

Need a vacation hold on your paper? Have any delivery questions or changes?
 e-mail our delivery company
Man in Motion
Thomas Cossuto
Thomas@ManinMotionLLC.com

LOCAL RECAP

News Brief

AROUND TOWN
 New Canaan's Family Fireworks celebration will be on July 6 at Waveny Park, featuring food trucks, children's games, and performances by "Mind The Gap" and the Town Band. Entrance passes, costing \$35, are required for residents and can be purchased online or in person. Gates open at 5 pm. The rain date is July 7, with updates available on the town's website. For more information visit https://www.newcanaan.info/_T8_R522.php.

On June 16th, Caffeine and Carburetors, initiated by Doug Zumbach in 1995, raised \$16,000 for the New Canaan Community Foundation, marking the first time the event has donated funds to a local nonprofit. The donation aligns with Zumbach's goal of enhancing community partnerships.

Last summer, the spotted lanternfly appeared. Currently, these insects are in their nymph stage and cannot fly. If you see one, squash it. This invasive species is in Connecticut, with populations in Fairfield and New Haven Counties. The spotted lanternfly threatens Connecticut's environment, residential areas, and agriculture, particularly forests, orchards, vineyards, and nurseries. Eliminate these pests on sight. For more information please visit <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/terrestrial/invertebrates/spotted-lanternfly>.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS
 New Canaan's Playhouse Theater on Elm Street will reopen on June 28th after a two-year renovation. The theater will showcase a variety of films while also providing the option for private event rentals. Tickets will be available on the Cinema Labs website at <https://playhouse.cinematlab.com/home/>.

The Summer Theatre of New Canaan will debut its production of Mary Poppins on July 12th at 7 PM, located at 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan. Performances will run every Friday through Sunday until the final show on July 28th. Friday and Saturday evening shows begin at 7 PM, with additional matinee performances on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 PM. Ticket prices start at \$29 per person and are available at <https://stonc.org/mary-poppins/>.

Please turn to page 7

Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com



The Curtain Rises on A New Playhouse Experience

By PETER BARHYDT

The show must go on and it will. The Playhouse, a cherished landmark for generations, is reopening its doors after an extensive renovation. Under the stewardship of Cinema Lab, led by CEO Luke Parker Bowles, The Playhouse aims to redefine the movie-going experience with a blend of nostalgia and modern comfort.

While the four walls of the playhouse remain the same, when you walk through the doors everything is new.

"The essence of The Playhouse is community," Parker Bowles said during a recent walkthrough of the facility with the New Canaan Sentinel. "We wanted to create a space where families can come together, enjoy a meal, watch a movie, and simply relax. It's not just about the films; it's about the entire experience."

One of the standout features of the newly revamped Playhouse is its diverse concessions offering. "We have our own concessions. We have amazing empanadas, popcorn, pizza, and chicken fingers," Parker Bowles noted.

The layout is designed with families in mind. "This is really

the concessions' part, so if you're a family, it's easy to come in this way, get all your food, and then go straight into the theater," he explained.

Adjacent to the concessions area is The Playhouse Pub, a cozy spot for adults to unwind. The space, designed by Daniela Parker Bowles and her partners, Kristen Childs and Alicia Bohn of DNA, and will feature both indoor and outdoor seating. "Four round tables that are going to be 40 inches that seat four to five and then two long tables that seat eight each," Parker Bowles remarked. The space's versatility allows it to be rented out for various events, ensuring it remains a lively and functional part of the venue.

The heart of The Playhouse is its theaters, which have been upgraded with the latest technology to provide an

unparalleled viewing experience. "We have 12 speakers in each theatre, which allows for a rich auditory experience. From that speaker you can hear the birds, and from that speaker you can hear the person cry out, so you're actually leaning in rather than sitting back," Parker Bowles explained.

The seats, lush and deep are sourced from Holland, offer comfort without the bulkiness of full recliners. "We don't believe in full recliners. Our seat go back to the perfect angle to enjoy the show," he said, emphasizing the balance between comfort and space efficiency.

The Playhouse aims to be more than just a cinema. It's envisioned as a community hub where residents can gather, work, and socialize. Brandon Jones, Chief Marketing Officer said, "We have Wednesdays; it's closed to

members, and we have event nights. And also, people that have birthday parties or whatever. We are already have 36 bookings for the space."

Looking ahead, The Playhouse has an exciting lineup of films and events. "We have Despicable Me, Fly Me to the Moon, Twisters, Deadpool and Wolverine in August, Harold and the Purple Crayon," Jones listed. He highlighted "Fly Me to the Moon" as a must-see, praising its engaging story and strong performances.

The Playhouse will also host alternative programming, including live broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera and the National Theater from London. "We will do other programming. We do retrospective film series. We do have sensory-friendly film series. We do First Friday Frights, where you bring in a horror film,"

We wanted to create a space where families can come together, enjoy a meal, watch a movie, and simply relax. It's not just about the films; it's about the entire experience.

COLUMN

Marriage Coaching



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

Marriage counseling often has a negative connotation: something is broken and needs fixing. Let's call it marriage coaching instead. Coaching is something everyone welcomes, often for skills we are already good at, such as playing a sport or leading a team at work. Just as we wouldn't give a car to a 16-year-old without driving instructions, we shouldn't set out in marriage confident that our intelligence and our love for each other will conquer all differences. We are not the exception.

Our wedding day is the first day of our most challenging relationship, one that we hope will last a lifetime. Most of us haven't seen it well modeled. Weddings are an industry. We spend a lot of money getting married, but there is little support for staying married, and many worthy but time-consuming factors, such as work and children, to pull us apart. If we're smart, we'll get coaching. After all, divorce is an industry, too.

Liz and Jordan, both with advanced degrees, were certain that they didn't need marriage coaching. For the first ten years of their relationship, they focused on their careers and on their children, not on each other. Their "marriage tank" slowly emptied. When they finally met with a marriage counselor, they wished they had started coaching years before.

Excerpted from Jill Woolworth's book, The Waterwheel, available at Diane's Books, Dogwood Bookstore, Amazon, and barnesandnoble.com. Jill is a therapist at the Center for Hope & Renewal.

COLUMN by Julie O'Brien Deasy

Aldrich Museum

Question: Can you suggest some local attractions that would be good to visit this summer?

Answer: Continuing last week's series about good summer excursions in our area, this week's featured spot is the Aldrich Museum in Ridgefield.

The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum is dedicated to the exhibition of contemporary art, featuring works by emerging and established artists including sculpture, art, photography and more.

The Aldrich is unique in that it is a non-collecting museum, so the works are completely changed out with each exhibit. It is also the only museum in Connecticut that is dedicated solely to the exhibition of contemporary art. The campus includes a two-acre outdoor Sculpture Garden, which is currently under construction. It is scheduled to be completed in the Fall of 2025 and will be free of charge to visit.

Over the summer, the Aldrich hosts several children's programs including a storytime every third Saturday of the month (admission is free that day), open studio time, and weekly camps for

students in grades K-6 where they will participate in art-making workshops and activities.

The museum also hosts public tours, artist presentations and talks, and art discussions and educational sessions about the current exhibitions.

The Aldrich is open everyday except Tuesday. Admission is free for children under 13, and for everyone on the third Saturday of every month. Advanced tickets are encouraged.

For more information on the event calendar, to purchase tickets, or for more information on current exhibits, visit www.thealdrich.org.

Future columns will feature additional places to visit in our area. Let us know if you have a specific interest and we can make suggestions of places to visit this summer!

What do you want to know about living in New Canaan? Is there a resource you are looking for or something you need in our area? We want to hear from you! Send in your ideas or queries to Julie@NewCanaanSentinel.com and your question may be featured in a future column.

New Canaan YMCA's ForeverWell Program

The New Canaan YMCA's ForeverWell program kicked off the summer with a lunch and learn event featuring a tea party cooking demo with local chef Ronnie Fein. Participants enjoyed sampling Fein's delicious homemade scones and tea sandwiches while learning baking and food decoration tips.

The Y's ForeverWell program is designed to benefit the total health of our community's seniors through opportunities to get active, stay fit, and be social at no cost to participants, thanks to donations to the Y's Annual Support Campaign. Events are offered monthly from September through June, with an average of 30 individuals coming together for each event.

"ForeverWell is a lovely program that gives me the opportunity to network and where I've met so many friends. I've been a member on and off at the New Canaan YMCA for about 45 years, and it's been such a wonderful experience for me," shared a ForeverWell participant.

Throughout the year, many local organizations and businesses partner with the Y's ForeverWell program to inform, enrich, and bring the community together. Over the last year, participants have had the pleasure of enjoying presentations from the Bristow Bird Sanctuary, Carriage Barn Arts Center, Planet New Canaan, Stamford Health, Staying Put in New Canaan, New Canaan Beautification League, New Canaan Historical Society, and New Canaan Police, among others.

To learn more about the Y's ForeverWell program and to get involved, visit www.newcanaanymca.org/foreverwell.

Running's Health Benefits

Robin Fryer, a noted marathon runner and the author of a book on the benefits of running as exercise, will speak to the New Canaan Men's Club Friday, June 28, at its regular meeting in Morrill Hall at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

A marathon runner since 1974, Fryer's book, "Running For Your Life: Exploring the Amazing Benefits of Regular Exercise", gives runners practical advice about what to wear, safe practices, and what to expect as one ages. Tallying up the distances of his marathons, ultramarathons and shorter runs, Fryer estimates he has run the distance equivalent to two-and-a-half times around the globe.

The men's club meeting will begin at 10 a.m. with Fryer speaking to the group around 10:40 a.m.

In his career, Fryer was with Deloitte for 45 years where he headed its mining industry practice worldwide. He is a Certified Public Accountant and Chartered Accountant and retired as a senior partner with the firm.

Fryer, a New Canaan resident since 1988, also serves as president of the New Canaan Land Trust Board.

The Men's Club has openings for new members, men 55-years old and above. For information, email ncmens@ncmens.info.

THERE WILL BE NO PAPER NEXT WEEK IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

WISHING YOU A HAPPY JULY 4TH!



Now May Be the Best Time to Sell!
 Are you Ready? The Engel Team is!



REDISCOVER THE POWER OF PRINT



Sentinel print advertising continues to deliver better results than digital alone.

Why choose print advertising?

Amplified campaign effectiveness. Including print in your multimedia campaign isn't just an addition; it's a multiplier. Research by Benchmarking for Newsworks shows a threefold increase in overall campaign ROI when print is part of the mix. It especially enhances the effectiveness of your online and TV campaigns.

Unmatched trust and credibility. Studies reveal that 82% of consumers trust print advertising. In Greenwich and New Canaan, our newspapers are synonymous with community engagement.

Precisely the audience you need. Our print solutions ensure your message reaches your precise audience, where they are already paying attention. Pre-printed inserts and beautifully in-house designed traditional print with appropriate content adjacencies in the newspaper further refine targeting, placing your message in context.

An engaged audience. People are 70% more likely to recall a business they saw in print.

Narrative storytelling. Print advertising offers the creative space to tell your story through compelling copy and visuals, integral to the reader's experience. And our talented in-house designers and PR professionals will help.

Integrate print and digital. We deliver your print ad two ways: we use traditional news print and in an interactive PDF version delivered right to our subscribers' email addresses. Our interactive PDF conveniently assists readers from your advertisement directly to your website with one click.

Advertising in the Sentinel is more affordable than you think. When you advertise with the Sentinel, you get a marketing team by your side that works with your budget. We offer free graphics and copy writing from an experienced team. We create effective print, digital, and social media campaigns that layer together perfectly. We assist with your public relations and show you how to leverage it.

It's time to reintegrate this effective medium into your advertising strategy. It will transform your company's reach, trust, and customer base.

Rediscover the Power of Print.

Sentinel

Hometown News

Your Trusted Advertising Partner
in Greenwich and New Canaan

To learn more, click this ad in our eEdition digital PDF or email Peter at:
Peter@NewCanaanSentinel.com

Column



Illuminate Your Summer Nights with Firefly Magic

By FRANK GALLO

The Magic of Fireflies

One of the most mesmerizing sights on a warm summer's night is the little creatures that light up the skies – fireflies! Ever wonder why they blink and how they do it?

Despite their name, fireflies aren't flies; they are special bioluminescent beetles in the family Lampyridae, that blink to communicate. Fireflies use their magical glow to talk to each other – it's like Morse code for bugs, and each species has its unique blinking pattern. Connecticut has at least sixteen species of fireflies, but few are common. There are 150+ species in North America and more than 2,200 species worldwide.

Like all beetles, fireflies undergo a four-stage life cycle: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. After mating in mid-summer, adult females lay eggs in the ground under leaf litter usually in moist sites near water. Their eggs hatch in about three weeks and emerge as larvae that eat slugs, snails, worms, and a variety of insect larvae, including mosquitoes, and are beneficial in the garden. Although not all species of adult fireflies glow, their larvae are bioluminescent, earning them the name glow worms.

Fireflies spend up to two years as larvae, before pupating underground and emerging as adults several weeks later sometime in late spring and summer depending on the species. Adults spend their 2-4-week-long lives attracting mates to

reproduce before they die.

So, how are they able to blink? It is all thanks to a chemical reaction. Inside their lower abdomen, fireflies have two chemicals – luciferin and luciferase. When oxygen combines with these chemicals, it triggers a reaction that results in their delightful glow. The glow isn't hot like the flame of a candle – it's cold light that produces very little heat.

Fireflies flash their light to attract potential mates. The males blink in a specific pattern, and the females respond with their unique signals so the males can find them. However, females of some species will purposely blink the pattern of another species. Why? To lure unsuspecting males of a different species to prey upon them. It's a bug-eat-bug world out there.

Their blinking also reminds predators that fireflies are foul-tasting treats to avoid as they can create bitter-tasting chemicals when attacked.

Connecticut's most common firefly species is the eastern or big dipper, *Photinus pyralis*, a half-inch long beetle with black wing covers trimmed in yellow with a yellow-edged pink headshield marked with a central dark dot. The dipper moniker comes from the male's swooping J-shaped mating flight performed above the female while she watches from the vegetation below. After mating females lay eggs in moist ground under leaf litter and after 2-3 weeks both adult males and females die.

Although fireflies are seen

It's a bug-eat-bug world out there.

in May, peak firefly season is usually mid-June to mid-July. Fireflies emerge at dusk and their yellow-green blinking lights are often seen near the ground at forest edges and in meadows.

So, the next time you are out on a warm summer evening, keep your eyes peeled for these winking wonders. Try watching to see if you can discern the patterns from different species, and remember, each blink tells a story, whether it's one of love connections or cunning traps.

Fireflies in Decline

Firefly numbers are declining globally due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and light pollution.

New Canaan hosts the first firefly sanctuary in the US, the New Canaan Land Trust's (NCLT) Marvin, Massarella, & Friends Firefly Sanctuary. Created in 1983 and enlarged in 2015, it protects 6.5 acres for fireflies near the intersection of Sleepy Hollow Road and Laurel Road. Thousands of fireflies may be seen here each evening from late June through early to mid-July. NCLT requires reservations to visit during firefly season: <https://newcanaanlandtrust.org/events/>

New Canaan Nature Center has a Night of 1,000 Fireflies, Saturday, July 13th (7:15pm or 8:30pm) Reservations are required at: <https://newcanaanature.org/night-hikes/>. Waveny

Park, where fireflies provide a natural lightshow for the 4th of July celebrations, is another local haven for fireflies.

Dr. Sara Lewis, biology professor emerita at Tufts University, grew up in Woodbridge Connecticut, and is a world authority on fireflies. Her many published works have enlightened our understanding of these fascinating creatures. Her book *Silent Sparks: The Wondrous World of Fireflies*, and her popular TED talk, "The Loves and Lives of Fireflies," are available if you wish to learn more. A recorded conversation with Dr. Lewis is also available at <https://newcanaanlandtrust.org/firefly/>

How You Can Help Fireflies

According to the UCONN Extension Service, here are ways to benefit firefly populations:

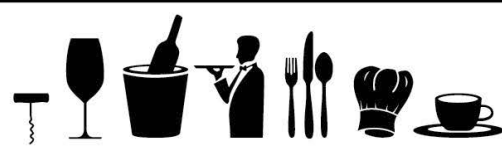
Turn off outside lights at night.

Plant trees and leave litter under trees for fireflies to grow.

Add an area of calm water to your property, such as a water garden.

Avoid the use of pesticides, especially on lawns

For more information about fireflies and ways to help increase their populations, investigate the Firefly Research and Conservation organization at firefly.org.



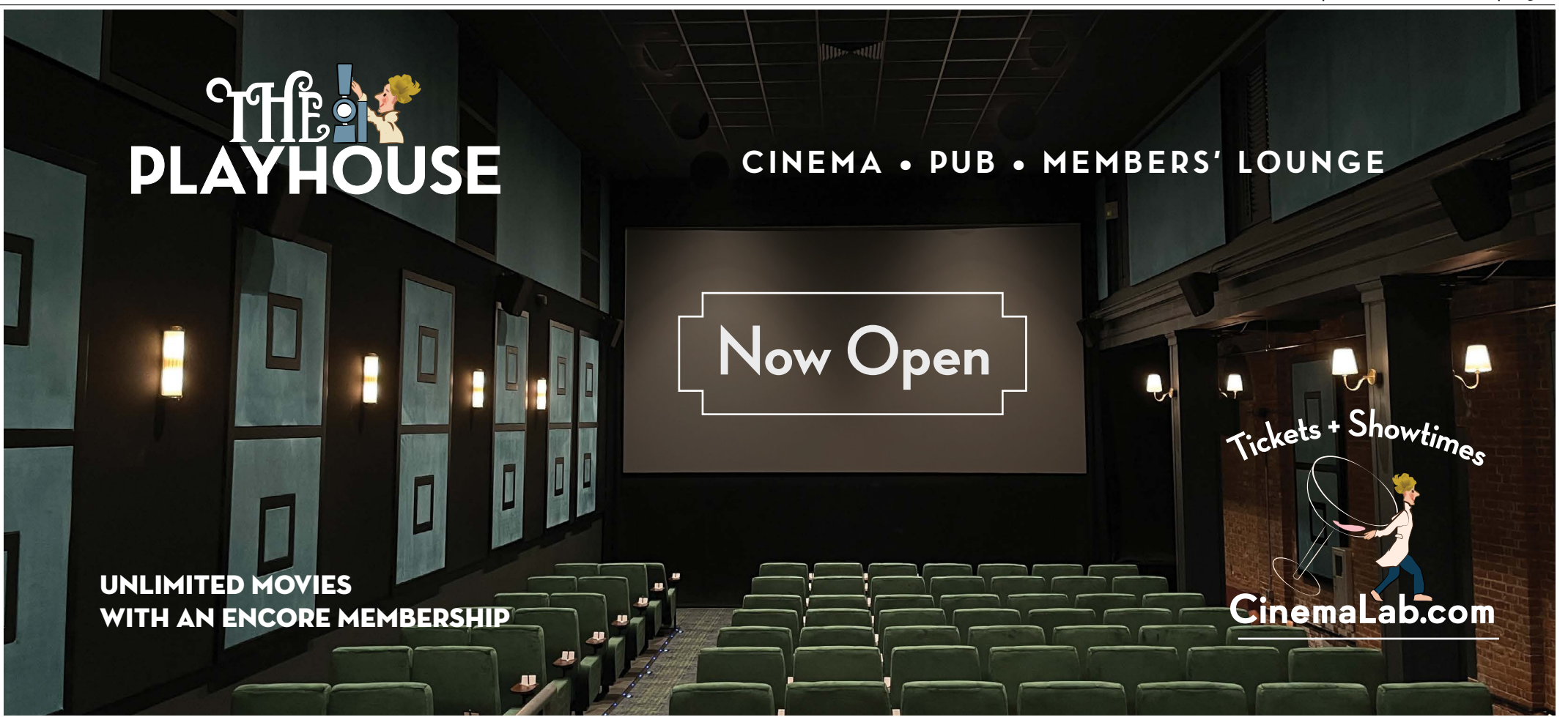
GREENWICH STAFFING

Providing Elite Professional Services

SERVERS | BARTENDERS | CHEFS

Sharon Sweeney Steffann | (203) 921-7172

sharon@greenwichstaffing.com | www.greenwichstaffing.com



PLAYHOUSE
From Page 1

Parker Bowles elaborated. The reopening of The Playhouse signifies a harmonious blend of tradition and innovation. Parker Bowles and his team have meticulously crafted a venue that respects its storied past while looking forward to the future. "This town, I feel like really comes alive Friday afternoons where the kids are out of school and they're riding their bikes, they're walking up to the town center," said Brandon Jones. "And this is a safe place where people can go and meet up." As The Playhouse prepares to welcome back the community, the excitement is palpable. It's more than a

cinema; it's a place to create memories, one film at a time. With its grand reopening set for this weekend, The Playhouse is set to become a cornerstone of New Canaan's cultural and social scene. Under Parker Bowles' leadership, it promises to offer a unique, multifaceted experience that caters to all ages and interests. As the marquee lights up once again, it signals not just the return of a beloved venue, but the dawn of a new era for community entertainment. For more information on upcoming shows and memberships, visit The Playhouse's official website or follow them on social media. <https://playhouse.cinematlab.com/home/> Next week the New Canaan Sentinel will have coverage from this Thursday's red carpet opening night.



From left to right: Luke Parker Bowles (CEO), Andy Childs (CFO) and Brandon Jones (CMO). Contributed Photo

Educational Theatre Takes Center Stage This Summer at the Powerhouse Theatre

"Since its founding in 1947, TPNC's mission has included 'the advancement of education in drama and theatre'. For several years our classes have been limited to adults. In partnership with OAA, we are pleased to once again offer community-based theatre programs for kids - both on stage and back stage - to let kids explore their creative expression." says Town Players of New Canaan co-president, Patricia Spugani



New Canaan kids at the Powerhouse Theatre, getting ready for Friday's performances of Willy Wonka KIDS (L-R: Izzy Langrick, Wesley Benenson, Teddy Benenson, Miles Langrick) (Photo: Patricia Spugani)

Town Players of New Canaan [TPNC] and Open Arts Alliance [OAA] of Greenwich are proud to announce a unique partnership between their two arts organizations. The initiative aimed at increasing performance opportunities for student actors in the local area has been led by Patricia Spugani, co-president of TPNC. Ms. Spugani says, "Since its founding in 1947, TPNC's mission has included 'the advancement of education in drama and theatre'. For several years our classes have been limited to adults. In partnership with OAA, we are pleased to once again offer community-based theatre programs for kids - both on stage and back stage -

to let kids explore their creative expression." The June 28th 3pm and 5pm performances of Willy Wonka KIDS are pleased to feature New Canaan residents Teddy and Wesley Benenson, Miles and Izzy Langrick, and are joined by other students from Greenwich, Darien, Stamford, and Norwalk. This summer's partnership features over 80 students, ages 6 to 17, from New Canaan and the surrounding communities in four separate productions: Willy Wonka KIDS, Broadway Beat, Disney's Alice In Wonderland Jr. and RENT (School Edition). The four productions are produced by Open Arts Alliance with a unique partnership between OAA and TPNC for Willy

Wonka KIDS. This production, being offered in two two-week sessions will feature nearly 50 students from our community with thanks, in part, to participation support from the Exchange Club of New Canaan. A beloved family classic, Willy Wonka KIDS tells the story of the delicious adventures experienced by Charlie Bucket on his visit to Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory. Enigmatic candy manufacturer, Willy Wonka, stages a contest by hiding golden tickets in five of his scrumptious candy bars. Whoever comes up with these tickets will win a free tour of the Wonka factory. But there's more than just chocolate to learn about on this magical journey.

This captivating adaptation of Roald Dahl's fantastical tale features the enchanting songs from the 1971 film starring Gene Wilder, in addition to a host of fun new songs, Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka KIDS is a scrumdilyumptious musical guaranteed to delight everyone's sweet tooth. Families are encouraged to come see this exciting show that proves you're never too old for adventure! All performances are at the air-conditioned Powerhouse Theatre in Waveny Park, New Canaan. For more information and tickets, please visit [www. OpenArtsAlliance.com](http://www.OpenArtsAlliance.com)

Open Arts Alliance, New Canaan is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Town Players of





Did you know? If you haven't had your barbecue grill cleaned in the last 6 months, there's a good chance that rats or rodents have lived or left their droppings inside.

Bar-B-Clean
THE BARBECUE CLEANING COMPANY

RENEW A specialized steam cleaning process will leave your grill sparkling like new, without grease, grime, bugs, or rodent droppings.

REPAIR We inspect all parts to ensure they are in working order and will replace anything faulty.

REPLACE After a careful inspection, if we deem your grill is beyond repair, we can help you find a new one with our consultation service.

\$50 OFF ANY SERVICE!

First-time customers only. With this coupon only. Not valid with any other offers. Restrictions may apply. Expires 6-15-24.

LOCALLY RUN Proudly serving Stamford, North Stamford, Greenwich, New Canaan, Darien, Norwalk, Cos Cob, Riverside, and Old Greenwich.

Call to set an appointment today!
203-800-9543
bar-b-clean.com/greenwich-stamford

20% OFF
HOTEL ROOMS
4TH OF JULY WEEK



THE
HOUSE
GREENWICH

LUXURY HOTEL • WORLD CLASS RESTAURANT • AWARD WINNING SPA

1114 E. PUTNAM AVE. GREENWICH, CT | 203.698.6980 | jhousegreenwich.com

Editorial Page

LETTER

The History of Flag Day

To the Editor:

Congratulations on a great Flag Day Editorial in the paper last week. Perhaps your readers would be interested in the history of this patriotic holiday. Flag Day began on June 14, 1889 as an idea of George Balch, a kindergarten teacher in New York City who had initiated appropriate ceremonies regarding the flag for his school children. His idea was later adopted by the NY State Board of Education. On June 14, 1891, the Betsey Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and

on June 14 the following year, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York first celebrated Flag Day and now we run the New York City Flag Day Parade that starts at City Hall and ends with a ceremony at Fraunces Tavern® Museum. Before I moved to New Canaan, and was living in NYC, I had the honor of organizing the New York City Flag Day Parade for 20 years.

Peter Gibb Cropper Nemiroff
NYC Flag Day Parade Chairman Emeritus

Independence Day Musings

We are getting a bit out in front on writing about Independence Day, but with good reason. Next Thursday, the day our paper is printed and delivered is the 4th of July. With many people away for the weekend, or otherwise engaged, we decided not to publish a printed paper next week. Our reporters will still be reporting, and content will go up online and on our social media platforms daily. We will just not have a printed paper that week.

Largely written by Thomas Jefferson, there was much debate about the wording of the document, and it finally included 27 grievances of the colonies against King George III.

We want to thank everyone who has renewed the subscriptions. Your support of our community newspaper has been overwhelming, and we are very grateful. Likewise, we are appreciative for all the new subscriptions that come in every week as well as the follows and likes on our social media platforms.

Independency Day, the 4th of July, is next week. Given everything happening around the world, we wanted to take a little time to look into this holiday a bit to understand better its history and meaning. What we found was interesting

Most of us know, from our American History classes, that the 4th of July celebrates the day the Declaration of Independence was signed. The Second Continental Congress actually voted to approve a resolution of independence two days earlier, on July 2nd. It then took those two days to write the reason and messaging explaining to the 13 original colony why they had voted for independence.

Largely written by Thomas Jefferson, there was much debate about the wording of the document and it finally included 27 grievances of the colonies against King George III. Included among them failure for the King to pass or allow Governor's to pass adequate laws to govern the colonies, not allow trial by jury, imposing taxes without consent, and, in general, treating those living in the colonies as second-class citizens and worse.

It is the second line of the declaration that is perhaps most famous: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." It is as powerful a statement today as it was when it was written 243 years ago and has been called one of the best-known sentences in the English language.

The meaning of this passage is one that we as a nation, and as a people, are continually trying to achieve. Indeed, it has come to represent a moral standard to which the United States should adhere. In fact, it is the view that President Abraham Lincoln used as the basis of all of his political beliefs.

Today, we may celebrate more the fireworks and bbq's, but it is important to remember what we are celebrating, and after 243 year that sometimes get a little fuzzy. Fortunately, there is a wonderful community event at Waveny Park to celebrate the holiday on Saturday, July 6th.

There will be live music, food trucks, bouncy houses and, of course, fireworks. It is the type of traditional community event that makes New Canaan such a remarkable place to live.

A few notable facts, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were the only signers of the Declaration of Independence who later served as President of the United States. They also died on the same day: July 4, 1826 - 50 years after they signed the document.

We hope you have a safe, family-filled and fun 4th of July weekend. We also hope you will take a moment to remember its meaning as well as the sacrifice of so many that fought our country's independence over 200 years ago and those who continue to fight for it today. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness is worth fighting for.

Happy Independence Day!



New Canaan Police Department
wants to remind you:



LOCK IT OR LOSE IT

- The stolen vehicles total stayed the same from 2022 to 2023, with an increase in attempts
- Larcenies from motor vehicles have already surpassed the Year-To-Date total from last year
- Stolen vehicles were unlocked with the keys inside; Vehicle break-ins had visible valuables



- Lock ALL doors, take your keys with you and never leave any valuables in sight!
- Make sure spare keys are not left inside the vehicle

NEWS BRIEFS

From Page 1

The Nature Center will host "Night of 1000 Fireflies" on July 13th, with sessions at 7:15pm and 8:30pm. Participants will explore woodland creatures and view over 1,000 fireflies in the meadows. Registration costs \$15 per person and is now open at <https://newcanaannature.org/night-hikes/>.

The Cathy Kangas Foundation for Animals is sponsoring an event that will waive adoption fees at Bridgeport Animal Control. The initiative, "Free the Shelters," takes place today, June 28th, and tomorrow, June 29th, permitting potential adopters to visit without prior appointments. However, they must provide documents that verify their living conditions. Before adoption, each animal will receive spaying, neutering, vaccinations, and a microchip, while the shelter retains the authority to approve or reject applications. For more information please visit <https://www.facebook.com/CathyKangasFoundation/>.

PEOPLE IN TOWN

New Canaan resident Lucy LaGattuta, a 10th grader, made the head's list at The Harvey School for the spring term with a GPA of 3.7 or higher.

SPORTS

The New Canaan 9U softball team finished second at The Total Game tournament in Cheshire, beating the Wallingford and CT Fury teams before losing to the CT Charge in the finals. The team showed strong performance throughout the tournament. Congratulations to the girls.

The 25th Annual New Canaan Football Golf Tournament and Touchdown Dinner is on July 22nd at the Country Club of New Canaan. Participants can register to both play golf and attend dinner, or opt for the dinner-only registration. Golf check-in for the putting contest begins at 10:30 am, followed by dinner at 5 pm. Ticket prices start at \$99 per person. For more information and to register please visit https://e.givesmart.com/events/Cu0/?fbclid=IwZXh0bGhZWCMTAAAR3AvCYPW-aacTp0W1bqIAlfe9IapdEmM2Rxu6EQJmUjS3gH96D29hT7ack_aem_TNCcVr628su4J6r18329lw.

OUR NEIGHBORS

Crews have begun work on a new Fairfield Avenue bridge over Interstate 95, expected to be completed by next spring, following the destruction of the original bridge in a fire caused by a crash on May 2. The project, managed by Yonkers Contracting Co. Inc. with local subcontractors, will cost around \$20 million, with the federal government covering 80 percent of the expenses. Governor Ned Lamont and state officials are committed to the swift completion of the bridge, which is crucial for connecting South Norwalk and Route One.

COLUMN



STUART ADELBERG

This week I created the best column I've ever written. It was funny. It was moving. It was thought provoking. I dug deep into the recesses of my mind and found ideas that I never knew were there, based on the deepest observations of critical aspects of the human condition. There is no doubt that this column was going to change your thinking and the way that each of you look at the world! When I sat down to write, the words just flowed in the most effortless process I've ever experienced. I had to work hard to limit my writing because I had so much to say, and I didn't want to leave out even one word that would rob readers of the chance to experience my brilliance. Unfortunately, and with great regret, I must report that you will never get to read my greatest masterpiece because... I FORGOT MY PASSWORD! That's right. The only

thing standing between me and a long overdue, but well-deserved Pulitzer Prize is an eight character combination of upper-case letters, lower-case letters, numbers, and symbols. Over the years, I have authored thousands of pages, written and delivered hundreds of speeches. I can recite poems that I memorized in second grade! I can sing the lyrics to just about every song that Carole King, Elton John, and dozens of other prolific songwriters ever composed. I can remember and probably still do all the steps to a tap dance I did in a musical production in 1985. But I cannot for the life of me conjure up the eight \$%#@&! characters that will open my computer screen and allow me to access my own brilliance!!

I tried shoving my face in front of the computer's camera - so much for facial recognition! Maybe I can try a fingerprint - but which finger did I use? My anger tempted me to use a specific finger - but that wasn't particularly helpful! Someone told me that I can get my computer to send me an email with a password changing link - but how do I get to my messages if I can't

\$%#@

Unfortunately, and with great regret, I must report that you will never get to read my greatest masterpiece because... I FORGOT MY PASSWORD!

open the computer?

How hard can this be? I surely would have used a password that would be easy to remember. Hmmm. What was my phone number in 1968, you know - when phones hung on the wall? What's my mother's second cousin's maiden name? Where was my great grandfather born? What was my father's childhood address? If I used my birth city, was it all in upper-case letters? What symbol did I add at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end?

Don't I have a password manager on my smartphone? I surely would have added this password to the list. Fortunately, the phone recognizes my face, and I don't need to remember that! OK - I'm on the phone. Now, how do I access the password manager? Oh no!! It wants me to enter a password!

Which one would I have used? How many characters was it? Upper-case, lower-case, numbers, or symbols? No problem, I have a system. I always save this important information on a spreadsheet on my desktop for just this type of emergency. I even told my family where it is in case someday I should happen to... well, you know.

So now to access this critical information, all I have to do is get into the computer. That shouldn't be a problem, if I could only remember my \$%#@&! PASSWORD!

Stuart Adelberg has a long history of leadership and active participation in the region's nonprofit arts and human services sector. He appreciates the opportunity provided by the Sentinel to share his occasional thoughts and observations.

Rental Market Roundup



By JOHN ENGEL

We can see in this chart that in Manhattan the discount on rents has been close to zero since the beginning of 2024, while across the East River in Brooklyn and northern Queens the discount has been negative for three years, at times quite extremely negative at -8%. Note, a negative discount means that the average property rented at a premium to its asking price. Just like we've been experiencing in the suburbs.

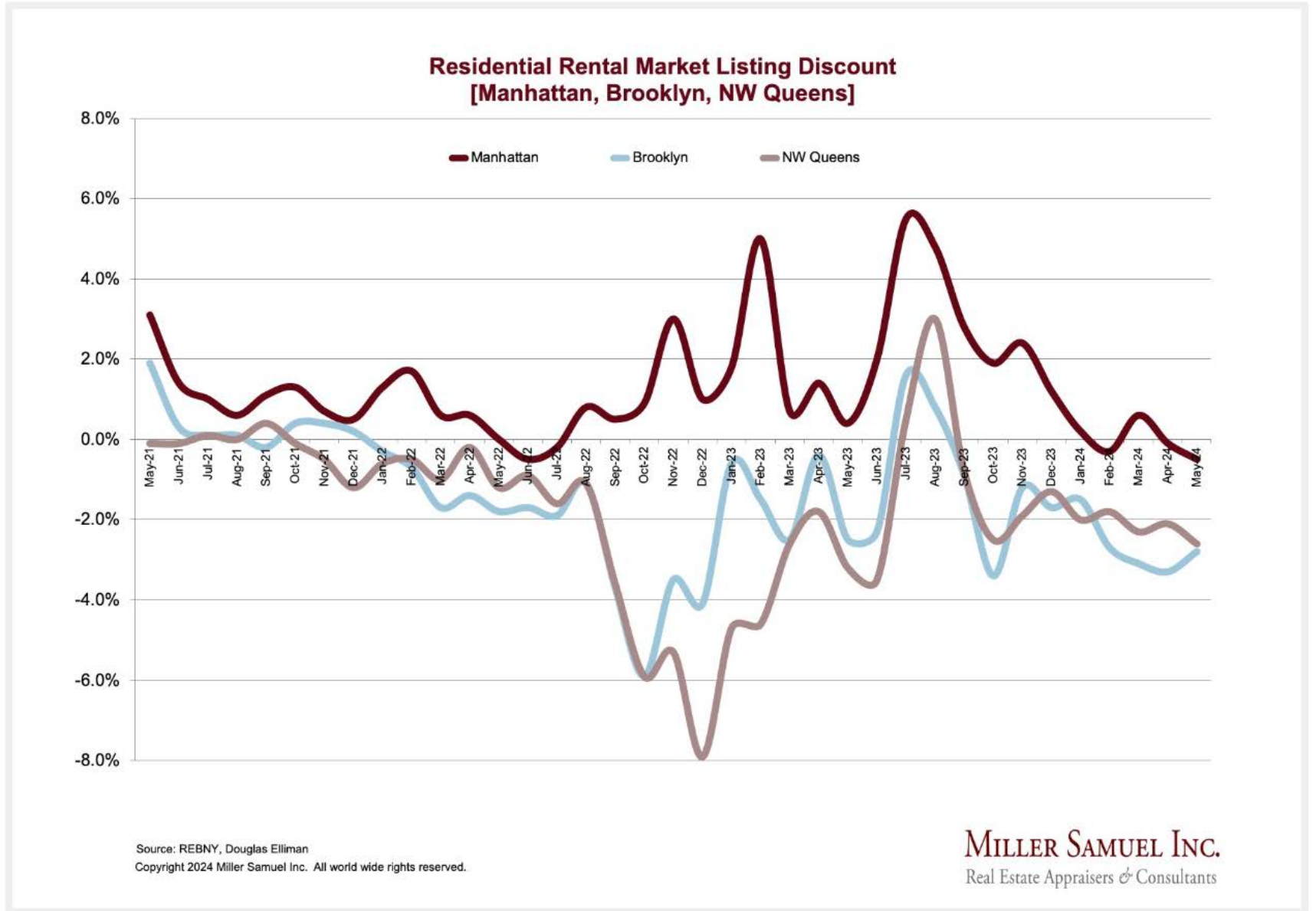
New York City apartment rents are currently hovering just below the record highs they achieved last August. And that's true in all 3 boroughs. New lease signings have been rising all year. New leases account for one third of all activity, while renewals account for two thirds. Leasing is rising because potential buyers are giving up in the face of rising mortgage rates, and existing renters are testing the market in response to rising renewal rates. These two factors combine to stimulate the rental market. Rents tend to rise when mortgage rates rise and fall when mortgage rates fall. When mortgage rates rise the high end of the market responds earlier than the bottom half of the market. This pattern is most clear in the 2021 to 2023 dramatic rise in rates, and flatter pattern of the last 18 months.

New York City has the highest rents in the nation (according to Zumper), substantially higher than #2 Jersey City and #3 San Francisco, and rising seven times faster than wages. While the national index ticked up 1.2% in May, it was the first time in 20 months we have seen a monthly increase above 1%. California seems to be

bucking the trend, with 7 of the largest cities reporting a decrease in rents over the last 2 years led by Oakland which experienced a -9.1% decrease.

Read Roberto Cabrera's market reports for insight on the New York City market: "rentals, that's where the concentration of deals is actually happening . . . stress, right now, is on the rental market." Roberto says that rental prices are likely to surpass last summer's highs. Opportunity is in the sale market where competition is "tepid at best". He goes on to say that historically the uncertainty of an election means that deal volume will slow until November, and then pick up again right after the election.

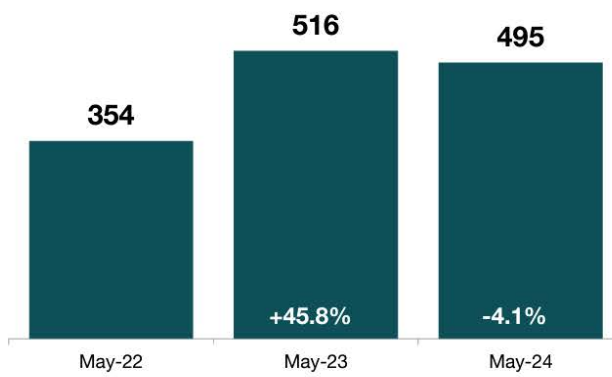
Back to rentals. In Great Britain we saw divergent signals in May as both prices and inquiries fell in the same month that tenant demand rose dramatically. The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors reports that demand more than tripled in the past



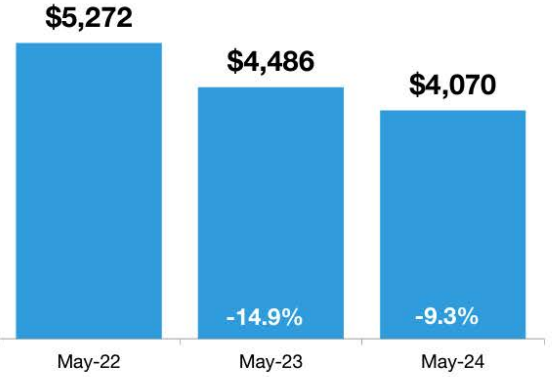
Activity for Fairfield County

	May			Year to Date		
	2023	2024	Percent Change	2023	2024	Percent Change
Number of Active Rentals	1,193	1,085	-9.1%	--	--	--
Number of Properties Leased	516	495	-4.1%	2,115	1,992	-5.8%
Average Monthly Lease Price	\$4,486	\$4,070	-9.3%	\$3,757	\$3,846	+2.4%

Number of Properties Leased

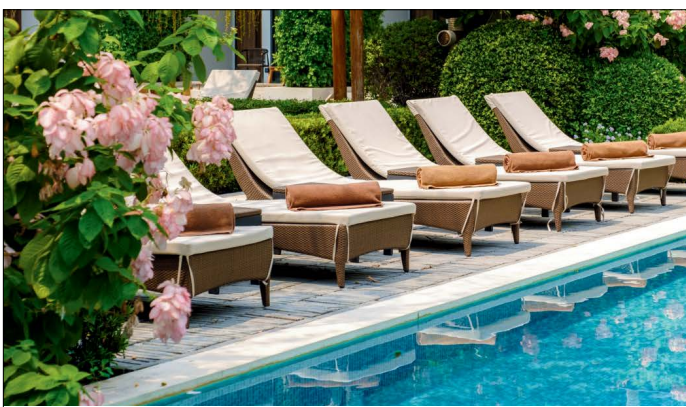
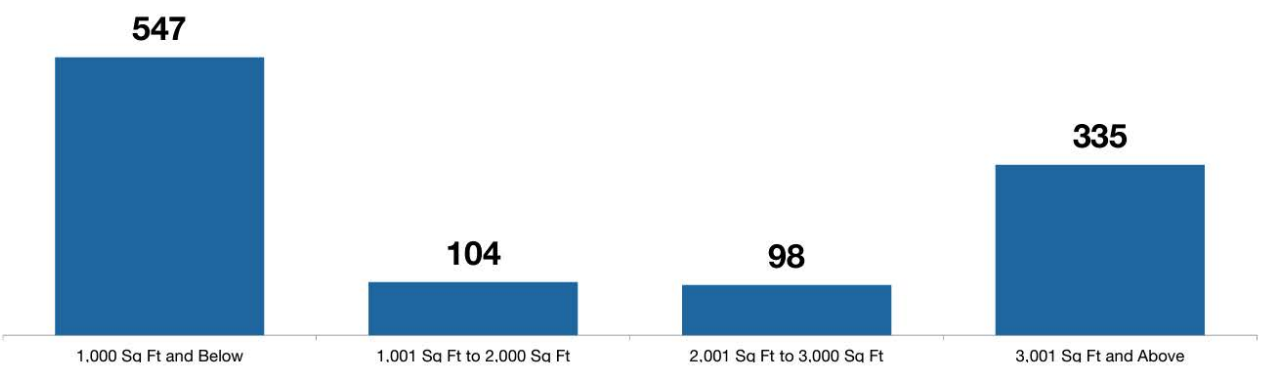


Average Monthly Lease Price



Number of Active Rentals by Total Finished Square Footage

The sum of these segments is not equal to Number of Active Rentals.



READY FOR OUTDOOR LIVING?

HC CLEANS PATIO CUSHIONS & MORE.



UPHOLSTERY • LINEN & BEDDING
WINDOW TREATMENTS • FLOORING & CARPETS • PATIO CUSHIONS

203-957-3838 | HomeCarebyFabricare.net

If you think it is time to protect yourself from all the craziness... consider taking physical delivery of precious metals from The Happy Coin.

203-340-9777

THE Happy Coin
Cos Cob, Ct



www.thehappycoin.com

High-Quality Metal Furniture Restoration & Powder-Coating Services



Email your photos for a free estimate!
pattysportico@gmail.com

PATTY'S PORTICO
Outdoor Furniture Restoration & Sales
Powder Coated Finishes
(Pickup and Delivery)

140 Highland Street, Port Chester, NY 10573
914-935-8839 or 914-937-1907
PattysPortico.com

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
1000 Smith Ridge Road	\$927,900	3,298	\$281.35	2.09	2	2
101 Juniper Road	\$1,250,000	3,249	\$384.73	2.06	4	3
312 Elm Street #35	\$1,250,000	2,340	\$534.19		3	2
215 Smith Ridge Road	\$2,595,000	6,270	\$413.88	1.34	5	6
80 Cross Ridge Road	\$2,750,000	3,213	\$855.90	4.23	2	2
87 Talmadge Hill Road	\$2,975,000	6,231	\$477.45	3.09	5	4
31 Bayberry Road	\$3,295,000	5,413	\$608.72	2.00	4	5

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
161 Heritage Hill Road D	\$379,000	\$379,000	\$365,000	24	1	1	
5 Down River Road	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000	\$1,325,000	9	3	2	0.33
312 Elm Street #24	\$1,269,500	\$1,269,500	\$1,425,000	4	3	2	
512 Frogtown Road	\$2,295,000	\$2,295,000	\$2,610,000	8	4	2	2.01
120 Oak Street	\$2,395,000	\$2,395,000	\$2,310,000	48	5	5	0.25
720 Weed Street	\$2,749,000	\$2,749,000	\$2,500,000	77	5	4	2.06
436 Weed Street	\$2,895,000	\$2,895,000	\$3,100,000	9	5	6	1.00
34 Louises Lane	\$2,995,000	\$2,995,000	\$2,995,000	16	5	5	2.33
1 Echo Hill Road	\$5,195,000	\$5,195,000	\$5,500,000	15	5	5	5.01

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

Get Your Open Houses Into the MLS by Wednesday at Noon for a Listing Here

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
110 Millport Avenue	\$749,000	SAT	11:00AM-1:00PM	Redfin

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD EDITOR

John Engel | John.Engel@Elliman.com

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD CONTRIBUTORS

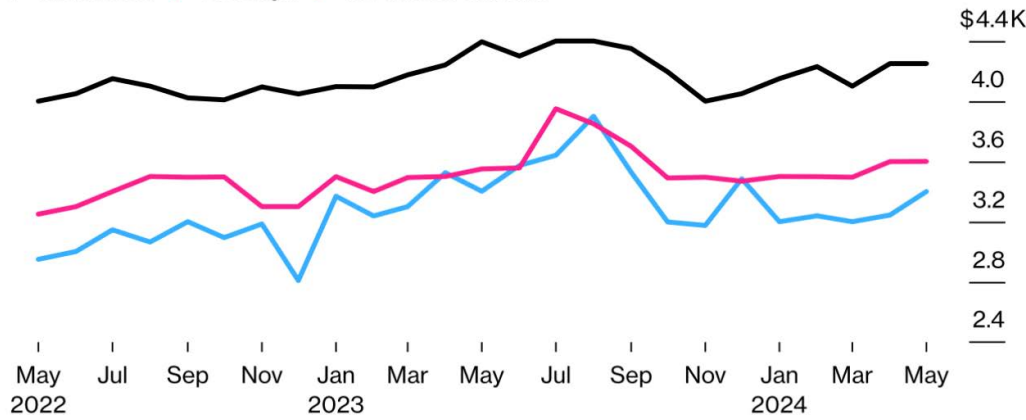
Christa Kenin | Christa.Kenin@Elliman.com

Robyn Bonder | Robyn.Bonder@Elliman.com

NYC Apartment Rents Hover Below Record Highs

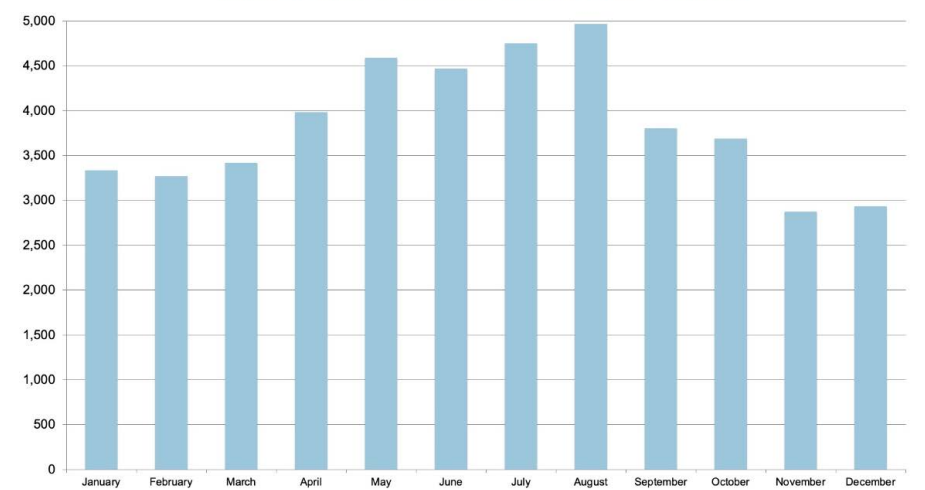
Manhattan's median unexpectedly declined in May

Manhattan Brooklyn Northwest Queens



Source: Miller Samuel Inc. and Douglas Elliman Real Estate

Manhattan Number of New Leases by Month [Average from 2008]



Source: REBNY, Douglas Elliman
Copyright 2024 Miller Samuel Inc. All world wide rights reserved.

MILLER SAMUEL INC.
Real Estate Appraisers & Consultants

RENTAL MARKET ROUNDUP From Page 8

two months as landlord supply of new properties fell flat. Prices are surging at an annual rate of 8.9%, down from a record high of 9.2% recorded in March. The two political parties are responding ahead of the July 4 elections: the Tories are proposing to abolish a tax on first-time homebuyers with homes worth less than \$500,000 while Labor has proposed a government mortgage guarantee scheme called "freedom to buy"

What about Fairfield County, Connecticut? The number of properties leased fell in May and for the year to date, -4.1% and -5.8% respectively. The average monthly lease price has fallen for the second year in a row, down -9.3% in May to \$4,070.

Greenwich paints a similar picture where 230 rentals is up 11.7% from 206 last year, but the average rental is \$8,047, down -3.54%, and median rental price is \$4,988, down -7.08% year over year. It's worth noting that lease prices appear to be higher in May and during the busy summer leasing season than at any other time, a fact true in Greenwich, New Canaan, and for the broader Fairfield County, Connecticut market.

Notes from the Monday meeting. The team just produced 3 new property videos this week with a professional crew out of New York City: 23 Benedict Hill, 153 Sunset Hill and 60 Ferris Hill. It begs the question what is the purpose of video, and does video really sell houses in a market with scarce supply? In mathematics we learn the Property of Proportion ($a/b=c/d$) tells us that when our last 3 professionally shot and edited videos reached 25,000 views, but our home-made videos reach only 1,000 views, that good video must be effective for us and increases reach. But does it sell houses? No. There is a disconnect between where we consume video, and where we shop for houses. Of the 65 single family homes for sale in New Canaan on the SmartMLS I was not able to find any videos attached to the listings. On the New Canaan MLS 30%

Fairfield County Rental Report – May 2024

A research tool provided by SmartMLS.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT A REALTOR®



Activity by Area

	Active Rentals			Properties Leased			Avg Monthly Lease Price		
	For the Current Time Period			For the 12 Months Ending...			For the 12 Months Ending...		
	May-23	May-24	Percent Change	May-23	May-24	Percent Change	May-23	May-24	Percent Change
Fairfield County	1,193	1,085	-9.1%	4,953	5,152	+4.0%	\$3,877	\$3,890	+0.3%
Bethel	23	12	-47.8%	85	96	+12.9%	\$2,340	\$2,373	+1.4%
Bridgeport	165	211	+27.9%	810	930	+14.8%	\$1,823	\$1,838	+0.8%
Brookfield	27	34	+25.9%	75	90	+20.0%	\$2,261	\$3,736	+65.2%
Danbury	67	68	+1.5%	293	306	+4.4%	\$2,432	\$2,646	+8.8%
Darien	40	18	-55.0%	104	121	+16.3%	\$7,306	\$8,198	+12.2%
Easton	3	6	+100.0%	17	16	-5.9%	\$5,053	\$4,072	-19.4%
Fairfield	108	109	+0.9%	398	359	-9.8%	\$5,382	\$4,502	-16.4%
Greenwich	77	50	-35.1%	314	347	+10.5%	\$6,906	\$7,099	+2.8%
Monroe	21	25	+19.0%	40	33	-17.5%	\$1,808	\$2,668	+47.6%
New Canaan	54	24	-55.6%	124	140	+12.9%	\$7,554	\$7,568	+0.2%
New Fairfield	15	11	-26.7%	16	31	+93.8%	\$4,378	\$4,781	+9.2%
Newtown	16	15	-6.3%	39	57	+46.2%	\$2,887	\$2,535	-12.2%
Norwalk	149	107	-28.2%	702	723	+3.0%	\$3,108	\$3,041	-2.2%
Redding	5	9	+80.0%	32	25	-21.9%	\$4,502	\$5,355	+18.9%
Ridgefield	22	19	-13.6%	122	120	-1.6%	\$3,321	\$3,490	+5.1%
Shelton	38	35	-7.9%	167	156	-6.6%	\$1,912	\$2,065	+8.0%
Sherman	13	10	-23.1%	17	20	+17.6%	\$13,868	\$6,885	-50.4%
Stamford	163	175	+7.4%	1,082	1,059	-2.1%	\$3,033	\$3,479	+14.7%
Stratford	38	37	-2.6%	154	169	+9.7%	\$2,035	\$2,274	+11.7%
Trumbull	28	23	-17.9%	52	62	+19.2%	\$2,868	\$3,061	+6.7%
Weston	18	10	-44.4%	26	32	+23.1%	\$7,828	\$7,610	-2.8%
Westport	90	66	-26.7%	237	214	-9.7%	\$11,970	\$11,423	-4.6%
Wilton	13	11	-15.4%	47	46	-2.1%	\$4,824	\$4,953	+2.7%

of listings had a video or tour attached. A simple Google search revealed most of the high-end houses do have professionally shot videos hosted on Youtube, Tiktok and Instagram but some of those videos were shot years ago and those houses have sold. During the pandemic we relied on video to a greater degree. Since that time the tools have improved, and the video portals have grown, so the lack of video content on major real estate portals

like Zillow, Realtor.com and Homes.com in 2024 comes as a surprise.

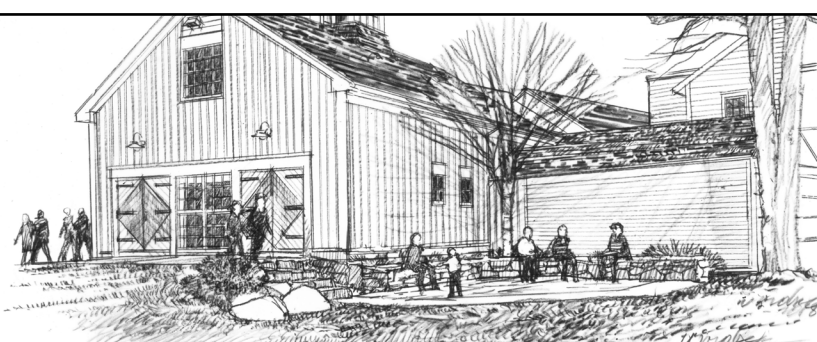
John Engel is a Realtor on The Engel Team of Douglas Elliman in New Canaan and he is sure June is the busiest month of the year, so much competing for our time and attention: graduations, weddings, proms, Caffeine & Carburetors, The Glass House Summer Party, The Historical Society's Ice-Cream Social, Juneteenth, Carriage Barn Art Show, the Special

Olympics Torch Run, the Nature Center's Great American Campout, NCHS's production of Cinderella, Staying Put's Summer Soiree, the NC Land Trust Firefly Viewing and the beginning of Wednesday Wavny Park Concerts. The sidewalks of New Canaan are packed with diners, neighbors greeting neighbors, and the traffic about town is way up. John's going to need a summer vacation.



Keith E. Simpson
Associates

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
RESIDENTIAL DESIGN
PROJECT COORDINATION
LAND PLANNING



New Canaan
Historical Society



203.966.7071

40+ Years of Civic, Residential,
and Commercial Landscape Architecture
in Fairfield County



William Pitt

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Nothing compares to expertise
here, there and everywhere.

YOUR NEXT MOVE SHOULD BE NEXT LEVEL.

With a proven track record of success and backed by the most prestigious name in real estate, I offer **effective strategies** to help sellers and buyers **achieve their real estate goals.**

CONTACT ME TODAY FOR YOUR COMPLIMENTARY REAL ESTATE ANALYSIS.



394 WEST LANE | RIDGEFIELD
SOLD \$4,995,000



41 LAKE WIND ROAD | NEW CANAAN
SOLD \$2,275,000



115 GREENLEY ROAD | NEW CANAAN
SOLD \$1,600,000



59 ECHO DRIVE NORTH | DARIEN
SOLD \$1,388,888

Not sure where to go when your home sells?

Home sellers worried about low inventory can rest easy with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty.

We've partnered with BLT in Stamford and Norwalk to offer an **exclusive** flexible apartment lease program. Enroll now and sell your home, knowing you can buy again later with 60 days' notice to end your lease penalty-free.

Eligibility is based upon both selling your home and buying your next home through William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty or Julia B. Fee Sotheby's International Realty. Exceptions may apply. Enrolled participants in the Sell Now Buy Later program may not have an active buyer broker agreement with any other real estate company or be under contract at the time of this solicitation in order to qualify for the program benefits. The Sell Now Buy Later Program cannot be combined with other relocation benefits or real estate incentive programs. Terms, conditions, and fees for accounts, products, programs, and services are subject to change.



Jared Kuehner

Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
203.822.1100
jkuehner@williampitt.com

NEW CANAAN BROKERAGE
26 Cherry Street | New Canaan, CT 06840

WILLIAMPITT.COM

Each office is independently owned and operated. 🏠





Co-founders Lauren Berger (L) and Marla Felton (R) of Greenwich-based REAL Cookies introduced their innovative nutrition program, REAL Food is Fuel, to the eager students at The Julian Curtiss School.

REAL Cookies Make a Real Impact on Students

By Emma W. Barhydt

On Wednesday, June 12th, The Julian Curtiss School welcomed Lauren Berger and Marla Felton, the founders of the Greenwich-based gluten-free, plant-based cookie brand, REAL. Their visit presented their "REAL Food is Fuel" nutrition program, designed to educate elementary school students, grades 2-5, on the importance of reading food labels and making informed food choices.

The day began with an engaging 30-minute classroom session, where Berger and Felton shared their passion for healthy eating. During the session, students learned to "scan" their food using their senses. Berger and Felton introduced the concept of visually inspecting food, taking note of its colors, textures, and overall appearance. The discussion then shifted to differentiating between foods that energize the body and those that don't, highlighting the benefits of fresh food over fast food.

Berger and Felton had planned a practical, hands-on experience to reinforce what the students had learned. Immediately following the classroom discussion, they led the students on a field trip to Whole Foods Market. This outing was an opportunity for the students to apply their new skills in a real-world setting.

At Whole Foods, the students were encouraged to explore the aisles and read the labels of various products. Berger and Felton guided them, pointing out key information on the labels and explaining what to look for in terms of nutritional content. The students discovered the importance of ingredients, serving sizes, and nutritional information like calories, sugars, and fats. This hands-on experience allowed the students to see firsthand how to make healthier choices when shopping for food.

To make the field trip even more enjoyable, Berger and Felton organized a tasting session. The students sampled a variety of nutritious foods, including some of the delicious cookies from REAL. This tasting experience demonstrated that healthy food can be both nutritious and delicious.

REAL, which stands for "Real Food, Real Ingredients, Real Taste," was founded by Berger and Felton in August 2021. Both women have family members with food sensitivities, which inspired them to create a line of cookies that just about everyone could enjoy. REAL cookies are made with clean, Non-GMO ingredients such as almond and coconut flours, real fruit, chocolate chips, and pure Vermont maple syrup. These cookies are not only gluten and grain-free but also free of dairy, eggs, corn, soy, artificial sweeteners,

What we really focus on here is all about creating a gathering space and a sense of community.

and canola oil.

The brand's commitment to quality and taste has not gone unnoticed. REAL cookies have received accolades from Good Housekeeping's annual snack awards, winning "Best Mini Cookies" in 2023 and "Best Grain-Free Cookies" in 2022. Available in a variety of flavors, including classic chocolate chip, peanut butter chocolate chip, and fresh lemon blueberry, REAL cookies can be found at Sprouts, Kroger, and select CVS stores. They are also available for purchase online at REALCookiesCo.com.

The visit from Berger and Felton seemed to leave a lasting impression on the students

of The Julian Curtiss School. By the end of the day, the children not only had a better understanding of how to read food labels but also a newfound appreciation for making healthy food choices.

The "REAL Food is Fuel" program is part of Berger and Felton's mission of promoting healthy eating habits and empowering young minds to make informed decisions about their nutrition.

For more information about REAL cookies and their mission to provide healthy, delicious treats for all, visit REALCookiesCo.com.



Students ventured to Whole Foods, where they learned valuable lessons about selecting foods that provide essential nourishment for their bodies. Photo taken by Venera Alexandrova.

Happy Birthday, America!

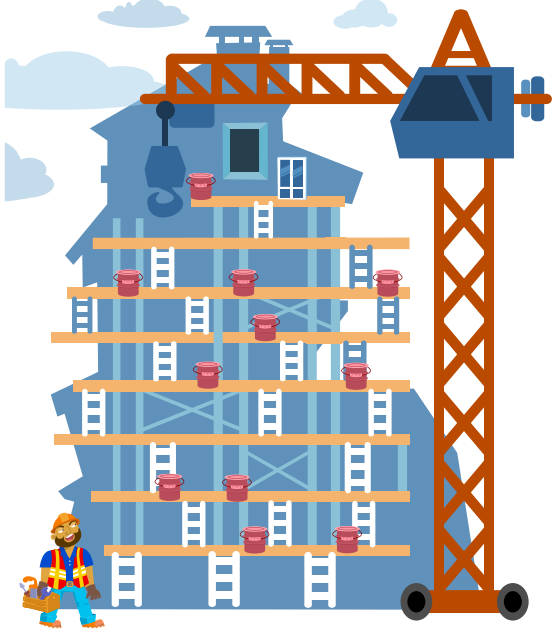
On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress ratified the Declaration of Independence. With that act, the Congress declared that the Thirteen Colonies were no longer the subjects of King George III, the ruler of Great Britain. Instead, a new nation — the United States of America — was created.



"The Declaration of Independence" by John Trumbull is perhaps the most famous painting of the founding document.

Turnbull was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, on June 6, 1756. His nickname was the "patriot artist," and his ambition was to tell important stories in American history through his paintings. He painted "The Declaration of Independence" in 1818. Today, it hangs in the U.S. Capitol rotunda.

The painting depicts the presentation of the first draft of the Declaration of Independence to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Thomas Jefferson, the principal author of the Declaration, is shown placing the document before the president of the Congress, John Hancock. The other members of the committee are John Adams, Roger Sherman, Robert Livingston, and Benjamin Franklin.



HOW MANY TO THE LEFT. HOW MANY TO THE RIGHT?

left right

How many?

left right

HOW MANY TO THE LEFT. HOW MANY TO THE RIGHT?

left right

Shadow Matching Game

Find and circle the pictures in the scene.

Independence day crossword

Help the worker climb to the top floor

FIND 3 DIFFERENCES

Maze

July 4th Word Search Puzzle

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

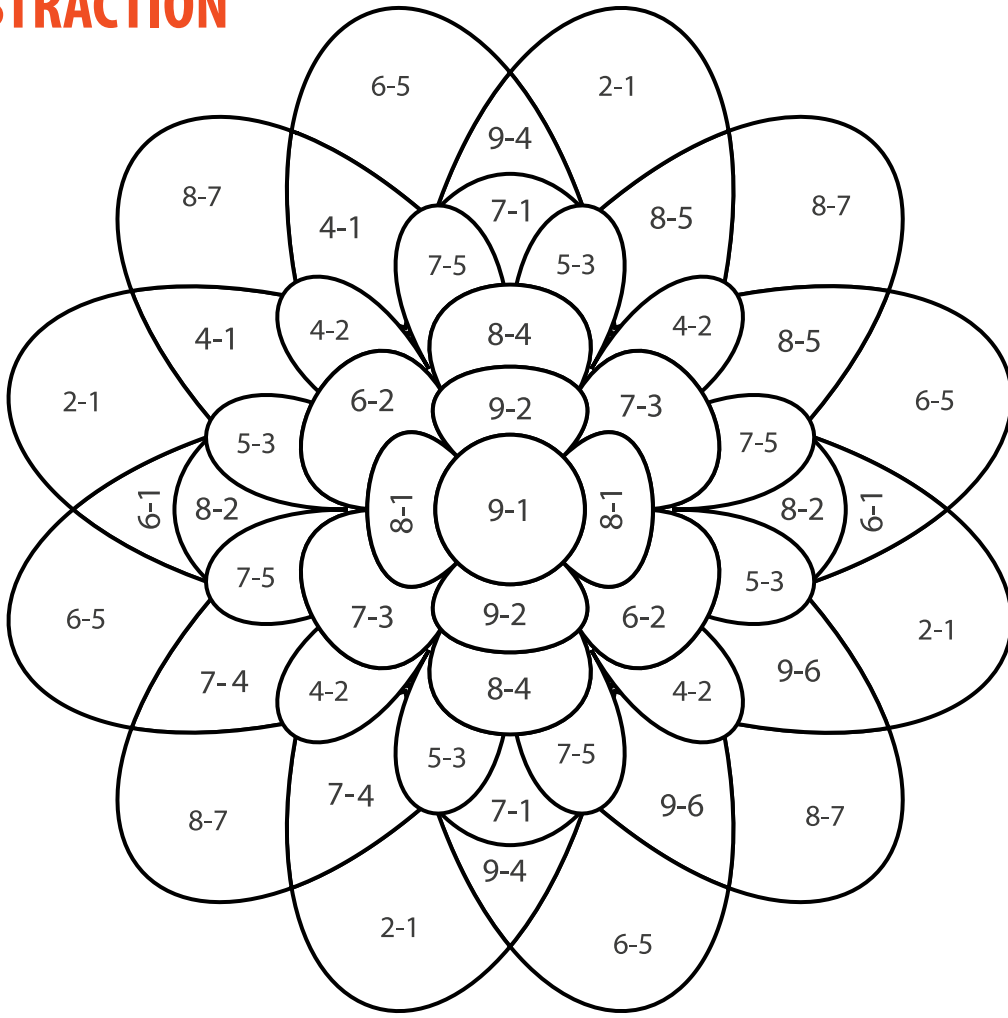
FIREWORKS
 HISTORY
 JULY
 PRIDE

LIBERTY
 DECLARATION
 FAMILY
 INDEPENDENCE

NATION
 SUMMER
 PATRIOTISM
 FREEDOM

COLOR BY SUBTRACTION

- ORANGE 8
- LIGHT BLUE 7
- PURPLE 6
- BLUE 5
- PINK 4
- YELLOW 3
- GREEN 2
- RED 1



Math Game

HOW MANY?

40

25

16

13

?

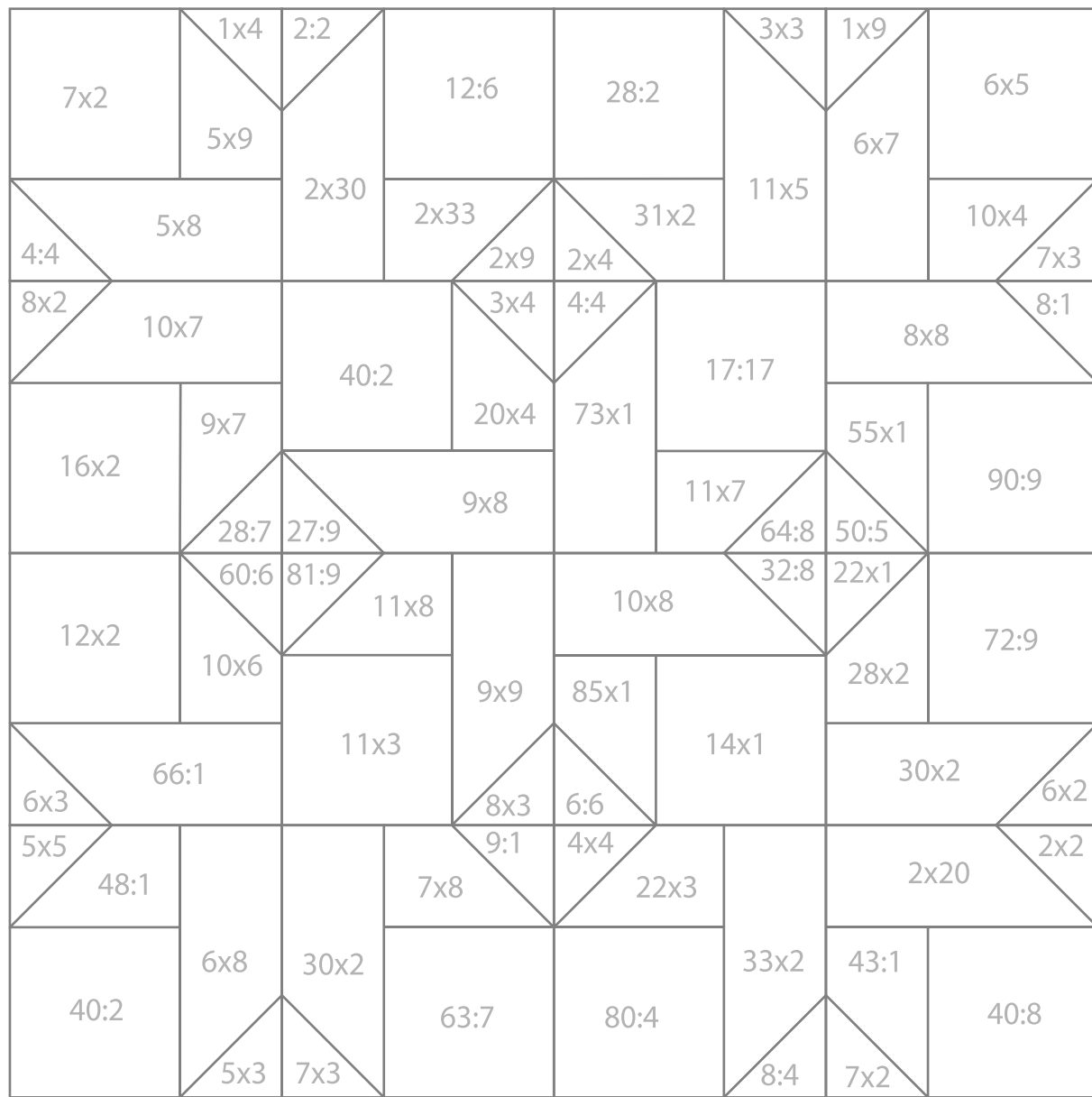
?

?

?

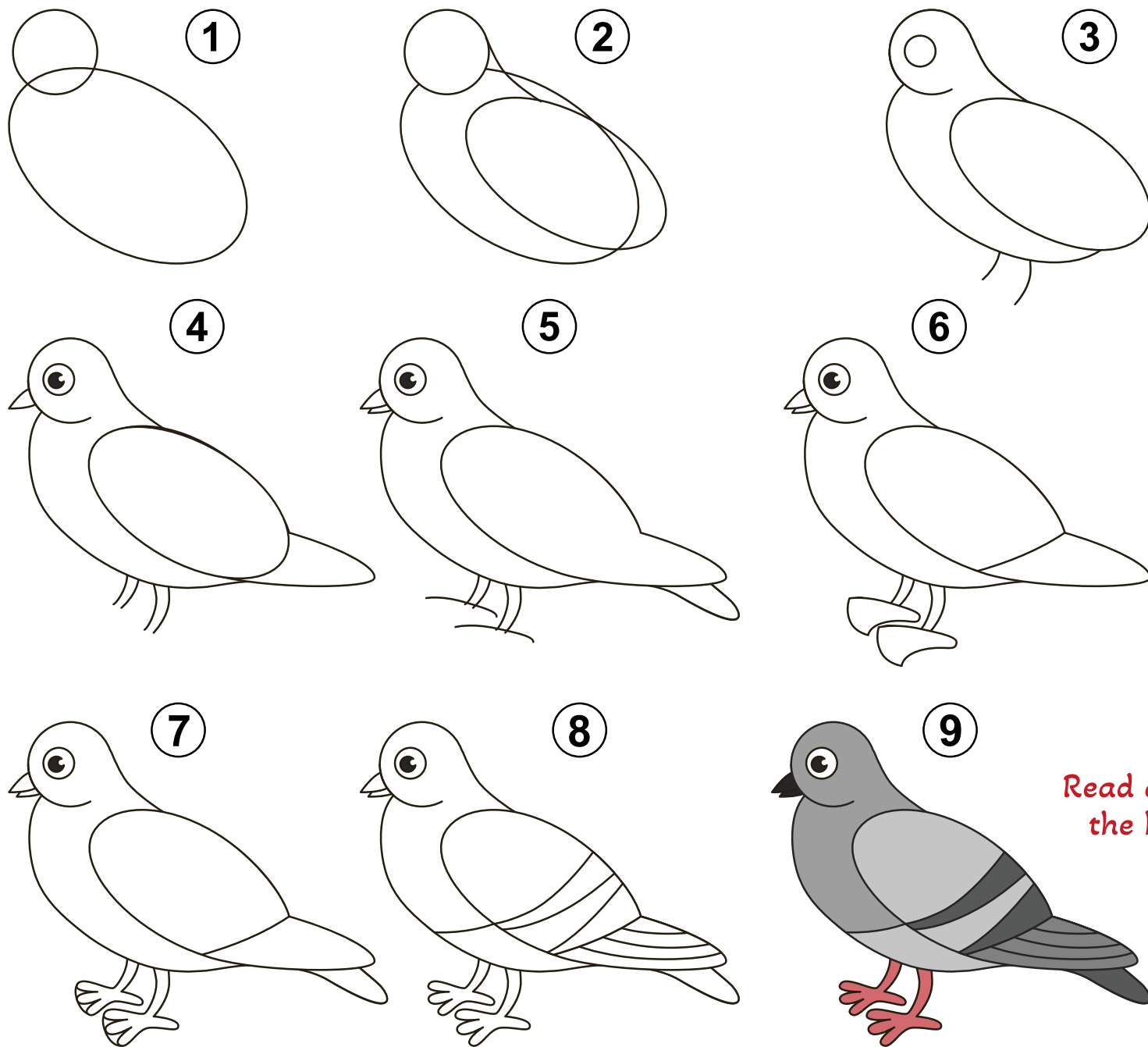
COLOR BY MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION

- 1-35 YELLOW
- 36-50 TURQUOISE
- 51-70 DARK BLUE
- 71-90 RED



Grab Your Sketchbook

DRAW A PIGEON, STEP BY STEP. COLOR IT!



Read about me on the back page!

SUDOKU

			1
2	1		3
3	4		2
		3	

	2		4
	4	2	
	1		3
4			2

2			4
	1		3
	2		
1		3	2

		4	
2	4	3	
			3
3	2		4

Sudoku

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

COLORING CHALLENGE



Sudoku answers

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

Bottom row - Very Hard

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

Bottom row - Hard

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

Bottom row - Easy

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

Top row - Very Hard

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

Top row - Hard

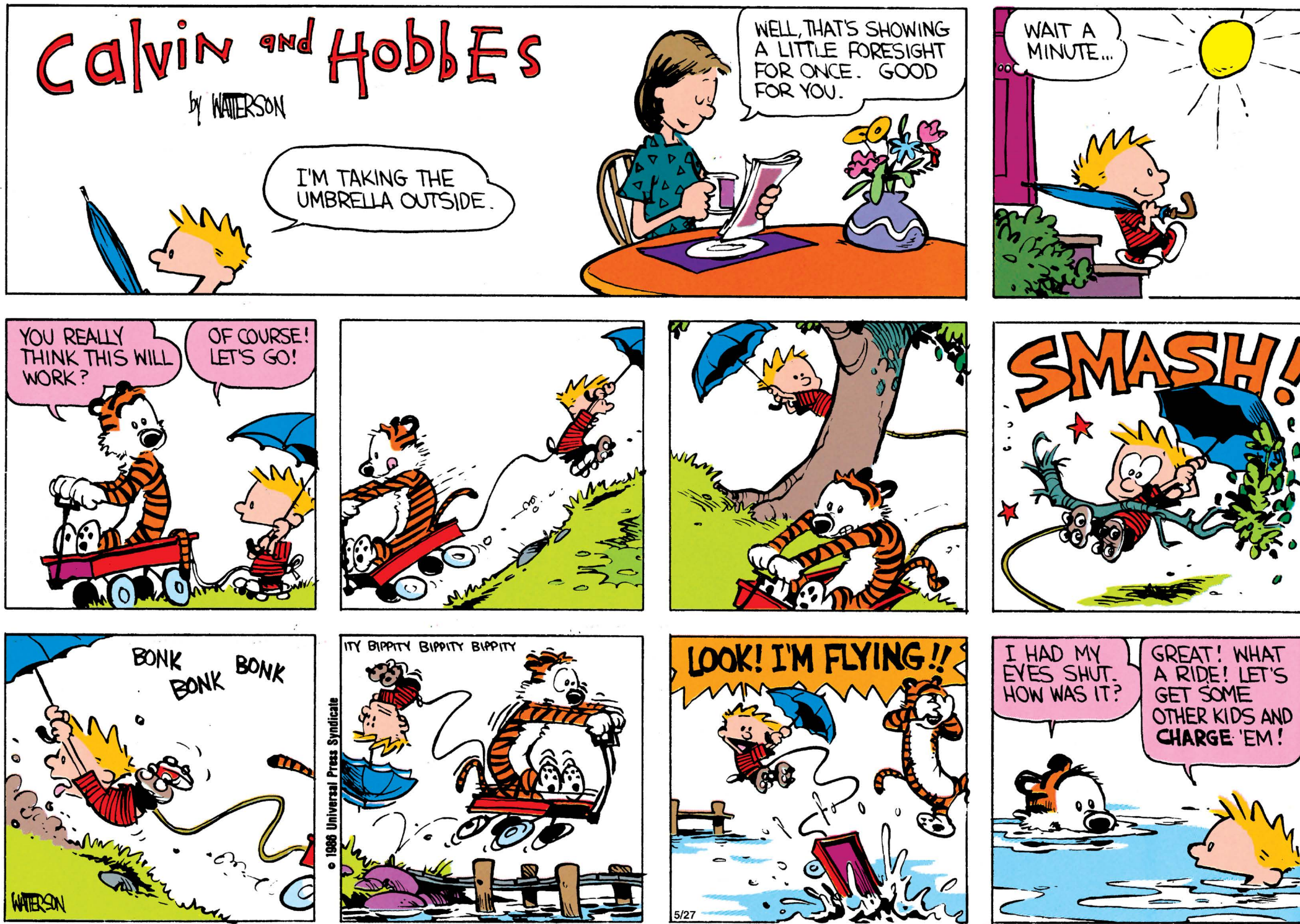
5	3	1	2	4	7	6	9	8
7	9	2	3	6	8	5	4	1
8	4	6	5	9	1	3	7	2
2	7	9	1	5	3	4	8	6
4	5	3	6	8	2	7	1	9
6	1	8	9	7	4	2	3	5
1	8	9	7	4	2	3	5	6
6	1	8	9	7	4	2	3	5
1	8	4	7	3	6	9	5	2

Top row - Easy



EDUCATION

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



CALVIN AND HOBBS © 1986 Watterson. Reprinted with permission of ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION. All rights reserved.

COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE ROCK DOVE

A Common Sight, This Bird Is Full of Surprises

BY JIM KNOX

I held my dad's hand, poised to ascend the steps of The American Museum of Natural History, when their jerky movements first caught my eye. I studied them and wondered how they did it. How could the chunky birds circle around our feet, snatch food in an instant, and swirl into flight, narrowly missing speeding cars, taxis, and trucks? They seemed so at ease, so natural in their environment, that it must be their home. While they didn't originate in Manhattan, or even the New World, in a sense, they were very much at home.

Columba livia, better known as the Rock Dove, Rock Pigeon, or Common Pigeon, is a bird of the Old World. Its close association with humans and its adaptability have facilitated its spread around the globe. Buenos Aires and London harbor flocks of these ubiquitous birds, as do Tokyo and Johannesburg. In fact, the first animal I observed on the African continent—while taxiing into Joburg airport—was a Rock Dove. Though favoring urban habitats worldwide, they also thrive in the countryside, nesting in barns, steeples, bridges, and rock ledges. As grain eaters which supplement their diet with insects, Rock Doves are especially adaptable.

Its human-fostered introductions and legendary adaptability have made pinpointing the Rock Dove's original range guesswork. Our best estimates put its true home range somewhere in Mediterranean Europe or North Africa, and its predilection for sheer vertical nesting spots and lofty perches indicate cliffs or mountainous regions were their preferred habitat. Yet, most of this is educated guesswork, made hazy by a longstanding association



The Rock Dove, aka the Common Pigeon

There is a creature – which resides in Greenwich – that was first domesticated by the ancient Egyptians 6,500 years ago.

with humankind—the first Rock Doves were domesticated approximately 4,500 B.C.!

Intermediate in size between an American Robin and an American Crow, the Rock Dove is a plump-bodied bird with a wide rounded tail, short red or pink legs, a small head, and a short, straight beak. Its traditional plumage, or feather coloration and patterning, consists of a blue-gray body, an iridescent green, blue, and purple throat, two black wing bars and a black-tipped tail.

The first Rock Doves introduced to North America arrived in the early 1600's. Yet this was just the most recent leg of the Rock Dove's

world tour. Their great utility to humans has led to domestication and selective breeding which has yielded an enormous number of varieties—more than 1,000 and counting! Such variety has produced black, white, pied (white splotched) and red-plumaged birds. In fact, the Rock Dove's popularity has been enduring over the past 65 centuries, feral birds have bred with true wild pigeons such that true wild pigeons may actually be extinct.

While some birds were bred for their colors and patterns, the Rock Dove is far more than an avian pretty face. Representing a ready and prolific food-source, the doves have

accompanied human settlement around the globe. For many gamekeepers and farmers, that would be enough but there is far more to our stocky, cooing neighbors than a casual glance might reveal.

Equipped by nature to evade all but the swiftest avian predators, the pigeon's plump, 1.25-pound frame conceals a body packed with powerful flight muscles. A closer look reveals sharply pointed wings which provide them with exceptional and rapid maneuverability. With a top flight speed of 70 miles per hour—and bursts of up to 97 miles per hour for trained birds—the dove is among the world's fastest birds in level flight.

As a bird with modest home ranges and indelible homing tendency, it has gained renown over the millennia for its homing ability. This attribute has conferred untold benefits to our species. As message carriers for the U.S. Army Signal Corps in World War I and World War II, "Homing" pigeons delivered strategic information to their "home" roosts—saving many lives. The bird's behaviors have also advanced the science of animal behavior. Charles Darwin kept flocks of pigeons for years, which provided keen insights into his study of animal behaviors and the natural world.

Not to be outdone by

the army, the U.S. Navy in conjunction with the U.S. Coast Guard, recognized the pigeon's ultra-keen vision to save lives. In 1979, the 14th Coast Guard District in Honolulu teamed up with The Naval Ocean Systems Center to develop Project Sea Hunt in which teams of three pigeons were trained to use their exceptional field of view and color vision to spot the red and orange colors of life vests of downed aviators and sailors lost at sea. By pecking at sections of a clear bubble canopy suspended beneath Marine HH-46 Sea Knight and Coast Guard HH-52 Sea Guard rescue helicopters to receive a treat, the birds would alert the crew via sensor to the presence of the Personal Flotation Devices from miles away. With a 90% success rate in ocean trials, the birds outperformed their human counterparts roughly 2:1.

If that wasn't impressive enough, consider the pigeon's superpower—magnetoreception. Tiny Magnetite deposits in the bird's beak give it the ability to orient to the poles and the earth's magnetic field, conferring unparalleled navigation ability.

With these extraordinary attributes to its credit, and others emerging from scientific research, the Rock Dove has much more to reveal. So, the next time you see a pigeon bobbing along a sidewalk or scurrying for handouts in a city park, know you are in the presence of a common bird with most uncommon abilities.

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