

YOUR NEWS BRIEFING CONTINUED From Page 1

benefiting Paint The Town Pink and the Bennett Cancer Center. The shirts are available at the New Canaan Fire Station from 9 am to 5 pm or at the Farmers Market on October 12th and 26th. Photo credit: New Canaan Fire Co

TOWN HALL

Forest Street Closure

Eversource Electric will upgrade the electrical grid on Forest Street, between East Avenue and Locust Avenue. The road will be closed nightly from 10 pm to 10 am, Sunday through Thursday. The work began September 18th and will continue for two weeks.

Silvermine Road Closure

Aquarion Water is installing a 36-inch water main on Silvermine Road (Route 106) between Carter Street/Canoe Hill Road and Valley Road. The road will be closed Monday through Friday from 7 am to 5 pm until November 15. Motorists should use the Ferris Hill Road detour.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

EMTs Trained on UTV Operations



This weekend, EMTs were trained to operate the department's UTV, enhancing response capabilities. The vehicle will be used in areas that are difficult to access.

It's Time to Schedule Your Child's Back-to-School Eye Exam!

Your child's eye health and vision quality play an essential role in physical, cognitive, and social development. A Back-to-School Eye Exam is more than just a routine exercise; it's a proactive step that supports your child's overall well-being.



Robert J. Fucigna, M.D.
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Photo credit: New Canaan EMS.

New Canaan Launches Parking Survey

New Canaan has launched a survey to collect feedback on downtown parking from residents, businesses, and visitors. Open until October 11th, the survey aims to inform future parking decisions in the town. It is available online at <https://newcanaanchamber.com/2024/09/16/downtown-parking-survey/>.

Final Hearing Set for POCD

The New Canaan Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a final public hearing and vote on the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development on October 10. The public comment period ends today and a draft of the plan is available online for public viewing at https://cms3.revize.com/revize/canaan/Departments/Land%20Use/New%20Canaan%20POCD%20DRAFT_20240715.pdf

AROUND TOWN

Project Pink New Canaan

Julie Stein founded Project Pink New Canaan in 2023 to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research. The initiative will place pink ribbons and lights on over 100 lampposts downtown, with dedication tags available for purchase through September 26th. All proceeds will support the Breast Cancer Alliance's efforts in research and grants. For more information and to purchase a dedication tag please visit <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=bca&id=96>.

9/11 Remembrance Service

New Canaan held a remembrance service this week for the 23rd anniversary of 9/11. The ceremony took place on Wednesday at 9:59 am on the front lawn of Town Hall, followed by a wreath-laying. Photo credit: New Canaan EMS.

New Leadership at the Library

Ellen Sullivan Crovatto has been named CEO of New Canaan Library, and Cheryl Capitani is now the library director. Their appointments follow the resignation of former Executive Director Kimberly McNally in May. The library's board expressed confidence in their leadership moving forward.

Rotary Club Lobsterfest

The Rotary Club of New Canaan will host its annual Lobsterfest at Waveny Park's Steve Benko Pool, offering lobster, salmon, and chicken for dine-in, curbside pick-up, or delivery for large orders. The event is scheduled for September 27th and 28th from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. More information is available at https://www.newcanaanrotarylobsterfest.org/?fbclid=IwY2xjawEYOTRleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHVTFw5T_4Zbp0j4uPrP-aAsc0ghWVPBnc_yECZfGjHj05OR-ME-D6DjuA_aemBhHfD-bs6Kbm6On9lwx40A.

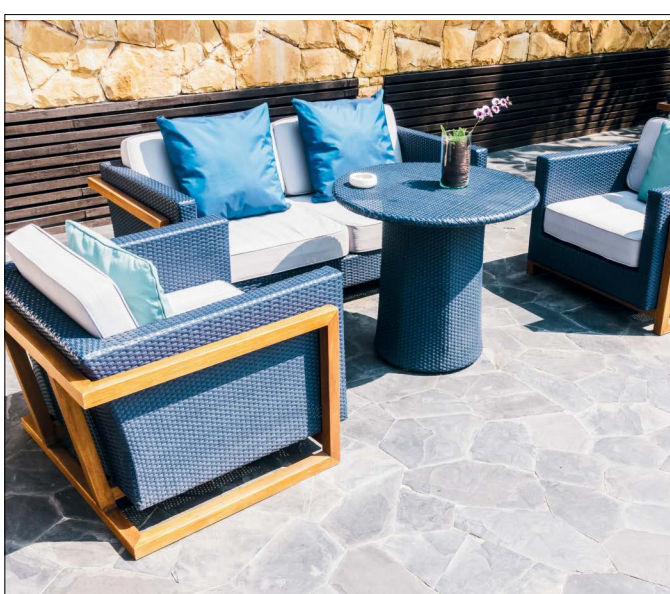
LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Chamber Honoring Local Businesses

The New Canaan Chamber of Commerce will host the 2024 Chamber Awards on September 25th, from 6 to 7:30 pm at the New Canaan Library. The ceremony will honor Planet New Canaan, Pennyweights, and Adirondack Store & Gallery for their meaningful contributions to the local community. Attendees will enjoy lite bites and appetizers, with wine provided by Craftbottlz. Tickets are \$35 and available at <https://newcanaanchamber.com/2024/08/26/2024-chamber-awards/>.

Gerber Advocates Mental Health Accountability

Dr. Andrew J. Gerber, President of Silver Hill Hospital, participated in the Mental Health Summit at the State Capitol on September 9th. Serving on Comptroller Sean Scanlon's Mental Health Subcommittee, Gerber proposed enhancing payer accountability by improving access to the state's All Payer Claims Database. His recommendations received support from Comptroller Scanlon and other state officials.



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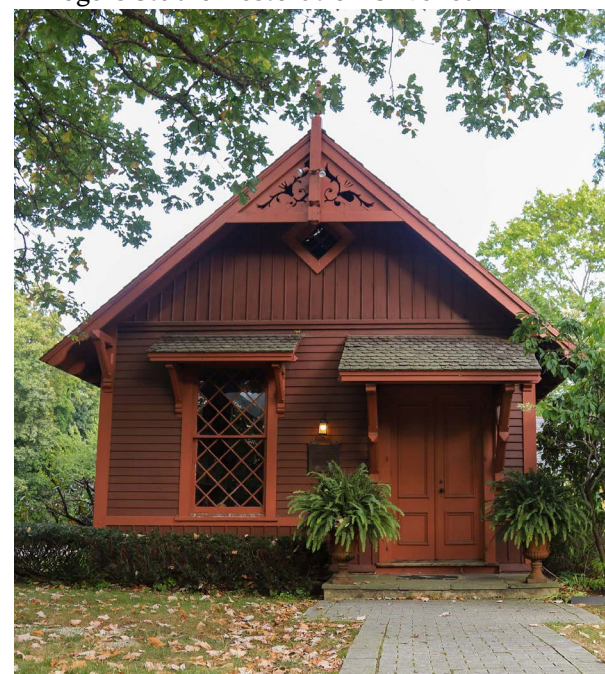
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John Rogers Studio Restoration Unveiled



The New Canaan Museum & Historical Society held a ribbon-cutting for the restored John Rogers Studio, built in 1878. John Rogers was a prominent American sculptor. The restoration was funded by a state grant and local donors.

Among those present were First Selectman Dionna Carlson, Selectmen Amy Murphy Carroll and Steve Karl, and state legislature delegates state Rep. Lucy Dathan (D-142nd), state Sen. Ryan Fazio (R-36th), and state Rep. Tom O'Dea (R-125th). Originally located on Oenoke Ridge, the studio, designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1966, was highlighted by Executive Director Nancy Geary as an example of Victorian architecture and historical significance.

The event detailed the restoration, noting the Greenwich Historical Society's gift of 63 Rogers groups, expanding the museum's collection to the largest of its kind. Key contributors, including Todd Levine of the State Historic Preservation Office, Karp Associates, designer Gina Federico, and the New Canaan Community Foundation, were acknowledged for their roles in the project and the ongoing "Campus Reimagined Campaign."

SPORTS

Victory Against Maloney

On Friday, the 13th, New Canaan played Maloney in a Connecticut High School Football Alliance game, where New Canaan secured a dominant 42-13 win. Quarterback Luke Robinson and wide receiver Andrew Esposito Jr. led the charge, connecting for five touchdowns. Esposito's performance, with 271 receiving yards, tied him for second in the state's record books for most touchdown receptions in a single game.

ACROSS CT

USPS Unveils Holiday Stamps



The U.S. Postal Service introduced the 2024 Christmas Madonna and Child and Holiday Joy stamps at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum. The designs feature Italian and Mexican folk art and are available as Forever stamps.

OUR NEIGHBORS

Lewisboro Hosts Car Seat Check

The Lewisboro Police Department is offering a car seat safety check on September 21. The event will take place from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Lewisboro Library Fair in South Salem, NY.

Ridgefield Gofer Ice Cream Closes

Gofer Ice Cream in Ridgefield will close on September 29th due to underwhelming sales. Other Gofer locations will continue operating, with only the Ridgefield store closing.

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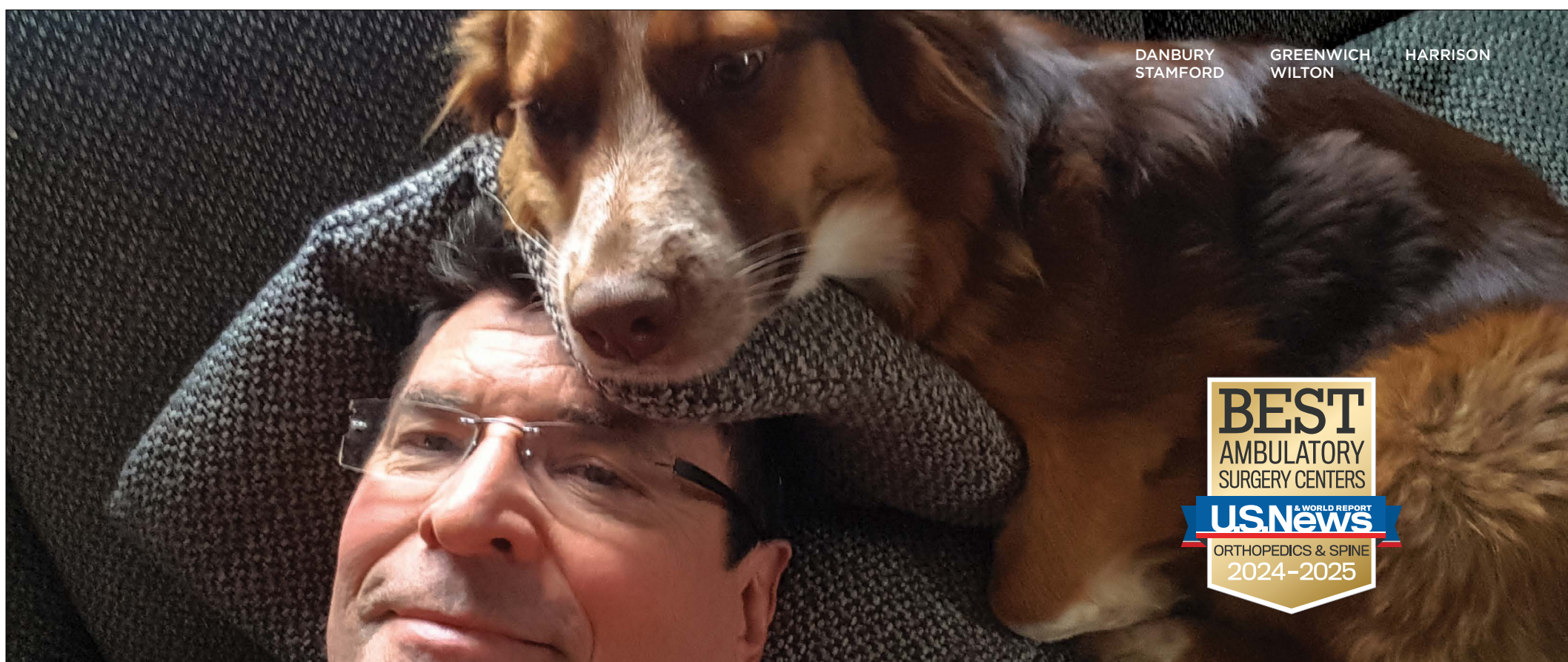
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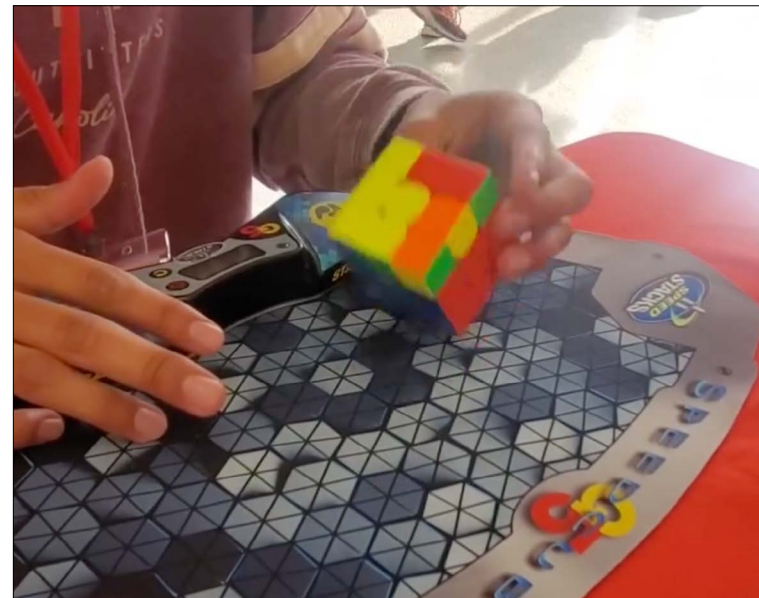
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Jaylen Myles, Cubing Champion

BY ANNE WHITE

Cubing, a competitive sport centered around solving the iconic Rubik's Cube and its many variations, has grown into a global phenomenon since the cube's invention in 1974. At its core, cubing requires not just problem-solving skills but also dexterity, speed, and efficiency. Solvers use algorithms to unscramble the colors of the cube, aiming to complete it in the shortest time possible.

One-handed cubing, as the name suggests, takes this challenge to the next level. Competitors solve the cube using only one hand, adding a layer of difficulty that requires not just speed but also

precise finger movements and advanced techniques. This category has attracted skilled cubers who relish the additional complexity it presents.

Jaylen Myles, a student at St. Luke's School, recently made waves in the one-handed cubing world. Competing in the Saint John's Showdown in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, Jaylen earned second place with an average solve time of 11.88 seconds, an incredible feat given the precision required. He also set a personal best of 10.21 seconds for a single solve, cementing his reputation as a rising star in the cubing community.

Jaylen's accomplishment is particularly impressive given the

complexities of one-handed cubing. The event requires solvers to be highly strategic with every move, as they manipulate the cube using only a limited range of finger motions. It's not just about speed; one-handed cubers must master techniques that reduce the number of moves while maintaining control. For Jaylen, hitting a sub-12-second average is a testament to his dedication and skill, marking him as a formidable competitor in both national and regional events.

Cubing enthusiasts like Jaylen inspire the next generation of solvers, proving that even with one hand, the possibilities for solving are endless.

Navigator Alzheimer's Expands

Waveny LifeCare Network announces that the Navigator Alzheimer's at Home in New Canaan Program, housed on Waveny's 3 Farm Road campus, is expanding its eligibility to include individuals and/or their loved ones with any dementia diagnosis living in New Canaan. Going forward the program will be referred to as the Navigator Alzheimer's and Dementia at Home for New Canaan program (ADAH).

"We are pleased to expand the program to include more families struggling with any type of dementia in New Canaan," said Executive Director of Navigation, Kathleen Benevento. "We are confident this change will provide more family caregivers with access to vital support services that are so

greatly needed."

The Navigator program has been meticulously tailored to deliver a concierge-level service, entirely free to the New Canaan community, to address the evolving and unforeseen needs that arise when caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. The Navigator team are specialists in Alzheimer's, dementia, care options and long-term planning, providing 24/7/365 assistance including medical support, community resources, activities, long term care planning, emotional support and many other needs. Members of the Navigator ADAH Program also receive priority access to the entire Waveny LifeCare Network

healthcare continuum. If Waveny is not able to assist with your request, referrals are made to a trusted Waveny partner.

The program has two staff members, Executive Director of Navigation Kathleen Benevento and Navigator Chris DiElsi, LMSW. If you would like to connect with a Navigator for support services, please contact Chris DiElsi at cdielsi@waveny.org, navigator@waveny.org, or (203) 594-5495 (direct) or via the Navigator cell phone at (203) 594-5289, answered 24/7/365.

Navigator Alzheimer's and Dementia at Home for New Canaan is made possible by funding from The New Canaan Community Foundation and local philanthropists Jim and Dede Bartlett.



Waveny Lifecare Network's

NAVIGATOR
Alzheimer's and Dementia at Home for New Canaan

Local Leaders Join Foundation

The John and Ethel Kashulon Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of two new members to its Board of Directors. In making the announcement, Chris Le Bris, President of the Board of Directors of the Foundation said, "We are fortunate indeed to have enlisted the services of two outstanding community leaders to further the work of the Foundation. Their addition to the Board, will allow the Foundation to expand its coverage of the many deserving charitable institutions in Fairfield County."

Jim Murray brings 35 years as an investment banker, and corporate executive in the financial services industry to the Board. He is currently a Managing Director at Bryant Park Capital, LLC, an investment banking firm headquartered in Conshohocken, PA. Besides having served as an advisor to the Foundation in matters of governance and financial markets in the past, he has extensive experience of not-for-profit volunteer work. He is currently the President of the Board of Directors of Help for Kids of Stamford, CT, which is an organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse. He also is a member of the Board of Directors of the Exchange Club of New Canaan, a social service organization, and

its related charitable foundation, and has served as President of both those organizations in the past.

Jim is a graduate of DePaul University in Chicago, and he has an MBA from UCLA. He and his wife, Karen Lynn, both originally from Chicago, have been residents of New Canaan since 1990. They have two adult daughters.

Jim will assume the duties of Treasurer from Chris Le Bris, who was named President of the Board earlier in the year, succeeding Marty McLaughlin who stepped aside after serving as President for seven years. Mr. McLaughlin remains a Director of the Foundation.

George Benington has long been involved in community affairs, where he has served the Town of New Canaan and a variety of not-for-profits for a number of years. He is currently the Chair of the Town's Parks & Recreation Commission. In the past, George has served as President of the Exchange Club of New Canaan, and its related charitable foundation, New Canaan Fire Company, and Old Faithful Antique Fire Engine Co. George is currently on the Board of Directors of the Exchange Club and past

a Board member of the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan, Indian Mountain School, Lakeville, Connecticut, an independent coeducational boarding and day school for children grades pre-K through 9, and the New Canaan Outback Youth Center.

Professionally, George has been in the paper and packaging industry for over 30 years, serving in a variety of sales and marketing roles. He presently works for Sweden based Billerud AB. George is a graduate of Lake Forest College in Illinois. A third generation New Canaanite, George lives with his wife Patricia and has two adult sons.

The John and Ethel Kashulon Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of the most vulnerable members in our society by investing in children and families. Programs that promote excellence in education, protect children and families, and provide cultural opportunities that enrich the community are the primary goals of the Foundation. The Foundation's work is centered in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and surrounding communities.

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CSI GREENWICH

2024



New Canaan Boys Varsity Shines at Wilton Invitational

By CHRISTOPHER DEMUTH

The 35th Annual Wilton Cross Country Invitational held at Allen's Meadow on September 14th brought together high school cross country teams from across Connecticut and neighboring states for a competitive meet on a sunny, cool Saturday.

Among the standout teams was New Canaan, finishing 3rd overall in a field of over 20 schools. The Rams displayed their depth and determination throughout the grueling 5,000-meter course, edging out teams like Southington and Glastonbury with a final score of 100 points, just one point shy of Staples (99) and trailing only E.O. Smith (45), who took the top spot.

Leading the charge for New Canaan was senior Ryan Boulanger, who crossed the finish line in 16:39.06, earning him 11th place overall in a talented field of nearly 200 runners. Boulanger was followed closely by teammates Spencer Paine (17:07.57) and John Disturco (17:08.56), both seniors who finished in the top 25, showcasing the strength of New Canaan's upperclassmen. Sophomore Charles Cavanagh (17:30.26) and freshman Faizal Zakir Hussain (17:44.38) rounded out the scoring pack, highlighting the team's promising underclassmen.

Despite narrowly missing 2nd place, New Canaan's performance proved their competitiveness heading into the heart of the cross country season. Head Coach Bill Martin praised the boys' effort, stating, "It was a great team performance today. Every runner pushed hard, and we're excited to build on this as the season progresses."

The event, known for its challenging terrain and deep competition, also saw impressive individual performances from across the region. Newtown's Soheib Dissa captured 1st place with a blazing time of 15:26.29, setting the tone for the fast-paced race. Loomis Chaffee's Alex Fisher (15:36.62) and John Jay's Andy Condon (15:49.32) followed to round out the top three.

For New Canaan, this strong finish will provide motivation as they prepare for upcoming meets, with their eyes set on continued improvement and a competitive showing at states. After the event, junior runner Ryan Monohan commented, "New Canaan overall did really good, the top 7 was really strong that meet and we ended up winning the large school division which is great. Each of the members of the team regardless of the race they

"New Canaan overall did really good, the top 7 was really strong that meet and we ended up winning the large school division which is great. Each of the members of the team regardless of the race they competed in showed up, and gave it their all regardless of the hot weather. Performing this well at a meet of such caliber shows nothing but great promise for the future of the team and I'm honestly really excited to see what we can accomplish in the post season."



Spencer Paine mid-race, Photo credited to Sarah Wrede

competed in showed up, and gave it their all regardless of the hot weather. Performing this well at a meet of such

caliber shows nothing but great promise for the future of the team and I'm honestly really excited to see what we can

accomplish in the post season." The Rams' next challenge will come in the Fairfield County Interscholastic

Athletic Conference (FCIAC) championships, where they hope to carry this momentum forward.

New Canaan Sentinel

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Editorial Page

Time to Act

New Canaan residents, like many across Connecticut, are experiencing a sharp rise in their electric bills. With the state's energy costs ranked as the third-highest in the country—behind only Hawaii and California—this burden is felt acutely, especially as winter approaches. The increase isn't just about rising energy prices. A significant factor contributing to this spike is the "public benefit" charges, which can account for up to 29% of a household's bill. These charges, often hidden in plain sight, demand immediate legislative attention, yet the state legislature remains in recess while families face mounting costs.

A special legislative session is still needed to confront these rising costs before the colder months set in. Connecticut's legislators must return to work and find solutions now, rather than allowing ratepayers to endure another winter of financial strain.

Electric bills are made up of multiple components, and one of the most significant and often overlooked is the "public benefit" charge. This charge funds state programs such as energy efficiency initiatives and subsidizes unpaid utility bills. While these programs serve important roles, they act as a hidden tax on ratepayers, implemented without sufficient transparency or scrutiny.

Additionally, public benefit charges are used to subsidize infrastructure such as electric vehicle chargers, which benefits a small portion of the population while imposing costs on everyone. These subsidies represent another layer of hidden taxes that most residents shouldn't have to bear, especially as many are already struggling with their own energy bills. It is time to reevaluate how these charges are applied.

Immediate steps can be taken to relieve residents from these unnecessary costs. One of the most crucial reforms is to cap new state energy purchases. The state is currently preparing to sign contracts for energy at rates that could be four times the current market price, locking in exorbitant costs for 20 to 30 years. Capping these purchases before they are finalized could save millions for ratepayers over time.

Another key proposal involves using the remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to cover unpaid utility bills that accumulated during the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds are dwindling, making it vital to allocate them wisely before they run out. By covering these unpaid bills, the legislature can relieve some families of a burden they shouldn't have to carry.

Furthermore, eliminating subsidies for private infrastructure—such as electric vehicle chargers—from electric bills is necessary. Residents should not be paying for services they do not use, especially when those services benefit only a few. Drivers should pay for their own fuel.

With winter approaching, the urgency of addressing these issues grows stronger. Waiting until the regular legislative session in January will leave households to face even higher energy bills, with no relief in sight. Connecticut families cannot afford such delays.

For a special session to be called, at least 50% of both the House and Senate must agree to reconvene. So far, over 65 legislators have signed on, including state Senator Ryan Fazio and state Representative Tom O'Dea. Without more legislators agreeing to go back into session, this vital work may never happen.

It is time for all our local representatives to take responsibility and agree. Their action is essential to bring the legislature back to Hartford and begin addressing these urgent issues. The longer they delay, the worse the situation will become for families throughout the state. These are not abstract policy issues—this is about helping real people across Connecticut.

This is not a partisan issue; it's about getting back to work and finding solutions to a problem that impacts every household.



LETTER

You Must See Empire Waist

How many movies are fun, feel-good and deeply meaningful all at once?

By TOM BUTTERWORTH

How many movies are fun, feel-good and deeply meaningful all at once? That rare trifecta comes to the newly renovated Playhouse Theatre in "Empire Waist" on September 27, running through September 30. New Canaan's Clare Ayoub wrote and directed the film, which follows

a group of teens who learn to love their bodies through friendship and inclusive fashion design. We're told that attendance next week can influence how widely the film is distributed nationally. This is incredibly important because all teens (and their families and people of all ages!) who struggle with body image need to see this inspiring

work. Thanks to Cinema Lab who hosted the advance screening of "Empire Waist" including an insightful live interview of Ms. Ayoub by Sheri West. The Playhouse seems to be delivering on its promise to be a true community-based theatre, not just a place to watch movies.

OPINION

Celebrating Colleges in 2025

By TOM WILLIAMSON

The Wall Street Journal/College Pulse 2025 Best Colleges in the U.S. ranking offers a comprehensive look at the institutions that excel in providing an exceptional educational environment. This year's list of the top 500 universities reflects a shift in how we evaluate higher education, focusing not just on academic performance but also on the overall student experience, which includes factors like campus facilities, community, social life, and diversity. Developed in collaboration with College Pulse and Statista, the ranking highlights schools that are meeting the evolving needs of students across the country.

Leading the list this year is Scripps College, a women's liberal arts institution in Claremont, California. Scripps scored exceptionally high in student experience, with its picturesque campus, strong community ties, and robust social life setting it apart. The college's commitment to creating a supportive and engaging environment is a model for others to follow. Close behind are Harvey Mudd College and Florida International University, both of which excel in providing diverse and dynamic campus experiences,

illustrating that size and prestige are not the only factors that define a top-tier institution.

What sets this ranking apart is its comprehensive approach. Unlike traditional lists that focus solely on academic achievements or institutional wealth, the WSJ/College Pulse ranking considers the lived experiences of students. Questions around campus safety, mental health support, and social integration are now key metrics, acknowledging that a college's value extends beyond the classroom. This broader evaluation provides a more accurate reflection of what students can expect during their time on campus.

The ranking also brings attention to lesser-known schools that excel in areas critical to student success. For instance, California Baptist University, ranked fifth, is recognized for its welcoming environment and community engagement. Meanwhile, Oral Roberts University and Hobart and William Smith Colleges shine for their strong social scenes and supportive campus cultures, demonstrating that institutions across the country are finding innovative ways to enhance student life.

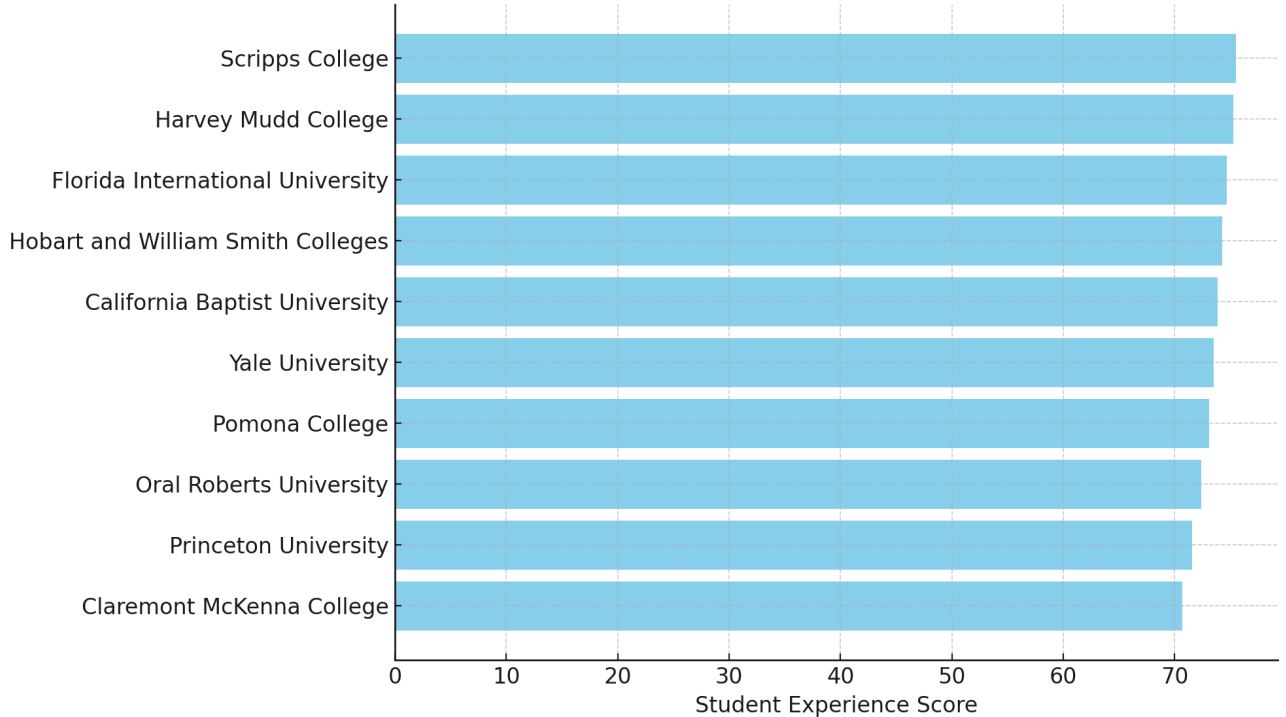
In a competitive educational landscape, the schools that made the

top 10 are not just meeting academic standards—they are thriving in areas that truly matter to students today. Whether it's the interconnected campuses of the Claremont Colleges, the community focus of Florida International University, or the elite resources of Yale and Princeton, these institutions are setting a high bar for what higher education can and should be.

As prospective students and their families navigate the complex decision of choosing a college, rankings like this offer valuable insights into where they might find the best fit. While academic excellence remains crucial, this list reminds us that the best colleges are those that invest in the whole student experience, making campus life as enriching as the education itself.

For more information on the rankings and to explore the full list of top 500 colleges, visit the Wall Street Journal's full report and methodology [here](https://www.wsj.com/rankings/college-rankings/best-colleges-2025). This comprehensive guide provides further insights into what makes these institutions stand out and the criteria used to assess their overall performance.

Top 10 Colleges for Student Experience (2025 WSJ/College Pulse Ranking)



A CONTEST IN THE SPIRIT OF THE NEW YORKER MAGAZINE

Sentinel Literary Competition

The Sentinel Literary Competition has returned from the Sentinel's annual hiatus tanned, rested, and ready to fill the indoor seasons with lighthearted intellectual diversion.

Here's what's new:

MORE TIME TO ENTER

The Competition will now run monthly (rather than weekly) to allow ample time for our local Wordsworths to contribute. Enter as many times as you like!

MORE AND BIGGER PRIZES!

The First Prize entry now brings home a check for \$100. The Runner Up wins \$50, and two Honorable Mentions each win \$25.

Email your entry(s) to:
Dawson@GreenwichSentinel.com



The September Competition:

**Give Us the Prompt:
Please Prompt Promptly!**

What should you write about? You tell us!

Mr. Dawson is looking for great prompt ideas, and his favorites will turn up as prompts for future Competitions.

Prompts should be pithy and clever and include an example of an entry.

Please email your entry(s) to the Competition's trusty judge, Joe Dawson, at: Dawson@GreenwichSentinel.com.

ENTER BY FRIDAY, SEPT. 27

Entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, Sept. 27. Winners will be announced in the Oct. 4 issue of *The Sentinel*.

Meetings This Week

The Police Dept Building Committee

The New Canaan Police Department Building Committee held its hybrid meeting on Sept. 12, providing updates on the ongoing renovation and expansion of the police station. The meeting focused on the progress of construction, budget management, and resolving site issues.

The first order of business was to approve the meeting minutes from the Aug. 22 meeting when the committee received updates from Turner Construction reported about the completion of the underground sanitary and storm systems and the initial work on the building's steel framework. Delays in starting steelwork on the addition were noted, primarily due to shoring challenges with the east wall. The committee also approved a change order to replace the light bollards in front of the building with fixtures that match the town's standard light poles, a decision with a not-to-exceed cost of \$15,000.

TRANSFORMER RELOCATION DECISION

One of the main agenda items at the Sept. 12 meeting was the relocation of a large transformer initially planned for the front of the police station. Committee members raised concerns about its visibility and impact on the building's façade due to changes in the grade around the site. After discussing alternatives, they approved relocating the transformer to a less visible location near the building's generator at an estimated cost of \$25,000. The relocation will require additional conduits and electrical work, but the committee unanimously agreed that the adjustment would improve the station's aesthetics and avoid potential issues with the public.

Landscaping plans were also discussed to further screen the transformer from view, with Arborvitae plantings being added to provide additional cover. The committee noted that this solution balances aesthetic concerns and budget constraints.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Turner Construction provided a comprehensive report on the renovation's progress. The most significant update was the completion of the structural work for the building's new addition in August. Masonry work has begun on the lower level, focusing on the area designated for holding cells. Additionally, preparatory work is underway for the installation of a new generator, with the pad now ready for placement. The generator is scheduled to arrive by the end of September, keeping this key part of the project on track.

Turner also noted that the pace of construction is expected to increase significantly in the coming months. With multiple trades now working on-site, the project will see a ramp-up in manpower, increasing from 20 to nearly 40 workers. The next major milestone is achieving watertight status for the building by late October, which will allow interior work to progress without weather-related delays.

BREAK-IN AT CONSTRUCTION SITE

A major security issue was raised during the meeting. Turner Construction reported that a break-in occurred at the construction site, resulting in the theft of tools valued at between \$20,000 and \$30,000. The thieves managed to disable security cameras and targeted high-value gang boxes containing specialized tools. The police are investigating the break-in, and additional security measures are being considered, such as repositioning cameras and reinforcing site surveillance. Despite this setback, no significant damage was done to the construction site itself.

BUDGET REVIEW AND FINANCIAL UPDATES

The committee also reviewed the project's budget. Turner Construction confirmed that the project remains financially sound, with sufficient contingency funds available to address unforeseen expenses. The project's soft cost includes a budget line for "Utility Relocations" in the amount of \$25,000, which will likely cover the transformer relocation costs. Other budget adjustments were reviewed, including minor changes to flooring materials and light fixtures.

Turner Construction also noted that the relocation of the transformer may slightly delay the timeline for securing permanent power to the building, as additional coordination with Eversource will be required. However, the overall budget impact remains manageable, and the project remains on track for completion within the established financial framework.

Board of Selectman Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMAN BRIEFS POLICE HEADQUARTERS RENOVATION

The renovation of Police Headquarters remains both on schedule and under budget, with nearly \$1.4 million still available. The projected move-in date is set for June 2025, and the facility is expected to be fully operational by summer. This progress reflects efficient project management as the work continues toward completion.

HOUSING AUTHORITY APPROPRIATION

The New Canaan Housing Authority received approval for an appropriation of \$1,138,000 from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. This funding will reimburse deferred developer fees from the Mill Apartments, Millport Phase 1, and Millport Phase 2 construction projects. The fees were deferred at the time of construction and are now being repaid to support affordable housing initiatives in the town.

WAVENY TRAIL REPAIR

The Parks Department received approval to enter into a \$31,000 contract with Hussey Bros Excavating for emergency repairs to walking trails at Waveny Park. The trails were damaged by storm runoff from August 18th. The repairs will address washouts on several trails to restore them for public use and upcoming events including cross-country meets.

MELLICK FIELD NETTING

Approval was granted for a \$12,991 contract with JGB Sports to repair the side netting and a damaged pole on the third-base side of Mellick Field. These structures were damaged by a downed tree during the storm on August 18th. The netting is crucial for protecting the playground area from Mellick Field.

WAVENY FITNESS AREA

The New Canaan Parks Department received approval to enter into a contract

with Hussey Bros Excavating for \$9,500 to handle material removal and installation at the new fitness area in Waveny Park. Funds will come from the Parks Department's playground replacement account, and work is expected to be completed within the next two weeks.

NEW CANAAN NATURE CENTER

The Department of Public Works received approval to enter into two contracts totaling \$33,598 for the demolition of the pedestrian ramp on the west side of the greenhouse at the New Canaan Nature Center. Complete Dismantling Services will handle the demolition, while Darien Electric will disconnect electrical components connected to the ramp.

SCHOOLHOUSE APARTMENTS

The Department of Public Works received approval to enter into a contract with J. Antonelli Roofing for \$42,350 to replace the entrance canopy at Schoolhouse Apartments. The existing canopy is structurally unsound and being temporarily supported. The project will involve demolishing the old canopy and installing new footings, columns, and roofing.

WAVENY PARK LAMP POSTS

The Department of Public Works received approval to purchase 40 lamp posts and fixtures for Waveny Park for a total cost of \$226,170 from F&M Electric. This is part of a two-phase project to replace aging lamp posts in the park. The new posts will match the existing ones for a uniform look and are expected to be durable and long-lasting.

Sale of Composted Leaf Mulch

The Department of Public Works received approval to sell 2,000 cubic yards of composted leaf mulch to Peter Lanni, Inc., for \$24,000. This sale, part of the town's annual bidding process, clears out space at the leaf vault site for upcoming fall leaf collection. The town retains an

additional 1,300 cubic yards of mulch for its own use and for residents.

FORD F-350 PURCHASE

The Department of Public Works received approval to enter into a contract with Tasca Ford for the purchase of a 2024 Ford F-350 pickup truck. This truck will be purchased for \$69,678 to replace a 2015 model and will be used for supervisory duties. It comes equipped with a snowplow and lighting.

BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS

The Department of Public Works received approval to establish blanket purchase orders for three vendors: Keith Simpson Associates for \$50,000, Gannon Fence for \$20,000, and William Kenny Associates for \$20,000. These vendors will provide services for various town projects.

Waveny ADA Project

The Department of Public Works received approval for a change order with MKL Design Studio in the amount of \$43,560. This project will consist of architectural and engineering services related to the Waveny House ADA elevator project. The change was necessary due to a mandated 10-foot safety overrun, which required adjustments to the building's design. The project aims to bring Waveny House up to ADA compliance.

PHASE 1 COPPO FIELD

The Department of Public Works and the New Canaan Athletic Foundation (NCAF) received approval to enter into a contract with Atlantic Sports Group for \$5,227,685. This project will start Phase 1 of the Coppo Field renovation. This includes regrading the area and installing underground infrastructure to support a new synthetic turf field, which will be used by the high school's varsity baseball team and general town use. The funds will be provided by the New Canaan Athletic Foundation and the town of New Canaan.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN **THE PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND** 

The Church in a Secular Age


with author **Andrew Root**
178 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan CT

**Saturday, September 21
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

Professor Root examines what living in a secular age does to congregational life and how the church can find new footing within it.



Register by September 15
\$25 suggested donation



Visit fpncn.org or call us at 203-966-0002 ext 1

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: UPDATE SERVICES AND ADD SPECIAL EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR AT
www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/worship-calendar-updates

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
682 South Avenue 203.966.5849
www.ComeUntoChrist.org
Sunday Service: 12:00 PM

Congregational Church
23 Park Street 203.966.2651
office@godsacre.org
www.godsacre.org
Sunday Services: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. The 10:00 am service is also live streamed and recorded, the video replay will be available throughout the week. Church School is available on Sundays for children ages 3 through 7th grade each Sunday from September through mid-June.

Recurring Events:
Tuesdays at 9:30 AM: Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 9:30 AM: Bible Study
Fourth Thursday from 12-2:30 PM: Meet at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk to serve a meal.
Saturdays at 9:45 AM: From now until September 1st, the church offer a simple refreshment of lemonade and a sweet treat, which can be enjoyed on the lawn after worship. For more information please contact laurel@godsacre.org.
Sundays at 9:45 AM: Summer Fellowship time will take place after the 9:00am service and will include lemonade and a light snack provided by the host.

Upcoming Events:
September 21st at 9 AM: Join in repairing and rehabbing a Norwalk neighbor's home. HomeFront, a community-based volunteer-driven home repair program, provides free repairs to qualified homeowners, enabling them to stay in their homes with improved quality of life. No experience necessary, and lunch is included. To signup please contact marrianna@godsacre.org.

September 28th from 6-9 PM: Holy Smokes Fellowship BBQ. The Garners and the Fellowship Ministry invite you to a classic Memphis BBQ with all the fixings. Enjoy a fabulous meal, seasonal brew tasting, and s'mores by the firepit as you reunite with church friends or make new ones. \$30/person. Register at <https://godsacre.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/213/responses/new> by 9/22.

First Church of Christ, Scientist
49 Park Street 203.966.0293
christiansciencet.org/newcanaan
Sunday 10:30 AM, in person only. Sunday School is available during

Sunday Service and is open to children and young people up to the age of 20. There is also childcare available for children too young for Sunday School. Wednesday Testimony Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month, join by zoom or by phone 646 558 8656. Reading Room Hours: Open Mondays 11-2, Call to confirm hours 203-966-0293. All are welcome to the Sunday and Wednesday services, Sunday School, and the reading room.

First Presbyterian Church
178 Oenoke Ridge Road
203.966.0002
fpncn.org
Sunday Service: 10am in person or via LocalLive. All are welcome. Coffee Hour after the service is also available in person or via Zoom. Dedicated childcare is available for all children via Wee Care Nanny Agency from 8:45-11:30am in the Nursery School. Transcripts of previous sermons are also available via the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan's website. Recurring Events: Every Saturday 9:15am (closed) and 10:30am (open): Alcoholics Anonymous. Every Tuesday 8pm: Men's A.A.
Third Wednesday from 6-7:30 PM: Wednesdays at the Well are intergenerational opportunities to learn and grow in faith together.
Dinner will be served and all ages are invited.

Upcoming Events:
September 21st from 1:30-4:30 PM: Professor Root examines what living in a secular age does to congregational life and how the church can find new footing within it. Register by 9/15 at <https://psne.breezechms.com/form/andrewroot>

Saint Aloysius
21 Cherry Street 203.966.0020
www.starcc.com
Service Schedule:
Saturday: Vigil for Sunday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The Sunday 8:30 a.m. mass is live-streamed and recorded. Monday-Friday: 7:00 am and 5:30 pm
Saturday: 7:00 am
Recurring Events:
Last Monday of every month 7pm: Women's Praise & Worship Holy Hour
Fridays 7:30am-6pm: Eucharistic Adoration (September-June)
Saturday 8:30am: St. As Healing Rosary Prayer Group

Upcoming Events:
September 25th from 7:30-7:50am: See you at the pole. Gather with your peers around the flagpole at New Canaan High School for teen-led prayer. Wear your church t-shirt. There will be free donuts.
September 28th from 9-10:45 AM: Malta House is partnering with Norwalk's Foodshare event at Ben Franklin School. Feed 100+ families in need in less than 2 hours. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084DAFAD2CAAFB6-50913670-foodshare/>

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
111 Oenoke Ridge 203.966.4515
churchoffice@stmarksnewcanaan.org
www.stmarksnewcanaan.org
Sunday Services: 8:00am: Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite I; 9:00am: Outdoor Holy Eucharist Rite II; 10am: Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite II (Live Stream also available on the St. Mark's website). Coffee Hour follows the 10am service. Church School during the 10am service: Godly Play for children in kindergarten through second grade; Holy Moly for third and fourth grades; Meet in the Middle for fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Professional childcare is offered for children ages four and under. Families with children who are not yet ready to separate for childcare are invited to use the rocking chairs at the rear of the chapel.
Weekday Services: Monday-Friday, 8:30am: Morning Prayer/Rite II by Zoom.
Wednesday at 12:05pm: Noonday Eucharist in the chapel.

Recurring Events:
Mondays & Tuesdays at 12pm: Alcoholics Anonymous
First Wednesday at 1pm: Laundry Love volunteering opportunity to come alongside people who are struggling financially by assisting them with their laundry.
First & Third Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm: Youth Group
Wednesday 10am: Women's Alcoholics Anonymous

St. Michael's Lutheran Church
5 Oenoke Ridge 203.966.3913
office@stmichaelslutheran.org
www.stmichaelslutheran.org
Sunday Service at 10:00 am. Following the service there is coffee, cookies and conversation in the Fellowship Hall.
Recurring Events:
Thursday 12 PM: Alcoholics Anonymous

Trinity Church New Canaan / Darien
468 South Avenue 203.618.0808
info@trinitychurch.life
www.trinitychurch.life
Join us Sundays at 11:00 am in the Saxe Middle School auditorium for lively worship, thoughtful and applicable teaching, weekly Communion, and an opportunity to make friends and grow in community. Trinity Kids (infants through fifth grade) and Trinity Youth (middle and high schoolers) take place during the service, and coffee and refreshments are served following worship. Trinity also holds services in-person in Greenwich and Larchmont, and on livestream via YouTube on Sundays at 9:45 a.m.; learn more at www.trinitychurch.life.

Recurring Events:
Sundays at 10:30 AM: Pre-service prayer in Saxe Auditorium. Spend time in listening prayer, pray for those teaching, and seek the Lord prior to our worship service.
Third Saturday from 8-10 AM: Connecticut Men's Breakfast. Join for a homemade breakfast held at the Ministry Center, 5 River Road in Greenwich.

Upcoming Events:
October 4th through 6th: Annual fall retreat in Monterey, MA for 2nd through 5th graders. An entire weekend of friends, games, campfires, and a sleepover. \$225/child and space is limited. For more information and to register visit <https://trinitychurch.life/churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2283404>.

United Methodist Church
165 South Avenue 203.966.2666
office@umcofnewcanaan.org
www.umcofnewcanaan.org
Sunday Service is at 10:00 am followed by coffee and conversation during Fellowship Time. Sunday School is available during Sunday Service. All are welcome.

Upcoming Events:
September 28th: Holy Hike. Details to be determined.

Community Baptist Church
174 Cherry Street 203.966.0711
cbcnewcanaan@gmail.com
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZZUNa8aHI30_Syp_XOKDg
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CBCNewCanaan/>
Sunday School at 10:00am
Worship Service at 11:00am
Live Facebook Broadcast 11:30 am

Upcoming Events:
September 25th through September 27th at 7PM Nightly: Fall Revival. It's time to renew.

Grace Community Church
9:30am Service @ New Canaan High School, 11 Farm Road, New Canaan
203-966-7600
info@gracecommunity.info
www.gracecommunity.info
Welcome to Grace Church, where we strive to build a church of action, founded on Biblical truth, characterized by faith, grace, community, service, authenticity, clear thinking, and cultural relevance. Grace Community Church is an exercise in knowing God, knowing truth, and building community that extends to our full lives, not just to our Sunday mornings.
Join us Sunday mornings at 9:30am or via GCC's Facebook page or YouTube page. Nursery care and Sunday school/teen programming is available for babies through 12th grade. Coffee and bagels available in the lobby after the service, all are welcome.

Upcoming Events:
September 27th-29th: Mens Weekend in Westerly, Rhode Island. RSVP with bo@gracecommunity.info.
October 5th at 9 AM: Womens Day Retreat at Walnut Hill Community Church in Bethel, CT. RSVP with carla@gracecommunity.info


Talmadge Hill Community
870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road, Darien, CT
203.966.2314
talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com
www.talmadgehill.org
Ministers: Rev. Carter Via and Rev. Cheryl Bundy Sunday worship service at 10:00am in person. All are welcome! We encourage everyone to stay for coffee hour after the service. Sunday School is every Sunday during the service and uses the Godly Play curriculum. Please reach out with any questions utilizing information listed above!

Recurring Events:
Thursdays at 9:30am: Bible Study
First Saturday at 8am: Men's Group
Second Saturday at 10am: Women's Circle

Chabad Jewish Center
137 Putnam Rd
info@chabadnewcanaan.org
www.newcanaanjewish.org
The Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center is dedicated to strengthening and building the New Canaan Jewish Community by offering local Jewish resources that bring more positivity, Jewish education, charitable activity, good deeds and blessing to our lovely town.
We are about Judaism, not affiliation. Regardless of your background, and however you choose to define your level of Jewish observance or identity, the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center can add spirituality, joy, study, community and connection for you and your family. The programs of the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center are held in various locations, all located in New Canaan.

Temple Sinai (Reform Synagogue)
458 Lakeside Drive, Stamford, CT 06903
203.322.1649
www.templestinainstamford.org
Service Schedule:
1st, 3rd & 5th Friday - 6pm in person and via zoom
2nd & 4th - 7:30pm
Recurring Events:
Fridays at 12 PM: Torah Study
Second Saturday at 10:30 AM: Mussar
First and Third Fridays at 5:30 PM: Shabbat Service for Families with Young Children
First Saturday at 8 AM: Avodat Halev Discussion Group
Upcoming Events:
September 24th from 5:30-7:30 PM: Support Dignity Grows while packing bags and preparing sandwiches. Register at <https://www.templestinainstamford.org/event/support-dignity-grows-sandwich-making-.html>

Temple Shalom
300 E. Putnam Ave. Greenwich, CT 06830
203-869-7191
www.templeshalom.com
Services: In-person and virtual Friday night Shabbat services, 6:30pm & Saturday morning Shabbat services, 10:30am.
Recurring Events:
Saturdays at 9 AM: Shabbat Study via zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/94358392426?pwd=bFJQem9HWFcxU0EzZUM2VENEZmgYUT09#success>

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Sports This Week

New Canaan Football Dominates Maloney in Season Opener

By CHRISTOPHER DEMUTH

The New Canaan Rams kicked off their 2024 season with a decisive 42-13 victory over Maloney on Friday night. The game, held at Dunning Stadium, showcased an explosive offensive performance led by senior quarterback Luke Robinson and junior wide receiver Andrew Esposito, along with a strong defensive showing that secured the win for the Rams.

From the outset, New Canaan established their dominance. The Rams marched down the field on their opening drive, capped off by a 12-yard touchdown pass from Robinson to Esposito. Robinson, who completed 14 of 19 passes for 307 yards and five touchdowns, looked sharp and in control throughout the game.

One of Robinson's primary targets, Esposito, had a career night, pulling in nine receptions for a staggering 271 yards and five touchdowns. His speed and route-running ability proved too much for the Maloney defense, as he consistently found himself wide open for big gains.

The Rams' offensive line, anchored by seniors

Trey Walker and Ryan Leahy, gave Robinson ample time to find his targets and opened up holes for the running game. Junior running back Henry Stein led the ground attack, rushing 17 times for 86 yards, consistently churning out yards to keep drives alive.

While the offense shone, the Rams' defense also played a critical role in the victory. Junior linebacker Ryan Brooks was a standout, leading the team with nine tackles. He was a disruptive force throughout the game, flying to the ball and making key stops.

After the game, junior Bennett Pertusiello spoke about the depth and talent of the team, emphasizing the potential of players like Brooks.

"It would be impossible to rank us because last year our best player, Alex Benevento, was injured, and he ended up being the best in the state," said Pertusiello. "We have players they don't even know about, like Ryan Brooks, who's going to be nasty, and they have no idea."

The Rams' defense was opportunistic, forcing two interceptions, both by senior defensive back Michael Smith. Smith's playmaking ability in the

secondary helped to stifle Maloney's passing game, and his 32 return yards on the picks put the Rams in excellent field position.

Despite the lopsided scoreline, Maloney fought hard to stay in the game. Quarterback Angel Arce managed to keep the Spartans in contention with a couple of touchdown drives, but New Canaan's defense proved too strong in critical moments.

The Rams dominated in several key statistical categories, including time of possession (26:41 to 21:19) and first downs (19 to 16). Penalties were an area of concern, as New Canaan racked up 126 penalty yards on 10 infractions, something Coach Marinelli acknowledged they need to clean up going forward.

Special teams were also a factor for New Canaan, with senior kicker Tucker Stevens converting all six of his extra point attempts, maintaining the Rams' momentum after each touchdown. Pertusiello also contributed in the kicking game, punting once for 37 yards.

Looking ahead, New Canaan is setting their sights on bigger challenges. Pertusiello made it clear that while the Rams are focused on each

game, their eyes are on future matchups against rivals Staples and Darien.

"When it comes down to it, this season we only need to look out for Staples and Darien," Pertusiello said confidently. "Those are the games that are going to define our season, and we're ready for them."

The Rams' balanced attack, featuring a potent passing game and a physical defense, positions them well for the rest of the season. With standout performances from veterans and emerging stars, New Canaan looks poised to make a deep run in the state playoffs.

Friday night's win was a statement to the rest of the league that New Canaan remains a powerhouse, and as they prepare for their next challenge, it's clear that they have the talent and determination to contend for another state championship.

Final score: New Canaan 42, Maloney 13.

New Canaan will take on Greenwich, next week as they look to build on their impressive opening performance.

Sports Photos of the Week



New Canaan #27 executes a kick against Greenwich last weekend. Photo by



St. Lukes @ Kingswood Oxford. Photo by Corey Davis

New Canaan Eyes Win Against Warde

By JOHN MARPLE

After a resounding 42-13 win against the Maloney Spartans, the New Canaan Rams are riding high as they prepare for their upcoming matchup against the Warde Mustangs this Friday, September 20, at 6:00 p.m.

New Canaan's season opener against Maloney was

a masterclass in execution on both sides of the ball. Quarterback Luke Robinson and wide receiver Andrew Esposito Jr. were the stars of the show, connecting for five touchdowns in a display that underscored their impeccable chemistry. Robinson, with 307 passing

yards and a completion rate of 73.7%, picked apart the Spartans' defense, while Esposito made the most of his opportunities, racking up an astonishing 271 receiving yards and five scores. The duo's performance has solidified New Canaan's offense as one of the most lethal in the state early in the

2024 season.

Running back Henry Stein added balance to the Rams' attack, rushing for 86 yards and providing steady support on the ground. His ability to break through the line of scrimmage gave New Canaan another dimension in an offense that is already loaded with talent.

Defensively, New Canaan's secondary was a brick wall for much of the night. The Rams' defense managed to intercept two passes, with one being returned 32 yards for a touchdown by defensive back Michael Smith. Smith's pick-six further dampened Maloney's hopes of a comeback and showcased the Rams' defensive prowess, particularly in capitalizing on their opponents' mistakes.

New Canaan has dominated Warde in their previous meetings, winning their last five matchups, including a commanding 47-0 victory in September 2023. However, this year's rematch may present new challenges for the Rams, especially as they won't have the comfort of home-field advantage. Warde will be looking to build on their own recent victory, a 20-6 win over Harding, which snapped a three-game losing streak.

The Mustangs' performance against Harding was a much-needed confidence boost for a team that had been struggling to find its footing. Warde's defense held firm throughout the contest, allowing just six points and keeping Harding off balance for most of the game. On offense, the Mustangs' rushing attack wore down Harding's defense, allowing Warde to control the clock and secure the win.

While Warde's victory was significant, the task of facing New Canaan is a different level of challenge. The Rams have proven to be relentless on both

sides of the ball, and their offense, led by Robinson and Esposito, is firing on all cylinders. The Mustangs will need to tighten their defense and find a way to slow down Robinson's passing game if they hope to compete.

New Canaan, on the other hand, will be focused on continuing their offensive and defensive dominance. The Rams' secondary, which played a pivotal role against Maloney, will be looking to replicate their ball-hawking success, while the front seven will aim to pressure Warde's offense into making mistakes.

Friday's matchup will be a critical test for both teams. For New Canaan, it's another opportunity to affirm their No. 1 ranking in the state and extend their winning streak. For Warde, it's a chance to prove they can compete with one of the top teams in Connecticut football.

As New Canaan travels to Fairfield, fans will be watching to see if the Rams can continue their impressive run and whether Robinson and Esposito can add to their growing list of accolades. Meanwhile, Warde will look to defend their home turf and build off their recent success.

Kickoff is set for 6:00 p.m., and with both teams coming off wins, Friday night's clash is shaping up to be a compelling contest. Will New Canaan's high-flying offense prove too much for Warde, or will the Mustangs mount a strong challenge in front of their home crowd? Only time will tell, but one thing is certain—New Canaan is going in ready to win.

Upcoming High School Sports Schedule

Friday, September 20	Friday, September 27
3:00pm Girls Varsity Swimming vs Norwalk	4:00pm Girls Varsity Swimming @ Ridgefield High School
4:00pm Boys JV Soccer vs Stamford High School	4:00pm Boys Freshman Soccer vs Brien McMahon
4:00pm Boys Varsity Soccer vs Stamford High School	4:15pm Girls Freshman Volleyball @ Wilton High School
4:00pm Girls Freshman Field Hockey vs Staples High School	7:00pm Boys Varsity Football vs Masuk High School
6:00pm Boys Varsity Football @ Fairfield Warde	Saturday, September 28
Saturday, September 21	9:30am Girls JV Volleyball vs Wilton High School
9:30am Girls JV Volleyball vs Fairfield Ludlowe	10:00am Boys JV Football @ Masuk High School
10:00am Boys JV Football vs Fairfield Warde	10:00am Boys Varsity Soccer @ Brien McMahon
10:00am Boys Freshman Soccer @ Stamford High School	11:30am Girls Varsity Volleyball vs Wilton High School
10:00am Girls Freshman Volleyball @ Fairfield Ludlowe	12:00pm Boys JV Soccer @ Brien McMahon
11:00am Girls Varsity Volleyball vs Fairfield Ludlowe	Monday, September 30
4:00pm Girls Varsity Soccer @ Wilton High School	4:00pm Girls JV Soccer vs Westhill
Monday, September 23	4:00pm Girls Varsity Field Hockey @ Westhill
3:00pm Boys Varsity Golf vs St. Joseph	4:00pm Girls Freshman Volleyball @ Stamford High School
4:00pm Girls Varsity Field Hockey @ Greenwich High School	4:00pm Girls Varsity Volleyball vs Stamford High School
4:00pm Girls Freshman Field Hockey vs Greenwich High School	5:30pm Girls JV Field Hockey @ Westhill
5:30pm Girls JV Field Hockey @ Greenwich High School	5:30pm Girls JV Volleyball vs Stamford High School
Tuesday, September 24	6:30pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs Westhill
3:30pm Boys JV Golf @ Wilton High School	Tuesday, October 1
3:30pm Boys Varsity Golf @ Wilton High School	4:00pm Girls Varsity Cross Country vs Brien McMahon
4:00pm Boys Varsity Cross Country @ Greenwich High School	4:00pm Boys Freshman Soccer vs Westhill
4:00pm Girls Varsity Cross Country @ Greenwich High School	4:00pm Boys JV Soccer @ Westhill
4:00pm Girls Freshman Soccer @ Darien High School	4:00pm Boys Varsity Soccer @ Westhill
4:00pm Girls JV Soccer vs Darien High School	4:00pm Girls Freshman Field Hockey vs Westhill
4:00pm Girls Freshman Volleyball vs Fairfield Warde	4:30pm Boys Varsity Cross Country vs Brien McMahon
4:30pm Girls JV Volleyball @ Fairfield Warde	Wednesday, October 2
6:00pm Girls Varsity Volleyball @ Fairfield Warde	3:00pm Boys Varsity Golf vs Danbury High School
6:30pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs Darien High School	3:30pm Girls Varsity Field Hockey @ St. Joseph
Wednesday, September 25	4:00pm Girls Varsity Swimming @ Staples High School
3:00pm Boys Varsity Golf @ Stamford High School	Friday, October 4
4:00pm Boys Freshman Soccer vs Darien High School	4:00pm Boys JV Soccer vs Bridgeport Central High School
4:00pm Boys JV Soccer @ Darien High School	4:00pm Boys Varsity Soccer vs Bridgeport Central High School
5:30pm Boys Freshman Football vs Masuk High School	4:00pm Girls Freshman Volleyball vs Darien High School
6:00pm Boys Varsity Soccer @ Darien High School	4:00pm Girls JV Volleyball @ Darien High School
Thursday, September 26	4:00pm Girls Varsity Soccer @ Bridgeport Central High School
12:01am Boys JV Golf @ Fairfield Prep	5:30pm Girls Varsity Volleyball @ Darien High School
4:00pm Girls JV Soccer vs Brien McMahon	Saturday, October 5
4:00pm Girls Varsity Field Hockey vs Danbury High School	10:30am Girls Varsity Field Hockey vs Branford
4:00pm Girls Freshman Volleyball @ Greenwich High School	12:00pm Girls JV Field Hockey vs Branford
4:00pm Girls Varsity Volleyball @ Greenwich High School	6:00pm Boys Varsity Football vs Fairfield Ludlowe
5:30pm Girls JV Field Hockey vs Danbury High School	

Sudoku for Kids

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

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

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

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

SUDOKU

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Sudoku answers

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

Bottom row - Very Hard

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

Bottom row - Hard

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

Bottom row - Easy

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

Top row - Very Hard

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

Top row - Hard

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

Top row - Very Hard

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

Top row - Hard

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

Top row - Easy

Classified Ads

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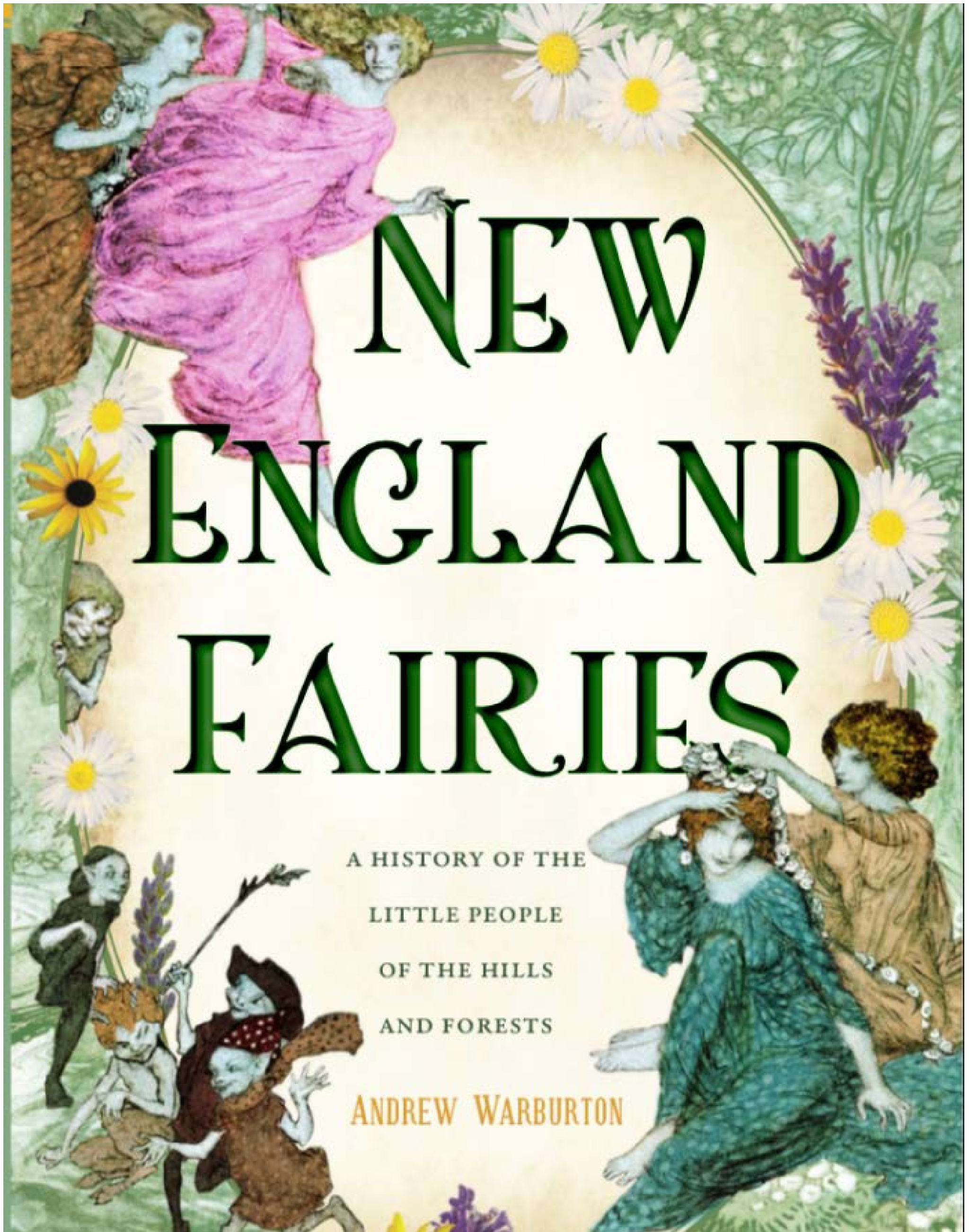
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REVIEW

Fairy Tales and Traffic Jams: One Man's Quest for New England's Magical Realm



BY EMMA BARHYDT

Andrew Warburton's debut book, *New England Fairies: A History of the Little People of the Hills and Forests*, opens a new chapter in folklore studies, exploring tales of fairies and little people that have fascinated New Englanders for centuries. In a recent interview, Warburton delved into his passion for folklore, the inspiration behind his work, and his meticulous research process, offering readers insight into the world of New England's fairy folk.

For Warburton, the journey to writing *New England Fairies* began long before he put pen to paper. His fascination with the fairy legends of Britain, Ireland, and Wales laid the foundation for what would become a deep interest in North American folklore. As he recalled, the moment of realization came over a decade ago when he heard a story about the Mohegan Tribe in Connecticut, who opposed a housing development because it would disturb the "little people" believed to live under Mohegan Hill.

"That was the first time I ever really even considered fairies in

North America," Warburton said. "But that planted the seed, and then I guess it took 12 years to start writing it."

The blend of ancient indigenous stories and European legends intrigued Warburton, who spent a year intensively researching and traveling to the sites featured in his book. His research took him on a 40-hour drive across New England, a journey that brought to life both the beauty and the mystery of the region's landscapes.

Among his many stops, Warburton found the White Mountains in New Hampshire particularly magical. "There are quite a lot of stories from those White Mountains. There's Abenaki stories from there about the water fairies," Warburton explained. One such story revolves around Diana's Baths, a location Warburton described as "exactly where you would expect fairies to live." He was enchanted by the waterfalls, pools, and the overall beauty of the place, making it one of his favorite spots during his travels.

But Warburton's interest beyond the landscape. His favorite story in the book is that of Perry Boney, a lesser-

known figure from our own Sherman, Connecticut, rumored to have spoken with fairies. "No one really knows where the rumors came from," Warburton shared, adding that the earliest written reference to Perry Boney dates back to 1938. "I think I was the first kind of writer or journalist or whatever to uncover the facts about him," Warburton said proudly.

For Warburton, folklore is more than just paranormal stories—it's a window into history, culture, and immigration patterns. "You can learn a lot about the immigrants who came to America, to New England especially, through the stories that they told," he said. His goal with the book was not only to entertain but also to educate. By recording these legends, Warburton hopes to preserve a sense of magic while deepening readers' understanding of the region's diverse cultural heritage.

One aspect of his research Warburton was particularly careful about was including indigenous stories. He acknowledged that while the term "fairies" might be more European, there are numerous indigenous legends of little people that needed

to be part of the narrative. "They were the original inhabitants of the lands that we now call New England, so it just felt like it would be some sort of erasure if I didn't include their stories about little people," he explained.

Warburton's approach to folklore is thoughtful and rooted in history. He avoided including modern paranormal stories, choosing instead to focus on legends that have been passed down through generations. "I guess I didn't want to include stories that had no historical value," he noted. His aim was to showcase tales that, while magical, still offer a glimpse into the past.

One of the challenges Warburton faced was uncovering stories that had faded from local memory. While researching the "Little People's Village" in Middlebury, Connecticut, for example, he found that not everyone knew of the legend. However, during a lunch stop in nearby Waterbury, he was surprised to find a waitress who had heard of it, even mentioning the local legend that sitting on the village's throne would result in death within seven years.

Despite the obscurity of some

tales, Warburton made efforts to track down these lesser-known legends. He delved into old books and databases, but it was often the people he met along the way who provided the most valuable insights. From the Wampanoag Museum in Aquinnah to conversations with locals like Anne Price in Sherman, these interactions helped him piece together the forgotten lore.

Warburton's dedication to authenticity even led him to investigate the real people behind the legends. In Campton, New Hampshire, he researched the family connected to the story of fairy footprints, uncovering their names, occupations, and lineage. "It just filled in the picture a little bit," Warburton explained, emphasizing the importance of understanding who was telling these stories and why.

Though Warburton himself has never encountered a fairy, he remains intrigued by the universality of belief in little people across cultures. "I'm more interested in why do people believe?" he reflected. "There seems to be stories about little people that take a kind of humanoid form and little people." This fascination with belief

systems has driven much of his work, and Warburton remains open to the possibility of fairies existing.

Interestingly, many of the readers Warburton has met at book signings and talks are firm believers in fairies, particularly older women who have passed down stories from their Irish or other European ancestors. This strong belief has even surprised Warburton, who noted how ingrained the legends still are in some families.

Warburton's exploration of New England fairies is just the beginning of his work on North American folklore. He revealed that his next project, *New York Fairies*, is already in the works, with hopes of publication in 2025. The success of his first book has opened new doors for him, expanding his scope to cover the entire Northeast.

In *New England Fairies*, Warburton has succeeded in blending historical research with enchanting folklore, offering readers a chance to see the world around them through a magical lens. For those willing to look, the hills and forests of New England may still hold the secrets of the fairy folk.

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 Edge of a canyon
- 4 Piece of food waste
- 9 Country singer Gibbs
- 14 2010 health law, for short
- 15 Smell from a bakery
- 16 Bothered constantly
- 17 *Service members since 1775
- 19 Amusement park shuttles
- 20 Foul mood
- 21 Opening of a spy movie?
- 22 Operatic solo
- 23 Sprawling property
- 25 *Just OK
- 28 Waterproofing, say
- 30 Coy response to a compliment
- 31 "Night" author Wiesel
- 32 "Stop," on the seas
- 35 Female 58-Across
- 36 Online privacy tool to use on each starred clue's answer?
- 39 Homeric exclamation?

- 42 Let another car go
- 43 First word for some babies
- 46 As one
- 48 People who get to see movies early
- 51 *Certain guitars
- 54 Unsurprised by
- 55 Stick a toothpick in thick and ___
- 58 Bambi, e.g.
- 59 What a Brit watches
- 61 *Blackjack request
- 63 Raring to go
- 64 Actress Cara of "Fame"
- 65 Bro's sib, maybe
- 66 Pokes
- 67 "Stop," formally
- 68 It's less powerful than dynamite

- 9 Bit of ink
- 10 Robinhood competitor
- 11 Bump from behind
- 12 More than bump
- 13 "The score's even"
- 18 Roma's home
- 24 Makes a colorful camp T-shirt
- 26 Whiskey barrel
- 27 Greek goddess of the hunt
- 29 Strong wind
- 33 Abbr. between + and -, on a remote
- 34 "Back in Black" band
- 37 Auction offers

- 38 Like a video game suited for ages 17+
- 39 Genre known for wobble bass
- 40 Hot, like an athlete
- 41 Central Mexican state
- 44 Focus for Al Jazeera
- 45 Had an IMDb credit for, maybe
- 47 Postponed talking about
- 49 Altercations
- 50 Most achy
- 52 Moral principle
- 53 Social media button
- 57 Concept
- 60 Twelve-mo. periods
- 62 Golf peg

7/20

Enhanced Browsing by Dan Ziring

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17			18						19			
20				21					22			
23				24			25		26	27		
28						29			30			
	31					32	33	34			35	
				36		37				38		
39	40	41		42					43	44	45	
46			47				48	49				50
51						52	53		54			
55						56		57		58		
59				60		61				62		
63						64					65	
66						67					68	

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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Astrology for Next Week

LIBRA
24 Sept-23 Oct Life is good and about to get even better. As the Sun enters your sign today, to be joined by clever Mercury on Thursday, you'll no longer be held back by vague fears that have blighted your life recently. Most, if not all, your dreams are about to come true.

SCORPIO
24 Oct-22 Nov Scorpios tend to think a lot, but how often do you think about the inner you rather than the outer world? A change of signs by the Sun and Mercury will encourage you to look deep inside yourself, but don't worry: it won't be as scary as you imagine.

SAGITTARIUS
23 Nov-21 Dec Just because you have made up your mind doesn't mean you can't change it. New information you learn in the days ahead will put a very different slant on something you thought was cut and dried. Be flexible. Fixed opinions are bad opinions.

ARIES
21 March-20 April The Sun's move into your opposite sign of Libra today will highlight differences with a loved one and in the wake of the recent Aries Lunar Eclipse the next few days could be emotional to say the least. Let your feelings show, but keep your wits about you.

TAURUS
21 April-21 May No matter how dedicated and hard working a Taurus you may be you must take it easier over the next few days. The Sun's move into the wellbeing area of your chart means you can't continue to push yourself to the limits. Something has to give - watch out it's not you.

GEMINI
22 May-21 June The hostility you encountered recently is about to vanish. It may not be replaced by love or affection but at least you won't have to worry that others are creeping around behind your back waiting for an opportunity to harm you. That's progress!

CAPRICORN
22 Dec-20 Jan Cosmic activity in and around the midheaven angle of your chart suggests that something big is about to happen on the career front. To begin with you may not like the changes but, in time, you'll realise they were inevitable - and necessary.

AQUARIUS
21 Jan-19 Feb Not only is the Sun entering sympathetic Libra but Mercury joins it on Thursday, making this potentially one of the best times of the year. Even if you're the kind of Aquarius who rarely takes risks you'll be much more daring than usual - with interesting results!

PISCES
20 Feb-20 March Generally speaking it's good you're easy-going but your free and easy way with money has made a large hole in your cash reserves that has to be plugged fast as there are serious purchases on your cosmic horizon. Spend less, earn more - or pawn those trinkets.

CANCER
22 June-23 July Family issues will be easier to deal with now Mercury and the Sun are entering the domestic area of your chart. You may not want to deal with them - you'd rather pretend they don't exist - but with a little thought and effort you can make them go away.

LEO
24 July-23 Aug You're no doubt impatient to start something you've been thinking about for ages but if you're as sensitive to atmosphere as you believe you will sense it may be wise to give it more time. You've waited this long - what difference will a few more days make?

VIRGO
24 Aug-23 Sept Throwing off self-restraint and breaking established rules is not your speciality but you'll be in the mood to shock this week. Just remember that actions always have consequences. Whether they're good or bad consequences remains to be seen.

Discover more about yourself at sallybrompton.com

Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parke

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (K) Lower, as lighting 5. (K) Far-reaching, as space 9. (K) Raven's sound 12. Cookie sandwich 13. (K) ___ A Sketch 14. "To what do I ___ this pleasure?" 15. (K) Give back to your community 17. (K) "Neither snow ___ rain ..." 18. Main meal in a fancy restaurant 19. (K) Sewer's need 21. (K) Ecto-1, the Batmobile or Herbie 22. (K) Obtain with your hands 23. Not metaphorical or figurative | <p>DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (K) Bird of peace 2. Liver mineral 3. (K) Thaw 4. Reporter's contact 5. (K) Nov. 11 honoree 6. (K) Had chocolate-covered crickets 7. (K) Smell 8. Potential danger 9. What editors do to long paragraphs 10. Missing GI 11. (K) "If only it ___ that easy" 16. (K) Close by 20. ___ out a meager existence | <p>ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 27. (K) Past or present, in grammar 30. (K) Easy card to identify 31. (K) Pickleball divider 33. Be a depressing couch? 34. (K) Pinto or lima things 37. Underwater sinker 40. Pitcher's boo-boo 42. Regret 43. (K) Element found in coal and diamonds 45. Lumber mill cutter 49. Scurry in a hurry 50. (K) February greeting card 52. Bank's savings offering 53. (K) Divisible by two 54. (K) "American ___" (TV show) |
|---|--|---|

Can you find the answer to this riddle within the solved puzzle?
Not cry, but get all mushy?
 Look for the answer in next week's paper.

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

Previous riddle answer:
Reason there's a shed in the house?
 54-A) PET

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| CLUES | SOLUTIONS |
| 1 chic and graceful (7) | _____ |
| 2 all over, all the time (11) | _____ |
| 3 tells someone what to write (8) | _____ |
| 4 slimmer (6) | _____ |
| 5 drink or ice cream cone size (5) | _____ |
| 6 animals (6) | _____ |
| 7 loud, explosive noise (4) | _____ |

LE	ES	NT	EL	NI
EGA	TAT	STS	ENT	AN
PR	ER	ES	OM	RGE
LA	NG	BEA	BA	DIC

Previous Answers: 1. KRISTEN 2. SINUS 3. MARRYING
 4. PERMISSION 5. FAILINGS 6. LIBRARIANS 7. GAUZE

8/2

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

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COLOR BY ADDITION & SUBTRACTION

RED
1

YELLOW
2

BLUE
3

LIGHT GREEN
4

PURPLE
5

ORANGE
6

LIGHT BLUE
7

DARK GREEN
8

COLOR BY MULTIPLICATION

x5

$5 \times 2 = 10$
$5 \times 3 = 15$
$5 \times 4 = 20$
$5 \times 5 = 25$
$5 \times 6 = 30$
$5 \times 7 = 35$
$5 \times 8 = 40$
$5 \times 9 = 45$
$5 \times 10 = 50$

?

COLORING CHALLENGE



Find the correct shadow

HOW MANY?

Find 2 same leaves

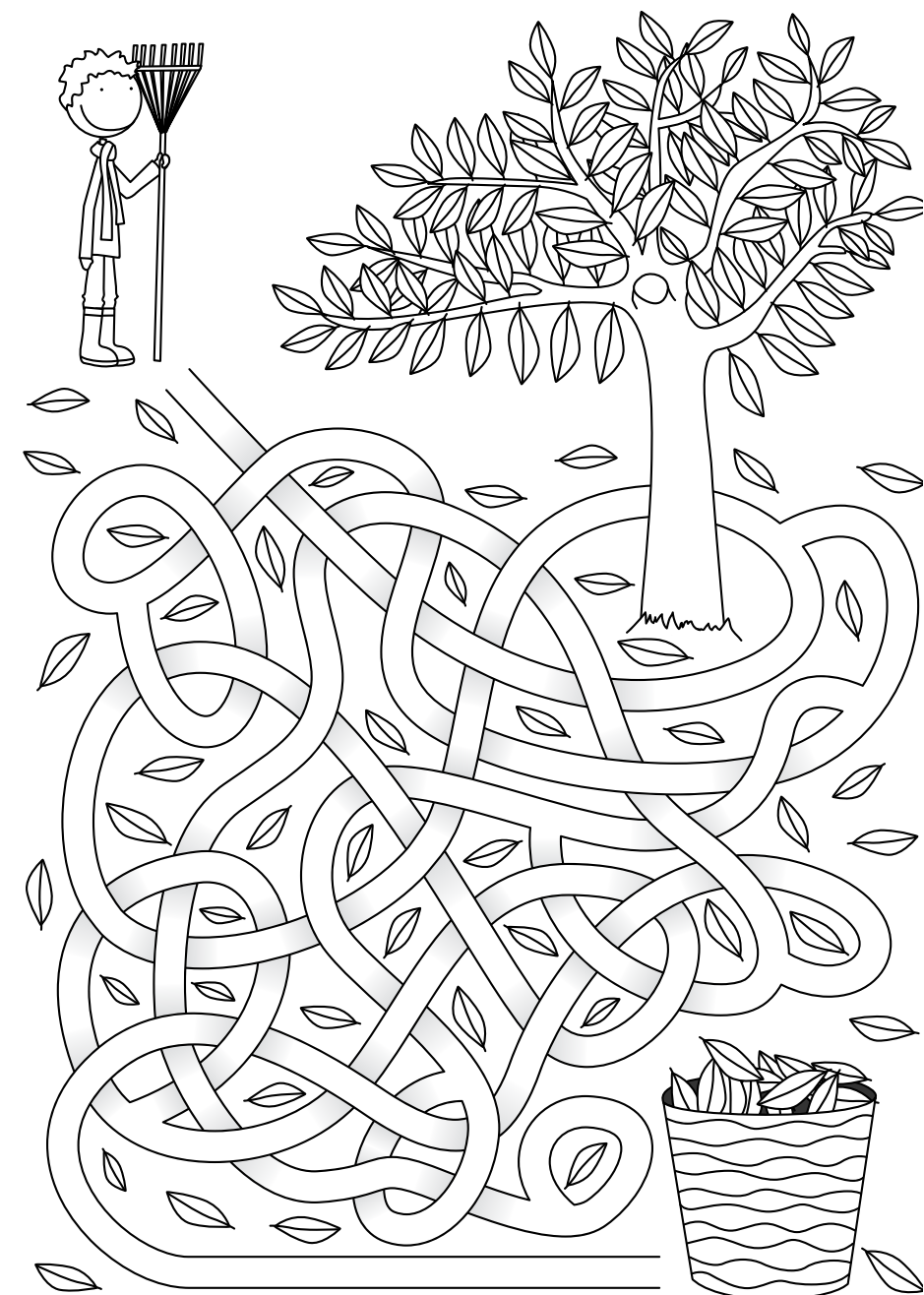
FIND 15 MUSHROOMS IN THE AUTUMN FOREST



The Stamford market is getting stronger, helped by declining inventory levels.

PUZZLE TIME FIND TWO SAME MUSHROOMS

What comes next?



Write the missing numbers

33 28 23 18 13

16 19 25 31

7 11 19 27

48 44 40 32

70 50 30

9 18 36 54

21 25 29



Belling the Cat



The Mice once called a meeting to decide on a plan to free themselves of their enemy, the Cat. At least they wished to find some way of knowing when she was coming, so they might have time to run away. Indeed, something had to be done, for they lived in such constant fear of her claws that they hardly dared stir from their dens by night or day.

Many plans were discussed, but none of them was thought good enough. At last a very young Mouse got up and said:

"I have a plan that seems very simple, but I know it will be successful.

All we have to do is to hang a bell about the Cat's neck. When we hear the bell ringing we will know immediately that our enemy is coming."

All the Mice were much surprised that they had not thought of such a plan before. But in the midst of the rejoicing over their good fortune, an old Mouse arose and said:

"I will say that the plan of the young Mouse is very good. But let me ask one question: Who will bell the Cat?"

It is one thing to say that something should be done, but quite a different matter to do it.

AESOP'S FABLES for CHILDREN

FIND 8 DIFFERENCES



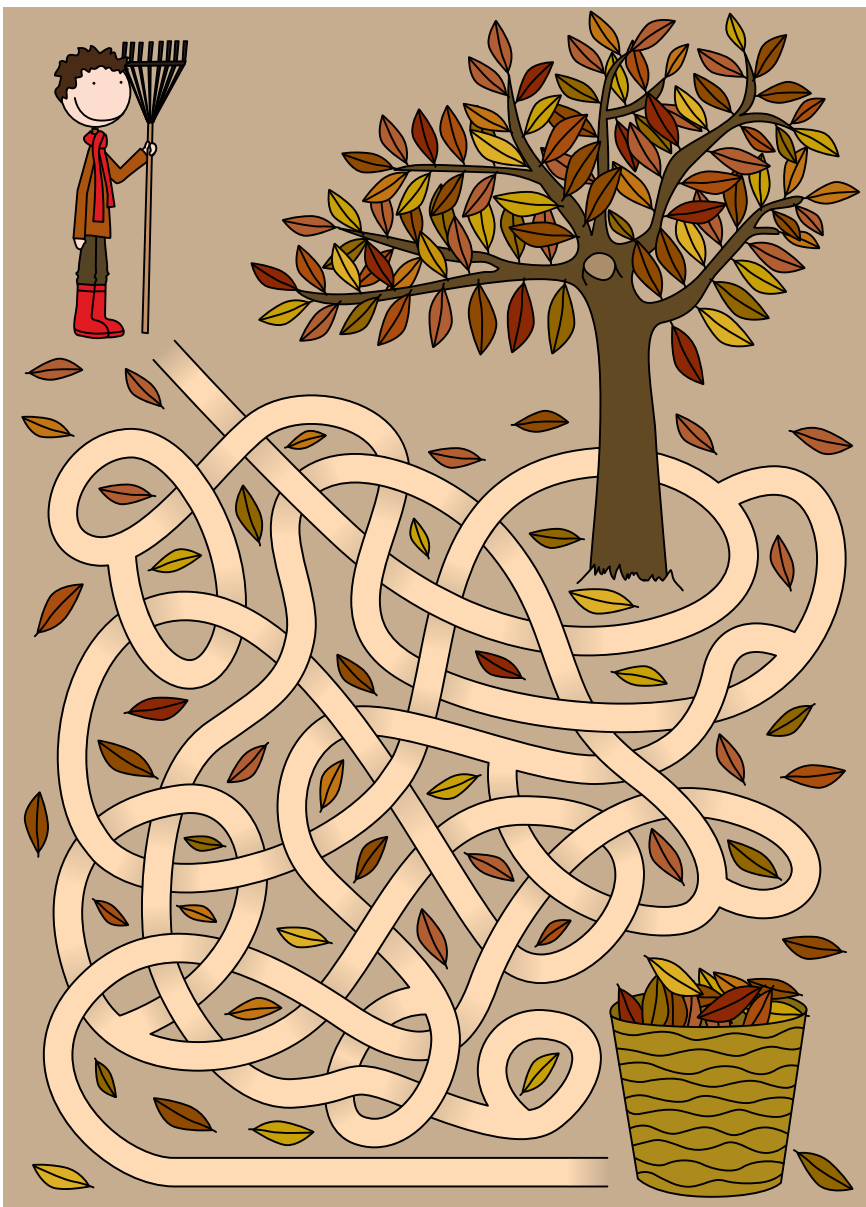
Hello Autumn

word search

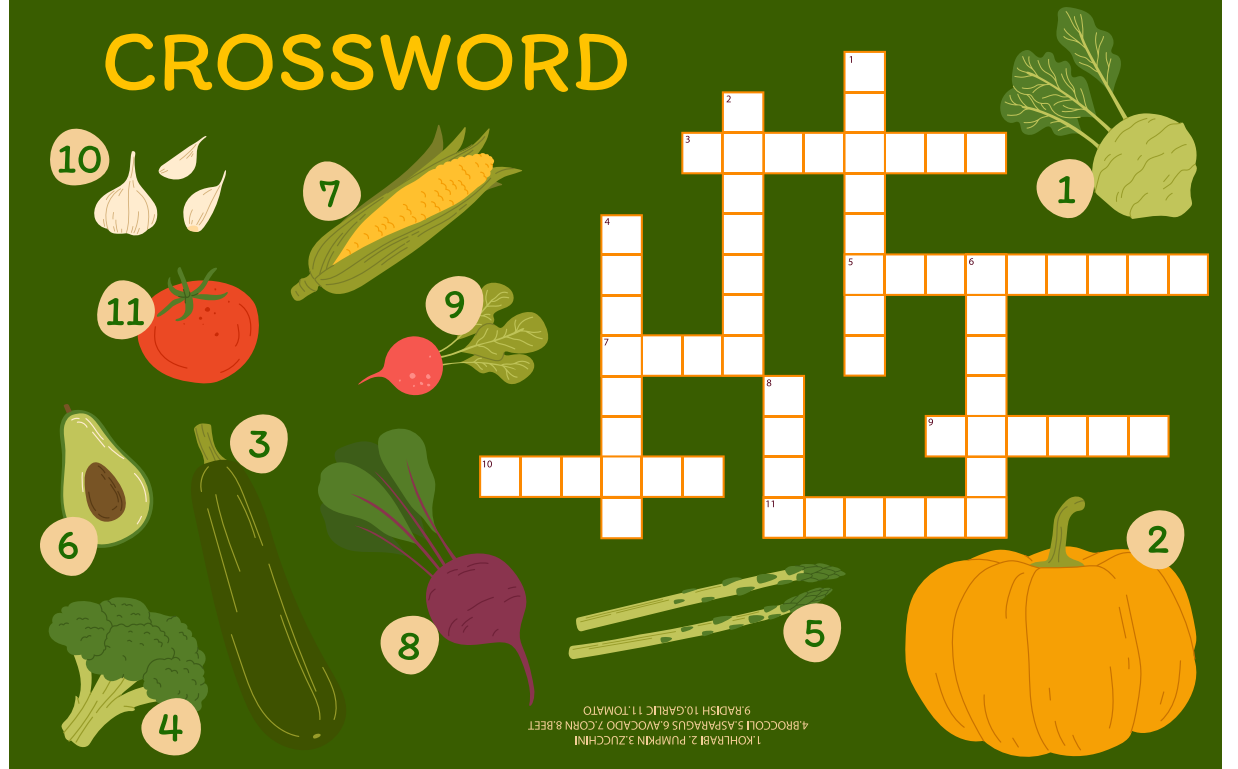
Words may be horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

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

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------|----------|-----------|
| APPLES | FALL | FOOTBALL | NOVEMBER |
| SWEATER | LEAVES | CORN | PUMPKIN |
| RAIN | AUTUMN | BOOTS | RAKE |
| THANKSGIVING | HARVEST | TURKEY | SUNFLOWER |



CROSSWORD



REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

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FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
1421 Oenoke Ridge	\$3,999,999	SAT	12:00PM-2:00PM	William Raveis
49 Cross Ridge Road	\$3,995,000	SAT & SUN	1:00PM-3:00PM	Douglas Elliman
173 Heritage Hill Road	\$1,100,000	SUN	10:00AM-2:00PM	HomeZu
277 S. Bald Hill Road	\$1,445,000	SUN	2:00PM-4:00PM	William Raveis
87 N. Wilton Road	\$4,995,000	SUN	2:30PM-4:30PM	William Raveis
26 Pequot Lane	\$5,890,000	SUN	1:00PM-3:00PM	Coldwell Banker

NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
83 South Avenue, Unit F	\$460,000	715	\$643.36		1	2
69 Mariomi Road	\$1,749,000	3,119	\$560.76	2.34	4	3
84 Bittersweet Lane	\$1,789,000	3,340	\$535.63	2.24	5	3
168 Lost District Drive	\$2,195,000	5,941	\$369.47	4.03	5	4
62 Richards Lane	\$2,495,000	4,052	\$615.75	1.52	6	4
533 Valley Road	\$3,995,000	6,629	\$602.66	2.23	5	5
87 N. Wilton Road	\$4,995,000	8,497	\$587.85	6.63	6	5
183 West Road	\$6,495,000	7,979	\$814.00	3.68	6	7
42 Alan Lane	\$7,495,000	13,007	\$576.23	4.77	6	7

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
330 Elm Street, #15	\$999,000	\$999,000	\$1,000,000	73	2	2	2.11
49 Bank Street, #49	\$1,295,000	\$1,295,000	\$1,510,000	7	2	2	

How Real Estate is Like and Not Like Poker



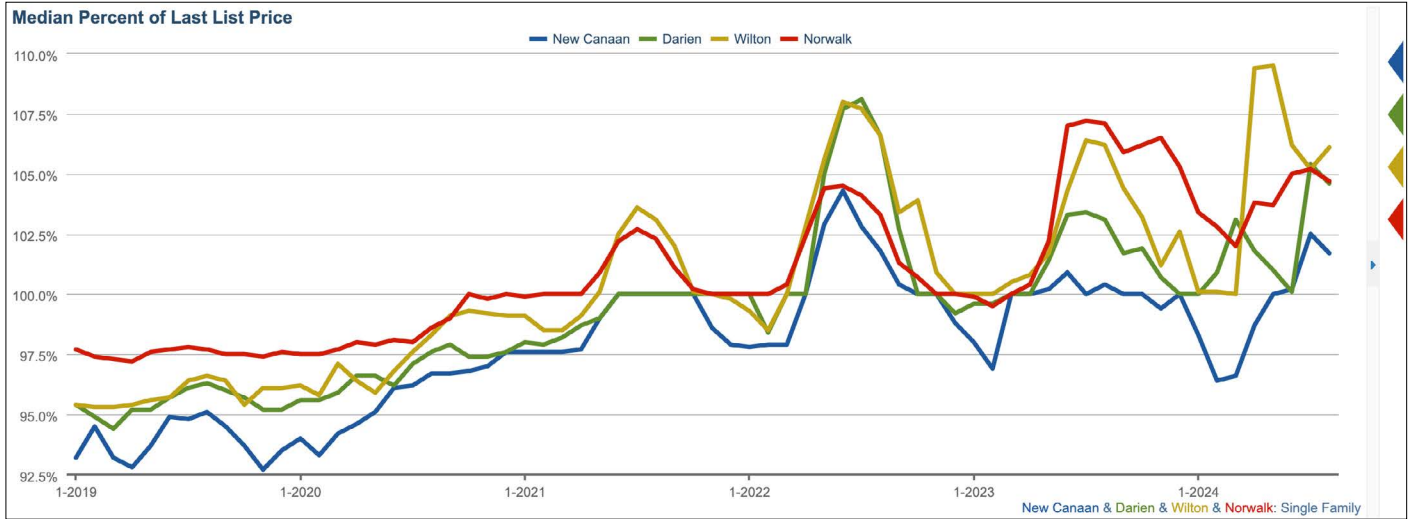
BY JOHN ENGEL

Today I am speaking on a panel on industry changes. I am noticing more pressure on buyer's agents from a number of directions. Sellers are asking if they can eliminate or reduce offers of compensation, probing for a better deal. Buyers are approaching the listing agent directly. This is to be expected as both sides begin to explore cost savings and disintermediation. But is it wise?

Last week, and again this week, we had several dozen potential buyers visit a new listing in its opening weekend and several buyers made offers. Just like in the NFL we talk through every visit on Monday morning. Where are they from? How old are they? Are they starting their search? Are they represented? Is this their first house? Do they need a mortgage? How long did they stay? A greater percentage of the visits over this weekend came from unrepresented buyers. But, by Monday all the offers were coming in from buyers' agents. Why? Because each sale is like a hand in a multi-year poker tournament. Each player is not arriving with equal chips, and some of them have been at it a lot longer. Everybody is trying to read the room, gain an advantage, calculate the percentages. "I think I am going to need to bid more than asking, but how many other bidders are out there and what can you tell me about them?" Buyers' agents ask a lot of questions. My conclusion is: unrepresented buyers, with no history and less information, are feeling less confident and less likely to push in all their chips in a competitive situation.

Buyer's agents impart confidence. They act like they've seen it all. Some have. There is one agent who never has anything nice to say about my listings. And yet her clients keep bidding on them. Is that her strategy, talk some trash, knock me down, make me feel like I mispriced it? That's ok, I'll play her from my back foot. The best buyer agents know the other agents and how they play the game, "I think she's bluffing." "Oh, she does her homework, expect 20 questions from her..." Good agents are intuitive, feeling the winds of change sooner, "This is school vacation week, so expect a slow weekend." They've toured all the comparable properties and know when something is mispriced: "While the average sale in this category has been at 107% of asking price, this house is not at all similar, and this is not April, so yes we can offer less."

Computer poker is a game of percentages, missing the psychological angle. You simply calculate the odds. But, when playing with people competitors believe they can control the outcome, seeking advantage by knowing the opponents and being able to read their tells, adjusting based on the strength and timing of the other bets. I am often asked "Is there an advantage to being the first to make an offer?" Or is there advantage in being last, knowing



New Canaan, Darien, Wilton and Norwalk % of List Price, Single Family Rolling 3 Month Avg

how many other offers are out there? What should I offer? Any history with those at the table is helpful at sniffing out the bluff. I remember a sale years ago where the buyer raised his bid half a million dollars because he was in competition. A year later he learned that his one competitor had withdrawn his offer earlier. The listing agent wasn't asked and kept silent. Did he overpay? Many agents have a history of sharing; others reveal nothing. The buyer's agent was seeking an advantage, asking about the other offers, and the listing agent was sharing right up until she wasn't. The buyer missed the river card, the final bet.

Permit me to talk about some recent case studies as if they were poker games:

#1. Players use their two-hole cards in combination with the five community cards to create their best five-card hand. This is like eliminating contingencies and being more flexible on closing date in order to improve your hand at the last minute, when no more cards are coming.

#2. The flop in poker is the first three community cards dealt face up. This is like opening weekend, a broker open house on Thursday, appointments Saturday, and public open house Saturday Sunday. These three cards cause people to fold, or begin to engage. We should see two more cards before we have to commit, but we have a pretty good idea if we are playing this hand.

#3. The small blind. This is analogous to the listing agent reaching out to all those who showed interest over the weekend, asking, "Are you in?" It's usually an opportunity for bidders to ask, "How much competition is out there?" and "When are you going to

be making a decision?"
 #4 The tells. And fake tells. Some agents say nothing. They tell you to submit your offer to the attorney. I have to wonder is she telling me something? Maybe she's expecting an offer from her own office. There is an agent in town who I can count on to respond with profound disappointment to whatever offer I make, "Hmm, ok, well, uh, I'll see what I can do."

#5. A seat at the table. My buyer, frustrated, insisted on a face-to-face meeting with the owner. He felt he could persuade more effectively himself. He didn't. The meeting set him backwards, because it put the buyer on the spot. He gave away too much. The problem with disintermediation is there is no plausible deniability, no chance for, "That's a good idea, let me take that back to my client."

I think the secret to getting better at poker, or real estate, is be a better listener. Don't play when you're angry or sad. Practice your skills. It's true of many things in life.

John Engel of The Engel Team at Douglas Elliman in New Canaan, was formerly a military intelligence officer, stationed in Stuttgart, defending Germany's Fulda Gap from the possibility of a Soviet tank invasion in 1990. So glad to put that threat behind us. As the Colonel's S2 I was to report on what we see and hear, and to predict enemy action. I think, in retrospect, this was a listening exercise. The Colonel had more experience and made his own predictions. But, gathering intelligence and listening is good training for so many things, including real estate.

 1/23 11 W. Elm St. LP: \$1,048,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$1,350,000	 1/31 15 Renshaw Rd. LP: \$1,095,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$1,400,715	 1/25 233 Tokeneke Rd. LP: \$1,495,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$1,913,000	 1/38 2 Petticoat Ln. LP: \$2,295,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$2,618,000
 1/40 12 Beach Dr. LP: \$2,295,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$2,675,000	 1/32 9 Woods End Rd. LP: \$2,475,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$3,025,000	 1/32 11 Robin Hood Ln. LP: \$2,495,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$3,035,000	 1/4 13 Sylvan Rd. LP: \$2,795,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$3,285,000
 1/39 13 Beach Dr. LP: \$2,950,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$3,415,000	 1/39 102 Colony Rd. LP: \$3,000,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$3,425,000	 1/34 16 Plymouth Rd. LP: \$3,095,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$3,600,000	 1/40 35 Rings End Rd. LP: \$3,400,000 Darien, Connecticut 06820 CP: \$4,200,000

These 12 Darien houses closed for an average of 121% of list price in the last 60 days.

 1/36 50 Windrow Ln. LP: \$1,999,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$2,359,000	 1/37 11 Butler Ln. LP: \$2,195,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$2,667,700	 1/40 47 Saint George Ln. LP: \$2,649,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$3,175,000	 1/40 47 Shagbark Dr. LP: \$3,299,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$3,810,000
 1/28 437 Old Stamford Rd. LP: \$1,100,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$1,250,000	 1/28 49 Bank St., Unit# 49 LP: \$1,295,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$1,510,000	 1/30 55 Parish Rd. LP: \$1,395,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$1,600,007	 1/37 204 Hoyt Farm Rd. LP: \$1,795,000 New Canaan, Connecticut 06840 CP: \$2,000,000

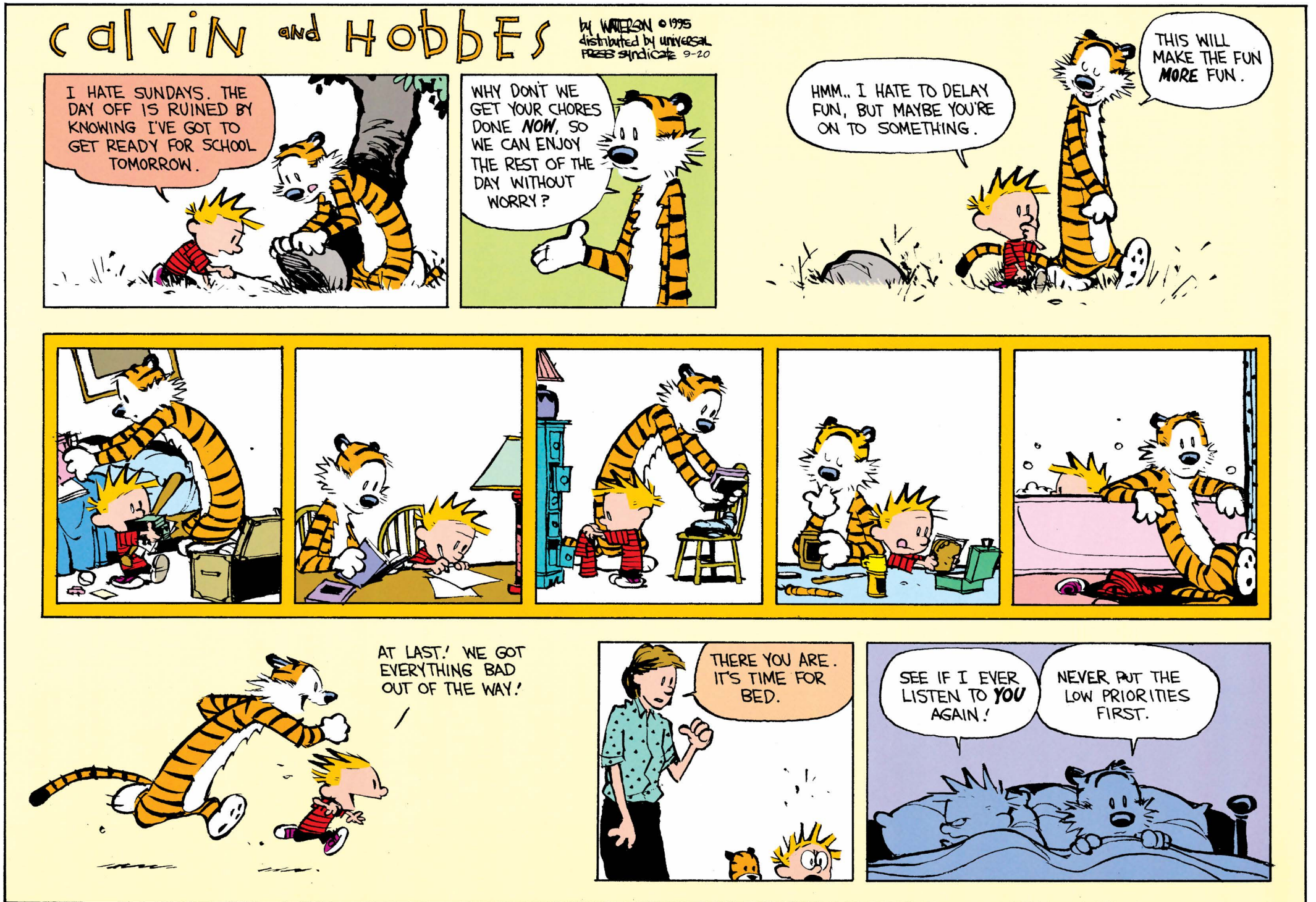
These 8 New Canaan houses closed for an average of 115% of list price in the last 60 days.

Submit questions and comments to John.Engel@Elliman.com



EDUCATION

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



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COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE NORTH AMERICAN ELK

A Giant in the Animal Kingdom

By JIM KNOX

Their movement caught our attention, and we quickly pulled our caravan over on a shoulder overlooking the Yellowstone River. Their long cream and tan bodies deftly traversed the rounded shoulders of the river valley. With movement came recognition. Though similar, these creatures were clearly different from our antlered neighbors. These extra-large cousins of the White-Tailed deer pushed their way upslope and paused to survey us from an elevated vantage point.

The North American elk, *Cervus canadensis*, is an enormous deer—second only to moose in size. Females, known as cows, can reach 4.5 feet at the shoulder and attain weights up to 600 pounds. Males, known as bulls, are far larger, with maximum shoulder heights—and antlers—surpassing 5 feet, body lengths approaching 9 feet, and body weights of more than half a ton!

Also known by their Shawnee and Cree name, “Wapiti,” meaning “White Rump,” these giants range from a rich chocolate brown to a pale tan with a whitish rump easily identified from far afield. With 6 recognized subspecies in North America, and closely related species such as the Manchurian Wapiti in Asia and the Red deer in Europe, these giants of the deer tribe are found throughout the Northern Hemisphere in forests and forest-edge habitats.

Like their fellow wild creatures, elk confer profound benefits to the plant and animal communities they inhabit. In the national wildlife refuges where they have been reintroduced, elk have aided in the restoration of intact

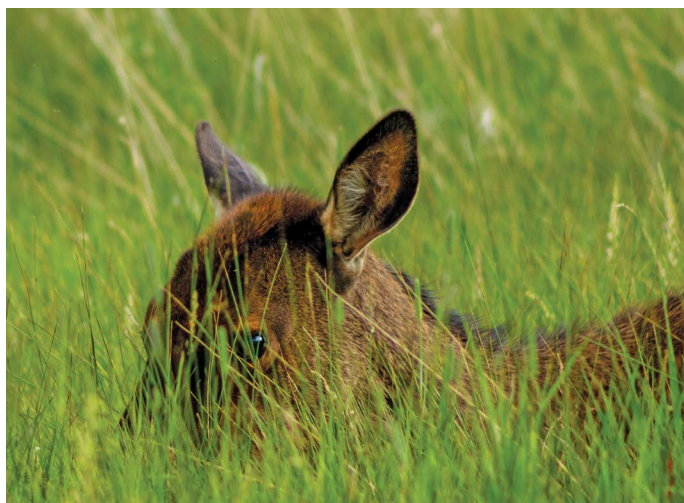


The North American Elk

Possessing white spots, which break up their outline and mimic dappled light, they are virtually invisible to the untrained eye.

grass prairie ecosystems. Given their preference for grazing predominantly on wildflowers and grass, but also their browsing habits on shrubs and trees, elk stimulate the growth of native prairie plants while controlling shrub and tree growth.

A key secret to Elk success lies in the combination of physical and behavioral adaptations, especially in the first crucial days. Cows carefully hide their newborn calves for the first several days of their lives. Upon birthing their calves, cows find camouflaged areas in tall grass or dense brush in which to conceal their calves. Calves enhance this concealment by lying motionless for the first two weeks of life. Being



born with virtually no scent to avoid attracting predators, calves evade most carnivores. Possessing white spots, which break up their outline and mimic dappled light, they are virtually invisible to the untrained eye.

Gregarious by nature, elk live in large groups called herds that can reach

well into the hundreds and even thousands. Herds are matriarchal—dominated and led by a single cow. These social groupings provide testimony to the success of the massive deer, with Southern Yellowstone's Jackson Herd reaching an estimated 11,000 elk!

Regarded as ultra-resilient mammals, elk are

true survivors. Through focused conservation efforts and reintroduction, their numbers continue to increase thanks to conservation measures by wildlife agencies and private citizens like. In fact, the Rare California Tule elk was nearly lost to extinction before citizens and wildlife agencies took action—recovering the species from 4 animals in 1875, to more than 5,700 animals today!

Enormous, resilient, adaptable, and ecologically indispensable, elk command our attention. But, if we by chance overlook the stately deer, they remind us of their presence—by blasting a multi-note call known as a bugle from more than two miles away! Research findings from the University of Northern

Colorado conducted in Rocky Mountain National Park suggest that these loud bugling calls of bulls contain much information. Bugles communicate many things including the bull's residency in the area with his harem, as well as if the cows in the herd are straying too far, and perhaps most significantly—that the bull is willing to defend his cows in battle to the death!

What lessons do elk offer those that peer a little deeper into their world? Elk are both highly social creatures—seeking the protection of the eyes and ears of the herd—and also bold individuals who explore unfamiliar territory and proclaim their presence to a world of adversaries and competitors. Like the elk, we humans can benefit from such tact when confronting the dangers of an increasingly competitive world. These great deer also hold the power to restore the health of the living communities around them. We too hold this power, and with the elk as a living model, we can further aid in its recovery, which in turn restores the land and restores our faith in our ability to recover wild ecosystems. Wild, powerful, and an icon of the great American West, the elk stands as a rugged symbol of wilderness and its resilience. By giving the elk and the wilderness the chance and the support to recover, we are also giving ourselves that same chance to protect one another and achieve both the potential of the deer, and of what we hold most dear.

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.

Elliott Kropf



There will be a Service and Life Celebration for Elliott on Monday, September 23
10:00 AM: Service at St. Aloysius Church, New Canaan
12:00/12:15 PM: Life Celebration at Weeburn Beach Club, 112 Roton Ave, Rowayton, CT (it may appear as Norwalk).
Weeburn Beach Club requests carpooling due to limited parking (approximately 150 spaces).

(From NCPS: If your child plans to attend the service, please email the attendance office at nchsattendance@ncps-k12.org to verify their absence.)

Family Requests:

Bring hockey sticks to the service and/or Weeburn for a group photo of children on the beach.
The family encourages you to share your memories, stories, or anecdotes about Elliott at elliott22forever@gmail.com.
These can range from significant moments to everyday interactions, showcasing Elliott's impact and the love he shared with friends.