetown University. After college, she worked in finance and then in software sales. She loved the process of creating new customers, and she viewed her clients as friends.

Brooks loved life and threw herself into every experience, whether skiing and hiking in the Colorado mountains, taking cold plunges in the Rhode Island ocean or traveling at every opportunity; her suitcase was always half packed, and she made friends everywhere she went.

In her quieter moments, Brooks tended her Colorado garden, worked on her oil painting, and had a deep appreciation for music of every genre. She loved singing, especially Gospel music; her way of connecting with God. Brooks had a big and generous heart, and she delighted in finding the perfect gift and in celebrating the people in her life. She had a lot of spirit, a great sense of humor, and an enduring love of strawberry ice cream.

Brooks will be missed forever by her parents, her brother Colin (Diah), her brother Andrew (Nathalia), her nephews, her uncles, aunts and cousins, and her beloved dogs, Scout and Brady.

A memorial service will be held in her honor at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, or the charity of your choice.



SHERRY DEY

Sherry Swain Dey, 78, of Greenwich, CT, passed away on September 14, 2026, due to complications following a fall at home. She possessed a radiant spirit, a quick, bright mind, and a presence that could light up any room. Her laughter was infectious, her wisdom was a steady anchor, and to know her was to be warmed by her kindness.

Born in Boston, MA, on July 29, 1948, to the late Robert Swain and Virginia (Partridge) Swain, Sherry grew up in Fairfield, CT, spending her early days working alongside her parents in their local store. She graduated from Roger Ludlowe High School, earned a degree from Lasell College in 1968, and later earned her B.A. from the University of Connecticut (Stamford) in 1990. Driven by a lifelong calling to serve others, particularly elderly populations, she completed her Master's in Gerontology from the College of New Rochelle in 1999.

Sherry's professional life was defined by a proud 20-year career in geriatric care. After re-entering the workforce part-time at Christ Church and working as an office manager for Inference Software and Brighton Gardens, she founded her own practice, Aging Connections. She later served at Edgehill before taking on her culminating role as Executive Director at The Greens at Greenwich.

On February 15, 1969, Sherry married the love of her life, George Cosgrave Dey, at St. Pius X Church in Fairfield. Together they built a life grounded in faith, adventure, and family until George's passing in March 2026. Sherry had a deep, lifelong passion for travel and a relentless curiosity about the world. She saw

every journey as a grand adventure, whether crossing oceans to explore new cultures or taking spontaneous road trips closer to home. Always eager to know where the next trip would be, she returned home with marvelous stories, beautiful photographs, and an even greater appreciation for life. She also faithfully served for many years as "first mate" alongside George on their sailboats, preferring a smooth ride with little tippiness (heel).

Her happiest sanctuary remained the family cabin in Southport, Maine, a lifelong family tradition. She cherished watching sunsets at Sunset Rock, hiking Boothbay Region Land Trust trails, relaxing on the front porch with a good book, sharing soft-shell lobsters and mussels, and opening her home to friends old and new.

Sherry devoted that same vibrant energy to the family she loved so deeply. Her six grandchildren—Benjamin, Grace, Ellie, Conner, Hudson, and Teagan—were the absolute light of her life. Lucky to live close by and watch them grow up, she never missed a chance to cheer them on from the sidelines of sporting events, scouting activities, or school milestones. She loved inspiring their sense of wonder through her travel stories, celebrating their achievements, and encouraging them to pursue their passions.

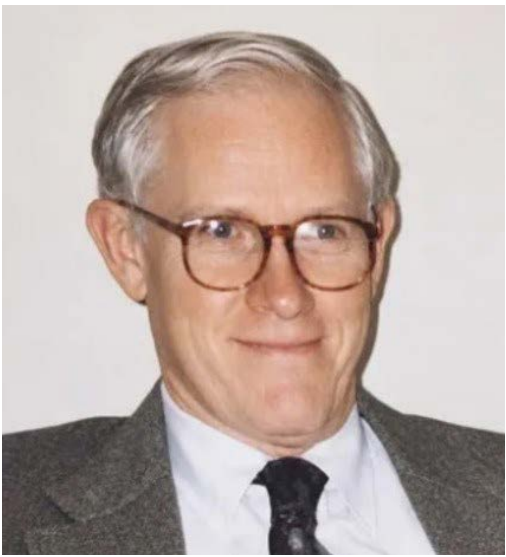
A woman of deep and enduring faith, Sherry lived out her beliefs through action. As a devoted, longtime member of Christ Church Greenwich, she served on the vestry, worked with the music department, and participated in numerous church groups. She especially treasured gathering her entire family together for the Christmas Eve service to experience the majestic choral singers and brass ensemble. Her commitment to community extended through her lifelong volunteer work with La Leche League, Midnight Run, At Home in Greenwich, and local organizations.

Sherry modeled a life of grace, adventure, and boundless generosity. She taught us all that a life well-lived is measured by the memories we make and the love we leave behind.

Sherry is survived by her three children and their families: her daughter Danielle Dey Nash (Timothy) of Stamford, CT, and their children Benjamin and Grace; her son Matthew Robert Dey (Shannon) of Darien, CT, and their children Ellie and Conner; and her daughter Megan Elizabeth Farley (Robert) of Darien, CT, and their children Hudson and Teagan. She is also survived by her brother, Jeffrey Swain (Nancy) of Garner, NC and her Sister in-Law Lois Dey of New Milford, CT. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, George C. Dey, and her parents.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2026, at 11:00 AM at Christ Church Greenwich (254 E. Putnam Ave, Greenwich, CT 06830).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to River House Adult Day Center (125 River Road Extension, Cos Cob, CT 06807; www.theriverhouse.org), or to a non-profit meaningful to you in honor of Sherry's spirit of service.



ALFRED KNIGHT

MAY 24, 1942 – SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

Alfred Crocker Knight (Al) passed away peacefully on September 9, 2026, supported by his family and longtime companion Margaret Canada. He lived in Greenwich and Stamford, CT for many years, but was a New Englander by birth. Al grew up in Cotuit, MA, went to Mount Herman School and Harvard College. As a young man he served as an Officer of the 1st Battalion of the 67th Armor, 2nd Armored Division at Ford Hood, Texas. After his enlistment, he graduated from Columbia University and practiced journalism in New York City. He then went on to pursue a Law degree from NYU Law School and practiced on Wall Street. He spent the duration of his career at Westvaco Corporation, a Fortune 500 Company, where he served as Assistant General Counsel.

From his early life in Cotuit, Al was a singer (baritone/bass), singing in various choral groups, choirs, and concert halls in New York City and Washington, D.C., as well as the light opera stage.

He had the privilege of singing with the Harvard Glee Club, New York City's Blue Hill Troupe, the Metropolitan Chorale in the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New York City, and with several other groups that sang in Alice Tully Hall of Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and on

the stage of Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. It all began in 1954 as a 12-year-old boy singing a solo on the stage of "Freedom Hall" in the little village of Cotuit, MA.

Al loved traveling, languages and writing. In his retirement, he traveled extensively with Margaret. He learned Portuguese, Spanish, and published a novel about the composer Nicolo Paganini. He and Margaret traveled in Europe, Canada, Central America, and broadly throughout the USA.

Al is survived by his sister Laurel K. Cobb of Mitchellville, MD; his nephew Dr. Nathan K. Cobb of Washington, D.C.; and his niece, Lisa Cobb of Laurel, MD and longtime companion, Margaret Canada of Stamford, CT and her family.

Memorial services are being planned, and burial will take place in Cotuit, MA later in the fall.

Donations may be made to one of Al's favorite places on Cape Cod:

Eagle Pond of the Barnstable Land Trust in Cotuit, MA. Donate - Barnstable Land Trust.

NANCY FRASER

(NOVEMBER 24, 1936 - JULY 28, 2026)

Nancy Fraser lived life with remarkable strength, unwavering determination, and a steadfast commitment to what she believed was right. Born in Amityville, NY, Nancy grew up in Amityville and Massapequa, graduated from Cornell University, and devoted her career to education as a teacher and school administrator in Greenwich, CT. In retirement, she made her home in Charlottesville, Va, where she found peace among the Blue Ridge Mountains views she so dearly loved.

Wherever Nancy lived, she immersed herself in the local community and delighted in sharing it with others. Anyone fortunate enough to receive one of her personal tours of New York City or the Grounds of the University of Virginia came away with far more than a sightseeing trip. They received an education in the history, architecture, and stories that made each place special through Nancy's eyes. Nancy approached everything she did with enthusiasm. She was the ultimate sports fan, faithfully cheering on the New York Mets baseball team through every season and proudly supporting all of UVA athletics with equal devotion. Whether celebrating a victory or enduring the all-too-familiar tough losses, her loyalty never wavered. Three enduring highlights were the winning championships for the 1969 and 1986 Mets and the 2019 UVA Men's Basketball teams. Her competitive spirit truly came alive on the road and in the pool. An avid runner and swimmer, Nancy completed countless races over the years, but few held a more special place in her heart than the Charlottesville 10-Miler and Women's 4-Miler. She took great pride in earning the title of fastest woman in her age group for many years. It was a distinction she wore with confidence and well-earned satisfaction. She understood that success wasn't given. It was earned one determined step, one early morning, and one finish line at a time.

When Nancy wasn't training, she found joy in the outdoors. She loved traveling the world, always eager for a new adventure and a beautiful place to explore. At home, her gardens reflected the same care and dedication she brought to every part of her life. No matter where she lived, flowers flourished under her watchful eye, creating welcoming spaces for family, friends, and the wildlife she adored.

The holiday season held a particularly special place in Nancy's heart. Christmas was, without question, her favorite time of year. She transformed her home into a festive wonderland each season, decorating every room with care and joy. She also loved making trips to New York City to experience its magical holiday displays and treasured visits to the Boar's Head Resort in Charlottesville, where the Christmas decorations became one of her favorite annual traditions. For Nancy, Christmas was about creating beauty, celebrating traditions, and sharing the wonder of the season with those she loved.

Nancy was a natural leader who expected others to do their best because she always expected the same of herself. Her sense of fairness and accountability made her someone people could count on to stand up for what was right. If a complete stranger was acting out of line, Nancy was there to straighten them out. And if you happened to be on the receiving end of one of Nancy's customer service phone calls, you quickly learned that she was prepared, persistent, and remarkably persuasive. Nancy was simply impossible to outlast when she felt that principle was on her side.

Animals also held a special place in Nancy's heart. She loved supporting the Charlottesville SPCA and caring for her beloved cat, Topaz, who was a cherished member of her family. Her compassion extended to every creature, reflecting the kindness that perfectly balanced her unmistakable grit. Those who knew Nancy will remember someone who never backed down from a challenge, never compromised her values, and never stopped striving to make things better. She possessed a rare combination of toughness and tenderness. She was equally comfortable pushing herself

through another mile, nurturing a blooming garden, advocating for others, or ending the day curled up with sports radio echoing through her home. Nancy leaves behind a legacy of perseverance, integrity, loyalty, curiosity, and love.

Nancy was Interred in The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT cemetery on Friday, September 18, 2026.



PAUL INGRAHAM

Paul W. Ingraham, passed away peacefully at the age of 94 in his home in Greenwich Connecticut, July 18, 2026. He was born in New Haven, Connecticut to parents, Talcott and Alice Ingraham (nee Weisleder). Paul grew up in Wallingford, Connecticut where he attended Lyman Hall High School. It was there he discovered his love of the French Horn. He then attended Ithaca College graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education. Upon graduation he was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. He completed his basic training at Fort Dix in New Jersey and was later stationed at West Point playing in the West Point Band.

Paul enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a master horn player and educator, notably spending 50 years as a member and Principal Horn of the New York City Ballet Orchestra. Throughout his lifetime, he also held Principal Horn positions with many renowned ensembles, including The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, New York Chamber Symphony, The Brooklyn Philharmonic, The American Composers Orchestra, The Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra, The Minneapolis Symphony, The American Symphony, The Contemporary Chamber Ensemble and the Casals Festival Orchestra. He was also a dedicated member of the New York Brass Quintet for over 20 years, performing, recording and touring extensively in the United States, Europe and South America. Beyond the concert stage, his exceptional playing could be heard in major motion picture scores, commercial television jingles, and jazz albums. He loved sharing his knowledge and expertise with others and has had a long teaching career having served as Professor of Horn at the Yale School of Music, the Manhattan school of Music and The Hartt School of Music.

Paul was preceded in death by his wife and the love of his life, Jean (nee Douttiel), who passed away in 2021 after a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's and by his stepdaughter, Lisa Rebecca Benjamin. Earlier in their marriage, they shared the joy of working side-by-side at the New York City Ballet, where Jean performed as concertmaster. They also treasured traveling the world together, particularly their sailing trips to the Caribbean and trips to Japan when the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra went on tour. They loved to entertain, play bridge, spend time with family, and simply enjoy one another's company. They both became avid sailors. In their later years, they purchased a sailboat, naming it "Toot Sweet," and could often be found spending their time sailing up and down the Long Island Sound.

Paul is survived by his stepson, Seth Benjamin and partner Leidis Sanchez; his son, David Ingraham and his wife Ellen, (nee O'Connell); his daughter, Paola Yammarino and her husband Joseph; and his son, Robert Ingraham and his wife Susan, (nee Hamlin). He is also survived by nine grandchildren: Amanda, Olivia, Maureen, Andrew, Joseph Bruno (Gabrielle), Jared, Jonathan, Benjamin and Lars as well as his first great-grandchild, Bruno Vincent. He also leaves behind his dear brothers, Talcott L (Roy) Ingraham, Jr., William (Bill) Ingraham and his wife Robin and many cousins, nieces and nephews and their families.

Visitation will be held on Monday, October 5, from 3:00-6:00 pm at Redgate Hennessy Funeral Home, 4 Gorham Place, Trumbull, Connecticut.

A committal service is planned for Tuesday, October 6 at 11:00 am at In Memoriam Cemetery, 18 Maplewood Avenue, Wallingford, Connecticut.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes memorial donations to: Alpine Learning Group, an organization that is an important part of Paul's grandchildren's lives. <https://www.alpinelearninggroup.org/>

Defending State, FCIAC Champion Cardinals Varsity Girls Volleyball Tops FCIAC Rival Fairfield Warde, 3-0

By DAVID FIERRO

New season, same high expectations and goals.

After experiencing a 2025 season in which it captured the CIAC Class LL Tournament championship, the FCIAC Tournament title and earned 25 wins, while losing just once, the Greenwich High School varsity girls volleyball team is primed and poised to produce another fantastic fall campaign.

“After last year’s great season, we obviously, won states and FCIACs, our goal is to obviously, win states and FCIACs again,” said Greenwich High senior captain Heidi Zieme, who was named the MVP of the 2025 CIAC Class LL Tournament final. “But not only that, we want to be a strong, solid team and this season, we want to go undefeated in sets too, that’s one of our big goals and so far, we’re doing a successful job.”

Indeed, the Cardinals have been absolutely flawless through their four matches, defeating Southington, Brien McMahon, Fairfield Ludlowe and Fairfield Warde by scores of 3-0. The Cardinals’ latest win came Sept. 18 against visiting Fairfield Warde in a rematch of last season’s CIAC Class LL Tournament semifinals. Greenwich, which swept Fairfield Warde on its way to reaching the state tourney’s championship match one season ago, topped the Mustangs on Sept. 18th, 25-20, 25-21, 25-17.

“We know that Warde is a really good and strong team,” Zieme said following Greenwich’s home triumph versus Fairfield Warde. “They are one of our biggest competitors. So, our goal was to come out swinging and play very well, like we always try to. They are a really strong team, so we had to come out playing our game, instead of playing down or playing to another team’s level.”

Returning an impressive nucleus of athletes from last season’s 25-1, championship squad, Greenwich received numerous impressive performances in its victory against Warde, which was its second home matchup of the season.

Senior captain/setter Victoria Sullivan registered 22 assists, eight digs, three kills, two blocks and three service points, senior captain Kayah Armstrong posted nine kills, three digs, one assist, one block and nine service points and Zieme recorded 11 kills, 20 digs, four service points and two blocks for the Cardinals (4-0).

Warde, which dealt the Cards their only loss last season before GHS returned the favor in the state tournament semifinals, gave the hosts a tough test in this FCIAC matchup. Greenwich emerged victorious, displaying stellar play at the net, a strong defensive effort and solid serving.

As the early-season results indicate, Greenwich is riding the momentum it gathered from last year’s storybook season.

“We’re definitely on a high from last year as well, we’re just looking to do as best as we can and hopefully, repeat it,” Sullivan said.

Greenwich’s varsity volleyball roster includes seven seniors, five juniors and two freshmen.

“I think something really special about our team is we don’t really have any holes, everyone is so talented,” Sullivan said. “We have a player at every position that’s able to put the ball away and able to get some great digs and they’re just all-around skilled players.”

Losing only one regular season match, the Cardinals went 7-0 during the postseason last fall, including victories against Newtown, Trumbull,



Members of the Greenwich High School varsity girls volleyball team react after winning a point during their match against Fairfield Warde High School on Sept. 18, 2026. The Cardinals won the match, 3-0. Photo by David Fierro.

Fairfield Warde and Glastonbury in the CIAC Class LL Tournament. The Cards beat Glastonbury, 3-1, in the Class LL state final, winning the match by set scores of 24-26, 25-20, 25-9, 25-20, for their fourth state title. Greenwich won the state championship in 2010, 2017, 2021 and 2025.

Seeded first, Greenwich was victorious versus second-seeded Fairfield Ludlowe in the championship matchup of the FCIAC Tournament one season ago, 3-1 (25-19, 14-25, 25-22, 25-15). The Cardinals also have a championship pedigree in the FCIAC tourney, winning the conference title in 2025, 2021, 2017 and 2013.

Armstrong earned MVP honors of the 2025 FCIAC final and was named to the All-FCIAC First Team. Zieme also received First Team All-FCIAC accolades and Sullivan earned All-FCIAC Second Team recognition. Bailee Dayon, a junior this season, was an All-FCIAC Third Team selection a year ago. Though GHS has swept past its opponents in its first three matches so far this season, the team is determined to keep ascending.

“I think the most important thing is that we get better every single practice,” Armstrong said. “We come into the gym with the intention of getting better. We are a pretty strong team right now, but there’s always room for improvement.”

“In order to fulfill our goal of repeating and getting these titles, we need to make sure that we improve every time we touch the ball,” Armstrong continued.

In Greenwich’s 3-0 triumph over Warde, Dayon, a libero, provided excellent defensive play, tallying 16 digs and three assists to go along with seven service points. Beatriz Lisboa Da Cunha De Freitas notched 10 digs, 11 assists and four service points in the winning effort.

“I think that we played well today, it was the closest game we’ve had so far,” said Cardinals head coach Marianna Linnehan, who is assisted by coaches George Kailas and Chrys Hernandez. Linnehan credited the Cards trio of senior captains.

“They’re doing a fantastic job,” Linnehan said. “They’re leading well, they’re super positive, they’re being role models on the court, off the court.”

In the first game against Warde, Zieme’s kill gave the Cardinals a 4-3 lead, then the Mustangs tied the score at 4-4. A kill by Lisboa Da Cunha De Freitas, followed by a block by Sullivan made it 6-4 in favor of GHS.

Lisboa Da Cunha De Freitas recorded a kill, closing out the first game and a 25-20 Greenwich win.

The second set saw strong serving by Armstrong get Greenwich off to a positive start with an 11-5 lead. Zieme and Sullivan put down kills several times during the second set, while junior Essa Walsh had key serves for the victors.

With GHS up 24-19, Sullivan executed a well-placed kill, capping the second set and giving the home team a 2-0 advantage.

Greenwich led all the way in taking the third set, 25-17 and sealing the match. Up next this coming week for Greenwich is a home match against rival Ridgefield on Sept. 23rd and a road matchup versus non-conference foe Joel Barlow on Sept. 25th.

“We have a lot of new players and a lot of excellent freshmen,”

Armstrong noted. “They are doing a phenomenal job of adapting to the team dynamic. Everybody is friends and also, on the court, we have a dynamic, we are doing a really good job incorporating them and they’re doing an awesome job playing with older people.”

Indeed, the Cardinals’ captains appreciate their especially significant roles.

“It feels amazing, having this leadership role – taking care of our team,” Zieme said. “We have new freshmen on our team, so we’re making them feel welcome and making our team feel like a family. That’s one of our biggest things this year. As a captain, making everyone feel welcome and everyone being so loved on the team. I love our program and being a captain of it is amazing.”

“We’re so lucky to have everyone that’s so talented and so skilled,” Sullivan said. “We’re just so blessed to be on a team that can be so successful and have so much fun when we’re playing. Of course, we would love to repeat it. We want to be FCIAC champs and state champs. We’re going to see how far we could get in the regular season.”

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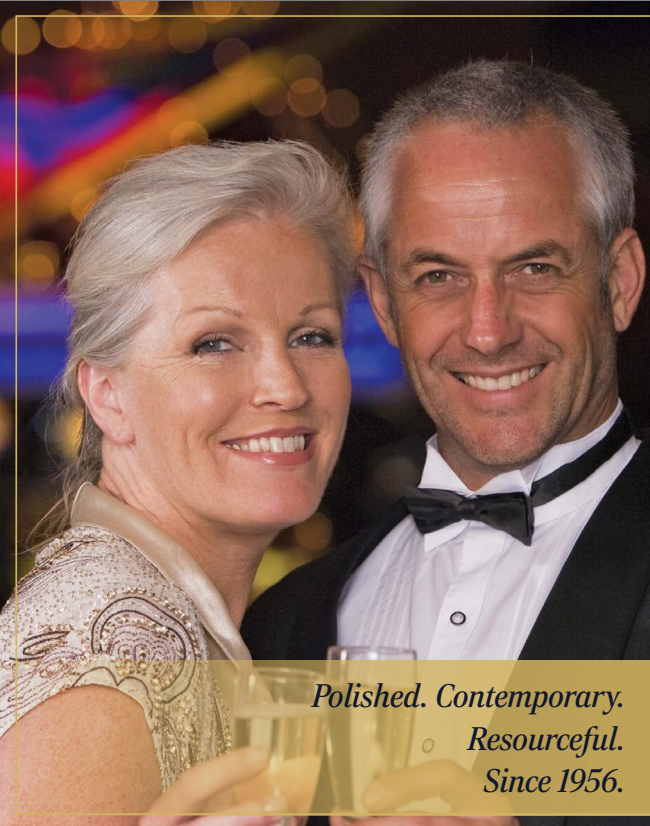
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Forgiving Others is a Gift that We Give Ourselves

By MAREK ZABRISKIE

A friend of mine named Michael Bamberger was the Senior Golf Writer for Sports Illustrated for many years and wrote several books, including a best-seller called Men in Green. It’s based on a cross country trip that he took to meet with some of golf’s royalty – players like Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson, and Ben Crenshaw to name a few.

He wrote about their marriages and friendships, their victories and losses, their second chances and even a few cheating scandals. The story that I remember most took place in Palm Desert, when Michael took golf legend Ken Venturi and his wife, Kathleen, out to dinner.

Michael had just come from visiting Arnold Palmer in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, and he knew that Ken had a festering issue with Arnold, but he didn’t know any of the details. Both men were now in their 80s, and Michael figured that Ken had long ago made his peace with Arnold, but he was wrong. As Ken had done over many private dinners and later in public, he told Michael that Arnold had broken a rule enroute to winning his first major at the 1958 Masters. As far as Michael knew, Ken is the only person who believed this to be the case.

I will spare you the details, but Ken claimed that Arnold robbed the two runners up of winning the tournament by an incident that took place on the final day of play. When it was all over, Arnold was golf’s leading man, and Ken, who finished fourth, was reduced to a supporting player. More than 50 years later, Ken simply couldn’t let go. “Forgive and forget was

not in Ken’s DNA,” writes Michael.

I suspect that most of us have a story of our own like that, where someone has wronged us long ago, and we simply cannot let go of it. We refuse to forgive and move on. Over time, the infraction has taken on a life of its own, and we have chosen to distance ourselves or to cut that person off completely. We see ourselves as a victim and maintain that we had been wronged.

Sometimes the person who injured us is completely unaware of the hurt we feel. Other times, they are aware. In either situation, the years pass and instead of diminishing, the memory of the injury grows. It festers like a scar, a messy wound, or acid irritating our stomach.

An apology will not suffice, because the only thing that can free us is forgiveness, and only we are able to offer that. But we are reluctant to acknowledge that we have fostered this wound, like a mother nursing a child, unaware that we are suffering far more than the person whom we hold responsible for our pain. Refusing to forgive hurts us – for anger corrodes the vessel that contains it.

You may recall C.S. Lewis’ book The Great Divorce, where he paints a haunting picture of hell not as a scary place full of flames, but as a vast, gray city spread full of abandoned houses where people once lived, until they quarreled with their neighbors and moved further away from the center of the city only to quarrel with their new neighbors and eventually move even further away.

They leave strings of empty streets behind them. That is why hell is so large

and why the center is so empty, because people only live on the fringes. Everyone in hell has chosen distance and self-righteousness instead of confrontation and forgiveness, which the only ways that love can grow and reconciliation can occur.

When we refuse to forgive someone, it’s like we are shackled to the person who has hurt us. By refusing to forgive, we punish ourselves. The great thing about having someone to blame is that it keeps us from taking any responsibility. It’s all someone else’s fault, and we are totally in the right.

An enemy makes us look good by comparison, and it gives us someone to blame for our life not turning out the way it was supposed to – like Ken Venturi at the Masters Tournament. The challenge for most of us is to let go of our anger, to trade in our pride for the off-chance that we might discover something more valuable than separation from one another.

Every time that we recite the Lord’s Prayer, we are reminded that forgiveness is reciprocal. We ask God to forgive us our trespasses “as we forgive those who trespass against us.” In his prayer, Jesus makes the claim that God’s forgiveness of us is intimately connected with our willingness to forgive others.

Our nation recently paused to honor the 25th anniversary of 9/11 and everyone who perished that day. It was a day where we felt our innocence taken away. Those of us who were alive and old enough to realize what had occurred on that day will never forget where we were when we first learned of the terrorist attacks.

A wave of anger swept

across our country. One once we learned the identity of the terrorists, every Muslim and Middle Eastern person across our country became a target of our wrath and anger. We wanted revenge. We desperately sought it out.

We killed far more than were killed, just as Israel has done following October 7th. But the killing never remedies the situation. Sometimes we must forgive and learn to let go on a national level. It’s never easy. If we don’t, we merely tap down our anger and frustration like the Catholics and the Protestants in Ireland who trace their animosity to the Battle of the Boyne in 1690. Some of that anger is still there, tapped down, simmering, and can be easily triggered by new hurts.

Rabbis in Jesus’ time insisted that a person must forgive three times. No marriage could exist on this meager fare of forgiveness, unless perhaps it was three times a day or better yet three times an hour. So, Peter asks Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?”

In other words, how much is enough? What are the limits of my having to forgive? When do I get to say, “That’s it. I’m not going to try anymore.” But Jesus replies, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven,” which is the Hebrew equivalent of “forever.” There shall be no limit to how many times you and I are to forgive. The word forgiveness in Greek and Aramaic that Jesus used means “to release” and “to let go.” When we forgive, we release our grip on the hatred and rage that has consumed us.

Forgiveness does not mean forgetting. We are

not supposed to blank out our memories. We couldn’t even if we tried. Second, forgiveness has nothing to do with tolerating what someone has done. Forgiveness says what you have done is wrong, sometimes terribly wrong, but I have decided no longer to let it stand between us.

Forgiveness doesn’t depend on the other person being sorry for what they have done. It’s easier if they are, but forgiveness isn’t about the other person, it’s about us. It’s about healing in us so that we can see and relate to a broken and fallible person in a different way.

Forgiveness doesn’t mean there should be no punishment, consequences, or restitution. Society and church have laws for our common life and for meting out justice. Finally, forgiveness doesn’t mean staying in a destructive situation. Forgiveness is only possible when the wounding and harm stops. There can be no forgiveness while the cruelty continues or deceit goes on in the relationship.

No, forgiveness means that I’m not going to stay trapped in my rage. I am going to learn how to forgive you, because you are more than the wrong that you did to me, because you are a child of God as I am, because I know how much you need forgiveness, and because I know your wrong ultimately belongs in God’s hands and not mine.

Jesus reminds us that forgiveness is reciprocal. We cannot expect to receive forgiveness, unless we dispense it. Forgiveness requires us to get in touch with our own cavernous need for mercy, in order to pass the gift onto others who need it. God has had to forgive each of us countless

times - but it’s always easier to ignore or pretend that our shortcomings and imperfections don’t exist.

Unfortunately, there’s a lot of stuff nowadays that passes for forgiveness, whereby we forgive others by having less and less to do with them until there’s no relationship left. It’s forgiveness as “You’re dead to me” or “I cannot be bothered with you anymore.” That’s not what Jesus has in mind.

God has wiped your sin away. Like the ultimate investment banker in heaven, God has restructured your debt. You are free to go forward, unburdened by your past. The massive sum that you owe for all your sins and failures has been completely erased. All you need to do now is to pass along the gift of forgiveness to others.

As Fall begins, I urge you to rebuild a relationship by offering forgiveness to someone who has injured you. Take your time, but get started. Keep letting go as you can. Sometimes, we have to forgive a little at a time.

Most importantly, pray for the person who has hurt you. Ask for God’s healing power to give you the power to release the anger and hurt. And as you do so, think of the poet Alfred Lord Tennyson who wrote, “Two aged men, that had been foes for life, Met by a grave and wept – and in those tears They washed away the memory of their strife; Then wept again the loss of all those years.”

“How many times must I forgive, seven,” asks Peter. Jesus replies, “Not seven times, but... seventy times seven.”

The Rev. Marek Zabriskie is the Rector of Christ Church Greenwich and an amateur at forgiveness like everyone who professes to follow God.

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7 Calhoun Drive	\$8,495,000	\$976	8,704	2.47	6	7	South Parkway
2 Element Lane	\$8,999,000	\$704	12,781	0.8	6	6	North Parkway
608 North Street	\$9,750,000	\$818	11,925	2.36	6	6	South Parkway
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5 Old Kings Highway	\$1,795,000	\$1,795,000	\$1,715,000	50	4	2	0.16	2,033	
10 Steep Hollow Lane	\$2,499,000	\$2,499,000	\$2,499,000	32	4	2	2	3,852	
13 Hidden Brook Road	\$2,950,000	\$2,950,000	\$3,500,000	6	4	4	0.3	3,342	
23 Riverside Lane	\$3,095,000	\$3,095,000	\$3,175,000	20	5	4	0.21	4,332	
35 Owenoke Way	\$3,895,000	\$3,895,000	\$4,375,000	7	5	4	0.4	3,648	
29 Orchard Place	\$4,195,000	\$3,945,000	\$3,900,000	58	5	4	0.16	4,452	
14 Bradbury Place	\$4,790,000	\$4,790,000	\$4,790,000	171	5	6	0.45	7,000	
583 Lake Avenue	\$5,495,000	\$5,495,000	\$5,175,000	64	5	5	3.02	8,082	
4 Rockwood Lane Spur	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	61	6	8	1.64	10,523	



Bob Romeo Capazzo photo.

McCALL SMITH BOOK TALK

From Page 1

“Who he was and where he went, I can’t remember,” he said. Decades later, McCall Smith has written or contributed to more than 100 books, including novels, children’s books, short stories and academic works.

Where Stories Begin

“We’re a storytelling species,” he said. “And I think that runs deep in the human psyche.” He compared writing to playing the piano, when a practiced musician no longer consciously searches for each note. “When I sit down to write, I don’t have to sit there and say, ‘What is going to happen?’” he said. “It actually comes up very quickly, at a thousand words an hour. It just comes.” Girard occasionally treated the interview as an interrogation. When McCall Smith corrected one of her statistics about his prodigious output, she warned him, “We have a polygraph set up behind us.” “I know you’re just trying to trap me,” he told her. The same curiosity that fuels McCall Smith’s writing makes him an unapologetic eavesdropper. He listens to conversations in restaurants, streets, airplanes and trains, collecting fragments of human behavior that may someday find their way into a story. He also still talks to strangers.

Six Hours With a Stranger

On the trip that brought him to the United States, McCall Smith traveled from Edinburgh to Dublin before flying on to New York. Across the aisle sat an Irishman. “And we talked for six hours,” McCall Smith said. “We had a tremendous agenda. We talked about absolutely everything.” For him, there was nothing unusual about it. That was once part of everyone’s travel. “We should have conversations with other people,” he said. McCall Smith remembers when speaking to the person beside you on a train or airplane was almost expected. A journey of three, four or five hours meant time to discover who someone was, where they were going, what they thought and what stories they carried with them. He fears that habit is disappearing. “Nowadays we’re all cocooned in our electronic universes,” he said. “So you see people totally busy with their devices and they’re not talking.” He worries that younger generations may lose some of the ease of spontaneous conversation. “And that’s a great pity,” he said. For a writer who builds so much of his fiction from observation, the loss is more than social. The stray sentence, the unexpected confidence from a stranger and the overheard exchange can open a door into an entire life. He recalled standing at a traffic light in New York and hearing one woman tell another, “I’ve got \$16,000 on my credit card.” The other’s reply? “Well, why did you have to go to Australia?” He wanted to hear what came next. He also finds one-sided cell phone conversations frustrating because they deprive the eavesdropper of half the story. His proposed solution is characteristically McCall Smith. Trains already have quiet cars, he noted. Perhaps they should also have noisy ones. Passengers using their phones in such a carriage, he suggested, would be required to plug them into the public-address system so everyone could hear both sides. “I suggested that to railway companies,” he said. “They haven’t taken me up on it.”

Crime Without the Car Chase

That same preference for listening over spectacle is central to Mma Precious Ramotswe, the detective at the center of his best-known series. She solves problems through patience, observation and an understanding of human behavior rather than through violence or forensic theatrics. McCall Smith said people have sometimes urged him to make his mysteries darker or more dramatic. He resisted, saying readers need not be entertained only by “violence and conflict and confrontation.” When someone suggested a car chase, he devised his own version. Girard immediately corrected the premise. “You mean a van chase?” she asked. “A van chase, yes,” McCall Smith replied. He eventually compromised. “I had a chase involving supermarket shopping trolleys,” he said. For a conversation between a homicide detective and a mystery novelist, it was about as close as the evening came to high-speed pursuit. His fiction often finds its momentum in conversation, temperament and place. “The sense of place I find very important,” McCall Smith told an audience member. “And often before I write a book, I see the place first. The setting is the first step, so to speak. I then people it with characters.” Botswana remains central to his life and work. He has traveled there for more than 40 years, once worked at the University of Botswana and continues to return. His affection for the country shaped the world of Mma Ramotswe and the series that brought him an international readership. **How to Rent a Bulldozer in Italy** His affection for Italy produced a very different kind of literary inspiration. McCall Smith said *My Italian Bulldozer*, a standalone novel, grew from something that really happened when he went to Italy seeking peace and quiet in which to finish some writing. His wife had suggested he get away for two weeks. McCall Smith chose Montalcino, the Tuscan hill town known for Brunello di Montalcino wine, and flew from Edinburgh to Pisa. On the flight, he sat beside an Italian businessman who had been in Scotland selling ceramics. They talked. They landed. They said goodbye. Then McCall Smith went to collect his rental car. “I made a reservation,” he recalled telling the employee at the counter. “No, you haven’t got a reservation,” came the response. McCall Smith produced the email confirming it. “This is no longer valid,” he was told. He asked for another car. “I’m terribly sorry, but this is a holiday weekend and all our cars are out,” the employee said. At that point, the Italian businessman from the airplane happened to pass. “Is everything all right?” he asked. McCall Smith explained that it was not. “Don’t you worry, come with me,” the man told him. “I’ve got a friend who a couple of kilometers away has got a vehicle rental business. Come with me, he’ll fix you up.” The second rental business had no cars either. It did, however, have one vehicle left. A bulldozer. “I can’t drive a bulldozer,” McCall Smith recalled saying. He showed the owner his British driver’s license, which authorized him to drive cars. “No,” the man replied, according to McCall Smith. “In Italy cars include bulldozers.” The negotiations proceeded.

“When you rent a car, you walk around to check the car,” McCall Smith told the audience. “And then I walked around the bulldozer.” The owner invited him into the cab and offered what appears to have been an abbreviated driving lesson. “This lever, that’s forward and that’s reverse. And that lever there, that’s the blade. Don’t touch that one.” McCall Smith signed the rental agreement. Then he set off from Pisa for Montalcino on a bulldozer. “It was quite slow,” he said. “It was quite slow.” There were compensations. “If you’re on a bulldozer, you get a very good view of the surrounding features,” he said. “And if there are any features you don’t like, you’re on a bulldozer.” Eventually he reached his hotel, where, unlike the car-rental counter, his reservation was recognized. He settled in and spent the next two weeks writing. Each morning, he said, he had coffee with a local priest. Near the end of the trip, the priest invited him to lunch at his brother’s wine estate outside the village. There was only one transportation problem: the priest’s car was in the garage. “Could we go in the bulldozer?” the priest asked. So the priest and the novelist climbed aboard and drove to lunch. The brother welcomed them with what McCall Smith described as a typical Tuscan meal of eight courses. After lunch, he offered a tour of the vineyard. The vintner explained that Brunello di Montalcino could be produced only from grapes grown within a precisely defined zone. Land on the wrong side of the boundary produced wine that had to be sold as Rosso di Montalcino, for considerably less. Unfortunately, the brother said, his vineyard sat just outside the approved zone. The boundary, he pointed out, happened to run along a small stone wall. Then came the question. “Do you think you could possibly...” “I couldn’t say no,” McCall Smith said. He returned to the bulldozer. He moved the wall. “And we went back into the farmhouse and he produced a bottle of wine he declared was now a Brunello di Montalcino,” McCall Smith said. The master story-teller’s story drew laugh-out-loud laughter and applause. McCall Smith is still writing at a pace most authors would find daunting. He said he was finishing the third installment of *The Perfect Passion Company*, his newer series about an Edinburgh matchmaking agency. The manuscript, *Plumbers and Lovers*, was nearly complete during the tour. Its central joke begins with a plumber who wants romance but keeps meeting women interested primarily in having him work at their homes on plumbing issues. “I want people who don’t just look at me as a plumber,” the character tells the matchmaker in McCall Smith’s description, “but who want to know me as a person.” That line offers a compact explanation of McCall Smith’s fiction. His characters may be detectives, philosophers, lawyers, children, plumbers or pushy mothers, but professions and plots are rarely the final point. The person is. Near the evening’s end, an audience member asked why so many of his books contain someone genuinely nice. “There are a lot of nice people around,” McCall Smith said. “And I suppose they’re the people I want to write about.” McCall Smith has built a vast body of work on the proposition that attention can sustain a story, that decency can hold a reader’s interest, and that ordinary human beings become considerably less ordinary once someone takes the time to listen to them.



Your Dream House Is a Movie Set

The houses the movies taught us to want.



By JOHN ENGEL

Ask someone to describe the house they want, and some part of it probably came from a movie: the front staircase from *Home Alone*, the glass garage from *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, Clark Griswold's lights from *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*, or the white kitchen from *Something's Gotta Give*. Some of these films concern buying, building, financing, or selling property. In others, a particular house becomes an aspiration, a threat, or the visible expression of a family. Here are my 25 choices for the most memorable uses of houses, homes, and real estate in film, in chronological order:

1. THE WIZARD OF OZ (1939)

A Kansas farmhouse becomes transportation, storm shelter, and murder weapon, carrying Dorothy into Oz and landing on the Wicked Witch of the East. Dorothy then spends the rest of the movie trying to return to the same modest house. Oz is shown in Technicolor and Kansas in sepia, but only one of them is home: "There's no place like home."

2. GONE WITH THE WIND (1939)

Tara is Scarlett O'Hara's inheritance, refuge, and recurring source of strength. She returns from Atlanta to find the plantation damaged, her mother dead, and her family starving. She kills an intruder to defend it and marries Frank Kennedy to obtain the money needs to pay its taxes. The movie ends with Scarlett planning to return to Tara. Its white-columned façade came to represent the plantation South, its grand balls, wealth and enslaved labor, and the destruction of that way of life by the Civil War.

3. IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (1946)

George Bailey's Building & Loan helps working families leave Potter's rentals and buy houses in Bailey Park; the Martini family's move from Potter's slum is one of George's proudest achievements. George and Mary make their own home in the abandoned Granville house, where they once threw stones and made wishes. Without George, Bedford Falls becomes Pottersville, a town of Potter's rentals.

4. MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (1947)

Susan's Christmas wish is the suburban house pictured in a magazine. Kris Kringle directs Susan, her mother Doris, and Doris's suitor Fred past that exact house with a "For Sale" sign outside. Susan runs in, Fred proposes buying it, and Kris's cane beside the fireplace suggests that Santa delivered both a house and a family.

5. MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE (1948)

Cary Grant and Myrna Loy leave their cramped Manhattan apartment for a Connecticut farmhouse, only to learn that the house must be demolished and rebuilt. The plans expand, the bills rise and the dream house nearly overwhelms them. The story was reworked nearly four decades

later as the better-known *The Money Pit* (1986), number 16 on this list.

6. GIANT (1956)

Texas rancher Bick Benedict meets Leslie at her family's gracious Maryland horse farm and brings her to Reata, his vast, isolated ranch house. The contrast measures how far she has traveled. Over three generations, Reata becomes the stage for cattle wealth, oil, inheritance, marriage, and a changing Texas. Also considered: *Once Upon a Time in the West* (1968), in which Sweetwater's location and water determine the railroad route and make its owner a target.

7. PSYCHO (1960)

The dark Victorian house above the Bates Motel appears to watch over the business below. Norman says his mother lives there; her bedroom remains undisturbed, and her body waits in the fruit cellar. Its steep hill, narrow staircase, and silhouetted windows made the Bates house one of cinema's most recognizable threats. Also considered: Manderley in *Rebecca* (1940), another house still ruled by the memory of a dead woman.

8. A RAISIN IN THE SUN (1961)

The Younger family shares a cramped South Side apartment until Lena uses her husband's life-insurance money to buy a house in white Clybourne Park. A neighborhood representative offers to buy them out. Walter's refusal makes moving into the house an act of ownership, dignity, and resistance.

9. THE SWIMMER (1968)

Burt Lancaster's Ned Merrill, from the John Cheever story, decides to swim home through a chain of his neighbors' pools, which he names the Lucinda River. As he crosses the estates of Fairfield County, each stop reveals another debt, broken relationship, or lost friendship. He finally reaches his own house and finds it dark, deserted, and locked.

10. THE STEPFORD WIVES (1975)

Joanna Eberhart leaves New York City for beautiful Stepford, Connecticut, where the houses are immaculate and the wives live only to please their husbands. She discovers that the men are replacing them with obedient replicas. "Stepford wife" became a byword for the sinister perfection concealed inside an ideal suburban home.

11. THE AMITYVILLE HORROR (1979)

The Lutz family buys an impressive Dutch Colonial at an unusually affordable price but soon discovers why: Six members of the previous family were murdered there. Their investment helps explain why they remain after any sensible buyer would flee. The house's quarter-round windows remain instantly recognizable.

12. THE SHINING (1980)

The Overlook Hotel, closed for the winter, is the Torrance family's only home and Jack's workplace. Its grand public rooms, endless corridors, Room 237, and hedge maze gradually transform isolation into imprisonment.

13. POLTERGEIST (1982)

The Freelings appear to possess the perfect

new house. Then they discover that the developer relocated the cemetery's headstones but left the bodies beneath the subdivision. Speculative development becomes supernatural horror. In the end, the house folds into itself and disappears.

14. E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL (1982)

Few films make more of the word "home" than this one. E.T. is stranded far from his planet, while Elliott's own home has been broken by his father's departure. Elliott shelters him there, helps him contact his family, and finally lets him leave. "E.T. phone home" became the movie's defining line.

15. A CHRISTMAS STORY (1983)

The Parker house is the remembered home of childhood: the troublesome furnace, crowded kitchen, leg lamp in the front window, and Christmas tree surrounded by presents. Nothing about it is grand, but Ralphie's narration turns its ordinary rooms into an idealized American Christmas.

16. THE MONEY PIT (1986)

Walter and Anna believe they have found a distressed mansion at an extraordinary price. The plumbing, wiring, staircase, chimney, and contractors demonstrate that the purchase price is only the beginning of a house's cost.

17. BEETLEJUICE (1988)

Adam and Barbara Maitland die on their way home and discover that they must remain in their house for 125 years. The Deetz family buys it, and Delia replaces the Maitlands' cozy interiors with severe contemporary design. The dead former owners then try to drive out the living new owners.

18. NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION (1989)

Clark Griswold covers his house with 25,000 lights, brings the extended family under one roof, and commits his expected Christmas bonus to a swimming pool. "Griswold house" is now shorthand for any home whose lights overwhelm the neighborhood.

19. HOME ALONE (1990)

The red-brick McCallister house is the Christmas ideal, childhood playground, and fortress. Kevin uses its staircase, basement, windows, and rooms to defeat two burglars, but finally wants only his family back inside it. The Winnetka house became one of the most imitated family homes in American movies.

20. GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS (1992)

No famous house here. Four desperate salesmen compete to sell lots in Glengarry Highlands and Glen Ross Farms. First prize is a Cadillac, second prize is steak knives, and everyone else is fired. Leads are hoarded, stolen, and manipulated. The film made "Always Be Closing" the most famous sales instruction in real estate.

21. SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE (2003)

Erica Barry's Hamptons beach house helped define the modern coastal interior: pale upholstery, blue-and-white fabrics, dark floors, books, and an enormous white kitchen. Few movie houses have had more influence on what homeowners ask designers for. Also considered: Nancy Meyers's *The*

Holiday (2006), which offered two more fantasies, the small English cottage and the expansive Los Angeles house.

22. PRIDE & PREJUDICE (2005)

Beneath this romance is a housing problem. The five Bennet daughters cannot inherit Longbourn; when their father dies, the estate will pass to Mr. Collins. Mrs. Bennet's frantic matchmaking is therefore about economic survival. Charlotte secures a home by marrying Collins, while Elizabeth refuses him. Bingley rents Netherfield, Darcy owns Pemberley, and seeing how Darcy maintains his estate helps change Elizabeth's opinion of him. Remove the houses and inheritance law, and much of the plot disappears.

23. UP (2009)

Carl refuses to sell his longtime home to the developers surrounding it. He lifts it into the sky and carries it toward Paradise Falls, eventually recognizing that Ellie's life with him was not confined to the building. Also considered: Studio Ghibli's *Howl's Moving Castle* (2004), another animated film in which a house travels and becomes home to an unconventional family.

24. THE BIG SHORT (2015)

The financing beneath the houses is the subject: weak mortgages, inflated appraisals, securitized debt, and the assumption that American home values could not fall. Investors who recognize the weakness bet against the housing market. *99 Homes* (2014), about an evicted Florida father who goes to work for the real-estate operator who took his home, shows the same collapse from the curb.

25. PARASITE (2019)

The wealthy Parks live in a modern house above Seoul, while the Kims occupy a cramped semi-basement where the windows look onto the street. A third family lives secretly beneath the Parks. Stairs connect the movie's three households, turning the building into a map of class and power.

Also considered were Norma Desmond's mansion in *Sunset Boulevard* (1950); the disputed property in *House of Sand and Fog* (2003); the nightmare rental in *Pacific Heights* (1990); the Thrombey estate in *Knives Out* (2019); the magical Casita in *Encanto* (2021); the altered family home in *Back to the Future* (1985); and the houses of *Father of the Bride* (1950 and 1991) and *Practical Magic* (1998).

Three of the 25 are set in Connecticut: *Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House*, *The Swimmer*, and *The Stepford Wives*. Only the Blandings family ends up happy in their house.

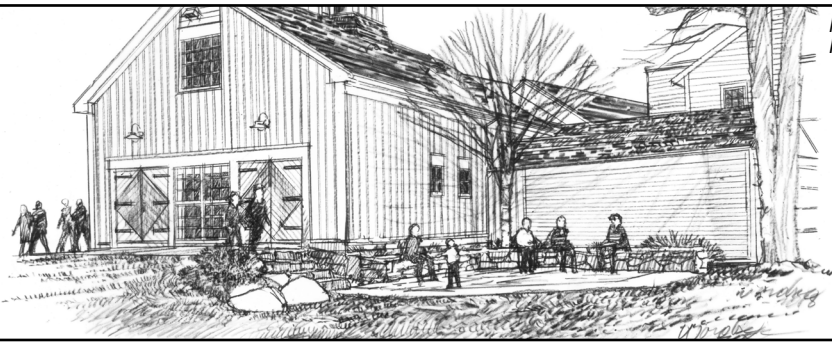
The movies have sold us houses, warned us about houses, and taught us to recognize homes. They gave us the front staircase, the country estate, and the white kitchen. They also put a murderer above the motel, bodies beneath the subdivision, and another family below the basement. Much of what we expect a house to look like, and a home to feel like, we learned at the movies.

John Engel is a broker on the Engel Team at Douglas Elliman. He has lived in 15 homes, including a pool house, a New York City apartment, a German cottage, new construction, and a Revolutionary War-era antique. Each was right for its time.



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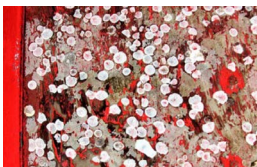
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THE ART OF
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Getting to Know the Brief but Beautiful Life of Artist Raphael Courtesy of Page Knox



Left: "Donna Velata, 1513, Pitti Palace (image of Fornarina) by Raphael. Contributed photo. | Right: "Raphael Self Portrait 1504 Uffizi" Contributed photo.

By Anne W. Semmes

For those who missed the first and comprehensive exhibit of "Sublime Poetry -Raphael-A Master of Serenity" at the Metropolitan Museum of Art earlier this year, Page Knox brought it all to light last Wednesday for the members and guests of the Greenwich Branch of the English-Speaking Union at their luncheon at the Round Hill Club.

With her focus on "this fabulous renaissance artist... often compared at the time to Leonardo and Michelangelo" she hoped to "entice" viewers "to head over to Europe... to places like the Louvre... to cities like

Prague to see other aspects of Raphael that were not in the exhibition." Knox has often taken art lovers abroad on tours when not teaching in the Art History Department of Columbia University.

Addressing a concern that 21 st century viewers might not resonate with Raphael's often religious subject matter, she read a quote from his contemporary, Giorgio Vasari: "Heaven now and again unites in one person the inexhaustible riches of its treasures and all those graces and rare gifts which are usually shared among many over a long period is seen in Raphael Sanzio of Urbino, who is as excellent as gracious

as endowed with a natural modesty and goodness."

Knox continued, "Raphael doesn't tend to be as edgy, as just curious, as struggling as Michelangelo or Leonardo. He's just known for being beautiful." The exhibit thus focused on "where did this beauty come from and how did Raphael achieve such greatness in such a short period of time?... He dies at the age of 37." A career cut short Knox would tell, "Because the Pope worked him to death...always assigning him different projects."

She showed a moving 19th c. painting, of "The Last Moments of Raphael" seen surrounded by his

Pope Leo X and others. "He actually died on his birthday, which is quite a legendary achievement... but he also died on Good Friday. And so, Raphael started to take on this Christ-like characteristic mythology, and he became a larger-than-life figure."

"He's buried in the Pantheon," she told, "as the only artist to be given that recognition. His tomb speaks to his interest in poetry... The show wanted to focus on this poetic aspect, this aspect of beauty, and to really think how did Raphael achieve this?" So, look to his origin story.

"He's born in Urbino, an important town in Italy on the East Coast... the

brainchild of this marvelous Duke of Urbino, Federico de Montefeltro...a very important court where scholars, artists, sculptors, literary figures all gathered. This was where Raphael grew up...He has the full embrace and support of his father... taking him to work at a young age in the workshop of Perugino... one of the most important artists living and working in Italy." Raphael would learn to draw then "transfer the drawing onto the canvas."

Raphael is a "quick learner." "He adopts the style of Perugino, recognizing certain tropes, certain compositional elements, and then makes them his

own. But Perugino is not terribly happy that Raphael is appropriating his style-you're starting to see the pupil exceeding the master."

Raphael would be drawn to Florence, learning of a competition to decorate its Palazzo Vecchio with murals of battles won by Florence. "Two best artists" are chosen, Michelangelo and Leonardo. But Michelangelo is summoned to Rome by the Pope, and Leonardo abandons the mural project, then "encourages Raphael to come to his studio and they talk a lot about the nature of drawing."

"He basically says to Raphael, 'Perugino

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



"The Last Moments of Raphael," by Henry Nelson O'Neil (1817-1880), Bristol City Museum Art Gallery. Contributed photo

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

looks so 1490's. You've got to get into the 16th century. Drawing has to be dynamic... It has to relate to the way you experience the world.' So, you see Raphael's style completely changing... He's copying a lot of Leonardo works... That's not to say that he doesn't also look at Michelangelo and learn from Michelangelo. He's getting the best of both of these artists at the top of their game, then establishing himself as a painter." Knox would display Raphael's winsome "The Virgin and Child with the Infant Saint John the Baptist in a Landscape (The Alba Madonna)" from the National Gallery. "It was one of the great paintings of the show," she said. Viewers would see in his drawings "how Raphael was looking at Leonardo drawings and using Leonardo's techniques to create a more dynamic image of the mother and child... These marvelous drawings were placeholders for the paintings-you could see the mind and the hand of the artist."

Why was the Virgin and Child such a popular topic? Yes, as an important moment in Christian religion, but also was the sad history of that time as noted by the Met show curator Carmen Bambach. "There was such a high level of infant mortality. Everybody in this era had lost a mother, a spouse, a sibling." Thus, "a successful birth of a mother and child was to be celebrated." Add too, "Raphael's mother died when he was nine years old giving birth to his sister... So, this is very personal to Raphael. You see the tenderness between

the virgin and child you haven't seen before." Raphael would be summoned to Rome by then Pope Julius to paint his apartments. Pope Julius will die, "and the next Pope Leo the X will continue the project." Leonardo will again be a

gamechanger for Raphael after he sees Leonardo's Mona Lisa, told Knox. "The traditional portrait in the Renaissance was the woman is always in profile." But Leonardo "turns her to face you..you look at her eyes, and you say, 'What's she thinking about?... So, you

can see Raphael start to paint in the new modern style." Next on the screen

Orsini was the daughter of... the most beautiful woman in Rome who also

make her look a little more virginal. So how do you do that? In goes the unicorn. It's only the virgin that can contain the unicorn." And it is in Rome that Raphael will meet "the love of his life... Fornarina (baker's

daughter). She's also captured in portraiture, but in a very intimate way"- in the nude. But add his "marvelous portrait" of Dona Velata from the Barberini family that is the image of Fornarina but finished after Raphael's death. And just how does

Raphael, "The Virgin and Child with the Infant Saint John the Baptist in a Landscape (The Alba Madonna),) 1509-11 National Gallery Washington DC. Contributed photo.



happened to be the mistress of the Pope. So, to create a married portrait, you're going to have to

Raphael die? He's working at the Pitti Palace... They know the Fornarina is a distraction." So Fornarina is invited into the Palace, and "Raphael has this big night with the Fornarina - and he dies with a smile on his face..."

For Raphael's contributions to the Sistine Chapel, we have Michelangelo's influence with his glorious work on the Chapel's ceiling. With there not being an emphasis "looking down" in the Chapel, Raphael would sign on to Pope Leo's idea to include tapestries. "These tapestries were woven in Flanders with gold and silver thread," said Knox, "Very expensive, the most elite art form you can have... They are still on view in the Vatican Museum." Raphael's cartoons for those tapestries would become "so highly valued that they are purchased by the King of England. And if you want to see these cartoons, you must go to the V&A in London."

The last impacting image is found in one of those tapestries. Raphael has pictured the apostle Paul incarcerated, in an earthquake sent by God to break him out of the jail. "Why am I showing you this?" said Knox. "Because this does not look like Raphael. This looks like Michelangelo. Think the Last Judgment, of Michelangelo's engagement with the body. These were done at the end of Raphael's life... Had Raphael survived to witness the reformation, to witness the sack of Rome, to witness the horrors of these religious wars, how would that have changed the face of painting for the next 500 years?"

Art Returns Home At First Bank

By Emma Barhydt

Walk into The First Bank of Greenwich in Cos Cob right now, and the walls are doing some of the talking.

Throughout the branch, works by local photographer Dona Menton bring deep blues, rust reds, soft grays, and flashes of white into a space better known for deposits, loans, and conversations across a desk. Some pieces suggest water or landscape. Others move toward abstraction, built from texture, color, reflections, and fragments that reward a second look.

Menton's work is currently on display at the bank, marking a return for an artist with a longstanding connection to The First Bank of Greenwich. She was among the artists showcased there in 2018, during the earlier years of the bank's local arts programming, and her photographs have now returned to the Cos Cob branch.

For those who remember her earlier appearance, the display offers a reintroduction. For others, it provides an immediate look at Menton's distinctive way of seeing.

Although Menton works in photography, several of the pieces hanging throughout the branch could easily be mistaken for paintings from across the room.

One large work is built around a rich, earthy red, interrupted by passages of blue, gray, cream, and orange. The surface appears weathered and layered, with irregular shapes emerging and disappearing across the composition. Nearby, another photograph is saturated in blue, its vertical marks

and shifting tones suggesting water, weather, or movement without resolving into a single recognizable scene.

Elsewhere in the branch, Menton moves into paler territory. White and navy forms gather and break apart across one image, while another pairs blue with broad areas of cream and softer color. Two works displayed together lean toward the maritime, with sweeping blues, pale horizons, and rounded forms that hint at moonlight, waves, or distant shoreline.

The works vary considerably from one another, but they share a common visual language. Menton is interested in what happens when ordinary subjects are viewed closely enough that they begin to transform.

A surface becomes a landscape. A reflection becomes an abstraction. A patch of peeling color becomes a composition of its own.

That approach has long been central to Menton's photography.

Rather than limiting herself to straightforward landscape or documentary work, she has developed a practice built around details, unusual perspectives, surfaces, reflections, and fragments of the environment. Her photographs often begin with something recognizable, but the final image leaves space for interpretation.

That is especially apparent in the works now at The First Bank of Greenwich.

A viewer may first see a field of blue before noticing lines and textures beneath it.



Two blue-toned works by Dona Menton hang inside The First Bank of Greenwich, where her photography is currently on display. Photo by Emma Barhydt

A pale shape may resemble a cloud, light on water, or exposed surface. Rough areas suggest stone, paint, rust, or weather. The subject remains present, but Menton gives equal attention to shape, color, and composition.

The result is photography that asks the viewer to slow down.

That invitation works particularly well inside a community bank.

The First Bank of Greenwich is a working space.

Employees move between offices, customers arrive for appointments, and the regular business of the day continues around the artwork. Menton's photographs sit comfortably within that routine.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Randall Atcheson Returns To Greenwich

Randall Atcheson has spent a lifetime moving easily between musical worlds.

On one evening, the pianist may sit at Carnegie Hall and open with Rachmaninoff, Chopin, or Debussy. On another, the program may turn toward Cole Porter, Broadway, Christmas standards, gospel music, or familiar American songs. Sacred repertoire, concert-hall classics, and popular melodies have all found a place at his keyboard.

That breadth will come to Greenwich on Friday, Oct. 2, when Atcheson performs as part of the Concert & Cake series at Christ Church Greenwich. The free concert begins at 1:30 p.m., with walk-ins welcome and no ticket required.

For Greenwich audiences, Atcheson is far from a visiting artist passing through town. His relationship with the community stretches back decades, beginning when he arrived in the area as a 19-year-old student at The Juilliard School.

At the time, Atcheson lived in a cottage once associated with Judy Garland on the property of Greenwich Baptist Church, where he served as organist and choirmaster. His local career would eventually include 20 years as organist and choirmaster at First Congregational Church in Stamford, more than six years as director of music and organist at Stanwich Congregational Church, and service as minister of music and organist at First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich.

Those local chapters developed alongside an international performing career that has taken Atcheson to major concert halls, churches, embassies, and historic venues across several continents.

Music entered his life early.

A prodigy on both piano and organ, Atcheson entered the preparatory music program at Samford University in Alabama at age 12. He was already teaching music while still a child and, by his teenage years, had become organist at First Baptist Church in Birmingham.

He later entered Juilliard, where his unusual command of two instruments became part of the school's history. Atcheson became the only student at Juilliard permitted to pursue and receive simultaneous degrees in piano and organ performance. He studied piano with Sascha Gorodnitzki and organ with Anthony Newman.

His studies led quickly toward the concert stage. Atcheson won the first Juilliard Organ Competition and gave the premiere performance on the newly installed pipe organ at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center. His career soon expanded to include performances as both pianist and organist, orchestral appearances, conducting, recordings, sacred music, and international tours.

Carnegie Hall has become one of the recurring landmarks of that career.

On Dec. 2, 2025, Atcheson returned to the Isaac Stern Auditorium for his 16th solo concert at Carnegie Hall. The program offered a particularly clear portrait of the musician he has become.

The recital opened with works by Sergei Rachmaninoff, Frédéric Chopin, and Claude Debussy before moving into a wide-ranging holiday program featuring traditional carols and American standards. “O Come, All Ye Faithful,” “O Holy Night,” “White Christmas,” “Sleigh Ride,” “The Christmas Song,” and “We Need a Little Christmas” appeared alongside the classical repertoire.

That kind of programming has long been characteristic of Atcheson.

His 2023 Carnegie Hall appearance similarly brought

For Greenwich audiences, Atcheson is far from a visiting artist. His relationship with the community stretches back decades.

Chopin into the same evening as Cole Porter, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Paul McCartney, sacred selections, and patriotic music. The divisions that often separate the concert hall from Broadway, the church sanctuary from the popular songbook, or the classical pianist from the entertainer have rarely defined his work.

Instead, Atcheson's career has been built around the possibilities of the piano itself.

His recordings reflect the same approach. Across 16 albums, he has recorded classical repertoire, sacred arrangements, Christmas music, romantic standards, and popular songs. Albums including “Amazing Grace,” “Ivory Christmas,” “True Love,” “Christmas by Candlelight,” and “Classic Love Songs” showcase an artist comfortable interpreting music from very different traditions without abandoning the discipline of a classically trained performer.

His recording career has included work for Word, Windham Hill, PolyGram, and RCA. He also joined the roster of Steinway Artists following his 1991 Carnegie Hall debut.

Beyond recording studios and American concert stages, Atcheson's performances have taken him around the world. He has played at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and

Blenheim Palace in England, and has appeared in Sydney, Jerusalem, Rio de Janeiro, Germany, Italy, El Salvador, and the Czech Republic.

He made his debut at Salle Gaveau in Paris in 2002 and has returned repeatedly to the city, including numerous performances at the American Embassy. His career has also included appearances at the American and Spanish embassies in Prague.

Presidential and celebrity audiences have occasionally entered the picture as well. Atcheson has performed for Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, as well as former First Lady Laura Bush. His audiences have included figures from the wider entertainment world, among them Mick Jagger, Phil Collins, James Taylor, Diana Ross, and Kathie Lee Gifford.

Television appearances have further broadened the reach of his work, including performances from Radio City Music Hall and holiday and Memorial Day appearances on “Fox & Friends.”

Yet for all the scale of that résumé, Greenwich remains part of the foundation.

The local churches where Atcheson spent years making music, the students he has taught, the community audiences who have heard him perform, and the long relationship he has maintained with the area offer another way to understand his career. The international stages and Carnegie Hall recitals sit alongside decades of music made close to home.

That makes the Oct. 2 Concert & Cake appearance especially fitting.

There will be no elaborate barrier between performer and audience, no trip into Manhattan, and no ticket required. Instead, one of Greenwich's longtime musical figures will return to a local keyboard for an afternoon recital in a community that has been part of his story since his Juilliard years.

The repertoire has yet to be announced. With Atcheson, that leaves a particularly wide field of possibilities.

A Chopin ballade could lead toward a hymn. Rachmaninoff might share an afternoon with an American standard. Broadway, gospel, classical repertoire, or a familiar melody could all plausibly find their way onto the program.

For an artist whose career has consistently crossed musical boundaries, the surprise is part of the appeal.

Randall Atcheson performs Friday, Oct. 2, at 1:30 p.m. at Christ Church Greenwich as part of the Concert & Cake series. Admission is free, and no ticket is required.

Ippolita Rostagno Brings Design to Bruce

A sculptor can spend years learning how weight, proportion, texture, and material work together. For Ippolita Rostagno, those lessons eventually moved from bronze and stone to objects small enough to be worn on the wrist, finger, or neck.

That movement between disciplines will be at the center of the Bruce Museum's Art of Design luncheon and discussion on Monday, Sept. 28, when Rostagno comes to Greenwich as the event's featured speaker.

The program, scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the museum, will feature Rostagno, founder and chief creative officer of IPPOLITA and co-founder and creative director of Artemest, in conversation with Greenwich journalist and communications executive Michelle Calarco.

The event benefits the Bruce Museum's exhibitions, programs, and operations.

Raised in the hills outside Florence, Rostagno studied sculpture and ceramics at the Istituto d'Arte in Florence. Her early work in bronze and stone gave her a

deep familiarity with materials, form, and surface, all of which later became central to her jewelry.

At 18, Rostagno moved to the United States and continued her education at Occidental College in California. Her creative path also included modern dance in New York before she returned to sculpture and design.

Jewelry offered another scale on which to work.

In 1999, Rostagno launched IPPOLITA in New York, with an early collection appearing at Bergdorf Goodman. Her designs treated jewelry as something to be incorporated into daily life rather than reserved for formal occasions. The work retained the influence of sculpture through hammered surfaces, organic forms, handwork, and careful attention to how an object sits against the body.

The brand became known for hammered 18-karat gold, vivid gemstones, and forms that preserve the character of

handmade work.

That background makes Rostagno a fitting speaker for Art of Design. Her career repeatedly crosses the line between fine art and functional object.

A ring can be sculpture. A chair can embody generations of woodworking knowledge. A lamp can carry techniques preserved within a particular community. Objects made for daily use can still reflect the hand, training, and decisions of an artist.

Rostagno expanded that idea in 2015 when she co-founded Artemest, a digital platform devoted to Italian craftsmanship and design.

Artemest connects an international audience with Italian makers producing furniture, lighting, glass, ceramics, decorative objects, and other handmade work. Many of the techniques represented through the platform come from craft traditions developed and refined over generations.

The project also addresses a practical question facing traditional makers: how can highly specialized craftsmanship reach new audiences?

Artemest's answer has been to pair old methods with modern distribution.

That work is especially current this September. Artemest is presenting “Ca' Riflesso” at Casa Sanlorenzo in Venice through Sept. 30 as part of Homo Faber in Città 2026. The installation transforms the residence into the imagined home of a Venetian collector, bringing together work by more than 50 Italian artisans.

Rostagno therefore comes to Greenwich while one of Artemest's major presentations of contemporary Italian craftsmanship remains on view in Venice.

The timing gives the Bruce discussion a direct connection to questions about how craft traditions continue and change.

Traditional methods survive through use. They are taught, commissioned, adapted, and carried into new settings.

Rostagno's career has followed artistic ideas across sculpture, jewelry, and the preservation of Italian craft.

A selection of sculptural silver jewelry reflects the designer's background in sculpture and her emphasis on hand-worked forms and texture. Photo courtesy of the Bruce Museum.



The Art of Going the Wrong Way

There comes a point in almost every creative project when the reasonable thing stops working.

The paragraph refuses to resolve. The painting has become overworked. The melody goes dutifully where we expected it to go and dies there. We have stared at the same problem for so long that we can no longer tell whether we are fixing it or simply moving its furniture around.

Our instinct is usually to try harder. Artists have developed a stranger alternative: try wrong.

Turn the canvas upside down. Draw the empty space around an object instead of the object itself. Write the ending before the beginning. Remove the instrument that seems indispensable. Delete the sentence around which an entire essay has been constructed. Walk away precisely when we are most desperate to finish.

These techniques sound ridiculous because they appear antithetical to their desired outcomes. If we want to draw something accurately, surely we should look directly at it. If we want to finish, surely we should keep working. If a painting is missing something, surely we should add something.

Except sometimes the problem is not that we have failed to find the answer. Sometimes we have become trapped inside the question.

Consider the familiar drawing exercise of negative space. Rather than concentrating on the chair in front of us, we draw the peculiar wedges of air between its legs, beneath its seat, around its back. In doing so, we may produce a more accurate chair.

Our brains are extremely efficient and occasionally extremely annoying. We know what a chair looks like, so instead

Sometimes we have become trapped inside the question.



of seeing this particular chair, we begin drawing our idea of one. Looking at the spaces around it interrupts that certainty. Suddenly, we have to observe again.

Artists use variations of this interruption constantly.

A painter turns a canvas upside down and discovers a compositional imbalance that had become invisible. A writer reads a draft aloud and hears what the eye repeatedly skipped. A photographer crouches, climbs, circles, waits, or points the camera toward what everyone else has their backs to. A musician discovers that the passage needing greater force becomes more powerful when something is taken away.

The solution arrives through contradiction.

There is a useful lesson here about being stuck.

We tend to imagine progress as movement toward the destination. If we want to finish something, every action should apparently bring us closer to finished. Consequently, retreat feels suspicious. Starting over feels wasteful. Removing work feels like losing work. Wandering away from the original idea can feel like abandoning it.

But creative work rarely travels in straight lines.

Sometimes the hour spent making the wrong version reveals what the right version requires. Sometimes cutting three

pages saves the remaining ten. Sometimes putting something in a drawer for a week accomplishes what another six hours of staring at it cannot.

The trick is recognizing when persistence has quietly become repetition.

At that point, perhaps the question should no longer be, “How do we make this work?”

Try: What happens if we do the opposite?

Make it smaller. Make it enormous. Remove the favorite part. Begin at the end. Change the material. Change the perspective. Put it upside down. Describe what is absent. Make the deliberately terrible version. Stop solving the problem we originally set ourselves and see what other problem might be more interesting.

We are accustomed to treating detours as unfortunate interruptions on the way to wherever we intended to go. Art suggests something more generous.

The detour may be the method. Sometimes we see the thing most clearly by looking beside it. Sometimes we move forward by backing away. And sometimes, when the sensible route has carried us as far as it can, the most useful thing we can do is turn the whole canvas upside down.

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ARTS & THEATER CALENDAR

Friday, September 25

2 p.m. — Greenwich Library Learning Lab, 101 West Putnam Ave.
MakerLab: Design a Custom Bookmark. 203-622-7900.
4 p.m. — Cos Cob Library, McArdle Family Community Room, 5 Sinaway Road.
World Music with Anitra. 203-622-6883.
7 p.m. — Greenwich Library Berkley Theater, 101 West Putnam Ave.
Friends Friday Films: The Devil Wears Prada 2. 203-622-7900.

Saturday, September 26

10:30 a.m. — Greenwich Library Marx Family Black Box Theater, 101 West Putnam Ave.
Music with Tom Weber. 203-622-7900.
2 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Exhibitions Highlights Tour. 203-869-0376.
2 p.m. — Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St., Cos Cob.
Dazzling Dahlia Show. Flower sale follows. 203-869-9242.
2 p.m. — Byram Shubert Library Conference Room, 21 Mead Ave.
Art Society of Old Greenwich Fall Show Opening Reception. 203-531-0426.

Sunday, September 27

12:30 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.

French-language tour of Nature’s Impressions and the William L. Richter Collection. 203-869-0376.
1 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Science Solvers: Imagination Playground. 203-869-0376.
2 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Cinema at the Bruce and Focus on French Film present Hugo. 203-869-0376.
5 p.m. — BackCountry Jazz, 397 Round Hill Road.
Greenwich Jazz Festival: Tim Warfield and His Organ Band. 203-561-3111.

Monday, September 28

11:30 a.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Art of Design 2026. 203-869-0376.
6:30 p.m. — Cos Cob Library Front Lawn, 5 Sinaway Road.
The Revolutionary Ghosts of Sleepy Hollow with Jonathan Kruk. 203-622-6883.

Tuesday, September 29

10 a.m. and 11 a.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Bruce Beginnings: Fall Colors. 203-869-0376.
1 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Exhibitions Highlights Tour. 203-869-0376.
6 p.m. — Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St., Cos Cob.
Gold & Light: Multimedia Botanical Art Workshop with

Cinzia Meneghello. 203-869-9242.

Wednesday, September 30

10 a.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Bruce Beginnings Junior: Pin the Leaves on the Tree. 203-869-0376.
3 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Bruce Beginnings: Fall Colors. 203-869-0376.
4 p.m. — Greenwich Library, 101 West Putnam Ave.
Fall Into Art: DIY Paper Squishy Pals. 203-622-7900.

Thursday, October 1

6 p.m. — Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St., Cos Cob.
All Things Dahlias: Seasonal Floral Design Workshop. 203-869-9242.
6:15 p.m. — Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob.
Discovering Your Property’s Past: An Introduction to Historic House Research. 203-869-6899.

Ongoing Exhibitions and Galleries

Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. — Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St., Cos Cob.
Cinzia Meneghello: Enchanted Greenwich. Through Nov. 9. 203-869-9242.

Greenwich Art + Design, 7 East Putnam Ave.

Ron Burkhardt: Convergence. Through Nov. 30. Contact the gallery for viewing hours. 203-219-8988.

Tuesday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon–4 p.m. — Bendheim Gallery, Greenwich Arts Council, 299 Greenwich Ave.
The Art of Bing: An Exploration. Through Oct. 4. 203-862-6750.

Tuesday–Saturday, 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. — Heather Gaudio Fine Art, 382 Greenwich Ave.
The Late Summer Show. Through Oct. 3. 203-801-9590.

Monday–Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.–6 p.m.; Thursday, noon–8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. — Byram Shubert Library, 21 Mead Ave.
Art Society of Old Greenwich Fall Show. Through Oct. 29. 203-531-0426.

Gertrude G. White Gallery, YWCA Greenwich, 259 East Putnam Ave.
Wood Snakes By The Sea by Nicole Cantore Koester. Through September. Contact the YWCA for gallery hours. 203-869-6501.

Tuesday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.

Dustin Yellin: Politics of Eternity. Through March 28, 2027. 203-869-0376.

Tuesday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Rohini Devasher: Solar Poetics. Through Nov. 29. 203-869-0376.

Tuesday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Jo Sandman: What Remains. Through Jan. 17, 2027. 203-869-0376.

Tuesday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. — Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob.
Fashioning America: 250 Years of Greenwich Style. Through Jan. 10, 2027. 203-869-6899.

Tuesday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. — Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob.
Cos Cob Art Colony and Permanent Collections. 203-869-6899.

Monday–Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.; Thursday, 8:30 a.m.–6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.–noon — The First Bank of Greenwich, 444 East Putnam Ave., Cos Cob.
Works by Dona Menton. 203-629-8400.

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/>

Flinn Gallery Prepares Renewed 98th Season

By Emma W. Barhydt

The Flinn Gallery’s 98th season will begin later than planned, but its January return will place a particularly ambitious exhibition at the center of the reopening.

An extended summer renovation project within Greenwich Library has pushed the start of the Flinn’s 2026–27 season into the new year. The gallery had planned to reopen Sept. 17 with ThroughLine, featuring artists Paul Fabozzi, Meg Hitchcock, and Reuven Israel. That exhibition has been moved to June 24 through July 27, 2027, while The Shifting Landscape, originally scheduled as the season’s second exhibition, will move into the Flinn’s following season.

Instead, the 98th season will open in January with Stand Where the Horizon Begins, a solo exhibition by artist Nooshin Rostami.

Described as a “story alchemist,” Rostami works across sculpture, installation, light, glass, movement, and photography. Stand Where the Horizon Begins, co-curated by Leslee Asch, Sasha Cohen, and Fatimah Madari, will feature two installations, Zamân and Analemma, alongside a series of related photographs.

Together, the works examine subjects that are difficult to hold in one’s hands: light, breath, time, movement, and the paths

of air within molten glass. By controlling the cooling process and applying pressure from outside the material, bubbles form within the sculptures before the glass solidifies.

The technique gives Analemma an additional dimension. The pieces contain air introduced during their creation, leaving each sculpture with a physical record of the glassblowing process sealed inside it.

The sculptures therefore hold something ordinarily temporary: breath.

At the center of the series is a figure-eight form emerging progressively from a sphere before moving through a sequence that eventually returns toward that original shape. Each sculpture represents a stage in the transformation, while light passing through the glass changes according to the form of each individual lens.

A concave mirror and fixed light source further connect the installation to the movement of the sun that inspired it.

Installed together, the 12 pieces allow visitors to move alongside the sequence rather than experience it as a single static object. Each lens bends, captures, or redirects light differently, making the gallery itself part of the work as surrounding conditions shift.

The two installations share a concern with cycles, but they reach it through



Artist Nooshin Rostami, whose work explores light, reflection, movement, and time through sculpture and installation. Photo courtesy of Nooshin Rostami.

Rostami transforms light, breath, and time into physical forms, inviting visitors to experience the invisible as something tangible.

traced by objects across space.

That exploration begins with Zamân, whose title means “Time.”

Created in 2020, the mixed-media installation uses reflective films, a concave mirror, wood, and LED light within an installation space measuring approximately 12 by 12 by 16 feet. At its center are two rotating sculptures, each about five feet long, that resemble the hands of a clock.

The resemblance is purposeful.

Each rotating form carries transparent and reflective planes, including circular surfaces made from reflective film or mirror. As the sculptures move around two stable light sources, those planes repeatedly intersect, separate, and overlap. Their motion redirects light onto the wall, producing an evolving field of shadows and reflections.

The mechanics are precise, but the resulting imagery is less literal. Shapes appear, cross one another, dissolve, and return as the sculptures continue their rotation.

Rostami uses that progression to create an allegorical account of passing time. The projected light and shadow can resemble celestial bodies traveling through an unfamiliar landscape, connecting the movement of a clock with larger cosmic cycles.

Time in Zamân is therefore presented through movement rather than a numerical measure. The installation does not simply represent a clock. Instead, it uses the familiar movement associated with one to create something continually changing in front of the viewer.

Analemma, completed in 2022, approaches time from another direction.

The work consists of 12 solid blown-glass sculptures, individually measuring approximately two to 12 inches along their longest axes and presented on bases ranging from about two to four feet. Arranged in sequence, the glass forms correspond to the annual path of the sun across the sky.

The title comes from the analemma, the figure-eight pattern produced when the position of the sun is recorded from the same location on Earth at the same time each day over the course of a year. The resulting form resembles an infinity symbol.

Rostami translates that astronomical pattern into glass.

Working with glassblowers, she developed a process that captures pockets

different materials.

In Zamân, movement makes time visible as shadows continually reform across a wall. In Analemma, the annual movement of the sun is translated into a sequence of solid glass forms. One depends upon rotation. The other preserves a progression within objects that do not move.

Both also transform fleeting phenomena into physical experience. Air becomes enclosed within glass. Light becomes a projected image. Astronomical movement becomes sculpture. Time becomes something a visitor can follow across a room.

That makes Rostami’s exhibition an especially intriguing choice for the Flinn’s reopening after its own extended period of transformation.

The renovation has taken longer than initially anticipated, according to the gallery, and includes significant improvements to the exhibition space. Flinn Chair Leslee Asch said the additional time is being used to ensure the work is completed with appropriate care as the organization invests in a gallery that has served the broader community for nearly a century.

The Flinn’s history reaches back to 1928, when Greenwich librarian Isabelle Hurlbutt helped establish exhibition space for local professional artists. Through subsequent library moves, expansions, and changes in name, the gallery developed into a longstanding component of Greenwich’s arts community.

Today, the nonprofit gallery is sponsored by the Friends of Greenwich Library, and works exhibited there are offered for sale.

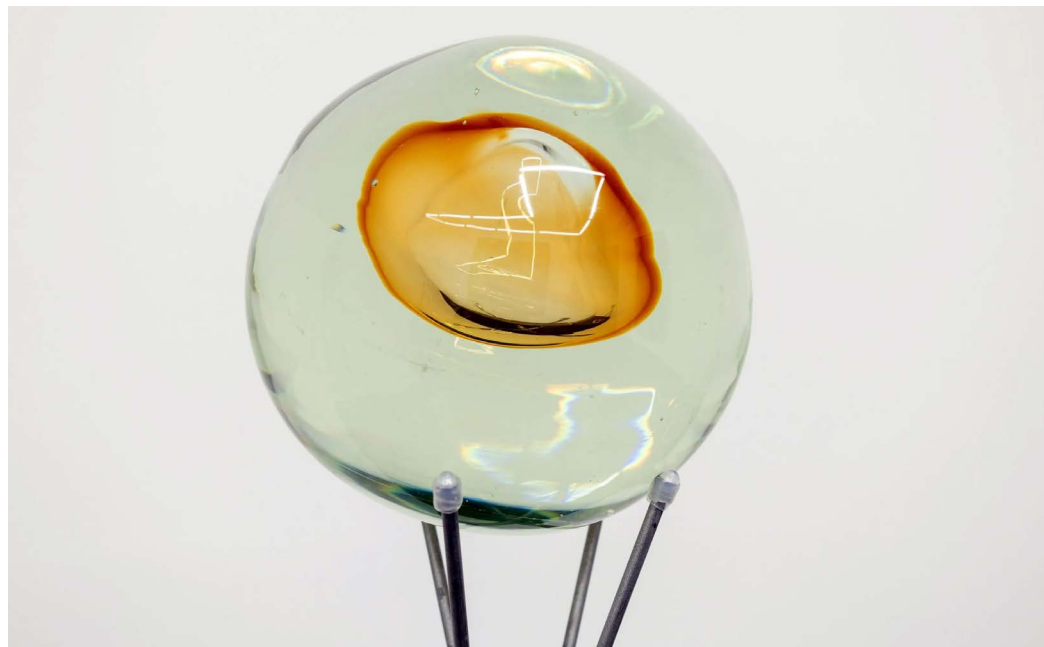
The revised season will eventually return to the exhibition that had been intended to begin it. ThroughLine, curated by Ellen Hawley and Terrill Warrenburg, will close the season next summer, with Liam Otero, New York editor of Whitehot Magazine, serving as guest moderator for an artist talk and reception on June 27 at 2 p.m.

For now, the Flinn’s return begins with Rostami and a body of work concerned with the passage of time itself.

After a season delayed by construction and a gallery undergoing physical change, Stand Where the Horizon Begins will reopen the doors by asking visitors to consider another kind of transformation: the movement of light, the path of the sun, the presence of air, and the ways temporary things can leave lasting forms.



One of the 12 blown-glass sculptures in Nooshin Rostami’s Analemma, a series inspired by the sun’s annual path across the sky. Photo courtesy of Nooshin Rostami.



A glass sculpture from Nooshin Rostami’s Analemma series, which uses solid blown glass to capture air and transform light. Photo courtesy of Nooshin Rostami.



An installation view of Nooshin Rostami’s Analemma, with glass sculptures arranged on individual stands to trace a progression of light, form, and time. Photo courtesy of Nooshin Rostami.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

A visitor may notice one while entering the branch, another while crossing the lobby, and several more while moving between offices. The art becomes part of the experience of being in the building rather than something separated from everyday life.

That has been part of The First Bank of Greenwich’s approach to local art for years.

The Cos Cob bank has regularly opened its walls to area artists, bringing creative work into a place where people already gather for other reasons. Over time, the presence of art has become part of the personality of the branch itself.

Rather than feeling like temporary decoration, the works throughout the building reflect a sustained relationship between the bank and the local arts community.

Menton’s return is a particularly fitting example.

Her connection to the bank reaches back to 2018, yet the current display feels grounded in the present. The emphasis is on the photographs hanging on the walls today and on the artistic interests that continue to shape her work.

Menton, a Greenwich native with longstanding ties to the area’s arts community, has exhibited throughout Fairfield County for years. Water, boats, landscape, surface, and abstraction have appeared repeatedly in her photography, and many of those interests remain visible in the pieces now installed at the bank.

Her recent work has continued that exploration. From late 2025 into early 2026, Menton presented “Finding Beauty—Boatscapes” at Les Beaux Arts Gallery at Round Hill Community Church. She also participated again this

year in Greenwich Arts Council’s Art to the Avenue.

At The First Bank of Greenwich, however, the work takes on a different context.

These photographs are encountered in passing, during the natural rhythm of a regular day. Someone stopping in for banking business may find themselves standing in front of an image longer than expected. A familiar color or shape may catch the eye. A photograph that appeared abstract at first may reveal something more recognizable upon closer inspection.

That interaction between art and everyday life is part of what has made The First Bank of Greenwich’s arts program so distinctive locally.

The bank has given artists wall space within a functioning community institution, bringing their work into direct contact with people who may or may not have planned to spend time

looking at art that day.

Menton’s photographs are particularly suited to that setting because they reveal themselves gradually.

They do not demand one fixed interpretation. Instead, they invite observation.

A viewer notices the color first, then the texture. A landscape appears where there seemed to be abstraction. A photographic surface begins to resemble paint. Something ordinary becomes unfamiliar, and then recognizable again.

Eight years after her first appearance at the bank, Dona Menton is once again part of the visual life of The First Bank of Greenwich.

Her work is on the walls now, bringing color, texture, movement, and another reason to look closely inside a place where local art has found a lasting home.



Works by local photographer Dona Menton are currently displayed throughout The First Bank of Greenwich’s Cos Cob branch. Photo by Emma Barhydt

Enchanted Greenwich Finds Wonder in the Natural World

By Amelia Woodhouse

At Greenwich Botanical Center this fall, flowers, animals, gold, and imagination come together in an exhibition that looks closely at Connecticut’s natural landscape.

Enchanted Greenwich, a new exhibition by Greenwich-based artist Cinzia Meneghello, opened Sept. 21 in the Botanical Center’s gallery at 130 Bible Street in Cos Cob and will remain on view through Nov. 9. The mixed-media show takes local flora and fauna as its starting point, reshaping them through color, texture, symbolism, and fantasy.

For Meneghello, nature provides both subject and material. Her works combine watercolor, gouache, ink, pastel, oil, graphite, acrylic, and tempera with natural elements including petals and leaves. Many are created on paper, where botanical and animal forms mingle with semi-abstract landscapes, imagined figures, and touches of gold and ivory.

The result is a body of work rooted in

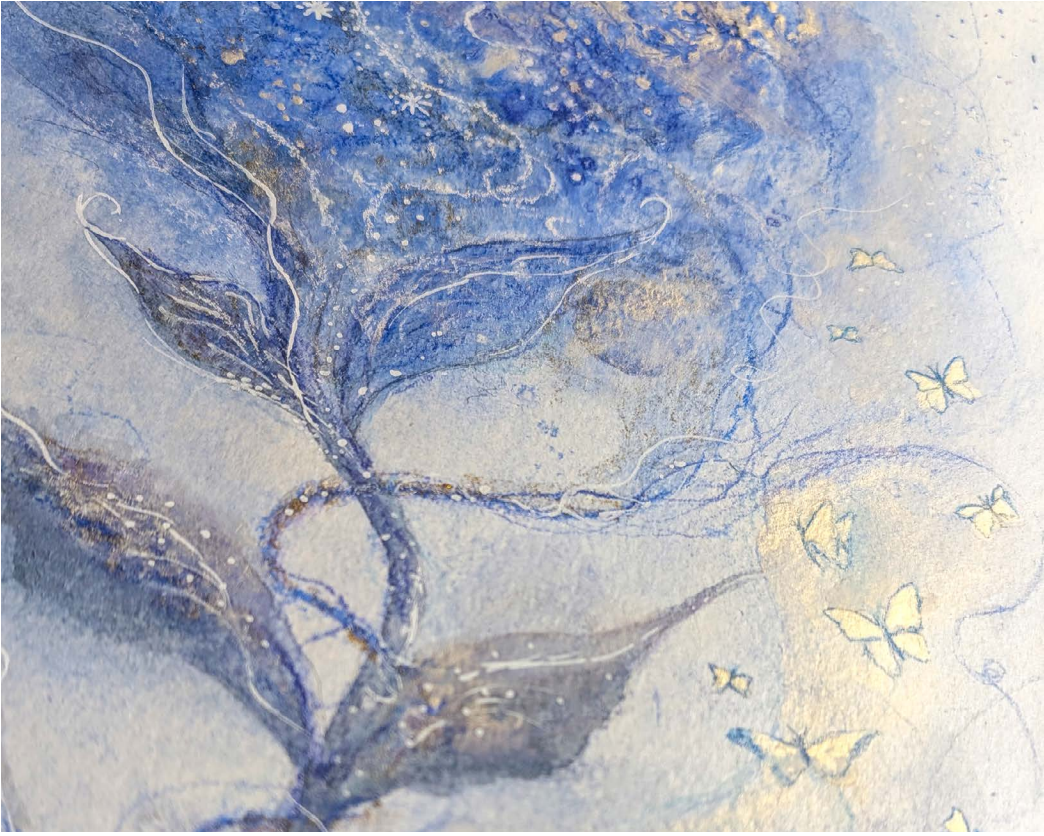
A predecessor to Enchanted Greenwich can be found in her 2023 solo exhibition, Uptown Magic, at the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum in Manhattan. That exhibition reimagined her Inwood surroundings through enchanted forests, fantasy figures, and symbolic passageways. The location has changed, but several interests remain: familiar places reconsidered through imagination, natural environments used as spaces for storytelling, and details meant to reward close observation.

Meneghello has also developed a presence in Fairfield County’s arts community. In 2024, her mixed-media work A Golden Universe Within appeared in the Greenwich Art Society’s summer exhibition at the Flinn Gallery at Greenwich Library. Her recent exhibition history has also included New Canaan’s Art in the Windows and other Connecticut and New York arts events.

Visitors to Enchanted Greenwich will also have an opportunity to try some of Meneghello’s



Top: Golden Bloom by Cinzia Meneghello. Artwork by Cinzia Meneghello.
Bottom: Blue Flower Magic by Cinzia Meneghello. Artwork by Cinzia Meneghello.



“My goal is to capture the universal essence and interdependence of our inner stories.” — Cinzia Meneghello

Connecticut without remaining strictly representational. Flowers become fields of color, figures emerge from landscapes, and recognizable natural forms appear alongside fairy-tale beings and symbolic imagery.

Meneghello describes Enchanted Greenwich as a celebration of Connecticut’s natural beauty, reimagined through organic forms, fantasy figures, and layered symbolism. The exhibition ranges from abstract florals and whimsical illustrations to intricate fantasy paintings.

The setting is particularly fitting. Greenwich Botanical Center’s programming centers on horticulture, botany, conservation, and public engagement with nature, placing Meneghello’s work in direct conversation with the gardens surrounding the gallery.

Nature also shapes Meneghello’s process. In her artist statement, she identifies daily walks, prayer, and meditation among the sources behind her work. Her practice explores the contemplative qualities of making and viewing art, as well as connections among people, animals, landscapes, and personal experience.

Those interests have appeared throughout her career.

Originally from Italy, Meneghello is an artist and designer based in Greenwich. Alongside her studio practice, she has worked in web and graphic design for nonprofit organizations, arts groups, theaters, and small businesses, with additional experience in museums, galleries, curatorial work, and arts education.

techniques.

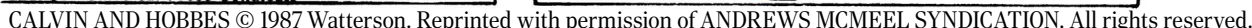
On Tuesday, Sept. 29, from 6 to 8 p.m., she will lead Gold & Light: A Mixed Media Botanical Art Workshop at the Botanical Center. Participants will begin with botanical forms on paper before layering graphite, watercolor, ink, and iridescent and metallic materials. The workshop is open to ages 10 and older and to all skill levels, with children required to attend with an adult.

The class costs \$85 for Greenwich Botanical Center members and \$95 for nonmembers, with materials included. It will be held inside the gallery, allowing participants to work surrounded by the exhibition.

That connection between observation and creation suits Meneghello’s approach. Her paintings begin with plants, animals, changing light, remembered stories, and walks through familiar landscapes, then develop through layers of material and association.

At the Botanical Center, Connecticut itself becomes the subject. A petal can be both material and image. A flower can remain botanical while becoming something imagined. Gold can trace a stem, illuminate a figure, or add another visual layer to a familiar form.

Enchanted Greenwich remains on view through Nov. 9. All works are available for purchase, with a portion of proceeds supporting Greenwich Botanical Center and its mission of connecting people with plants and nature.



COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE EASTERN GRAY SQUIRREL

BY JIM KNOX

Typically, these tree squirrels exhibit light gray fur along their flanks and backs with whiteish fur on the belly and around the eyes, hints of buff along their cheeks and sides, and a light eye ring with a silvery frosted tail. Reaching approximately 20 inches in length and 1.5 pounds in weight, they sport a small and light frame for life high above the forest floor. As a



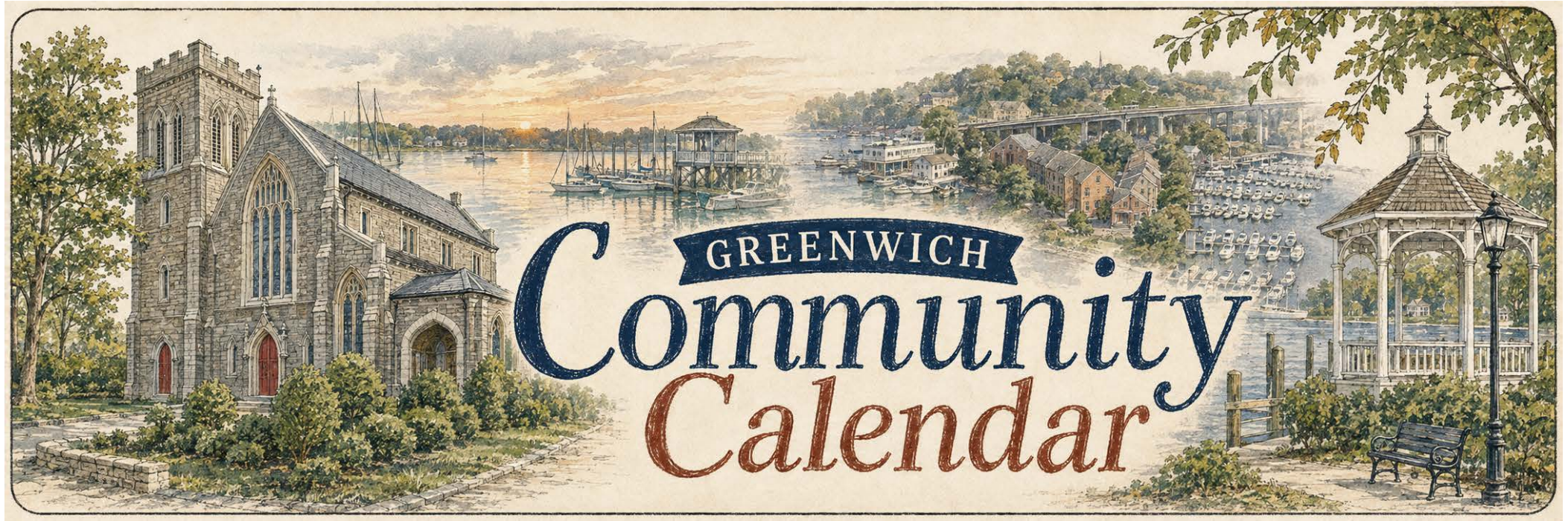
Early explorers of the North American continent remarked as to the “dense forests that stretched from the rising sun to the setting sun.” This domain of oaks, maples, hickories, and other hardwoods provided

For those of us who have experienced these acrobatic creatures stealing bird food from our feeders, or gnawing their way into

our sheds or even attics, they have earned the title, “bandit” or “pest.” It is this common “wildlife neighbor” status that leads us to overlook their impressive attributes. Consuming insects and other animal matter when opportunity arises, these resourceful creatures supplement their diets and boost much needed calories for energy storage. While the squirrel requires forests for food and cover, the forests rely on the squirrels for reforestation. Employing scatter hoarding behavior to store buried nuts, fungi and other foods, these busy rodents may store hundreds, or

Accounting for such “thievery,” Gray squirrels

Jim Knox serves as the Curator of Education for Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo and as a Science Adviser for The Bruce Museum. His passions include studying our planet's rarest creatures and sharing his work with others who love the natural world.



FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
The Woman's Club of Greenwich annual Tag Sale. Woman's Club's headquarters, 89 Maple Ave. Rain or shine. Also held Saturday, Sept. 26. womansclubofgreenwich.org/upcoming-events

12 p.m.
The Future of Heart Disease Lecture with Stamford Health. YMCA of Greenwich. Free. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

4 p.m.
Escape Room: Escape the Witch's Cottage (Ages 8-13). Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

4:30 p.m.
TGIF Fitness Made Fun Dance Class For Individuals with Special Needs. YMCA of Greenwich. Free & open to the community. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

6 - 8:30 p.m.
Kids Night Out! – Game Night (Ages 3-12). YMCA of Greenwich. Member, \$30; Non-Member, \$40. Register. greenwichymca.org/events

6:30 p.m.
Community Line Dancing Event. YMCA of Greenwich. Member, \$10; Non-Member, \$20. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Hawk Watch Fest. Greenwich Audubon Center. Adults: \$30, Children ages 12 & younger: \$15. Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 27. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich+Audubon+Center

8:30 a.m.
Conservation Commission: Coastal Clean-Up at Great Captain Island. Meet at the Grass Island boat dock. Registration required. greenwichct.gov/Calendar.aspx?EID=19143&month=9&year=2026&day=26&calType=0

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Community Shred Day. Greenwich Bank and Trust, 1103 East Putnam Ave. facebook.com/events/greenwich-bank-trust-company/connecticut-community-bank-free-shred-day/1404684528432352

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
GHS Cheer x PopUp Bagels Game Day Ready Breakfast for Youth Day. Greenwich High School. \$50. 917-923-1702. tools.signupgenius.com/c/ghs-cheer-x-pop-up-bagels-gameday-ready-breakfast-for-youth

2 - 4 p.m.
Art Reception: Nicole Cantore Koester – “Wood Snakes by the Sea.” Gertrude White Gallery at YWCA Greenwich, 259 E. On view through September. Call 203-869-6501, ext. 100 for viewing times. ywcagreenwich.org

2 - 5 p.m.
Greenwich Botanical Center & Greenwich Dahlia Society: Dazzling Dahlia Show. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Adults 18+ – \$10, children: free. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27

7 a.m.
HSS Greenwich Half Marathon. Greenwich Point Park. ow.ly/VQGK50ZqQ2o

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Adopt-A-Dog's 38th Annual Puttin' On the Dog Festival. Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. adopt-a-dog.org/POD2026

10 - 11 a.m.
Blessing of the Animals. Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. Free. roundhillcommunitychurch.org/news-events/blessing-of-the-animals

1 p.m.
Science Solvers: Imagination Playground (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: Hugo. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org

2 p.m.
French-Language Tour of Nature's Impressions: The Modernist Landscape and the William L. Richter Collection. Bruce Museum. Free with admission. Advanced registration required. brucemuseum.org

3 p.m.
4th Annual Lighthouse Tea Dance. Foundation House, 124 Old Mill Rd. e.givesmart.com/events/PtT

5 - 7 p.m.
India Cultural Center - ICC's 'My Story, Our Future' Interest Meeting. Greenwich Historical Society. iccgreenwich.org

5 - 7 p.m.
Greenwich Jazz Festival: Tim Warfield and His Organ Band. Great Lawn location provided with ticket confirmation. Free. RSVP. backcountryjazz.org/concerts-and-events

MONDAY, SEPT. 28

1 p.m.
CT Ceramics Circle lecture: A Most Formidable Assembly: The Katz Collection of English Porcelain at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On Zoom. cceramicsc.org

3:45 p.m.
Pokémon Club (Ages 6-12). Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.
Free Winter Travel Basketball Team Tryouts with the Greenwich Stars (Grades 3-5: 7-7:30pm; Grades 6-7: 7:30-8pm). YMCA of Greenwich. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

7 p.m.
Perrot P.I.s September Book Discussion: “All the Colors of the Dark” – Drop-In Program. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. 203-637-1066. adult-programming@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

TUESDAY, SEPT. 29

9:30 a.m.
Friends of Greenwich Point: Awaken Your Senses with Mindfulness Practices class. Tod's Point. Free. Register. friendsofgreenwichpoint.org

9:30 a.m.
Perrot Memorial Library: Tod's Point. Meet at the second concession stand. Free. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

10 & 11 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings: Fall Colors (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Sept. 30. brucemuseum.org

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

10 & 11 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings: Fall Colors (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Sept. 30. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.
Webinar: The Brain We're Building: How Screens, Substances & Stress Shape Youth Wellbeing. Online. Free. Register. rs9fo.share.hsforms.com/2U-F9UKW78TB-_ghgiv3Ayyw

4 p.m.
Debate Club (Ages 9-12). Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Registration required. perrotlibrary.org

6 - 7:30 p.m.
Apple Picking and Cidering. Greenwich Land Trust's Mueller Preserve, 370 Round Hill Rd. Register. gltrust.org

6 - 8 p.m.
Gold & Light: A Mixed Media Botanical Art Workshop with Artist Cinzia Meneghello. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, \$85; Non-Members, \$95. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

6 - 8 p.m.
Line Dancing with Adam Cherko. The J House Hotel Greenwich, 1114 East Putnam Ave. \$60.54. eventbrite.

com/e/1997620673208

7 p.m.
Free Winter Travel Basketball Team Tryouts with the Greenwich Stars (Grades 3-5: 7-7:30pm; Grades 6-7: 7:30-8pm). YMCA of Greenwich. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30

10 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings Junior: Pin the Leaves on the Tree (Ages: 12-30 months). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m.
Retired Men's Association of Greenwich: Julia Chafkin, Ph.D. “Sleep and Aging: Tips and Information for a Better Night's Sleep.” Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. & on Zoom. Free & open to all. greenwichrma.org

7 p.m.
Environmental Book Group Discussion: “Here Comes the Sun,” by Bill McKibben. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Registration required. 203-637-1066. perrotlibrary.org

THURSDAY, OCT. 1

12 p.m.
Women's Business Development Council (WBDC): Pitch Yourself Like a Pro: Unlock Your Business Story. Online. Register. ctwbdc.org/class-listings

3:45 p.m.
Reading & Rhythm with Orchestra Lumos & Music Together (For families with children ages 0-5). Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Registration required. perrotlibrary.org

6 - 8 p.m.
All Things Dahlias: Seasonal Floral Design Workshop with Toolbox Florals & Rocky Ridge Farm. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, \$165; Non-Members, \$190. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

6:15 p.m.
Discovering Your Property's Past: An Introduction to Historic House Research. Greenwich Historical Society. \$20, Member; Non-Member, \$30. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

FRIDAY, OCT. 2

1:30 p.m.
Concert and Cake: Randall Atcheson, pianist. Christ Church Greenwich. Free. RSVP (walk-ins are welcome). concertandcake.org

4 p.m.
Steam Weavers: Candy Launchers – Junior (Ages 5-7). Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

4:30 p.m.
Brine Time: Pickling for Families. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

6:30 p.m.
“Oktoberfest” Fall Celebration. Christ Church Greenwich. \$75. tickettailor.com/events/christchurchgreenwich/2335844

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

7 - 8:30 a.m.
Fall Migration Bird Tour. Greenwich Audubon Center. Recommended for ages 6 & up. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich+Audubon+Center

9 a.m.
Greenwich Tree Conservancy: Fit in the Forest. Mianus River Park – Cognewaugh Road entrance. Free. Register. greenwichtreeconservancy.org

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
The Garden Club of Old Greenwich and Riverside Garden Club: National Garden Club Patriotic Small Standard Flower Show: “American Grown, Celebrating 250 Years.” Putnam Cottage, 243 East Putnam Ave. \$5 suggested donation. 203-921-9065. wynnesd@gmail.com

7:30 p.m.
Greenwich Symphony Orchestra concert featuring James Baik, Cello. Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School. greenwichsymphony.org

SUNDAY, OCT. 4

9 a.m.
YWCA Greenwich's Harmony Project's Walk the Walk Against Domestic Violence. Bruce Park. ywcagreenwich.org

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Greenwich Art Society: Plein Air Painting with Andrew Lattimore. Tod's Point. (Rain date: Oct. 11). greenwichartsociety.org/fall-classes-2026

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Old Greenwich Merchants: Art in the Park. Binney Park. Rain date: Oct. 11. ogmerchants.com

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Into the World of Fungi: Getting to Know Connecticut's Autumn Mushrooms. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, \$55; Non-Members, \$70. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

12:30 p.m.
Figure Drawing with Monitors (4 Sundays). Greenwich Art Society. greenwichartsociety.org/fall-classes-2026

1 p.m.
Science Solvers: Chemical Reaction Paintings (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. brucemuseum.org

3 p.m.
Greenwich Symphony Orchestra concert featuring James Baik, Cello. Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School. greenwichsymphony.org

6:15 p.m.
Experiences at the Bruce: Art Explains Science with J Henry Fair. Bruce Museum. \$20, non-members; \$16, members. brucemuseum.org

4 p.m.
Blessing of the Animals. Christ Church Greenwich – Front Circular Driveway. Free. christchurchgreenwich.org/upcoming-events

**ONGOING
THROUGH SEPTEMBER**

Perrot Memorial Library with Neighbor: Hunger Action Month Food Drive Collection. Drop-off: Perrot Library's Circulation Desk in the Main Building and near the Youth Services Desk in the Radcliffe Building. perrotlibrary.libcal.com/event/17224363

THROUGH MONDAY, OCT. 12

Junior League of Greenwich accepting applications for its Teen Board – for female high school students in grades 9-12 who either live in Greenwich or attend school in Greenwich. Deadline to apply: Oct. 12. jlg@jlgreenwich.org. jlgreenwich.org

MONDAYS

7 - 8:30 p.m.
Acting Technique with Sachi Parker MacLaine (Recommended for Ages 18+). Arch Street 2.0, 255 Field Point Rd. 203-629-5744. info@archstreet.org

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

8 - 9 a.m.
Enhance Fitness Program (for older adults of all fitness levels). YMCA of Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Free & open to the community (Mon., Wed. & Fri.). 203-869-1630. greenwichymca.org/events

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

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

1 - 3 p.m. (through Dec. 10)
LIVESTRONG – Cancer Survivor Program (ages 18 & older). YMCA of Greenwich, 50 E. Putnam Ave. greenwichymca.org/programs/wellness/livestrong

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

10 a.m. - 12 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

1 - 5 p.m.
Old Greenwich Farmers Market. St. Catherine's of Siena and St. Agnes Church, 4 Riverside Ave. Through October. instagram.com/ogfarmersmarket06870/?hl=en

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

1 p.m.
Perfectly Polite Bridge Group. YMCA of Greenwich. \$10, members; \$12, non-members. Prior registration is required. operations.daxko.com/Online/5449/ProgramsV2/OfferingDetails.mvc?program_id=TMP28638&offering_id=SES402016&location_id=B790

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

Last THURSDAY of the Month

11:30 a.m.
Memory Cafe – For Those Living With Dementia Alzheimers or MCI. YMCA of Greenwich. Free & open to the community. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

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

SATURDAYS

THROUGH SEPTEMBER

8 - 8:50 a.m. or 10:10 - 11:30 a.m.
Free Yoga Saturdays. YMCA of Greenwich. Open to YMCA members and non-members. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events/details/121/Free-Yoga-Saturdays-Throughout-September

THROUGH NOV. 22

9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.
Greenwich Farmer's Market. Horseneck Parking Lot, Arch Street and Horseneck Lane. (Parking is free during market hours). Through Nov. 22. greenwichfarmersmarketct.com

GREENWICH SKATEPARK

April to August
Mon. - Fri.: 3:30 & 7 p.m.
Weekends & School Holidays: 12:30 - 7 p.m.

September to October
Mon. - Fri.: 3:30 & 6 p.m.
Weekends & School Holidays: 12:30 - 6 p.m.

November
Weekends & School Holidays: 12 - 4 p.m.

Closed: December to March
Daily fee: \$5; Monthly fee: \$30.

GREENWICH LIBRARIES: greenwichlibrary.org
Friday, Sept. 25
10 a.m.
Fall Garden Storytime (outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.
2 p.m.
MakerLab: Design a Custom Book-mark. Learning Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org
4 p.m.
World Music with Anitra. Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.
7 p.m.
Friends Friday Films: “The Devil Wears Prada 2.” Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org
Saturday, Sept. 26
10 a.m.
Music with Tom Weber. Marx Family Black Box Theater. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org
10:30 a.m.
Self-Care Practices with Roberta Brown. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.
11 a.m.
Technology Help. Learning Lab. 203-625-6560. csherman@greenwichlibrary.org
2 p.m.
Beginners Yoga. Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.
2 p.m.
Art Society of Old Greenwich: “Fall Show” Art Opening Reception. Byram Shubert Library Conference Room. 203-531-0426.
Monday, Sept. 28
10 a.m.
Little Learners (Storytime Lottery). Children’s Constellation Room.
11 a.m.
All Together Storytime. Main Children’s Room.
11:30 a.m.
Blood Pressure Screening. Community Room #5.
1 p.m.
Fiction on the Fringe: Culpability by Bruce Holsinger. 2nd Floor Meeting Room.
3:15 p.m.
Battle of the Books with Ms. Flynn (Grades 4 & 5). Byram Shubert Library Conference Room.
4:30 p.m.
Book Wizards Book Club. Cos Cob Library Rotunda.
6:30 p.m.
The Revolutionary Ghosts of Sleepy Hollow with Master Storyteller, Jonathan Kruk. Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.
Tuesday, Sept. 29
10 a.m.
Spanish Storytime (Outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.
1:15 p.m.
Baby Lapsit (Storytime Lottery). Children’s Constellation Room.
4 p.m.
Book Explorers Book Club. Cos Cob Library The McArdle Family Community Room.
5 p.m.
Meditation & Breathing with Gail (Zoom).
7 p.m.
Investing: Massive Destroyers of Wealth. Online.
Wednesday, Sept. 30
10 a.m.
Movers & Shakers (Storytime Lottery). Children’s Constellation Room.
10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
Baby Lapsit. Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room.
3 p.m.
Boost Your Skills with LinkedIn Learning. Learning Lab.
4 p.m.
Fall Into Art: DIY Paper Squishy Pals. Children’s Constellation Room.
Thursday, Oct. 1
10 a.m.
Japanese Storytime (Outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.
10 a.m.
PLAYdate! Children’s Constellation Room
11 a.m.
Sensory Storytime (Storytime Lottery). Children’s Constellation Room.
11 a.m.
Tech Help. Learning Lab.
11:15 a.m.
Qi Gong. Online.
4 p.m.
Legos with Deirdre (Ages 5+). Byram

Shubert Library Community Room.
Friday, Oct. 2
10 a.m.
Fall Garden Storytime (outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.
Saturday, Oct. 3
9 a.m.
Common Threads Hand Crafts Meet-up. Cos Cob Library – The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.
9:30 a.m.
Fall Into Art: Let’s Pretend. Children’s Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org
10:30 a.m.
Hatha Yoga for Adults with Inger. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.
11 a.m.
Technology Help. Learning Lab. 203-625-6560. csherman@greenwichlibrary.org
11:30 a.m.
Teen Halloween Theater Workshop: Stage Fright, Unscripted. Children’s Constellation Room. teens@greenwichlibrary.org
2 p.m.
Chess for All with Ian (All Ages). Byram Shubert Library Conference Room. 203-531-0426.
3 p.m.
Friends Performing Arts Series: Ailey II. Berkley Theater. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15890629

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 support 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: red-crossblood.org
Friday, Sept. 25
11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Westchester Medical Center - Taylor Pavilion South, 100 Woods Rd., Valhalla, NY.
12 - 5 p.m.
New Canaan Library, 151 Main Street, New Canaan.
Saturday, Sept. 26
7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
Sunday, Sept. 27
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
Monday, Sept. 28
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
11:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Masonic Lodge, 354 Post Road, Darien.
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
American Red Cross, 40 Saw Mill River Road, Upper Level 3, Hawthorne, NY.
Tuesday, Sept. 29
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
1 - 6 p.m.
Stamford Church of Christ, 1264 High Ridge Road, Stamford.
Wednesday, Sept. 30
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Holy Spirit Church, 403 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford
11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Pace University Kessel Campus Center, 861 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville, NY.
Thursday, Oct. 1
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Belle Haven Club, 100 Harbor Drive, Greenwich.
12 - 4 p.m.
American Legion Hall, 40 Bell Rd., Scarsdale, NY.
Saturday, Oct. 3
7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
7:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
Tully Health Center, 32 Strawberry Hill Court, Stamford.
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
New Canaan Community YMCA, 564 South Ave., New Canaan.
Sunday, Oct. 4
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
Monday, Oct. 5
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
1:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Greenwich Reform Synagogue, 92 Orchard St., Cos Cob.
Tuesday, Oct. 6
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
TOWN MEETINGS: greenwichct.gov/calendar
Monday, Sept. 28
9:15 a.m.
ADA & Advocacy Advisory Committee for People With Disabilities

Meeting. Zoom Webinar.
1 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission Briefing.
4 p.m.
Nathaniel Witherell Finance Committee Meeting.
5:30 p.m.
Nathaniel Witherell Board of Directors Meeting.
6:30 p.m.
Board of Health Regular Meeting. Evaristo Conference Room.
7 p.m.
Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency Meeting.
8 p.m.
RTM Full Meeting.
Tuesday, Sept. 29
All Day
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting.
Wednesday, Sept. 30
6:30 p.m.
Board of Parks and Recreation Meeting.
Thursday, Oct. 1
11 a.m.
FS Sustainability Committee Meeting. Virtual via Zoom.
7 p.m.
Conservation Commission Regular Meeting. Via Zoom.
Friday, Oct. 2
12 p.m.
RTM call closes at Noon.
Monday, Oct. 5
10:30 a.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Sign-Meeting.
Tuesday, Oct. 6
3 p.m.
FS AI Task Force Meeting. Virtual via Zoom Only.
Wednesday, Oct. 7
7 p.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Regular Meeting.
7 p.m.
PZBA Meeting.
SAVE THE DATE:
Monday, Sept. 28
10:30 a.m.
Greenwich United Way’s 10th Annual Golf Tournament. Round Hill Club. greenwichunitedway.org/events
10:30 a.m.
Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County’s 33rd Annual Benefit Golf Outing. Country Club of Fairfield. habitatcfc.org/news-events/event-calendar/golf.html
11:30 a.m.
Art of Design. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org
Friday, Oct. 2
6 p.m.
Greenwich United Way: Brew Ha-Ha. Cohen Eastern Greenwich Civic Center. greenwichunitedway.org/events
7 p.m.
Greenwich Library Opening Night Celebration – Ailey II. Greenwich Library. greenwichlibrary.org/support/opening-night
Saturday, Oct. 3
6 p.m.
The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion “The Red Carpet Gala.” lockwood-mathewsmansion.com
Sunday, Oct. 4
9 a.m.
YWCA Greenwich’s Harmony Project’s Walk the Walk Against Domestic Violence. Bruce Park. ywcagreenwich.org
Saturday, Oct. 10
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
45th Annual Outdoor Arts Festival. Bruce Museum. Also held Sunday, Oct. 11. brucemuseum.org
Sunday, Oct. 11
7:30 a.m.
The 21st annual Walk/Run for Abilis. Tod’s Point. abilis.us/walkrun
Wednesday, Oct. 14
9 a.m.
Greenwich Together’s 3rd Annual Meeting.Greenwich Town Hall. RSVP. greenwichtogether.org/event-details/greenwich-togethers-3rd-annual-meeting
Thursday, Oct. 15
Greenwich Green & Clean Beautification Awards. Sam Bridge Nursery and Greenhouses. greenwichgreenandclean.org
Saturday, Oct. 17
10 a.m.
Greenwich Together’s 5th Annual Hope Day – Yellow Tulip Planting

event. Meet at Greenwich High School before going to different locations. signupgenius.com/go/10C0448A8AF2EA1FFCE9-65267512-yellow#
5 p.m.
Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo’s Toast to the Wild fundraiser. Foolproof Brewing Company, Bridgeport. beardsleyzoo.org
6:30 p.m.
Greenwich Police Department Scholarship Fund 130th Anniversary Greenwich Policeman’s Ball. Riverside Yacht Club. gpdsscholarshipfund.org/policemans-ball
Sunday, Oct. 18
1 p.m.
OGRCC’s (Old Greenwich Riverside Community Center) 62nd Model Sailboat Regatta. Binney Park. myogrcc.org
Wednesday, Oct. 21
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Rising Conference. YWCA Greenwich. ywcagreenwich.org/events/the-rising-conference
Thursday, Oct. 22
6:30 p.m.
Greenwich Tree Conservancy: Treasured Trees Celebration. Sam Bridge Nursery & Greenhouses. greenwichtreeconservancy.org
Tuesday, Oct. 27
Vote Early Day. voterservices@lwvgreenwich.org
Wednesday, Oct. 28
6:30 p.m.
Community Candlelight Vigil. YWCA Greenwich. ywcagreenwich.org/events/community-candlelight-vigil-4
Friday, Oct. 30
6:30 p.m.
YWCA Greenwich’s The Fall Party. Belle Haven Club. ywcagreenwich.org/events/the-fall-party-2
Tuesday, Nov. 3
6 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Election Day. Polls are open from 6am to 8pm.
Wednesday, Nov. 4
6:30 p.m.
Kids In Crisis Play It Forward Mah Jongg. Milbrook Club, Greenwich. e.givesmart.com/events/PD0
Saturday, Nov. 7
11 a.m.
7th annual Silver Shield Foundation Greenwich Walk. Tod’s Point. silvershieldfoundation.org/greenwich-walk
6 p.m.
India Cultural Center - ICC: Celebration of Light. Hyatt Regency Greenwich. iccgreenwich.org
Tuesday, Nov. 10
6 p.m.
Bruce Visionary Awards. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/events/bruce-visionary-awards-2026
Our Neighboring Towns
FRIDAY, SEPT. 25
7:30 p.m.
Curtain Call presents “All Shook Up.” The Kveskin Theatre, 1349 Newfield Ave., Stamford. Performances: Fri & Sat, 7:30pm, & Sun, 2pm (through Sept. 26). curtaincallinc.com
SATURDAY, SEPT. 26
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Zoom at the Zoo. Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Ave., Bridgeport. beardsleyzoo.org
7 p.m.
Broadway in Bedford: Best of Broadway. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org
SUNDAY, SEPT. 27
5 p.m.
Author Talk: I Disagree, with Jessica Tarlov. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org
5 p.m.
Friends of Music – Choral Even-song. St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan. A reception will follow. Free. 203-966-4515. stmarksnewcanan.org/friends-of-music
TUESDAY, SEPT. 29
4 p.m.
Waveny Lifecare Network: Educational Seminar for families caring for aging loved ones. The Inn at Waveny, 73 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan. Free. 203-594-5413. kdamico@waveny.org
THURSDAY, OCT. 1
5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
GLOW Wild. Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Ave., Bridgeport. (Thu-Sun – through Dec. 20). beardsleyzoo.org

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 “You’ve convinced me!”
- 7 Amt. in a recipe
- 10 Final Four game
- 14 Green Bay pro
- 15 Downed
- 16 Actor Alda or Arkin
- 17 “Carmen” and “Norma,” for two
- 18 Sounding like a stream
- 20 Pester
- 21 “Acid”
- 22 Moving about
- 23 Chicken ____ king
- 25 Land north of Mex.
- 27 Tel Aviv native
- 29 Comfy clog brand
- 32 Feeling low
- 33 Name found in “whole milk”
- 34 Manipulate
- 35 “Say ____ to the Dress” (TLC show)
- 37 Bustling New Orleans thoroughfare
- 42 Disorderly crowd
- 43 Reaction to fireworks
- 44 Sneaker maker
- 46 Sold-out show letters
- 49 Rich French wine sauce
- 52 ...
- 54 ORD org.
- 55 Fur baby
- 56 ____-garde
- 57 Possesses
- 59 Caustic chemical
- 61 Sketch that kicks off “SNL” ... or a phonetic hint to the start of 18-, 29-, 37- or 49-Across
- 63 Consumes noisily, as ramen
- 66 Fanning of “The Great”
- 67 Carter’s dispenser
- 68 Former House speaker
- 69 See 38-Down
- 70 Govt. counterintelligence group
- 71 Sites of big concerts

DOWN

- 1 NYSE debut
- 2 Cartographer’s creation
- 3 Hypothetical series of events
- 4 Vegetable common in Cajun cooking
- 5 “A ____ of Their Own” (1992 film)
- 6 Hosp. figures
- 7 They’re run up in bars
- 8 Small apartment
- 9 The “p” in kph
- 10 Taco topper

- 11 High-society types
- 12 Philippines’ capital
- 13 Bergman of “Casablanca”
- 19 Carnival figure
- 21 “Ted ____” (Apple TV+ show)
- 23 Homer’s dad on “The Simpsons”
- 24 Arm or leg
- 26 Didn’t nominate for an Oscar, say
- 28 Reapers’ implements
- 30 Supermodel Heidi
- 31 Choir voice above baritone
- 36 Animal with elephant and leopard varieties
- 38 “Mr. ____” (1983 hit by 69-Across)

- 39 Puts in order
- 40 First lady played by Madonna
- 41 Fork prong
- 45 Section of a musical
- 46 Blanks between words
- 47 Mutiny
- 48 By mouth
- 50 Guides to a seat
- 51 Melon scoop
- 53 Back-of-book section
- 58 Vogue editor
- 60 Holiday season
- 62 Bit of wit
- 63 Relaxation location
- 64 Anti-bullying ad, e.g.
- 65 Venus, to Serena, briefly

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

R	I	M		S	C	R	A	P		T	E	R	R	I
A	C	A		A	R	O	M	A		A	T	E	A	T
M	A	R	I	N	A	D	E	S		T	R	A	M	S
S	N	I	T		V	E	N	T		A	R	I	A	
E	S	T	A	T	E		D	E	C	A	D	E	N	T
S	E	A	L	I	N	G			A	R	E	N	T	I
	E	L	I	E		A	V	A	S	T		D	O	E
			A	D	B	L	O	C	K	E	R			
D	O	H		Y	I	E	L	D		M	A	M	A	
U	N	I	T	E	D			C	R	I	T	I	C	S
B	A	D	A	S	S	E	S		U	S	E	D	T	O
S	T	A	B		T	H	I	N		D	E	E	R	
T	E	L	L	Y		H	A	D	I	T	M	A	D	E
E	A	G	E	R		I	R	E	N	E		S	I	S
P	R	O	D	S		C	E	A	S	E		T	N	T

7/20

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7/21

Cool Head by Emily Carroll

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14							15				16			
17							18			19				
			20				21				22			
23	24				25	26			27	28				
29				30				31					32	
33						34				35		36		
		37			38				39				40	41
				42				43				44		45
46	47	48		49		50				51				
52				53					54				55	
56							57	58			59	60		
61						62					63			64
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

Your Horoscope

Horoscope: September 25 – October 1, 2026

The Full Moon in Aries on September 26 brings decisions to a head, especially where independence and partnership are concerned. Mars enters Leo on September 27, encouraging confidence, romance and bold action, while Mercury enters Scorpio on September 30, making conversations more revealing. Expect fewer polite half-truths and more direct answers. The question this week is not whether something will change, but whether you will take charge of the change or let circumstances decide for you.

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

The Full Moon in your sign makes this an important week personally. A decision you have postponed may suddenly become unavoidable. Make it on your terms. A romantic or creative development after the weekend could be exciting, but don’t let enthusiasm make promises your schedule cannot keep.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

Something going on behind the scenes deserves closer attention. You may discover that a concern you have been carrying is less serious than you imagined. Home life becomes busier after September 27, and someone close may need more of your time than expected. Give it willingly.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)

A friendship or group connection could change noticeably around the Full Moon. Someone may surprise you by withdrawing, stepping forward or revealing what they really think. Don’t take it personally. A conversation later in the week could lead to an invitation or opportunity worth pursuing.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

Career matters come to a head. You may receive recognition, a new responsibility or a clear signal that it is time to change direction. Don’t undersell yourself. After September 27, money becomes more important, and you may need to decide whether a tempting purchase is genuinely worth it.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)

Mars enters your sign and gives you an unmistakable boost. You will feel more decisive, energetic and willing to take risks. A travel, education or publishing plan may also move forward. Use your confidence, but don’t confuse being certain with being correct.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

A financial or emotional obligation may need to be renegotiated. If someone expects

too much, say so. Mercury entering Scorpio sharpens your instincts and makes this a good week for research, paperwork or a conversation requiring tact and precision.

Libra (September 23 – October 22)

The Full Moon falls opposite your sign, so a relationship may reach a turning point. Someone close could demand an answer you have avoided giving. Be honest. Trying to keep everyone happy will only delay the inevitable. By week’s end, you will know where you stand.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

Work may become unusually busy, and a deadline or responsibility could expose a weak spot in your routine. Fix it rather than complain about it. Mercury enters your sign on September 30, giving you extra mental sharpness and making others more likely to take your words seriously.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)

Romance, creativity or children could bring an unexpected development around the Full Moon. Enjoy the moment without trying to predict where it leads. Mars entering Leo favors travel, study and adventure, so say yes to something that takes you beyond familiar territory.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

A family or property issue may need a firm decision. You cannot solve it by postponing the conversation. The good news is that once you address it directly, the tension should ease. Career matters remain promising, but home needs attention first.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

News, paperwork or an important conversation may arrive unexpectedly. Read everything carefully before responding. Mars entering your partnership zone can make relationships more passionate but also more argumentative. If someone challenges you, listen before assuming they are against you.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

A money question may finally become clear around the Full Moon. You could decide to stop spending on something that no longer feels worthwhile or invest more heavily in something you truly value. Mercury entering Scorpio favors travel plans, study and conversations that broaden your outlook.

Thought for the Week:

When the answer becomes obvious, stop asking the question.



Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

1. ____-to-riches story
5. (K) Time you can’t relive
9. Small dog, for short
12. Be up against
13. (K) “Pants on fire” person
14. First lady in the Bible
15. (K) How thefts are made
17. Pirate’s drink
18. (K) Be victorious over
19. (K) Remote control button
21. Free of charge, as legal services (2 words)
23. Health resort
26. (K) Squeezing snake
27. (K) Ctrl + Y, in Word
31. Not given careful thought
35. (K) Write with a keyboard
36. (K) Frozen water
37. (K) Bighorn’s mom
38. (K) Exhaust, as a supply
42. Calm
45. (K) Landlord’s tenant
49. ____ kwon do
50. In demand
52. (K) Thing between the Atlantic and Pacific
53. (K) Baker’s need
54. Container
55. Layer of lettuce, as in a salad
56. (K) Half of a fortnight
57. (K) “Star ____” (sci-fi franchise with Spock)

Down

1. Attack without warning

2. (K) Skilled
3. (K) ____ of Mexico
4. (K) Brew via teapot
5. Army unit
6. Feel under the weather
7. Battleship barrage
8. (K) Use a dressing room (2 words)
9. (K) Machu Picchu’s country
10. Egg, to a biologist
11. (K) Popular GIF, for one
16. Hollywood great Greta
20. Oral history
22. Herb used in Italian cooking
23. (K) Create a lap
24. Tissue layer
25. (K) Mountain peak
28. Poet’s “before”

29. (K) Glistening morning grass drops
30. Exulting poem
32. Give up, as land rights
33. (K) Skating venue (2 words)
34. Block
39. Finance, as a scholarship
40. Source of irritation
41. Pass, as a bill
42. (K) Ticket souvenir
43. (K) Comfort
44. (K) Enjoy “Where the Wild Things Are”
46. Alternative to a chairlift
47. (K) “What ____ do you want?”
48. Emit a foul stench
51. (K) Look

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

Remains in the movie theater?

Look for the answer in next week’s paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
D	I	M		S	C	R	A	P		T
O	R	E	O		A	R	O	M		A
V	O	L	U	N	T	E	R			W
E	N	T	R	E	E		N	E		D
			C	A	R		T	A	K	E
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
L	T	E	R	A	L		E	N		S
32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
A	C	E		N	E		S	A	G	
B	E	A	N	S		T	O	R	P	E
		B	A	L	K		R	U	E	
43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53
C	A	R	B	O	N		R	I	P	
H	I	E		V	A	L	E	N	T	I
54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64
I	R	A		E	V	E	N		D	O
65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
A	S	K		N	E	A	T		C	E

Previous riddle answer:

Not cry, but get all mushy?
3-D) MELT

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

- 1 ill-advised (6)
- 2 periodic (8)
- 3 hiding nothing (11)
- 4 study of old age (11)
- 5 it may be fresh-squeezed (8)
- 6 unverifiable tale (4)
- 7 French philosopher René (9)

SOLUTIONS

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

CAR	UNW	CYCL	LEM	NT
RON	ADE	RE	DES	ICAL
TH	TRA	ON	ISE	LOGY
NSPA	TES	TO	GE	MY

Wec Previous Answers: ELEGANT 2. OMNIPRESENT 3. DICTATES
4. LEANER 5. LARGE 6. BEASTS 7. BANG

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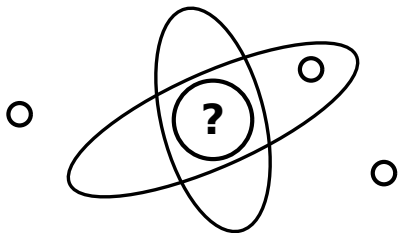
The answers to this week’s puzzles can be found in next week’s issue.

www.GreenwichSentinel.com/subscribe

www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/subscribe

BRAIN BREAK!

15 challenges. One page. Pick a puzzle and jump in.



NO SCREENS REQUIRED

1 WORD HUNT

Words hide in all eight directions.

A E C O D E D X Y T N F
G R E C C I G O L S Q J
T I B R O F B R H E S L
J B S T Z M U I G U V E
K L B H C T E E F Q N X
P H M R C B L T T H M I
G S L Z A Z V A D T W P
V N T F Z I F I O Q M G
N M Y U X Q N B P E C O
F L P B X E O S T T G L
G Y F F C R V R M A Z E
D I G S A E J C A E Y D

ROBOT
ORBIT
QUEST
CODE

COMET
LOGIC
BRAIN

PUZZLE
PIXEL
MAZE

WARM-UP / FIND ALL 10

2 SUDOKU SIX

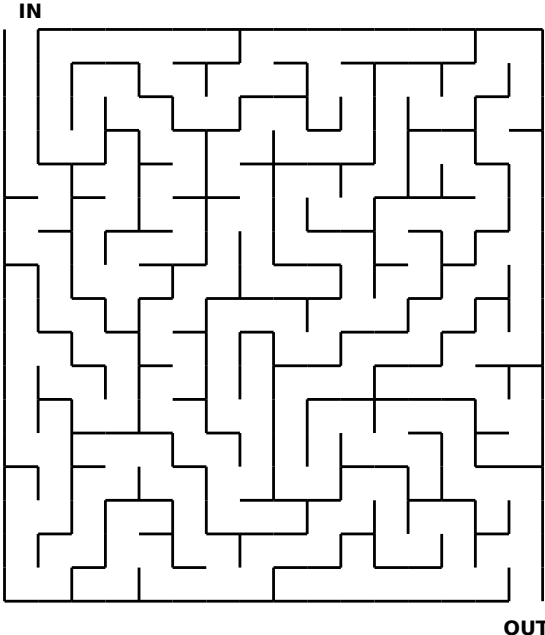
Use 1-6 once in every row, column and bold 2-by-3 box.

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

Tip: scan the fullest rows first.
STEADY / ONE SOLUTION

3 ESCAPE ROUTE

Enter at the top. Exit at the bottom.



STEADY / FOLLOW THE PATH

4 WHO BUILT WHAT?

Each project once: bridge, crystal, robot, volcano. One student per day, Mon-Thu.

- Cam went Monday; Bea went Tuesday.
- The crystal was shown Tuesday; the robot, Thursday.
- Bea went one day after the bridge.
- Diya built neither bridge nor robot.
- Ari presented later than Bea.

Mon _____
Tue _____
Wed _____
Thu _____

Student + project

STEADY / LOGIC DETECTIVE

5 PIXEL MYSTERY

Clues give filled runs in each row or column. Leave at least one blank between runs; 0 = none.

		3	5	6	6	6	6	5	3	
2	2									
8										
8										
8										
6										
4										
2										
0										

STEADY / REVEAL A PICTURE

6 PICTURE THE PHRASE

Read the words AND their positions.

A

HEAD
HEELS

B

CYCLE
CYCLE
CYCLE

C

DEAL

D

STAND
I

WARM-UP / FOUR REBUS PUZZLES

7 SECRET MESSAGE

Shift each coded letter back three places: D → A, E → B, F → C.

JUHDW LGHDV VWDUW ZLWK D
TXHVWLRQ

WARM-UP / CAESAR CIPHER

8 CLIMB THE LADDER

Change one letter each step. Keep the order. Clues name the missing words.

COLD Start
_____ A wire or rope
_____ A greeting sent in an envelope
_____ A hospital department
WARM Finish

STEADY / CHANGE ONE LETTER

9 MAKE 24

Make 24. Use each number exactly once. Use only +, −, ×, ÷ and parentheses.

A 2 2 4 6

B 1 5 5 5

C 3 3 8 8

STRETCH / LAST SET IS TOUGH

10 NEXT IN LINE

Write the next number. Look for a simple repeating rule or pattern.

- A 2, 6, 12, 20, 30, ____
B 81, 27, 9, 3, ____
C 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, ____
D 3, 6, 5, 10, 9, 18, ____

STEADY / SPOT THE RULE

11 SCRAMBLE STATION

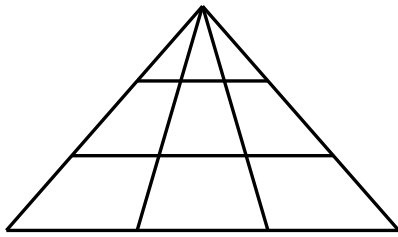
Unscramble these space words.

- A TENALP _____
B ETMOC _____
C YXALAG _____
D TROIB _____
E TEKCOR _____

WARM-UP / SPACE WORDS

12 TRIANGLE TRAP

How many triangles can you find?



Total: _____

STRETCH / COUNT EVERY SIZE

13 SHAPE EQUATIONS

Find the value of each shape.

○ + □ = 11
□ + △ = 13
○ + △ = 10

STEADY / SAME SHAPE, SAME VALUE

14 RIDDLE ME THIS

- A. What gets wetter as it dries?

B. What has many teeth but cannot bite?

WARM-UP / THINK SIDEWAYS

15 WORD BUILDER

Use only these letters. No letter more than once per word. Aim for 3+ letters.

P L A N E T

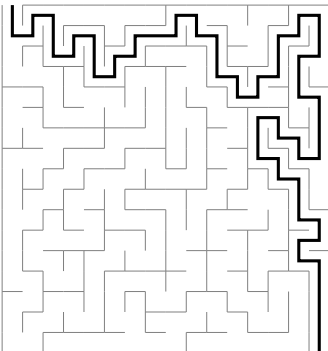
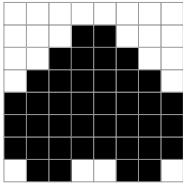
OPEN PLAY / HOW MANY CAN YOU MAKE?

1. Word hunt: row/column, from top left. ROBOT 11,6→7,10; COMET 2,4→6,8; PUZZLE 10,3→5,8; ORBIT 3,5→3,1; LOGIC 2,9→2,5; PIXEL 7,12→3,12; QUEST 5,10→1,10; BRAIN 5,3→9,7; MAZE 11,9→11,12; CODE 1,3→1,6.
2. Sudoku, rows top to bottom: 123456 / 456123 / 234561 / 561234 / 345612 / 612345.
3. Mon: Cam, bridge. Tue: Bea, crystal. Wed: Diya, volcano.
4. Ari, robot.
5. A heart.
6. A: head over heels; B: tricycle; C: big deal; D: I understand.

7. GREAT IDEAS START WITH A QUESTION. 8. COLD → CORD → CARD → WARD → WARM.
9. A: (6−2)×(4+2). B: 5×(5−1+5). C: 8÷(3−8+3). Other valid solutions count.
10. A: 42 (n×(n+1)). B: 1 (+3). C: 13 (add previous two). D: 17 (×2, then −1).
11. PLANET, COMET, GALAXY, ORBIT, ROCKET. 12. 18: choose two of four rays, then one of three horizontal bases.
13. Circle 4, square 7, triangle 6. 14. A: towel. B: comb. 15. Examples: planet, plane, panel, plant, plate, petal, pleat, leap, tape, ten.

3. Maze solution

5. Pixel key





FIND 15 HIDDEN OBJECTS IN THE PICTURE



FIND 14 HIDDEN OBJECTS IN THE PICTURE



PUTTIN' ON THE DOG
Adoption ♥ Fun ♥ Community

Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Roger Sherman Baldwin Park,
Greenwich

Families can meet adoptable dogs, watch dog fun, and support animal rescue.

**COASTAL CLEAN-UP
AT GREAT CAPTAIN ISLAND**
Cleaner Beaches ♥ Healthier Waters ♥ Brighter Tomorrows

Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026 • 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Boats leave from Grass Island Dock.
Registration required. Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 27.
 Volunteers help protect the beach and sea animals.

VERY SPECIAL VISITOR
Archbishop of Canterbury
Dame Sarah Mullally

Sunday, Sept. 27 • 8:00 a.m.
Christ Church Greenwich.
Advance registration required.

She is an important church leader visiting Greenwich.

SUDOKU

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

Sudoku for Kids

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

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

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

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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			7	4				
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	2	7	8					3

Very Hard

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7						9	8	6
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Sudoku answers

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