Greenwich Sentinel

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The Sentinel | Local News — **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026** — *Your award winning hometown paper.*

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News Brief

POLICE & FIRE

Greenwich Police Share Halloween Safety Guidelines

The Greenwich Police Department issued safety recommendations ahead of Halloween, encouraging families to wear reflective clothing, carry flashlights, and use sidewalks and crosswalks while trick-or-treating. Parents were advised to accompany younger children, inspect candy, and ensure that walkways are well-lit. Motorists were reminded to reduce speeds and remain alert for pedestrians throughout Greenwich neighborhoods.

POLICE & FIRE

Greenwich Police Department Welcomes Officer Johnson



The Greenwich Police Department welcomed Officer Blaine S. Johnson III, who previously served with the New York City Police Department and the Portsmouth, New Hampshire Police Department. Johnson earned an associate degree in criminal justice from Dutchess Community College and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Saint Anselm College in 2020. A Massapequa, New York native, he graduated from Massapequa High School in 2016.

Photo credit: Greenwich Police Department

Greenwich Police Department Begins Officer Recruitment

The Greenwich Police Department announced October 23 that it was accepting applications for entry-level police officers. The department highlighted academy training, competitive benefits, and opportunities to serve in specialized assignments, including the Marine Section, Traffic Section, K-9 Unit, School Resource Officer program, and Emergency Services Unit. Applications are available through the town's official recruitment portal.

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GREEN THOUGHTS edited by Anne W. Semmes

"In their leaves, plants create much of the oxygen we breathe and, directly or indirectly, nearly all of the food we eat." From a recent Wall Street Journal review of a new book on leaves, "Nature's Magicians" by Jonathan Silvertown, 2026.

Greenwich Voters Prepare for Nov. 3 State and Federal Election



Greenwich voters will choose a governor, a member of Congress and state legislators Tuesday, Nov. 3, with polling places open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at 12 locations across town.

The 2026 election differs from last year's municipal contest: there are no Representative Town Meeting, Board of Estimate and Taxation or Board of Education elections on this ballot. According to sample ballots released by Connecticut's Secretary of the State, voters will decide contests for governor and lieutenant governor, the 4th Congressional District, the 36th State Senate District, and one of three state House districts, depending on where they live.

The ballot also includes secretary of the state, treasurer, comptroller, attorney general, judge of probate and registrar of voters. Gov. Ned Lamont and Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz face Republican gubernatorial nominee Ryan Fazio and running mate Matt Corey. Greenwich's 36th State Senate race pits Jill Oberlander against Joe Kelly.

Greenwich voters will continue to mark paper ballots and feed them into electronic tabulators. All 10 contests on this year's sample ballot permit one selection. Some candidates are listed on more than one party line, but a voter should mark only one oval for each office. Unlike last year's municipal ballot, there are no RTM choices on the reverse side; the state sample ballot directs voters to instructions there.

If a tabulator detects too many selections in a contest, it alerts the voter. Residents may request a replacement ballot before their original is accepted. An overvote will invalidate votes in that contest, not correctly marked selections elsewhere, according to town election instructions.

Early Voting Continues Through Nov. 1

Early voting is underway at Greenwich Town Hall, 101 Field Point Road, the only early-voting location in town. Voting hours on Thursday, Oct. 29, are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 30 through Nov. 1. Voters from every Greenwich district may vote there.

As of Wednesday, Oct. 28, the town's unofficial voter checklist recorded 4,738 early ballots and 1,191 absentee ballots, for 5,929 votes recorded ahead of Election Day. The counts are preliminary and may change.

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An Award-Winning Thank-You Returns to Greenwich Polls

By Elizabeth Barhydt

A Greenwich program that supplies meals to election workers is returning for the Nov. 3 general election, this time with a national award to its credit and several local businesses signing on again.

The Polling Place Food Sponsorship Program, introduced in 2025 by Republican Registrar of Voters Fred DeCaro III with Democratic Registrar Mary Hegarty, pairs restaurants with voting locations to support the people who run elections. In May, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission selected the Greenwich initiative for a 2025 National Clearinghouse Award recognizing effective practices in recruiting, retaining and training poll workers.



The commission cited the meals, the coordination of deliveries with election officials and the public recognition given to participating businesses. The effort grew last year to include coffee and baked goods during early voting.

For this election, the registrars' sponsorship roster identifies Planet Pizza, Pasta Bowls of Greenwich, Garden Catering, Little Pub, Tony's Deli, The Makerie, Corbo's Deli, Planet Pizza, and Love You A Latte.

The assignments represent seven of Greenwich's 12 Election Day polling locations. The planning document also includes other business names and unfilled locations, so the final roster remains subject to confirmation.

For a voter, casting a ballot may take only a few minutes.

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Only One Shot on the Scene

By Steele Barhydt

Few events at the Citizens' Police Academy (CPA) have elicited as much excitement and speculation as the Marine Division's boat ride, the patrol night ride-along—and, of course, the two nights devoted to forensics.

Years ago, I attended the CPA's equivalent program for younger citizens: Youth Citizens' Police Academy (YCPA). Fond memories of exploring the lab where evidence is meticulously examined by the forensics team left me enthusiastic for the adult sequel. That sequel did not disappoint. The forensics team handles some very grisly material, meaning that they were only able to get into the real details of their work with the adult group. Of course, this article will describe and reference some of that grisly work; be forewarned!

Officially the Forensics Section, there are just four detectives on the team—including the Section's Supervisor, Detective Sergeant Pierangelo Corticelli. From their comfortable manner with one another, it was clear from the get-go that all four detectives are close. They would regularly interrupt their own PowerPoint to crack a joke, or poke fun at a colleague's typo, or to reminisce about particularly memorable crime scenes.

That PowerPoint was the

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Beyond the Ballot: Five Candidates Explain Their Choices

By Tom McDermott

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, Greenwich voters will choose who represents them in the Connecticut House of Representatives. Six candidates are competing across three districts. Five agreed to extended interviews with the Greenwich Sentinel about their experiences, records and ideas for Hartford. Democratic state Rep. Stephen Meskers, the sixth candidate, chose not to participate in this interview series.

In the 149th District, which includes portions of Greenwich and Stamford, Republican incumbent Tina Courpas faces Democrat Amiel Goldberg. In the 150th, Democratic incumbent Meskers faces Republican Jonathan Goldstein. In the 151st, Democratic incumbent Hector Arzeno faces Republican Michael Mason.

The following profiles were designed to do something a debate or campaign advertisement rarely permits: give readers time to understand how a prospective legislator thinks beyond the campaign's familiar slogans. We asked about the experiences that shaped each candidate, the responsibilities of public office and the decisions that cannot be anticipated before an election.

Their answers reveal meaningful differences. Courpas describes a legislative approach built around scrutiny of costs and consequences. Goldberg argues for negotiation and the willingness to adjust policy when circumstances change. Arzeno emphasizes independence, relationships and the work of winning results. Mason stresses advance notice, accountability and local control. Goldstein questions whether Hartford pays enough attention to Greenwich's infrastructure and financial contributions.

Housing policy runs through almost every conversation. So do utility costs, school funding, affordability and the tension between statewide objectives and municipal authority. Candidates often agree on the problems while disagreeing about the state's role in solving them.

Meskers was invited to take part but declined. He remains a candidate in the 150th District; his decision leaves this series without an individual interview with the incumbent. He did participate in the Oct. 14 League of Women Voters candidate debate, which the *Sentinel* covered separately.

These profiles report what participating candidates said, including their accounts of their records and criticisms of their opponents. Statements of opinion are attributed to their speakers. Readers should weigh those claims alongside legislative votes, public records and the positions of candidates not interviewed here.

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Hartford's Agenda Takes Shape

* * *

Tolls, Regional Schools and a Millionaires' Tax

By Elizabeth Barhydt

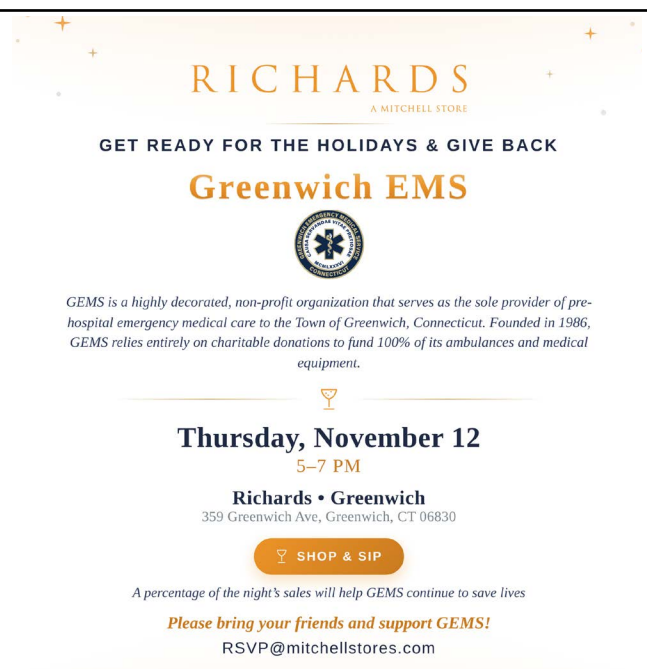
A citizens' assembly brought some of Connecticut's most divisive policy proposals back to the governor's debate. Its members plan to carry them into the 2027 legislative session.

Highway tolls that Gov. Ned Lamont once abandoned, school regionalization that provoked an outcry in 2019, and a new income-tax surcharge on millionaires are back in Connecticut's political discussion. All three appear in a 33-page report released Monday by the Connecticut

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All Souls Day Masses Planned for November 2 with Bishop Caggiano

All Souls Day Masses will be celebrated Monday, November 2, at 11 a.m. across six diocesan cemeteries, including St. Mary-Putnam Cemetery in Greenwich. **Bishop Frank J. Caggiano will be principal celebrant in Greenwich**. The outdoor Masses will proceed rain or shine, with tents and portable facilities provided. Holy Water from Lourdes, France, will be distributed afterward. For information, call 203-742-1450.





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Raised in Queens, Joe Kelly learned early that nothing is handed to you. You work for it, you earn it.

For 30 years, Joe has called Greenwich home—building a successful business, raising four children, opening his home to three foster children, and stepping up to serve his community. He's led our schools, balanced budgets, managed major projects, and brought people together when others couldn't.

Now Joe will bring that same character, common sense, and proven record of getting things done to Hartford.

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The Man Who Would Be King: Mohammed bin Salman and the Transformation of Saudi Arabia

By Robert Henrey

Last February, a snowstorm kept Karen Elliott House from speaking to the Greenwich Retired Men's Association, and she took a rain check. The seven months since "have made a huge difference for Saudi Arabia," she said. On February 28, the United States and Israel attacked Iran, and "the smiling prince that I saw in February in Saudi Arabia" has become "essentially an invisible prince."

House, a former publisher of "The Wall Street Journal" and a Pulitzer Prize winner for her reporting on the Middle East, spoke to the RMA by Zoom on Wednesday, October 21. She was introduced by Bob Rimmer. Her subject was her book, "The Man Who Would Be King: Mohammed bin Salman and the Transformation of Saudi Arabia," built on more than half a dozen extended interviews with the crown prince over ten years, and her two weeks there earlier this month.

The kingdom, she said, is hunkered down. Iran's proxies, the Houthis, are striking its oil installations and the Riyadh airport, where the worst attack killed 13 people and injured 300, and she spent part of her trip trying to get out with the airport closed. The only glimpse of the crown prince during her visit was a photograph of him giving blood for a national blood drive, unsmiling, the blood running into a tube. To House it was "a stark metaphor" for a country whose lifeblood, oil, the Houthis are trying to cut off at the Red Sea while Iran threatens the Strait of Hormuz.

When House first met Mohammed bin Salman in 2016, he was deputy crown prince, and "clearly unlike any Saudi I had ever met." She set out to answer three questions. Is he just another Arab tyrant, or an enlightened autocrat like Peter the Great? Will his grandiose projects succeed, or crumble in the desert like the ruins in Shelley's "Ozymandias"? And why should Americans care?

For most of her half century of visits, she said, almost nothing changed, as one five-year reform plan after another failed. In less than a decade, the kingdom has become unrecognizable. The religious police can no longer arrest anyone. Women drive, work in offices, and ride elevators with men, and there are concerts and dancing in the streets. Under the old clerics, "fun was literally a dirty word." The crown prince, she said, is refocusing people from the hereafter to "the here and now."

Mohammed bin Salman's drive, House said, has its roots in family. His mother told her sons not to be also-rans to the first wife's boys, and he got an allowance of $500 a week, she was told, when most royal cousins got $5,000. His uncle, King Abdullah, once blocked a promotion, saying it would look like nepotism, which House found "amusing, since nepotism is kind of the family method in the kingdom." The young prince was outraged. Once in power under his father, he told her, "I am a young man, and I am in a hurry." Saudis like to blend in, but he told her, "If you don't stand out, you might as well disappear," which is why his near disappearance now seems so shocking.

The crown prince's Vision 2030 plan, announced in 2016, aims to move the economy off oil to tourism, data centers, and other modern industries. Sixty percent of Saudis are under 30, and he has replaced the old bargain (loyalty in exchange for being kept in the best style the rulers could afford) with a new one: loyalty in exchange for economic opportunity and entertainment. Most Saudis seem happy with it, she said, because they are raised to obey father, king, and Allah, not to expect to have a voice. He has detractors, too. "It's like riding in the backseat of a speeding car," one prince told her. "You just hope the driver knows where he's going."

In the book, House wrote that his first ten years in power were easy but the next ten would be much tougher. "I didn't anticipate how tough," she said. Many projects have been abandoned as too expensive, and he needs peace to attract foreign investment, which even before the war was lower than under the old Saudi Arabia. Americans have a stake in his success, in her view, because the United States, still a major target of Islamic terrorist groups, would benefit from a moderate Islam. Whether he proves a Lee Kuan Yew, who transformed Singapore, or a Napoleon remains to be seen. He likes to say, "If you see something to do, do it." Right now, she believes, "he doesn't know what to do."

In the question period, she was asked how the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi squares with the crown prince's otherwise positive image. In that part of the world, House said, rulers take out people they think might hurt them, as his grandfather did. She did not think Khashoggi, whom she knew for years, was a threat to him, and while human rights groups remember, most people have moved on. Asked how he tamed the religious police so quickly, she said, "He just did it." Religious police once stopped her in a Saudi mall, told her to cover her head, and asked for her passport, something that cannot happen now, because the kingdom wants tourists.

Asked about the former crown prince, Mohammed bin Nayef, House said she is told he is in effect under house arrest. Princes she met in February told her, as Saudis have said for years, "if we don't hang together, we'll hang separately," and she believes the greatest danger to the crown prince is assassination rather than a palace coup. Finally, Bob Meaney, on Zoom, asked about relations with Russia and Europe. The Saudis cooperate with Russia on oil production, she said, and have courted China, which wants no military role in the Gulf and is happy to see the United States tied down. "I think China is the big winner," she said, and the United States and Saudi Arabia the major losers.

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, "American Kings: A Biography of the Quarterback" by Seth Wickersham is scheduled for 11 AM on Wednesday, November 4, 2026. RMA presentations are held at Christ Church Greenwich, Parish Hall, 254 E. Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830.

The quarterback. Coolest job in America? What does it mean to be a quarterback, from the reads to the pain to the glory? How did this funny job of throwing an oblong football join our most lofty professions? The job is a lens on American ambition — what it demands, what it costs, and what it reveals about striving for status in a competitive world. This is a cultural narrative, based on interviews with many of the greats in the field, that speaks far beyond sports to anyone chasing a goal that matters.

Seth Wickersham is a senior writer at ESPN and the author of two instant New York Times bestsellers, "American Kings: A Biography of the Quarterback" and "It's Better to Be Feared: The New England Patriots Dynasty and the Pursuit of Greatness." A collection of his ESPN work, "Be on That Hill," was published in September 2026. He lives in Connecticut with his family.

To stream the presentation by Seth Wickersham at 11 AM on Wednesday, November 4, click on https://bit.ly/30IBj21. This presentation will also be available on local public access TV channels, Verizon FIOS channel 24 and Optimum channel 79.

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

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



Journalist Karen Elliott House said that Mohammed Bin Salman's vision for a new Saudia Arabia is seriously threatened by the Iran war.

Right now, she believes, "he doesn't know what to do."

Thank You At the Polls
From Page 1

For the people checking names, issuing ballots, helping voters and closing polling places, Election Day requires considerably more. Greenwich's registrars say poll workers generally serve at least 15 consecutive hours, in paid positions that also require training. Voting runs from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m.; essential closing work continues after the doors shut.

Last year, as the program began, DeCaro described the purpose in personal terms. "We're trying to remind people that poll workers are their friends and neighbors," he said. The meals were a way of acknowledging the time and responsibility that election administration demands.

Local restaurant owners expressed similar appreciation. "They give so much of their time to make sure everything runs smoothly, and donating meals is our way of showing how much we appreciate their commitment to our community," Tina Carpenteri of Garden Catering said last year.

The registrars' election-season outreach has expanded beyond the meal program. At Town Hall, Neighbor to Neighbor is collecting unopened, unexpired food during early voting through Sunday, Nov. 1. The town says the food pantry serves more than 900 registered households. The most-needed donations include canned fish and meat, pasta and sauce, peanut butter and jelly, cereal, dried beans and cooking oil.

The registrars are also promoting an Adopt-A-Dog event on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event advertisements promise friendly dogs, puppies and an opportunity to complete adoption applications.

Early voting continues at Greenwich Town Hall through Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, except for extended hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3.

As Greenwich prepares for another long day at its polling sites, the award-winning food program offers a practical expression of thanks: a meal delivered to someone whose work makes voting possible.



Hande Omur, MD
Associate Medical Director of Interventional Psychiatric Services

Powering breakthroughs
in the treatment of major depression

When traditional therapies and medications aren't effective, Interventional Psychiatry Services at Greenwich Hospital provides advanced, evidence-based treatment options for patients with depression and other mood disorders. FDA-approved esketamine nasal spray and IV ketamine therapy may provide patients with lasting relief. Through our expert care and personalized treatment plans, innovative options can make a difference – for you or someone you love.

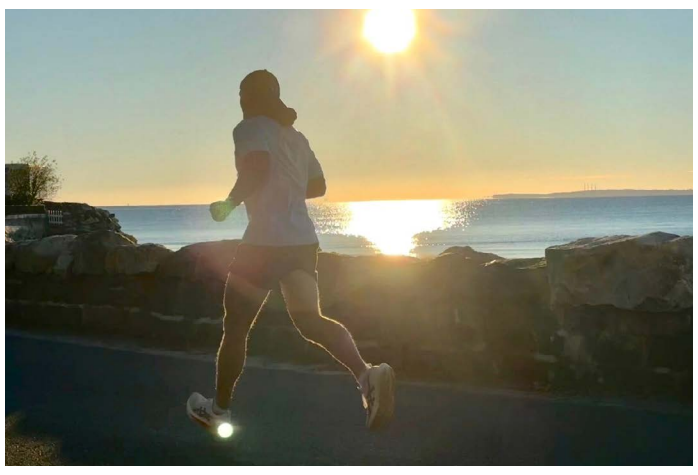
Virtual and in-person consultations are available.
Call to see if you're eligible: 844-228-5078.

Yale NewHaven Health
Greenwich Hospital

GREENWICH HALF MARATHON



Greenwich hit the ground running Sunday with the inaugural Greenwich Half Marathon, celebrating fitness, community and giving back! Proceeds benefited Kids in Crisis and other local organizations.



Mike Yardis, owner of Threads and Treads



Greenwich Selectwoman Rachel Khanna and Sophie Khanna after collecting their medals.



Sentinel editor, Stapley Russell



First place went to Greenwich native Ryan Hopkins (with sons Couper and Rory) who crossed the finish line at 1:11:05.

News Briefs
From Page 1

Cos Cob Fire Patrol Trains

Members of the Cos Cob Fire Police Patrol participated in hands-on emergency response training focused on teamwork, preparedness, and equipment handling. Volunteers practiced tarp deployment and other skills used during emergency operations, strengthening their ability to assist the community during incidents requiring coordinated response. Photo credit: Cos Cob Fire Police Patrol

Greenwich Reviews New Firefighters Union Contract

The Greenwich Representative Town Meeting considered a three-year collective bargaining agreement with firefighters' union Local 1042 at its October 26 meeting. The agreement covers July 2026 through June 2029 and provides annual salary increases of 3%, along with higher employee health care contributions. The proposed contract would increase costs by an estimated 12.77% over three years for 105 authorized positions.

Greenwich Recognizes National First Responders Day



The Greenwich Department of Public Works recognized National First Responders Day on October 28, thanking emergency personnel and public safety professionals for their service to the community. The department highlighted the teamwork, dedication, and preparedness of those who respond to emergencies and help protect Greenwich residents. Photo credit: Greenwich Public Works.

FROM TOWN HALL

Greenwich Officials Honor Former First Selectman

First Selectman Fred Camillo and Selectwoman Lauren Rabin paid tribute to former First Selectman John Margenot during the October 26 Representative Town Meeting. Margenot, who died earlier in October, was recognized for his public service and contributions to Greenwich. The tribute was recorded by Greenwich Community Television and made available online.

Greenwich Officials Recognize Local Military Veterans

Greenwich Representative Town Meeting Moderator Alexis Voulgaris recognized members who served in the military during the October 26 meeting. Veterans Kip Burgweger, Jan Kniffen, Steve Waters, and James Waters were among those acknowledged in attendance, while Joe Benoit, Tom West, and Dan Izzo were also recognized for their service. The annual acknowledgment preceded Greenwich's Veterans Day observances in November.

FROM TOWN HALL

Greenwich Considers Expanding Beach Dog Season

First Selectman Fred Camillo expressed interest in reopening discussions about extending the period when dogs are permitted at Greenwich Point. One proposal would begin the seasonal access period November 1 rather than December 1, following the Representative Town Meeting's rejection of a similar proposal last year. Any change would require further consideration by town officials.

Town Considers Honoring Richard Kriskey

Greenwich residents Griff Harris and Debra Hess requested that the Board of Selectmen consider dedicating the Cos Cob Park pavilion in memory of longtime community volunteer Richard "Dick" Kriskey, who died September 13 at age 93. Kriskey served on the Board of Education, Board of Estimate and Taxation, and Board of Assessment Appeals, and helped establish Greenwich Emergency Medical Services. The selectmen planned to revisit the proposal after gathering public feedback.

Greenwich Approves School Building Committee

The Greenwich Representative Town Meeting completed appointments to the building committee overseeing Greenwich High School's proposed natatorium, access driveway, and tennis facilities project. Members Kaan Aslansan and Steven Siler received approval October 26 by a vote of 181–2, with two abstentions, joining five previously appointed members. The committee can now organize its work on the proposed campus improvements.

Greenwich Reviews Expanded Beach Access

First Selectman Fred Camillo raised the possibility of extending seasonal dog access at Greenwich Point, which currently begins in December. The proposed discussion would consider allowing dogs onto the property beginning November 1, potentially changing the park's seasonal access rules. The town previously considered a similar proposal in 2025.

Greenwich Considers Increasing Harbor Mooring Fees

The Greenwich Representative Town Meeting considered a proposal to increase the annual harbor mooring fee from $100 to $150 beginning in 2027. Under the proposal, boat owners renewing by March 1 would retain the $100 rate. The matter was included on the RTM's October 26 agenda.

Greenwich Fair Rent Commission Explains Protections

Greenwich's Fair Rent Commission outlined its role in reviewing tenant complaints concerning rent increases and determining whether proposed charges are fair and equitable. The commission considers factors including property conditions and the circumstances of individual complaints when evaluating potentially excessive rent increases. Residents may submit complaints through the municipal process established for landlord-tenant disputes.

Greenwich Police Warn About Fraudulent Invoices

Greenwich's Planning and Zoning Department warned residents about fraudulent emails impersonating municipal employees and requesting payments related to permit applications. The department advised applicants that fees are collected when applications are submitted and that legitimate town email addresses end in @greenwichct.gov or @greenwichct.org. Residents were encouraged to verify suspicious requests directly with the department at 203-622-7894.

AROUND TOWN

Greenwich Housing Trust Details Commitments

Greenwich's Affordable Housing Trust Fund reported commitments totaling $400,000 in loans for five projects expected to provide 132 affordable housing units. The town's housing trust program supports developments with income-restricted residences and encourages projects compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. The commitments represent part of Greenwich's continuing efforts to expand housing opportunities for moderate-income households.

Greenwich Officials Review Valley Drive Conversion

The Greenwich Planning and Zoning Commission continued reviewing a proposal to transform the office property at 18 Valley Drive into a 46-unit residential development. Greenwich Park LLC's application calls for expanding the building to approximately 87,078 square feet, with five moderate-income apartments and 78 parking spaces. A related zoning amendment would establish incentives for office conversions and permit certain contributions to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Greenwich Commission Reviews Residential Housing Proposal

The Greenwich Planning and Zoning Commission included a proposed six-unit residential development at 43 Old Post Road 2 on its October 27 agenda. The application includes one affordable housing unit and was among several residential proposals scheduled for municipal consideration. The property's final approval status remains subject to confirmation in the commission's meeting record.

Greenwich Historic Commission Reviews Taconic Property

The Greenwich Historic District Commission scheduled a special October 22 meeting to review restoration plans and presentation materials concerning a historic overlay request at 155 Taconic Road. The application concerns the property's historic designation and proposed restoration work. Public comments were directed to the commission through its secretary, Andrew Melillo.

Greenwich Public Works Addresses Roadway Safety



The Greenwich Department of Public Works reminded residents to keep fallen leaves off public streets and highways as the town prepares for its seasonal Leaf Collection Program. Leaves deposited on roadways can create hazards for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians, and placing them on public pavement is prohibited by law. Violations may result in a summons or fine. Photo credit: Greenwich Public Works

LOCAL BUSINESSES & NON PROFITS

Greenwich Launches Annual Holiday Assistance Program

The Greenwich Department of Human Services Fund launched its annual Holiday Aid Program to provide food assistance, gifts, and gift cards to financially eligible Greenwich residents. Community members and businesses may contribute through monetary donations, gift cards, or the Adopt a Family initiative, which matches donors with local families and their holiday wish lists. Gift card donations are requested by December 21 to support distribution ahead of the holidays.

Greenwich Youth Commission Supports Student Scholarships

The First Selectman's Youth Commission announced a fundraising bake sale scheduled for November 1 at Greenwich Town Hall during the final day of early voting. Proceeds will support the commission's scholarship program, community projects, outreach initiatives, and participation in the Greenwich Alliance for Education's annual Turkey Trot. Commission members will also provide information about the organization's activities and youth involvement opportunities.

Greenwich Bank Reschedules Community Shredding Program

Greenwich Bank and Trust rescheduled its free community paper shredding program for November 7 after a September event was postponed because of a nor'easter. The service will be available from 9 a.m. to noon at 1103 East Putnam Avenue in Riverside, providing residents with an opportunity to securely dispose of documents. Participants are asked to remove staples, paper clips, and folders before bringing materials for shredding.

Greenwich Voting Food Drive Continues

The Greenwich Registrars of Voters and Neighbor to Neighbor continued collecting food donations at Town Hall during the early-voting period. The initiative has received multiple rounds of contributions, with donations supporting local families experiencing food insecurity. Requested items include canned proteins, pasta, peanut butter, cereal, cooking oil, and other shelf-stable foods.

LOCAL BUSINESSES & NON PROFITS

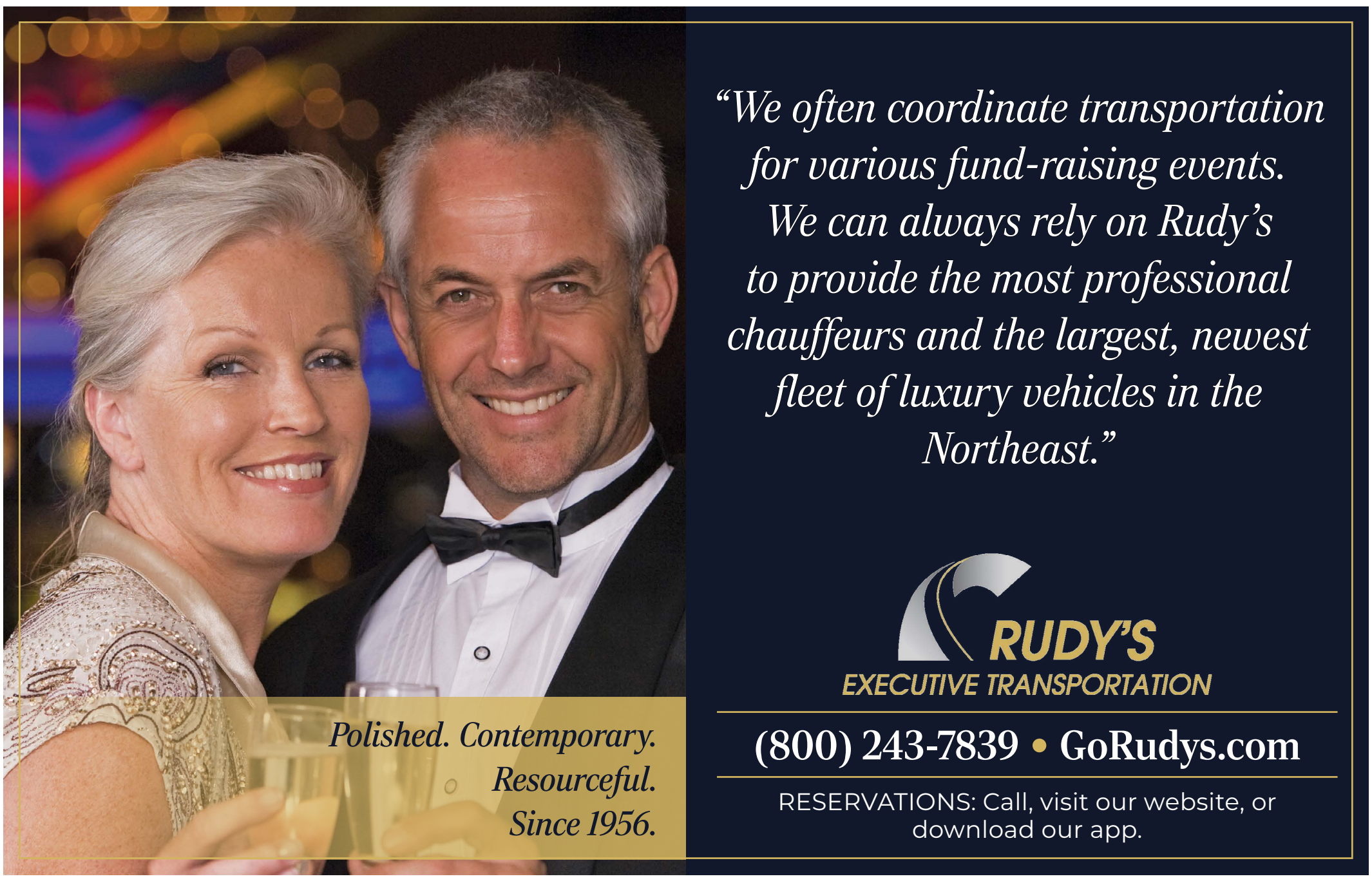
YMCA Expands Greenwich Teen Opportunities

The YMCA of Greenwich announced additional volunteer opportunities through its Y-Achievers teen leadership program and upcoming Lawn Care Heroes community initiative. The organization is recruiting local professionals to provide career guidance and mentorship, while volunteers will assist older residents and individuals with physical limitations through neighborhood yard cleanup on November 7. The programs are designed to connect young people with community service, career exploration, and leadership opportunities.

Greenwich Alliance Opens Turkey Registration

The Greenwich Alliance for Education opened registration for its 16th annual Turkey Trot, scheduled for November 28 at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. The fundraiser, taking place during the organization's 20th anniversary year, will include a 5K race, a one-mile walk, and a Mini-Trot for children ages three to five. Proceeds will support

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Greenwich Sentinel

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Vote Tuesday. Be Neighbors Wednesday.

On Wednesday morning, we will see one another again.

We will reach for apples at the market, wait in the same school drop-off line and exchange greetings over coffee. Some of us will be pleased with the election results. Others will be disappointed. The person beside us may have voted differently on every line of the ballot.

That person will still be our neighbor. Quite possibly, that person will also be our friend.

As Greenwich prepares to vote Tuesday, Nov. 3, those ordinary encounters deserve a place in our thinking. Elections determine who governs us. Our conduct before and after them helps determine what kind of community we are.

A blunt warning, widely attributed to Abraham Lincoln, puts the shared responsibility where it belongs:

"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."

Self-government requires something of us. We must pay attention, weigh competing arguments and accept responsibility for making a choice. If we leave that choice entirely to others, we will still live with the consequences.

For those who have not already voted, Tuesday is the time. Connecticut's polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Make a plan. Read about the candidates. Consider their judgment, preparation and willingness to serve. Give this decision the attention any consequential choice affecting your family and community deserves.

We understand why people sometimes want to turn away.

Negative campaigning has become a scourge of national politics. The ominous advertisement, the selectively edited clip and the accusation repeated until it feels familiar can make public life seem like an endless exercise in organized resentment. Too often, voters are encouraged to fear their fellow citizens and assume the worst about anyone who disagrees.

The damage continues after the advertisement ends. Suspicion follows people into conversations. Disagreement becomes a judgment about character. Even a friendly exchange can begin to feel hazardous.

Here in Greenwich, we have worked hard to keep that spirit out of local politics. That effort matters. It deserves protection, particularly when national passions run high. We have not always succeeded and when we do not our community suffers.

No town is immune. A careless social media post, a rumor repeated without checking or an ugly assumption about someone's motives can bring national bitterness into a local conversation. Preserving a healthier political culture requires thoughtful individual choices, made repeatedly.

We can begin by allowing our neighbors the possibility of good intentions.

People who love this town can disagree about spending, schools, development and government's responsibilities. Those disagreements deserve serious discussion. Candidates should answer difficult questions. Public records should be examined. Proposals should withstand scrutiny.

Courtesy strengthens that work. It makes room for questions to be answered and minds to be changed. Personal cruelty consumes attention that should go toward understanding a problem.

Before sharing an accusation, check it. Before assigning a motive, ask a question. Before writing about a neighbor online, consider whether you would say it while standing together at school pickup.

Our children are watching. They learn about citizenship from how adults behave when the stakes feel high and patience feels scarce. We owe them an example of conviction accompanied by self-control, and disagreement accompanied by respect.

Thank the people willing to serve and the election workers who make voting possible. Their work deserves recognition even when our preferred candidates lose.

On Tuesday, vote according to your conscience and best judgment. Then offer congratulations graciously, express disappointment without contempt and keep participating in the work of this town we call home.

The campaign signs will come down. The school mornings, grocery trips, volunteer commitments and friendships will continue.

Let us vote as citizens who understand the consequences of our choices, and greet one another afterward as neighbors who intend to build a future together.

Editorial Page

LETTER

Support Tina Courpas

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.

Tina is also highly principled. She has delivered on her promises to advocate powerfully for fiscal responsibility, local control, excellence in education, and reasonable policing. She is a moderate legislator with strong relationships across the aisle, co-sponsoring Democrat-led environmental bills.

Tina's re-election is critically important for the longer-term economic viability of our state. Connecticut's rankings in this regard are dismal: among the 50 states, CT has the third-highest tax burden and the third-worst overall business climate, due to its high taxes and excessive red tape. CT is also the 2nd most indebted state, primarily due to its public employee retirement obligations, which are growing and remain sorely underfunded.

Because Democrats have a supermajority in the Legislature and our Governor is a Democrat, the extremism risk in Connecticut comes entirely from the Left. To keep CT a fiscally stable, socially moderate state, Tina's intelligence and fact-based pragmatism is now needed more than ever.

Please join me in voting for Tina Courpas for State Rep in the 149th District.

Virginia Genereux

LETTER

I can't unsee all that I have seen.

As a founder of CT169Strong, I have spent more time testifying on housing and zoning matters, energy policy and against school regionalization than likely any other person in New Canaan in the past six years. Recently, with supermajority control by Democrats, their leadership has begun undermining what used to be sound legislative process.

Full bills with detailed concepts and language no longer get a public hearing for proper vetting and have been replaced by concepts alone. Taking a vague concept to public hearing is very challenging for land-use experts or local municipal leaders when they do not know exactly what will be in the final language of the bill.

The supermajority passes such concepts through committee and then raises 100-plus-page omnibus bills on the floor of the House and Senate for passage without even 24 hours' advance posting of the bill language. Democrats are passing bills containing controversial concepts that never had a public hearing, with party leadership telling legislators to "trust us" and vote yes when they haven't even had the opportunity to read the bill.

This is a completely bankrupt legislative process that does not result in good policymaking.

I can't unsee all that I have seen. This complete breakdown of legislative process under supermajority control should give us all pause.

There is an urgent need for checks and balances. That does not happen by voting another Democrat into a legislature where the party already has a two-thirds supermajority. When it comes to extremely progressive, ideologically driven, city-focused Democratic leaders, a seat at the table means little if legislators cannot independently challenge their leadership or vote for their communities' interests.

I encourage New Canaan residents to vote for our town's LOCAL interests and bring checks and balances back to Hartford. Luckily, we have a strong slate of Republicans who can meet this challenge.

Ryan Fazio for Governor. Ryan has time and again served us well as our state senator for the 36th District and prevented some of the worst zoning policies from passing. He has shined a bright light on the hidden tax in public benefits charges and has a strategic energy policy. He has a real vision to turn Connecticut around and meet the moment. Ryan as governor would also have a line-item veto to protect against extreme policymaking that would do harm to our state.

Joe Kelly for State Senate, 36th District. Joe has a proven track record as a true collaborator who time and again has shown his ability to solve problems, bring people together and focus on creating sound policy to benefit our entire community. His love of community, strong volunteerism and service as a foster parent are truly amazing. That is what is needed up in Hartford: someone who will strongly advocate for our local interests, not another Democrat who will go along to get along.

Tina Courpas: I encourage Greenwich and Stamford residents to re-elect Tina Courpas as State Representative in the the 149th District. She has been a thoughtful and well-prepared legislator that has a keen understanding of the issues and what matters for her communities and has been a strong advocate for local zoning control. In particular, I have seen Tina work collaboratively and drilled down on the issues with legislation being considered in the Housing Committee and she truly is focused on ensuring that workable policies come out of the housing bills that get raised for both public hearings and on the floor of the house.

Adding another legislator to the Democratic supermajority means that some of the worst ideas that have been held back by our local legislators are more likely to come to pass.

If you recently moved to town and love the charming downtown, strong volunteerism and close-knit community, welcome — you came to the right place.

But know that it is not guaranteed we will be able to keep it if the march of extreme, one-size-fits-all policymaking voted for by the supermajority continues.

This is YOUR chance to vote for your community's interests.

Vote like the future of our municipality depends upon it, because it does.

Maria Weingarten

LETTER

Tina Courpas - the only Candidate who has proven her independence

The Independent Party of CT has endorsed Tina Courpas for re-election in District 149. Greenwich and Stamford would be well-served in sending Courpas back to Hartford.

In her first term, Courpas cosponsored 18 bipartisan bills, all signed into law by Governor Lamont. She has strongly defended the fiscal guardrails, allowing Connecticut to pay down outstanding pension debt, saving taxpayers millions in debt interest. She authored several bills, including support for a child tax credit and eliminating taxes on Social Security. She advocated for small businesses, being named an Affordability Champion by the CBIA, the leading voice for Connecticut's small business community. In April, she was appointed to the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Commission on K-12 Funding and Accountability, an appointment she takes seriously as a mother of four children.

Tina's opponent, Amiel Goldberg, serves on the Stamford Board of Representatives. On the Board, he has demonstrated zero independence, voting consistently for tax increases. He rarely spoke out against questionable spending and supported millions in tax abatements, shifting the tax burden onto Stamford's seniors. On the WPCA Board, he failed to speak out to egregious collection practices as struggling families were threatened with foreclosure. He simply falls short in addressing cost-of-living concerns.

As a registered Independent and former Democrat, I share voters' outrage with the chaos unfolding in Washington. These concerns are very much valid. I am equally concerned with a fiscal crisis playing out in our own backyard. The contrasts between the two candidates are stark. Goldberg has a five-year record of supporting tax increases, while Courpas has a two-year record of saving taxpayers millions by prioritizing paying down state debt. As the legislature debates even more tax increases next year, including a statewide real estate tax, voters would be well-served to have a strong fighter in their corner. Courpas is that voice.

A socially moderate Republican, Courpas is well-respected by colleagues on both sides of the aisle. She prioritizes constituent services and has resisted efforts to levy even more taxes on residents and small businesses in her district. The only candidate proven to be independent is the candidate endorsed by the Independent Party. I support Tina Courpas for reelection and urge voters to do the same.

Thomas Concannon
Stamford delegate for the Independent Party of CT

LETTER

Jill Oberlander: There is No Better Choice

I am supporting Jill Oberlander for State Senator.

The strongest case for Jill comes from people who have worked beside her. They consistently describe her as someone who arrives prepared, asks questions, understands budgets and listens, especially when people disagree. Those habits are what we need in our next state senator.

Jill knows that good intentions must become workable policies. As Greenwich's first Democratic chair of the Board of Estimate and Taxation, she worked with Republican and Democratic colleagues to weigh competing needs and make financial decisions. On the Board of Selectmen, she helped guide Greenwich through the pandemic. Her service on the Representative Town Meeting adds perspective on how government decisions affect daily life.

That experience will matter in Hartford. Any legislative initiative will require understanding the details, weighing tradeoffs and building enough support to act. Jill's relationships across Connecticut, developed through years of public service, will help her make our district's case and find partners to advance it.

Her priorities reflect the concerns discussed around the kitchen table: whether young families can afford to settle here, whether older neighbors can remain in their homes, and whether our tax dollars are being spent wisely. She understands that excellent schools and responsible spending belong together, and that reliable trains and better roads strengthen our economy.

Equally important is her temperament. She is a leader who can disagree without dismissing people, compromise without surrendering her principles, and explain difficult decisions honestly. Representing Greenwich, Stamford and New Canaan requires that combination of independence and respect.

We deserve a senator who will do the homework, build alliances and keep our needs at the center of every decision. Jill has demonstrated those qualities in office, under pressure and across party lines. She will bring them to Hartford.

Please join me in voting for Jill Oberlander for State Senate.

Respectfully,
Bill Finger

A Note to Our Readers About Letters to the Editor

The *Greenwich Sentinel* believes in including those whose opinions differ from our own, from one another, and from those of our readers. To the best of our knowledge, we have published every letter to the editor received from Greenwich residents for this issue that meet our civility and accuracy guidelines. We have made every effort to include all submissions, regardless of political affiliation, candidate preference, or position on local and state issues.

Letters to the editor express the views of their authors, not those of the *Greenwich Sentinel*, its publishers, or its editorial staff. Publication does not constitute an endorsement of any candidate, policy, argument, or assertion contained in a letter.

Although we make every effort to ensure that submissions are received and considered, we cannot guarantee that an email has not been overlooked or that every letter will arrive before our production deadline.

LETTER

Ryan Fazio for Governor

To All Connecticut Voters and the Editorial Staff,

We are about to experience that great American privilege of going to the polls, or to the mailbox these days, to vote for the candidates we believe in the most. After having worked with State Senator Ryan Fazio for years on political issues and in trying to preserve the fiscal guardrails we created and signed into law in 2017 that have put the state into an excellent financial position with higher debt ratings than in many years. Ryan has worked tirelessly to assure these guard rails remain in place so that you, as taxpayers, are not on the hook for magnitudes of unfunded liabilities that have been accruing for decades under one party rule. He was also one of the early public office holders to identify that the cost of living was rising way too fast for the average Connecticut family before it became a popular political issue. He has worked very hard to keep your utility bills as affordable as possible saving you hundreds of dollars every month.

We all love our town and State for a variety of reasons including our excellent schools, outstanding parks, beautiful architecture, excellent public safety record and special local character, all due to having, up to this point, local control over these important areas. Importantly, Ryan has worked his fingers to the bone to try to stop the state from usurping that control in a power grab never seen before in any state government. If elected Governor, Ryan would put a stop to that ill conceived policy initiative overnight and hand back to you what you deserve because you care about the quality of life and because you have funded our success as a town.



By Scott Frantz

If you listen to Ryan in person you will hear one of the more intelligent people in any public office anywhere.

You will find no one who works harder on the issues and stays in touch with his constituents more than Senator Fazio. He deserves an A+ for his passion for the job in the State Senate and for his ability to generate and pass on a bipartisan basis many laws that benefit all of us. That track record would translate directly to success as Governor starting on day one. In addition to his success as a legislator and his passion for serving the public, he is in my opinion one of the more decent, trustworthy public office holders who I know of and who I know personally. He is truly a joy to work with on the many complex issues we face today.

If you listen to Ryan in person, on TV or in the debates, you will hear one of the more intelligent people in any public office anywhere. He has a way of understanding and explaining very complicated issues in a manner that defuses anxiety and creates a path to problem solving in the simplest ways. Against the backdrop of a very progressive and dominant party in control of the Legislature, it is vitally important that we all as Connecticut voters consider seriously voting for Ryan Fazio for Governor on November 3rd or before.

Submitted by L. Scott Frantz, former State Senator for New Canaan, Greenwich and Stamford.

LETTER

Vote Like Your Quality of Life Depends On It. It Does

Like me, you choose to live in southwestern Fairfield County because you love it. You built your home here, raised your family here, and perhaps you even volunteer or devote your profession to keeping your little corner of the 36th District vital.

The Democratic supermajority in Hartford will never care about your town like you do. All they see is taxable income and a place on the map for their one-size-fits-all central planning schemes. And unfortunately, voting for more Democrats — no matter how moderate and reasonable they sound — will only enable the supermajority's power to grow.

That's because in Hartford, the majority gets to set the agenda — committee chairs, the calendar, the budget, bonding, and which bills even reach a floor vote are controlled by majority leadership. The majority literally sets the rules each session. A principled Democratic senator or representative who votes "no" on a few controversial bills can't stop the majority from writing, amending, scheduling, or passing them. And the bigger the majority's margins, the truer this is.

The supermajority can also override the governor's veto and ram through the most radical, transformative legislation without a single minority vote.



By Joe Kelly

It's urgent that you get out and vote against the supermajority's absolute power to force its agenda onto the entire state. More Republicans in Hartford can start to change legislature behavior, even without taking majority control. That's because with their supermajority, Democrats don't have to bargain with the minority or even with their own moderates. The only way to check supermajority excesses is by electing Republicans.

So please, go vote. Tell the supermajority that the 36th District isn't Hartford's personal piggy bank, to be raided every session to fund far-left programs and agendas that are never even brought to the floor for debate and a fair vote.

Tell them that our beautiful, safe, historic, and well-run towns aren't just open space for central planners to cram unwanted, unsupported high rises.

And let them know that we are the best equipped people to make decisions about our own schools, infrastructure, congestion, taxes, and way of life.

Vote for balance, civility, and common sense in Hartford. Vote against absolute power in Hartford.

Submitted by Joe Kelly, running on the Republican and Independent line as a candidate for State Senate for New Canaan, Greenwich and Stamford.

LETTER

I Respectfully Ask For Your Vote

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Eight months ago, I embarked on a journey to earn the opportunity to represent you in the state senate. Since then, I've knocked on thousands of doors, attended dozens of community events, visited with business owners, and talked with neighbors across Greenwich, Stamford and New Canaan. And as this campaign draws to a close, what I'll remember most isn't the speeches, debates or endorsements. It's the people.

The people who opened their doors and shared what's on their minds. The small business owners who spoke about what it's like to run a business in this state. The parents focused on their children's futures. The seniors worried about being able to afford to stay in the communities they love. And so many people who simply want our politics to be less divisive and our government to work better.

Those conversations have reinforced for me why public service matters.



By Jill Oberlander

As an attorney and through years of service in Greenwich town government — on the town legislature, the Board of Selectmen and as chair of our finance board — I've learned that good results start with listening. It means looking at the facts, finding common ground, making responsible decisions, and then doing the hard work of delivering solutions. It means putting people ahead of politics, and remembering who we work for. This campaign has only strengthened that belief.

I'm incredibly grateful to everyone who has joined me along the way — all the supporters who have given so much of themselves to this campaign. It has been the privilege of a lifetime to get to know this district even better and to hear directly from so many of you.

I would be honored to be your next state senator — to bring my experience and your voices with me to Hartford, put our community first, and get to work for you. I respectfully ask for your vote on November 3.

Submitted by Jill Oberlander, running on the Democratic line as a candidate for State Senate for New Canaan, Greenwich and Stamford.

OP ED

We clearly need sharper pencils in Hartford.

CT169Strong, a grassroots organization committed to protecting local zoning authority, seeks to set the record straight regarding statements made by Governor Ned Lamont about the sweeping 107-page housing bill, HB 8002, he signed into law last November during an "emergency" special session he called.

The bill is now known as Public Act 25-1.

We found the answers from Governor Lamont in the debate saying "Towns are Taking the Lead" completely misleading.

Let's be clear about key points:

1) Lamont and the majority leaders of the State House and Senate didn't have enough consideration to share HB 8002 bill language publicly with all the municipal leaders and land use experts before it was raised and voted on the floor of the House within a matter of hours. He and his staff only negotiated it with the Democrat leaders of the House and Senate and a handful of leaders of municipal organizations, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), Council of Small Towns (COST) and the Council of Governments (COGs).

2) Since one or two members of COST & CCM board are Republican Mayors/First Selectman, Lamont called it a bipartisan supported bill. It most certainly was not. Lamont's staff negotiated behind closed doors with leaders of his own party, placing enormous pressure on organizations tasked with representing the interests of all 169 Connecticut municipalities. These organizations are supposed to advocate for communities with vastly different economic conditions, infrastructure needs, financial resources, and development challenges—from urban centers to suburban towns and rural communities. A one-size-fits-all approach fails to recognize these fundamental differences and raises serious questions about whether the diverse interests of Connecticut's municipalities were adequately represented in the negotiations.

3) The final bill amounted to a compromise on policies that should never have been advanced in the first place, including onerous, one-size-fits-all statewide parking mandates and as-of-right conversions of commercial properties to residential use. Making fundamentally flawed policies marginally less burdensome does not make them sound public policy.

Wasn't the goal supposed to be bringing municipal leaders together to develop thoughtful, workable solutions that reflect the diverse needs of Connecticut's 169 cities and towns? Instead, a handful of representatives were pressured behind closed doors to accept a less objectionable version of policies that remained deeply problematic.

That is the fundamental issue. Compromise for the sake of compromise is not good governance, particularly when local communities must live with the consequences.

To make matters worse, Governor Lamont then held a self-congratulatory press conference celebrating the "bi-partisan" legislation, despite what we believe was a lack of understanding of its full implications for municipalities. We were not impressed. Connecticut residents deserve meaningful collaboration, transparency, and sound public policy, not political theater designed to celebrate a deeply flawed legislative process.

4) The language of HB 8002, negotiated behind closed doors by Governor Lamont and his staff, was not made available to legislators or the public until the bill was brought to the House floor for a vote during a November "emergency" special session called by the Governor. A sweeping, 100-plus-page housing bill with far-reaching consequences for Connecticut's 169 municipalities deserved thorough public scrutiny, meaningful debate, and sufficient time for legislators to understand its implications—not a rushed vote during a manufactured sense of urgency.

This is not how representative government is supposed to work.

5) Democratic legislators were effectively asked to trust their leadership and vote on legislation they had little opportunity to fully review or understand. The bill passed the House within hours on a party line vote of the Supermajority Democrats, raising serious questions about how many lawmakers understood its numerous provisions and their long-term consequences.

Among the most troubling are provisions establishing a new housing allocation framework that critics argue incorporates elements of the controversial Fair Share approach, despite claims that the legislation does not contain Fair Share mandates. Changing the terminology does not necessarily change the underlying policy or its implications for municipalities. These new requirements also exist alongside Connecticut's already burdensome 8-30g affordable housing statute.

Equally concerning is the treatment of the 20 municipalities with the lowest equalized net grand list per capita, which are exempt from certain housing allocation requirements. Why should some municipalities, including major cities, receive exemptions while others face additional state mandates? How does that advance a fair, consistent, and effective statewide housing policy?

The fundamental problem is not simply what HB 8002 contains, but how it became law.

Sweeping legislation affecting local zoning authority, infrastructure, municipal finances, and neighborhood development should never be negotiated by a select few and rushed through the General Assembly without adequate public review.

The passage of HB 8002 raises profound concerns about transparency, accountability, and the concentration of political power under Governor Lamont and the Democratic legislative supermajority. Connecticut residents deserve a legislative process that encourages scrutiny, respects municipal differences, and puts sound public policy ahead of political expediency.

6) Governor Lamont's comments during the press conferences surrounding his veto of HB 5002, the precursor to HB 8002, raised serious questions about his understanding of the legislation's details and implications. His public statements left the impression that he had delegated much of the substantive policymaking and negotiations to his staff, rather than demonstrating a firm grasp of the provisions himself. What is clear is that HB 8002 significantly erodes local decision-making authority, with far-reaching implications for Connecticut's municipalities.

Connecticut deserves leadership in Hartford that understands the issues, thoroughly examines the actual language of proposed legislation, and carefully evaluates both the intended and unintended consequences before signing sweeping policies into law.

Good governance requires more than political negotiations and press conferences. It demands informed leadership, meaningful scrutiny, accountability, and a genuine understanding of how legislation will affect the communities and residents who must live with its consequences.

7) HB 8002 contained sweeping provisions that were never adequately vetted through public hearings or reviewed by municipal leaders and land-use experts.

For example, the legislation created a Council on Housing Development which contains developer advocates, and was given the power to accept or deny the municipal fair share goals for deeply affordable housing set by any municipality that does not agree to the allocations provided by their regional government COG. This raises serious concerns about developer influence and municipal authority over housing growth allocations and the uneconomical fair shares of deeply affordable housing that municipalities will be mandated to upzone for and plan for their development. The bill also contained errors our organization identified—problems that might have been avoided had it not been negotiated behind closed doors by only a handful of individuals and not properly vetted.

A flawed legislative process does not produce sound public policy.

What Does HB 8002 Mean for Connecticut?

Signed into law by Governor Ned Lamont as Public Act 25-1, the legislation:

- Restricts local parking requirements for certain residential developments of up to 16 units.
- Eliminates mandatory public hearings for certain development applications, limiting public participation.
- Reduces local zoning commission oversight of qualifying development projects.
- Allows certain commercial-to-residential conversions without traditional discretionary zoning review.
- Establishes housing growth targets and mandates planning for the development of uneconomical deeply affordable fair share units.
- Weakens zoning protest petition protections, reducing the influence of affected property owners.
- Raises concerns about environmental oversight, open space, and historic preservation.

The housing growth framework is particularly troubling because it adds new state-directed planning requirements alongside Connecticut's existing 8-30g law. We are also concerned that future legislative sessions could impose penalties on municipalities that fail to meet their housing goals.

Connecticut's 169 municipalities have vastly different infrastructure capacities, financial resources, and development challenges. One-size-fits-all mandates are not the answer.

We need sharper pencils, greater transparency, and more accountable leadership in Hartford.

Elections have consequences. Residents should stay informed, question their elected representatives, and make their voices heard.

The future of local decision-making is at stake.

CT169Strong

Editorial Page cont

Greenwich Deserves a Stronger Voice in Hartford



By Mike Mason

I've lived in Greenwich my entire life. I've watched this town grow and change, and I know what makes it special. I want my daughter and future generations to have the same opportunity to live here, raise a family, and build a future.

But that future is becoming increasingly difficult to afford.

Families are struggling with rising property taxes and living costs. Seniors wonder whether they can afford to stay in their homes. Young people who grew up here question whether they can afford to return. Meanwhile, Hartford continues to increase spending, impose mandates, and erode local decision-making.

After years of one-party control in Hartford, it's fair to ask: Who is standing up for Greenwich?

A state representative's job isn't simply to cast votes and explain what happened afterward. It's to challenge policies that aren't working, propose practical alternatives, and fight for results.

That's the representation Greenwich deserves.

Connecticut Needs Fiscal Discipline, Not More Taxes

Every dollar government spends comes from someone who earned it.

Before Hartford asks taxpayers for more, it should prove it's spending what it already collects wisely. That means scrutinizing budgets, controlling long-term obligations, eliminating unnecessary regulations, and demanding measurable results.

Government has a responsibility to provide essential services. But not every new program is necessary, and not every spending increase is justified.

And the last thing Connecticut needs is a state property tax to fund even more spending.

Taxpayers have budgets, too. It's time Hartford started acting like it.

Greenwich Deserves a Say in Its Own Future

I support creating more opportunities for affordable housing. Teachers, nurses, first responders, young families, and seniors should be able to live in the communities they serve.

But affordable housing and local control should not be competing priorities.

Connecticut's Section 8-30g law gives qualifying developments a different approval process in towns that have not met state affordable housing requirements, limiting the influence of local zoning decisions.

The consequences are real: increased pressure on infrastructure, traffic, municipal services, and neighborhood character.

Greenwich must be able to plan for growth based on its infrastructure, environmental needs, housing demands, and long-term priorities. The people who live here understand these challenges because they live with the consequences.

Hartford should not dictate Greenwich's future through one-size-fits-all mandates.

We need to reform Section 8-30g to encourage genuinely affordable housing while restoring meaningful local input and recognizing the unique circumstances of each community.

That takes more than criticizing the law. It takes drafting workable alternatives, building legislative support, and fighting to get reforms passed.

That's the work I'm prepared to do.

Greenwich Needs Results, Not Just Votes

When state policies disadvantage Greenwich, who's working to change them?

When education funding falls short, what solutions are being proposed?

When Hartford imposes costly mandates, who's fighting for a better alternative?

Voting against a bad bill may be necessary. But a vote alone doesn't change a law, eliminate a mandate, or fix a funding problem.

Greenwich deserves more than someone who can explain what's wrong. We need someone willing to do the work to make it right.

Political Balance Makes Government Better

When one party holds overwhelming power, independent thinking and accountability become even more important.

I will work with legislators from either party when it benefits Greenwich. But cooperation doesn't mean going along to get along.

It means standing firm on principles, finding common ground where possible, and working toward solutions that deliver results.

I can't promise every proposal will pass. I can promise to listen, challenge the status quo, develop alternatives, and keep fighting for Greenwich.

Greenwich's Future Is Worth Fighting For

I'm running because I care deeply about Greenwich, not just as it is today, but as it will be ten and twenty years from now.

I want seniors to remain in the homes and neighborhoods they love. I want young families to see a future here. And I want taxpayers to know their hard-earned money is being spent responsibly.

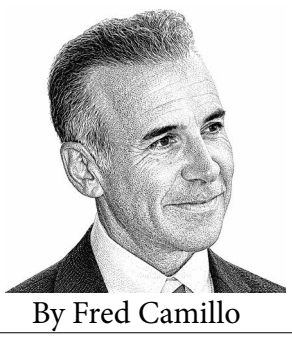
I don't want to bring Hartford's message to Greenwich. I want to bring Greenwich's message to Hartford.

That means challenging costly mandates, restoring local decision-making, demanding fiscal responsibility, and fighting for policies that put Greenwich first.

That's why I'm running for state representative in the 151st District, and why I'm asking for your vote on November 3.

Submitted by Mike Mason, running on the as a candidate for state Representative.

Fred Camillo on Why He is Endorsing Ryan Fazio for Governor



By Fred Camillo

I am proud to support Ryan Fazio for Governor of Connecticut.

I have known Ryan for many years—long before he became a State Senator and long before he entered public life. I first got to know Ryan when he was a young kid playing baseball in Greenwich, and even had the opportunity to umpire some of his games. Over the years, I watched him grow into an impressive young man with strong character, a sharp mind, and a genuine commitment to his community. Even at a young age, he was driven by a keen interest in public policy, and that focus has continued to the present day where he has been, and continues to be, a leading voice for economic competitiveness, and smart energy policies.

A talented and gifted communicator, Ryan has represented Greenwich in the Connecticut state legislature where he has had the backs of not only those he represents, but of every municipality in the state that prides itself on local decision-making. He has written, introduced, and gained passage of several laws that have saved Connecticut residents money as well as put a spotlight on Connecticut's problems with affordability, escalating costs, and economic competitiveness while offering well-thought-out solutions.

As a former state legislator myself, I have had the great opportunity to serve alongside some impressive public servants over the years, both Republicans and Democrats, but I can honestly say that Ryan is that rare combination of superior intellect, great demeanor, and charisma. I have rarely witnessed the excitement that people have when listening to him speak. As any public official will concede, being able to deliver a message is just as important as the details in that message. Ryan just doesn't show up, he delivers.

Ryan Fazio is that rare generational candidate that not only captures our imagination, he is able to make us believe because he has a track record to prove it and a vision to sustain it.

Ryan is not only Connecticut's future, I truly believe he is our present.

Fred Camillo,

First Selectman

I am Unaffiliated and I am Voting for Jill Oberlander

In this ongoing election, I will cast my vote for Jill Oberlander to be our State Senator for Connecticut's 36 th District.

The reasons for my support are clear: Jill has a proven track record in local and regional public service; she has a strong educational and professional background; and, as a longtime Greenwich resident, she is acutely aware of our current challenges and opportunities. Jill's grasp on the current issues and realistic legislative solutions is excellent, as I observed first-hand during a number of local public service and volunteering projects on which we both participated.

A key asset of hers is to bring together the right people at the right time to enable better results than initially expected. In our current, very political- and overly party-driven environment, she has both the communication skills and legislative experience to independently discern the real problems, cooperate with others irrespective of party affiliations, and deliver tangible results.

It is worth noting her ABC issues in her campaign platform: A) = Affordability, B)

Business and local Income/Jobs, C) Constitution and Legislative issues. As a long-time unaffiliated and generally rather skeptical voter, Jill has diligently earned my trust and I am confident that she will represent all of her constituents well in our State Senate. I know she will keep the district's important issues as her priorities including our shared concerns about density and space; traffic, transportation and parking solutions; safety; as well as work, living and recreational spaces.

Please join me and vote for Jill Oberlander for State Senator for the 36th District.

Respectfully,

Ernst Schirmer, Cos Cob

Jill showed up before she was running...

I am supporting Jill Oberlander for State Senate and I am hoping you will join me.

Jill has served our community for decades. She has a committed "urge to serve". And she has served us well.

In public forums and personal conversations, Jill doesn't lead with bluster or ego. Instead, she offers a thoughtful competence informed by what she hears from voters and colleagues.

Her list of accomplishments in leadership roles reflects her dedication and commitment to active service.

Jill is a leader and a learner: deliberative, inquisitive, analytic and strategic.

This holds true for her elected positions in government and also for her current and past service to the community as a board member on key institutions, including Horizons and UJA /JCC and the League of Women Voters.

Greenwich residents have had the advantage of Jill's leadership as past member and then chair of the Board of Estimate and Taxation, then on the Board of Selectmen and now as a member of the RTM.

Her resume of service to the community is impressive and her accomplishments many. But the main reason I am supporting Jill is because I have tremendous confidence she will work hard, dig into the details and thoughtfully reach across the aisle to make good things happen for Greenwich, Stamford and New Canaan.

Jill doesn't need to shout to be heard and the joy she radiates is infectious. We need that joy now.

Join me and vote for Jill Oberlander for State Senator on Row A.

Yours truly,

Karen Grinthal, Cos Cob

Personal Endorsement of Dr. Michael Goldstein Candidate for U.S. Congress

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I have known Dr. Michael Goldstein for many years, and my respect for him is based not simply on his professional accomplishments, but on the character, values, and principles I have come to know firsthand.

His background as both a physician and an attorney gives him a unique combination of experience and perspective. I believe his integrity, dedication, and professional qualifications make him an ideal candidate to represent us in the United States Congress.

I am also deeply concerned about the lack of political balance in Connecticut's congressional delegation. Our state has five members of the House of Representatives and two United States senators, all Democrats. Yet approximately 21% of Connecticut's registered voters are Republicans, and nearly 44% are unaffiliated.

The historic phrase "taxation without representation" comes to mind. Although we have elected representatives, Connecticut has no Republican voice in its congressional delegation. I believe this lack of political balance deserves greater attention.

My support for Michael Goldstein, however, goes beyond political affiliation. It comes from having known him personally for many years and from my confidence in his character, judgment, values, and ability to serve the people of Connecticut.

I am proud to offer my personal endorsement of Dr. Michael Goldstein for Congress in Connecticut's 4th Congressional District.

Sincerely,

Jan Schaefer

I am Unaffiliated and I am Voting for Jill Oberlander

In this ongoing election, I will cast my vote for Jill Oberlander to be our State Senator for Connecticut's 36 th District.

The reasons for my support are clear: Jill has a proven track record in local and

regional public service; she has a strong educational and professional background;

and, as a longtime Greenwich resident, she is acutely aware of our current challenges and opportunities. Jill's grasp on the current issues and realistic legislative solutions is excellent, as I observed first-hand during a number of local public service and volunteering projects on which we both participated.

A key asset of hers is to bring together the right people at the right time to enable

better results than initially expected. In our current, very political- and overly party-driven environment, she has both the communication skills and legislative experience to independently discern the real problems, cooperate with others irrespective of party affiliations, and deliver tangible results.

It is worth noting her ABC issues in her campaign platform: A) = Affordability, B)

Business and local Income/Jobs, C) Constitution and Legislative issues. As a long-time unaffiliated and generally rather skeptical voter, Jill has diligently earned my

trust and I am confident that she will represent all of her constituents well in our State Senate. I know she will keep the district's important issues as her priorities including our shared concerns about density and space; traffic, transportation and parking solutions; safety; as well as work, living and recreational spaces.

Please join me and vote for Jill Oberlander for State Senator for the 36th District.

Respectfully,

Ernst Schirmer, Cos Cob

Tails at Full-Wag for Frank Gaudio at Adopt-A-Dog Celebration

By Tom McDermott

Frank Gaudio was supposed to have his day in the spotlight at Adopt-A-Dog's Puttin' On The Dog festival in September. Then rain canceled the event. When the honor finally came on October 25, Gaudio was unable to attend.

Accepting the award on behalf of the president and CEO of The First Bank of Greenwich and longtime Adopt-a-Dog supporter was Jessica Fitzpatrick, Gaudio's "right hand" at the bank, who explained that Gaudio was recovering from hip surgery.

"I briefly considered bringing him here with a cone on his head," she joked, but "I didn't think that'd be very good marketing for the bank."

Presented by Pet Pantry Warehouse, the event at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park enjoyed sunny skies and mild temperatures, bringing together dogs, their owners and rescue organizations for an afternoon of Halloween costumes, contests, music and opportunities to meet animals awaiting adoption.

Gaudio's recognition reflected a relationship with Adopt-A-Dog that extends well beyond financial sponsorship.

At The First Bank of Greenwich's Cos Cob branch, four-legged visitors are welcomed with treats. Under Gaudio's leadership, the bank introduced a special pet savings account to help families plan for veterinary expenses — or even help children save toward a dog of their own.

The bank also features adoptable animals on its website, including cats through its partnership with Friends of Felines, and makes quarterly donations to Adopt-A-Dog through its charitable checking program.

Gaudio joined the bank in 2011 and became president and CEO in 2015. His approach to community banking, the award presenter explained, grew from lessons learned working in his family's retail business: taking care of people comes first.

Fitzpatrick told the gathering that supporting animal rescue means more than writing checks.

"It's about community, compassion and giving animals who may have been frightened, abandoned, or simply unlucky the second chances they deserve."

Before leaving the stage, Fitzpatrick offered a reminder to anyone considering bringing home a new companion.

"You may think you're changing one animal's life, but anyone who's ever had an animal knows they have a remarkable way of changing ours as well."



Jessica Fitzpatrick, center, accepts the award for Frank Gaudio, President & CEO of The First Bank of Greenwich. Photo by Bob Romeo Capazzo.

Editorial Page cont

If You Want Greenwich to Have a Real Seat at the Table, Vote for Republicans, Row B

I have read several letters suggesting Greenwich residents should vote Row A because electing Democrats gives our town a "seat at the table" in Hartford.

I find that argument troubling because it suggests that a community's voice in Hartford depends on which political party holds power. Since when should representation depend on belonging to the majority party? Every community deserves to be heard, regardless of which side of the aisle its elected representatives sit on.

That argument raises a larger concern about Hartford's balance of power and whether differing perspectives are truly being heard. Consider Senate Bill 298, introduced through emergency certification in February and passed by both chambers within two days. Legislation addressing numerous significant issues moved forward without the normal committee and public hearing process. Is that what having a seat at the table looks like?

Greenwich is politically diverse, with about 30% registered Democrats, 30% Republicans, and 40% unaffiliated voters. We should seek greater balance in Hartford, not reinforce one-party control.

And let's not forget the financial relationship. Greenwich residents contribute significantly to Connecticut's income tax revenues, including taxes on investment income. Yet decisions affecting our families, businesses, and property owners too often go forward without sufficient consideration of their impact on our community.

I have said this before, and it bears repeating. During the two years I was represented by a Democrat in the State House, my state representative never called to ask my perspective on an issue affecting Greenwich. Not once. And I was, and remain, a sitting Selectwoman.

Greenwich doesn't need representatives who are "invited to the table" by a Legislature that doesn't reflect our interests. We need representatives willing to challenge what is being served.

We need leaders who do more than vote yes or no. We need leaders who speak up, ask tough questions, offer solutions, build relationships, and advocate for everyone they were elected to represent.

That is why I support our Row B candidates for Governor, State Senate, and State House.

This election is about restoring balance, demanding accountability, and ensuring Greenwich's voice is heard and respected.

Greenwich shouldn't have to earn a seat at the table by voting for the party already controlling it. We deserve representation, period.

On or before November 3, vote Row B.

Lauren Rabin, Selectwoman, Town of Greenwich

Stand Up for America

Join me and vote for the Democrats on Row A this election. Here's why.

I believe in a society committed to creating opportunities for everyone to achieve the American dream.

That means good schools, roads, safe neighborhoods, healthcare and all of the basics that give everyone the chance to build a respectable life for themselves and their families.

I do not recognize this country of ours. The chaos in Washington is constant, the corruption blatant, racism is rampant, and the cruelty, pure abject cruelty, toward immigrants is crushing.

The cost of living is racing out of control fueled by tariffs that force increases in the cost-of-living basics: groceries, gas. Mortgage rates and home prices are soaring.

Worse yet, the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill put the American Dream out of reach for a wide swath of Americans and put untold riches in the pockets of the wealthiest.

Still, not one local Republican has spoken up.

Joe Kelly conveniently doesn't mentioned Trump, though he did speak openly and admiringly about the late Charlie Kirk at a recent vigil.

Tina Courpas says the federal scene has nothing to do with her or, by inference, Connecticut. She's running for state office. That's doesn't fly, Tina.

And Mike Mason has long-standing connections to Trump's sons.

These Republican candidates will not decry what is going on. They pretend that none of what is wrong in D.C. has any impact on CT residents.

That is simply not true. And it's disqualifying. Period.

To Republican and Unaffiliated voters in town: Join us. Send a message. Protect our state from leaders who put complicity over people.

Stand up for America and vote for Jill Oberlander for State Senate in district 36, Hector Arzeno in district 151, Steve Meskers in district 150, and Amiel Goldberg in district 149.

VOTE ROW A

Sheila Phelan

A Whole Other Ballgame

I support Jill Oberlander for State Senator.

The corruption at the federal level is a rot that threatens to undermine our economy for a decade. Or more. The consequences are already felt in the cost of living. Food, fuel and especially energy, already expensive in Connecticut, are a huge downward pressure on our quality of life. Healthcare coverage is out of reach for more and more CT residents, and a financial strain for the rest of us. There is a war on our wallets, and we need competent representatives who can fight back.

We need people who read, who are conversant with the issues, who understand how government works and who will roll up their sleeves to do the hard work of protecting Connecticut from the excesses and corruption of this presidency. Working across party lines is valuable, but it is not enough. Our representatives must also have the knowledge and judgment to recognize what is at stake and the experience to act effectively.

These are complicated problems under any circumstances. Add the instability and dysfunction in Washington, and the challenges facing Connecticut become that much greater.

Jill Oberlander brings that experience. She is a lawyer who understands public policy and the responsibilities of public service. She knows that representing Greenwich means more than showing up and casting a vote. It means doing the work, asking the hard questions and being prepared to defend our interests when they are threatened.

Joe Kelly is out-going, and his service on town Boards is a contribution to our town. But the state Senate is a whole other ballgame. The demands are greater, the issues more complex, and the consequences of inexperience more serious. This is not the time to learn on the job.

Connecticut needs a senator who can meet this moment with competence, knowledge and resolve. Jill Oberlander is prepared to do that work.

Myra Klockenbrink

Hector Arzeno is a Voice for Young People in Hartford

During the many hours I spent on the Merritt Parkway with State Representative Hector Arzeno in the Spring of 2025, I learned quite a lot about the man who represents me and my neighbors in the Connecticut General Assembly.

I served as Hector Arzeno's intern at the State Capitol in Hartford during my senior year at Greenwich High School, and I saw firsthand how much he gives to the service of his constituents every single day. During the weeks I commuted with Hector to Hartford, I saw every early morning, every late night, and every tough or tiring day brightened by his warm and encouraging smile.

Hector was a thoughtful and generous supervisor, and every day was a look behind the scenes at the work that he does for our community. I watched him work with party leaders and legislators on both sides of the aisle to achieve the best for Greenwich, all while taking the time to educate me on the legislative processes and politics of state government. He taught me a lot about his role in Hartford and how he works with his fellow legislators to get things done for Greenwich.

Since first taking his seat in 2023, Hector has demonstrated his care for young people and future generations in our town through the work he has done, both with his own party and on a bipartisan basis, on issues such as education funding and environmental protection. Through his service on the Education, Environment, and Higher Education and Employment committees, among others, he has brought resources home to Greenwich to help young people thrive.

Central Middle School is a key example of Hector's visible impact in our community. When the project to replace the failing school building was put at risk of further delays due to funding issues, Hector negotiated tirelessly to bring home $22M in funding from the state. More recently, he secured $8M for Old Greenwich School, filling funding gaps and helping critical projects to move forward for the benefit of local students.

Hector has our back. Whether he's working in Hartford to fund our schools or picking up trash at local cleanups here in Greenwich, he's sowing seeds that future generations will reap. Working with Hector showed me just how much he cares about all of us, including the young people he represents. I wouldn't just take my word for it, though. Hector's endorsements speak volumes about his devotion to his current and future neighbors. Endorsements from the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, Independent Party of Connecticut, and the Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut reflect Hector's commitment to bipartisanship, education, and the environment that his grandchildren will inherit.

That is why I am proud to support Hector Arzeno's campaign to continue serving as our State Representative here in the 151st district. I hope you will join me in casting your ballot for a true public servant and a great neighbor.

Election Day is November 3rd, and early voting is open until November 1st. Make your plan to vote here: https://www.greenwichct.gov/611/Voting-Hours-Locations.

Ethan Cooper

PRESS RELEASE

What Has Hartford Actually Delivered For Greenwich?

In remarks during and after the League of Women Voters candidate forum, Jonathan Goldstein, Republican candidate for Connecticut's 150th House District, laid out why he is running: Connecticut's Democratic legislative supermajority has failed to deliver meaningful results for Greenwich families while the wage gap for women has drastically increased over the past 6 years.

The forum covered housing, affordability, energy and other issues. Throughout, Goldstein returned to one central question: "After years of one-party control in Hartford, what has actually improved for Greenwich?"

Goldstein was raised in Greenwich and works as an attorney and construction consultant. He said Greenwich deserves practical solutions, greater accountability and more of its tax dollars returned from Hartford. Billions are sent and only a few million return.

The Next Generation: Will They Be Able to Stay?

One of the forum's most meaningful moments came when Goldstein spoke to GHS student moderator, a Greenwich High School student, about her future. "she could graduate from Greenwich High School, attend UConn and then find herself leaving Connecticut because the opportunities and wages simply aren't here," Goldstein said.

Goldstein pointed to Connecticut's widening gender wage gap over the past six years and asked whether the supermajority's policies have created real economic opportunity for young women and future graduates.

"We talk about opportunity and equality, but what have the results been over six years of supermajority rule in

Hartford?" Goldstein said after the forum. "Six years ago, women in Connecticut earned 97 cents on the dollar.

Today, it's 82.7 cents. Are wages keeping pace? Can our children afford to live in the communities where they grew up?"

Education Funding and the Future of Local Control

Goldstein criticized Connecticut's education funding formulas, arguing that Greenwich taxpayers shoulder substantial school costs while receiving limited reimbursement from Hartford.

"Our children deserve better than the bare minimum," Goldstein said. "We need to bring more of Greenwich's tax dollars back to support our schools and infrastructure."

Goldstein noted that under supermajority rule, Fairfield received 75 percent of its education funding from the state on a recent project, compared with 20 percent for Greenwich.

He also raised concerns about HB 8002 and regional housing planning, warning that expanding regional authority could set a precedent for regional education arrangements.

"Today it's regional housing. What comes next? Regional education authorities taking Greenwich property tax dollars and redistributing them to neighboring towns? A statewide property tax?"

Goldstein said HB 8002 does not include these provisions, but he warned that it opens the door to them. "The way to prevent that future is to end the supermajority and restore balance in Hartford."

Infrastructure First. Development Second.

Drawing on his construction experience, Goldstein argued that Hartford cannot keep imposing development requirements without addressing sewage capacity, stormwater systems, parking and traffic.

"We keep building while our beaches close, our roads become more congested and our infrastructure struggles to keep up," Goldstein said. "If Hartford mandates development, Hartford should fund the infrastructure."

Affordable Energy and a Nuclear-Powered Green Strategy

Goldstein supported immediate affordability relief, including a temporary gasoline and diesel tax holiday, lower utility costs and expanded reliable energy supplies.

He also called for a nuclear-powered green energy strategy, stressing that Connecticut needs dependable, affordable electricity to support families, businesses and future economic growth.

"Green energy should also mean affordable and reliable energy. Nuclear power needs to be central to that strategy."

More Than a No Vote

Goldstein questioned how effectively his incumbent opponent has challenged the legislative supermajority.

Goldstein said the forum reinforced the central message of his campaign.

"I grew up in Greenwich. This community gave me opportunities, and I want the next generation to have those same opportunities. We need lower costs, stronger schools, cleaner beaches and greater local control," he said. "Greenwich doesn't need another rubber stamp in Hartford. It needs someone willing to fight for our community and bring our tax dollars back home. Not Red. Not Blue. Just Greenwich."

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E: jg@goldsteinforct.com

Reliable Resources Help Investors Make Informed Financial Decisions

By Julie Jason

Empowering investors to make more informed financial decisions is a big mission -- one that's very hard to tackle. We're lucky to have FINRA on the job. In mid-October, FINRA released a set of new and updated tools to start the learning process. FINRA (the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority) oversees member broker-dealers who do business in the U.S.

But the task is not one-sided. You have an important part to play. It's YOUR job to become a "resilient investor." In Christine Kieffer's words, resilient investors take their time "to do research, using unbiased information and tools, and critically, to assess their own risk tolerance." Kieffer is FINRA's president of the Investor Education Foundation.

Now is your chance to engage.

Stocks, mutual funds and ETFs: Start with the Market Data and Investments Explorer tool (tinyurl.com/y6x9nt34), which replaces the Market Data Center. The free tool allows you to research every exchange-listed stock, as well as mutual funds and ETFs.

Using Cola-Cola as an example, you'll find details about the history of the company (founded in 1886; the "world's largest nonalcoholic beverage company"), its market performance (you can select the time span, ranging from one day to all time), key statistics related to the stock (including price-to-earnings ratio, total yield and market cap), and the company's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (including quarterly and yearly reports and insider activities).

The tool also provides a list of the top mutual fund and ETF holders of the stock, risk metrics and links to learning more about equities.

Bonds: FINRA's Fixed Income Data platform (tinyurl.com/3ncyehwh) will help you with bonds.

Fund Fees: FINRA's Fund Analyzer tool will help you compare the cost of owning mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, exchange-traded notes and money market funds (tinyurl.com/ypudf8w5).



It's YOUR job to become a "resilient investor."

Avoiding Scams: You'll want to check out the updated Scam Meter (scammeterquiz.finra.org), which presents five "real-world scenarios," with users choosing how they would respond to each one. One scenario involves a social media ad for a "hot stock pick by a prominent financial professional," with the ad directing you to an encrypted chat investment club where members urge you to buy an unfamiliar, low-priced stock "that's poised to explode." What do you do?

Each time you choose a response, you'll receive immediate feedback on whether your selection is the correct one. At the end, the feedback gives you a "red-flag" scam awareness score and breaks down your responses into low and high awareness, with explanations and links to FINRA Investor Insights for further information on each topic.

Assessing vulnerability: When it comes to potential fraud, the tool to use is the updated Risk Meter (riskmeterquiz.finra.org). Users answer 10 questions to assess their vulnerability to fraud. The questions include how often you feel isolated from others, how often do you check if the person selling or giving advice is licensed or registered before investing, and how confident you are that you'll never lose money to a financial scam.

Social media tools: FINRA's latest Investor Insight, released Oct. 14, falls under the category of Protect Your Money. The article "Following the Crowd: Investing and Social Media" cautions investors who use social media platforms for investing ideas to "carefully evaluate the information you find there" (tinyurl.com/4u4m5zh8).

The article notes that the 2025 FINRA National Financial Capability Study Investor Report indicated 60% of investors under 35 cite social media as an information source, and 61% followed financial influencers, aka "finfluencers" (tinyurl.com/ynk3ym4a). It also offers five tips for consideration, including understanding the information sources (in part by checking out qualifications using FINRA's BrokerCheck or the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure database) and focusing on a balanced strategy.

Bottom Line: "Investors are flooded with financial information every day, and it can be difficult to know what to trust," said Kieffer. "These tools cut through the noise by giving investors trusted information, practical insights and the confidence to make more informed financial decisions."

Regulators are on our side by offering resources. But things don't happen on their own -- it's up to you to engage to become a resilient investor.

Write to me at readers@juliejason.com.

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Julie Jason, JD, LLM, is the founder and CEO of Jackson, Grant Investment Advisers, Inc. (www.jacksongrantus.com). This column is for education only and is not legal advice or personalized investment advice.

the Alliance's educational initiatives benefiting Greenwich Public Schools.

Greenwich Volunteers Support Homebound Seniors

Members of the Young Men's Service League of Greenwich volunteered with Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich to prepare meal deliveries and write personal notes for homebound residents. The service activity brought local teenagers together to assist older members of the community through the organization's meal delivery program. Additional volunteer days are planned.

Greenwich Wallace Center Relocates Offices

The Greenwich Commission on Aging announced that Wallace Center administrative offices will relocate to Greenwich Town Hall, with regular operations scheduled to resume November 2. Administrative services at the Wallace Center will be unavailable October 28–30 during the transition. Staff will occupy the former Parks and Recreation Beach Pass Office near the Town Hall lobby.

Greenwich Rescue Organization Hosts Celebration

Adopt-A-Dog held its Howl & Prowl gathering October 25 at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park, bringing together animal rescue volunteers, families, and dogs available for adoption. The event featured a Halloween costume contest and opportunities to meet animals from participating rescue organizations. Pet Pantry sponsored the gathering, which supported Adopt-A-Dog's animal rescue and placement efforts.

Greenwich First Selectman Receives Community Recognition



First Selectman Fred Camillo received a plaque of appreciation from the Filipino Women's Club of Connecticut in recognition of his public service and community leadership. The organization presented the honor during an October 11 gathering at the DoubleTree by Hilton Stamford Hotel, where Camillo participated as a guest speaker. The plaque acknowledged his tenure as Greenwich's first selectman since 2019. Photo credit: First Selectman Fred Camillo

Greenwich Fundraiser Expands Cancer Research Support

Organizers of the annual Sip & Shop Greenwich fundraiser announced an expanded marketplace with more than 40 vendors for its November 5 event at Innis Arden Golf Club. Coordinators Nancy Carr and Roseann Sarica Benedict said the event would offer extended hours, with net proceeds benefiting Swim Across America–Fairfield County and its cancer research initiatives. The fundraiser has supported the organization since 2016.

PEOPLE IN TOWN

Greenwich Resident Completes Marine Corps Marathon

Greenwich resident Tom Eckert, 64, completed the Marine Corps Marathon after undergoing two hip replacement surgeries nearly three decades earlier. His running accomplishments now include two full marathons and four half-marathons. Eckert's participation represents a return to long-distance running following years of recovery and training.

Greenwich Honors Local Mental Health Supporters

First Selectman Fred Camillo proclaimed October 23 David and Tess Hollander Day in recognition of the couple's philanthropy, volunteer service, and support for Pathways, Inc. The Greenwich-based nonprofit provides housing, education, health services, and recovery support to adults living with significant mental health conditions. The recognition coincided with the organization's 44th annual gala, where the Hollanders were honored for their contributions.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Greenwich Announces Cos Cob Tree Hearings

The Greenwich Parks and Trees Division announced public hearings concerning proposed removals of municipal trees at two Cos Cob properties. Tree Warden Dr. Gregory Kramer scheduled hearings for October 29 regarding one tree at 50 Loughlin Avenue and two trees at 23 Clover Place. Residents may submit objections and participate under Connecticut's public shade tree procedures.

SCHOOLS

Greenwich Schools Celebrate Paraeducator Appreciation Week

Greenwich Public Schools recognized its paraeducators with appreciation activities and refreshments honoring their contributions to students and classrooms. Staff members participated in celebrations acknowledging the instructional assistance, individualized support, and daily care provided by paraeducators throughout the district. The recognition highlighted the role these employees play in supporting student learning.

Greenwich Educators Study Collaborative Behavior Support

Dr. Fabian Agiurgioaei Boie, a psychologist and board-certified behavior analyst with Greenwich Public Schools' Behavior Support Team, led professional development for prekindergarten through fifth-grade Special Education and Student Supports staff. The training addressed functional behavioral assessments, behavior intervention plans, and coordinated strategies for understanding student behavior. Participants explored ways to use data, communication supports, and individualized interventions to improve consistency in student services.

Greenwich Mental Health Professionals Complete Training

Psychologists, social workers, and school counselors from Greenwich Public Schools participated in professional development focused on dialectical behavior therapy. The training introduced strategies related to mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotional regulation, and interpersonal effectiveness. The session supported the district's continuing work to strengthen student mental health services.

Greenwich Schools Earn Statewide Academic Recognition

Riverside School placed first among Connecticut elementary schools in U.S. News & World Report's 2027 Best K–8 Schools rankings, while North Mianus School ranked eighth. Eastern Middle School placed second among the state's middle schools, and six additional Greenwich elementary schools appeared in the publication's rankings. The evaluation considered student achievement in mathematics and reading.

SPORTS

Greenwich Soccer Club Wins Championship

Greenwich FC's Over-40 team secured the Shoreline Adult Soccer League Division One championship October 25 following a 2–2 draw against Clinton FC.

Greenwich Football Falls To New Canaan



Greenwich High School's football team suffered its first loss of the season October 23, falling 23–19 to previously unbeaten New Canaan at Cardinal Stadium. The Cardinals held a 13–9 halftime lead, but New Canaan scored two second-half touchdowns to secure the victory. Greenwich quarterback Phil Tarantino passed for 202 yards and rushed for a touchdown as the Cardinals moved to 5–1. Photo credit: David Fierro

Greenwich Swimming Defeats Darien During Senior



Greenwich High School's girls swimming and diving team concluded its regular season October 23 with a 106–74 victory over Darien, finishing with a 6–1 record. Senior captain Ellison Charette won the 200-yard individual medley and 500-yard freestyle, while senior captain Kensie Worden captured the 50-yard freestyle. The Cardinals entered the postseason as defending FCIAC, Class LL, and State Open champions. Photo credit: David Fierro

Sacred Heart Field Hockey Remains Undefeated



Sacred Heart Greenwich's field hockey team defeated Greenwich Academy 4–1 on October 21, improving its record to 12–0 overall and 5–0 in Fairchester Athletic Association competition. Junior Kingsley Ely scored twice, while Cordelia Blanc contributed a goal and an assist, and Greenwich Academy's Barrett Hanson scored against Sacred Heart's defense. The victory extended the Tigers' undefeated season, with Greenwich Academy becoming the first opponent to score against Sacred Heart this fall. Photo credit: David Fierro

Greenwich Field Hockey Falls Against Wilton



Greenwich High School's field hockey team lost 7–0 to Wilton in an October 19 matchup at Cardinal Stadium. Wilton senior Liza Fogelson recorded two goals and two assists, while Greenwich junior goalkeeper Tatum Wunderlich made 11 saves. The Cardinals subsequently fell 3–0 to Darien on October 22, bringing their record to 8–7 ahead of their regular-season finale. Photo credit: David Fierro

LOCAL POLITICS

Greenwich Announces Updated Election Voting Procedures

Greenwich officials reminded residents that polls for the November 3 general election will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., with early voting continuing through November 1 at Town Hall. Voters assigned to Central Middle School in District 8 must use the Orchard Street entrance opposite Coachlamp Lane because the Indian Rock Lane entrance is closed. Absentee ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day, and the Town Clerk's Office will provide additional voting assistance hours October 31 and November 2.

OUR NEIGHBORS

Edgehill Residents Raise Alzheimer's Research Funds

From Tagging Along to Taking Charge

By Debra McLaughlin

What began as a reluctant ride alongside his father delivering meals to homebound Greenwich neighbors has grown into a commitment to helping Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich strengthen its future.

For Henry Halio, that first delivery route changed his perspective on community service.

"At first, I was a little hesitant to go with my dad on his delivery route," Henry recalled. "But after that first experience, I saw how much a meal and just a few minutes of conversation meant to the people we visited. After that, I was eager to go with him again."

As Henry grew older, he wanted to do more than accompany his father. He wanted to put his own skills to work for the organization.

This summer, Henry traded the passenger seat for a more strategic role, applying his interests in finance, artificial intelligence and technology to help Meals-on-Wheels identify new fundraising opportunities.

He developed a database of lapsed donors and prospective supporters, creating opportunities to reconnect with past contributors and cultivate new relationships. He also researched foundations and grant opportunities, building a resource to help the organization pursue additional funding.

"Because Meals-on-Wheels serves both older adults and preschool children, I believed my skills in AI and finance could be especially useful to the organization," Henry explained. "I wanted to look at where I could contribute in a way that might help strengthen the organization over the longer term."

Along the way, Henry gained a deeper appreciation for the work behind every delivery. From coordinating volunteers and preparing routes to securing funding, Meals-on-Wheels depends on a dedicated team to ensure vulnerable Greenwich neighbors receive nutritious meals, a friendly visit and a reassuring connection to the community.

Henry's experience also demonstrates that volunteering is not one-size-fits-all. Young people can make a lasting contribution by bringing their own talents, whether in technology, finance, research, communications or hands-on service.

His advice to other young people? Don't underestimate what you have to offer. Find a need, use your skills and get involved.

Want to make a difference for local seniors? Volunteer with Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich. Call 203-869-1312 or visit mealsonwheelsofgreenwich.org.

Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich is accepting new clients. There are no age or income restrictions, no medical referral requirements and no complicated paperwork. If you or someone you know could benefit from affordable, reliable meal delivery in Greenwich, contact Meals-on-Wheels today.



Henry Halio

His advice to other young people? Don't underestimate what you have to offer. Find a need, use your skills and get involved.

The First Step Toward Better Care

By Debra McLaughlin

Choosing short-term rehabilitation or long-term care for an aging loved one can be overwhelming. Families face difficult decisions, unfamiliar processes and financial concerns. At The Nathaniel Witherell in Greenwich, they don't have to navigate those challenges alone.

For more than 18 years, George Cossifos, Head of Admissions, has helped families make informed decisions with confidence and peace of mind. Together with his experienced team, George guides families through the admissions process seven days a week, helping seniors and veterans access the care they need.

The first question is always the most important: Can we provide this individual with the care they need, safely and compassionately?

Every referral receives a thorough review of medical needs, behavioral considerations and financial circumstances. When necessary, the admissions team consults with nursing, medical and executive leadership to determine whether The Nathaniel Witherell is the right fit.

Families are not simply choosing a facility. They are choosing a place where someone they love will recover, receive care and build personal connections.

The Nathaniel Witherell offers 46 short-term rehabilitation beds, including private rooms, for individuals recovering from surgery, illness or injury. Rehabilitation may be covered by Medicare, Medicaid or commercial insurance, depending on eligibility.

Long-term care presents different financial considerations. Costs can approach $240,000 annually, with Medicaid often serving as a primary source of coverage for eligible individuals. While these figures can be daunting, George urges families not to make assumptions about affordability or eligibility.

"Call us first" is his advice.

The admissions and business office teams help families understand insurance coverage, financial requirements and Medicaid applications. In some circumstances, admission may be possible while a Medicaid application is pending. No question is too small, and families are encouraged to explore their options before ruling out care.

As a town-owned facility, The Nathaniel Witherell gives admission priority to Greenwich residents, although families from surrounding communities are also welcome to apply. The admissions team coordinates with hospitals, reviews clinical information and arranges interviews by telephone or in person. Families are encouraged to tour the facility before making a decision.

Beyond its clinical services, The Nathaniel Witherell offers something George considers equally important: a welcoming, personal atmosphere.

Situated on a picturesque 22-acre campus, the facility provides short-term rehabilitation, long-term care and memory care, including a dedicated 40-bed unit. George describes the setting as "homey," reflecting the personal relationships and sense of community that distinguish The Nathaniel Witherell.

He credits the facility's experienced staff, low turnover and strong camaraderie with creating an environment where seniors and veterans receive consistent, compassionate care. His admissions team brings a combined 36 years of experience at The Nathaniel Witherell, along with a commitment to helping families through what can be an emotional transition.

George knows that adjusting to a new care environment takes time. He has also witnessed lasting friendships develop among those receiving care and the staff who support them.

For families considering rehabilitation or long-term care, his message is reassuring: Don't let uncertainty, financial concerns or unfamiliar paperwork prevent you from exploring your options.

At The Nathaniel Witherell, admissions is more than an application. It is the beginning of a relationship built on trust, communication and compassionate care.

To learn more, explore care options or arrange a tour, visit www.thenathanielwitherell.org.



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Chaplain's Corner: Rubber Duck Confessions

By Jenny Byxbee

If you had asked me a few years ago to describe my driving personality, I would have told you without hesitation: I am a Volvo girl. Volvo speaks to a grounded, sensible liturgy of life. It says: I value safety, appreciate Scandinavian design, and always keep an extra umbrella in the door panel. Jeeps, on the other hand, belonged to outdoorsy thrill-seekers who spend their weekends camping in the backcountry and know how to winch themselves out of a muddy ravine. (Mind you, I'd never actually owned a Volvo, the closest I ever came was a trusty Jetta right after college.)

Then I met my husband, a lifelong Jeep loyalist. It quickly became clear that our garage wasn't pivoting, so I was going to have to embrace the Jeep life, too.

When he finally convinced me to get behind the wheel, my initial reaction was a surge of imposter syndrome. Sitting high up in that boxy, rugged machine, I felt like a fraud pretending to be someone I wasn't. My version of off-roading is ricocheting off a curb or navigating a steep driveway, yet here I was, commanding a vehicle built for the wilderness. I kept waiting for someone to point and call me out for not belonging.

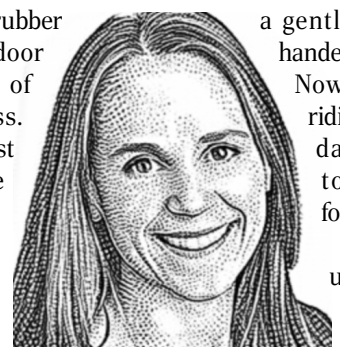
Yet it didn't take long for that anxiety to yield to utter delight, because driving a Jeep isn't about proving your off-road credentials, I found it to be an invitation into an everyday community.

First came the Jeep Wave, that subtle flash of two fingers off the steering wheel when you pass another driver. It's a micro-liturgy of recognition ("I see you out there") that feels a lot like passing the peace in church, a quick, quiet gesture acknowledging a shared journey, imposter or not.

And then, of course, came the ducks!!!

The first time I walked out to my car and found a small rubber duck nested on my door handle, I felt a rush of unexpected happiness. In a world where most people avoid eye contact at all costs, a complete stranger had taken ten seconds out of their day just to make me smile.

The place I felt most like an imposter, was the exact place I finally felt at home...



It was a tiny, playful picture of what Paul describes in Ephesians 2:8—that grace is a gift freely given, not something we earn through our own effort or merit. That little duck wasn't left because I had conquered a dirt trail or proven my off-road worthiness; it was just a gentle, unearned blessing handed to me out of nowhere. Now? I'm fully converted, riding around with a whole dashboard flock ready to pass that blessing forward.

Scripture reminds us that our identity isn't meant to be frozen in place or limited by our fear of feeling out of place. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul writes about becoming a "new creation", letting old self-perceptions fade so we can step into something fuller. I assumed I was strictly a safety-first, paved road person, but God often invites us past the boundaries of who we thought we were. To my surprise, the place where I felt most like an imposter became the place I felt completely at home.

It leaves me wondering; What other self-imposed labels am I holding onto that keep me from fully experiencing the world?

How often do we let imposter syndrome or phrases like "I'm just not built for that" or "That's just not who I am", keep us from entering new communities and spaces of grace? Like Peter stepping out of the boat onto uncertain waters (Matthew 14:29), real growth requires us to leave our cozy assumptions behind. When we hold too tightly to who we think we are, we risk missing the unexpected joy and belonging God is trying to hand us, sometimes sitting right there on our door handle.

Jenny is a chaplain with Greenwich Chaplaincy Services, and the Minister of Care and Connection at the Second Congregational Church of Greenwich

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. ***Movie Night: A Great Awakening: Friday, Oct. 30, 7pm. Fall Fasting & Prayer: Saturday, Oct. 31, 6am.***

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, Nov. 1 (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.* ***Thanksgiving Food Drive: through Sunday, Nov. 15: non-perishable food donations for Thanksgiving baskets (drop off at the front or rear entrances of the church each weekend); Suggested items: $20 Store gift cards (Stop & Shop or Shoprite); For more information or to help with this ministry contact John Innominato at 914-565-1637.***

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

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

Masses: Saturday, 3-4pm – Confessions (Specific dates confirmed weekly in bulletin.) Vigil Mass, 5pm. Sunday: 7:30am, 9am (Family Mass), 10:30am (Traditional Mass), 5pm (Teen Mass), all at St. Catherine's Church). Masses in other Languages: French Mass - 2nd Sunday of the month, 11am. Italian Mass - 3rd Sunday of the month, both at St. Catherine's Chapel. Spanish Mass, 6:30pm, St. Catherine's Church. Daily/Weekdays: Mon, Tue, Thu & Friday: 7am – Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Church; 5:15pm – Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Chapel. Tuesdays: Rosary, 6pm, St. Catherine's Chapel. Wednesdays: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30am-4pm, St. Catherine's Church. 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.*

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.

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. ***Pajama Palooza (4 years & older): Friday, Nov. 6, 5:30-9:30pm. Harvest Celebration: Friday, Nov. 6, 6-9pm, Greenwich Country Club, $250.***

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.* ***Coat Drive – gently used winter coat and jackets: through Sunday, Nov. 22, 203-531-8741.***

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. ***RHCC Reading Group: through Saturday, Oct. 31, 11am-12pm. Women's Gathering: Sunday, Nov. 1, 11am-12pm.***

Congregational

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

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

North Greenwich Congregational
606 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! ***Interfaith Blood Drive: Saturday, Oct. 31, 8am-1:15pm, at First Presbyterian Church. Vacation Bible School: Tuesday, Nov. 3 (School is OUT but VBS is ON) 9-11:30am.***

Episcopal

Anglican Church of the Advent
606 Riversville Rd; 203-861-2432
facebook.com/greenwichanglican

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

Christ Church Greenwich
254 E. Putnam Ave; 203-869-6600
www.christchurchgreenwich.org

Holy Eucharist: Sundays, 8am, In-person only, Chapel. Messy Church Eucharist: every Sun, 8:45am, In-person only, Parish Hall. Holy Eucharist: 10am, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary, Children's Chapel during the service. Choral Evensong or Sung Compline: In-person or livestream, 5pm. Wednesdays: Preach and Teach Eucharist (new time for this midweek service), 12:15pm, In-person only Chapel. Thursdays: Choral Evensong, 6:30pm, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary. *Friday Bible Study with Rev. Tim Hamlin: Fri, 10am. Messy Church Eucharist: Sun, 8:45am. Bagels & Bibles: Sun, 10:05am (through May). Grief Support Group with Mary Cattan: Wednesdays, through May 26, 2027, 1:15-2pm.* ***Centering Prayer: Tuesdays, Nov. 3 & 17, Dec. 1 & 15, 12pm. Winter Clothing Drive for Liberations Programs: through Nov. 14. All Saints Eucharist and Requiem: Sunday, Nov. 1, 5pm. Caregivers Connect with Rev. Suzy Post: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 5:30pm, Via Zoom. Provide Part of a Dinner for the Women of Inspirica: Wednesday, Nov. 4. "Becoming Beloved" – Community Film & Discussion: Harriet: Thursday, Nov. 5, 6:30pm, Dogwood Mezzanine.***

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

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

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

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

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.*

Congregation Shir Ami
One W. Putnam Ave; 203-274-5376
www.congregationshirami.org

All services, programs and celebrations are available online via Zoom. *Kabbalat Shabbat: Fridays, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church. Soul Spa - Meet the Midrash: Saturdays, 10am, through Aug. 9, on Zoom.* ***Shema-nic Journeys: Hearing and Healing the Soul: Tuesdays, Nov. 3 to Jan. 12, 20227, 7pm, via Zoom, Free for members & $120 for guests.***

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. ***Dinner and Choral Shabbat: Friday, October 30, 5:30-7:30pm.***

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. ***Tot Shabbat for Families with Young Children: Friday, Oct. 30, 5:30pm. Glenn Cohen: Hope After Captivity: Wednesday, Nov. 4, 7:30pm. Women's Musar: Our Inner Life, Reimagined: Friday, Nov. 6, 9:30am.***

Lutheran

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

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

Methodist

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

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

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

Sunday worship, 10am, in English, in-person and on 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 Worship Service: 9am & 10:45am, Greenwich & 5pm, Stamford. Kids Ministry for grades 5 and under, and Student Ministry for grades 6 & above, are offered. Live stream and recorded media are available at stanwichchurch.org. We'd love to meet you here! ***Pilgrimage: Scotland & Northern England: Monday, May 24 to Friday, June 4, 2027, Sign-up by Saturday, Oct. 31.***

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). ***Virtual Course on Spiritual Mediumship: Mondays, Nov. 2, 9, 16 & 23, 7-9pm, via Zoom, $120.***

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! ***Trinity Kids Day Retreat (Kindergarten–5th Grade): Tuesday, Nov. 3, 9am-3pm, $20 per child, Greenwich Baptist Church – 10 Indian Rock Ln. Worship Night: Friday, Nov. 6, 7:30-9pm.***

Presbyterian

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

Worship: Sundays, 10am. ***Red Cross Interfaith Blood Drive: Saturday, Oct. 31, 8am-1:30pm.***

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.

Living Hope Community Church
38 West End Ave; 203-637-3669
www.LivingHopect.org

Worship In-person & online (LivingHopect.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.* ***UNITY in Marriage: Friday, Oct. 30, 7-8:30pm & Saturday, Oct. 31, 8am-5:30pm, singles/engaged/married couples are all welcome, Childcare provided Sat. & Sun., Cost: $150 per Couple/$75 Single, to request a scholarship, contact office@livinghopect.org. Operation Christmas Child Packing Party – bring your children to the church while you take time to exercise your right to vote: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 10am-12pm, RSVP required: onrealm.org/livinghopect/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=Y2Q1OGFkOGQtYzM2MS00Y2E3LWIwN2YtYjRjYzAxNWY0YTI0***

Jonathan Goldstein Wants Hartford to Hear Greenwich

By Tom McDermott

The Republican challenger in the 150th District talks about housing, sewage, school funding and why a vote against legislation is only the beginning of representation.

Jonathan Goldstein has made sewage a campaign issue. This is not an obvious choice for someone hoping to persuade strangers to elect him to the Connecticut legislature.

"Sewage isn't sexy," he acknowledged.

But Goldstein, the Republican challenging Democratic state Rep. Steve Meskers in Greenwich's 150th District, thinks the condition of Byram Beach explains what has gone wrong between Hartford and the towns it governs. State lawmakers want more housing, he argues, without asking whether local sewers can handle it or who will pay for improvements.

"You don't build if you don't have the infrastructure," he said.

That is his campaign in one sentence: Know the town, know what its systems can support, and challenge decisions that impose costs on its residents. His slogan, "Just Greenwich," fits his initials, J.G., but was suggested by a voter while he collected signatures.

"My campaign was actually defined by voters," he said.

Goldstein, a corporate lawyer and construction consultant, has opinions on everything from the housing shortage to natural gas pipelines. He keeps returning to a simpler question: What, exactly, is Greenwich receiving for the money and authority it sends to Hartford?

A Greenwich Life, With a Detour Into Construction

Goldstein was about six when his parents moved from New York City. They wanted more room and considered Scarsdale until his mother learned that families there were moving to Greenwich.

"Let's skip one move and go to a place with lower taxes, more open air," he recalled her saying.

He attended Greenwich Country Day School, which then ended at ninth grade, and Rye Country Day School. After graduating from Brandeis University in three years, he went to law school and became a corporate attorney, working with hedge funds, private equity and mutual funds.

"I became that type of attorney," he said, remembering the professions of his friends' parents.

About a decade ago, he went out on his own. He also followed an interest in construction. "I always had a passion for construction, which is kind of odd," he said.

He has been his own general contractor, worked for contractors and represented property owners and developers. He thinks that experience is useful when legislators discuss new apartments without discussing pipes, treatment capacity and roads.

His career has taught him something else. "I like to adapt and I think we have to be renaissance men or women in today's environment because nothing is guaranteed anymore like employment."

Politics began with his father, Dr. Michael Goldstein, who is running for Congress. Jonathan collected signatures, knocked on doors and traveled to Washington. Eventually, he wondered why he was knocking on doors for somebody else.

"If I'm knocking on doors for him, why don't we start and knock on doors for me and be local," he recalled.

He is single, which has supplied a campaign joke: "I was hoping to meet Mrs. Wright on the campaign trail. I don't think that has actually happened yet."

He knocks on Democratic doors as well as Republican and unaffiliated ones. If elected, he reasons, he would represent everyone in his district. "I'm representing just Greenwich," he said. "So it's about the people, not a party."



About Jonathan

Beaches, Housing and Who Pays for the Pipes

Goldstein has organized his campaign around the ABCs: affordability, beaches and community control. He even made a campaign song, remarking, "I don't think Michael Jackson or anybody owns the alphabet."

Byram Beach is his example of a problem residents can see. He says the beach closes more than 25 times a year after rain or water-quality problems. Town officials reported 32 closures in 2024, including 18 associated with a sewer-line break. Greenwich now automatically closes Byram swimming for a day after at least three-tenths of an inch of rain.

Goldstein suspects development and overloaded wastewater systems contribute to contamination. The town has identified several possible sources, including stormwater, wildlife and problems along Tom's Brook. His broader concern is that new construction could add to infrastructure already under pressure.

"We can't process the sewage that we currently have," he argued. "We're not looking at the wet capacity, meaning when it rains," he said. He wants Greenwich to assess what Grass Island can handle during storms, not simply in dry weather.

Grass Island houses Greenwich's wastewater treatment plant. Goldstein wants sewer assessments before significant new housing is approved, when state rules limit local discretion.

He has followed Connecticut's housing legislation closely. Gov. Ned Lamont vetoed House Bill 5002 in June 2025; the General Assembly subsequently passed House Bill 8002, which Lamont signed that November. Goldstein opposes the latter law and wants extensive changes.

"I would really focus to repeal most of it, if not all of it," he said.

He does not claim never to have worked for developers. He has. His argument is that development should be matched to the roads and utilities required to support it. "If that is an issue and Hartford's mandating a development of that size, then they have to pay for our sewer upgrades," he said, rather than leaving the town and its taxpayers responsible.

He believes the public ought to understand the consequences before a project is approved. "You don't build if you don't have the infrastructure" is more than a slogan to someone accustomed to calculating construction costs.

He also sees Long Island Sound as an issue that crosses municipal and political boundaries. "They want to go and see clean beaches when they go to Todd's Point or Byram," he said of local voters.

Goldstein says his father's congressional campaign has contacted the Environmental Protection Agency about sewage entering the Sound. He believes federal law offers another avenue when state housing decisions threaten local waterways.

Hartford Thinks You're a Millionaire

Goldstein has an opening line: "By the way, Hartford thinks you're a millionaire."

He says residents sometimes respond with disbelief. One, in his retelling, said, "I'm living in a rental that I barely can afford to pay."

"I think that message that Greenwich has a large poverty rate that nobody talks about, and I'd raise those concerns," he said.

He considers Greenwich's reputation for wealth an obstacle to obtaining state aid. Residents struggle with rent, mortgages and household bills, he says, while lawmakers elsewhere assume they can pay any bill sent their way.

Goldstein estimates Greenwich sends more than $1 billion annually in state income taxes. He argues that residents have reason to question how much returns for public projects.

"I don't think we're getting enough back when we build a school," he said.

He cites the roughly $20 million expected from the state for Central Middle School. The Greenwich House delegation, including Meskers, secured a 20 percent reimbursement commitment for that project. Goldstein thinks the town should seek more.

He points to Fairfield, which obtained a 75 percent reimbursement rate, about $57 million, for a replacement Dwight Elementary School. Stamford secured an 80 percent rate for its new Westhill High School. Those comparisons, he believes, show that Greenwich should negotiate harder.

"So for us to get basically the bare minimum is not something that we should tolerate or praise," he said.

That brings him to Meskers. The incumbent voted against House Bill 8002. Goldstein's criticism is not that Meskers voted yes, but that he did not, in Goldstein's judgment, challenge the legislation before the vote.

"He kind of got the hall pass to vote no on the bill, but he wasn't a vehement opponent of the bill," Goldstein said. "I think just voting no because you can is not the same as really raising your voice to Hartford."

Goldstein thinks a representative should contest the language, press for changes and make local concerns impossible to ignore. "I think some of those debates coming out, I'd be a little more vocal leveraging my legislative and legal background and construction, especially when it comes to housing," he said.

He knows a Republican would be in the minority. "Yes, I am swimming upstream," he said. But concentrated power troubles him regardless of the party holding it.

"I wouldn't want a super majority of Republicans just like I wouldn't want what we have now as a super majority of Democrats."

He says he would support good ideas from either party. "I'm not beholden to a party," he said. "If there's something that I think the other side has that I like, I would go with it."

Work, Energy and the Limits of Another Study

National politics comes up on doorsteps. Goldstein says voters criticize President Trump and worry about energy prices. He prefers to bring the conversation back home.

"I'm really just focused on Greenwich and I don't think Greenwich is getting fair and adequate representation in Hartford," he said.

He worries about younger voters who encounter politics through angry sound bites and enter an economy less predictable than the one he knew. He recalls speaking with an economics student unsure of his future, and wonders whether older professionals still take enough time to mentor young people.

"We need more guys and women that are willing to be more of a mentor," he said.

He also wants more careers in construction and other skilled trades. "I'm someone who believes we need more people in the trades," he said, noting the aging workforce and physical demands of construction.

His advice to younger voters is unusually direct: "Don't give up hope. Political rhetoric is rhetoric. Ignore from both radical sides. Focus on the issues that are in the middle."

Asked to name a life-changing book, he struggled. "I have not read anything for leisure lately," he admitted. He had no favorite streaming program, either. Campaigning had crowded out both.

Energy was easier. Goldstein discussed the Constitution Pipeline, a revived proposal to carry natural gas through New York, and the Iroquois project, which proposes additional compression at Brookfield and elsewhere to deliver more gas to New York utilities. He thinks federal permitting and regional supply limits help explain Connecticut's energy bills.

He also mentioned an exploratory idea to repurpose retired nuclear submarines for electricity generation, a proposal he says he and his father have examined.

Then there is Interstate 95. Goldstein recalls attending a traffic-noise presentation two years ago and hearing that further study was required. His patience is exhausted.

"I'm less on studies. I'm more on action or trying things," he said. He would consider pilot programs rather than wait indefinitely for another report.

He knows commuting to Hartford would be miserable. "I just think you need someone who's hungrier, that wants to run up to Hartford," he said. That prospect has not deterred him.

"I don't think the public can wait any longer for another set of recommendations," he said. "We need to try something."

Citizens Police Academy: Forensics

From Page 1

first part of their presentation. Discussing the expertise required for working in forensics, Corticelli noted that state lab analysts require "a Master's, preferably a PhD in Biochemistry" to analyze DNA samples taken from crime scenes. While the detectives of the Forensics Section may not sport PhDs, they treat their work with a similar seriousness. The team operates in close conjunction with patrol officers, command staff, and of course other detectives. Though they share the same title, the forensics team and the department's general detectives have distinct responsibilities. While the forensics team is processing and analyzing a crime scene—the narrow, static details of a case—other detectives are interviewing witnesses and processing the more mobile details of the crime. Together with patrol officers who show up before either group in response to calls, there is a network of sections and teams within the department operating in perfect synergy to respond to crimes. These crime scenes can be brutal. Detective Jeff Morris, who continued the PowerPoint after Corticelli, noted that he "sees every dead body in Greenwich."

Not every scene that the Forensics Section processes is violent, of course, but every scene shares one thing in common: the transfer of evidence. As explained by Morris, "every contact leaves a trace." He showed us a photo from a hit-and-run head-on car crash: the victim's vehicle had been struck so hard that a smear of blue paint was left across the cratered passenger-side door. Outlined neatly in this smear of blue paint were the exact numbers of the perp's license plate. Some evidence is more subtle. Corticelli noted that, just by standing in the training room, his expelled breath was leaving a DNA trace of his presence. The Detective Sergeant explained that such trace evidence is everywhere: "They have found fingerprints left inside of the pyramids."

The forensics detectives must review this trace evidence with careful precision—according to Morris, "there's a human element to [investigation]. It's critically important that we identify everything as methodically as the time window will allow," to remove any doubt about the accuracy of gathered evidence. During this portion of the PowerPoint, an attendee declared that "They are the gold standard in Connecticut, this department." Morris, spurred on by that declaration, noted that the Greenwich Police Department (GPD) carries "the perennial highest fingerprint ID rate" in Connecticut. "I thought my boss would brag about it," Morris said, "but he didn't, so I will."

Corticelli and Morris both repeated one sentence over and over: with a crime scene, they said, "we only get one shot." Evidence does not last forever. "We're all familiar with Robert Frost, right?" Corticelli asked, "the path less traveled? That's what we do when we enter a scene—hug the walls." In that way, the detectives are able to avoid disturbing evidence on-scene. After all, Corticelli rhetorically asked, "What criminal is gonna hug the walls?"

The detectives explained their process step-by-step, working us through photo evidence from real Greenwich crime scenes they had processed. At one point, the detectives showed us first a photo of a sink; then, an extremely enhanced photo of the trace evidence they had seized from that sink. The evidence was a single hair stuck between the sink's faucet and faucet-filter. They quizzed us on patterns in the scenes—whether the bloodstains on a sofa seemed consistent with the wounds on a victim, for example—and, though we rarely had the perfect answer, the attendees eagerly jumped in with theories. I noted that our group was chattier than we had been in previous sessions. It made sense to me; who doesn't want to solve a crime scene?

The Forensics Section sometimes spends days processing a single crime scene. Corticelli recalled that the record was two weeks spent with a crime scene, for a homicide that occurred in 2009 on an 110-acre property, with a missing murder weapon. The Section is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year—with the exception of the occasional vacation.

As explained by Detective Aran Santilli, the Forensics Section is making use of cutting-edge, high-tech programs. One such program is produced by "reality scanner tools," placed by the detectives at the crime scene. These laser scanners can produce a digital copy of the scene's layout with remarkable accuracy. In the model we were shown, a half-dozen laser devices were placed in a backyard, overlapping "like a network mesh that ties all the scans together," according to Santilli. Detectives Santilli and Morris felt the need to apologize for the allegedly poor quality of the model shown to us, on account of a visual that appeared like fountains spewing water around each device. These were not fountains, but rather the motion of thousands of snowflakes falling as the devices scanned the environs. I found the apology unnecessary; it seemed like only further evidence of the scanners' precision.

Detective Kate Ciarleglio walked us through the process of analyzing blood-splatters. The example of the famous O.J. Simpson trial was brought up, where according to Corticelli, critical evidence may have been overlooked because a particular bloodstain—which looked to have fallen on the victim at a 90° angle—was not analyzed.

"They have found fingerprints left inside of the pyramids."

A second forensics class followed hot on the heels of the first, this one more hands-on. We began with a tour of the Forensics Section's workspace. A chessboard was balanced between Morris' and Santilli's desks, with a five-dollar bill taped to it—the victor's prize, I was told. The space was certainly designed for a smaller team, as evidenced by Detective Sergeant Corticelli's office occupying a converted closet. But attached to this humble office was a lab thoroughly prepared to process the complex remains of crime scenes. One machine was used to extract fingerprints from evidence via superglue.

After our tour of the offices and lab, we followed the detectives down to the garage, where we shortly found ourselves in the dark. Before us stood a black cloth stained with artificial blood—too dark to distinguish from the cloth. After one attendee joked about finding a body when the lights came back on, Santilli demonstrated a chemical spray that produced a sharp blue glow wherever the simulated blood had touched the cloth. Detective Morris demonstrated to us the work of processing fingerprints, including a demonstration of the various grey print powders officers have at their disposal. Following this demonstration, Corticelli ushered a handful of attendees into the Forensics Section's van, purchased with seized assets. When all was said and done, a couple of attendees stayed behind, absorbed in conversation with Morris and Ciarleglio about the joys and the difficulties of working in the Forensics Section. Ciarleglio runs the department's support group, one step in what both detectives referred to as progress being made in allowing officers to talk more openly with one another. "After one attendee joked about finding a body when the lights came back on, Santilli demonstrated a chemical spray that produced a sharp blue glow wherever the simulated blood had touched the cloth.""After one attendee joked about finding a body when the lights came back on, Santilli demonstrated a chemical spray that produced a sharp blue glow wherever the simulated blood had touched the cloth."

In next week's article, expect to hear from two state attorneys the inside details about what happens after the arrests, from arraignment through the trial.

Election 2026

From Page 1

Early voters this year feed completed ballots directly into tabulators rather than sealing them in envelopes. They must sign a separate voter affirmation, according to the Secretary of the State's Office. That signature is kept separate from the ballot.

Voters who missed the Oct. 16 registration deadline may still register and vote at Town Hall during early voting. On Election Day, same-day registration will take place in the lower-level lounge at Town Hall, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Proof of identity and Greenwich residency is required.

Absentee Voting

Under a 2026 state law, any eligible registered Connecticut voter may request an absentee ballot without providing a reason. Applications are accepted through Monday, Nov. 2, and completed ballots must reach the Town Clerk by 8 p.m. Election Day. The town lists ballot drop boxes outside Town Hall and inside the Greenwich Police Department at 11 Bruce Place. Voters needing assistance can call the Town Clerk at 203-622-7897.

Polling Locations and Hours

All 12 locations will be open Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters in line by 8 p.m. will be permitted to vote.

District 1: Julian Curtiss School, 180 East Elm St.

District 2: Greenwich Town Hall, 101 Field Point Road.

District 3: Western Middle School, 1 Western Junior Highway.

District 4: New Lebanon School, 25 Mead Ave.

District 5: Riverside School, 90 Hendrie Ave.

District 6: Old Greenwich School, 285 Sound Beach Ave.

District 7: Greenwich High School, 10 Hillside Road.

District 8: Central Middle School, 9 Indian Rock Lane.

District 9: Bendheim Western Greenwich Civic Center, 449 Pemberwick Road.

District 10: Glenville School, 33 Riversville Road.

District 11: North Street School, 381 North St.

District 12: North Mianus School, 309 Palmer Hill Road.

Residents should confirm their assigned precinct at MyVote.CT.gov before heading out. For questions, Greenwich's registrars of voters can be reached at 203-622-7890.

Michael Mason Wants Greenwich to Have a Say Before Hartford Decides

By Tom McDermott

The Republican candidate for the 151st House District says state housing laws are weakening local control, and he challenges his opponent, Hector Arzeno's, record on the legislation.

Michael Mason has a question for Greenwich voters: What good is a representative in Hartford if residents learn what the legislature has done only after it is over?

The Republican candidate for the 151st House District is particularly exercised about House Bill 8002, the housing law he believes allows the state to impose development rules on towns that understand their own roads, schools and utilities better than legislators in Hartford. He also has a pointed complaint about his opponent's record.



About Mike

"My opponent voted against amendments that would've helped us, but in the end he missed the vote for the final bill," Mason says.

He is making an argument about accountability as much as housing. If a law could change the way Greenwich develops, he wants voters told what is coming, what their representative intends to do and, afterward, exactly how that representative voted.

"There was very little posting on that," he says. He wanted elected officials to tell residents, "Hey, this law's coming. This is what it's going to do."

Mason's own campaign rests on decades spent examining Greenwich budgets and negotiating the practical costs of town government. He has opinions about the state's finances, its political balance and its lost industries. He also has a daughter who wants to buy a home in Greenwich. That may be the most revealing fact of all.

THE TOWN THAT MADE HIM

Mason was born in Greenwich, the third generation of his family to call it home. His wife, he says, is about fifth generation. He went to North Street Elementary School, Western Junior High and Greenwich High School.

"Yes, I call it Western Junior High," he says, preserving the old name with the mild stubbornness of someone who remembers when it was the right one.

His family operated Million Air at the airport, a business that included flight training, aircraft maintenance, charter service and aircraft sales. Mason worked in aviation when he was young and became a pilot. He also served as a volunteer Greenwich firefighter until work demands made that impossible.

His father, whose family was involved in housing development, kept urging him to buy property. "Let's put up a house. Let's buy a lot," Mason remembers him saying. Mason and his wife bought a condominium before marrying, then sold it and moved into a house.

He now looks at younger residents who cannot assume that the same path remains open. His daughter, he says, has done well professionally and wants a place of her own in town.

"I have a daughter who would love to have her own condo or house in town and she's very successful at work," he says.

Mason spent about 10 years on the Representative Town Meeting and 18 on the Board of Estimate and Taxation. He now negotiates labor contracts for Greenwich as a sub-contractor; work he hopes to continue if elected to the legislature.

"Some of the best compliments that I've ever received in the town government is that I do my homework. I listen," he says.

He calls himself conservative and places fiscal discipline at the center of that identity. Town government, he says, requires deciding which capital projects can be afforded, what operating costs should be, and how to make taxes stable and predictable. It is work he knows from the inside, including the less glamorous part: listening to employees describe why a difficult commute affects their jobs. Those negotiations, he says, are reminders that public decisions eventually become household decisions: a longer commute, a higher bill, a delayed purchase or a job that no longer makes financial sense.

WHEN HOUSING POLICY LEAVES TOWN HALL

Campaigning at Greenwich doors, Mason hears three concerns again and again: affordability, local control and traffic. He says congestion on Interstate 95 and the Merritt Parkway is familiar, but residents also mention the Post Road. As the town's labor negotiator, he hears about commute times from municipal employees, too.

He connects those complaints to housing development. More homes can mean more people using the same roads, water and energy systems. His concern is that Hartford is changing local rules before towns can plan for the consequences.

He singles out Connecticut's 8-30g affordable-housing law and HB 8002. He describes the former as allowing developers to get around much of local zoning under certain circumstances. He says the latter can enable the conversion of some commercial properties to residential use, increasing density with fewer traditional local restrictions.

"There's no doubt people are feeling the economic times," he says. On housing, however, affordability and local control are not interchangeable goals. He fears new construction could bring infrastructure costs that residents will ultimately pay.

"The first thing that has to be is that law needs an absolute pause," he says of HB 8002.

His objection is specific. "You're taking away parking requirements, height restrictions, setback restrictions." He worries about traffic, public services and the utility upgrades that future construction may require.

"The utility companies have said that Greenwich is okay at the moment with the demand for utilities, but future development could cause other problems," he says. If larger gas or electric systems are needed, he argues, "we're going to pay for those in our utility rates too."

The relevant question, as Mason frames it, is who should make those decisions. A municipality may know where traffic backs up and where utility service is stretched. State officials, he believes, should not dismiss that knowledge in pursuit of housing targets.

He also points to Live, Work and Ride, an unsuccessful proposal promoting development around commuter hubs. Mason says it was designed to go around local zoning, and says his opponent supported it.

"My opponent voted for that," Mason says.

It is one of his clearest points of contrast with the incumbent: Mason wants a pause and reconsideration; he says his opponent supported proposals he believes would reduce Greenwich's authority over development. Those are Mason's descriptions of the legislation and the voting record, not findings independently established by this interview.

THE VOTES, AND THE SILENCE

Mason's sharpest criticism is that the public was inadequately warned about HB 8002. A voter need not master every subsection of a housing bill, he argues, to deserve timely notice that decisions once made in town could be shifted to the state.

"I think Hartford needs a stronger voice," he says.

He returns to his opponent's votes: "My opponent voted against amendments that would've helped us, but in the end he missed the vote for the final bill." He also says voters were not given enough explanation while the measure moved through the legislature.

Mason's interview supplies his side. "I don't see anybody standing up to say, 'Hey, do you know this is coming or what can we do to prevent this?'" he says. He does not suggest that a minority-party legislator can stop every bill. He does insist that a representative has an obligation to warn constituents, offer objections and be present for the decisions that shape their town.

He connects this to the Democrats' supermajority in Hartford. With enough votes to override a veto, he argues, a majority party can advance legislation without having to negotiate seriously with dissenting lawmakers. Debate becomes less essential to passage, which he thinks weakens the process.

"My time in the town government, the RTM was nonpartisan, the Board of Education was balanced, the BET was balanced," he says. "We had good debate. We didn't always agree, but we had good debate."

His objection is to concentrated power, he insists, whoever possesses it. "If the Republicans had the super majority, I would be saying the same thing."

He wants representatives to explain proposals before votes, not merely distribute an account afterward. "We get a weekly newsletter, but we don't get any details on that," he says.

He points to coverage of BET meetings during his years on the board and recalls detailed public explanations of what officials were considering, why decisions were made and why proposals passed or failed. To him, a constituent should not have to reconstruct the legislature's work after it is finished.

THE BILL HIS DAUGHTER MIGHT PAY

Mason's warnings about affordability extend beyond housing. He fears Connecticut's budget guardrails could be loosened or spending pressures could produce demands for new revenue. He mentions proposals involving capital gains taxes and a statewide property tax, including one draft he says used a $2 million property-value threshold.

"What scares me the most is that the affordability is a problem now," he says. If additional taxes arrive, "it's just going to magnify the problem."

These are possibilities Mason fears, not enacted tax changes. His point is that a family deciding whether to stay in Connecticut needs to think about future costs as well as today's bills.

One of the books that most influenced him, he says, was about Winchester, once a powerful Connecticut manufacturer. He is fascinated by the company's reach beyond firearms and its extensive in-house operations.

"They had their own police department, their own hospital, their own print shop," he says. "They built everything in-house."

He describes a Connecticut that housed large employers such as Winchester and Pratt and Whitney, and wonders what policies might have helped sustain more of that industrial strength.

"Are we better now than we were 25 years ago? Are we better than we were 10, five years ago?" he asks. "And I don't think the answer is yes."

His concern for the next generation is immediate. Young adults have grown up watching politics become angrier, but he urges them to resist the temptation to disengage. Taxes and utility rates, he notes, do not become easier to pay because someone has stopped paying attention to government.

"It is critical that they get involved and stay involved," he says.

For Mason, political participation begins with practical questions. "What was it going to cost? What was the accountability of an expense? Was it something good? Was it not something good?"

He believes Greenwich taught him to ask them. Now he hopes his daughter and her generation can afford to live in the town where they can ask them, too.

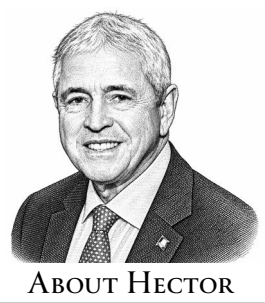
"We have to get the younger generation to focus on policies and stay away from politics," he says. "And I say that from the heart."

Hector Arzeno on Independence, Housing, and His Record in Hartford

By Tom McDermott

From a challenging childhood in Argentina to international banking and the Connecticut legislature, Greenwich's 151st District representative discusses his independence, his disagreements with Hartford on housing, and why he believes the best measure of a politician is what he accomplishes.

Hector Arzeno remembers the moment he thought he might have ended his political career. He had arrived in Hartford, in 2023, when Democratic leaders advanced a bill he believed was wrong for Greenwich. Rather than follow his party, the freshman legislator joined Republican Rep. Tony Scott, with whom Hector says he has a good working relationship, in trying to stop the bill.



About Hector

"We almost got the numbers," Arzeno recalled. "I was counting numbers. We almost got the numbers."

The legislation passed any way. Arzeno expected consequences from challenging Democratic leadership. Instead, he says, nobody ordered him to change his position.

"I thought that it was the beginning and the end of my political career," he said. But he insists nobody ever told him how to vote. "Never, never, ever."

The episode illustrates the argument Arzeno is making to voters as he seeks another legislative term representing Greenwich's 151st House District against Republican Michael Mason. He considers independence essential, but believes independence also requires enough cooperation to deliver results.

"I was elected to do something, not to be something," he said.

AN EDUCATION BEYOND THE RÉSUMÉ

Arzeno was born in Buenos Aires. When he was 14, his parents divorced. His mother, who had never worked outside the home, needed to support him and his younger sister. A scholarship allowed him to finish his Jesuit schooling.

"What we see in our bios when we write our bios is all true in my case, but we don't talk about our failures, our issues, our problems," he said.

His mother and friends were his examples. "I could have gone either direction."

He wanted to study economics and business, but educational restrictions under Argentina's military government blocked the ordinary route to a public university. He secured a private university scholarship instead. A five-year program took seven because he worked throughout it, printing school materials, marketing textiles and eventually taking a job with an electric utility.

The work was purposeful, he explained. A better-paid job could require two buses each way, but it helped him get an education.

In 1970, another scholarship brought him to the United States. It was his first flight. He attended classes in Boston, observed American political life during a turbulent period and visited Washington. Only after I asked which school had hosted him did he say Harvard.

I remarked that some people announce Harvard within thirty seconds of meeting you, while others need to be asked where in Boston they studied. He accepted the observation with good humor.

Back in Argentina, a finance professor helped him enter Morgan Guaranty. In 1974 the bank brought him to New York for training. He subsequently worked in London, headed the American operations of Spain's Banesto and worked with Argentina's Banco Galicia.

"I like numbers a lot. I crunch numbers. I like it," he said. Yet the attraction of banking was also personal: "You have to understand balance sheet. You have to understand the industry. You have to study."

Greenwich initially exceeded his means. After returning from London, he bought and built in Chappaqua, sold when he could afford to move and settled in Greenwich for its schools and values. His eldest daughter, Veronica Chiavaroli, now serves on the Board of Education. He and his wife, Paula, have a daughter, Isa, the youngest of his four children.

WHAT HAPPENED ON HOUSING

Housing is where Arzeno's claim to independence faces its most practical test. Connecticut's 8-30g law gives developers a way to challenge certain local zoning decisions involving affordable housing. HB 8002, approved in November 2025, added another set of state housing requirements. Greenwich residents concerned about local control want to know whether their representatives resisted.

Arzeno says he examines housing proposals with Greenwich planning officials and the Western Connecticut Council of Governments rather than accepting a party position. "Every single bill that came out on housing, I discuss it. I check it." He estimates he had forty or fifty conversations during previous legislative debates.

"When one bill comes to the floor, the first thing that I do," he explained, is consult local planners. They discuss whether the proposal serves Greenwich. He says he has voted against almost every housing bill, except measures that local officials told him were satisfactory.

He returned to his first legislative session, when he and Scott tried to defeat a housing measure. The 2023 legislation, Senate Bill 998, eventually passed the House, 78 to 68. Arzeno voted against it. His recollection of nearly finding enough votes captured his view of political independence: "We have to be sure that we are not doing something for political just needs or careers or scoring points, but to see how we can improve a bill or not."

In May 2025, he also voted against HB 5002, a housing bill vetoed by Gov. Ned Lamont. But a similar bill brought forward in a special session on November 12 of that year was signed by the Governor. It was HB 8002. Arzeno was unable to cast a vote on that bill because he was out of the country at a wedding. He said he would have voted against the bill, objecting particularly to insufficient public participation and additional bureaucracy.

Mason has criticized Arzeno's absence, arguing that Greenwich needed its representative present for a decision affecting local zoning authority. In effect saying that opposing legislation in principle is not the same as fighting against it or recording a vote against it.

During our interview, Arzeno discussed his housing record at length, specifically his view of the importance of local consultation and work across party lines. Whether those efforts provide sufficient protection against state mandates is a judgment voters must make.

PRINCIPLES, PARTIES AND PRESIDENTS

In the past, Arzeno offered an unexpected answer when asked which politicians he admires: former Republican congressman Chris Shays and former Republican state representative Livvy Floren.

An earlier interviewer challenged his selection because both were Republicans. Arzeno remembers replying, "Yes, I know." He admires Shays' independent judgment and Floren's devotion to constituent service.

"She didn't have any political agenda," he said of Floren. "She wasn't trying to score points doing this or doing that." He knew her through their children, and later corresponded with Shays, whose encouraging note he kept.

Arzeno also says he voted for Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. When that history became public, he recalls, nobody in his Democratic organization objected. Had anyone instructed him to suppress it, he suggested he might have abandoned politics altogether.

None of this makes him indifferent to national politics. He is openly hostile to President Donald Trump. "I cannot find one quality for him to become president of the US," he said. His judgment is rooted partly in experiences growing up under authoritarian governments.

"I have seen people detained without any cause and I don't want to see that happening in the US," he said. Images of masked people and detentions trouble him. "For me, what is important is humanity, humanity."

He regards speaking out as an obligation, not a distraction from legislative work. He wants, he says, "to say in public what I think in private." His views may please some voters and alienate others. They are nevertheless his own, and he makes no effort to disguise them.

On doorsteps, however, the principal worries are closer to home. "Number one question is affordability. Second question is economy," he said. Families and businesses dislike uncertainty. "We don't have an answer for everything. We don't know everything."

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROMISING AND DOING

When I asked how he differs from Mason, Arzeno began with the pace of government. Banking had taught him to decide and live with the consequences. In Hartford, a proposal might spend several sessions in committee, negotiation, and revision. "The decision making process takes longer," he said. "I learn the process. I accept it."

He notes that other school districts can qualify for higher reimbursement rates because they make educational arrangements Greenwich has not chosen. He does not propose overriding those local preferences. His task, he argues, is to respect local decisions while obtaining all the assistance for which Greenwich qualifies.

His favorite example is education funding. Connecticut's Education Cost Sharing formula helps determine how much money the state provides school districts. Arzeno says he has worked since 2023 to revise it, but other education priorities repeatedly took precedence. He believes legislative leaders and the governor's office are now prepared to make changes a priority. That commitment remains his account of future plans, not an enacted revision.

Mason also wants changes to the formula. Arzeno's response was pointed. "I mean, welcome," he said. His opponent should "try to jump into the train because the train already left." Arzeno argues the unglamorous work of building agreement counts as much as announcing an objective.

The rebuilding of Central Middle School supplies a measurable result. Arzeno, along with Reps. Stephen Meskers and Tina Courpas, and Sen. Ryan Fazio, helped raise the state reimbursement rate from an anticipated 6.9 percent to 20 percent. The increase could provide millions more in state assistance, depending on eligible costs.

Arzeno also cited his endorsement from the Independent Party and Voting Moms. He believes endorsements should follow examination of voting records. His appeal is that voters scrutinize him fairly: "Look at my track record, look at what I did for Greenwich, what I deliver, what I did for the state, and what I said."

Asked to name a notable book he had read, Arzeno said he had recently finished On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century by Timothy Snyder, for the third time.

His preferred way of working is personal. He drives to Hartford four or five times a week when necessary, often leaving early and returning late. "I don't like Zoom. I want to see face-to-face the people. I want to be in person." His wife is not always delighted with the schedule.

He brings students to see legislative debate firsthand, believing they can discover a less theatrical side of politics. And every night, before reading, he examines his own performance: "What did I do today?" Then, "Did I try my best today? Did I give 150% of myself today?"

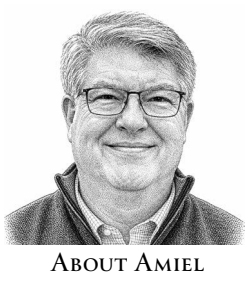
He asks voters to apply the same test: "Look at the way we voted, what we did, how we advance things, what we are doing for the community."

Amiel Goldberg's Case for the Sensible Center

By Tom McDermott

The Democratic candidate for the 149th House District believes Connecticut needs practical judgment, a willingness to compromise and a better understanding of risk. His views on housing, guns, vaccines and the state's finances make clear where he differs from Republican incumbent Tina Courpas.

Amiel Goldberg has spent much of his life studying risk. Running for the Connecticut legislature has introduced him to an uncertainty: the voter behind the front door.



About Amiel

"If I knock on 50 doors, if I get 15 answers, I'm shocked," he said. Many begin with one question: "What party are you?" Once he answers, the conversation often ends. Goldberg, a Democrat challenging Republican state Rep. Tina Courpas in the 149th District, would prefer a hearing. "Don't make generalizations. At least spend three or four minutes finding out who I am."

Sometimes it works. A voter listens and responds, "Oh, you're not at all what I thought you were."

Goldberg believes that is what campaigning should accomplish. He is a retired financial risk executive, a member of Stamford's Board of Representatives and an unapologetic centrist. He has opinions, plenty of them, but considers reconsidering a position a strength rather than a surrender. To understand his candidacy is to understand how he thinks government should make decisions, and why he believes Courpas sometimes makes the wrong ones.

FIFTY DOORS, TWO DIFFERENT TOWNS

The district includes parts of Greenwich and Stamford. Goldberg says residents share concerns about the cost of living, but conversations change with the neighborhood.

"When I'm talking to people at the doors, it's overwhelmingly affordability," he said of Greenwich. "Everybody wants their prices to go down. Everybody's very concerned about inflation, but they don't exactly know where responsibility for that lies." Some frustrations, he observes, belong to Washington rather than Hartford. State representatives do not conduct foreign policy or set national defense priorities.

He asks voters, "What is affordability to you?" Homeowners often have little flexibility in their housing or transportation expenses. What they notice are food bills, electricity, healthcare and childcare. "Healthcare, especially," he said. Families adjust wherever they still can.

In North Stamford, Goldberg hears about school construction, state reimbursements and roads maintained by Connecticut rather than the city. Because he serves on Stamford's municipal legislature, residents also want to discuss sewers, garbage, recycling, snow and leaves. Those issues belong to his current position, he explains, although they reveal what residents expect from government.

Canvassing has taught him about the district's geography. Some Greenwich houses cannot be reached because of access restrictions; doors in Pemberwick, Glenville and parts of Round Hill Road are easier to approach.

And he believes every incumbent should have to make a case. "I believe everybody deserves a choice," he said. When either party fails to contest an election, his response is "Shame on the other party." Candidates should have to "earn their roles." "Competition is good."

HOUSING AND THE LIMITS OF LOCAL CONTROL

On housing, Goldberg begins somewhere many Greenwich voters might resist. Connecticut, he says, ultimately controls zoning. Municipalities exercise power delegated by the state. "The sovereign owns zoning and planning," he said. His warning to local officials is blunt: "Don't piss off the guy that's in charge."

He fears that treating Hartford as an enemy could eventually cost towns the authority they are trying to defend. "There is a world in which the state government can say, 'You guys have so mismanaged it. We're going to centralize it in Hartford and you will do what we say.'" His preferred response is negotiation intended to preserve local influence.

Goldberg sees a useful idea in House Bill 8002: regional cooperation that could place more affordable housing where transportation, stores and public services already exist. Stamford, he argues, can absorb much more development. "We can probably build all the affordable housing lower Fairfield needs. Affordable housing is not a problem in Stamford."he said. Greenwich faces different conditions, particularly outside its town centers.

"Why would you want to build" deeply affordable housing far from groceries and transit, he asked. "You have to have a car." His view is that "a lot of people that need affordable housing also need to be in walkable communities." He means town centers as well as cities.

Yet he has real objections to HB 8002. "There's a lot of problems in 8002. I'm not minimizing those. The parking, that's not going to work out well for anybody." He wants changes, not wholesale rejection. "There are things in it that are broken that need to be fixed, and there are things in it that are really smart that need to be reinforced."

He also questions the way Connecticut's 8-30g law assesses affordable housing progress. It concentrates, he believes, on history when communities should receive recognition for credible future efforts. "It measures the history, not the future." And, he added, "It punishes me for the sins of my ancestors. It doesn't reward me for my forward thinking."

The conversation becomes personal when he looks toward his own backyard. He and his wife, Kirsten, would like someday to move into a smaller accessory dwelling unit while one of their daughters raises a family in the main house. "We're here for them to take care of us and for us to take care of them."

Goldberg grew up in Columbia, South Carolina, with his grandfather living in the household. Kirsten grew up with her grandmother at home. "I cannot imagine my childhood without my grandfather being in the house." Housing policy, for him, includes the possibility of grandparents and grandchildren sharing ordinary life.

Their daughters are Emma, an epidemiologist working in New Orleans, and Zoe, a senior at the University of Rochester. As the couple approaches an empty nest, this is less a theory of housing than a family hope.

WHY HE DISAGREES WITH COURPAS

Goldberg wants the disagreement with his opponent understood without turning it personal. "I think Tina's a lovely person," he said. "She's always been nice to me. I just think we have political differences." Those differences, however, are consequential.

"My impression is that she approaches the world from the view of compliance as opposed to risk management," he said. In his judgment, she "far too often" lets "perfection be the enemy of good." He thinks government must sometimes accept an imperfect proposal when its likely benefits justify its risks.

Goldberg cited proposed restrictions on certain Glock handguns that may be modified to fire automatically. He said a childhood friend who sells and repairs firearms in South Carolina refused to handle the older models because of their potential danger. Courpas voted against the restrictions, arguing that the modifications are already illegal and that lawful firearms should not be banned because they might be altered, and that the state should focus on criminal conduct.

He also disagrees with Courpas over allowing Connecticut's public health director to establish a state vaccination schedule requirement for every child. Courpas voted against the bill because it prohibits religious freedom objections, saying she supported a vaccine schedule. "Obviously being married to a physician, we could not understand that," he said. His wife, Dr. Kirsten Hohmann, is an internist practicing in New Canaan. Goldberg is sharply critical of federal vaccine policy, which he called "just nuts now."

Then come Connecticut's financial guardrails. Goldberg supports fiscal responsibility but rejects the idea that budget rules should prevent an extraordinary response to extraordinary circumstances. Discussing changes to the use of surplus funds, he said, "It's not that they broke the financial guardrails." He cited what he described as more than $2 billion in lost federal support and asked why that should not prompt flexibility. Goldberg says he saw that situation as a clear emergency.

"In Connecticut, this is a moment that we can flex and we should be flexing," he said. He hopes to return to using excess surpluses to reduce pension obligations when circumstances permit. His criticism is that financial measures look backward. Leaders must also ask what public services and future risks require.

His financial career explains the argument. He attended the University of South Carolina, entered banking in Charlotte, worked in agricultural finance in Denver and joined Washington Mutual in Seattle. He moved to Stamford for UBS in 2007, shortly before Washington Mutual failed; UBS soon faced problems of its own. He subsequently worked at GE Asset Management, IBM and BNY Mellon and earned a master's in finance at UConn.

"As a risk executive, I always want a 360-degree view," he said. He tries to combine figures with human consequences, accept that circumstances change and acknowledge mistakes. "I'm wrong more than I'm right and I have to be flexible."

THE SENSIBLE CENTER, WITH A LITTLE STAR TREK

Goldberg calls himself a centrist and an incrementalist. "I think that the extremes are way too prominent right now in both parties." His goal, he says, is "to bring the left to the right and the right to the left."

"I don't believe in big bang change," he said. "I believe things should be slow and incremental primarily because the electorate has to digest it." A legislator must know when to act and when to resist an impatient majority. "You have to know when to lead and you have to know when to follow."

He disputes the assumption that young people have abandoned politics. Young adults he meets through his daughters, he says, are engaged and angry: "They're all voting, they're all registered, and they're all hopping mad at us old people for creating a mess we have."

Why, then, a Democrat? He cites reproductive rights and control over personal healthcare decisions. He also believes government must do things individuals cannot, including responding to natural disasters, pandemics and emerging technological risks. "I believe that government is a force for good in the world, not something to be smothered." He calls it "the risk regulator, the risk bearer of last resort."

He recommends books about randomness, mathematics and political psychology: The Drunkard's Walk, How Not to Be Wrong and The Political Brain. When we talked, he was reading Andrew Ross Sorkin's 1929 and Dara Horn's People Love Dead Jews. "I have a high geek quotient," he conceded. His next read is Viktor Frankl's Man's Search for Meaning.

He and Kirsten enjoy Star Trek and Star Wars. Reading Ezra Klein's Abundance had left him thinking about the imaginary economy of Star Trek, where everyone has food, clothing and shelter. If material scarcity disappears, he wondered, what comes next?

"Then what?" he asked.

"What's a human being do?" I asked.

"Well, what we've always done, seek out bold new frontiers."

Tina Courpas Has Questions. Hartford Had Better Have Answers.

By Tom McDermott

The Republican representative for Connecticut's 149th District discusses taxes, housing, accountability, political independence and what she has learned from voters on more than 5,000 doorsteps she has climbed.

Tina Courpas has a question about the laws Connecticut passes: Has anyone checked whether they will work?

Courpas, the Republican state representative for the 149th District, says this is the kind of question she asks in Hartford, where she has learned that the practical consequences of legislation do not always receive the attention she thinks they deserve. Will a new law actually achieve the goals implied by its optimistic name?



About Tina

"It often comes down to nothing more than having the political will and having done your homework to ask questions that I think the average person would be astounded do not get asked up there."

She spent about 20 years in banking and law. She asks who pays, what changes and how anyone will measure success. She calls herself a moderate Republican, and says being in the minority does not excuse silence.

"I vote the district, and I vote what I promised to my constituents."

Candidates can promise almost anything, she says; legislators must decide.

"The reality of the job is you don't get to press a maybe button. You get to press yes or no, and you get to advocate for one position or another, and you have to take difficult votes."

THE HOUSE WHERE HER CHILDREN GREW UP

Courpas was born in Baltimore to Greek immigrant parents, both doctors.

"They came to this country with nothing but their education, and they truly lived the American dream."

She attended Princeton, began working in investment banking in New York, earned a law degree at Columbia, practiced corporate law and returned to banking. She and her husband chose Greenwich in 2006 because they wanted to raise their children here.

"We absolutely loved the town. We loved the idea of growing up in a suburban environment for our children. We loved the civic engagement of Greenwich, the town feel, the proximity to New York, the beauty, all of it, and the people."

Is she still in the same neighborhood? Yes, she said, off Riversville Road in the Glenville section.

"I'm still in the house where my children grew up."

Courpas has four children. When we spoke, the oldest was 24, followed by children aged 23 and 21, and a youngest son about to turn 17. Her oldest son works in banking in New York City, her daughters attend college and her youngest attends Brunswick School.

"Almost empty nester?," I suggested.

"Almost empty nester," she agreed.

Her family has lived in Greenwich for two decades. Whether families can afford to stay concerns her.

AFFORDABILITY, FROM ROUND HILL ROAD TO WESTOVER

Courpas says her campaign conversations differ from those of the last election.

"Relative to 2024, which felt more ideological, we were in the wake of the Roe versus Wade decision being overturned. There was a presidential election. It felt more ideological than it does in 26."

This year's concern, she said, is simpler.

"26 is dominated, in my opinion, by kitchen table issues, namely affordability."

Her district includes, multifamily housing, Greenwich neighborhoods, Westover and N Stamford, where houses often rely on private wells and septic systems and four-acre properties. Would families in such different places really say the same thing?

"Yes. Lack of Affordability is issues number one, two, and three."

Even in the backcountry?

"Definitely. It just manifests in different ways."

She recalled canvassing Round Hill Road and seeing long stretches between the addresses of registered Connecticut voters in her campaign application. People lived in those houses, she said, or used them part of the year, but many were not registered to vote in Connecticut. She suspects some moved their tax residency elsewhere.

"That's how you see lack of affordability manifesting itself in the back country or in some of my neighborhoods; people are going to greener pastures from a tax perspective."

For other families, she said, the strain is the accumulation of bills.

"People are just straining under this crush of income taxes, their property taxes, their electric bills, and the death by a thousand cuts of a car tax payment, a licensing fee if you're a professional. They're getting hit from all angles."

National politics comes up at the doors, too. Courpas commented that certain voters angry about Washington may punish Republican candidates for state office. But, "the District is overall very thoughtful." The 2024 election showed that voters understand the difference between national issues and what Hartford can change, and that they split their ballots accordingly.

HOUSING: WHAT HAPPENS TO THE PARKING?

I asked about House Bill 8002, the sweeping housing law that has prompted objections from residents who believe Hartford is taking decisions away from towns. Courpas fought it and voted against it.

"To repeal it in toto? I will push for that, but I don't see it happening with this supermajority."

Courpas does favor trying to change specific provisions. She focused first on parking. Under the law, which took effect in this respect July 1, 2026, a town generally cannot reject a residential project of 16 units or fewer solely because it fails to meet local off-street parking requirements, with limited exceptions.

"What that means is whereas the town of Greenwich used to be able to say you have 16 units, you need one and a half parking spaces per unit because that's the average. Now, the town cannot do that, it means that the developer can use those parking spaces to put more units."

"And then where do the people park?"

"They spill out onto the road."

She also questions the simplified review of some commercial-to-residential conversions. She wants lawmakers to consider what happens after a building is occupied.

"I think it's more realistic to think about scaling back specifically onerous provisions that are already not working in real time."

Courpas says she raised Bridgeport's experience with relaxed parking requirements during legislative debate. She said members of that city's Democratic council had warned state leaders against imposing the policy statewide.

Her point is that even a popular goal deserves scrutiny of the practical consequences before passage.

"I feel like it's the job to ask those questions on behalf of our constituents. Some of them seem so obvious."

She also asked how HB 8002 would interact with Section 8-30g, the older law that gives developers additional avenues to challenge local affordable housing decisions.

"They cover a lot of the same territory. The overlap in the Venn diagram is large. Which bill prevails over the other if they conflict?"

She says no answer was provided. It is one example of what she sees as the minority party's function: requiring the majority to confront common sense details it might otherwise overlook.

Courpas also cites special education legislation. She says she pushed for measurements of whether state spending actually helps students learn.

"I was very strict on how we are measuring outcomes for special education in the state of Connecticut."

She applies the same test to environmental proposals: Will they produce improvements, or merely announce distant future targets while leaving employers unable to plan?

"Vague bills leave businesses sitting in this no man's land trying to figure out, do I plan for this new regulation which goes into effect in 2030? Is this real? Do I need to hire someone to comply with this?" "I cosponsored two environmental bills which passed into law, and they were specific, practical and made a difference day one."

She believes Republicans can negotiate changes even without the votes to pass legislation themselves.

"And then quite frankly, on the House floor, if a terrible bill is coming, we will debate it for 24 hours if we have to."

NO "MAYBE" BUTTON, AND A LITTLE THE CROWN

When I asked how she differed from Democratic challenger Amiel Goldberg, Courpas began with the record voters can examine.

"My positions are very clear. People know where I stand specifically."

She supports Connecticut's fiscal guardrails, which constrain certain state spending and borrowing. Her opponent has stated he will compromise them. She opposes tolls on Interstate 95 as another tax on residents. Goldberg, she said, had discussed charging out-of-state motorists, perhaps with a different rate for local commuters. She is also clear about her defense of local control of zoning. Her opponent's position is not as clear.

Courpas objects to criticism that treats every vote against a spending bill as indifference to the people it would help.

"It's very easy on the campaign trail to say, She is a heartless person for taking a vote which denied X, Y, and Z funding. That's just not true."

But a legislator, she said, cannot vote "maybe".

We discussed why young people, including her own children's generation, might turn away from politics. Her advice was less about parties than friendships.

"Have friends that have different political views than you. Don't avoid conversations because you think someone is one party or another. Engage in complicated discussions in college even if that's uncomfortable. Don't tolerate disrespect period, but also don't take everything personally and get a little bit more of a thick skin."

"If someone disagrees with you respectfully, you can still be friends with them.

She believes the country has survived deeper divisions and can recover from this one.

"I just believe in the strength of the system to renew itself and rebuild itself."

For a less contentious subject, I asked what she watches or reads when she escapes the campaign.

"I love The Crown," she said. She was watching the series a second time this summer. "It's just so human and interesting."

A friend from high school had recommended The Truth and Beauty, by Andrew Klavan, a book she described as exploring English poets, faith and the place of spirituality in public life.

"It's a very different and interesting book."

I told her I doubted another candidate had read it.

Her closing answer returned to the kind of representative she says she is.

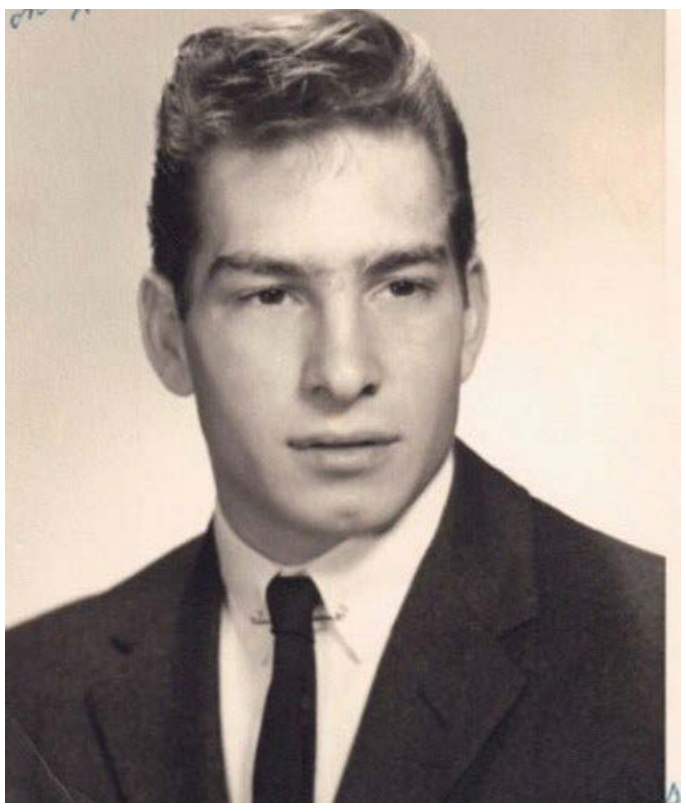
"I am exactly who I represent to be, and my voting record shows that. I say the same thing no matter who I'm talking to because that's what I believe and that's what I stand for."

She describes the district as fiscally conservative, socially moderate and pragmatic, qualities she says reflect her politics. Her reason for seeking another term, she insisted, goes beyond a title.

"I love our community. This is more than a job. This is a whole way of life. And I am very passionate about our democracy and being part of it and protecting it. I want to make it better, make Connecticut better, and preserve and defend our home for the long term."

Obituaries

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



FRANCIS MUSCA JR.

Frank R. Musca Jr. (Footer/Frank), on October 23, 2026, passed away peacefully at his home with his loving family by his side at the age of 83. Frank is the son of Francis R. Musca Sr. and Mary Calabro Musca.

He was born in Greenwich, CT and graduated from Greenwich High School in 1961. He attended Roberts Technical Trade School in New York City. He enhanced his skills for thirty-five years and became the proud owner of Frank's Auto Body in Greenwich, CT. Opening his family business, C & E Construction Company, in Greenwich, he found immense pleasure in restoring and building new homes in Greenwich. Since his teenage years, Frank 's love of boating gave him happy hours on the Long Island Sound. Frank was an honorary member of Byram Boat Club, associate member of Byram Vets Club and elected member to Greenwich Republican Town Committee. He was well known for his expertise in restoring antique cars, having skills highlighted in antique auto magazines and antique car shows.

Frank's wife of sixty-three years, Veronica Baron Musca and two children, Cheryl Musca Arnett (Marc) and Eric Baron Musca (Brenda), survive him. He enjoyed hearing about his three grandchildren's accomplishments, Kimberly Arnett, Richard Scott Musca and Cassandra Baron Musca. He is also survived by his brother, James Musca (Sheila) of St. Louis, MO along with cousins, nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held in his honor on Thursday October 29, 2026, at noon at St. Roch's RC Church. Burial will be private.



PATRICIA SLOCUM

Patricia Dowd Slocum, age 93, of Greenwich, CT, passed away October 21, 2026, following a brief illness after a long and well-fought battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Patricia was born on January 24, 1933, in Brooklyn, NY, to Bernard Dowd, a New York City police detective; and Margaret Twitchell Dowd, a schoolteacher. Patricia was a graduate of Notre Dame Academy on Staten Island.

In 1965, Patricia married Francis (Frank) Edward Slocum, a writer for radio and television, who, later in life, became the longtime director of the Baseball Assistance Team. In 1971, they moved to Greenwich. She was active in the community and was a longtime member of Westchester Country Club.

Patricia worked for many decades as a local realtor. Before becoming a full-time homemaker, after her marriage, her varied career included time as a boutique owner, a flight attendant, a dressmaker, and a model. She was an avid tennis player and enjoyed spending time with her many friends in the community.

In addition to her parents and husband, Patricia was predeceased by two sisters, Bernice Donovan of Waterford, CT, and Jane Carlson, of Garden City, NY, as well as their husbands.

Patricia was known for her kind spirit and deep concern for others. She enjoyed long conversations, staying active through fitness programs at the nearby YWCA, and sharing her home with many beloved cats and dogs. She is survived by a son, William, of Norwalk, CT; a daughter, Claudia, of Greenwich, CT; and many nieces and nephews. All were blessed with the time they had to share with her.

Donations in her memory may be made to Wheel it Forward, https://www.wheelitforwardusa.org/donate-money

Her children would also like to acknowledge all her outstanding caregivers in recent years, who gave so much of their time to help her feel at home and secure: including Christine, Debbie Ann, Simone and Tanya at Sterling Care, as well as the excellent staff at Bridges at Norwalk, including Verone, Vladimir, Sherieka, Fontella, Joel, Jade, Tim, Queen, and Anne, and also, the people at River House, in Cos Cob, who helped keep her spirits up during COVID.

A Wake was held on Wednesday, October 28, at Leo P Gallagher Funeral Home, Greenwich, CT. Interment was private.



JEANETTE MOYE

Jeanette (Rusty) Moye passed away on October 18, 2026 Stamford hospital.

She was born on August 29, 1929, in Torrington, CT.

She attended CCSC Central Connecticut State College with a degree in Business Education where she met her husband Eugene James Moye. They married on March 17, 1951 and had a wonderful marriage.

As well as raising their 4 children, she was known for her participation in the NAACP, Scholarship organizations, friends of Cos Cob library and worked for many years at the Greenwich Housing Authority.

She had a passion for reading, and travel with her husband.

She is survived by their 4 children; son Eugene Moye Jr., daughters Neria Moye, Susan Moye, and Dee Moye Hoban; 5 grandchildren Camilla, Sean, Amir, Eugene and Ryan and 7 great-grandchildren.

The service was held Friday, October 23, 2026 at the Gallagher and Sons funeral home, private burial at Putnam cemetery.

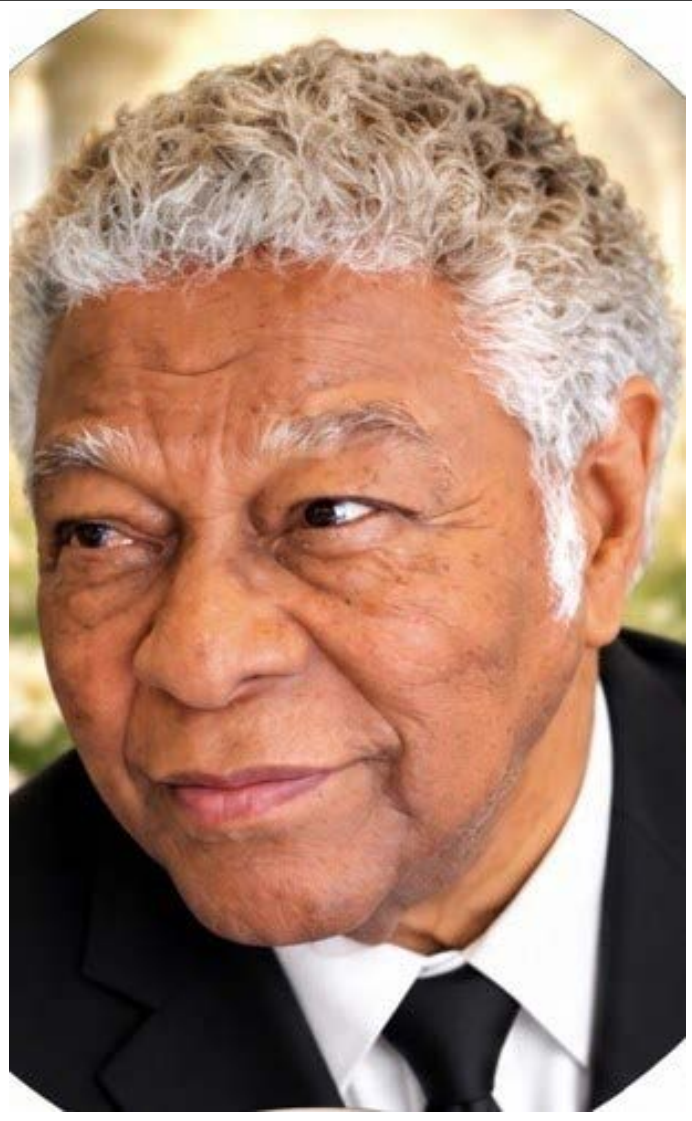
Donations can be made to Friends of Cos Cob Library and UNESCO.

HARRIET MAZER

Harriet Mazer, age 97, died peacefully on October 17, 2026, in Denver, Colorado. Born Harriet Lois Wedeen and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Harriet attended Syracuse University and graduated from Columbia. In 1951, she married David Mazer, beginning a nearly 67-year marriage. Together they raised four children in Scarsdale, NY, and later Greenwich, CT.

Harriet and David shared a wonderful life filled with travel, skiing, golf, art, architecture, and entertaining. A lifelong liberal, Harriet volunteered with Planned Parenthood and attended her last political protest at 96.

Predeceased by David in 2018, Harriet spent her final year in Denver, close to family. She is survived by her four children, Andrew, Michael, Susan, and Nancy (Mazer) Marasco, along with their families.



FRANK MOHAMED
02/24/1929 - 10/17/2026

The Life and Legacy of Francis "Frank" Burns Mohamed

Born on February 24, 1929, Frank Burns Mohamed was the son of John Mohamed and Mervin Welch Mohamed. He grew up in Greenwich, CT, where he graduated from Greenwich High School. He later pursued higher education, completing one year of college in Ohio. His roots in the Greenwich community remained an important part of his life and legacy.

Frank was united in marriage to his beloved wife, Janice, and together they shared 64 wonderful years of marriage. Their enduring love, commitment, and devotion to one another were a testament to the strength of their bond and the beautiful life they built together. Throughout the years, Frank cherished his family and treasured the many memories they created.

Frank was a hardworking and dedicated man who pursued various careers throughout his lifetime. A skilled mover and talented bartender, he was known for his strong work ethic, experience, and ability to connect with people. He later devoted many years of service to the State of Connecticut as Superintendent of the Greenwich Turnpike toll operations, a position he held until his retirement in 1979. Even after retirement, Frank continued working in private transportation, providing personalized services to a select group of individuals. His determination, independence, and willingness to work never faded.

Frank took great pride in his family, his accomplishments, and the life he built over the years. He was a man whose life reflected perseverance, dedication, and a strong sense of responsibility. His wisdom, life experiences, and the memories he shared with those closest to him will remain a treasured part of his legacy.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, John and Mervin Mohamed; his beloved daughter, Sally Ann Mohammed; his sons, Kelvin Moore and Guy Chase; and his sisters, Helen Brown and Joan Romas. Although their passing left an immeasurable void, their memories remained forever in his heart.

Frank leaves behind a lifetime of cherished memories with his devoted wife of 64 years, Janice Mohamed; his loving daughters, Gaye Chase and Cynthia Mohamed; and his beloved sons, Francis Mohamed Jr. and Christopher Mohamed.

He also leaves behind his cherished grandchildren: Vaughn Howard, Tanisha Collins, Rashima Mohammed, William Kasim Burch, Rossi McCrae, Felicia Chase, Treavor Mohammed, John Branch, Lindsey Chase, Francis Mohammed III (Trae), Patrick Branch, Riyad Mohammed, Justin Moore, and Blair Branch. His legacy extends across generations through his great-grandchildren and the many descendants who carry forward his family's love, traditions, and cherished memories. He is also lovingly remembered by a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

Frank's life was marked by love, dedication, hard work, and countless cherished memories. While his physical presence will be deeply missed, the love he shared, the lessons he taught, and the memories he created will continue to live on through generations of his family.

His life was a blessing, his memory a treasure, and his legacy will live on forever.



BARBARA FREEMAN

Barbara Heberlein Freeman, 90, passed away peacefully in her sleep on the morning of Saturday, October 17, 2026, surrounded by her loving family in the comfort of her home in Cos Cob, Connecticut.

Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1936, Barbara was the daughter of Edward G. Heberlein and Ruth A. Heberlein. She grew up in Ridgewood, New Jersey, where she enjoyed cheerleading and developed an early appreciation for the arts. After graduating from Ridgewood High School, she attended the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in American Studies.

Following college, Barbara began her career with the merchandising training program at Bloomingdale's in New York City. While in New York she met and later married Jonathan W. Freeman from Pittsburg, PA in 1961. They made their home in Cos Cob, CT and spent wonderful summers in Weekapaug, Rhode Island, creating many lasting memories with family and friends. After raising her children, she continued her professional life as Program Coordinator at the Greenwich Historical Society, where she shared her enthusiasm for history, education, and the community.

Barbara devoted much of her life to volunteering and civic engagement. She served on the Board of Directors of the Greenwich Botanical Center, and was a past President of the Greenwich Decorative Arts Society. She loved leading Girl Scout Troop 456, was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, and volunteered and led many committees with the Junior League of Greenwich. Throughout her life, she was especially passionate about teaching the arts and sharing her love of crafts and creativity with others.

Barbara was an inquisitive and thoughtful person, a wonderful listener, and an endless source of knowledge on a wide range of subjects. She believed that we should all remain lifelong learners and inspired those around her to explore, discover, and learn more about the world. She also had a contagious laugh that could emerge at any moment, bringing joy to those fortunate to have known her. She found happiness in visiting museums, arranging flowers, cooking, creating crafts, and participating in her church community. Her artistic spirit and generous nature were evident in the many ways she shared her talents with others. Above all, Barbara cherished her family and the many dear friends with whom she shared her life.

Barbara is survived by two daughters, Elizabeth Freeman Masterson (John Breck) and Sarah Whitehouse Freeman; her grandchildren, Jonathan B. Freeman Masterson and Everett W. Freeman Masterson; her sister, Karen Heberlein; and her brother, Gery Heberlein. She was predeceased by her husband, Jonathan W. Freeman, who passed away in September 1994.

Barbara leaves behind a legacy of artistry, curiosity, kindness, and lifelong learning. She shared her creativity generously with the people and communities she loved, inspiring others to appreciate beauty, embrace new experiences, and continue learning throughout their lives. She will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all those whose lives she touched.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

PETER DODGE

Peter Mapes Dodge of Greenwich, CT, passed away peacefully on October 16, 2026, following a long illness. Peter was a devoted father, loving husband, and an eternal optimist. He had to be, he was a Mets fan. Born in 1942 in Philadelphia, the son of the late Carolyn McClees and Robert Mapes Dodge, Peter graduated from Haverford School, Williams College, and attended Wharton Graduate School. After college, Peter spent six years as a member of the First City Troop of Philadelphia, the original first national guard unit dating to 1774. Peter's career in finance included the First Boston Corporation in New York; Anaconda Wire and Cable; Doyle, Dane Bernbach; W.P. Carey; and The Richman Group. Over the years, his positions afforded him the opportunity to travel throughout the US and abroad, including Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, and a two-year assignment in Brazil. Peter enjoyed membership in several historic organizations including the St. Nicholas Society, and he served as President of the New York State Society of the Cincinnati and Assistant Treasurer of the General Society of the Cincinnati. Peter was an enthusiastic tennis player, an expert skier, and a formula one enthusiast. His enthusiasm for cars and racing led him to enroll in an SCCA racing program, and he raced at various tracks including Limerock and Bridgehampton, setting several track records.

Peter is survived by his wife, Gina Konstant Dodge, his daughter, Sybil Fayelle Collins and her husband Hugh, their children Maeve and Gavin; his sister, Pamela Dodge Tucker and her two children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and his half-sister Mary Sturges Dodge and her husband Tom Evans. In addition to his parents, Peter was preceded in death by his stepfather, Hans Edward Rothe, his ex-wife Ariane C. Dodge (nee Danlos); his half-brother Robert Mapes Dodge Jr., and half-sister Susan Kern Dodge, as well as a notable relative - his great-great grandmother, Mary Mapes Dodge, who wrote "Hans Brinker or the Silver Skates" and was editor of St. Nicolas Magazine for Children.

A private burial will be held at St. David's Church in Wayne, Pennsylvania.

PAMELA WEINBERGER

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Pam Dates Weinberger, mother, sister, aunt, great-aunt, and friend to many on October 15, 2026.

Pam's kind and gentle nature coupled with her intelligence and strong work ethic made her an excellent nurse, a profession she practiced for over 40 years.

Pam was born in Newark, NJ on August 8, 1947 to Herbert W. and Doris (Ryan) Dates. She was raised in Georgia and New Jersey, graduating from Livingston High School in 1965. She earned her Bachelor of Science in nursing from the University of South Carolina in 1969, where she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. Being a northerner in a southern state, Pam was one of the few nursing students sent to train in then-segregated black hospitals. After graduation, Pam practiced nursing in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Illinois, often in under-served communities.

As an adult, she settled in Ridgewood, NJ from 1976-1983 and then moved to Hinsdale, IL. There she was active in numerous organizations including The League of Women Voters, Robert Crown Center for Health Education and Garfield Park Conservatory. She continued nursing until she retired from Northwestern University Hospital in 2012, though she remained current on advances in her field until nearly the end of her life.

Her interests were diverse and many. An avid baseball fan, she was known for diligently keeping the box score while balancing a requisite hot dog. She was a discerning operagoer and visited opera houses around the world, from Santa Fe, NM to La Scala. Her appreciation of hymns and choral music brought her to Second Presbyterian Church (Chicago, IL) and Second Congregational Church (Greenwich, CT), where she attended services for many years. Pam earned her master gardener designation from the Chicago Botanic Garden and was a certified yoga instructor.

Pam's well-known sangfroid complemented the adventurer within. In her 20s, she learned to ski at night in jeans in upstate New York. Packing her own medical gear, Pam took her then 16 year old son Jonathan on safari in Kenya and to trek Mount Kilimanjaro, where she negotiated their safe passage out of Tanzania amid a civil uprising. For her 50th birthday, she decided to take up running and completed the Chicago Marathon, in her stated time goal. Family and friends alike relied on her advice and cool headedness.

She skied in Park City, UT, spent time in Michigan City, IN, where she was a member of Long Beach Country Club, and in Bonita Springs, FL, where she was a member of Highland Wood Golf and Country Club. She recently relocated to Aegis Living in Corte Madera, CA.

She is survived by her son Jonathan, and his wife, Lisa Baker of Greenbrae, CA and his father David B. Weinberger of Chicago, IL; her sisters Penny Betters (Paul) of Hendersonville, NC, Joanne Olsen (John) of Scottsdale, AZ, Melissa Schmidt of Richmond Hill, GA and Amy Fletcher (Shaun) of Greenwich, CT; her nieces and nephews Shannon, Ryan, Kristin, Brian, Brenna, Ted; and grandnieces and nephews Caroline, Natalie, Connor, Nicholas and Oliver.

Donations may be made in her name to the Michael J. Fox Foundation. A celebration of her life will be held at a future date.



NANCY POLAND

Nancy Ann Poland, age 100, mother of Greenwich resident Susan Poland, passed away peacefully in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, October 3, 2026, with her daughter Sarah by her side.

Nancy was born on May 29, 1926 in Minneapolis, MN to L.F. Leland and Wilma S. Leland. She received her B.A. degree from Randolph-Macon Women's College (as it was then known) in Lynchburg, VA and pursued graduate studies in English in London shortly after World War II, when she noticed that the buildings were still pock-marked by bomb fragments. At times, London's now-quiet, forlorn streets and parks seemed to her to echo the radio broadcasts of Edward R. Murrow that she had listened to as a girl far away in Minneapolis, sheltered by loving parents.

Nancy began a career in journalism modestly in rural Minnesota, writing for The Minneota Mascot, then moved to Washington, D.C. to work in the press office of a government department. On December 26, 1953 she married Sherman S. Poland. While raising their four daughters, Nancy went on as a freelance journalist to interview prime ministers, authors and public figures, primarily in England, including Edward Heath, Harold Macmillan, Harold Wilson, C.P. Snow, Margaret Drabble, John Profumo and members of the Longford family, among others. Her interviews and articles were published in The Washington Post and Harvard Magazine.

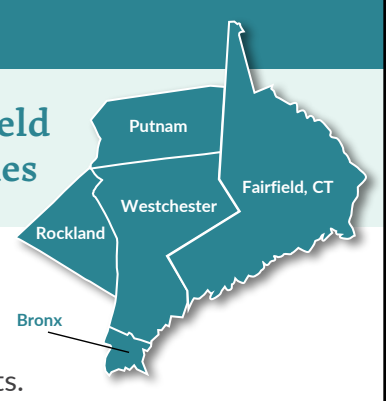
Nancy's curiosity, optimism and enthusiasm for people of all professions, religions, ethnicities and races endured until her final days. She knew the personal histories and national origins of her caregivers at her assisted living residence in Washington, D.C. While she lived in Washington, D.C. and then in Philadelphia, PA, she was an active member of the American News Women's Club and the Cosmopolitan Club of Philadelphia, respectively.

When Nancy herself was interviewed by local television and cable news reporters on September 23, 2026, she was asked for her secret to a long life. She responded, "Live, every day, six days at a time, not just one day at a time!" Her 100th birthday wish was "to live another 100 years." That wish, and her long search for a publisher for her biography of an English family, were the only disappointments she would ever have acknowledged. Besides her husband, daughters and granddaughter, Nancy loved books, writing and travel. As is often the case with writers, at times even the Hereafter appeared to vie for her affection in competition with the Fourth Estate.

Nancy was predeceased by Sherman, her husband of 59 years, in 2013 and by a son-in-law, Paul, in 2025. She is survived by her four beloved daughters, Susan, Leslie, Courtney and Sarah, one dear granddaughter, Alex and her spouse Gabe, and son-in-law John. Memorial service and burial arrangements are being finalized. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to theguardian.org, the U.S. nonprofit arm of The Guardian newspaper.

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Next Legislative Agenda
From Page 1

Citizens' Assembly. By Tuesday night, the report and its authors were shaping questions at the final gubernatorial debate.

Those questions and the candidates' answers offer an early preview of the policy discussions likely to occupy Hartford next year, although its proposals are recommendations, not yet legislation.

The Connecticut Citizens' Assembly on Property Taxes is a panel of roughly 100 randomly selected Connecticut residents, organized by the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities in collaboration with Yale University, the University of Connecticut and the state comptroller's office, to study property taxes and recommend reforms to state lawmakers. Its ten recommendations extend beyond tax rates to the authority of school boards, the state's obligations to towns and the future of municipal services.

The report is intended to have a political life beyond its release. State Comptroller Sean Scanlon plans to convene assembly participants into a working group to advocate for the recommendations through at least the end of the 2027 legislative session. Legislative leaders from both major caucuses have committed to meeting with the group, according to the report.

On Tuesday evening at Mohegan Sun, the conference's chief executive, Joe DeLong, and two assembly participants questioned Lamont and Republican challenger Ryan Fazio before a statewide television audience. Their questions about tolls, school administration, and unfunded state mandates made the citizens' report a prominent part of the debate. Earlier in the day, Fazio had addressed the report at a State Capitol press conference.

The answers revealed a distinction that will follow the proposals into Hartford: agreement that property taxes are too high does not establish agreement about who should pay instead, or who should surrender authority in the name of savings.

The Return of Tolls

DeLong asked whether either candidate would accept highway tolls if the revenue allowed Connecticut to eliminate municipal motor vehicle taxes. Fazio answered, "I do not support new taxes on Connecticut residents." He praised the assembly's attention to property taxes but said he would concentrate on reducing unfunded state mandates.

Lamont's answer reached back to the first year of his governorship. "I actually tried something like that a while back," he said. "Nobody wanted to do that." His unsuccessful 2019 tolling campaign had sought money for transportation, rather than the specific car-tax tradeoff now proposed by the assembly.

According to the assembly's report, a "2023 state analysis estimated that interstate tolls could generate approximately $950 million annually, with roughly 40% of that revenue coming from out-of-state drivers." For residents who drive frequently on interstate highways, however, exchanging a car tax for tolls could increase transportation costs, a tradeoff the report acknowledges: "The primary tradeoff is that tolling would shift a portion of the tax burden from property and motor vehicle taxes to drivers who use Connecticut's tolled highways."

School Regionalization

A representative of the assembly asked the candidates about consolidating school-district administration and other back-office functions. Fazio replied, "I do not believe in forced regionalization." He invoked earlier attempts to require school district mergers and said local control must be preserved.

Lamont agreed that sharing administrative services could save money, but rejected the description of his approach as compulsory. He described efforts to share building inspectors, planners and other municipal expertise through regional councils of governments.

That exchange concerned a narrower question than the one posed by the assembly's written recommendations. The report proposes that "by 2028, a dedicated state commission should be established with the authority to enact school district regionalization policies and adopt a comprehensive implementation plan for the upcoming legislative session." It does not call for immediate compulsory school-district mergers. It does, however, acknowledge possible losses of local control over elected boards and hiring, as well as the potential loss of neighborhood schools.

Connecticut has visited this terrain before. In 2019, a proposal introduced by Senate President Pro Tem Martin Looney would have required many towns with to join regional school districts. The proposal produced substantial opposition. The new report revives the subject through incentives and administrative planning, while leaving open consequential questions about governance and local consent.

The Millionaires' Tax

A third proposal would add at least one percentage point to the state income-tax rate on taxable income above $1 million. The assembly recommends directing the additional revenue toward education, child care and health care, with the intended effect of relieving pressure on local property taxes.

The report argues that Connecticut relies too heavily on local property taxes, which consume a larger share of income for less affluent households. It also acknowledges a familiar objection: higher taxes could encourage wealthy residents to leave. The surcharge did not receive the same direct examination in Tuesday's debate as tolls and school regionalization, but it is explicitly part of the package headed for legislative discussion.

Other proposals could prove easier to negotiate. The assembly recommends state responsibility for all local special education costs, annual inflation adjustments for Education Cost Sharing grants, more time before new state mandates take effect and a formal review of the costs mandates impose on municipalities. Fazio emphasized mandate reductions at the debate. Lamont pointed to increases in state assistance and discussed a larger state role in special education. The dispute was not whether local budgets face pressure, but whether relief requires repealing mandates, expanding state spending, or both.

Who Put the Ideas on the Table?

The report contains a revealing acknowledgment: "Many of the proposals are evidence-based solutions that have been brought forward in the past and given a revised shape through the lens of our representative citizens' assembly." The assembly did not claim to invent every recommendation. It evaluated ideas that had already circulated in Connecticut policy debates.

That concerns Maria Weingarten of New Canaan, a co-founder of CT169Strong, the statewide organization that advocates local control of zoning and land-use decisions. A former auditor who serves on New Canaan's Board of Finance and Affordable Housing Committee, Weingarten says uniform policies can have very different consequences in cities, suburbs, and rural towns and described the assembly's findings as a possible "Trojan horse" for proposals that had failed previously in Hartford. "When you have 169 municipalities," she said, "that are some cities, some towns, some very rural communities, they all have different needs, different infrastructure, and so you have to respect and understand those differences."

The published methodology provides substantial evidence of genuine participant control. But its final recommendations reveal how readily familiar governmental proposals can acquire new public standing when endorsed by an organized citizens' panel.

The next legislature will decide whether any become law. For now, their arrival on the gubernatorial debate stage, their precise statutory detail and a planned advocacy campaign extending through 2027 make one point clear: Connecticut's next argument over taxes will also be an argument over the distribution of power between Hartford and its 169 municipalities.

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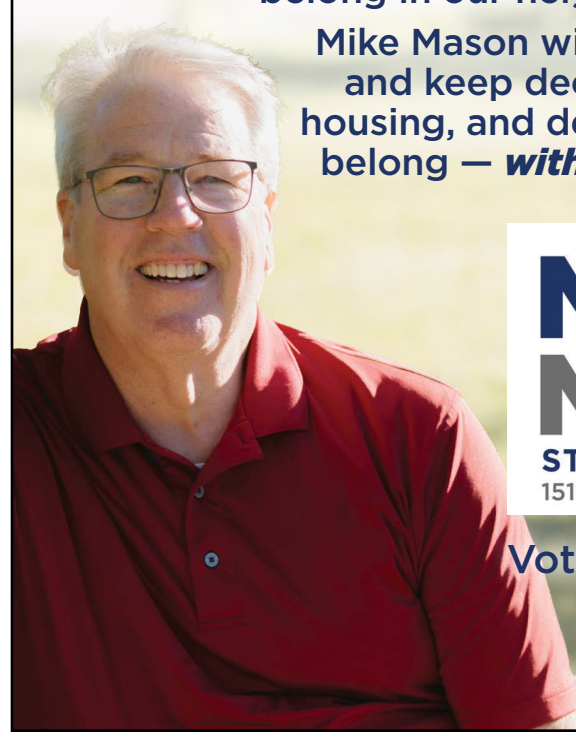
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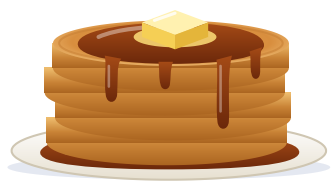
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THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT – CELEBRATING AMERICA 250

Remembering Strickland Road

By Mary A. Jacobson

Lincoln Steffens, a summer resident of Cos Cob in the early twentieth century, described Cos Cob in his book The Autobiography of Lincoln Steffens as "a little old fishing village strung along one side of one long street facing Cos Cob Harbor... It was a paintable spot frequented by artists who worked, painters who actually painted... by writers who wrote... by editors and publishers. It was an 'art colony.' We talked art."

Harry Lounsbury was raised in Cos Cob, in the Waring House at 30 Strickland Road, built by Captain James Waring in 1749. The home was purchased by his grandparents, Frank and Kate Livingston Seymour, in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Their daughter and Harry's mother, Margaret Seymour Lounsbury, returned to live there with her infant Harry in 1918, after the unfortunate death of her husband from the Spanish flu. Harry was interviewed by OHP volunteer Gertrude Reinhart in 1975.

"I came to live here in 1918 after my father died during the flu epidemic. We lived with my grandfather and grandmother . . . in the Waring House on Strickland Road that was built in 1749."

As Harry related, "This was an art colony frequented by all types of intellectuals... writers, poets, artists." A significant home in the area was the Bush-Holley House, dating from 1730, at 39 Strickland Road (now a centerpiece of the Greenwich Historical Society and a National Historic Landmark). A center of the Cos Cob Art Colony, it was operated "as a boarding house for artists and writers beginning in 1882 and was run by Constant Holley MacRae and her husband, Elmer Livingston MacRae... She always had 'paying guests'... The house was very well known throughout the last century for the people who summered there... Willa Cather came here... Childe Hassam, the artist, stayed there." Family lore included the story of Hassam's painting of Harry's mother as a child in front of the Waring house. "I guess she badgered the daylights out of him and finally he put her in the picture."

As a young boy growing up in Cos Cob, Harry had vivid summertime memories of the iceman arriving in a horse-pulled wagon, lugging a 50-pound block of ice into the wooden refrigerator. "All the kids would gather around, and he would chop off some ice and hand it to us" – a treat for a child to savor on a hot summer's day. Wintertime scenes included the delivery of milk by horse-drawn sleigh from Round Hill Farms dairy. The horse was very well trained. The milkman never used to have to tell him where to stop; he knew exactly what stops to make."

The Great Depression of 1929 "hit us. My mother was a teacher, and my grandfather lost his job with the New York World." In those difficult times, Harry remembered the kindnesses of Michael and Fanny Taylor, who owned the dry goods store located in the Hub, the small central shopping area of Cos Cob. "Mrs. Taylor could always find a piece of clothing in the back of the dry goods store that... she'd sell to my mother for twenty-six cents. She was that kind of person... the kind that couldn't do enough for everybody else around them."

Harry Lounsbury also recalled the summers he worked as a teen at Palmer Brothers Engines, Inc. on River Road. "I worked in the machine shop, chipping excess metal off of engine blocks when it came out of the foundry. I can remember they had unbelievable heat in that foundry." Harry would report to work at seven in the morning, leaving at six o'clock at night. "I used to just get enough time to run home to the house around the pond and get a fast lunch, and right back again...The hours that they work today are not the hours they worked in the early thirties, I can assure you." According to Harry, the Palmer engine factory "put out some of the finest marine engines for fishing boats that were ever built."

In those days, the view on the water side of Strickland Road, "was nothing but salt marsh, wetlands; and there would be these long ramps set on pilings going out to deep water on the Mianus River. People would moor their boats and that's where they'd spend their summer nights when it was hot." Across the street from 43 Strickland Road, there was a coal yard "where the Thruway goes now... Big four-masted coal schooners would come up and moor along the wall." As for Mill Pond, it "was always silted in. I can remember when it was a lot deeper than it is now, much deeper... It was deep enough so that tugboats were able to get up to the bridge with their barges... You could hear the drawbridge open up (the railroad bridge at that time) and pretty soon you'd hear the tugboat chugging up the river."

The surprising and destructive Hurricane of September 21, 1938, was devastating. "The hurricane hit here as the tide was rising, which couldn't have been worse... The water was so high that it was coming over the railing of that bridge over there, just pouring like Niagara over that railing into the pond... We were completely marooned here for quite some time... The only way you could get to the Hub (business district) was by boat. All the stores were flooded out, trees gone."

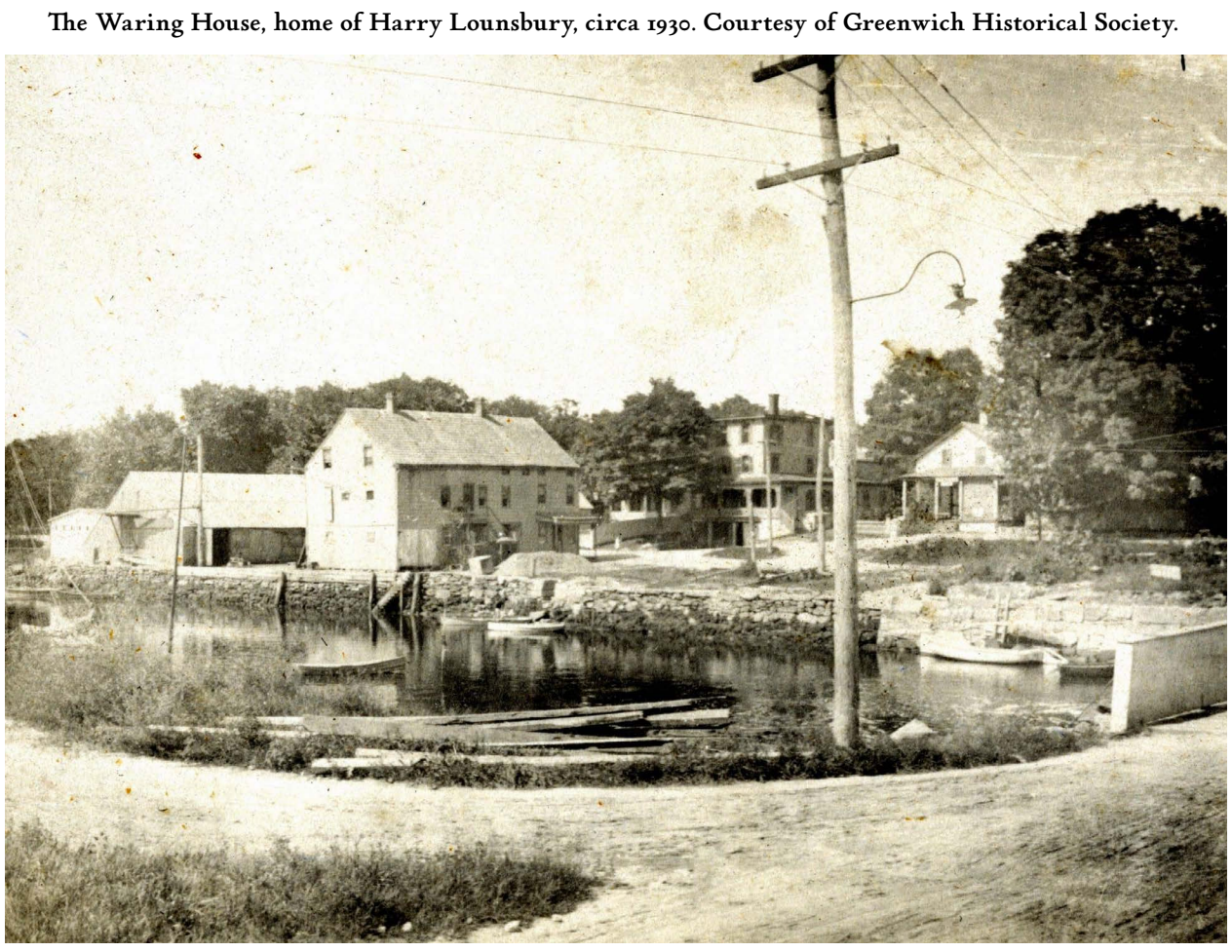
The Thruway construction of Interstate 95 occurred in the years 1956-1958. From Harry's viewpoint, that project "just cut this place to pieces... A succession of houses right down the street are all gone now to make way for the Thruway... The other side of River Road has all changed since the Thruway went through." Harry recounted one family's house after another that was removed. Before the Thruway was built, "you'd always find people sitting on the stone wall dipping a hook when the tide was in or going out fishing and crabbing." Family names of this tight community that Harry recalled included Brush, Ferris, Poucher, Kenyon, Funke, Lockwood, Geiser, Smith, Palmer, Kane, Booth, Sperco, Seitz, Chase, Burke, Hirschberg, Hatheway, and Warren, among others.

Harry Lounsbury was a proud member of the Greatest Generation who served his country during World War II. "I left town when I was twenty-one to go into the Army. I went in the day after Pearl Harbor... I put in five years, two years of it in the Pacific. I was an engineering officer in a bomb squadron in the Army Air Corps... From that time on, my life here in this part of town ended, because I never came back to the house (on Strickland Road). My grandfather died in 1942, and the house was sold."

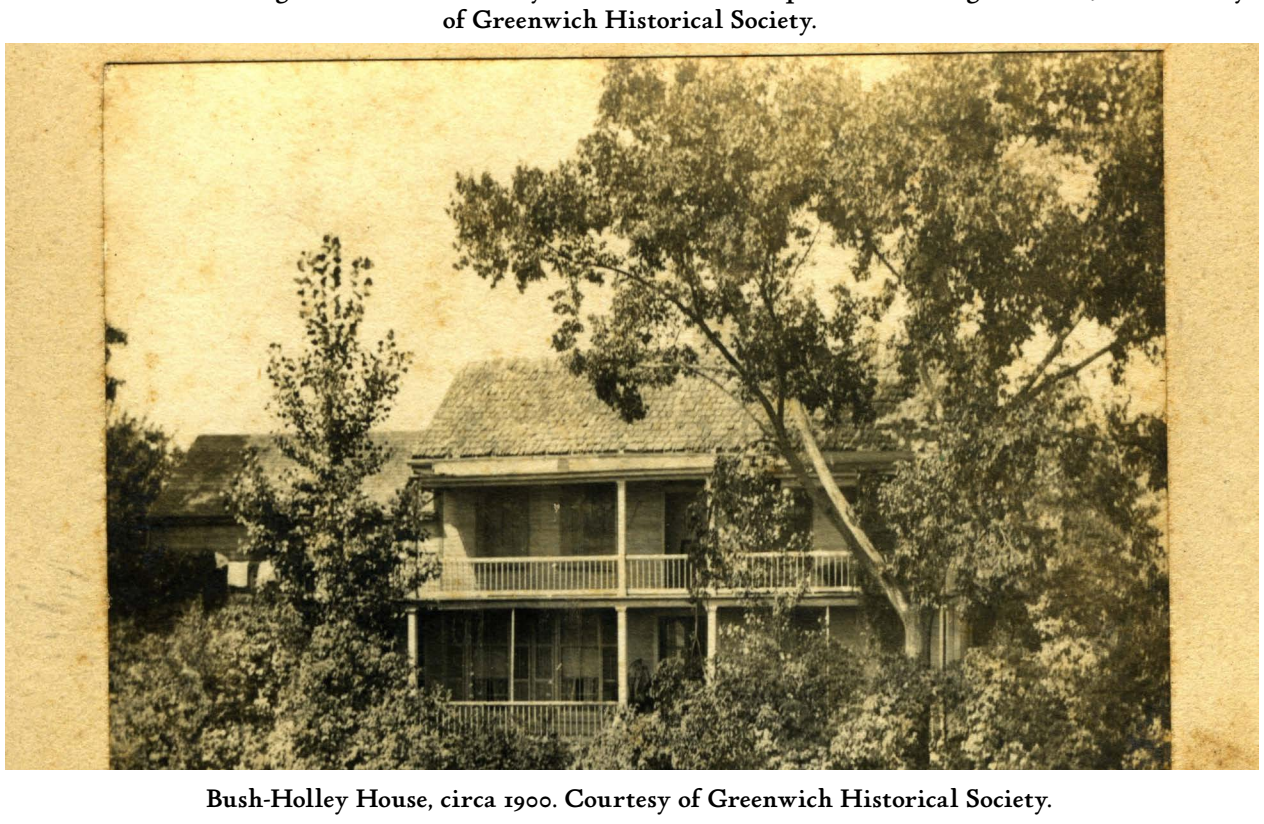
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The Waring House, home of Harry Lounsbury, circa 1930. Courtesy of Greenwich Historical Society.



View of Lower Landing of Cos Cob with Toby's Tavern on left and post office on right, circa 1900. Courtesy of Greenwich Historical Society.



Bush-Holley House, circa 1900. Courtesy of Greenwich Historical Society.

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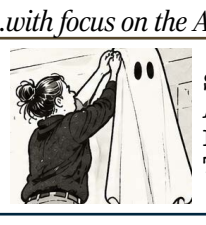
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WHEN GREENWICH ARTISTS CELEBRATED HALLOWEEN


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STOP ASKING ARTISTS TO EXPLAIN THEMSELVES

Rob Strati Finds Possibility in Porcelain



Rob Strati combines fragments of green-patterned porcelain with drawings of mountains, a sailing ship, and a stag to create an imagined landscape. Courtesy of Cavalier Gallery.

By **Emma Barhydt**

A broken porcelain plate, once part of a family collection, became the unlikely beginning of an artistic practice that has since transformed fragments of antique ceramics into elaborate, imaginative landscapes. This November, Cavalier Gallery in Greenwich will present Rob Strati: Patterns & Possibilities, an exhibition exploring the intersection of traditional decorative arts, contemporary drawing, and the stories that can emerge from objects left behind.

On view from November 5 through December 12 at 175 Greenwich Avenue, the exhibition will feature works from Strati's Fragmented series, in which pieces of vintage porcelain become the foundations for intricate ink drawings. An opening reception will take place Thursday, November 5, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The series began in the fall of 2020, when Strati's wife, Jocelyn, accidentally dropped a Blue Willow porcelain plate that had belonged to her late mother, Barbara. Rather than discard the broken ceramic, Strati kept one of its larger fragments on the family's kitchen island, where it remained for approximately three months.

As he studied the surviving piece, Strati began to notice the possibilities contained within its familiar blue-and-white decoration. A small figure crossing a bridge, a bird, and the suggestion of a larger landscape offered the beginnings of a scene extending beyond the porcelain's fractured edges.

On January 6, 2021, he created the first work in what would become the Fragmented series.

What began with a single inherited plate gradually developed into a distinctive artistic approach. Strati began incorporating other broken antique and vintage ceramics into drawings that preserve their original decorative imagery while expanding it into increasingly elaborate compositions.

His process begins with the selection and arrangement of porcelain fragments, whose existing patterns help determine the direction of each piece. Working primarily in ink, he extends the imagery beyond the ceramic, continuing architectural details, landscapes, and decorative borders across the surrounding paper.

Ships sail beyond the boundaries of their original plates. Architectural structures expand into imagined cities, while animals, human figures, and unfamiliar landscapes emerge from patterns that once served a purely decorative purpose. Some compositions incorporate surreal imagery, allowing recognizable historical motifs to develop into scenes that seem to belong to another time or place.

The resulting works combine the physical presence of antique porcelain with the precision of hand-drawn illustration. Their monochromatic palettes frequently echo the blue-and-white traditions of the ceramics themselves, creating visual continuity between the manufactured surface and the artist's contemporary additions.

An important influence on the series is the Blue Willow pattern, a decorative design with roots in eighteenth-century British ceramics and an aesthetic inspired by Chinese porcelain. Its familiar imagery of bridges, pagodas, trees, birds, and water has appeared on household tableware for generations.

By incorporating these patterns into his drawings, Strati engages with a visual tradition that connects fine art, domestic objects, and the history of decorative craftsmanship. The porcelain retains its original imagery and physical character, while the surrounding illustration introduces new possibilities for interpretation.

The relationship between the two is central to the work. The broken edges remain visible, marking the point where an existing object ends and the artist's intervention begins. Rather than reconstructing the plate as it once appeared, Strati develops a composition around its surviving elements.

His drawings also draw attention to the narrative possibilities of decorative imagery. A small boat, a distant building, or a figure crossing a bridge might occupy only a fraction of an antique plate, yet each can become the starting point for a much larger visual story.

Strati's compositions frequently allow these narratives to remain open to interpretation. Images unfold across the paper without requiring a single explanation, encouraging viewers to explore their details and imagine connections among the different elements.

The technique also reflects an evolving relationship between traditional craftsmanship and contemporary art. Porcelain patterns originally produced for functional household objects become components of individual works, bringing together materials and methods developed across different periods.

Strati studied art history at Ohio State University, graduating in 1992. His artistic practice has developed alongside a professional career in technology and research, and his work has

Continued on Page 5



A red-patterned porcelain fragment develops into a sprawling illustration featuring sailing boats, decorative motifs, and a waterfall in this work by Rob Strati. Courtesy of Cavalier Gallery.

WHEN GREENWICH ARTISTS CELEBRATED HALLOWEEN

By Emma Barhydt

In 1903, a group of Greenwich artists decided that carving a face into a pumpkin was an exercise best entrusted to professionals. Guests attending a Halloween celebration at the Holley House in Cos Cob were each handed a pumpkin and a knife, then instructed to carve the likeness of someone else in the room. Among them were portrait painters and sculptors, artists accustomed to studying the subtleties of human expression. Their creations were reportedly recognizable, although the results were not always flattering.

The unusual competition was part of an elaborate Halloween party hosted by members of the Cos Cob Art Colony on October 31, 1903. A newspaper account published November 6 described an evening of costumes, theatrical performances, literary humor, and supernatural diversions, revealing a playful side of some of Greenwich's most influential artists.

By the turn of the twentieth century, the Holley House had become a gathering place for American Impressionists. Beginning in the 1890s, painters including John Henry Twachtman, J. Alden Weir, Childe Hassam, Theodore Robinson, and Ernest Lawson were associated with the colony. Drawn to the waterfront village's changing light and picturesque surroundings, they helped establish Greenwich as an important center of American art.

The boardinghouse, operated by Edward and Josephine Holley, attracted writers, musicians, and performers alongside painters. Their daughter, Emma Constant Holley, married artist Elmer Livingston MacRae in 1900, and the couple subsequently helped manage the property. The house became known for its lively gatherings, where creativity frequently extended beyond the canvas.

Halloween offered an especially entertaining opportunity.

At the 1903 celebration, the finished pumpkin portraits were displayed throughout the house, their exaggerated expressions illuminated from within. Window shades were lowered, fireplaces burned, and flickering jack-o'-lanterns transformed the rooms into a gallery of glowing caricatures.

The costumes were equally inventive. Elmer MacRae appeared as a bearded lady, while Constant MacRae dressed as a character identified in the historical account as the Wild Woman of Borneo. Other guests portrayed a serpent dancer, a vampire, a pumpkin, and assorted theatrical figures. Some disguises reflected the ethnic stereotypes and exoticized characters common in popular entertainment of the period.

A costume parade wound through the house, led by Edward Holley carrying a gramophone playing Beethoven's Turkish Patrol March. Dinner featured readings from a special Halloween edition of The Cos Cob Scorpion, filled with jokes about members of the assembled company.

At midnight, guests descended to the cellar for apple bobbing, fortune-telling, and ghost stories. A magic mirror, palm readings, and playing cards promised glimpses of the future, while burning salt and alcohol produced eerie lighting for the evening's final entertainments.

The festivities reflected a broader history of Halloween as an occasion for artistic experimentation.

In Ireland and Scotland, traditions of guising encouraged participants to visit neighboring homes in disguise, sometimes performing songs or recitations in exchange for food. Masks and costumes fashioned from straw, discarded clothing, and household fabrics transformed ordinary materials into grotesque or humorous figures.

European masquerades contributed elaborate theatrical costumes inspired by historical, literary, and mythological characters. By the nineteenth century, these traditions were influencing American celebrations, where homemade disguises and fashionable costume parties helped establish Halloween's distinctive visual identity.

Early Halloween photographs reveal extraordinary examples of improvised costume-making: distorted animal heads, oversized hats, papier-mâché masks, and figures wrapped in irregular layers of fabric. Their creators approached clothing almost as sculpture, using exaggeration and unexpected combinations of materials to produce striking effects.

For the Cos Cob artists, such possibilities were particularly appealing. The pumpkin-carving competition called upon the observational skills of portraiture, while elaborate costumes offered opportunities to experiment with character, appearance, and theatrical illusion.

The MacRae family's Halloween traditions continued beyond the 1903 celebration. An early twentieth-century photograph preserved by the Greenwich Historical Society depicts Constant and Clarissa MacRae, the couple's twin daughters, wearing elaborate scarecrow costumes. Born on Halloween in 1904, the girls grew up in a household where artistic invention was part of everyday life.

In subsequent decades, Halloween costume-making became increasingly commercial. Dennison Manufacturing Company's illustrated Bogie Books popularized decorative crepe-paper costumes, while Hollywood horror films introduced recognizable characters for costume makers to imitate. Manufacturers such as Ben Cooper later brought molded plastic masks and printed outfits into American homes.

Yet handmade artistry remained central to Halloween's appeal. In 1974, puppeteer and mask maker Ralph Lee helped establish New York's Village Halloween Parade, where giant puppets, sculptural masks, and elaborate constructions transformed city streets into a moving theatrical spectacle.

Today, costume designers and hobbyists draw upon techniques from theater, sculpture, fashion, and cinema, using everything from handmade textiles to prosthetic makeup and mechanical effects. The tradition of transforming everyday materials into extraordinary disguises continues alongside increasingly sophisticated methods of construction.

Bush-Holley House, at 47 Strickland Road, is now preserved by the Greenwich Historical Society, maintaining the legacy of the artists who helped shape Greenwich's cultural identity.

Their paintings remain the Cos Cob Art Colony's most celebrated achievements, but the account of that Halloween evening offers another glimpse of their imagination. For one October night, accomplished painters exchanged their canvases for pumpkins, their studios for a makeshift stage, and their familiar appearances for outrageous disguises.

More than a century later, their celebration remains a reminder that artistic expression can take many forms, including a pumpkin, a costume, and a particularly unflattering portrait.



Top: A woman poses in a witch costume with a broomstick in Ohio, c. 1973. Photograph by Martin Brown, courtesy of the U.S. National Archives. Remastered by Jordan J. Lloyd.



Bottom: Girls inspect a jack-o'-lantern at the Kenwood School Halloween party in Minneapolis, 1944. Photograph by Powell Krueger, courtesy of Hennepin County Library. Remastered by Jordan J. Lloyd.



Constant and Clarissa MacRae in Halloween scarecrow costumes, early twentieth century. Courtesy of Greenwich Historical Society.

Christ Church Honors Lives Remembered

Christ Church Greenwich will bring together music, history, and remembrance on Sunday, November 1, with a performance of Maurice Duruflé's Requiem, one of the twentieth century's most celebrated works of French sacred music. The 5 p.m. service, featuring the Christ Church Singers under the direction of Jamie Hitel, will commemorate those who have died during the past year while marking the fortieth anniversary of the composer's death.

The service falls on the eve of All Souls' Day, traditionally observed on November 2, when Christian communities remember the faithful departed. Christ Church will recite its parish necrology, the names of those who have died during the preceding year, accompanied by Duruflé's Requiem, with Associate Director of Music Jonathan Vaughn at the organ.

The timing carries particular historical significance. Duruflé's Requiem premiered on November 2, 1947, coinciding with All Souls' Day. Nearly eight decades later, the Greenwich performance returns the composition to the observance for which its themes of remembrance, mercy, and eternal rest are especially appropriate.

Born in France in 1902, Duruflé studied at the Paris Conservatoire and became an accomplished organist, serving for decades at Saint-Étienne-du-Mont in Paris. His career developed during a period when French composers were exploring new harmonic possibilities while drawing inspiration from centuries of sacred musical tradition.

A meticulous composer who left behind a relatively small catalog, Duruflé completed his Requiem in 1947. It remains his best-known work, distinguished by its integration of Gregorian chant, the ancient form of sacred singing traditionally associated with Christian worship.

Rather than simply reproducing these melodies, Duruflé transformed them through twentieth-century harmonies influenced by French composers including Gabriel Fauré, Claude Debussy, and Maurice Ravel. The resulting composition moves between intimate passages and expansive choral writing, allowing the traditional Latin texts to guide its musical development.

Nearly eight decades after its premiere on All Souls' Day, Duruflé's Requiem returns to the observance with its enduring themes of remembrance, mercy, and eternal rest.

The nine-movement Requiem begins with the Introit and Kyrie, continuing through prayers for mercy, forgiveness, and eternal rest. Among its most recognizable passages is the Pie Jesu, traditionally performed by a solo voice. Later movements include the Agnus Dei, Lux Aeterna, and Libera Me, before the composition concludes with In Paradisum.

Drawing upon a traditional prayer asking angels to lead the departed into paradise, the final movement closes the work with an atmosphere of consolation. Its restrained conclusion follows passages of greater musical intensity, reflecting Duruflé's emphasis on peace and spiritual rest.

Unlike requiem settings that emphasize the drama of divine judgment, Duruflé's composition concentrates on prayers for mercy and eternal light. The Gregorian melodies provide a continuous connection to the traditions from which the work emerged, while its harmonic language gives those centuries-old texts a distinctly modern expression.

At Christ Church, the performance will be presented by an ensemble with its own longstanding place in Greenwich's musical community. Founded in 1972, the Christ Church Singers is an adult choral group composed primarily of volunteer musicians. The ensemble regularly participates in worship services, performing sacred compositions from different historical periods.

Hitel, who has served as Christ Church's Director of Music since 2008, will conduct the singers. Vaughn, the church's Associate Director of Music, will provide the organ accompaniment, continuing the tradition of instrumental and choral collaboration central to the parish's musical program.

The performance also reflects the historical role of requiem compositions in Christian worship. For centuries, composers have interpreted the Latin Mass for the Dead through changing musical styles, creating works that address mortality, grief, forgiveness, and the hope of eternal rest.

At Christ Church, the reading of the parish necrology will connect that musical tradition directly with the congregation. As the names of those who have died are spoken aloud, the service will recognize individual lives within the broader observance of All Souls' Day.

The All Souls' Requiem Eucharist will take place Sunday, November 1, at 5 p.m. at Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Avenue. The service will also be livestreamed through the church's website. Additional information is available at www.christchurchgreenwich.org or 203-869-6600.

WOWNY Returns to Christ Church

WOWNY brings together two distinct musical backgrounds, combining the expressive possibilities of the human voice with the harmonic range and improvisational freedom of the piano.

Two musicians whose careers span classical music, jazz, and improvisation will return to Greenwich this November for an afternoon of piano and voice.

On Friday, November 6, at 1:30 p.m., New York-based duo WOWNY, featuring pianist Naomi Onda and vocalist Yoshiko "Yoppi" Watanabe, will perform at Christ Church Greenwich as part of the independently organized, free Concert & Cake series.

Both musicians began their musical education in Japan before pursuing different professional paths. Onda established herself through classical piano performance and accompaniment, while Watanabe developed a career in jazz singing and vocal improvisation. Together, they combine their musical backgrounds in performances that draw on classical, jazz, and contemporary influences.

Born in Kagoshima, Japan, Watanabe grew up in Osaka, Chiba, and Tokyo. She began studying piano at age three before learning saxophone and trumpet. During university, she joined a jazz study group and was later discovered as a vocalist at a Tokyo jazz club.

Watanabe began her professional singing career in 2000, developing a style incorporating scat singing, a jazz technique that uses improvised syllables and sounds in place of lyrics. She released her debut solo album, The Love Song, in 2019, followed by Bubbles in 2023.

Onda also began her musical education early, entering a specialized music theory program at Osaka College of Music in first grade. She later studied at Miyagi Gakuin University and earned a master's degree in music from Osaka University of Arts.

After receiving the Sakai Newcomer Award in Japan, Onda moved to the United States in 2004. Her career expanded into jazz, popular music, and professional accompaniment, including work with Broadway casting auditions in New York City.

She has performed at Lincoln Center and the DiMenna Center for Classical Music, presenting works ranging from George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue to chamber music by Francis Poulenc and Igor Stravinsky. Improvisation has also become an increasingly prominent element of her performances.

Onda maintains a private teaching studio in Connecticut and previously taught at Riverside School of Music. In 2023, her student Shuya van Dooijeweert won first prize at the IPPA Conero International Piano Festival & Competition.

As WOWNY, the musicians released their debut single, Hanabira Namida, in 2024, followed by Trajectory in 2025 and additional recordings in 2026, including Voice. and IKKO. Their music incorporates Japanese popular influences alongside the jazz and classical traditions that shaped their individual careers.

Greenwich audiences previously heard the duo during a February 2026 Concert & Cake performance, which included selections such as Same Old Story and My Favorite Things from The Sound of Music.

Onda has served as assistant artistic director of Concert & Cake since 2025. Founded by pianist Rebecca J. Carda Leigh, the independently organized series pairs approximately 30-minute musical performances with complimentary cake and opportunities for audiences to socialize. The program has presented concerts in Greenwich, New York, London, Tokyo, and other cities.

WOWNY will perform Friday, November 6, at 1:30 p.m. at Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Avenue. Admission is free, and the concert is open to the public. Additional information is available at concertandcake.org.



Pianist Naomi Onda (left) and vocalist Yoshiko "Yoppi" Watanabe of WOWNY will perform at Concert & Cake on November 6 at Christ Church Greenwich. Photo courtesy of Concert & Cake.

Chamber Players Explore Music Across Generations

The Chamber Players of the Greenwich Symphony will continue their 55th anniversary season with performances on November 15 and 16, presenting a program spanning French musical traditions, twentieth-century chamber music, and contemporary American composition.

Featuring works by Erik Satie, Jean Cras, Valerie Coleman, and Reynaldo Hahn, the concerts will explore contrasting approaches to melody, instrumentation, and musical expression.

Among the selections is Maombi Asante (A Prayer of Thanks) by American composer and flutist Valerie Coleman. Written in 2006 for flute, violin, and cello, the piece reflects Coleman's interest in cultural influences and contemporary classical expression. Her compositions frequently incorporate elements of African American musical traditions.

French composer Erik Satie's Gnossiennes are recognized for their repetitive melodies, unusual harmonies, and contemplative atmosphere. Written primarily during the late nineteenth century, these unconventional piano works helped establish Satie's distinctive musical style.

The program also includes Quintet by Jean Cras, a French composer and naval officer. Completed in 1928, the composition combines flute, violin, viola, cello, and harp, exploring lyrical melodies, rhythmic variety, and intricate instrumental interplay.

Rounding out the program is Prélude, Valse et Rigaudon by Reynaldo Hahn, a Venezuelan-born French composer. Written for harp, the work moves through three contrasting musical forms, highlighting the instrument's expressive versatility.

Founded in 1971, the Chamber Players draw primarily on musicians from the Greenwich Symphony Orchestra and present four concert programs annually.

Performances will take place Sunday, November 15, at 3 p.m. at Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Road, Greenwich, and Monday, November 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob.

For tickets and additional information, visit chamberplayersofthegso.org.

Halloween Is America's Greatest Folk Art Tradition

Halloween Is America's Greatest Folk Art Tradition

Every October, Americans become artists. They turn their lawns into theatrical productions, their porches into elaborate installations, and their pumpkins into sculptures. They spend hours designing, constructing, arranging, and imagining, often with considerable ingenuity and very little practical justification. Then November arrives, the decorations come down, and many of these same people return to insisting they haven't an artistic bone in their bodies.

We would beg to differ.

Halloween may well be America's greatest living folk art tradition, a sprawling, wonderfully eccentric celebration of the creative spirit. Its greatest achievement, however, may be the way it reminds us that artistic expression belongs to everyone, regardless of training, talent, or professional ambition.

Consider the neighbor who spends three weekends building a haunted graveyard, complete with handmade tombstones, carefully positioned lighting, and an elaborate narrative involving several unfortunate skeletons. That neighbor has practiced sculpture, theatrical design, composition, and storytelling. Yet ask whether they consider themselves an artist, and they will probably laugh.

We suspect this says more about our understanding of art than it does about their abilities.

We have grown accustomed to thinking of artists as a particular category of people, those who exhibit in galleries, publish books, perform on stages, or possess some extraordinary creative gift. Certainly, these accomplishments deserve recognition. But somewhere in our admiration for professional artistry, we risk overlooking the quieter, everyday expressions of creativity that enrich our communities.

Perhaps we should be a little more generous with the word artist, and a little less concerned with whether creativity produces something worthy of professional recognition.



"Turns out, everyone's an artist in October."

Halloween offers a rather delightful corrective.

Folk art has always emerged from communities, inherited customs, available materials, and the desire to make something worth sharing. Halloween carries that tradition into the present with extraordinary enthusiasm. A cardboard tombstone, a hand-painted pumpkin, or a ghost fashioned from an old bedsheet may never find its way into a museum collection, but each represents the same fundamental human impulse to imagine something and bring it into being.

There is something particularly appealing about the freedom of it all. No admissions committees decide whose jack-o'-lantern deserves to be displayed. No curators determine whether a homemade ghost possesses sufficient artistic merit. Nobody needs to explain the conceptual significance of a skeleton emerging from a flowerbed.

People simply create, and the rest of us get to enjoy the results.

Better still, they create for one another. Halloween decorations are meant to be encountered by neighbors, admired by strangers, and enjoyed by children who may never learn the names of their creators. Each decorated house becomes part of a larger, collaborative exhibition, one that grows organically along streets and through neighborhoods.

In an age when so much of our cultural experience takes place through screens, there is something especially valuable about art that draws people outside, invites them to wander, and gives them a reason to appreciate the imagination of the person next door.

Of course, Halloween has become an enormous commercial enterprise, and plenty of decorations arrive ready-made in cardboard boxes. But creativity is hardly limited to making something from scratch. The arrangement, the storytelling, and the unexpected placement of an inflatable dragon can be artistic decisions in their own right.

We spend considerable time discussing how to make the arts more accessible, how to encourage creativity, and how to cultivate greater participation in cultural life. Halloween suggests that the appetite for artistic expression is already thriving, sometimes in the most unexpected places.

Perhaps we should be a little more generous with the word artist, and a little less concerned with whether creativity produces something worthy of professional recognition.

After all, the person who transforms a front porch into a haunted castle has accomplished something rather wonderful. They have imagined a world that did not exist and invited the rest of us to step inside.

For a few weeks each year, we remember that art belongs to everyone. We would love to see a little more of that spirit in November.

Happy Halloween, Greenwich!

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ARTS & THEATER CALENDAR

Friday, October 30

7 p.m. — Greenwich Library, 101 West Putnam Ave.
Friends Friday Films presents Sinners, a supernatural horror film written and directed by Ryan Coogler. Free; advance registration requested. 203-622-7900.

Saturday, October 31

Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Exhibition Highlights Tour, a guided exploration of selected works and objects on display in the museum's art and science galleries. Check with the museum for tour times and availability. 203-869-0376.

Sunday, November 1

1–3 p.m. — Bruce Museum, Cohen Education Wing, 1 Museum Drive.
Art Adventures: Cardboard Creatures, a family workshop inspired by the imaginative sculptures of David Butler. Participants will create articulated cardboard creatures. Ages 4 and older. Free with museum admission; registration not required. 203-869-0376.

2–3 p.m. — Floren Family Environmental Center, Innis Arden Cottage, Greenwich Point Park, Old Greenwich.
Fred Elser First Sunday Science: Where the Forest Meets the Sea, featuring Greenwich Tree Conservancy Executive Director Kate Dzikiewicz. The lecture examines Connecticut's coastal forests, their ecological importance, and efforts to protect and restore these habitats. Free; beach pass not required for program attendees.

5 p.m. — Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave.
All Souls' Requiem Eucharist, featuring Maurice Duruflé's Requiem, performed by the Christ Church Singers under the direction of Jamie Hitel, with Jonathan Vaughn at the organ. The service will also include the reading of the parish necrology in remembrance of those who died during the past year.

Monday, November 2

1–3 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
The Scandalous Stories Behind the Mansions of the Gilded Age, a Greenwich Decorative Arts Society lecture by architect and author Phillip James Dodd. The presentation explores the architecture, prominent residents, family histories, and scandals associated with America's Gilded Age estates. Advance RSVP requested at greenwichdecorativearts@gmail.com.

Tuesday, November 3

10 a.m. and 11 a.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Bruce Beginnings: Moving Mobiles, introducing young children to balance and kinetic sculpture through a story, gallery tour, and hands-on craft. Ages 2½–5 with caregivers. Free with museum admission; space is limited. 203-869-0376.

Wednesday, November 4

10 a.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Bruce Beginnings Junior: Moving Shapes & Mobile Play, featuring songs, movement, and sensory activities exploring shapes and kinetic sculpture. Ages 12–30 months with caregivers. $4 members; $5 nonmembers, plus museum admission. Registration required. 203-869-0376.

3 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
Bruce Beginnings: Moving Mobiles, a family program introducing balance and kinetic sculpture through storytelling, a gallery tour, and art-making activities. Ages 2½–5 with caregivers. Free with museum admission; space is limited. 203-869-0376.

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.

Monday–Saturday, 10:30 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. — Samuel Owen Gallery, 80 Greenwich Ave.
Contemporary and pop art selections. 203-422-6500.

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, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. — Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive.
A Great Breach in Nature: Aerial Photography by J Henry Fair. Through Feb. 7, 2027. 203-869-0376.

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.

Greenwich Arts Council Bendheim Gallery, 299 Greenwich Ave.
Between Here and There, the Greenwich Art Society's 110th Juried Exhibition, featuring paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, and mixed-media works. Selected by Antonia Pocock of the Whitney Museum of American Art. Through Nov. 19. Contact the gallery for viewing hours.

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.

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/



Rob Strati, Tall Ships Setting Sail and Seagulls in Flight (2026). Fragments of blue-and-white porcelain extend into an intricate maritime scene of sailing ships, seabirds, and decorative flourishes. Courtesy of Cavalier Gallery.

Continued from Page 1

subsequently been exhibited in galleries and cultural institutions in the United States and abroad, including the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

His recent compositions demonstrate the range of imagery that can emerge from the series. Works such as Tall Ships in the Harbor and Tall Ships Setting Sail and Seagulls in Flight, both dated 2026 and listed by Cavalier Gallery, explore maritime subjects through combinations of porcelain fragments and ink. Another work, Fragmented in Blue with Astronomer, Temples and Celestial Innovations, incorporates architectural and celestial imagery.

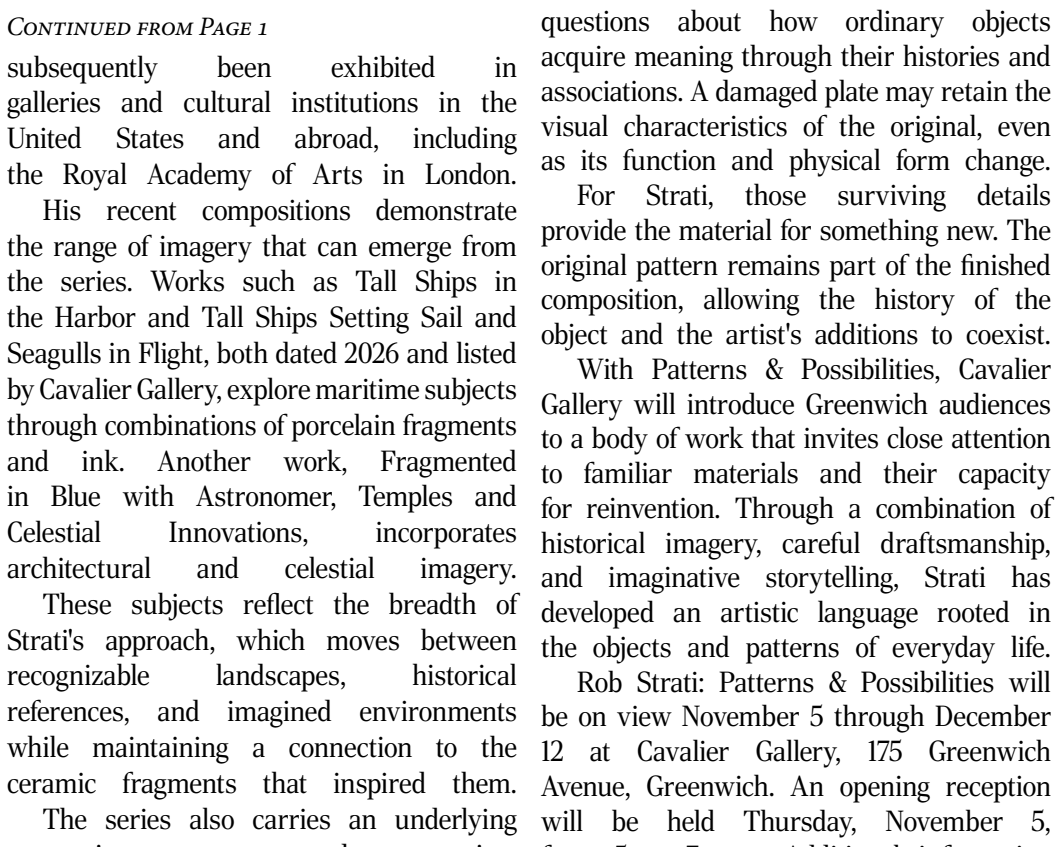
These subjects reflect the breadth of Strati's approach, which moves between recognizable landscapes, historical references, and imagined environments while maintaining a connection to the ceramic fragments that inspired them.

The series also carries an underlying connection to memory and preservation. Its origins in a family heirloom introduce questions about how ordinary objects acquire meaning through their histories and associations. A damaged plate may retain the visual characteristics of the original, even as its function and physical form change.

For Strati, those surviving details provide the material for something new. The original pattern remains part of the finished composition, allowing the history of the object and the artist's additions to coexist.

With Patterns & Possibilities, Cavalier Gallery will introduce Greenwich audiences to a body of work that invites close attention to familiar materials and their capacity for reinvention. Through a combination of historical imagery, careful draftsmanship, and imaginative storytelling, Strati has developed an artistic language rooted in the objects and patterns of everyday life.

Rob Strati: Patterns & Possibilities will be on view November 5 through December 12 at Cavalier Gallery, 175 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich. An opening reception will be held Thursday, November 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. Additional information is available at cavaliergalleries.com.



Rob Strati, Fragmented in Blue with Windmills, Couple and Fisherman (2024). Broken porcelain becomes the foundation for a Dutch landscape of windmills, boats, and figures rendered in delicate ink. Courtesy of the artist.



Rob Strati extends the imagery of red-patterned porcelain into an imagined landscape of sailboats, miniature architecture, and a towering waterfall. From the artist's Fragmented series.

Pointing Fingers Comes to Greenwich



Dan Bergmann and Emily Faith Grodin communicate using a tablet. Photo courtesy of Pointing Fingers official website.



Dan Bergmann and Emily Faith Grodin in a scene from Pointing Fingers. Photo courtesy of Pointing Fingers official website.

By **Amelia Woodhouse**

A murder mystery written by a nonspeaking autistic filmmaker and brought to the screen through a collaboration with his parents will come to Greenwich on Saturday, November 7, when the Greenwich Arts Council hosts a screening of Pointing Fingers. The event, beginning at 5 p.m. at 299 Greenwich Avenue, will benefit Flower Petals Adaptive Dance Company and include a discussion with members of the filmmaking team.

Written by and starring Dan Bergmann, Pointing Fingers is described by its creators as the first feature-length fictional film written by and starring people with minimally speaking autism. Directed by Bergmann's father, independent filmmaker Michael Bergmann, and photographed by his mother, sculptor Meredith Bergmann, the production brings together the family's artistic backgrounds to tell a story about independence, communication, and the assumptions surrounding disability.

The film follows Francis Morgan and Claire Montefiore, a young couple with minimally speaking autism who have established a home together with the assistance of a live-in caregiver named Daisy. Their lives change when Daisy is found murdered, leaving Francis and Claire facing suspicion in a crime they did not commit. As they attempt to identify the person responsible, the couple must navigate a criminal investigation and confront the prejudices of people who underestimate their ability to communicate, reason, and act independently.

Bergmann portrays Francis opposite Emily Faith Grodin, who plays Claire. Both actors have minimally speaking autism and use alternative methods of communication in their daily lives. Their performances are central to a production that places autistic characters and their experiences at the center of a fictional narrative.

For Bergmann, the screenplay represents an extension of years spent developing his writing and communicating through a letterboard. At age 12, he began using a method of communication involving pointing to letters, an experience that expanded his opportunities for education and creative expression.

He went on to attend Harvard Extension School, graduating cum laude in 2021. That same year, he was selected to deliver a student commencement address and appeared in a CBS Sunday Morning commentary discussing his experiences with autism and communication.

His interest in storytelling eventually led him to write Pointing Fingers, combining elements of romance, suspense, and crime fiction. The screenplay presents its central characters as individuals with relationships, ambitions, disagreements, and responsibilities, while examining how their communication differences influence the way others perceive them.

The production also reflects Bergmann's interest in creating opportunities for actors with disabilities to portray characters whose experiences are familiar to them.

"I wanted the most diverse cast and crew possible in Pointing Fingers, and as many differently-abled actors as we could reasonably cast," Bergmann explained in a statement published on the film's official website. He described his interest in portraying a society in which people with differing abilities participate alongside one another as an ordinary part of daily life.

The project became a family collaboration. Michael Bergmann, whose independent filmmaking credits include Trifling with Fate, The Reality Trap, and Tied to a Chair, directed the production, while Meredith Bergmann served as director of photography.

Meredith Bergmann is also known for her work in public sculpture, including the Women's Rights Pioneers Monument in New York City's Central Park. Unveiled in 2020, the monument depicts Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Sojourner Truth and was the park's first monument honoring historical women.

Filming for Pointing Fingers began in January 2025, with scenes shot in Massachusetts communities including Acton, Maynard, and Lowell. The film received an early public screening at the Maynard Fine Arts Theatre on May 9, 2026, where members of the cast and production team participated in a discussion about its development.

The Greenwich screening will provide another opportunity for audiences to hear directly from the people involved in creating the film. Dan, Michael, and Meredith Bergmann are expected to participate in the post-screening conversation, which will also welcome audience members who communicate through spelling, typing, and other alternative methods.

The event will support Flower Petals Adaptive Dance Company, a Greenwich nonprofit that offers accessible dance instruction for individuals with disabilities. Based at the Greenwich Arts Council, the volunteer-run organization provides dance programs designed to encourage creative expression, physical activity, and social participation.

The organization works with dancers of varying ages and abilities, providing opportunities to participate in recreational and artistic activities through an adaptive approach to instruction. Its programs are offered at low cost, with donations supporting its work.

The screening brings together the organization's focus on accessible artistic participation and the filmmakers' interest in expanding opportunities for people with disabilities in the performing arts. Both projects use creative expression as a means of participation in the broader community, whether through dance, filmmaking, writing, or acting.

The November 7 program will include the film, light refreshments, and a question-and-answer session with the filmmakers and members of the spelling community. Families, educators, people with disabilities, and other interested residents are invited to attend.

Pointing Fingers will be screened Saturday, November 7, at 5 p.m. on the second floor of the Greenwich Arts Council, 299 Greenwich Avenue. The program is scheduled to conclude at approximately 7:30 p.m. Admission proceeds will benefit Flower Petals Adaptive Dance Company. Tickets and additional information are available at flowerpetalsadaptivedance.com/events. Donations may also be made through the organization.



Demonstrators advocate for nonspeaking individuals' right to communicate in a scene from Pointing Fingers. Photo courtesy of Pointing Fingers official website.

SENTINEL FOUNDATION

SPOTLIGHT on FAMILIES

Friday October 29, 2025 — *brought to you by the Sentinel Foundation and its generous donors.*


CHILDREN'S GAMES AND PUZZLES

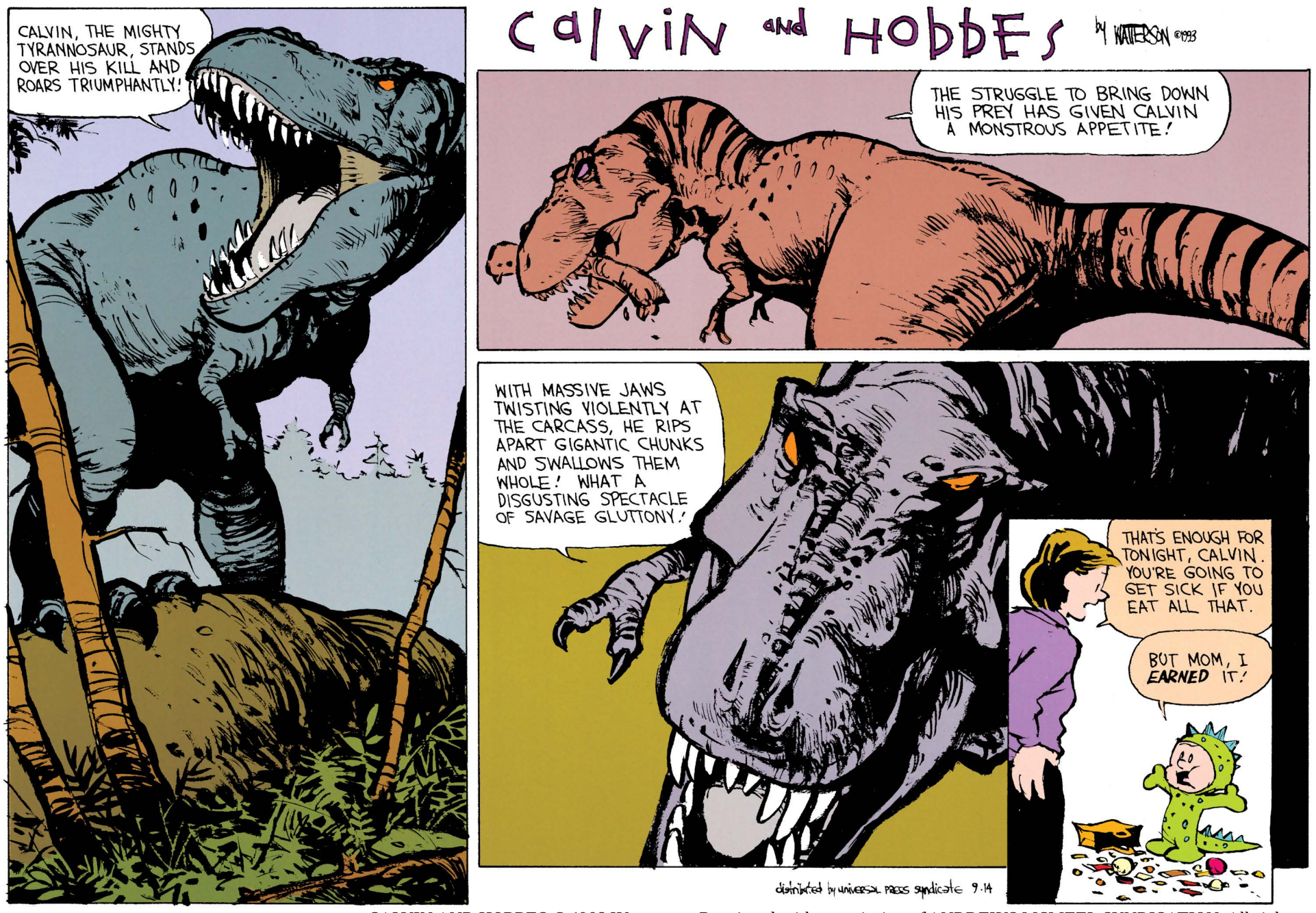

CROSSWORD PUZZLES



YOUR HOROSCOPE FOR NEXT WEEK



WHAT TO DO: COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR



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The Healing Power of Nature



By Jim Knox



Green Iguana

Mother Nature has a superpower known as healing. From animals who can replace 4,000 teeth in a lifetime, to beasts who can regenerate limbs and tails, these creatures roam the planet's wilds, overcoming adversity.

Tennyson's timeless words of, "Nature, red in tooth and claw" portray the wild world and its inhabitants in a harsh, if ever honest light. Though penned more than a century and a half ago, those words ring as true today as they have down through the ages. The wild is no place for the squeamish. That's for certain.

Nature's ever efficient and perfectly calibrated functioning ensures that the world's swiftest, most powerful, agile and resourceful creatures never go home on an empty belly. Theirs is a race—an arms race of hunter and hunted in which stealth and ambush catalyze fight and flight. Unfolding each night and each day, the players in this drama gain and lose in boldest fashion, where life surrenders swiftly to death. The energy is expended—never lost, so that from this very death, life inexorably springs forth.

Yet all is not a binary camp of victor and vanquished. There are innumerable creatures who feel the business end of tooth and claw, horn and maw, to stalk or flee another day. The lioness who suffers the wildebeest's kick, the sea turtle who shrugs the shark's bite, emerge far wiser for the encounter. "Once bitten, twice shy" begins to take on meaning beyond the figurative, don't you think?

Mother Nature has equipped each of her creatures with the unfailing ability to conceal all but the most pronounced injury and illness from the ravenous ranks of her hunters. Yet while they are expert in concealing vulnerability, savagery invariably erupts. It is from such encounters that beasts sustain the scars of battle. Be it a broken tooth or a torn ear, none who attain ripe old age go truly unscathed. For these wild warriors, nature has remarkable strategies for survival. There is a name for this umbrella sheltering the planet's creatures from the storming forces unleashed upon them. We know it as healing. This adaptive protection masks mechanisms we only partially understand.

Nature's healing handiwork comes in many forms and they are all astounding: hyper healing capability in Great White Sharks, closing wounds which would spell the end of other creatures, perpetual tooth replacement in American Alligators, furnishing more than 4,000 teeth on-demand for a lifetime of battle with rivals and prey alike, and autonomy--the unfathomable regrowth of tails, limbs and digits for select amphibians and reptiles!

There are certain creatures who go a step beyond the ordinary. Creatures who possess abilities which are seemingly impossible. Among them, is one familiar to many. The Green Iguana is an inhabitant of islands and rainforests from the Caribbean to the southern edges of Amazonia, and it may just be the world's most popular pet lizard. Attaining lengths of up to 6.6 feet, and weights of up to 20 muscular pounds, you would think these arboreal reptiles would have few enemies. Despite their size and power, Green Iguanas represent a protein feast for any predator able to bring one down. From the moment they emerge as three-inch hatchlings, they're on the menu.

So how does such a creature fend for itself in the ever-hungry world of the rainforest? Well, you remember "Nature, red in tooth and claw"? I know from experience that the Green Iguana certainly possess both, and uses them extremely well. Yet the big lizard has another defense which is both unexpected and astounding. Like certain amphibian cousins, including Connecticut's Four-toed Salamander, Green Iguanas are equipped with a trait known as autotomy which literally means "self severing". This gives them the ability to lose their tails in battles with predators and actually regrow them! Not only will the tail "break" along pre-set fracture points, it will move like a living creature, enticing a ravenous predator to focus on the movement and seize the guaranteed dinner twitching in its paws or jaws, while the stumpy iguana makes a dash for the safety of the nearest tree or river.

Remarkably, autotomy enables the Green Iguana to rapidly regrow the tail. Cartilage will replace bone in the regrowth area, and the texture and color will change a bit, but the tail will assume the same basic form and function as the original. What's more, autotomy is found across the animal kingdom, from snails and spiders, to crabs and lobsters...and at least one known mammal!

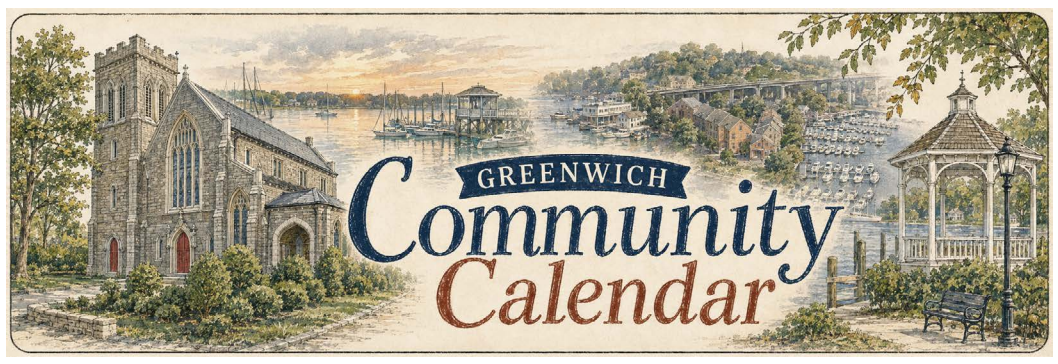
Yet nature's healing power doesn't end there. It merely begins. While her physical healing capabilities seem supernatural, it is Mother Nature's ability to heal what we cannot see, that is perhaps her greatest gift to each of us. Just as no one is immune to the pain of loss, life's journey exacts a different toll on each of us. There is no one balm for all.

A few years ago, I lost a dear friend who left us far too soon. On the heels of that loss, I reflected on the times we'd spent--growing up together--along with the fishing, hiking and wilderness camping that filled the summers of our young adulthood.

Not long ago, I took a hike we'd planned to take together, but sadly, had never gotten around to. We were to summit Mount Wolverine in Utah's Wasatch Range. On a crisp late summer morning, I headed out with a small group. The valley ascent went smoothly. At around 9,000 feet the air thinned and the gradient steepened. Though I prided myself on being prepared, sea level fitness and Rocky Mountain fitness were two different things entirely. I felt the weight of the mountain and I thought of my friend. Through high school and college, sports teams and weight training--we'd done it all together and never gave up. He was always there for me, never letting me give less than my best...and I did the same for him. I stopped just shy of 10,000 feet when the remainder of my party turned back. I looked down briefly and then up to the summit. When I made the final push that day, I made it for both of us.

The mountain breeze wicked away the heat and dust from the effort and left me feeling fresher than when I'd started. Nature is restorative, reaching us in ways we often can't articulate. Immersion in its soothing greens and blues quite literally lowers our blood pressure. It clears our brains of fog and brims our hearts with hope. While it cannot heal all that we endure, nature is both shelter from, and tonic for, a weary world.

Jim Knox serves as the Curator of Education for Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo and as a Science Adviser for The Bruce Museum. A member of The Explorers Club, Jim enjoys sharing his passion for wildlife conservation with audiences throughout Connecticut and beyond.



FRIDAY, OCT. 30

8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
'Spooktacular' Pickleball Tournament (50+ years). YMCA of Greenwich. Member: $20; Non-Member: $30. Register. greenwichymca.org/events

6:30 p.m.
YWCA Greenwich's The Fall Party. Belle Haven Club. ywcagreenwich.org/events/the-fall-party-2

SATURDAY, OCT. 31

9 a.m.
CPR Friends & Family (Infant/Child). 38 Volunteer Ln. $70. For discount information call 888-305-9253.

9:30 a.m.
AARP-Safe Driving Course. Greenwich Hospital, 5 Perryridge Rd. $20. Register. ynhhs.org/events

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Halloween Greet & Treat. Downtown Greenwich. greenwichmoms.com/event/greenwich-moms-greet-treat

5 - 8 p.m.
Trick or Treat at the Junior League of Greenwich. JLG House, 231 East Putnam Ave. All ages are welcome. greenwich.jl.org

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Greenwich Parks and Recreation: Halloween Public Skate. Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink. Come in costume and get free skate rentals. greenwichct.gov/parksrec

9 p.m.
Spooktacular Halloween party. Tony's at the J House, 1114 East Putnam Ave. $50. eventbrite.com/e/2002465974635

10 p.m.
l'escale's Halloween Soirée. l'escale restaurant, 500 Steamboat Rd. $45. eventbrite.com/e/1999501314256

SUNDAY, NOV. 1

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

1 p.m.
Fred Elser First Sunday Science: Where the Forest Meets the Sea: The Importance of Connecticut's Coastal Trees. Innis Arden Cottage, Tod's Point. Free. No beach pass required to attend. brucemuseum.org

2 p.m.
YWCA Greenwich November Artist in Residence: "Drawing from Within" by Carrie Malandrino Reception. YWCA's Gertrude G. White Gallery, 259 East Putnam Ave. Free & open to the public. 203-869-6501. ywcagreenwich.org

5 p.m.
Northeast Greenwich Association Annual Meeting. Greenwich Country Club, 19 Doubling Rd. northeastgreenwichassociation.org

MONDAY, NOV. 2

9 a.m.
Friends of Mianus River Park: 'Pliking'/Hiking event. Meet at the bridge on Merribrooke Lane, Stamford. (Bring gloves and a small trash bag). 203-918-2548. friendsofmianusriverpark.org

1 p.m.
Greenwich Decorative Arts lecture: The Scandalous Stories Behind the Mansions of the Gilded Age. Bruce Museum. Register. greenwichdecorativearts.org/programs

2:30 p.m.
The Alliance Française of Greenwich: Presentation: Basque Country Group Tour. 299 Greenwich Ave. RSVP by Nov. 2, 2pm. afgreenwich.org/event-rsvp/presentation-basque-country-group-tour

7 p.m.
The Beatles: A Magical Musical History Tour, with Eliot Goldberg. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. 203-637-1066. perrotlibrary.org

TUESDAY, NOV. 3

10 & 11 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings: Moving Mobiles (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Nov. 4. brucemuseum.org

10 - 11 a.m.
Perrot Memorial Library: Perrot Walks at Binney Park. Meet outside the front entrance of the Library. Free. 203-637-1066 x15. perrotlibrary.org

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Operation Christmas Child Packing Party – bring your children to the church while you take time to exercise your right to vote. Living Hope Community Church. RSVP required. onrealm.org/livinghopect/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=Y2Q1OGFkOGQtYzM2MS00Y2E3LWIwN2YtYjRjYzAxNWY0YTI0

12 p.m.
Women's Business Development Council (WBDC): From Grants to Growth: Moving Beyond Free Money. Online. Register. ctwbdc.org/class-listings

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

2 p.m.
Garlands for Grateful Gatherings: Family Floral Workshop. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, $60/garland; Non-Members, $75. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

5:30 p.m.
Preparing Dahlia Beds for Winter. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. GDS members, Free; GBC members, $10; non-members, $20. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4

10 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings Junior: Moving Shapes & Mobile Play (Ages: 12-30 months). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

10:30 a.m.
Bulb Lasagna: Container Workshop with Sandy Lindh of English Gardens & Designs. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, $70; non-members, $85. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

11 a.m.
Retired Men's Association of Greenwich: Seth Wickersham: "American Kings: A Biography of the Quarterback." Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. & on Zoom. Free & open to all. greenwichrma.org

4 p.m.
Crafting Connections – Snuffle Baskets for PAWS (Ages 5 & up). Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Registration is required. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.
Perrot Memorial Library and the Garden Club of Old Greenwich: "Colonial Gardens: Their Impact & Changes Over Time." On Zoom. Free. perrotlibrary.org

7 - 9 p.m.
Astronomical Society of Greenwich: Bowman Observatory Public Nights. Bowman Observatory, on the grounds of the Julian Curtiss School. Free. GreenwichStars@Gmail.com. astrogreenwich.org

THURSDAY, NOV. 5

11:30 a.m.
Parkinson's Body & Mind (PBM): In Your Corner: A Conversation on Brain Health. Burning Tree Country Club, 120 Perkins Road. PBM26.givesmart.com

12 p.m.
Sip & Shop – benefitting Swim Across America Fairfield County. Innis Arden Golf Club, 120 Tomac Ave. eventbrite.com/e/1998842155695

12 p.m.
Women's Business Development Council (WBDC): Marketing 101: A Practical Introduction to Marketing for Small Businesses. Online. Register. ctwbdc.org/class-listings

1 p.m.
Women's Business Development Council (WBDC): Showing up in an AI Search & What Businesses Need to Know. Online. Register. ctwbdc.org/class-listings

6 p.m.
Helen Hawkins Landscapes opening reception. Joeb Moore and Partners, 20 Bruce Park Ave. Free & open to the public. By appointment, Nov. 6-19. 504- 472-7048. dogwatergallery@gmail.com. helenhawkins.net

6:30 p.m.
Meet New York Times Bestselling Author Zoë Schlanger: The Light Eaters. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members or Educators, $25; Non-Members, $35. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

7 p.m.
Film screening: "Screenagers: Generation AI", followed by a discussion with OK to Delay and youth panelists. YWCA Greenwich, 259 E. Putnam Ave. Recommended for students in grades 6-12 & their parents/caregivers. greenwichtogether.org/event-details/screenagers-generation-ai

FRIDAY, NOV. 6

1:30 p.m.
Concert and Cake: Naomi Onda, pianist and "Yoppi" Watanabe, vocalist. Christ Church Greenwich. Free. RSVP (walk-ins are welcome). concertandcake.org

3 p.m.
The Great Pumpkin Rescue: Build a Worm Compost Habitat – in partnership with Waste Free Greenwich. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, free; Non-Members, $10. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

4 p.m.
Creative Ventures (Advanced): Fall Fuzz Bouquets (Ages 8-13). Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. perrotlibrary.org

SATURDAY, NOV. 7

9 - 11 a.m.
Greenwich Audubon Center: Birding Trip: Waterbirds & Migrants at Cove Island Park. Recommended for ages 6 & up. $15. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich+Audubon+Center

10 a.m.
Memoir Writing Workshop with Laura Woodward Cavers. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. 203-637-1066. adultprogramming@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

11 a.m.
Dividing Peonies & Fall Perennial Care: Hands-On Workshop with Emily Hammond. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, $15; Non-Members, $25. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

11 a.m.
7th annual Silver Shield Foundation Greenwich Walk. Tod's Point. silvershieldfoundation.org/greenwich-walk

1 p.m.
Science Solvers: Chemical Reaction Paintings (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Nov. 8. brucemuseum.org

4 p.m.
Opening Reception: "Birds of a Feather." Greenwich Audubon Center. Free. RSVP. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich+Audubon+Center

5 p.m.
"Pointing Fingers" – Film Screening & Q&A – benefitting Flower Petals Adaptive Dance Company. Greenwich Arts Council, 299 Greenwich Ave. $20. (646) 554-8623. Flowerpetalsadaptivedance.com/events

6 p.m.
India Cultural Center - ICC's 14th Annual "Celebration of Light" Gala. Hyatt Regency Greenwich, 1800 E. Putnam Ave. iccgreenwich.org

7:30 p.m.
Greenwich Symphony Orchestra concert featuring Albert Cano-Smit, Piano. Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School. greenwichsymphony.org

SUNDAY, NOV. 8

11 a.m.
Better with Butter! Make Your Own Homemade Butter. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

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

1 p.m.
Drawing Skills for The Serious Young Artist (ages 9-12 – 3 Sundays). Greenwich Art Society. greenwichartsociety.org/fall-classes-2026

3 p.m.
Dear Deer: Children's Storytime and Coloring with Local Author Dale Atkins. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Members, free; Non-Members, $15. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

3 p.m.
Greenwich Symphony Orchestra concert featuring Albert Cano-Smit, Piano. Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School. greenwichsymphony.org

ONGOING

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

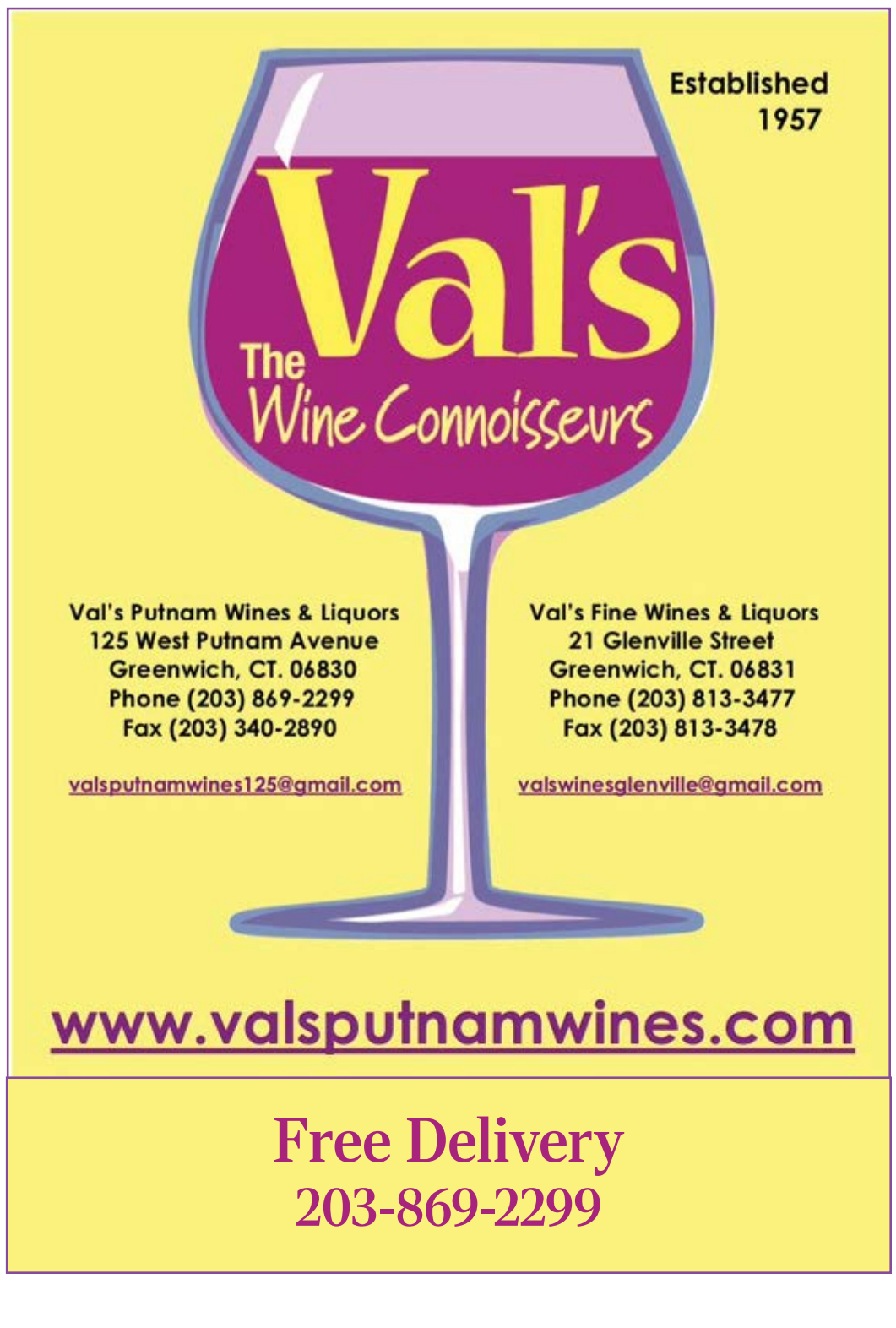
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

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.

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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

First THURSDAY of the Month

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Plant Doctor: Houseplant Drop-In Clinics. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. Walk In/No Registration Needed. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

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 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, Oct. 30
9:30 a.m.
Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Assistance. Learning Lab.
10 a.m.
Fall Garden Storytime (outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.
4 p.m.
World Music with Anitra. Cos Cob Library The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.
7 p.m.
Friends Friday Films: "Sinners." Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org
Saturday, Oct. 31
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.
3 p.m.
PrintLab: 3D Printing Studio. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org
2 p.m.
R.W.D. (Read, Watch, Discuss). Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org
3 p.m.
Halloween Blast: Spooky Stories with Laconia and Trick-or-Treat Party. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.
Monday, Nov. 2
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.
12 p.m.
Byram Lunch Bunch Book Club: "Anita de Monte Laughs Last" by Xochitl Gonzalez.
3 p.m.
Google Gemini. Learning Lab.
3:15 p.m.
Battle of the Books with Ms. Flynn (Grades 4 & 5). Byram Shubert Library Conference Room.
6:30 p.m.
The Cos Cob Evening Book Club. The McArdle Family Community Room.
Tuesday, Nov. 3
9:30 a.m.
Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Assistance. Learning Lab.
10 a.m.
Spanish Storytime (Outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.
10 a.m.
La Leche League of Greenwich/Stamford/Rye. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.
1:15 p.m.
Baby Lapsit (Storytime Lottery). Children's Constellation Room.
4 p.m.
How to Draw Dinosaurs with Bill Hernandez (Ages 5 & Up). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.
Wednesday, Nov. 4
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.
10:30 a.m.
The Nurse is in: Free Blood Pressure. Screening Byram Shubert Library Conference Room.
11 a.m.
Storytime with Doris (Birth - 5 years). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.
4 p.m.
Blood Pressure Screening with Greenwich Hospital. The McArdle Family Community Room.
4 p.m.
Wild Wacky Wednesday Yoga for Kids with Kristin (Ages 4 & Up). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.
4:30 p.m.
Fall Into Art: Planetary Art. Children's Constellation Room.
5 p.m.
Business Networking Event with Greenwich Chamber of Commerce. Marx Family Black Box Theater.
Thursday, Nov. 5
10 a.m.
Japanese Storytime (Outside). Cos Cob Library Front Lawn.
10 a.m.
PLAYdate! Children's Constellation Room.
11 a.m.
Tech Help. Learning Lab.
11:15 a.m.
Songs for Seeds (Storytime Lottery). Children's Constellation Room.
11:15 a.m.
Qi Gong. Online.
4 p.m.
Tai Chi for Adults with Ken Dolan. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.
4 p.m.
Art Society of Old Greenwich "Heavenly Beads" The Art of Vivien Ponniah. The McArdle Family Community Room.
7 p.m.
Ashforth Family Concert: "The Magic of Mozart" with Darwin and Friends. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.
Friday, Nov. 6
9:30 a.m.
Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Assistance. Learning Lab.
10 a.m.
Wiggle Worms Storytime. Cos Cob Library The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883.
2 p.m.
Fall Into Art: Color Party. Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org
7 p.m.
Friends Friday Films: "Pressure." Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org
Saturday, Nov. 7
9 a.m.
Common Threads Hand Crafts Meetup. Cos Cob Library The McArdle Family Community Room. 203-622-6883
10 a.m.
Satur-yay! Storytime. Main Children's 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
1 p.m.
Let's Pretend. Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org
2 p.m.
Children's Theater Workshop: Gobble Penny and the Falling Sky. Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org
2 p.m.
Chess for All with Ian (All Ages). Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426
2 p.m.
Jewelry Making Workshop. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org
Sunday, Nov. 8
So You Wanna Read a Play? - Wait Until Dark. 2nd Floor Meeting Room. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/17329497

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 l 1 - 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: redcrossblood.org
Saturday, Oct. 31
7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich, 1 West Putnam Ave.
Sunday, Nov. 1
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
Monday, Nov. 2
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
Tuesday, Nov. 3
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
1 - 6:30 p.m.
Saint Mark's Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge Road, New Canaan.
Wednesday, Nov. 4
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
West Harrison Senior Center, 251 Underhill Ave., West Harrison, NY.
Thursday, Nov. 5
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
11:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Masonic Lodge DARIEN, 354 Post Road, Darien.
Friday, Nov. 6
12 - 5 p.m.
Stamford Church of Christ, 1264 High Ridge Road, Stamford.
Saturday, Nov. 7
7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Idea Kitchen, 1940 Palmer Ave., Larchmont, NY.
Sunday, Nov. 8
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
Monday, Nov. 9
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church Stamford, 1101 Bedford St., Stamford.
Tuesday, Nov. 10
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

TOWN MEETINGS: greenwichct.gov/calendar
Monday, Nov. 2
10:30 a.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Sign-Meeting.
Tuesday, Nov. 3
3 p.m.
FS AI Task Force Meeting. Virtual via Zoom Only.
Wednesday, Nov. 4
7 p.m.
Architecture Review Committee (ARC) Regular Meeting.
Thursday, Nov. 5
11 a.m.
FS Sustainability Committee Meeting. Town Hall Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom.
1 p.m.
BET HR Committee. Mazza Room.
3 p.m.
BET Law Committee. Mazza Room.
3 p.m.
SPECIAL Flood Erosion Control Board Meeting.
7 p.m.
Conservation Commission Regular Meeting. On Zoom.
Monday, Nov. 9
1 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission Briefing.
3 p.m.
Energy Management Advisory Committee Meeting. Mazza Room.

SAVE THE DATE:
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
Thursday, Nov. 5
12 p.m.
Sip & Shop – benefitting Swim Across America Fairfield County. Innis Arden Golf Club. eventbrite.com/e/1998842155695
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's 14th Annual "Celebration of Light" Gala. Hyatt Regency Greenwich. iccgreenwich.org
Tuesday, Nov. 10
6 p.m.
Bruce Visionary Awards. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/events/bruce-visionary-awards-2026
Sunday, Nov. 15
3 p.m.
ICC Children's Diwali Party. Boys and Girls Club Greenwich. iccgreenwich.org
Sunday, Nov. 22
6:30 p.m.
BackCountry Jazz: A Great Night of Jazz. Round Hill Community House. pro.gofundme.com/event/bc-jazz-fall-benefit-11-22-26/e841485
Saturday, Nov. 28
9 a.m.
Greenwich Alliance for Education's Turkey Trot. Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. greenwichalliance.org
Wednesday, March 3, 2027
5:30 p.m.
YWCA Greenwich Women Who Inspire Awards. Greenwich Country Club. ywcagreenwich.org

Our Neighboring Towns

FRIDAY, OCT. 30

7 p.m.
Curtain Call presents "Dracula – A Comedy of Terrors". The Kweskin Theatre, 1349 Newfield Ave., Stamford. Performances: Fri & Sat, 7:30pm, & Sun, 2pm – through Nov. 15. curtaincallinc.com

8:30 p.m.
Ballet Hispánico New York: CARMEN.maquia. The Performing Arts Center – Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Harrison, NY. artscenter.org/events/ballet-hispanico-new-york-carmen-maquia

SUNDAY, NOV. 1

5 p.m.
Maurice Duruflé: Requiem. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan. $30-$50 (students $10). 203-966-4515. stmarksnewcanaan.org/event/requiem-maurice-durufle

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4

9:30 a.m.
Voices Center of Resilience: Parents Helping Parents – a peer-to-peer support group for those who have suffered the loss of a child. VOICES office, 80 Main St, New Canaan. Free. Register. voicescenter.org

THURSDAY, NOV. 5

10:30 a.m.
Zoo Tots: Night Creatures - A Halloween Adventure! (Session 2). Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Ave., Bridgeport. beardsleyzoo.org

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 Adrian Johnson

ACROSS
1 Zimmer of film scoring
5 Airplane staff
9 "Oh, sure ..."
13 Book drop opening
14 Catherine of "Schitt's Creek"
15 Kind of torch or bar
16 What's new?
19 Batteries, belts, bumpers and the like
20 Country singer Travis
21 The "E" of EGOT
22 Little songbird
23 "Alice's Restaurant" singer Guthrie
26 What's happening?
32 Fawn's mom
33 Denver-to-Kansas City dir.
34 "Tosca" solo
35 Coal piece
37 What's up?
39 Tuned engine's sound
40 Frankenstein's sidekick
41 Quaint confirmation
42 Lunch with a crunch, for short
43 What's good?
47 Draped pageantry item
48 Mess around, musically
49 Reply from a pen pal?
51 Vinyl collectible
54 Like camp kids who miss their parents
58 What's cooking?
61 Super eager
62 Has to have
63 Texter's "Conversely ..."
64 City surrounding Vatican City
65 Tosses in
66 In good health

DOWN
1 Bargain hunter's channel
2 "Smart" guy
3 Exploding star
4 Sound choice for a home theater?
5 Women's Basketball Hall of Famer Miller
6 Rapid transit vehicle?
7 Cupid, in Hellenic culture
8 Card game of chance
9 "Wait, they set us up!"
10 "Tres ___!"
11 Barely managed, with "out"
12 Minuscule
14 President who ended "don't ask, don't tell"
17 Record speed, for short
18 Lake bordering Lackawanna, New York
22 Quaker's "you"
23 Go off script
24 Noir's counterpart, in roulette
25 Palate-cleansing sorbet flavor
27 Car dealer's offering
28 "For shame!"
29 Dutch-speaking Caribbean isle
30 Lena Dunham HBO series
31 You live here
36 Make assumptions too soon, say
37 Thing of little matter to physicists?
38 Actor Wheaton
44 Jazz improvisation
45 Wanderers
46 Wedding cake layers
47 It'll give you a lift in the winter
50 Code-breaking org.
51 Way, way off
52 McDonalds' golden arches, e.g.
53 Prosperous time
54 Listen to, as advice
55 Column designed to sway?
56 Give credit to
57 Singer with a musical "Gang"
59 Genetic info carrier
60 Org. for the Blues and Blue Jackets

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

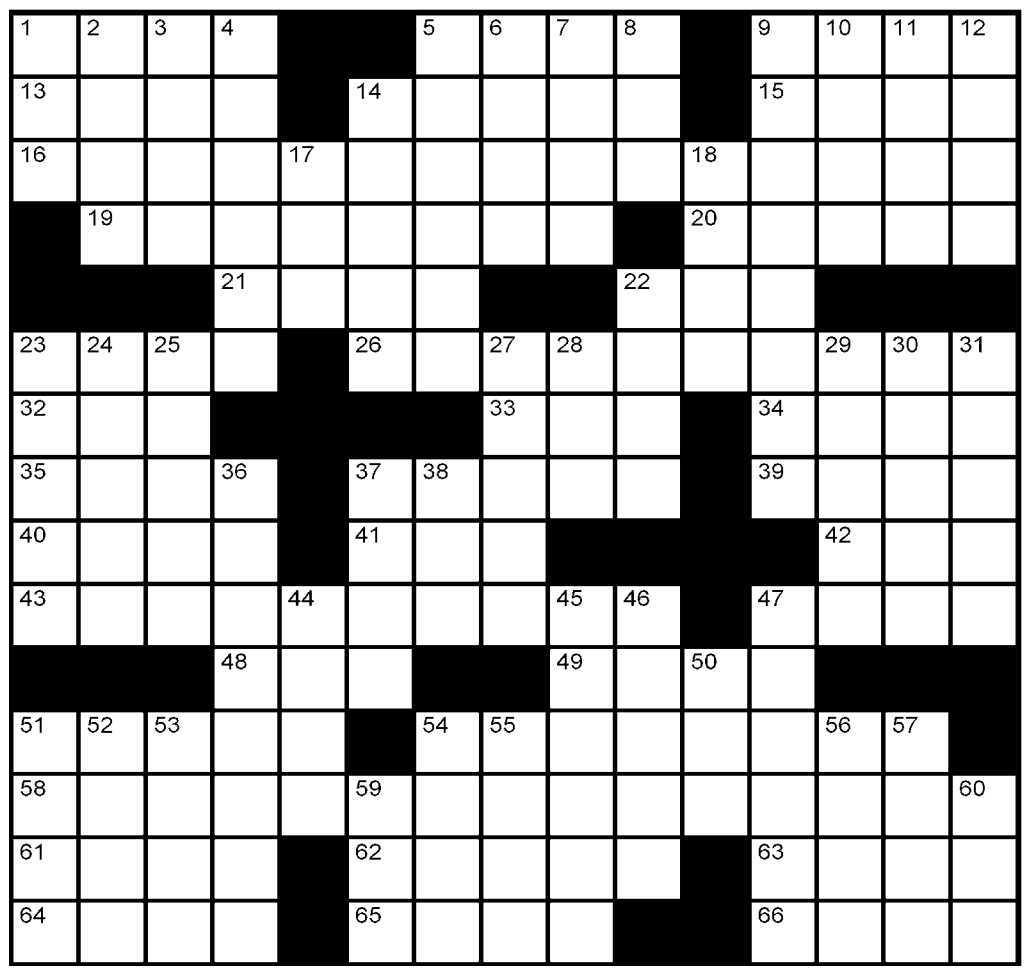
	B	A	L	I		C	R	A	M		S	W	A	P
S	A	T	A	N		H	U	L	A		T	H	O	U
T	R	A	C	K	F	I	E	L	D		Y	E	L	P
A	E	R	O	S	O	L		S	E	E	M	E		
G	R	I	S		L	E	S			S	I	L	O	S
			T	A	D		A	M	U	S	E	D	B	Y
W	I	S	E	R		B	R	A	G		D	E	A	N
A	D	A		T	O	U	C	H	G	O		A	M	C
R	A	F	T		A	C	A	I		A	T	L	A	S
T	H	E	W	O	R	K	S		S	K	I			
S	O	S	A	D			M	A	I		M	U	S	K
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

7/27

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7/28

What's What? *by Paul Coulter*



Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS
1. (K) Butter square
4. A pinch of smokeless tobacco
9. (K) Twilight
12. Goof
13. (K) Word before "roll" or "guard"
14. What students in need apply for
15. Comfortable way to stroll
17. (K) Droop
18. Aspect
19. With expertise
21. (K) Breakfast cereal grain
22. Evening, in Italian
23. (K) Every single one
25. Villainous sneer
27. (K) ___ Piper of Hamelin
31. (K) Start again
33. (K) Color of Bingo from "Bluey"
35. Muck
36. Posh party
38. (K) Lithium ___ batteries
39. After-life bio?
41. (K) Catch on to
43. Highly respected
46. (K) Narrowest torso part
49. (K) Prefix with "night" or "afternoon"
50. Repeat over again
52. (K) Hockey surface
53. Spooky
54. (K) 252 gallons
55. (K) Drink served hot or cold
56. Fad
57. (K) Word with "zone" or "table"

DOWN
1. Ill-gotten loot
2. (K) Measurement for carpenters
3. Like the American flag
4. (K) U.S. space vehicle
5. (K) "Neither rain ___ sleet ..."
6. Restlessness
7. Poppycock
8. (K) McDonald's fries maker
9. (K) Middle ___ (region between Europe and Asia)
10. (K) Small bottle in a lab
11. About to snap
16. (K) Place for Ariel and Sebastian
20. (K) Mama Bear's husband
23. (K) Your hand finds it handy?
24. Blooming necklace of Hawaii
26. (K) Train VIP
28. Start something
29. Sense of self
30. (K) Hillside animal shelter
32. Menial toiler
34. Hay fever cause
37. (K) Outfit
40. Artist's cap, in stereotypes
42. (K) It hears for you
43. Exude
44. (K) What Mickey, Minnie and Mighty are
45. (K) Thought that leads to an invention
47. (K) Shock
48. Care for the garden
51. (K) Can material

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

Name a drum you can't beat?

Look for the answer in next week's paper.

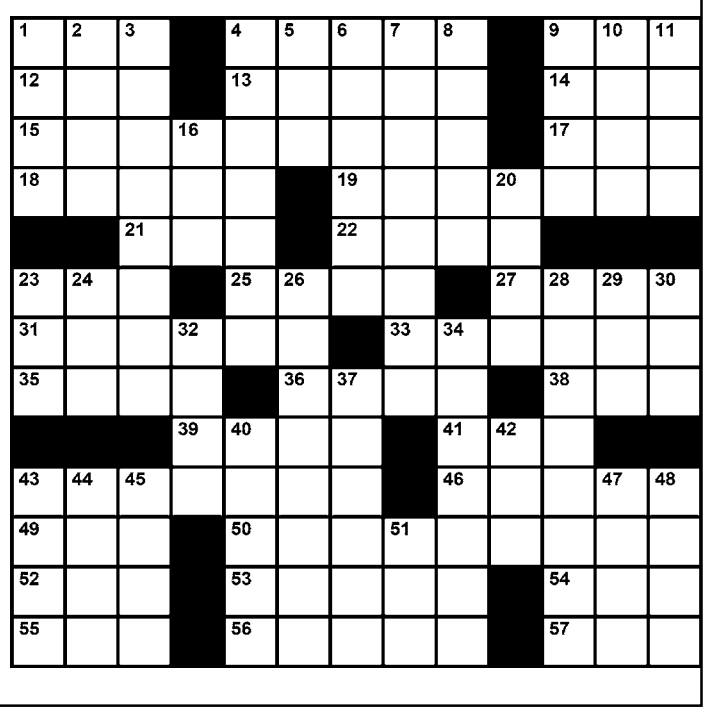
PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

Previous riddle answer:

Place of interest?
23-A) BANK

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Your Horoscope

October 29–November 4, 2026

Mercury and Venus remain retrograde, favoring reflection in traditional astrology. Friday calls for tact; Wednesday offers a more generous outlook.

ARIES | March 21–April 19
Your ruler Mars clashes with Mercury on Friday, so resist turning a disagreement about money into a contest of wills. Ask for the missing information before defending your position. Wednesday's Venus–Jupiter connection favors affection and shared enjoyment. Give a partner your full attention, and leave an old grievance out of the conversation.

TAURUS | April 20–May 20
Domestic plans and a partner's preferences may pull in different directions. With Mercury retrograde opposite your sign, an apparent refusal could conceal a misunderstanding. Ask again, using simpler terms. By Wednesday, Venus and Jupiter favor warmth at home. Revive a favorite tradition you both enjoy rather than insisting that everything must be different.

GEMINI | May 21–June 20
Your ruling planet Mercury's clash with Mars makes Friday a day to choose words carefully. A hurried message could sound sharper than intended. Return to an unfinished task before adding another. Wednesday's Sun–Mercury meeting favors a fresh perspective on your routine. A small adjustment could make a demanding week feel more manageable.

CANCER | June 21–July 22
Romance and creative pursuits hold your attention, but enthusiasm should leave room for practical limits. Friday's Mercury–Mars clash cautions against spending to impress someone or prove a point. Wednesday favors reconsidering a neglected talent. Bring an idea back to the drawing board; you may now recognize what it needed all along.

LEO | July 23–August 22
Mars in your sign supplies determination, but Friday's clash with Mercury warns against making a family discussion revolve around winning. Explain your preference, then listen. Wednesday's Venus–Jupiter connection brings a friendlier emphasis to conversations and introductions. Your warmth is more persuasive than a forceful argument. Let someone discover that for themselves.

VIRGO | August 23–September 22
A detail you overlooked deserves attention as your ruler Mercury continues its retrograde journey. Check names, dates and directions, especially before correcting somebody else. Friday favors restraint in a sensitive conversation. By Wednesday, the Sun's meeting with Mercury suggests a useful insight. Write it down, then consider how to put it into practice.

LIBRA | September 23–October 22
Venus, your ruling planet, remains retrograde in Libra, encouraging you to reconsider what feels right for you. Avoid letting a group's enthusiasm override your own judgment, especially where spending is involved. Wednesday's Venus–Jupiter connection favors renewing a friendship or discussing a shared ambition. An invitation deserves consideration without requiring an immediate promise.

SCORPIO | October 23–November 21
Mercury retrograde in your sign invites you to revise an opinion without apologizing for having learned something. Friday's clash with Mars could bring friction over authority or professional expectations. Keep the discussion specific. Wednesday's Sun–Mercury conjunction highlights personal insight. Recognizing what you want is useful, even if your next move needs more thought.

SAGITTARIUS | November 22–December 21
Jupiter, your ruling planet, connects with Venus on Wednesday, favoring friendship, learning and a broader view of your possibilities. Earlier, avoid defending a belief simply because it is familiar. A private concern deserves quiet consideration. Seek out someone who can offer perspective without deciding for you. An old aspiration may be worth exploring again.

CAPRICORN | December 22–January 19
A group project may need a clearer division of responsibilities. Friday's Mercury–Mars clash suggests that vague assumptions about shared contributions could provoke irritation. Establish what was actually agreed. Wednesday favors reconnecting with a professional contact or revisiting a long-range goal. Accept encouragement while keeping your commitments proportionate to the time you can give.

AQUARIUS | January 20–February 18
Career discussions require patience while Mercury retraces its path through your professional sector. A partner or colleague may challenge your timetable on Friday; consider the substance before reacting to the delivery. Wednesday's Venus–Jupiter connection favors cooperation and a wider perspective. Someone with different experience could help you see an option you had overlooked.

PISCES | February 19–March 20
An ambitious idea deserves a practical review, especially if travel, study or publishing is involved. Friday's Mercury–Mars clash cautions against rushing details to satisfy an impatient colleague. Wednesday's Sun–Mercury meeting favors returning to a question that has resisted an answer. Consult your original notes, reconsider your assumptions and let curiosity lead the way.

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	SOLUTIONS
1 buy in advance (8)	
2 stretchy bottoms (8)	
3 standardized text (11)	
4 more submissive (6)	
5 government agents (4)	
6 in a nondominant manner (9)	
7 making conjectures (9)	

MIS	PRE	ER	FE	LE
ATE	PAS	BOI	SUR	LEG
ELY	GI	DS	ORD	KER
NGS	ING	MEE	RPL	SIV

Previous Answers: 1. CHAOS 2. SHORTCUT 3. INSTRUCTING 4. PROCLAIMS 5. PROTRACTOR 6. PLOW 7. ESCALATING 8/17

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

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www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/subscribe

THE PUZZLE LAB

OCTOBER 22, 2026

HALLOWEEN PUZZLE PARTY

15 treats for your brain. No tricks in the answer key!

1 HALLOWEEN WORD HUNT

WARM-UP / FIND ALL 10

Words run in all eight directions.

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

PUMPKIN
COSTUME
GHOST
SPIDER
CAULDRON
LANTERN
SKELETON
WITCH
CANDY
BROOM

2 SUDOKU NINE

STEADY / ONE SOLUTION

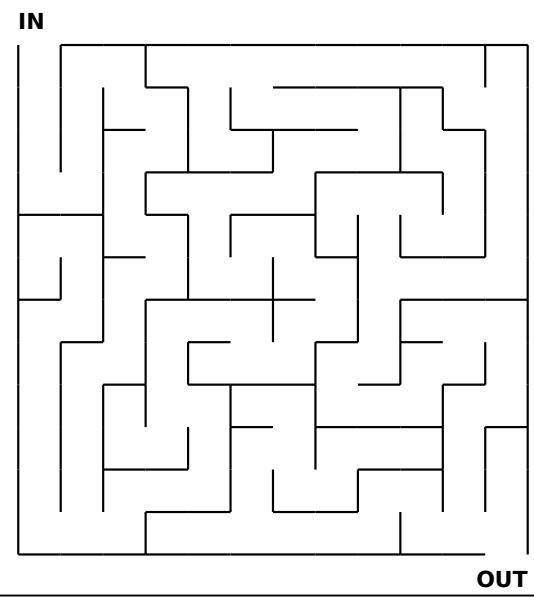
Use 1-9 once in each row, column and bold 3-by-3 box.

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

3 HAUNTED HALLWAYS

STEADY / FIND THE EXIT

Find the route from IN to OUT without crossing a wall.



4 COSTUME PARADE

STEADY / ONE SOLUTION

Ada, Ben, Max and Zoe stand in line. Each wears a different costume: witch, ghost, pirate or robot. Find their order and costumes.

- The witch is first; the robot is last.
- Max is the pirate.
- Zoe is the robot.
- Ben is immediately ahead of Max.
- Ada is somewhere ahead of Ben.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

5 HIDDEN PICTURE

STEADY / PIXEL LOGIC

Fill the runs shown beside each row and above each column. Leave a blank between separate runs. A 0 means no filled squares.

	6	7	3 3	8	8	3 3	7	6
4								
6								
8								
2 2 2								
8								
8								
8								
2 2 2								

6 MONSTER MIX-UPS

WARM-UP / USE EVERY LETTER

Unscramble each word using its clue.

A. KPINPMU
Carve it into a jack-o-lantern _____

B. MECOSTU
Wear it to play a character _____

C. REDISP
An eight-legged web maker _____

D. TEKONSLE
A framework of bones _____

E. RNETNAL
A portable light with a case _____

7 PUMPKIN CIPHER

WARM-UP / SHIFT TWO

Move each coded letter back two places. Wrap around: A becomes Y; C becomes A.

VJG RWORMKP
JKFGU C UGETGV

_____

8 MOON TO TOAD

STEADY / WORD LADDER

Change one letter per step, keeping the letter order. Follow the clues.

MOON — Start
_____ — A groan
_____ — Borrowed money
_____ — Cargo carried
TOAD — Finish

9 CONJURE UP 24

STRETCH / C IS A CHALLENGE

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

A 2 4 6 6
B 1 3 4 8
C 3 3 7 7

10 SPOOKY SEQUENCES

STEADY / NUMBER PATTERNS

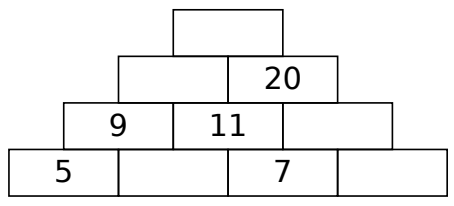
Find the next number using the simplest arithmetic pattern.

A 7, 14, 28, 56, ___
B 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, ___
C 100, 90, 81, 73, ___
D 2, 3, 5, 8, 12, ___

11 THE MUMMY PYRAMID

STEADY / NUMBER PYRAMID

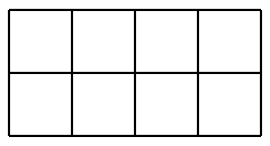
Each brick is the sum of the two bricks directly beneath it.



12 HAUNTED WINDOW

STRETCH / COUNT RECTANGLES

Count every rectangle in this window. Include squares and larger rectangles.



Total: _____

13 TREAT-BAG CHALLENGE

STRETCH / SHARE EQUALLY

Use all 42 candies, 30 stickers and 18 toy rings to make identical treat bags. Each bag must have the same number of each item.

What is the greatest number of bags? What goes in each one?

Bags: ____ Contents: _____

14 WORD WITCHCRAFT

STEADY / SUBTRACT, ADD, MIX

Remove the letters after −. Add those after +. Rearrange to make a Halloween word.

A SHORT − R + G
_____
B TRAP − T + ITE
_____
C ROOM − R + BR
_____

15 THE CRYPT CODE

STRETCH / THREE-DIGIT CODE

The three digits are all different and add to 18. The first digit is four more than the last. The middle digit is two more than the last.

□ □ □

ANSWERS / TURN THE PAGE UPSIDE DOWN

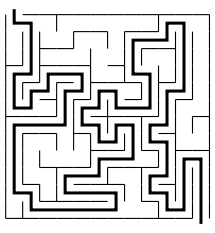
Word count: 537 (excluding grid letters and numbers).

1. Word hunt: row,column from top left.
PUMPKIN: 5,2 → 5,8
COSTUME: 12,4 → 12,10
GHOST: 10,1 → 10,5
SPIDER: 9,7 → 9,12
CAULDRON: 1,10 → 1,3
LANTERN: 7,8 → 7,2
SKELETON: 11,9 → 11,2
WITCH: 6,10 → 2,6
CANDY: 4,3 → 4,7
BROOM: 6,8 → 6,4

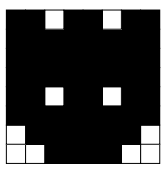
2. Sudoku rows:
927463158 / 463158927 / 158927463
274631589 / 631589274 / 589274631
746315892 / 315892746 / 892746315

4. First to fourth: Ada-witch; Ben-ghost; Max-pirate; Zoe-robot.
5. A ghost. See the filled grid.
6. A PUMPKIN; B COSTUME; C SPIDER; D SKELETON; E LANTERN.
7. THE PUMPKIN HIDES A SECRET.
8. MOON → MOAN → LOAN → LOAD → TOAD.
9. A (6+6)×4÷2; B (8+1−3)×4; C (3+3÷7)×7. Other valid solutions count.
10. A 112 (×2); B 36 (square numbers); C 66 (subtract 10,9,8,7); D 17 (add 1,2,3,4,5).
11. Top to bottom: 40 / 20,20 / 9,11,9 / 5,4,7,2.

3. Maze route

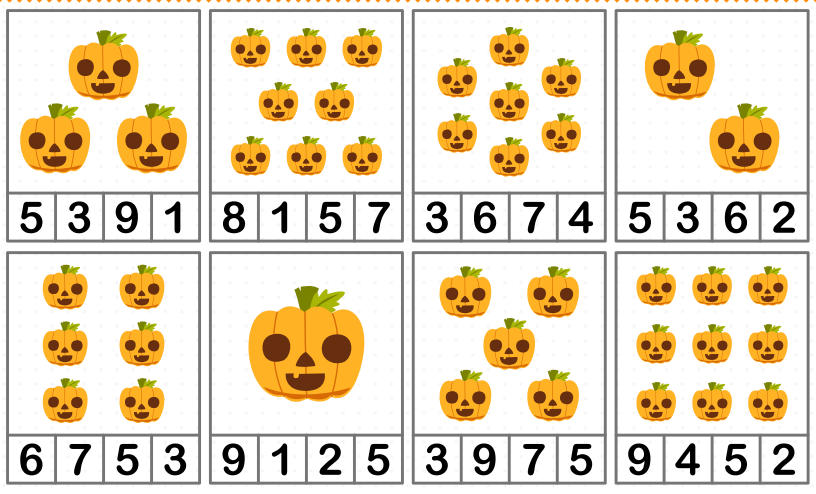


5. Pixel key



12. 30 rectangles: choose 2 of 5 vertical lines and 2 of 3 horizontal lines; 10×3=30.
13. Six bags, each with 7 candies, 5 stickers and 3 toy rings.
14. A GHOST; B PIRATE; C BROOM.
15. 864: 8+6+4=18; 8=4+4; 6=4+2.

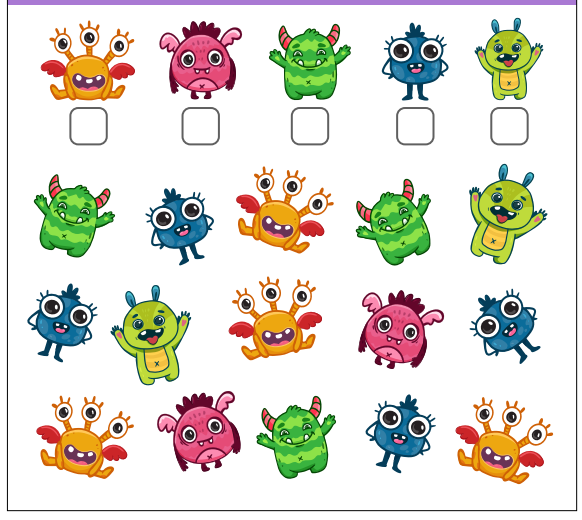
HOW MANY ?

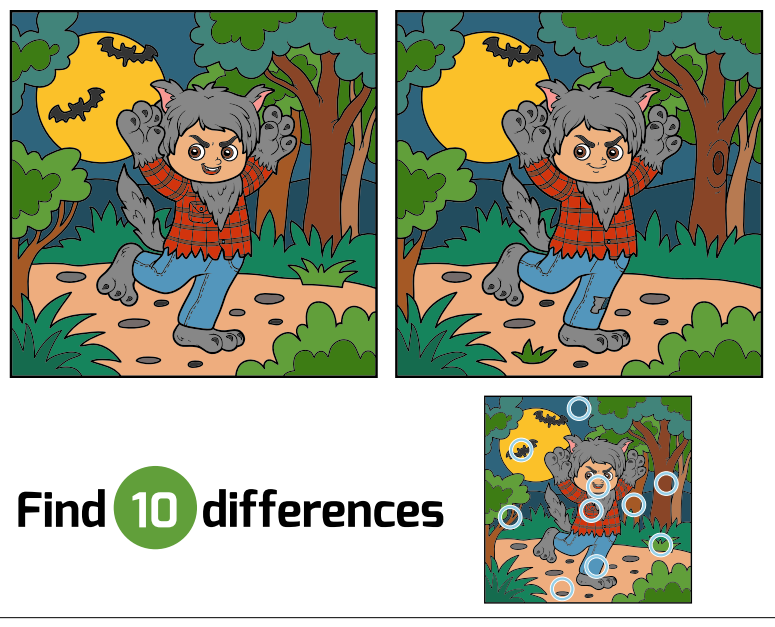


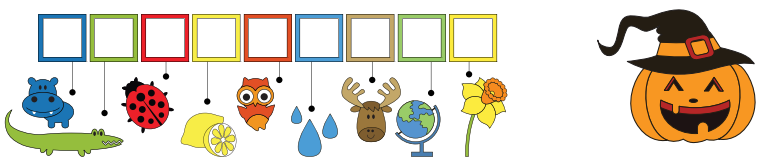
How many?



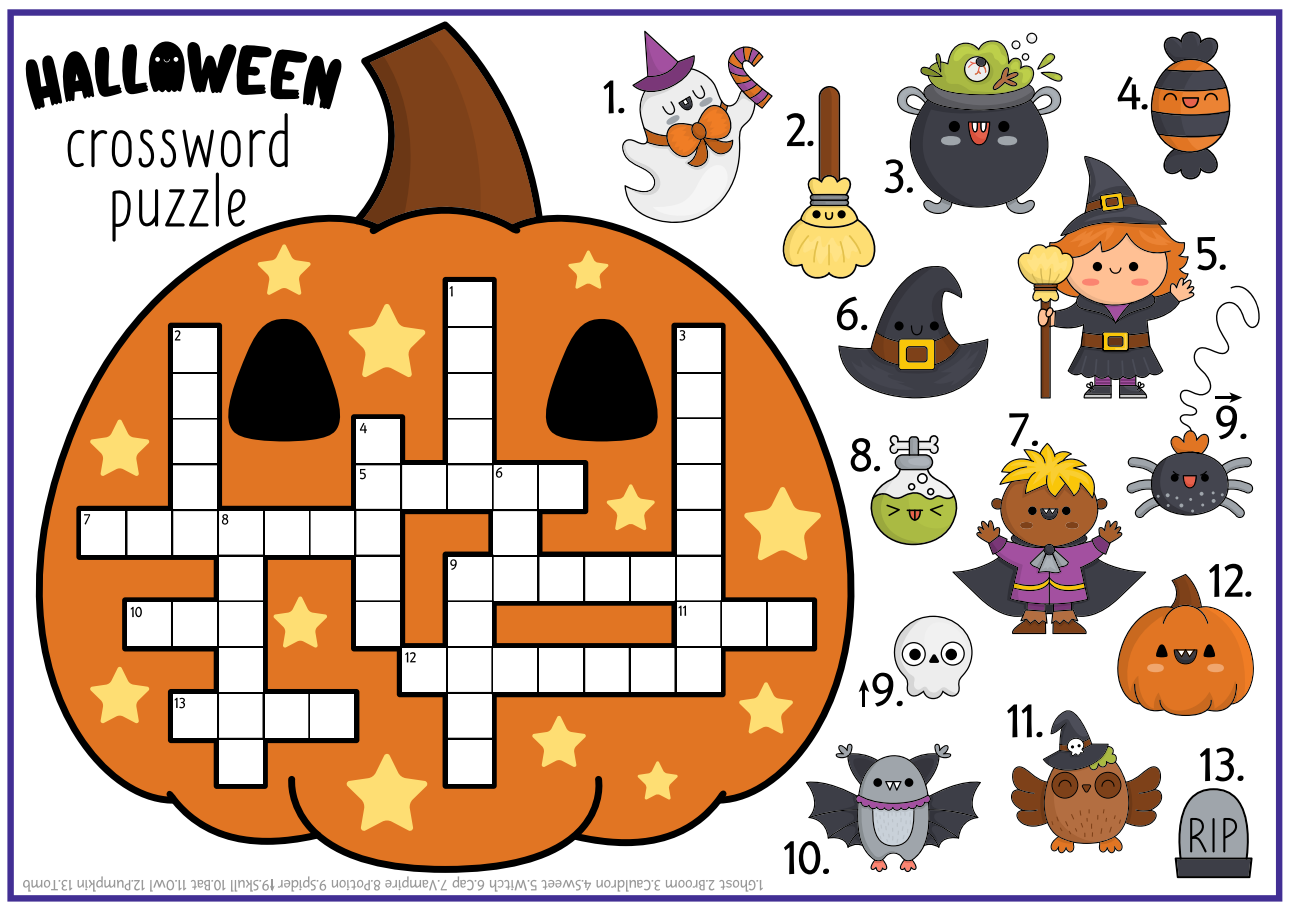
HOW MANY?







Write in the first letter of each image in the attached square to solve the puzzle.



SUDOKU

	2		3
	1	2	
		4	
1	4	3	

	2	4	
4			2
		1	
1	4		3

	2		3
	1	2	
		4	
1	4	3	

			1
3	1		2
			4
2	4	1	

