

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

POLICE AND FIRE

French Bulldog Found
A French Bulldog named Poppy was stolen along with a Range Rover in New Canaan when the owner left the vehicle running on Main Street. After days of searching, CT Dog Gone Recovery Volunteers and social media efforts led to a tip, and the dog was returned to its owner. Police are still investigating the theft and ask anyone with information to call 203-594-3521.

TOWN HALL

New Canaan Budget
The Town of New Canaan has begun budget discussions for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. After the Board of Selectmen approved the budget on January 30th, the Board of Finance started deliberations on February 6th and is set to vote on March 6th. The Town Council will begin its review on March 13th, with a final vote scheduled for April 3rd.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Panel Discusses Local Economic Challenges
On February 5th, the New Canaan Community Foundation and the New Canaan Library hosted a panel discussion on poverty and financial challenges for local working families. The discussion was moderated by Lauren Patterson of NCCF and included panelists from United Way of Coastal and Western Connecticut and Norwalk ACTS. The event focused on economic issues affecting the community. Photo credit: New Canaan Community Foundation.

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SCHOOLS

Students Named Candidates
Seven students from New Canaan Schools, six from New Canaan High School and one from St. Luke's School, were named candidates for the 2025 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. Selection is based primarily on SAT and ACT scores, with up to 161 students ultimately chosen as scholars. The program is by invitation only, and scholars receive national recognition and a medallion in June.

Students Celebrate Lunar New Year
First graders at New Canaan Country School held a Lunar New Year

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Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com

Legislative Forum Engages Community in Policy Discussion

By Peter Barhydt

Local legislators gathered at the New Canaan Library for a legislative forum hosted by the Youth Board of New Canaan's League of Women Voters. The event, led by student moderators Spencer Weil of St. Luke's School and Will Wunderlich of New Canaan High School, provided a platform for elected officials to share their priorities for the current legislative session and engage with community members on key issues. The evening saw lively discussions on pressing matters such as energy costs, economic stability, environmental policies, and education.

The panel featured State Representatives Lucy Dathan, Tom O'Dea, and Savet Constantine, as well as State Senators Ryan Fazio and Ceci Maher. Over the course of the evening, the legislators engaged in a robust exchange of ideas, offering insights into ongoing legislative efforts and responding to questions from the audience.

Weil opened the forum by extending an invitation to legislators to visit both local high schools for further discussion. "While we're up here, we'd love to host our local legislators at a joint meeting of both our schools one of these days, so maybe we can



State legislators gathered earlier this week to discuss priorities. The forum was sponsored by the New Canaan League of Women Voters and New Canaan Library.

talk after the program," he said. Wunderlich then introduced the evening's agenda, noting that students had polled their peers on pressing topics such as energy, inflation, free school lunches, student loans, and reproductive health.

Representative Tom O'Dea, who has served the 125th District for 13 years, emphasized the bipartisan nature of Connecticut's legislative

process. "Unlike Washington, D.C., Hartford is very bipartisan," he said. "Eighty-five percent of our bills are bipartisan, and my colleagues in the majority have always allowed us to debate bills and take our input." He highlighted his work on the Judiciary, Transportation, and Environment Committees, stressing the importance of school choice, fiscal guardrails,

Continued on Page 8

CT Law Limiting Police Cooperation with Immigration Faces Scrutiny

By Anne White

Members of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association recently met with the State's Attorney's Office and the Attorney General's Office to request additional training on how Connecticut's immigration enforcement laws should be applied. The meeting comes as the state's 2019 expansion of the Trust Act, which restricts local law enforcement's ability to coordinate with federal immigration authorities, faces renewed scrutiny following multiple cases in which convicted or suspected criminals were released rather than transferred to federal custody.

The law prohibits local police from complying with detainer requests issued by immigration officials unless the individual has been convicted of a Class A or B felony, is listed in the federal terrorism screening database, or is the subject of a judicial warrant. Law enforcement officials say these restrictions have prevented the transfer of convicted sex offenders, violent felons, and gang-affiliated individuals to federal custody, forcing immigration officers to track them down after they have already been released into the community.

Greenwich Police Chief Heavey, who also serves as a vice president of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, said the law has placed police departments in a difficult position.

Under federal immigration enforcement policy, detainees are issued when a person is arrested by local authorities and is suspected of being subject to removal from the United States due to prior deportation orders or criminal history. A detainer request does not authorize a new arrest but instead asks local law enforcement to hold an individual for up to 48 additional hours so that immigration officers can take them into custody. If a detainer request is ignored, the individual is released, often requiring federal authorities to locate and arrest them at a later date.

Before 2019, Connecticut law allowed police departments to determine whether they would comply with detainer requests. The 2019 Trust Act expansion removed that discretion, restricting local law enforcement from notifying immigration officials in all cases except those involving the most severe felony convictions. Individuals convicted of Class C, D, and E felonies—including second-degree sexual assault, burglary, human trafficking, and manslaughter—must be released without notification to federal authorities.

Immigration enforcement officials have pointed to multiple cases in which Connecticut law enforcement agencies released individuals with serious criminal records, despite detainer requests issued before

their release.

- In January 2024, immigration officers in New Haven arrested a twice-convicted sex offender who had previously been released despite an active detainer request. The man had prior sexual assault convictions from 2013 and 2017, but Connecticut officials did not notify immigration officers before his release.

- In February 2024, a Honduran national charged with first-degree sexual assault against a child under 13 was released from the Hartford Correctional Center, despite a detainer request that had been issued four months earlier. Immigration officers were only able to track him down in April, after he had already been at large for two months.

- In another case, Alejandro Martinez, an undocumented immigrant, was convicted of manslaughter in 2023 after killing a father of three in Connecticut. Despite the conviction, local officials did not notify ICE, and he was released into the community.

Republican lawmakers in Connecticut have pushed for a repeal of the 2019 law, arguing that it prevents police from fulfilling their public safety responsibilities and forces immigration officers to conduct arrests after individuals have already re-entered the community rather than while they are still in custody.

State Rep. Tom O'Dea (R-New Canaan) said Connecticut's approach to immigration enforcement has taken

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Chamber Breakfast



The New Canaan Chamber of Commerce hosted a networking breakfast at Gates Restaurant. Approximately 40 members attended and heard about local businesses. The New Canaan Sentinel announced that Chamber Members may be featured in our new Spotlight on Business. Contact the Chamber for more information. Photo courtesy of the New Canaan Chamber of Commerce.

COLUMN

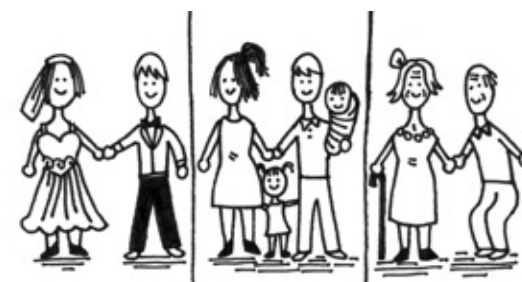
Marriage 1.0, 2.0, 3.0

By Jill S. Woolworth, LMFT

During the course of our relationship, we may be in our second, third or even sixth marriage to our first spouse. Investing in the person that our spouse is becoming is the most important investment in our economic portfolio. Relationships are no more static than financial investments, and they are much more important to our emotional well-being. We either intentionally support and move toward each other, or we drift apart.

The marriage of two grandparents is not the same marriage that they had as newlyweds. Relationships have seasons: dating, being newly married, having young kids, navigating a major move, coping with new jobs, sending kids to college, empty nesting, grieving the death of one's own parents, and dealing with the aging process. Each season is a chapter with its own number.

Relationships with no crises are highly unusual. Betrayals and the loss of a child are two of the hardest, but even the most difficult experiences do not have to be the death knell for a relationship. Relationships, like skin, are stronger where there is a scar. Being honest, embracing humility, and



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

taking responsibility for personal growth are the tools to make marriage 2.0 or 3.0 stronger than marriage 1.0.

Julianne and Kyle's marriage had three near-death experiences: a serious financial mistake, the death of a child, and Julianne's addiction to pain killers after surgery. After 43 years of marriage, Julianne and Kyle are both grateful that someone normalized near-death experiences for them when they were a young couple.

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



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Emmy-Winning Producer to Speak at Men's Club

Andrew Wilk has spent his career bringing the electrifying energy of live performance into homes across America. On Friday, February 14, the former executive producer of *Live from Lincoln Center* will step out from behind the camera to share his insights with the New Canaan Men's Club. His discussion, *Creating Music, Theatre, Dance and More for Broadcast*, will pull back the curtain on what it takes to capture the immediacy and artistry of concerts, theater, and ballet for national audiences.

Wilk, a five-time Emmy Award-winning producer and director, has shaped the way television presents live performance. His work on PBS's *Live from Lincoln Center* gave millions of viewers access to the grandeur of the New York Philharmonic, the precision of American Ballet Theatre, and the dramatic depth of Lincoln Center Theater productions. Under his leadership, the series transformed the traditional stage-to-screen adaptation, elevating the medium with a cinematic approach that balanced intimacy and spectacle.

But Wilk's contributions extend beyond Lincoln Center. Over the course of his career, he has produced and directed more than 1,000 hours of prime-time television, working with some of the most prestigious arts institutions in the world. A few years ago, he brought Broadway's brightest talents to a more intimate stage, producing *Stars on Stage* from Westport Country Playhouse. The series, which featured performances by Shoshana Bean, Gavin Creel, and other Broadway notables, was a love letter to the magic of live theater and remains available for streaming on PBS.

At Friday's event, Wilk will be interviewed by John Brandt, former president of the YMCA's Men of Westport and Weston. The New Canaan Men's Club meets at 10 a.m. in Morrill Hall at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, with Wilk's interview scheduled to begin around 10:40 a.m., following the club's business meeting.

Wilk's ability to merge the grandeur of live performance with the intimacy of television is rooted in a career that spans music, film, and broadcasting. Before his work at *Live from Lincoln Center*, he served as chief creative officer at Sony Music Entertainment, where he oversaw the company's expansion into visual content. His tenure saw a surge in high-quality filmed performances, blending the evolving digital landscape with the traditions of music television.

His influence also extended to major television networks, including HBO and Disney, where he was instrumental in developing programs that bridged the gap between entertainment and high art. His background as a writer, stage director, and symphony conductor gives him a rare understanding of the intricacies of live performance—not just how it is seen, but how it is created.

Wilk's production style has always been about more than just cameras and lighting. He understands how to capture the essence of live performance—the tension before the first note, the energy of a standing ovation, the way a single gesture can change the tone of an entire scene. His meticulous attention to framing, movement, and audience perspective has made his productions



feel immediate and immersive, rather than distant reproductions of the real thing.

One of Wilk's lasting impacts has been making world-class performances accessible to audiences who might never set foot inside Lincoln Center. His productions invite viewers into spaces once reserved for a select few, whether it's the velvet-draped seats of the Metropolitan Opera or the minimalist grandeur of a chamber music recital.

His philosophy, as he has often stated in interviews, is that television is not a substitute for live performance but an extension of it. When done well, a broadcast performance doesn't diminish the experience—it enhances it, offering perspectives even those in the front row wouldn't see.

For New Canaan residents, Friday's event offers a rare opportunity to hear directly from a producer

who has worked with some of the greatest artists of our time. The conversation will likely touch on Wilk's experiences directing and producing some of the most ambitious live broadcasts in television history, as well as the challenges of translating performance into a format that works for the small screen.

The New Canaan Men's Club, known for its engaging guest speakers, welcomes men aged 55 and older to attend its weekly meetings. The club offers opportunities for learning, discussion, and camaraderie, with events featuring experts from a range of fields.

Wilk's talk is expected to draw significant interest from members and the wider community, given his reputation as one of the foremost producers of arts programming. His ability to tell stories through the lens of television has shaped how audiences experience live performance, making this a rare chance to hear about the craft directly from the source.

For those interested in joining the Men's Club, membership is open to men 55 and older. Information is available by emailing ncmens@ncmens.info.

Wilk's visit is an exploration of how the arts are preserved, adapted, and shared in an age where screens have become our windows to the world's great performances. As he steps onto a different kind of stage this Friday, attendees can expect to gain a deeper appreciation for the intricate process of turning live artistry into lasting cinematic experiences.

Library Introduces Pages & Putts: Mini Golf for All Ages

The New Canaan Library is turning bookshelves into fairways with its inaugural Pages & Putts mini golf event, inviting the community to experience a unique blend of literature and leisure. Scheduled for Friday, February 28, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday, March 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., this event transforms the Library into an 18-hole miniature golf course where players of all ages can test their skills while supporting the Library's Annual Fund.

"This will be a fantastic, family-friendly event, giving our community a chance to enjoy a round of mini golf while supporting the Library," said Ellen Sullivan Crovatto, CEO of New Canaan Library. "We are especially excited to bring fun and friendly competition to kids of all ages, and we hope Pages & Putts becomes a beloved annual tradition."

The event invites golfers of all skill levels to putt their way through a creative, book-lined course that weaves throughout the Library's interior. Each hole presents a new challenge,

offering participants a fresh perspective on their local library as they navigate fairways between shelves, around reading nooks, and through specially designed obstacles.

Foursomes and individuals are welcome to play, with a \$10 entry fee per player that goes directly to supporting the Library's Annual Fund. Attendees are encouraged to come hungry, as New Canaan's favorite Apple Cart Food Co. will be on-site selling hot dogs and other treats for golfers.

The Library credits the event's success to the generosity of local businesses and families whose sponsorships have made Pages & Putts possible. Leading the way is Camp Playland, serving as the Presenting Sponsor. Additional key sponsors include:

Front 9 Sponsor: New Canaan Pediatric Dentistry
Back 9 Sponsor: New Canaan Orthodontics My Smile
Additional Sponsors: Lizzie & JT Davis Family, The Merwin Family, The Ormond Family, The Teles

Pages & Putts
 MINI GOLF
 AT THE LIBRARY
 Friday, Feb 28 / 6-9pm
 Saturday, March 1 / 10am-3pm
 \$10 per player

Sponsorship opportunities remain available, with families and businesses invited to support the Library by sponsoring an individual hole. Interested sponsors can contact Allison Zenczenko at azinczenko@newcanaanlibrary.org for more information.

For over a century, New Canaan Library has been the community's center for learning, culture, and innovation. With an extensive collection of print and electronic resources, dynamic programming, and state-of-the-art technology, the Library is committed to fostering lifelong learning and community engagement. Pages & Putts reflects this mission by reimagining the Library as a hub for fun, creativity, and connection.

How to Register
 Advance registration is required for Pages & Putts, and participants can secure their spot online at newcanaanlibrary.org.

For additional event details, contact Marie Aspinwall, Manager of Family Services, at (203) 594-5011 or maspinwall@newcanaanlibrary.org.

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COLUMN

Best Bites: New Canaan



BY PAUL REITANO

My wife is so busy. How busy is she? She's so busy that sometimes I only see her mid-sprint. For the whole day. Barrelling down a flight of stairs, running through a hallway, dashing into the garage. And sometimes, if she's feeling lucky, she does it all while brushing her teeth. Look there she is - driving away in the distance. Despite the fact that I often only see my wife in a blur, I love her dearly. So much so that for Valentine's Day, I thought I'd get her the most meaningful, heartfelt, and inexpensive gift I could think of; a column in which I allow her to air her grievances, slyly promote her clients, and share with you her undying love of Mexican cuisine.

Q: Karlie, first off, so the people have proper context; how many jobs do you have?

A: Paid or unpaid?

Q: Everything.

A: Well, I have my own Marketing and PR consultancy. Some of my clients around town are Halo Fitness, the New Canaan Community Foundation, and the New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance. I also represent Naya, which is a fast casual Middle Eastern chain of restaurants in NYC and locally in Darien, a soon-to-open member social club in Mount Kisco called Goodhouse, and Extraordinary Desserts in San Diego.

Q: And...

A: I'm also PTC co-president at West Elementary. And I'm on the Committee for Young Life New Canaan.

Q: And....

A: I started my own dance company in town called New Canaan Dance Clinics. We teach kids dance team styles and cheerleading.

Q: And...

A: I'm also a fitness teacher with The Fitness Collective in town.

Q: I guess the most obvious question is - why not more?

A: You think it's too much?

Q: You go to bed at night after a frightfully busy day and you see your phone only has 3% battery left...do you ride it out or do you plug her in?

A: I usually try to plug it in.

Q: So the people know - how long can that 3% last?

A: If you put it on low power mode it can last an hour on 3%.

Q: And if she dies in your hands? Mid grip. Is that God telling you to go to bed?

A: Next question.

Q: What percentage "humorous" and what percentage "very annoying" do you find me?

A: About 50/50.

Q: It's Valentine's Day.

A: 80/20.

Q: You're the master of the follow up email. So when someone you want to engage with for work doesn't respond - you follow up. You email them again. Without them ever emailing you back.

A: Yes, you have to circle back.

Q: How many times can you circle back around while still maintaining dignity?

A: I usually will follow up twice - then reach out by phone.

Q: You're from Iowa. How would you compare Iowa folk to New Canaan folk?

A: I like Iowa because the people are so kind. In terms of values, work just seems really well balanced with life. Most everyone tries to be present with family. Like New Canaan, there's also a very strong sense of community.

Q: Yes. Strong community in Iowa. Horrendous pizza though.

A: Don't say that. Maybe their version of pizza is just different from your version of pizza.

Q: It is. Their version of pizza is horrendous.

A: That's mean.

Q: You grew up a vegetarian in Iowa. How'd that work?

A: It didn't really. I was mostly served sides.

Q: So, it's dinner time at the Kayser household. Karlie just eats

Despite the fact that I often only see my wife in a blur, I love her dearly.



SOUTH OF THE BORDER BOWL; Brown Basmati Rice, farro chorizo, pinto beans, sweet corn, onions, peppers pico de gallo, guacamole, and corn chips. **HAPPY JACK LATTE;** honey, cinnamon, oat milk,

the green beans.

A: Pretty much. Maybe a roll.

Q: And how would you categorize yourself these days?

A: I'm a pescatarian, maybe?

Q: But you eat chicken now. I think that makes you a pesce-pollotarian.

A: Don't put that in. Seriously, that sounds ridiculous.

Q: What does a pesce-pollotarian like to eat?

A: My favorite food is Mexican. I just love the whole experience. The chips coming out first. The margaritas. Truck in Bedford is one of my favorites. Everything there is really well balanced and fresh. In New Canaan, I really love Greenology's Mexican inspired "South of the Border" bowl. It's vegan and comes with beans, peppers, guacamole, a chorizo that they make with farro, and then they put chips on top. I get it with the Happy Jack, it's an oat milk latte that has cinnamon and honey.

Q: Sounds like that's your happy place.

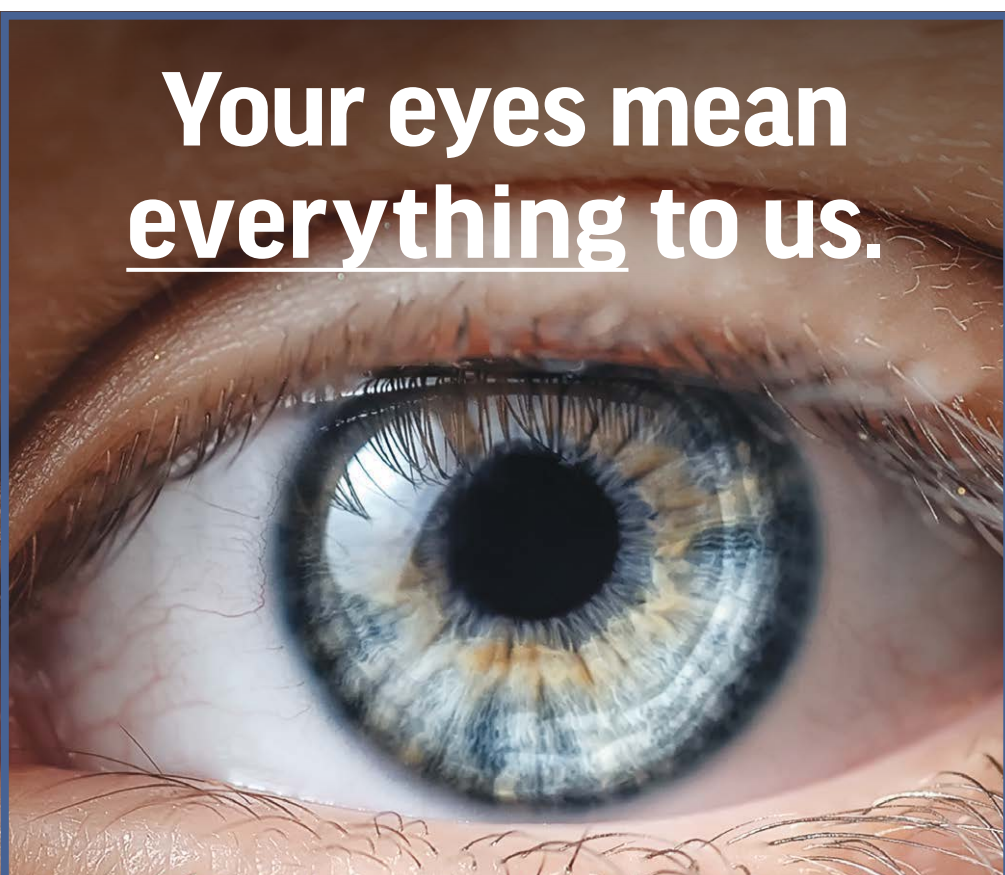
A: It is.

Q: Do they have an outlet to plug in your dying phone?

A: They do. I actually love working there.

Q: First, let me say how proud I am of you for choosing a non-client as your favorite meal. That took great self-control. And second - happy Valentine's Day.

A: Happy Valentine's Day!



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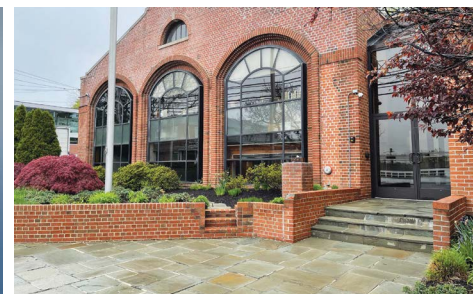
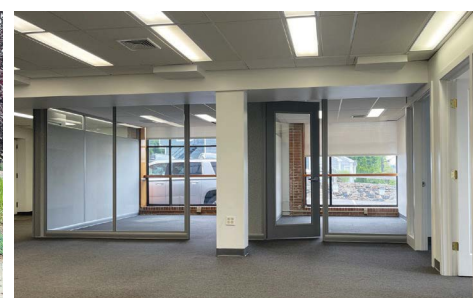
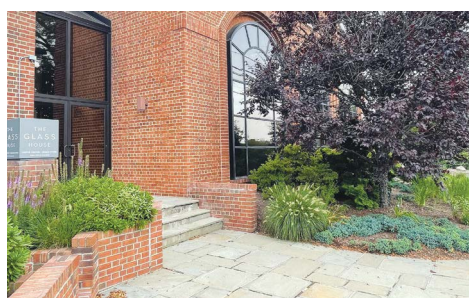


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Editorial Page

Valentine's Comes with Purpose, Energy

Valentine's Day in New Canaan is not a small, fluttering thing. It does not slip in quietly, unnoticed, like an early crocus breaking through the snow. It arrives with conviction. The florist shops are at full tilt, churning out bouquets of red roses and pink peonies. The chocolate shops, which are always excellent here, display their best work—truffles with gold leaf, dark chocolate hearts filled with something mysterious and delightful. Restaurants book up early, with the promise of candlelight, prix-fixe menus, and a sincere hope that no one orders the lobster just to see if the kitchen can handle it.

February 14 is a strange day. It is an economic event, an emotional checkpoint, and a social trial by fire. A day when high schoolers at New Canaan High shuffle through the halls, hoping a candy gram lands in their hands. When husbands, experienced and green alike, stare at greeting cards, wondering if they should go for humor or poetry. It is a day of quiet expectations—sometimes met, sometimes not.

And yet, love in New Canaan is not confined to one day, nor is it something conjured up by a dinner reservation at Elm or a heart-shaped pastry from Rosie. It is there, woven into the small and steady acts of care that define a place where people root for one another. The parents who stand at the edge of the Dunning Stadium field on freezing fall mornings, coffee in hand, cheering on

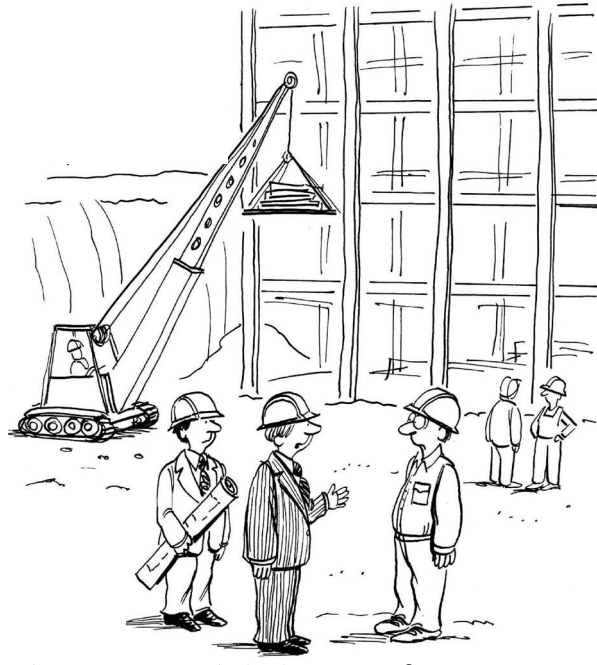
You may leave New Canaan, but New Canaan does not leave you.

teams they don't even have children on anymore. The local shop owners who remember your name and, more importantly, how you take your coffee. The police officers and firefighters who, with an unflashy and constant devotion, keep the town safe.

If Valentine's Day were only about the grand gestures, New Canaan would be in trouble. This is a town that is not particularly performative—it does not traffic in big, showy expressions of feeling. It is a place where people show up. At the library, at the historical society, at the church potluck, at the Carriage Barn opening. Where people volunteer with quiet efficiency and hold onto friendships for decades. Where if someone is sick, meals appear at their doorstep, warm and waiting, as if by magic.

The town has its quirks, of course. It can be a bit obsessed with its history. It has a deep, abiding love of beautiful houses, some grand, some small but well-kept, all appreciated. It takes its football seriously, which some say is just another form of devotion. And it is a town where people do not part ways lightly. You may leave New Canaan, but New Canaan does not leave you.

So on this Valentine's Day, as the town moves through its daily rhythms—dropping kids at school, picking up dry cleaning, running into someone you haven't seen in a while at Walter Stewart's—there will be, underneath it all, something steady and real. The quiet certainty that this is a place where love, in its best form, is not simply celebrated one day a year, but lived out in small, everyday ways.



Is too late to add those fourteen floors?

OPED

“Work, Live, Ride” Supporters Still Trying to Control Local Zoning

BY KIRK CARR, ALEXIS HARRISON,
MARIA WEINGARTEN

For the fifth time, developer lobbying group, DesegregateCT, has put forth their “Work Live Ride” bill. If your town has been adversely affected by other far-reaching zoning State laws that ties the hands of local zoning boards on large scale apartment buildings, you need to pay attention.

On Monday, February 3 at 10:30 a.m., there will be a public hearing in the State Legislature's Planning & Development Committee on HB 6831. The full text of the bill, also known as ‘Work Live Ride’, can be found here. You can write and also speak remotely or in person. To register to speak at the public hearing link here by 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 2: WN_KdGYT7FJTSGXgsuoMrprlw

At first this harmful bill sounds palatable - it's about transit-oriented development, and it claims to be a voluntary ‘opt in’ by the Town. But it is neither palatable nor voluntary, and here's why:

If this bill is passed, it will coerce towns to give up control over hundreds of acres of land near transit areas to the State to oversee, and at the same time will silence local residents' voices by preventing public hearings or even review by the TPZ and also jeopardize environmental protection and historic preservation.

Opting in is not voluntary but coercive: Towns that don't ‘opt in’ to the “transit-oriented communities” program would be deprioritized from State and even federal discretionary funding by prioritizing those that do opt in. Many towns have already created TODs and do not need to opt-in to a State-run land use regime. Further the law corrupts the intent of the clean water act funds and prioritization for sewer expansion instead.

Towns that don't opt in will be penalized for not opting into something they are already doing on their own, thus penalizing Towns that already took the initiative on their own to establish and expand on transit-oriented development.

The state discretionary funding at risk for towns that don't opt-in, includes Urban action bonds, Small Town Economic Assistance (STEAP), Main Street Investment Fund, Land Acquisition for open space and Watershed protection, Clean Water Act grants to protect Long Island Sound, rivers and drinking water, and Incentive Housing zone assistance.

It deprioritizes grants and loans needed for the long-term environmental health, of our State's resources and Long Island Sound, including:

- Open space and watershed protection grants, and sewer infrastructure grants used to protect Long Island Sound from pollution, and river restoration projects, and for drinking water protection.

- The bill conflicts with priorities established for other agencies like DEEP and DPH to prioritize funding for these important environmental programs.

- The bill potentially overrides a municipality's own inclusionary affordable

At first this harmful bill sounds palatable - it's about transit-oriented development, and it claims to be a voluntary ‘opt in’ by the Town. But it is neither palatable nor voluntary

housing rules with a mandated state set threshold which may not properly account for the local development conditions.

- The bill doesn't just punish towns that don't opt in - it will jeopardize our State's environmental health - natural resources are not confined to a Town's boundaries and Towns should be supported in their efforts to protect our State's rivers, open spaces, drinking water supplies, wildlife habitat and Long Island Sound.

- This bill violates the public policy behind our environmental laws, which are remedial in nature, with a mission to correct decades of development practices that caused pollution and degradation of our natural resources

So why not opt in? Opting in means Towns surrender local land use decisions to the State

Towns that opt-in would relinquish zoning decisions in the transit district - hundreds of acres would be overseen by a powerful State official with no knowledge of local needs or capacities and no accountability to the local community. This office is called the Office of Responsible Growth (“ORG”), with a coordinator sometimes referred to as a ‘zoning czar’. The ORG is not required to be familiar with the local community, and has the power to overrule anything the local zoning board wishes to do from the size of the transit district to the regulations that are allowed within the district. A yet-to-be designed set of mandatory rules called ‘guidelines’ would be imposed by the ORG, which would supersede local zoning boards, and the ORG would have to grant permission for the zoning board to deviate.

The State would thus takeover control of hundreds of acres in the transit district to determine if local regulations are ‘reasonable’ or ‘excessive’ regarding building height, setbacks from other properties, and parking requirements

Environmental and historic preservation not protected from development

For Towns that do opt in, the bill has no provision for protection of open space or historic resources:

- While the local wetlands agency would be involved in an advisory capacity when designating the transit district footprint, it is the State ORG that decides if the size is ‘reasonable.’ Wetlands agencies are restricted to only freshwater wetlands; there is no involvement by other stakeholders or town bodies regarding other types of sensitive environmental or historic areas that should be considered when designating the transit district.

There is one provision for consideration

of tidal wetlands, but no consideration for any future needs to expand inland or tidal wetlands, protective buffers or open space that is not in a wetland, or historic areas or historic structures. By eliminating public hearings or local zoning board review of most development projects in the hundreds of acres within the transit district, it prevents the use of the remedial 22a-19 intervention statute which protects the public trust in our natural resources by enabling State residents to intervene in public hearings to raise environmental issues, present expert witnesses and appeal environmentally harmful decisions to the Courts.

Public hearings outlawed in most types of development in wide swath of Town

Most types of developments in the designated Transit District would be ‘as-of-right’ meaning- there would be NO public hearing allowed. These are arguably the most coveted area of town and should in theory face more careful consideration and scrutiny than virtually any other area of the community, yet this law would do the exact opposite and allow as-of-right development of multifamily housing. Town residents will have no voice, and be disallowed from presenting experts to fully inform the Town of harm a development could cause. There will be no right to appeal a bad decision because the developments would be administratively handled without Zoning board review. Residents and environmental and historic preservation groups would lose the ability to intervene to protect the environment and historic areas or structures in the Transit Area.

The types of developments that would prohibit public hearings include any development up to a 9-plex, which also don't require any affordable units. Any development of 10 or more if 30% are affordable (this is 8-30g but without allowing a public hearing or zoning board review) or any project that is 100% affordable put forth by any nonprofit, any religious organization or any Town or State-owned development.

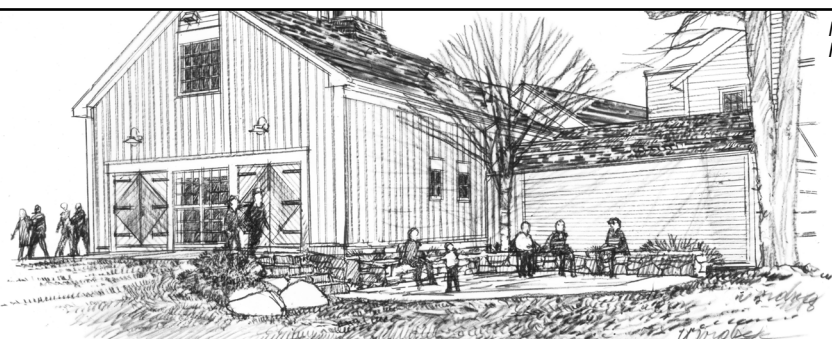
Connecticut doesn't need this harmful law, but if it is passed, our communities will suffer and so will our most precious and increasingly endangered natural resources and historic places.

*Kirk Carr - Ridgefield
Alexis Harrison - Fairfield
Maria Weingarten - New Canaan
Carr, Harrison and Weingarten are members of CT169Strong, a group dedicated to local control of zoning and finding solutions for Connecticut's affordability issues.*



Keith E. Simpson
Associates

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Carson Cooman to Present Contemporary Organ Concert at St. Michael's Lutheran Church

The pipe organ has long been at the heart of Christian worship, its resonance filling cathedrals, chapels, and churches for centuries. But while the organ remains a pillar of sacred music, the works performed on it continue to evolve. On February 21, 2025, at 7 p.m., Harvard University organist Carson Cooman will bring contemporary compositions from around the world to St. Michael's Lutheran Church in New Canaan, presenting a program that highlights the instrument's enduring role in modern worship and concert settings.

Cooman, known for his advocacy of contemporary organ music, has premiered more than 300 works and recorded over 7,000 compositions by living composers. His recital at St. Michael's will feature works by composers from the United States, Sweden, Italy, Japan, and Canada,

including two world premieres by New Canaan resident Gwyneth Walker.

The Organ as a Living Tradition While the organ is often associated with the grandeur of past centuries, its repertoire is far from static. Church musicians and composers continue to shape its sound, expanding its expressive potential. Rev. [Pastor's Name], pastor at St. Michael's, noted that hosting a concert like this reflects the church's commitment to both honoring tradition and embracing innovation.

"The organ has always been more than just an instrument—it's a voice of faith," said Rev. [Name]. "Every era has brought new music to the church, and these composers are carrying that tradition forward in ways that speak to the faith community today."

Walker's two premieres—Greet the Day and As Evening Falls—offer

meditations on time, renewal, and reflection. Inspired by the Sanskrit poet Kalidasa, Greet the Day is a celebration of morning's arrival, its bright, syncopated rhythms reflecting a sense of energy and possibility. As Evening Falls, a contemplative counterpart, embraces richer harmonies and descending lines to evoke the hush of twilight.

"For me, music is a way to translate emotions, faith, and poetry into something that can be felt and experienced in a profound way," Walker said. "The organ, with its range and power, allows for such deep expression."

Cooman's program showcases how contemporary composers from different traditions approach the organ, blending sacred themes with diverse influences.

Karen Beaumont's Trilogie du

Troubadour reimagines melodies from medieval France, Spain, and Italy, fusing historical elements with modern harmonies.

Nancy Galbraith's Prelude and Estampie echoes the rhythmic drive of medieval dance forms.

Yüitirö Kató's Variations No. 4 explores counterpoint, drawing on his background in medieval and Renaissance musical structures.

Alexander Dmitriev's Morning Has Broken and Alla Borzova's Variations on "Amazing Grace" offer fresh perspectives on familiar sacred melodies.

Carlotta Ferrari's Toccata ostinata and Thomas Åberg's Toccata No. 4 emphasize the organ's percussive and dynamic possibilities.

Villemo Daneling's Folk Dance and Iteke Prins's Meditation bring folk-inspired and introspective elements to

the program.

Cooman, who has served at Harvard's Memorial Church since 2006, emphasized that contemporary organ music reflects a global conversation about faith and musical expression.

"Each of these composers brings a unique perspective on how the organ can express spiritual and artistic ideas," Cooman said. "This program is a testament to how sacred music continues to grow and transform."

Concert Details

The recital will take place at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 5 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT. Doors open at 6:45 p.m., with a free reception following the performance. Admission is free, with a suggested donation of \$20 to support future musical programming.

For more information, visit carsoncooman.com.

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the **Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 this hearing is scheduled as a hybrid meeting to be held in the Board Room at Town Hall, 77 Main Street. Access to this Public Hearing will be in person and via an on-line system at 7:00 p.m.** to hear and decide the application(s) as follows:

1. **Discussion and consideration of the request of VIM, Inc. C/O Frank Vuoso**, owner(s), to amend the Zoning Regulations dated June 16, 2007, amended December 6, 2024 to amend Section(s) 4.4 Business A Zone to permit pet grooming facilities via special permit, under certain circumstances. Complete copy of the proposed amendment on file in the office of the Town Clerk and also the Planning and Zoning Department as well as on-line: https://www.newcanaan.info/departments/land_use/planning___zoning/p_z_commission_applications_2025.php#outer-11471.

2. **Discussion and consideration of the request of David Rucci, Lampert, Toohey & Rucci, LLC, Authorized Agent for 14 Richmond Hill, LLC**, owner(s), to amend the Zoning Regulation dated June 16, 2007, amended December 6, 2024 to amend Section(s) 5.4.C to allow the Planning and Zoning Commission to reduce certain requirements for legally non-conforming lots in order to facilitate the redevelopment of these lots and housing in the Apartment Zone. Complete copy of the proposed amendment on file in the office of the Town Clerk and also the Planning & Zoning Department as well as on-line: https://www.newcanaan.info/departments/land_use/planning___zoning/p_z_commission_applications_2025.php#outer-11473.

Dated: February 13, 2024
New Canaan, Connecticut

LEGAL AD

February 13, 2025

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

SCOPE OF PROJECT: The Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed qualifications from professional consultants to perform "Underground Utility Line Installation – Consulting Services" for a proposed project on Route 124 (South Avenue) from Farm Road to Cherry Street whereby the Town seeks to have all existing utility lines buried underground. Services provided will be initial consultation on the feasibility of the project, followed by scope development, project development, cost estimating, bidding and construction administration services.

Date Due: Qualifications are to be received at the DPW/Engineering Office at Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, CT 06840 by 10:00am, Thursday, March 13, 2025, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contract document scope of work is available for **review** at the Department of Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, 77 Main Street, Town Hall, New Canaan, CT, 06840. **Copies** of the contract scope of work may be obtained in person during business hours from 7:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to noon on Friday at the following location: **Department of Public Works Office, 77 Main Street, Town Hall, New Canaan, CT, 06840.**

Responders' attention is called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment to be observed and to the requirements for commencement and completion of the work.

No responder may withdraw their qualifications within 90 days after the actual date of the document opening. Additionally, documents require the prompt commencement of the work.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all responses or any part thereof, to waive defects in the same, or to accept any proposal or any part thereof deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut. All responders are requested to note that the award of this Contract is subject to the following conditions and contingencies:

- 1) The approval of such governmental agencies as may be required by law.
- 2) The appropriation of adequate funds by the proper agencies.

TIGER MANN
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, the Board of Selectmen, at its regular meeting on January 30, 2025 approved the following Schedule of Fees to become effective March 1, 2025:

Town of New Canaan - Recreation Fees						
	Purpose of Fee/Description	Fee Amount	Fee Amount			
		FY24	FY25			
Steve Benko Pool Fees						
	Resident Family Pass	\$455	\$495			
	Non-Resident Family Pass	\$1,250	\$1,350			
	Resident Individual Pass	\$195	\$205			
	Senior Citizen Pass	\$80	\$80			
	Nanny Pass	\$130	\$140			
	Guest Fee Adult	\$12	\$15			
	Guest Fee Youth	\$12	\$15			
	Bulk Guest Ticket	10-100	10-\$120			
Kiwanis Permit						
	Family Permit	\$30	\$30			
	Non Resident Family	\$115	\$135			
	Individual Permit	\$25	\$25			
	Senior Citizen Permit	Free	Free			
	Guest Fee	\$12	\$15			
Waveny Paddle Tennis Fees						
	Resident Family Pass	\$300	\$300			
	Resident Adult Pass	\$140	\$140			
	Resident Senior Citizen Pass	\$80	\$80			
	Resident Youth Pass	\$35	\$35			
	Guest Fee	\$12	\$15			
Mead Park Tennis Court Pass						
	Resident Family Pass	\$300	\$300			
	Resident Adult Pass	\$140	\$140			
	Resident Senior Citizen Pass	\$80	\$80			
	Resident Youth Pass	\$35	\$35			
	Non Resident Permit	\$250	\$250			
	Guest Fee	\$12	\$15			
Mead Park Pickle Ball Pass						
	Resident Family Pass	\$300	\$300			
	Resident Adult Pass	\$140	\$140			
	Resident Senior Citizen Pass	\$80	\$80			
	Resident Youth Pass	\$35	\$35			
	Guest Fee	\$12	\$15			
Waveny House Rentals						
	Existing 2024		Proposed			
House Rental - Resident	December-March	April, July, August and November	May, June September and October	December-March	April, July, August and November	May, June September and October
Friday	\$3,600	\$5,500	\$5,900	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$6,500
Saturday	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$4,500	\$6,500	\$7,500
Sunday	\$3,600	\$5,500	\$5,900	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$6,500
House Rental - Non Resident	December-March	April, July, August and November	May, June September and October	December-March	April, July, August and November	May, June September and October
Friday	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$7,500
Saturday	\$4,500	\$6,600	\$7,200	\$5,500	\$8,000	\$8,500
Sunday	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$7,500
Walled Garden	\$500			\$500		
Rehersal (after closing)	\$125/hour			\$125/hour		
Rental Bond	\$1,500			\$2,000		
Deposit (Non Refundable)	\$850			\$2,500		

LEGAL AD

February 13, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Sidewalks, 2025: Putnam Road", New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at the Department of Public Works Office, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, CT, 06840, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contract documents are available for **review** at the Department of Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, **Town Hall, 77 Main Street**, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840. **Copies** of the contract documents for the work may be obtained in person during business hours from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the following location: **Department of Public Works Office, Town Hall, 77 Main Street**, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840.

Bidders attention is called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment to be observed **and to the requirements for the prompt commencement and completion of the work. Work must be completed by August 29, 2025.**

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the bid opening.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all bids or any part thereof, to waive defects in the same, or to accept any proposal or any part thereof deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut.

All bidders are requested to note that the award of this Contract is subject to the following conditions and contingencies:

- 1) The approval of such governmental agencies as may be required by law.
- 2) The appropriation of adequate funds by the proper agencies.

TIGER MANN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

LEGAL AD

February 13, 2025

Waveny Trails, 2025 - Leaf Mulch Site to Trail Head at Lapham Rd

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Waveny Trails, 2025 - South Avenue Entrance to Farm Road Entrance", New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at the Department of Public Works Office, 77 Main Street, Town Hall, New Canaan, CT, 06840, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

SCOPE OF PROJECT: The Town of New Canaan is accepting bids from qualified bidders to reconstruct the existing walking trail in Waveny Park from the Leaf Mulch Site to the Trail Head at Lapham Road, as specified below and on the attached plan sheets.

Contract documents are available for **review** at the Department of Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, 77 Main Street, Town Hall, New Canaan, CT, 06840. **Copies** of the contract documents for the work may be obtained in person during business hours from 7:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the following location: **Department of Public Works Office, 77 Main Street, Town Hall, New Canaan, CT, 06840.**

Bidders attention is called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment to be observed and to the requirements for commencement and completion of the work.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the bid opening. Additionally, the contract documents require the prompt commencement of the work.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all bids or any part thereof, to waive defects in the same, or to accept any proposal or any part thereof deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut. All bidders are requested to note that the award of this Contract is subject to the following conditions and contingencies:

- 1) The approval of such governmental agencies as may be required by law.
- 2) The appropriation of adequate funds by the proper agencies.

TIGER MANN
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

Girls First FCIAC Track & Field Championship Since 2001



The New Canaan Rams, 2024-25 FCIAC Girls Indoor Track and Field Champions.

New Canaan girls' indoor track waited 23 years for this moment. When it finally arrived, the Rams didn't just win—they dominated, delivering a complete team performance that signaled their resurgence as an FCIAC powerhouse.

Led by senior Charlotte Moor, New Canaan clinched its first league title since 2001 with a 71-point effort at Staples High School, outpacing runner-up Greenwich (66) and third-place Staples (55). The Rams'

triumph was built on a foundation of endurance, depth, and a group of athletes who understood their roles and delivered in the biggest moments.

Moor played a crucial role in the victory, winning the 3,200 meters in 11:13.31 and securing the championship before the meet's final event. She also claimed the 1,000 meters and anchored the Rams' victorious 4x800 relay, making her the single biggest points contributor in the team's effort. Her excitement

reflected the collective joy of her coach and teammates, as the team's hard work had paid off beyond expectations.

The coaching staff emphasized the dedication of the distance runners and the significant improvement seen in other areas such as hurdles and field events. The complete team effort was evident as New Canaan showcased its well-rounded strength in multiple disciplines.

New Canaan's win was no fluke. The Rams placed in multiple disciplines, showcasing the depth that ultimately won them the title. Gabrielle Savelli's fourth-place finish in the 1,600 meters provided crucial mid-distance points, while the team's fourth-place finish in the 4x400 relay solidified their standing at the top.

Field events played a major role as well. Lauren Smith won the shot put with a throw of 36 feet, 3.25

inches, setting the standard for New Canaan's strength in the event. In the high jump, Cora Shooshan cleared 5 feet, tying for first place and adding another key victory to the team's total. Kate Frangione's fifth-place finish in the pole vault further highlighted the team's versatility.

The team's collective achievement was underscored by strong performances across multiple categories, with medals earned in hurdles, distance events, and field competitions. This balance and consistency were the defining characteristics of New Canaan's success.

The Rams' triumph wasn't just about the numbers—it was a statement of how far the program has come. New Canaan last won an FCIAC title in 2001, completing a dominant five-year run before the championship window closed. This year's squad was aware of the

history but remained focused on making its own mark rather than being burdened by past success.

The coaching staff and athletes recognized the significance of restoring New Canaan to the top of the FCIAC rankings. Their dedication throughout the season translated into a championship-winning performance that demonstrated both resilience and skill.

With their victory, the Rams now hold seven total FCIAC championships, but this one stands apart. It represents more than just a return to form—it sets the stage for the future. With a deep and balanced team, New Canaan is positioned for sustained success, and the coaching staff believes this is just the beginning.

For now, the team will savor the accomplishment. After 23 years, the wait was long, but the reward was well worth it.

Girls Ice Hockey 17-2 with Tough Loss to Blue Wave

New Canaan girls ice hockey suffered a 2-1 defeat to Darien on February 9 at the Darien Ice House, marking their second loss of the season. The Rams led 1-0 after two periods before Darien responded with two third-period goals to secure the victory.

New Canaan sophomore goaltender Macyn Callahan made 25 saves in a strong effort, but Darien broke through midway through the third period when Lila Florita set up Adriana Gromelski, who found the top corner of the net to tie the game. Three minutes later, Teagen Josef's shot rebounded to Mia Avalos, whose follow-up attempt rolled up Callahan's

stick and into the net for the eventual game-winner.

New Canaan's lone goal came late in the second period when Ciara Bell capitalized on a feed from Isabella Hanna, giving the Rams a temporary lead. Despite generating multiple scoring opportunities, including a three-minute power play in the first period and a breakaway attempt by Serena O'Connor, New Canaan was unable to extend its advantage.

With the loss, New Canaan dropped to 17-2 overall and 5-2 in FCIAC play, while Darien improved to 14-0 and 7-0 in conference competition. Both of the Rams' losses this season

have come against Darien.

Earlier New Canaan secured a dominant 6-2 victory over La Salle Academy (RI) on February 1. The Rams set the tone with four first-period goals and maintained control throughout the contest. Tully led the offense with two goals and two assists, while Curri and Vigano each recorded a goal and two assists. O'Connor, Hanna, and Madrid also contributed offensively. Callahan made 19 saves in net.

New Canaan remains in contention for a top seed in the upcoming FCIAC Tournament.

Boys Hockey Unbeaten, Tops Ridgefield, Draws with Darien

New Canaan's boys ice hockey team remains unbeaten as the 2024-25 regular season nears its final stretch, following a decisive 6-1 win over Ridgefield on February 8 and a hard-fought 1-1 tie against rival Darien on February 10. The Rams, ranked No. 1 in the state, now stand at 16-0-1 overall and 8-0-1 in FCIAC play, holding firm atop the standings.

Against Ridgefield, New Canaan asserted its dominance early, scoring twice in the opening period and adding three more in the second. Bryce Lyden led the offensive charge with a hat trick, while Rogan Lowe contributed a goal and two assists. Eddie Harrison and Andrew Brandt each found the back of the net, and assists came from Ronan Hillman, Brayden Robie, Bauer Gammill, Drew Harmon, Tony DeCarmin, Jack Crowell, and Jack Thompson. Goaltender Brendon Harmon made 15 saves, limiting Ridgefield to a single goal in the final period.

The Rams then faced their biggest challenge of the season against Darien, the state's No. 2-ranked team, in a matchup that saw both teams battle through adversity, including a lengthy delay due to an injury. Darien struck first late in the opening period when Alexander Rentz capitalized on a pass from Gavin Samame, beating Harmon through the pads. New Canaan responded in the second, tying the game with 3:03 remaining when Drew Harmon buried the rebound of a Caden Leslie shot.

Both teams created chances, but neither could break the deadlock through regulation or a 10-minute overtime. New Canaan outshot Darien 28-16, with Harmon delivering a standout performance in net, including several key stops in the first period. The Rams adjusted their lineup due to illness and injury, missing forward Brayden Robie and defenseman Cameron Lyden, but maintained their structure and composure.

With the postseason approaching, New Canaan remains in prime position for a deep run in both the FCIAC and CIAC tournaments. The Rams' schedule does not ease up, with a crucial matchup against Fairfield Prep on the horizon, as they continue their push for a championship.

Rams Boys Basketball Home Winning Streak

New Canaan's boys basketball team continued its dominance at home with a hard-fought 58-49 victory over St. Joseph on Monday night. The win avenged an earlier season loss to the Cadets and extended the Rams' home winning streak to five games.

New Canaan came out firing in the first quarter, pushing the tempo and capitalizing on open shots. Henry Chandra and Simon Tchakarov provided early offensive spark, knocking down key baskets to give the Rams a comfortable lead. The defense, anchored by Andrew Esposito and Colin McKiernan, forced St. Joseph into difficult shots and limited second-chance opportunities.

The Cadets responded with a strong second quarter, led by Jayden Febus, who finished with 12 points.

Despite the Cadets' efforts, New Canaan maintained its composure and entered halftime with a six-point lead. The Rams' ball movement and perimeter shooting proved difficult for St. Joseph to contain, as multiple players contributed on the scoreboard.

St. Joseph made a push in the third quarter, cutting the deficit to four points behind a series of fast-break opportunities. However, New Canaan responded with a decisive scoring run, led by Chandra and McKiernan. Luke Robinson and Michael Smith provided key contributions off the bench, knocking down timely shots and adding energy on the defensive end. New Canaan's depth has been a crucial factor during their winning streak, with multiple players stepping up each game.

As the fourth quarter began, New Canaan slowed the pace, working the clock and maintaining control. St. Joseph attempted to rally with full-court pressure, but the Rams handled it effectively, sealing the game at the free-throw line.

With the victory, New Canaan improved to 8-4 on the season, solidifying its place as a contender in the FCIAC.

New Canaan will face another tough test on Thursday when they host Trumbull at 7:00 p.m. The Rams will aim to continue their home dominance and build momentum heading into the final stretch of the regular season.

Game Wrap Ups

Team	Date	Opponent	Result
Boys Basketball	2/7	Bridgeport Central	Win (47-32)
Boys Basketball	2/10	St. Joseph	Win (58-49)
Boys Hockey	2/5	Notre Dame – West Haven	Win (3-2)
Boys Hockey	2/8	Ridgefield	Win (6-1)
Boys Hockey	2/10	Darien	Tie (1-1)
Girls Hockey	2/1	La Salle Academy	Win (6-1)
Girls Hockey	2/3	Stamford	Win (5-0)
Girls Hockey	2/10	Wilton	Win (7-1)
Girls Basketball	2/7	Bridgeport Central	Win (57-53)
Girls Basketball	2/11	St. Joseph	Loss (31-50)
St. Lukes Ice Hockey	2/7	Kingswood-Oxford School	Win (4-1)
St. Lukes Ice Hockey	2/10	Rye Country Day School	Loss (4-8)
St. Lukes Basketball	2/5	Hamden Hall Country Day School	Win (87-83)
St. Lukes Girls Basketball	2/5	Sacred Heart (Greenwich)	Loss (50-78)
St. Lukes Girls Basketball	2/10	Hamden Hall Country Day School	Win (61-50)

Upcoming Rams Sports Schedule

13 FEB, THU	● 4 – 5:30pm	Boys Freshman Basketball vs Trumbull 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 4 – 5:30pm	Girls Freshman Basketball @ Trumbull 72 Strobel Rd, Trumbull Connecticut 06611-5597
	● 5:30 – 7pm	Boys JV Basketball vs Trumbull 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 5:30 – 7pm	Girls JV Basketball @ Trumbull 72 Strobel Rd, Trumbull Connecticut 06611-5597
	● 7 – 8:30pm	Boys Varsity Basketball vs Trumbull 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 7 – 8:30pm	Girls Varsity Basketball @ Trumbull 72 Strobel Rd, Trumbull Connecticut 06611-5597
14 FEB, FRI	● 4 – 6pm	Boys Varsity Wrestling vs Fairfield County Interscholastic Conferen 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 8:30 – 9:45pm	Boys JV Hockey @ Darien High School 1063 Hope Street, Stamford Connecticut 06907
15 FEB, SAT	● 9 – 11am	Boys Varsity Wrestling vs Fairfield County Interscholastic Athletic Conferen 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 10:30am – 12pm	Boys JV Basketball @ Ledyard High School 24 Gallup Hill Road, Ledyard CT 06339
	● 12 – 2pm	Boys Varsity Basketball @ Ledyard High School 24 Gallup Hill Road, Ledyard CT 06339
	● 1:15 – 1:45pm	Boys Varsity Hockey @ Fairfield Warde 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield Connecticut 06825
	● 1:30 – 3pm	Boys JV Hockey @ Ridgefield High School 63 Fields Lane, Brewster New York 10509
	● 2:30 – 4:15pm	Girls Varsity Hockey vs East Catholic High School 55 Old Kings Highway North, Darien Connecticut 06820
17 FEB, MON	● 1 – 3pm	Boys Varsity Hockey @ Xavier 161 Cross St., Middletown Connecticut 06459
	● 4 – 5:30pm	Boys Freshman Basketball @ Ridgefield High School 700 N Salem Rd, Ridgefield CT 06877
	● 4 – 5:30pm	Girls Freshman Basketball vs Stamford High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 5:30 – 7pm	Boys JV Basketball @ Ridgefield High School 700 N Salem Rd, Ridgefield CT 06877
	● 5:30 – 7pm	Girls JV Basketball vs Ridgefield High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 7 – 8:30pm	Boys Varsity Basketball @ Ridgefield High School 700 N Salem Rd, Ridgefield CT 06877
● 7 – 8:30pm	Girls Varsity Basketball vs Ridgefield High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840	
19 FEB, WED	● 4 – 5:30pm	Boys Freshman Basketball vs Danbury High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 4 – 5:30pm	Girls Freshman Basketball @ Danbury High School 43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811
	● 5:30 – 7pm	Boys JV Basketball vs Danbury High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	● 5:30 – 7pm	Girls JV Basketball @ Danbury High School 43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811
	● 7 – 8:30pm	Boys Varsity Basketball vs Danbury High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
● 7 – 8:30pm	Girls Varsity Basketball @ Danbury High School 43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811	
22 FEB, SAT	● 12:01am	Boys Varsity Hockey 55 Old Kings Highway North, Darien Connecticut 06820
27 FEB, THU	● 12:01am	Boys Varsity Hockey 55 Old Kings Highway North, Darien Connecticut 06820
	● 12:01am	Boys Varsity Hockey 55 Old Kings Highway North, Darien Connecticut 06820
4 MAR, TUE	● 12:01am	Boys Varsity Swimming @ Greenwich High School 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830
6 MAR, THU	● 12:01am	Boys Varsity Swimming @ Greenwich High School 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830

Comments? Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com

COLUMN

Fishing with My Father

By MONSIGNOR ROB KINNALLY

When I was a kid, one of my favorite summer vacation activities was going fishing with my dad. The early morning adventure began with searching for worms: no glittery store-bought bait for us! The best harvests took place after a good soaking rain because no digging was required. My mom would supply the empty deli container to store the wiggly creatures, and my dad would prepare a thermos of hot chocolate. After placing our fishing rods in the cavernous trunk of our '62 Chevy Impala, we headed to the lake. On the short ride to our fishing adventures, I would dream of a bountiful catch and looked forward to bragging once we returned to the house. Upon arriving at our fishing

spot, we hooked the worms, and cast our lines into the lake. I painstakingly applied every lesson my dad taught me about casting, moving the rod gently, and waiting – keeping perfectly still until I felt the tug of the line. The rising sun warming the cool morning air and the mounting anticipation of the quintessential “great catch” was a moment of pure childhood joy. Alas, the fish we caught were very few and very small. But that didn't matter to my dad who had an amazing way of making me feel like a champ while I reeled in the tiniest of fish – some smaller than the guppies I had in my fish tank at home. “Good catch, Rob!” he would exclaim; and if he had his prized Kodak camera with him, the “catch” was preserved for a lifetime

on the refrigerator door. For me, the lack of a prized haul of fish was overshadowed by the grace-filled time I spent with my dad on those misty summer mornings on the lake.

In the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 5, verses 1 to 11, the fishermen in the story are having a lackluster morning of fishing; but as soon as Jesus shows up, the story changes: the grace-filled presence of Jesus transforms disappointment into the joy of an abundant catch. Peter is awestruck as he realizes exactly who Jesus is and instantaneously deems himself unworthy: “Depart from

God loves us in moments of triumph, disappointment, and even flat-out failure.

me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” Peter's companions are equally as astonished at the miraculous catch of fish. Jesus responds with words of consolation and challenge: “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.” And then we are told that “when they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.” These new disciples abandoned what they knew and followed Jesus – not because he worked a miracle, but because they realized that he offers the great gift of transforming grace. They abandon any fear of the unknown to walk with someone who would teach

them how to live in the truth, with hope, relying on the grace-filled presence of God to get things done.

The lesson is essential to navigating life: God loves us in moments of triumph, disappointment, and even flat-out failure. Because Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we should never be afraid to walk with Him or “go fishing” with Him. His grace is enough to transform our fears into courageous moments of speaking truth and acting in love for the sake of the Gospel and for the good of our brothers and sisters. He will give us what we need to have a good day of fishing. And a good

day of fishing is sharing what we have experienced about Him with others. The fruits of our labors of God-inspired love will bear abundant fruit in hearts that are mended, souls that are strengthened, and lives that finally know peace. When we go fishing with Jesus, our doubts, fears, insecurities, and feelings of unworthiness are washed away in the wave of grace-filled gift of Jesus himself. Having received such a gift, we can heal and help others without fear of failing.

In sum, I would say that I followed in my dad's footsteps not because he was a great fisherman, but because he taught me how to love. I would follow him anywhere.

Monsignor Rob Kinnally is a pastor at Saint Aloysius Parish in New Canaan.

Worship Directory and Services

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.

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
fpcnc.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:

February 28th at 7 PM: Winter Blues Party. Join in the Common Room for an evening of fun and fellowship, reaturing live music by Nick Depuy, a cocktail bar, light appetizers, and a cozy fire to keep the chill away.

Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church

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. A's Healing Rosary Prayer Group

Upcoming Events:

February 14th at 9 AM: Week of Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Valentine's Day. Guest speaker Rev. Charles Marie Rooney O.P. from Dominican Healthcare Ministry. Brunch will follow in Stapleton Hall.

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:

First Wed. 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

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: Thur. 12 PM: AA

Trinity Church

New Canaan | Darien

468 South Avenue 203.618.0808
info@trinitychurch.life
www.trinitychurch.life

Join us Sundays at 11:00 a.m. at Saxe Middle School 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.

United Methodist Church

165 South Avenue 203.966.2666
office@umcofnwnewcanaan.org
www.umcofnwnewcanaan.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.

Community Baptist Church

174 Cherry Street 203.966.0711
cbcnewcanaan@gmail.com
www.cbcnewcanaan.org
Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZZUNa8aHI30_Syp_X0KDg
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CBCNewCanaan/>
Sunday School at 10:00am
Worship Service at 11:00am
Live Facebook Broadcast 11:30 am

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.

Talmadge Hill Community Church

870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road; Darien
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 New Canaan 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
203.322.1649

www.templeinaistamford.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

Temple Shalom

300 E. Putnam Ave. Greenwich
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>

CT TRUST ACT CONTINUED From Page 1

resources away from other priorities.

"Connecticut still has the highest debt per capita in the country, and it was increasing for decades until the Republican guardrails were installed in 2017 and our debt finally started to decline in 2022," O'Dea said in a statement to the *New Canaan Sentinel*. "I firmly believe that we need to prioritize our spending on our veterans, children, and those with special needs over those who are here with no intent of becoming legal residents. If you are here illegally, you need to be actively applying for legal status or leave."

FORUM CONTINUED From Page 1

and affordable housing. He further emphasized a bill he is co-sponsoring that would provide municipalities with the right of first refusal in affordable housing projects, ensuring that local governments have more control over developments in their communities.

Senator Ceci Maher, who represents multiple Fairfield County towns, outlined her focus on childcare and food security. "Childcare is a labor issue, a workforce issue," she said. "It's very expensive, hard to find, and very difficult for working parents." She also spoke on environmental initiatives, particularly flood mitigation and resiliency planning. "With increasing storms and flooding, our infrastructure needs urgent attention," Maher stated, advocating for increased funding toward municipal climate resilience projects.

Senator Ryan Fazio underscored the need for fiscal responsibility, particularly in relation to Connecticut's tax policies. "Every single dollar spent eventually is a dollar that has to be raised in taxes," Fazio said. He advocated for lowering licensing fees for professionals, cutting utility costs, and protecting local zoning control. "We need to ensure economic growth and opportunity across the board in Connecticut," he added. He also pointed to concerns regarding an ongoing water utility acquisition, warning that such a deal could negatively impact consumer costs in New Canaan and beyond.

O'Dea referenced past statements from former Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, as well as former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, all of whom have emphasized the importance of enforcing immigration laws.

"Even if you don't like the law, you still need to abide by it or leave," O'Dea said.

He pointed to an April 3, 2006, speech by then-Senator Barack Obama in which he said:

"Those who enter our country illegally, and those who employ them, disrespect the rule of law. And because we live in an age where terrorists are challenging our borders, we cannot allow people to pour into the U.S. undetected, undocumented, and unchecked. Americans are right to demand better border security and better enforcement of the immigration laws."

O'Dea said he supports providing emergency

Representative Lucy Dathan, who represents parts of New Canaan and Norwalk, focused on healthcare affordability and fiscal oversight. "One of my top priorities is lowering the cost of healthcare," she said. Dathan also highlighted the need to update Medicaid reimbursement rates and ensure responsible government spending. "We have oversight over our state's budget and agency budgets to make sure they are being used as intended." She provided attendees with materials outlining current healthcare policy proposals and their potential impacts on Connecticut residents.

Representative Savet Constantine, newly elected to represent the 42nd District, which includes parts of New Canaan, Wilton and Ridgefield, stated "As I listen to all my colleagues, so much of the work that we are doing is overlapped, because all these issues are important to you, so they're important to us, and they're important to us to make sure that we get addressed up at the capitol. She detailed her focus on special education funding, energy costs, and senior healthcare services. "Special education costs have skyrocketed, and we need to address it," he said, noting upcoming hearings on the topic. She also stressed the need for workforce development initiatives that support career training programs for young professionals entering the job market.

The forum transitioned to a Q&A session, where students and community members pressed legislators on Connecticut's environmental policies. One asked how the state is balancing economic interests with long-term environmental goals.

medical care to anyone in need but believes Connecticut's financial constraints mean that the state must reevaluate its spending priorities.

State Sen. Ryan Fazio (R-Greenwich, New Canaan, Stamford) has introduced legislation to repeal the 2019 expansion of the Trust Act, restoring local law enforcement's ability to cooperate with federal immigration officials when dealing with individuals convicted of serious crimes. Fazio has called the law a dangerous overreach that forces police departments to release repeat offenders and violent criminals rather than transferring them to federal custody. He has argued that Connecticut's noncooperation policy undermines public safety, particularly in cases involving convicted sex offenders and violent felons. Fazio has been working with fellow legislators and law enforcement officials to

Senator Fazio highlighted his legislative efforts to promote nuclear energy. "Advanced nuclear will start to be commercialize in ten years," he stated. "Two years ago, I passed a law to include new nuclear development in our state's renewable portfolio standard, meaning it would get equal subsidy treatment as all other forms of clean energy."

Senator Maher echoed support for nuclear energy but also emphasized local sustainability efforts. "We must look at the ways we are dealing with our waterways, roads, and runoff," she said, noting recent infrastructure challenges in Redding and Weston due to flooding. She also pointed to the state's efforts in supporting municipal-level renewable energy projects, such as solar panel expansion on public buildings.

Representative Dathan took a more urgent stance on climate action. "2024 was the hottest year on record, and it just keeps going in the wrong direction," she said. "I don't think we have ten years to wait. Action needs to be taken now." She proposed incentives for homeowners to transition to energy-efficient heating and cooling systems.

An audience member raised concerns about Connecticut's ability to attract and retain businesses. Fazio pointed to high taxes and energy costs as major deterrents. "Reducing the tax burden, protecting the budgetary guardrails, and lowering healthcare and energy costs will yield economic growth," he said.

Maher added that housing is a critical factor in business retention. "When companies consider moving here, they ask, 'Where will my employees live?' We need to address housing

challenges to ensure Connecticut remains an attractive place for businesses." She suggested revising zoning regulations to facilitate the development of workforce housing.

The state legislature is expected to take up the issue in the coming months, as lawmakers consider whether to modify or repeal the 2019 Trust Act expansion. While Democratic leadership has largely supported Connecticut's noncooperation policy, recent cases involving the release of violent offenders have increased pressure to revisit the law.

For now, immigration enforcement officials say they will continue to track down released individuals, a process that has, in some cases, allowed convicted criminals to remain at large for weeks or months before being taken into custody.

challenges to ensure Connecticut remains an attractive place for businesses." She suggested revising zoning regulations to facilitate the development of workforce housing.

O'Dea stressed the importance of maintaining the state's fiscal guardrails. "Raise your hand if you want to borrow more from our kids. I don't," he said. "We need to get our debt down."

The discussion turned to Governor Ned Lamont's proposed universal pre-K program. Maher described a pilot program in Middletown that could serve as a model. "They started a pre-K academy, utilizing schoolteachers and existing classrooms," she explained. "We need to ensure it's not an unfunded mandate and that it works for all districts."

Dathan emphasized early education's long-term benefits. "When you identify learning challenges early, it reduces the burden on schools later," she said. "Investing in early education is an investment in our economy."

As the forum concluded Wunderlich encouraged attendees to stay engaged in local government. "The Youth Board of New Canaan's League of Women Voters is always open to students interested in civics education," he said.

The legislators thanked the students and community members for their participation, with O'Dea remarking, "It's forums like this that make our work meaningful. We are here to listen, and we appreciate your voices."

For more information on the New Canaan League of Women Voters, please visit: www.lwv.org/local-leagues/lwv-new-canaan.

Obituaries



MARTHA DUREY
1940-2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Martha (Marti) Hosler Durey, who left this world peacefully on February 1, at Norwalk Hospital. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, John C. Durey, Jr.; her dear brother, Robert M. Hosler, Jr.; and her loving parents, Robert M. Hosler, Sr., MD and Eleanor (McCurdy) Hosler. Though she has departed, her memory will forever live on in the hearts of her many nieces and nephews, cherished friends, and her faithful furry companions, Coco and Chacha.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1940, Marti graduated from high school in 1958 before attending Mount Union College. There, she was a proud member of the Tri Delta sorority and earned her degree in sociology in 1962. She dedicated her life to helping others as a compassionate and devoted social worker, touching countless lives throughout her career.

Beyond her professional achievements, Marti was a vibrant and beloved presence in her community. She served as the president of the New Canaan Suburbanites, where she formed lifelong friendships and enriched the lives of many through her leadership and kindness. She was also an avid bridge player enjoying both the challenge and camaraderie of the game, making countless connections along the way.

Marti's warmth, wisdom, and unwavering generosity will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

A celebration of Marti's life will be held at Hoyt Funeral Home at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to the Connecticut Humane Society or an animal rescue organization of your choice. A private burial will take place later at Lake View Cemetery in Cleveland, Ohio.

Though she is gone, her spirit, kindness, and love will remain in our hearts forever.



SYDNEY FULFORD

Sydney Snell Fulford passed away peacefully on January 17. Born in Brooklyn Heights on January 27, 1930, she was days away from her 95th birthday.

Sydney was a lifelong educator. She grew up in Great Neck, NY, and after attending Wheelock College, she began teaching in Michigan, where she met her husband, Bill Fulford. They moved to Connecticut in 1960 and eventually settled in New Canaan, where Sydney lived for 65 years. With a master's degree in education from the University of Bridgeport, Sydney taught kindergarten for nearly four decades. Married to a teacher, Sydney helped to raise two generations of teachers: two of her three children (who also married teachers) and five grandchildren. Sydney was able to live independently at home thanks to the loving care of helpers Pat Saxe and Carol Sikora.

Sydney is predeceased by her husband William Fulford, brother Roger Snell (Elsie Snell), and grandson William Fulford III (Ashley Potvin). She is survived by sisters Priscilla White and Prudence Bennett; sons John Fulford (Katharine Harmon) and William Fulford, Jr. (Maureen Fulford); daughter Priscilla Falcone (Stephen Falcone); six grandchildren, Jonathan Fulford (Raven Fulford), Patrick Fulford, Caroline Dolan (McManus Dolan), Bridget Falcone, Matthew Falcone, and Avery Fulford; great-grandchildren Winslow Fulford and Murray Fulford. Additionally, she counted among her relatives the family of Suzanne and Douglas MacLehose and sons Thomas, Daniel, and Robert.

Sydney was a member of St. Aloysius Church. A memorial service will be held at

the church (21 Cherry Street, New Canaan) on February 22. The family will be present for visiting at 10 a.m., with a mass following at 11 a.m. Burial will be limited to family only. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Will Fulford scholarship fund at A Running Passion (arunningpassion.org), a charitable organization founded in memory of Sydney's grandson.



ARLENE DUBIAGO

Arlene O. DuBiago (Oslander), 79, passed away peacefully on February 5, at UMass Memorial Hospital. Arlene was surrounded by love as she left this world, and her spirit will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew her.

Arlene was the beloved wife of Nicholas DuBiago, with whom she shared 57 years of marriage filled with joy and companionship. She was a devoted mother to her two daughters, Nicole J. DuBiago of New Canaan, CT, and Alanna M. Bodio, and her husband Stephen of Mendon. The light of her life shone brightly through her grandchildren, Brayden, and Emmalyn Bodio, who were her greatest treasures.

Born in Middletown, CT, Arlene was the daughter of Joseph and Marion (Hilgert) Oslander. She grew up with her two loving brothers, Joseph and his late wife Florence and Donald, and his wife Noreen, both of Madison, CT and her sister, Evelyn Barnes and her husband William of Niantic, CT. She took great joy in her extended family and cherished her nieces and nephews, who will forever hold her memory dear.

Arlene was a proud graduate of Daniel Hand High School in Madison and pursued her passion for education by earning her bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut, followed by a master's degree from Southern Connecticut State University.

Arlene's passion for teaching took on many different roles with her favorite being the 13 years she spent at Toddler Time Preschool in New Canaan.

Her vibrant personality drew people to her; she was known for her love of socializing, traveling, dining out and attending shows. She enjoyed music, especially the oldies and you could often find her dancing and singing in the kitchen. Nothing made her happier than spending time at their beach house in Misquamicut, entertaining friends and family in her happy place. Arlene was an avid reader whose daily walks nurtured her spirit and kept her connected with the beauty of nature.

Arlene's greatest role was that of champion for her family. From the day her daughter, Nicole, was born, Arlene's focus shifted to advocating for everything Nicki needed to ensure she thrived in life. She continued to work tirelessly to make sure both of her daughters had everything they needed to be happy and successful while being the best partner to Nick.

Arlene was active in donating her time to the organizations that she felt passionately about. She was very involved in the Junior Women's Club of Stamford and the Kiwanis Club of Stamford. She was Chairman of the Board of ARI of CT, where she advocated for services and opportunities to enrich the lives of people with disabilities. Her volunteer work continued when they moved to New Canaan, where she joined the Newcomer's Club and became head decorator for their annual Christmas House Tour fundraiser. In later years, she was instrumental in the groundwork for building South Avenue Cottage and stayed on the board for New Canaan Group Home Inc. as their Secretary.

The DuBiago family invites all who knew and loved Arlene to join them in celebrating her life. There was a visitation on Thursday, February 13, at Callahan, Fay & Caswell Life Celebration Home, Worcester, concluding with a prayer service. A burial will take place in the spring at a later date, with additional calling hours held on April 17th at Thomas M. Gallagher Funeral Home, 104 Myrtle Avenue, Stamford, CT (203)-359-9999, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Arlene's name may be made to : Alzheimer's Association or Special Olympics Connecticut.

The New Canaan Sentinel believes every life deserves to be remembered. We do not charge for obituaries and welcome submissions to honor your loved ones. Please email obituaries to Caroll@SentinelHometownNews.com.

The Sentinel

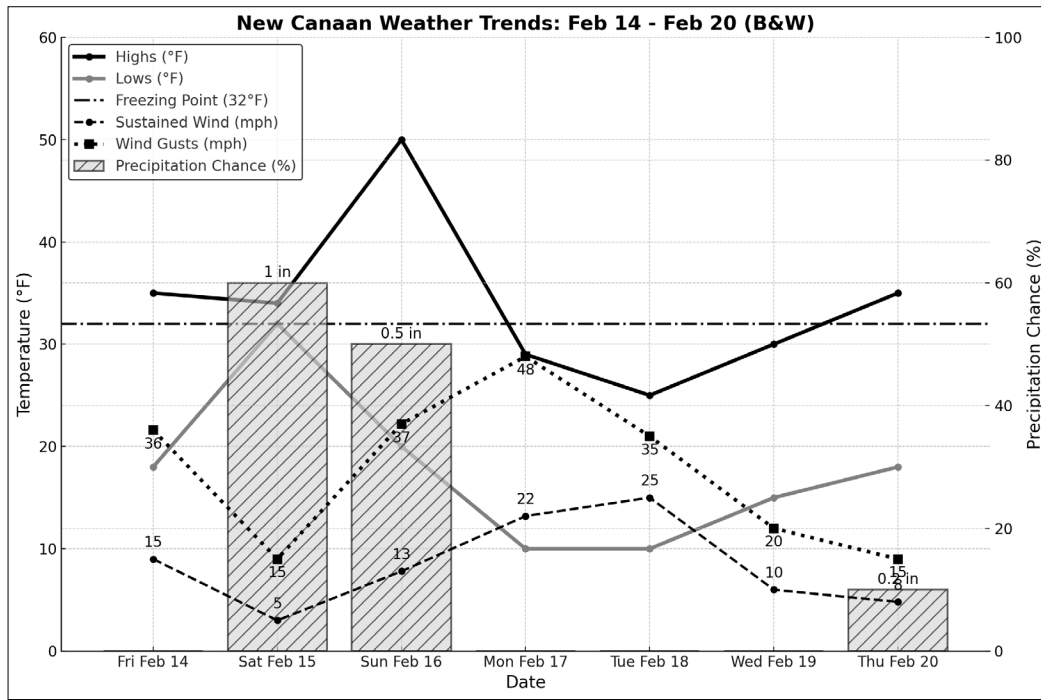
National WSJ News Aggregate | Weather

Local Weather: Prep for Frigid Temps in The Week Ahead

By Emma Barhydt

New Canaan, brace yourself for a rollercoaster of winter weather in the coming days. From a wintry mix and chilly breezes to a brief warm-up before an arctic blast returns, the forecast promises plenty of variety. Here's what to expect as February's unpredictable mood swings continue.

Friday, February 14: Expect a chilly day with a high of 35°F, though it will feel even colder thanks to gusty northwest winds reaching up to 36 mph. The sun will be out, but with only 15% cloud cover, there won't be much to block the breeze. There is no precipitation expected. By night, temperatures will dip to 18°F under thick cloud cover. Winds will calm a bit, coming from the west at 7 mph with occasional gusts up to 20 mph. It'll stay dry, but the overcast sky will make for a gloomy evening.



Saturday, February 15: Bundle up, New Canaan! A chilly 34°F high will be accompanied by overcast skies, setting the stage for a wintry mix in the afternoon. Expect light snow and rain by midday, with up to an inch of accumulation. Winds will be mild from the southeast at 5 mph, gusting up to 15 mph. As night falls,

temperatures will hover around 32°F but feel more like 25°F with the breeze. Rain will persist, making for a damp evening.

Sunday, February 16: A dramatic warm-up is on the way, with temperatures spiking to 50°F. Morning rain showers will linger into early afternoon, so expect some slick roads and

sidewalks. Winds will pick up from the southeast at 13 mph, gusting to 37 mph. By evening, temperatures will plummet to 20°F, with a slight chance of lingering showers. Winds will shift westward and strengthen overnight.

Monday, February 17: After Sunday's warmth, winter returns in full force.

Expect a high of just 29°F, but it will feel much colder with powerful 22 mph winds and gusting up to 48 mph. A mix of sunshine and clouds will brighten the day. The UV index will be moderate, so if you're braving the outdoors, layer up and protect your skin. By night, temperatures will plummet to 10°F, with wind chills as low as -9°F. Clear skies will dominate, but the bitter cold will make for a frosty night across town.

Tuesday, February 18: Another crisp and windy day ahead! Temperatures will hover in the mid-20s, but strong westerly winds—gusting up to 35 mph—will make it feel significantly colder. The sky will be clear, offering plenty of winter sunshine. Nighttime temperatures will plunge to around 10°F, with wind chills well below zero. The gusty northwest winds won't let up, making for a freezing but clear night over New Canaan.

Wednesday, February 19: Expect similar frigid conditions, with highs reaching the low 30s. A moderate west-northwest wind will keep things brisk, making it feel even colder. Skies will remain mostly clear, offering bright but chilly conditions. By nighttime, temperatures will dip into the mid-teens, with occasional gusts. Clouds will gradually increase, but no precipitation is expected.

Thursday, February 20: A slight warm-up is in store, with daytime highs reaching the mid 30s. The west-northwest breeze will be lighter, making it a bit more bearable for those venturing outside. Skies will be mostly sunny today. As night falls, temperatures will drop to the high teens, and increasing cloud cover may hint at some precipitation in the days ahead.

Stay bundled up and keep an eye on shifting conditions as we navigate the season's final stretch.

Nationally: The Week Ahead

By Emma Barhydt

Northeast: The Northeast is expected to experience a mix of winter conditions during this period. A powerful storm is anticipated to impact the area over the weekend of February 15-16, bringing snow and rain, with potential heavy snowfall in interior regions. Following the storm, temperatures are forecasted to drop significantly, leading to much colder conditions with brisk winds and plenty of sunshine. The latter part of the week may see a gradual moderation in temperatures, but conditions are expected to remain cold with occasional sunshine.

Southeast: The Southeast is set to experience variable conditions throughout the week. The weekend of February 15-16 may bring periods of rain and a thunderstorm, followed by a significant drop in temperatures, leading to much colder conditions with brisk winds and sunshine. The warmth is

expected to return midweek, with temperatures rising above average for the region, reaching the low 70s with ample sunshine. Cloud cover may increase slightly towards the end of the week, leading to potential showers by Friday, February 21.

Midwest: The Midwest will experience typical winter variability. The period begins with windy conditions and a mix of rain and snow, though little accumulation is expected. A cooling trend is anticipated, leading to colder temperatures and partial sunshine. The week continues with considerable cloudiness and occasional sunshine, providing a balance between winter's chill and moments of brightness. There is a slight risk of much below-normal temperatures for the northern Great Plains and Upper Mississippi Valley during this period.

Southwest: The Southwest will enjoy a stretch of pleasant weather. The period is expected to be mostly sunny

and less humid, setting the tone for the week. Temperatures are anticipated to be warm, reaching the mid-70s. The warmth persists into the week, with mostly sunny to partly sunny skies. Cloud cover may increase slightly midweek, bringing chances of showers. The week concludes with morning clouds giving way to afternoon sunshine.

Northwest: The Northwest will experience a mix of rain and snow showers during this period. The weekend brings breezy conditions with periods of rain. The region remains chilly with temperatures slightly below average, accompanied by sun and clouds and passing showers, with the possibility of wet snowflakes mixed in. Early in the week, expect intervals of clouds and sun with occasional rain or snow showers. Midweek brings partial sunshine, but the chill persists. The week concludes with considerable cloudiness and periods of ice changing to rain. There is a moderate risk of heavy snow for the Cascades and Sierra Nevada Mountains during

this period. **West Coast:** The West Coast is set to enjoy mild and stable weather throughout the week. The period offers times of clouds and sun, with temperatures around 68°F (20°C). The week brings sun through high clouds, with temperatures reaching the low 70s°F (around 22°C). The pleasant conditions continue into the week, with mostly sunny to partly sunny skies. Midweek sees an increase in low clouds, but these are expected to clear, leading to a brightening sky. The week concludes with sun through high clouds. This period provides a great opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities under favorable conditions. Please note that weather conditions can change, and it's advisable to check the latest forecasts from reliable sources such as the National Weather Service and AccuWeather for the most up-to-date information. National Weather Outlook:

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AGGREGATED NEWS FROM WSJ.COM

Trump and Putin Initiate Talks to End Ukraine Conflict

President Trump announced that he and Russian President Vladimir Putin have agreed to commence negotiations aimed at concluding the war in Ukraine. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth indicated a shift in U.S. policy, stating that returning Ukraine to its pre-2014 borders is unrealistic and ruling out NATO membership for Ukraine as part of any peace agreement.

Judge Lifts Freeze on Trump's Buyout Plan for Federal Workers

A federal judge has allowed the Trump administration to proceed with its buyout program, which offers federal employees pay and benefits through September if they voluntarily resign. The decision rejects labor unions' attempts to pause the initiative, which aims to reduce the federal workforce. As of Tuesday, approximately 65,000 federal workers had opted to resign.

Inflation Accelerates in January, Complicating Federal Reserve's Plans

Consumer prices increased by 0.5% in January, marking the largest monthly rise since August 2023 and pushing the annual inflation rate to 3%. The surge was driven by higher costs for used cars, auto insurance, and eggs, the latter affected by a bird flu outbreak. This trend challenges the Federal

Reserve's potential for rate cuts and suggests a need to maintain or increase rates to manage inflation.

DOJ Dismisses Case Against New York City Mayor Eric Adams

The Department of Justice has ordered the dismissal of charges against Mayor Eric Adams, citing concerns that the prosecution interfered with his ability to focus on President Trump's priorities, such as combating illegal immigration and violent crime.

House Republicans Propose \$4.5 Trillion in Tax Cuts

House Republicans have unveiled a plan proposing \$4.5 trillion in tax cuts, aiming to reduce federal spending by at least \$1.5 trillion over the next decade. The blueprint also allocates \$300 billion for immigration enforcement and the military and raises the federal debt limit by \$4 trillion. The proposal sets lower tax and spending cut targets than some conservative members desired and has elicited mixed reactions within the party.

China's Xi Is Building Economic Fortress Against U.S. Pressure

Chinese President Xi Jinping is implementing strategies to fortify China's economy against external pressures, particularly from the United States. Measures include boosting domestic consumption, investing in technology sectors, and reducing reliance on foreign imports.

Israel's Netanyahu Warns Hamas Must Free Hostages by Saturday

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has issued an ultimatum to Hamas, demanding the release of hostages by Saturday. Failure to comply may result in intensified military actions in the Gaza Strip. The situation has escalated tensions in the region, with international observers calling for restraint and dialogue.

Mewing, Beta Maxing, Gigachad, Baddie: Parents Are Drowning in New Lingo

Parents are finding it challenging to keep up with rapidly evolving slang terms used by younger generations. Expressions like "mewing," "beta maxing," "gigachad," and "baddie" have entered the vernacular, reflecting cultural shifts and the influence of social media. Understanding this new lingo is becoming increasingly important for effective communication across age groups.

How Good Is Scrabble's GOAT? He Wins in Languages He Can't Speak.

Scrabble champion Nigel Richards has achieved remarkable success by winning tournaments in languages he does not speak. His method involves memorizing word lists and understanding game strategies, allowing him to excel in French and German competitions despite language barriers. Richards' accomplishments highlight the cognitive skills involved in competitive Scrabble.

Trump Imposes 25% Global Tariffs on Steel and Aluminum Imports

President Trump has announced a 25% tariff on steel and aluminum imports worldwide, aiming to bolster domestic industries. The decision has prompted concerns about potential trade wars and increased costs for manufacturers relying on imported materials. Allies and trading partners are considering retaliatory measures in response to the tariffs.

President Trump: 'I'm Committed to Buying and Owning Gaza'

In a recent statement, President Trump expressed his commitment to acquiring and administering the Gaza Strip. The proposal includes plans for economic development and infrastructure improvements in the region. The announcement has generated significant international debate regarding its feasibility and implications for Middle East peace efforts.

Trump on Gaza Plans: 'We Are Going to Take It'

Elaborating on his Gaza initiative, President Trump stated that the U.S. intends to take control of the territory to implement proposed development projects. The plan has been met with mixed reactions, with some viewing it as a bold move toward regional stability, while others criticize it as overreach.

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YOUR NEWS BRIEFING CONTINUED From Page 1

assembly featuring a dragon parade, dances, songs, and a skit. They presented the 12 zodiac symbols, noting that 2025 is the Year of the Snake, and paraded a papier-mâché dragon through the halls. This year, students contributed by making the fabric tail and adding fringe.

SLS Model UN



The St. Luke's School Model UN team attended the Ivy League Model UN Conference at the University of Pennsylvania with 30 members. Students participated in committees, crisis scenarios, and policy discussions on global issues. The conference emphasized analysis, advocacy, and collaboration skills. Photo credit: St. Luke's School Instagram.

Wear Orange Day



Tuesday, February 11th was recognized as Wear Orange Day for Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. School resource officers and the Domestic Violence Crisis Center informed New Canaan High School students about healthy relationships, domestic violence statistics, and local resources. The initiative highlighted that domestic violence can impact individuals of all ages. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

Billings Receives Alumni Award



Justice Lucy Adams Billings, a 1963 graduate of New Canaan Country School, was recently awarded the Alumni Award for her career in law and public service. She spoke with students about her education, legal work, and the role of law in justice. Billings earned her degrees from Smith College and the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. Photo credit: New Canaan Country School.

WAVENY CONTINUED From Page 1

outcomes and registered nurse staffing levels from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Waveny Care Center was awarded Leading Age Connecticut's Spirit of Innovation Award for integrating Telemedicine into community settings and the Care Center's Short-Term Rehabilitation Unit, enhancing patient oversight, physician and family connectivity and care.

Waveny's Kathleen M. Fruin RN Certified Nursing Aide School (CNA) has received both the prestigious Social Accountability Award from Leading Age Connecticut, and the Best Practices Award for Staff Recruitment and Retention from the Connecticut Assisted Living Association (CALA). The Fruin CNA School was established to counteract the nationwide nursing shortage by recruiting, training and employing candidates to become professional, compassionate caregivers who promote the well-being and peace of mind of patients, residents and their families.



Architect's rendering of proposed Waveny Pavillion with view Ariel view of Waveny's proposed expansion project.

SLS Students Visit Art Exhibit



Recently, St. Luke's School Class of 2032 visited the Katonah Museum of Art to view "Lost Time", an exhibition by Jonathan Becker P'28. Students examined the portraits and created collaged self-portraits in the museum's art studio. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

SPORTS

Boys Varsity Hockey

New Canaan and Darien boys ice hockey teams played to a 1-1 tie on February 10th at the Darien Ice House. Darien's Alexander Rentz scored in the first period, while New Canaan's Drew Harmon tied the game in the second.

LOCAL POLITICS

New Canaan Students Lead Discussion



On February 10th, Will Wunderlich of New Canaan High School and Spencer Weil of St. Luke's School led a Vote New Canaan discussion with local legislators at the New Canaan Library. The event covered topics including energy, the environment, housing, education, childcare, and economic development. Legislators in attendance included Representatives Tom O'Dea, Savet Constantine, and Lucy Dathan, along with Senators Cece Maher and Ryan Fazio. Photo credit: New Canaan Library.

OUR NEIGHBORS

Wegmans Opening in CT

Wegmans will open its first Connecticut location in Norwalk on July 23rd at 675 Connecticut Avenue. The 92,000-square-foot store, originally expected to open between April and June, is hiring about 500 employees through ongoing recruitment efforts. It will feature a two-story parking deck, self-checkout and full-service registers, Tesla charging stations, and solar canopies.

Norwalk Route 7 Project

The Connecticut Department of Transportation's Route 7 and Merritt Parkway interchange project in Norwalk is now set to begin construction in 2027. The plan includes new bridges, improved roadways, upgraded ramps, and pedestrian and bicycle access along Main Avenue. DOT expects to complete the final design in 2026 and will hold a public meeting in the spring to provide updates.

Baby Giant Anteater



A baby giant anteater was born at Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo. Photo credit: CT Beardsley Zoo.

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

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NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
97 South Avenue E	\$549,900	776	\$708.63		1	1
31 Marvin Ridge Road	\$1,999,000	3,292	\$607.22	1.14	5	3
400 White Oak Shade Road	\$2,395,000	5,018	\$477.28	1.40	4	4
71 Welles Lane	\$3,895,000	9,395	\$414.58	2.05	6	7

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
168 Lost District Drive	\$2,195,000	\$2,195,000	\$2,100,000	49	5	4	4.03
80 Cross Ridge Road	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$2,900,000	34	2	2	4.23

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
24 Orchard Lane	\$1,899,000	SAT	1:00PM-4:00PM	William Raveis
107 Weed Street	\$3,849,000	SAT & SUN	1:00PM-3:00PM	Higgins Group
97 South Avenue E	\$549,900	SUN	12:00PM-2:00PM	Bridge Realty
26 Pequot Lane	\$5,890,000	SUN	1:00PM-3:00PM	Coldwell Banker

Did the Mavericks Just Pull a Pocket Listing on Luka? The Real Estate Lessons of the NBA's Most Shocking Trade



BY JOHN ENGEL

Last week the Dallas Mavericks traded their 25-year-old star, Luka Dončić, one of the two best players in basketball, to the Los Angeles Lakers for “not much” compared to previous blockbuster NBA trades. Instead of calling multiple teams and asking for their best offer, they called one team, the Lakers. Fox Sports called it the #1 most surprising trade in history. Not since Jack & the Beanstalk traded the family cow for a handful of beans has the Internet reacted so negatively to a trade.

How is a lopsided trade in sports like an off-market transaction in real estate? How does a return to the “pocket listing” practices of the 1940’s benefit buyers or sellers? It doesn’t. Private listings benefit only the agent whispering privately to both. Off-market, or private “pocket” listings are about controlling the flow of information, limiting exposure to the broader market and results in a suboptimal outcome. Direct deals can never take the place of a public auction, a level-playing field, where transparency of information, and equal opportunity to compete, give both buyers and sellers confidence in the outcome and lead to a better result for both parties. And yet private deals in real estate and now basketball are happening for reasons you might not expect.

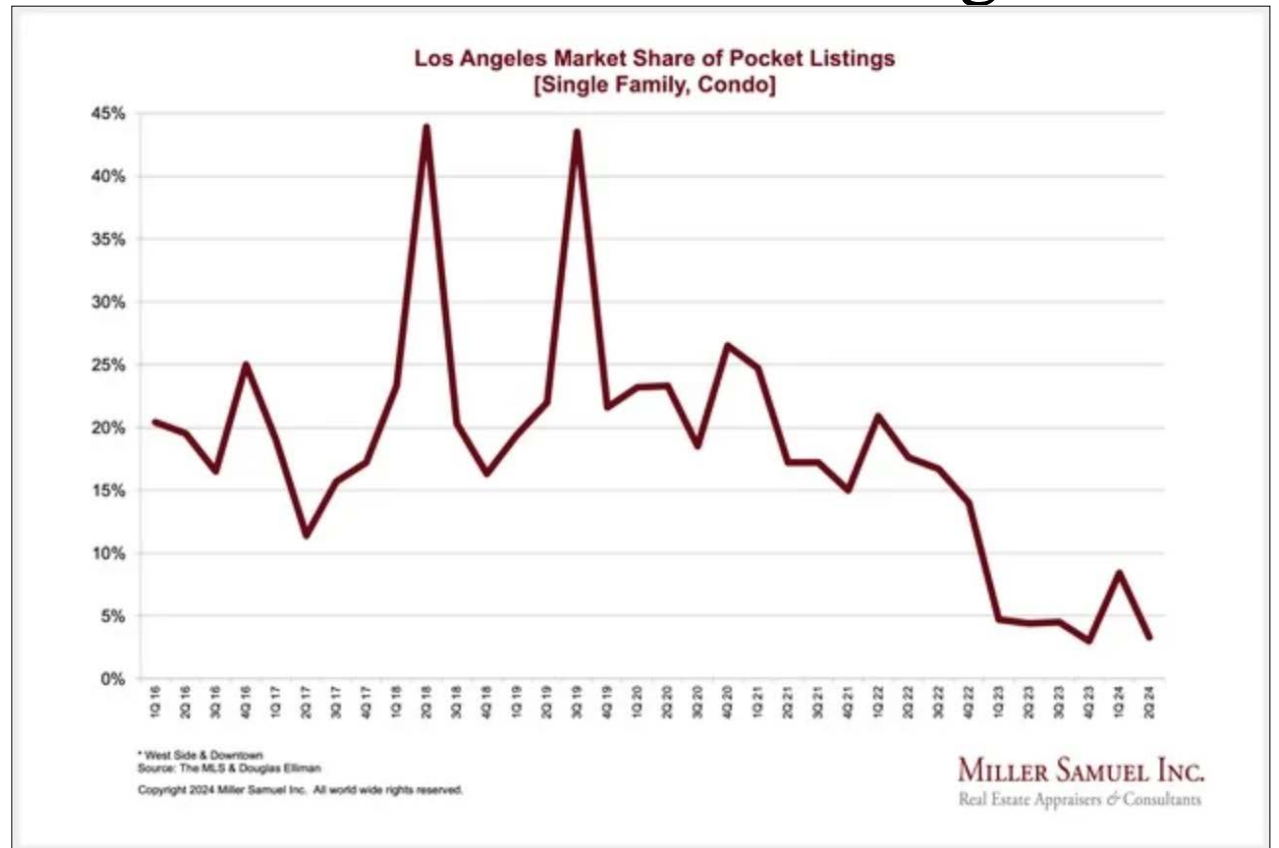
We’ll start with basketball. The theory in the sports world is that the new owner of the Mavericks has an ulterior motive. Miriam Adelson, widow of casino magnate Sheldon Adelson, is more motivated by the desire to build a new casino-sportsplex than she is to win a championship. Since she can’t get approvals in Dallas she wants to move the team to Las Vegas and alienating the Dallas fan base is a natural first step.

The theory in the real estate

community for the re-emergence of private networks is this is the unintended consequence of the lawsuits. Clear Cooperation is the National Association of Realtors rule that a real estate agent must make every listing available to the public within 24-hours of signing. Brokerage stock prices are down industry wide. Agencies need to increase their margins to survive. Compass, the largest brokerage in the U.S. by volume, lost \$83 million in the third quarter but no agency did particularly well. Compass is by far the biggest proponent of private networks, and some say the only way they survive is to double-end more transactions to improve their margins. That’s right, in a national real-estate market rocked by the lawsuits over inflating commissions, a market where the litigation wars are continuing to play out, Compass is banking on the fact that NAR’s Clear Cooperation policy will be dismantled and agents will be free to favor the interests of their own firm. Read what they say on their own website, www.compass-homeowners.com:

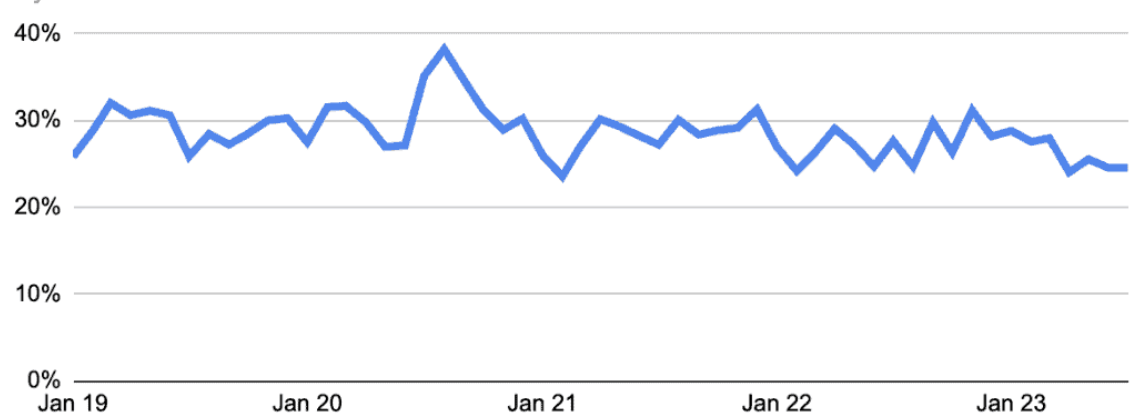
“The traditional way of selling your home has been part of a system that has put sellers at a disadvantage . . . by showing negative insights on their listings, such as days on market, price drops, and home value estimates.”

How crazy is that? A world in which buyers are not allowed to know such basic information as how long has the house been on the market? How long has it been listed at this price? It begs the questions, “Are you offering this house to me at the same price you’re offering it to others?” and more importantly, “Who do you really work for, if you represent both buyer and seller in a private network transaction?” We publish all relevant information on a public-facing website to give the buyer confidence in their bid, that they’ve been given a complete picture and are going into the process with eyes wide open. Anything less than complete transparency in the process inevitably leads to suspicion,



% of Manhattan Sales as Possible Pocket Listings

By month of sale



lawsuits, accusations of steering, and violations of the 1968 Fair Housing Act.

Compass argues you should “make your listing available to a nationwide network of 34,000 top agents”. But, doing so excludes 97% of the market when one considers there are 1.5 million members in the National Association of Realtors. Working such a limited pool is analogous to making just one phone call and selling your house to the Los Angeles Lakers before anyone else knows its available.



Bess Freedman, CEO of Brown Harris Stevens, one of the most respected names in the business, said it best earlier this week,

“Any brokerage that advocates for only marketing listings internally is not putting the client’s interests first, but rather it is an attempt to pad its own pockets . . . Real estate is a service and information business, and by capturing information and limiting exposure, private listings minimize competition for the client. The main tenet of everything we do as real estate professionals is to serve our clients’ best interest, especially before ours. This new Compass program is antithetical to all of that.”

A recent study by PropTrack found that homeowners who choose to sell their homes off-market achieve 4.3% less, on average, and as much as 10.3% less in some regional markets.

A recent study by the National Association of Realtors (NAR) concluded that agent-assisted sales achieved a 14.5% higher price than FSBO (for sale by owner) sales.

Bright MLS conducted comprehensive studies examining the differences between on-market and off-market sales. Their initial study, covering 2019 and 2020, found that homes listed on the MLS sold for a median price 16.98% higher than those sold off-MLS.

The more recent study by Bright MLS reinforced these findings, revealing that homes marketed on the MLS sold for approximately 13% more than off-market properties. In 2021 the difference increased to 14.8%, and further to 19.7% in the first quarter of 2022.

This is the week after Superbowl, the beginning of the 100-day Spring market, one that is beginning with fewer listings and is more lopsided than at any time in the last 20+ years. For the same reason homeowners are at a disadvantage negotiating with an unsolicited offer placed in their mailbox (“If you’re thinking of selling your home, please let me know”) so too the brokerage community should not pretend that a return to pocket listings and private networks promotes transparency, competition, and benefits anyone but themselves. An open market benefits sellers and buyers and is the foundation of fair housing principles.

John Engel, broker with the Engel Team at Douglas Elliman, needs a car and Leo Karl says I can lease a Blazer for under \$300. Even with tariffs, inflation, 7% mortgage and \$8 eggs, it seems there are a few good deals left in New Canaan. Housing? Not so much. But in Darien this week they’re offering a house for \$699,000.

Category	2023 Summary	2024 Forecast	Change 2023-2024	2025 Prediction	Change 2024-2025	2029 Prediction	Change 2024-2029
NAR Year-End Median Existing Home Sales Price (Ths)	\$390	\$405	3.9%	\$420	3.7%	\$475	17.3%
Redfin Year-End Median Existing Home Sales Price (Ths)	\$405	\$435	7.4%	\$451	3.7%	\$510	17.2%
Median Year-End New Home Sales Price (Ths)	\$418	\$430	2.9%	\$445	3.5%	\$500	16.3%
Existing Home Sales (Ths)	4,090	4,060	-0.7%	4,350	7.1%	4,750	17.0%
New Single-Family Home Sales (Ths)	666	700	5.1%	750	7.1%	825	17.9%
Year-End Home Median Rents	\$1,940	\$2,005	3.4%	\$2,075	3.5%	\$2,325	16.0%
Single-Family Home Median Rents	\$2,107	\$2,200	4.4%	\$2,285	3.9%	\$2,575	17.0%
Multi-Family Home Median Rents	\$1,709	\$1,750	2.4%	\$1,800	2.9%	\$2,000	14.3%
30-Year Fixed-Rate Mortgage Rate (Avg.)	6.81%	6.65%	-16 Basis Points	6.30%	-35 Basis Points	5.75%	-55 Basis Points

Source: NAR, Redfin, U.S. Census Bureau, Zillow, Yardi Matrix, FreddieMac



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

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Food

Classic Valentine Recipes to Savor

Valentine's Day is the perfect occasion to create a beautiful dining experience, complete with exquisite food, stunning presentation, and thoughtful details. Whether you're planning an intimate dinner for two or a cozy gathering with family, the right meal transforms an ordinary evening into an unforgettable celebration. This year, embrace the art of entertaining with a carefully curated menu that is as visually stunning as it is delicious.

Setting the Scene with Style

A truly elegant evening begins with the ambiance. Set the table with crisp linen napkins, polished silverware, and delicate china. Incorporate seasonal elements—perhaps fresh roses, scattered petals, or dainty votive candles in soft hues. Layering textures, such as a velvet runner or a touch of gold flatware, adds refinement. A small handwritten place card adds an inviting touch, letting your guest know this meal was prepared with love.

Appetizer: Strawberry & Goat Cheese Crostini (Gluten-Free Option Included)

These crisp, golden crostini feature a perfect balance of sweet and savory flavors, creating an effortlessly elegant starter.

Ingredients:

- 1 French baguette or gluten-free bread, sliced into ½-inch pieces
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 ounces fresh goat cheese, softened
- 1 cup ripe strawberries, hulled and thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon high-quality honey
- 1 teaspoon aged balsamic glaze
- Fresh basil leaves, chiffonade
- Flaky sea salt and freshly cracked black pepper

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Arrange baguette slices on a baking sheet and brush each with olive oil. Bake for 8-10 minutes until golden and crisp. Spread a generous layer of goat cheese onto each crostini. Top with fresh strawberry slices. Drizzle lightly with honey and balsamic glaze, then sprinkle with flaky salt and black pepper. Garnish with fresh basil and serve immediately, beautifully



arranged on a vintage platter.

Main Course: Pan-Seared Filet Mignon with Red Wine Reduction

A perfectly cooked filet mignon is a classic choice for a romantic dinner. The deep, velvety red wine sauce elevates this dish to gourmet status.

Ingredients:

- 2 (6-ounce) filet mignon steaks
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, smashed
- 1 sprig fresh rosemary or thyme
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the Red Wine Reduction:

- ½ cup full-bodied red wine (Cabernet or Merlot)
- ½ cup rich beef broth
- 1 tablespoon aged balsamic vinegar
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter

Instructions:

Remove steaks from the refrigerator 30 minutes before cooking. Pat dry and season generously with sea salt and black pepper. Heat a cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat. Add olive oil and 1 tablespoon butter. Sear steaks for 3-4 minutes on each side until a golden crust forms. Add garlic and rosemary, then baste with the remaining butter for 1-2 minutes. Transfer steaks to a warm plate and tent with foil to rest while preparing the sauce. In the same skillet, pour in red wine and scrape up

any browned bits. Add beef broth, balsamic vinegar, and Dijon mustard. Simmer for 5-7 minutes until reduced by half.

Whisk in butter for a luxurious finish. Drizzle over the steaks and serve with an elegant garnish of fresh thyme.

Side Dish: Garlic Parmesan Roasted Asparagus (Gluten-Free)

Tender, crisp asparagus roasted with garlic and Parmesan adds a vibrant and sophisticated touch to the meal.

Ingredients:

- 1 bunch fresh asparagus, trimmed
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, finely minced
- ¼ cup finely grated Parmesan cheese
- Sea salt and cracked black pepper

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Toss asparagus with olive oil, garlic, sea salt, and black pepper. Arrange in a single layer. Roast for 12-15 minutes until tender yet slightly crisp. Sprinkle with Parmesan and serve on a beautiful serving dish.

Dessert: Decadent Chocolate Lava Cake (Gluten-Free Option Included)

This indulgent dessert with a molten chocolate center is the perfect way to end a romantic evening.

Ingredients:

- 4 ounces high-quality bittersweet chocolate, finely

chopped

- ½ cup unsalted butter
- 2 large eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- ¼ cup superfine sugar
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour or gluten-free all-purpose flour
- Butter and cocoa powder for greasing ramekins

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 425°F. Butter four ramekins and dust with cocoa powder. Melt chocolate and butter over a double boiler (or microwave in 15-second increments). In a separate bowl, whisk eggs, yolks, and sugar until thick and pale. Gently fold in the melted chocolate, then sift in flour and stir until combined. Divide batter among ramekins and place on a baking sheet. Bake for 10-12 minutes until edges are set but centers remain soft. Let cool for 1 minute before inverting onto dessert plates. Serve with a dusting of powdered sugar, fresh raspberries, and a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Final Touch: A Toast to Love

Enhance the evening with a Raspberry Champagne Cocktail, a delicate and celebratory pairing.

Ingredients:

- 1 bottle chilled Champagne or sparkling wine
- ¼ cup raspberry liqueur (such as Chambord)
- Fresh raspberries for garnish

Instructions:

Pour 1 tablespoon raspberry

Valentine's Day is about creating beautiful moments through thoughtful details.



liqueur into each Champagne flute.

Top with chilled Champagne and drop in a fresh raspberry.

Serve immediately in elegant glassware and toast to a night filled with love.

Bringing it All Together

Valentine's Day is about creating beautiful moments through thoughtful details. Whether preparing an elegant meal or a quick feast from pantry staples, love shines through in every bite.



Calling all sophisticates, literary enthusiasts, and our very clever Sentinel readers!

Enter to Win Cash Prizes in our Cross-Over Contest!

Sentinel Literary Competition

FEBRUARY Challenge: Literary Love or The Bard

February is the month of love—but not all love stories are the same. This month, we challenge you to put your literary wit to the test with two bite-sized contests inspired by classic literature. Join in our cross-over contest for both New Canaan & Greenwich.

For ages 15 & Under: "Love Letters from Storybook Characters"

The winner receives \$25 and publication in the Sentinel!

Prompt: Ever wonder what Cinderella's glass slipper might write to her foot? Or what the Big Bad Wolf's love note to Little Red Riding Hood would say? In 50 words or fewer, write a Valentine's message from one famous storybook character to another—whether romantic, funny, or just plain weird!

EXAMPLES:

Dear Humpty Dumpty,
You may have had a great fall,
But to me, you're the greatest of all!
Cracked or whole, you're still my friend—
Little Miss Muffet

Dear Puss in Boots,

I like your hat. I like your boots. I like the way you trick people with big words. If I had nine lives, I'd spend them all going on adventures with you. Your fan, Jack (from the Beanstalk)

For ages 16 & Up: "Shakespeare in Six or Twelve Words"

Winners receive \$100 and \$50 and publication!

Prompt: The Bard was a master of love, tragedy, and mischief—now it's your turn. Summarize any Shakespearean love story in just six or twelve words - your choice. Whether it's "Much Ado: Enemies, rumors, wedding, still single"; Hamlet: "Dad's ghost returns. Bad idea, everyone"; or Macbeth: "Witches whisper fate, Daggers gleam, guilt stains his hands— All is lost." Make it clever, poetic, or laugh-out-loud funny!

Deadline: Friday, February 28, 2025. Winners announced in the March 7, 2025 issue.

How to Enter: Craft your clever response to this month's prompt, then visit www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/sentinel-writing-competition to submit it. Multiple entries are welcome, and pseudonyms are accepted—giving you the freedom to be as inventive as you like.



Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

Submit your events at:
newcanaasentinel.com/submit-an-event/

TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, February 17

Town Hall Closed for President's Day Holiday

Tuesday, February 18

EMS Commission
6-7 p.m., NCEMS Headquarters

Wednesday, February 19

Housing Authority
5:30-6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room

Police Commission

6-7 p.m., Town Hall Board Room

Friday, February 21

Audit Committee
8:30-10 a.m., Location not posted at time of publication.

Friday, February 14

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION
8:30 - 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center
Sponsored by the New Canaan Sentinel for a weekly community coffee and conversation.

February 14

Health Talks with Shannon and Ellen
11 AM at the Lapham Center
Meet up with Shannon and Ellen from the Health Department for coffee, conversation and snacks. Free event. For more information and to register, call the Lapham Center at 203-594-3620.

Afternoon Tea

3 PM at Grace Farms
Join a traditional English Afternoon Tea service. Enjoy a pot of ethically- and sustainably-sourced tea, and a seasonal assortment of tasty English and Japanese-inspired bites created by Grace Farms Pastry Chef Leah Jones. Registration closes the Sunday before the event. Tickets are \$30/person and available at <https://tickets.gracefarms.org>.

Yoga

9:00 am - 10:00 am
Yoga & Soundbath Winter series at the Carriage Barn; This Gentle Yoga and Sound Bath series will engage both body and mind to help melt away the stresses of the week and start your weekend right! \$40 - \$210

February 15

Move with Grace Farms x lululemon | Yoga with Jane Krantz
10:30 AM at Grace Farms
Join instructor Jane Krantz for a fluid yoga class centered on moving through transitions with grace and finding stability in order to move with freedom, awareness, and expression. Starting with grounding breathwork, Jane will guide you through movement that will ignite a little bit of heat and a lot of joy, ending in a restful savasana. Tickets are \$18/members, \$22 for non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org>.

February 18

Winter Week | Animal Embassy
12 PM at Grace Farms

Animal Embassy returns to Grace Farms with plenty of animals in tow. Learn about the amazing way animals can adapt to their environment, and why it's important to protect them. Tickets are \$8/person and available at <https://tickets.gracefarms.org/events/84b4a9de-1eb8-91ac-fa82-872f85a3f54b>.

Lunch & Learn: Threads of Time- Unraveling my Journey as a Clothing Historian



12-1 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society

Bring your brown bag lunch, soup or snack and join a Lunch & Learn program. Charlotte will discuss her work at the Museum, several exhibitions she has curated, collections management and the restoration process, and what she has learned along the way. Tickets are free for members, \$10/non-members, and available at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/kytkp4a>.

Open Tech

2-4 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
If you need help with email, smartphones/tablets, social media, or accessing the digital library, stop by for one-on-one support from a tech librarian. All technology-related questions are welcome. Tech assistance is limited to 20 minutes per session and is provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Yale Science: Uncovering the Secrets of Life

7-8 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim and Dede Bartlett Auditorium
From maintaining to repairing your cells to keeping your organs running, proteins are essential players in the body. Join Yale student scientists, Delyar Khosroabadi and Halona Dantes, as they explore the secrets of proteins beyond just nutrition. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-yale-science-128809>.

February 19

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide
10 AM - 3 PM at the Lapham Center
IRS trained and certified AARP Tax Counselors will provide free, income tax preparation on Wednesdays, February 5th through April 9th. There will be a focus on adults aged 50+ with a low to moderate income. AARP membership is NOT required. You can choose to have an IRS-certified volunteer prepare your taxes for you or provide guidance, so you can prepare them yourself. This program is by appointment only. Information about scheduling appointments will be available in mid-January. For more information, please visit <https://taxaidegreaterstamford.org>.

Transitioning from Hospital to Subacute Care: Key Questions and Essential Information

12 PM at the Lapham Center
Join this lunch and learn. Know what to expect, what questions to ask and what

information to gather to ensure a smooth transition when being discharged from a hospital to a skilled nursing facility for rehab. Presented by Kathy Collins, LMSW.

Film Screening: Black Panther

5 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim and Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Superhero blockbuster film based on Marvel Comics' Black Panther, heir to the kingdom of Wakanda who must lead his people into a new future and confront a challenger from his country's past. Rated PG-13. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/filmscreening-blackpanther>.

February 20

Fairy House Workshop

12 PM at Grace Farms
Create a Fairy House with natural materials collected from the landscapes surrounding the River building. Our Director of Horticulture, Kimberly Kelly, will facilitate the crafting while discussing the importance of creating a structure that will become part of nature again. Tickets are free for members, \$8/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org>.

Lunch Meeting

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Entrepreneurial Women Collective lunch meeting: Supercharge Your Social Media; Hayvn; Connect with smart, supportive entrepreneurial women, learn new things, build relationships, and have fun. \$25 - \$50

Cooks & Books: Date Night

6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Kend Kitchen
At this month's Cooks & Books, celebrate the joy of eating and cooking to those close to us. Cozy warm comfort foods and decadent desserts will be the curated theme. Cookbooks are available behind the Welcome Desk for participants to check out. Enjoy experimenting the recipes all month long and choose one dish or dessert to bring to the potluck dinner in the Kend Kitchen. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/cooks-books-118766>.

SAVE THE DATE

February 21

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION
8:30 - 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center
Sponsored by the New Canaan Sentinel for a weekly community coffee and conversation.

Move with Grace Farms x lululemon | Yoga with Jane Krantz

10:30 AM at Grace Farms
Join instructor Jane Krantz for a fluid yoga class centered on moving through transitions with grace and finding stability in order to move with freedom, awareness, and expression. Starting with grounding breathwork, Jane will guide you through movement that will ignite a little bit of heat and a lot of joy, ending in a restful savasana. Tickets are \$20/non-members, \$16/members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org>.

Cookie Decorating

12 PM at Grace Farms
Bring your sweet tooth and decorate your own with winter-inspired cookies alongside Pastry Chef and Educator Leah Jones. Tickets are free for members, \$8/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org>.

Polar Bear Picnic

5:30 PM at Grace Farms
Families are invited to gather for a cozy meal in the Commons prepared by our culinary team. After enjoying your meal, take part in winter-inspired crafts and games. Tickets are \$22/adults, \$16/children, and available at <https://tickets.gracefarms.org>.

Opening Night- Terra Nova

7:30 PM at the Town Players of New Canaan
In the winter of 1911-12, five Englishmen and five Norwegians raced each other to the bottom of the Earth. Only the Norwegians returned. Terra Nova is the story of Captain Scott's expedition to the South Pole. Tickets are \$35/adults, \$30/seniors, and available at <https://tpnc.org>.

February 22

Music at Grace Farms | Andromeda Turre
4 PM at Grace Farms
Join for a performance from Andromeda Turre, an award-winning jazz performer, composer, and educator committed to using her art for positive change. Tickets are \$20/adult and available at <https://tickets.gracefarms.org>.

Terra Nova- Day Two

7:30 PM at the Town Players of New Canaan
In the winter of 1911-12, five Englishmen and five Norwegians raced each other to the bottom of the Earth. Only the Norwegians returned. Terra Nova is the story of Captain Scott's expedition to the South Pole. Tickets are \$35/adults, \$30/seniors, and available at <https://tpnc.org>.

February 23

Deep Sleep Meditation / Yoga Nidra
11 AM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Listen to the tranquil visual and guided imagery as you gently relax and restore. One hour equals 3-4 hours of deep sleep and you will feel genuinely refreshed and reinvigorated after the session. There will be no yoga poses. Registration is \$40/person and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/deep-sleep-meditation-yoga-nidra/>.

Last Saturdays on the Trail Winter Hiking Challenge

11 AM at Grapes House, 1124 Valley Road
Join the New Canaan Land Trust's Winter Hiking Challenge. During the month of February, visit all eight of their preserves open to the public that are almost 6 miles of trails. Then, celebrate your local hiking achievement on February 23rd. For more information and to register visit <https://newcanaanlandtrust.org/events/last-saturdays-on-the-trail-winter-hiking-challenge/>.

Terra Nova- Day Three

2 PM at the Town Players of New Canaan
In the winter of 1911-12, five Englishmen and five Norwegians raced each other to the bottom of the Earth. Only the Norwegians returned. Terra Nova is the story of Captain Scott's expedition to the South Pole. Tickets are \$35/adults, \$30/seniors, and available at <https://tpnc.org>.

February 24

VITA Free Tax Preparation
11 AM- 6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Get your 2024 taxes filed for free at New Canaan Library through SimplifyCT. SimplifyCT uses VITA, a secure, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) certified program that's been developed to connect individuals to volunteer IRS certified tax preparers who can give you advice and file your taxes. Drop-ins are welcome. Register at <https://shorturl.at/KDebZ>.

Chair Yoga

11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
With the support of a chair, this gentle Chair Yoga class will help you improve postural alignment, maintain pelvic mobility, reduce muscle tension and gain strength through flowing movements and focused breathing. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-chair-yoga-117451>.

February 25

iPhone Photography Editing with Jane Beiles
12 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Lunch & Learn: An interactive iPhone editing workshop with Jane Beiles, acclaimed photographer for publications including The New York Times, Architectural Digest and House Beautiful. The class is designed for any, and all, levels of photographers seeking to elevate their game. Tickets are \$65/members and \$75/non-members. For more information and to register, visit <https://carriagebarn.org>.

Polar Experts Talk: Robert Falcon Scott's Last Expedition

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Learn about Robert Falcon Scott's last expedition of 1910-1913, which ended in tragedy and inspired Ted Tally's 1981. The lecture will bring you up to date on the big questions of historical Antarctic exploration. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-terra-nova-130273>.

February 26

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide
10 AM - 3 PM at the Lapham Center
IRS trained and certified AARP Tax Counselors will provide free, income tax preparation on Wednesdays, February 5th through April 9th. There will be a focus on adults aged 50+ with a low to moderate income. AARP membership is NOT required. You can choose to have an IRS-certified volunteer prepare your taxes for you or provide guidance, so you can prepare them yourself. This program is by appointment only. Information about scheduling appointments will be available in mid-January. For more information, please visit <https://taxaidegreaterstamford.org>.

Journey Into the World of Tea | White and Green Teas of China and Japan

3 PM at Grace Farms
Step into the Pavilion to explore and taste the differences between the white and green teas of China and Japan. Journey Into the World of Tea is a tranquil and in-depth exploration of tea offering guests a taste of different notable varietals from cultures around the world, examples of demonstrations, and more. Tickets are \$24/members, \$30/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org>.

Soul•Fête: A Culinary Immersion

6-9:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Stand Together Against Racism (S.T.A.R.) proudly invites you to honor Black Excellence

Book our world class limosines, car services, and airport transportation.

Reserve online at HoytLivery.com

Or call our client management team 24/7
(800) 342-0343

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

Month at the second edition of Soul•Fête, A Culinary Immersion. Join for an evening exploring the rich influence of Black cuisine on American food culture. Savor delicious dishes crafted by the talented Dr. Chef Alexandria, and dance the night away to the vibrant sounds of local band The Misfits. Tickets are \$162 and available at <https://www.star-ct.org/soulfete>.

Stamford Heath Presents: Preventing Cardiovascular Disease

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim and Dede Bartlett Auditorium
This presentation will cover various practical strategies to prevent cardiovascular disease. This will include a broad discussion of diet/nutrition, exercise, and medications that could be used. This will also include a discussion about what factors influence a patient's risk of cardiovascular disease. Dr. Mark Steuerwald is a cardiologist at Stamford Health. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/stamford-heath-presents-preventing-cardiovascular-disease-130865>.

February 27

Madness with Best-Selling Author Antonia Hylton

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Widely listed as one of the best books of 2024, Madness tells the 93-year-old history of Crownsville Hospital, one of the last segregated asylums with surviving records and a campus that still stands in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Award-winning journalist Antonia Hylton traces the legacy of slavery to the treatment of Black people's bodies and minds in our current mental healthcare system. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/antonia-hylton-madness-author-talk-87317>.

February 28

Fraud and Crime Prevention

1 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Protect yourself from scammers, information theft, and property crimes at home, online, and when you're out and about. Join for an informative and interactive presentation with members of the NCPD, who will share tips, tools, and details on free security assessments for your home or business. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-fraudcrime-prevention-ncpd-130624>.

Film Screening: Hidden Figures

3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Three female African-American mathematicians play a pivotal role in astronaut John Glenn's launch into orbit, even as they encounter racial and gender discrimination at work. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/film-screening-hidden-figures>.

Platon and The Defenders | Conversation and Book Signing

5 PM at Grace Farms
Join world-renowned portrait photographer Platon for an exploration of his newest book, The Defenders: Heroes of the Global Fight for Human Rights (2024). Tickets are \$12/adults and online at <https://tickets.gracefarms.org>.

Filmmaker and producer Jake Gorst presents the remastered 1959 classic "American Look"

6 PM at the New Canaan

Museum & Historical Society
This promotional film highlights the Chevrolet automobile line as a showcase of American industrial design and style. The film emphasizes the abundance of consumer goods and the role of design in offering people freedom of choice. Tickets are free for members, \$10/non-members, and available at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/3fsp8hm>.

Pages & Putts | Mini Golf at the Library- Day One

6-9 PM at the New Canaan Library
Bring your whole family to play Mini Golf and Support the Library! The 18-hole course will take you all around the library and there will be fun prizes for you to win. Apple Cart Food Co. will be selling hot dogs and other treats for golfers. Tickets are \$10 and available at <https://shorturl.at/WjzaE>.

Paint with Your Partner

6:30-8 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
A fun and engaging event for couples and friends. Work together or separately to create art inspired by the energy and movement of the ocean... no art experience required, all materials provided. Tickets are \$80 per couple and available at <https://carriagebarn.org>.

March 1

Pages & Putts | Mini Golf at the Library- Day Two

10 AM- 3 PM at the New Canaan Library
Bring your whole family to play Mini Golf and Support the Library! The 18-hole course will take you all around the library and there will be fun prizes for you to win. Apple Cart Food Co. will be selling hot dogs and other treats for golfers. Tickets are \$10 and available at <https://shorturl.at/WjzaE>.

Storytelling with The Moth

2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Learn storytelling from the best in this introductory workshop with The Moth. Since its launch in New York City in 1997, The Moth has presented thousands of stories told live and without notes, renowned for the great range of human experience they showcase. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/storytelling-moth-110688>.

March 2

The Joy of Deep Sleep Meditation / Yoga Nidra

10:30 AM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Listen to the tranquil visual and guided imagery as you gently relax and restore. One hour equals 3-4 hours of deep sleep and you will feel genuinely refreshed and reinvigorated after the session. Bring 2-3 blankets, a yoga mat, eye pillow and bolster for under the knees. Tickets are \$40/person. Register at <https://carriagebarn.org>.

Terra String Quartet and Oskar Espina Ruiz

4 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
The Terra String Quartet is a vibrant young international ensemble based in New York City. They are composed of graduates of The Juilliard School, The New England Conservatory, Harvard University, and the Curtis Institute of Music. Tickets are \$40/adults, \$30/children, and available at <https://www.treetopsms.org>.

March 3

VITA Free Tax Preparation

11 AM- 6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Get your 2024 taxes filed for free at New Canaan Library through SimplifyCT. SimplifyCT uses VITA, a secure, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) certified program that's been developed to connect individuals to volunteer IRS certified tax preparers who can give you advice and file your taxes. Drop-ins are welcome. Register at <https://shorturl.at/KDebZ>.

Chair Yoga

11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
With the support of a chair, this gentle Chair Yoga class will help you improve postural alignment, maintain pelvic mobility, reduce muscle tension and gain strength through flowing movements and focused breathing. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-chair-yoga-117451>.

March 5

Building for Nature in Your Backyard with Diego Alcantara and Claudio Altesor

9:30-11 AM at the New Canaan Nature Center
Cofounders of the landscaping group Back to Nature have combined their lifetime interests in organic gardening and environmental preservation with their skills in construction and design to bring wonderful solutions to backyard projects. They will discuss the importance of permaculture design and how their projects integrate natural gardening practices to create beautiful and bountiful landscapes for their clients. Registration not required.

Women In The Arts Lecture Series: Female Still Life Painters

6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Join Page Knox for a discussion of the fascinating female flower painters and their extraordinary still lives, as they used the genre to create exquisite works of art and to establish themselves in eras ranging from Renaissance Italy and the Dutch Golden Age to the time of the French Royal Academy and today's contemporary art world. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-navy-event-122464>.

March 6

Winter Recipe Family Potluck

8:30- 11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Arlene H. Grushkin Children's Program Room
Join for a cozy Winter Recipe Family Potluck. Share your favorite winter dishes and indulge in the flavors of the season. Each family is invited to bring a beloved winter recipe that has become a tradition in your home. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/winter-recipe-family-potluck-122404>.

March 15

Syrup Saturday

8:30- 11:30 AM at the New Canaan Nature Center
Bring the whole family and join the NCNC for their annual syrup season celebration. There will be pancakes & PJ's party, complete with tons of fun syrup-related activities. Tickets are \$15/person and registration will be open soon at <https://newcanaanature.org/syrup-saturday/>.

Gardening Workshop | Soil & Compost

11 AM at Grace Farms
Deepen your knowledge of soils and composts with Director of Horticulture Kimberly Kelly. Discover how to create and feed soil, a crucial element of a resilient ecosystem, and learn about how to make and properly use compost. Tickets are \$16/members, \$20/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org>.

Jazz & Wine Night with Michael-Louis Smith & Brooklyn Circle

7 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
An evening of wine and music featuring original jazz/world groove. Featuring Saxophonist Stacy Dillard, Bassist Diallo House, Guitarist Michael-Louis Smith, and Drummer Ismail Lawal. Tickets are \$35 through March 13th. After, tickets are \$40. Register at <https://carriagebarn.org/>.

March 20

The Link from Mozart to Film- Day One

3 PM at the First Presbyterian Church
New Canaan Chamber Music concert featuring Stella Chen, Geneva Lewis, Matthew Lipman, Ani Aznavoorian, and Andrew Armstrong. Ticket prices start at \$50 and are available at <https://newcanaan-chambermusic.org/tickets/>.

March 21

The Link from Mozart to Film- Day Two

7:30 PM at the First Presbyterian Church
New Canaan Chamber Music concert featuring Stella Chen, Geneva Lewis, Matthew Lipman, Ani Aznavoorian, and Andrew Armstrong. Ticket prices start at \$50 and are available at <https://newcanaan-chambermusic.org/tickets/>.

March 22

NC Color Drop

10 AM at Waveny Park
A helicopter will release 2,000 golf balls over a target at Waveny Park. Each ball will be numbered individually and the participants whose golf ball(s) land closest to the target will win one of the grand prizes below. All proceeds will be donated to need-based college scholarships for NCHS graduates. Spectators are welcome. Golf balls are \$100/each and available online at <https://www.nchs-sf.org/colordrop>.

BLOOD DRIVES

Friday, February 14

First Presbyterian Church
1 West Putnam Ave
Greenwich, CT 06830
11:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Saturday, February 15

Union Baptist Church
805 Newfield Avenue
Stamford, CT 06905
8:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Tuesday, February 18

VFW
465 Riverside Avenue
Westport, CT 06880
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Wednesday, February 19

American Legion
60 County Road
Norwalk, CT 06851
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Corcoran Centric Realty
103 Mason St
Greenwich, CT 06830
8:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Thursday, February 20

St. Matthew's Church
382 Cantitoe St.
Bedford, NY 10506
10:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Friday, February 21

Italian Center
1620 Newfield Avenue
Stamford, CT 06905
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Support Services & Meetings

February 19

Transitioning from Hospital to Subacute Care: Key Questions and Essential Information

12 PM at the Lapham Center
Know what to expect, what questions to ask and what information to gather to ensure a smooth transition when being discharged from a hospital to a skilled nursing facility for rehab. This free lunch and learn will be presented by Kathy Collins, LMSW.

Every Friday

AA Speaker Meeting
Wheelchair Access
Fridays at 7:30 AM
Congregational Church of New Canaan

Every Saturday

AA Meeting-Sober Citizens Group
Saturdays at 9:15 AM
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

AA Meeting-Laundry and Dry Cleaning Group

Saturdays at 10:30 AM
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

Lost Then Found NA Meeting

Wheelchair Accessible
Saturdays at 7 PM
United Methodist Church (back entrance)

Every Monday

AA Meeting
Wheelchair Access
Mondays at 7:30 AM
Congregational Church of New Canaan

Adult Child AI-Anon

Mondays at 12 PM
St. Mark's Church, Youth Room

Every Tuesday

Adult Child Alanon Meeting
Tuesdays at 12 PM
St. Mark's Parish House, Conf. Room

Every Wednesday

AA Step Meeting
Wheelchair Access
Wednesdays at 7:30 AM
Congregational Church of

New Canaan

AI-Anon Parent's & Newcomer's Mtg.
Wednesdays at 7:30 PM
Silver Hill, Jorgenson House
208 Valley Rd., New Canaan

Every Thursday

AA Big Book Meeting.
Wheelchair Access
Thursdays at 7:30 AM
Congregational Church of New Canaan

New Canaan Parent Support Group

7- 8:30 PM
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
New Canaan

Our Neighbors

February 16

Connecticut Ballet's Be My Valentine

9 AM at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation
20 Forest Street, Stamford
Artistic Director Brett Raphael curates this showcase of duets and company works performed by the company's awe-inspiring soloists. Dress in your favorite red! Tickets are \$20.25 and available at <https://www.connecticutballet.org/bemyvalentine2024>.

February 23

Greenwich Town Ice Skating Competition

9 AM at the Dorothy Hamill Rink, Greenwich
This year's competition promises to be bigger and better, with events tailored for skaters of all levels. Categories include Snowplow Sam, Aspire, Well-Balanced, Excel, and many more, providing opportunities for participants to shine and compete for medals and special honors. Register at <https://comp.entryeeze.com/Home.aspx?cid=535>.

February 27

Pollinator Potluck: Green Energy - A Win For Birds!

6 PM at the Greenwich Audubon Center
613 Riversville Rd, Greenwich
Join for a special evening as we host Mike Richter, President, Brightcore Energy and Michael Levin of Columbia University, as they discuss the science and application of geothermal systems and solar facilities - their pros, cons and how thoughtful siting can produce positive effects for our planet. Register at <https://shorturl.at/vd9yn>.

PLAYING THIS WEEK AT

THE PLAYHOUSE

93 Elm Street
New Canaan

And Join Us in the Pub !

CINEMALAB.COM
for showtimes and tickets

THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER BY A.A. MILNE

CHAPTER VIII IN WHICH Piglet Does a Very Grand Thing

Half way between Pooh's house and Piglet's house was a Thoughtful Spot where they met sometimes when they had decided to go and see each other, and as it was warm and out of the wind they would sit down there for a little and wonder what they would do now that they had seen each other. One day when they had decided not to do anything, Pooh made up a verse about it, so that everybody should know what the place was for.

This warm and sunny Spot
Belongs to Pooh.
And here he wonders what
He's going to do.
Oh, bother, I forgot—
It's Piglet's too.

Now one autumn morning when the wind had blown all the leaves off the trees in the night, and was trying to blow the branches off, Pooh and Piglet were sitting in the Thoughtful Spot and wondering.

"What I think," said Pooh, "is I think we'll go to Pooh Corner and see Eeyore, because perhaps his house has been blown down, and perhaps he'd like us to build it again."

"What I think," said Piglet, "is I think we'll go and see Christopher Robin, only he won't be there, so we can't."

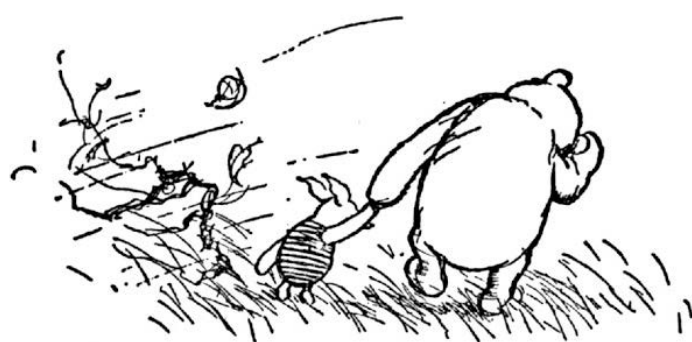
"Let's go and see everybody," said Pooh. "Because when you've been walking in the wind for miles, and you suddenly go into somebody's house, and he says, 'Hallo, Pooh, you're just in time for a little smackerel of something,' and you are, then it's what I call a Friendly Day."

Piglet thought that they ought to have a Reason for going to see everybody, like Looking for Small or Organizing an Expotition, if Pooh could think of something.

Pooh could.

"We'll go because it's Thursday," he said, "and we'll go to wish everybody a Very Happy Thursday. Come on, Piglet."

They got up; and when Piglet had sat down again, because he didn't know the wind was so strong, and had been helped up by Pooh, they started off. They went to Pooh's house first, and luckily Pooh was at home just as they got there, so he asked them in, and they had some, and then they went on to Kanga's house, holding on to each other, and shouting "Isn't it?" and "What?" and "I can't hear." By the time they got to Kanga's house they were so buffeted that they stayed to lunch. Just at first it seemed rather cold outside afterwards, so they pushed on to Rabbit's as quickly as they could.



"We've come to wish you a Very Happy Thursday," said Pooh, when he had gone in and out once or twice just to make sure that he could get out again.

"Why, what's going to happen on Thursday?" asked Rabbit, and when Pooh had explained, and Rabbit, whose life was made up of Important Things, said, "Oh, I thought you'd really come about something," they sat down for a little ... and by-and-by Pooh and Piglet went on again. The wind was behind them now, so they didn't have to shout.

"Rabbit's clever," said Pooh thoughtfully.

"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit's clever."

"And he has Brain."

"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit has Brain."

There was a long silence.

"I suppose," said Pooh, "that that's why he never understands anything."

Christopher Robin was at home by this time,

because it was the afternoon, and he was so glad to see them that they stayed there until very nearly tea-time, and then they had a Very Nearly tea, which is one you forget about afterwards, and hurried on to Pooh Corner, so as to see Eeyore before it was too late to have a Proper Tea with Owl.

"Hallo, Eeyore," they called out cheerfully.

"Ah!" said Eeyore. "Lost your way?"

"We just came to see you," said Piglet. "And to see how your house was. Look, Pooh, it's still standing!"

"I know," said Eeyore. "Very odd. Somebody ought to have come down and pushed it over."

"We wondered whether the wind would blow it down," said Pooh.

"Ah, that's why nobody's bothered, I suppose. I thought perhaps they'd forgotten."

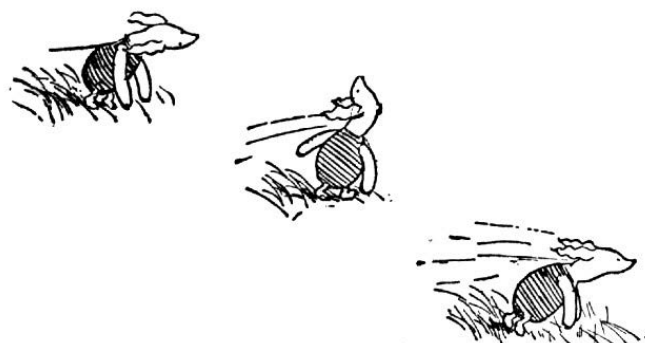
"Well, we're very glad to see you, Eeyore, and now we're going on to see Owl."

"That's right. You'll like Owl. He flew past a day or two ago and noticed me. He didn't actually say anything, mind you, but he knew it was me. Very friendly of him, I thought. Encouraging."

Pooh and Piglet shuffled about a little and said, "Well, good-bye, Eeyore" as lingeringly as they could, but they had a long way to go, and wanted to be getting on.

"Good-bye," said Eeyore. "Mind you don't get blown away, little Piglet. You'd be missed. People would say 'Where's little Piglet been blown to?'—really wanting to know. Well, good-bye. And thank you for happening to pass me."

"Good-bye," said Pooh and Piglet for the last time, and they pushed on to Owl's house.



The wind was against them now, and Piglet's ears streamed behind him like banners as he fought his way along, and it seemed hours before he got them into the shelter of the Hundred Acre Wood and they stood up straight again, to listen, a little nervously, to the roaring of the gale among the tree-tops.



"Supposing a tree fell down, Pooh, when we were underneath it?"

"Supposing it didn't," said Pooh after careful thought.

Piglet was comforted by this, and in a little while they were knocking and ringing very cheerfully at Owl's door.

"Hallo, Owl," said Pooh. "I hope we're not too late for—I mean, how are you, Owl?"

Piglet and I just came to see how you were, because it's Thursday."

"Sit down, Pooh, sit down, Piglet," said Owl kindly. "Make yourselves comfortable."

They thanked him, and made themselves as comfortable as they could.

"Because, you see, Owl," said Pooh, "we've been hurrying, so as to be in time for—so as to see you before we went away again."

Owl nodded solemnly.

"Correct me if I am wrong," he said, "but am I right in supposing that it is a very Blusterous day outside?"

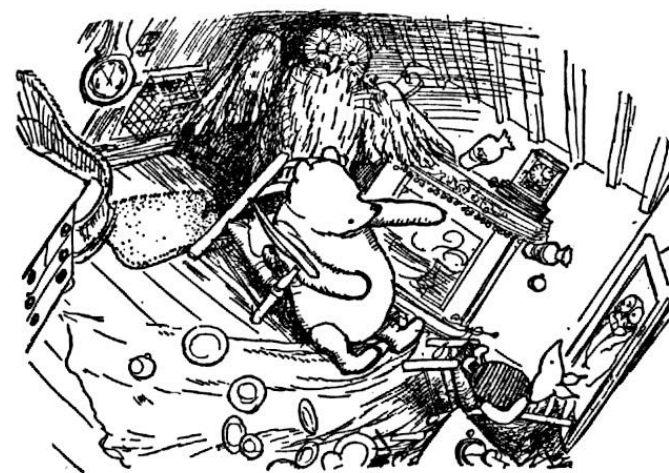
"Very," said Piglet, who was quietly thawing his ears, and wishing that he was safely back in his own house.

"I thought so," said Owl. "It was on just such a blusterous day as this that my Uncle Robert, a portrait of whom you see upon the wall on your right, Piglet, while returning in the late forenoon from a——What's that?"

There was a loud cracking noise.

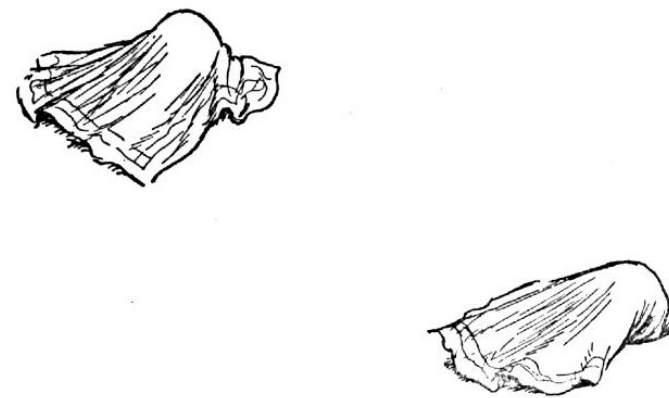
"Look out!" cried Pooh. "Mind the clock! Out of the way, Piglet! Piglet, I'm falling on you!"

"Help!" cried Piglet.

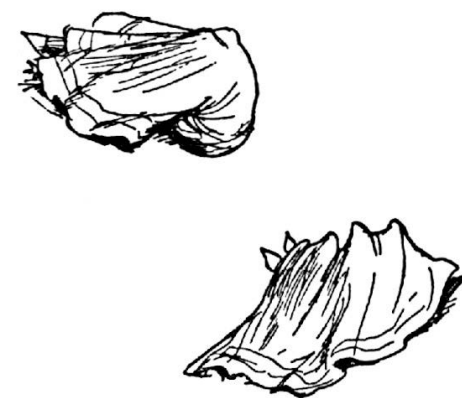


Pooh's side of the room was slowly tilting upwards and his chair began sliding down on Piglet's. The clock slithered gently along the mantelpiece, collecting vases on the way, until they all crashed together on to what had once been the floor, but was now trying to see what it looked like as a wall. Uncle Robert, who was going to be the new hearth-rug, and was bringing the rest of his wall with him as carpet, met Piglet's chair just as Piglet was expecting to leave it, and for a little while it became very difficult to remember which was really the north. Then there was another loud crack ... Owl's room collected itself feverishly ... and there was silence.

In a corner of the room, the tablecloth began to wriggle.



Then it wrapped itself into a ball and rolled across the room.



Then it jumped up and down once or twice, and put out two ears. It rolled across the room again, and unwound itself.



"Pooh," said Piglet nervously.

"Yes?" said one of the chairs.

"Where are we?"

"I'm not quite sure," said the chair.

"Are we—are we in Owl's House?"

"I think so, because we were just going to have tea, and we hadn't had it."

"Oh!" said Piglet. "Well, did Owl always have a letter-box in his ceiling?"

"Has he?"

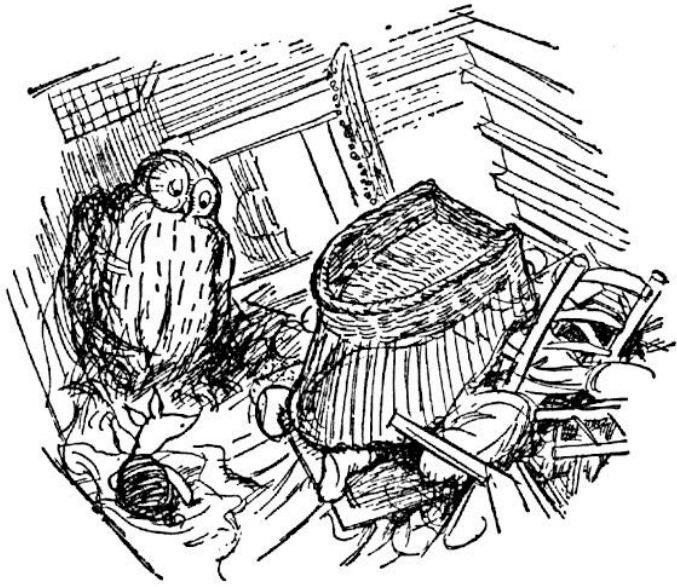
"Yes, look."

"I can't," said Pooh. "I'm face downwards under something, and that, Piglet, is a very bad position for looking at ceilings."

"Well, he has, Pooh."

"Perhaps he's changed it," said Pooh. "Just for a change."

There was a disturbance behind the table in the other corner of the room, and Owl was with them again.



"Ah, Piglet," said Owl, looking very much annoyed; "where's Pooh?"

"I'm not quite sure," said Pooh.

Owl turned at his voice, and frowned at as much of Pooh as he could see.

"Pooh," said Owl severely, "did you do that?"

"No," said Pooh humbly. "I don't think so."

"Then who did?"

"I think it was the wind," said Piglet. "I think your house has blown down."

"Oh, is that it? I thought it was Pooh."

"No," said Pooh.

"If it was the wind," said Owl, considering the matter, "then it wasn't Pooh's fault. No blame can be attached to him." With these kind words he flew up to look at his new ceiling.

"Piglet!" called Pooh in a loud whisper.

Piglet leant down to him.

"Yes, Pooh?"

"What did he say was attached to me?"

"He said he didn't blame you."

"Oh! I thought he meant—Oh, I see."

"Owl," said Piglet, "come down and help Pooh."

Owl, who was admiring his letter-box, flew down again. Together they pushed and pulled at the arm-chair, and in a little while Pooh came out from underneath, and was able to look round him again.

"Well!" said Owl. "This is a nice state of things!"

"What are we going to do, Pooh? Can you think of anything?" asked Piglet.

"Well, I had just thought of something," said Pooh. "It was just a little thing I thought of." And he began to sing:

I lay on my chest
And I thought it best
To pretend I was having an evening rest;
I lay on my tum
And I tried to hum
But nothing particular seemed to come.
My face was flat
On the floor, and that
Is all very well for an acrobat;
But it doesn't seem fair
To a Friendly Bear
To stiffen him out with a basket-chair.
And a sort of sqoze
Which grows and grows

Is not too nice for his poor old nose,
And a sort of squch
Is much too much
For his neck and his mouth and his ears
and such.

"That was all," said Pooh.

Owl coughed in an unadmiring sort of way, and said that, if Pooh was sure that was all, they could now give their minds to the Problem of Escape.

"Because," said Owl, "we can't go out by what used to be the front door. Something's fallen on it."

"But how else can you go out?" asked Piglet anxiously.

"That is the Problem, Piglet, to which I am asking Pooh to give his mind."

Pooh sat on the floor which had once been a wall, and gazed up at the ceiling which had once been another wall, with a front door in it which had once been a front door, and tried to give his mind to it.

"Could you fly up to the letter-box with Piglet on your back?" he asked.

"No," said Piglet quickly. "He couldn't."

Owl explained about the Necessary Dorsal Muscles. He had explained this to Pooh and Christopher Robin once before, and had been waiting ever since for a chance to do it again, because it is a thing which you can easily explain twice before anybody knows what you are talking about.

"Because you see, Owl, if we could get Piglet into the letter-box, he might squeeze through the place where the letters come, and climb down the tree and run for help."

Piglet said hurriedly that he had been getting bigger lately, and couldn't possibly, much as he would like to, and Owl said that he had had his letter-box made bigger lately in case he got bigger letters, so perhaps Piglet might, and Piglet said, "But you said the necessary you-know-whats wouldn't," and Owl said, "No, they won't, so it's no good thinking about it," and Piglet said "Then we'd better think of something else," and began to at once.

But Pooh's mind had gone back to the day when he had saved Piglet from the flood, and everybody had admired him so much; and as that didn't often happen he thought he would like it to happen again. And suddenly, just as it had come before, an idea came to him.

"Owl," said Pooh, "I have thought of something."

"Astute and Helpful Bear," said Owl.

Pooh looked proud at being called a stout and helpful bear, and said modestly that he just happened to think of it. You tied a piece of string to Piglet, and you flew up to the letter-box with the other end in your beak, and you pushed it through the wire and brought it down to the floor, and you and Pooh pulled hard at this end, and Piglet went slowly up at the other end. And there you were.

"And there Piglet is," said Owl. "If the string doesn't break."

"Supposing it does?" asked Piglet, wanting to know.

"Then we try another piece of string."

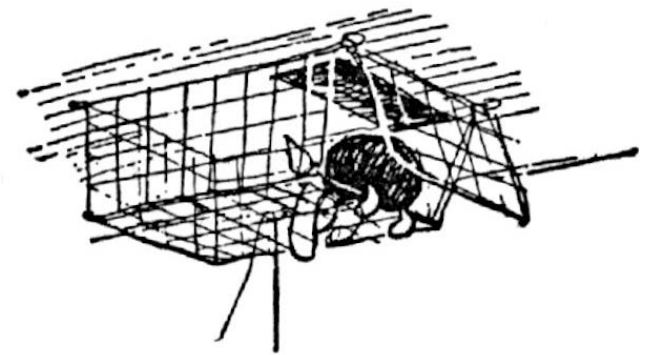
This was not very comforting to Piglet, because however many pieces of string they tried pulling up with, it would always be the same him coming down; but still, it did seem the only thing to do. So with one last look back in his mind at all the happy hours he had spent in the Forest not being pulled up to the ceiling by a piece of string, Piglet nodded bravely at Pooh and said that it was a Very Clever pup-pup-pup Clever pup-pup Plan.

"It won't break," whispered Pooh comfortingly, "because you're a Small Animal, and I'll stand underneath, and if you save us all, it will be a Very Grand Thing to talk about afterwards, and perhaps I'll make up a Song, and people will say 'It was so grand what Piglet did that a Respectful Pooh Song was made about it.'"

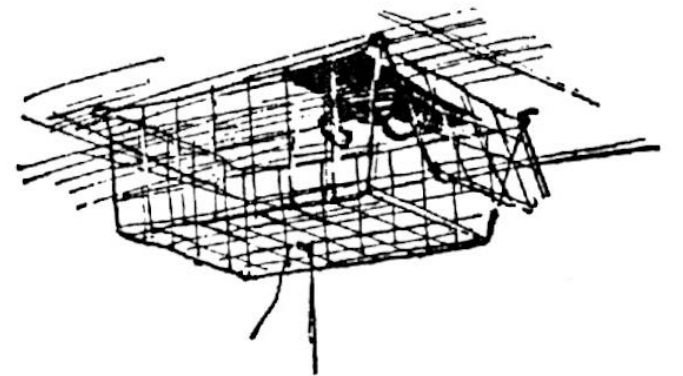


Piglet felt much better after this, and when everything was ready, and he found himself slowly going up to the ceiling, he was so proud that he would have called out "Look at me!" if he hadn't been afraid that Pooh and Owl would let go of their end of the string and look at him.

"Up we go!" said Pooh cheerfully.



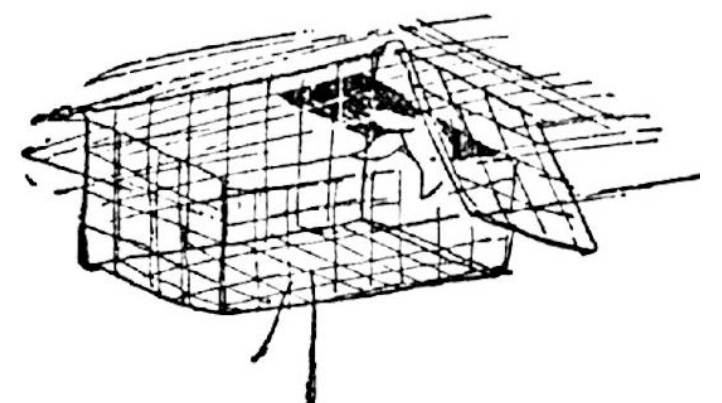
"The ascent is proceeding as expected," said Owl helpfully. Soon it was over. Piglet opened the letter-box and climbed in. Then, having untied himself, he began to squeeze into the slit, through which in the old days when front doors were front doors, many an unexpected letter that WOL had written to himself, had come slipping.



He squeezed and he squoze, and then with one last squoze he was out. Happy and excited he turned round to squeak a last message to the prisoners.



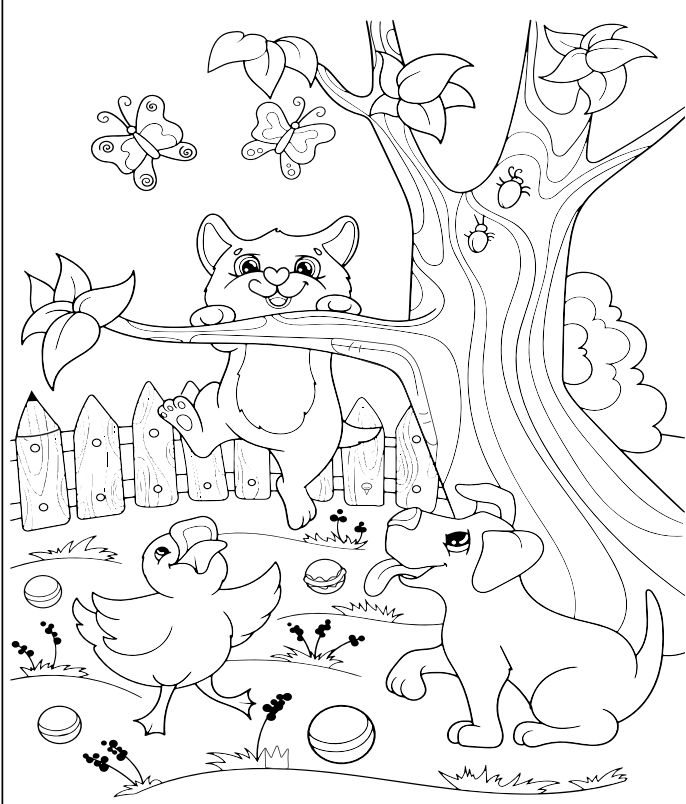
"It's all right," he called through the letter-box. "Your tree is blown right over, Owl, and there's a branch across the door, but Christopher Robin and I can move it, and we'll bring a rope for Pooh, and I'll go and tell him now, and I can climb down quite easily, I mean it's dangerous but I can do it all right, and Christopher Robin and I will be back in about half-an-hour. Good-bye, Pooh!" And without waiting to hear Pooh's answering "Good-bye, and thank you, Piglet," he was off.



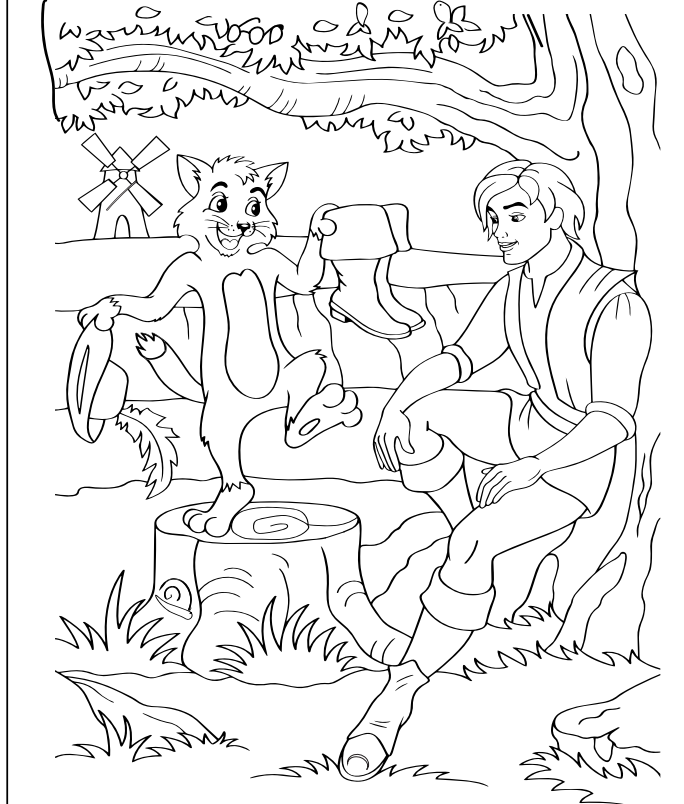
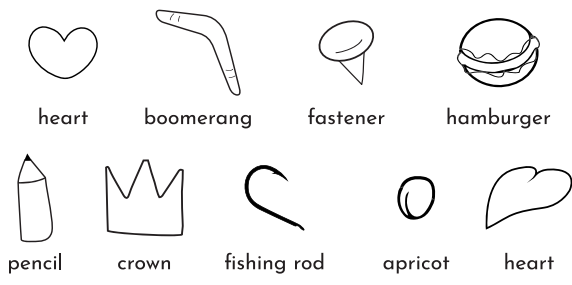
"Half-an-hour," said Owl, settling himself comfortably. "That will just give me time to finish that story I was telling you about my Uncle Robert—a portrait of whom you see underneath you. Now let me see, where was I? Oh, yes. It was on just such a blustering day as this that my Uncle Robert——"

Pooh closed his eyes.

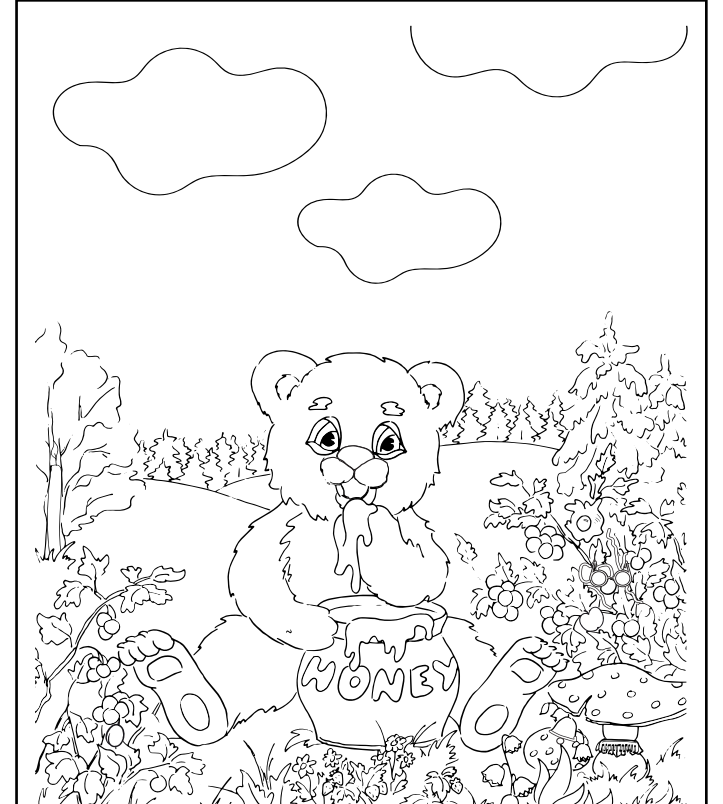
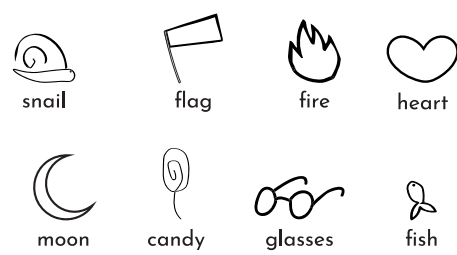
Find and color.



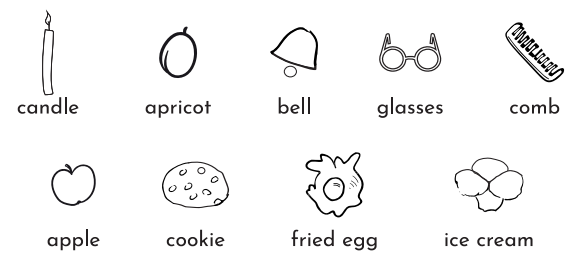
FIND ALL HIDDEN



FIND ALL HIDDEN



FIND ALL HIDDEN



Sudoku for Kids

4		2	3
3		1	
1			2
	4		

4		1	2
2		4	
3			
	2		4

		2	3
	3		
3		1	
1		3	4

3		1	2
2			4
		2	
1	2		

SUDOKU

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Sudoku answers

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

Universal Crossword

Edited by Adrian Johnson

ACROSS

- 1 Leatherwork-er's tool
- 4 Give temporarily
- 8 Has an in-tents experience?
- 13 Like hot outfits
- 15 "Everybody up!"
- 17 Little snack
- 18 College party recyclable
- 19 Extensive properties
- 21 Maryland governor Moore
- 22 Cashless one's stop
- 23 "Wish You ___ Here" (Pink Floyd classic)
- 24 Quite severe
- 26 "Not a chance in heck!"
- 29 Iranian faith featuring a 19-day feast
- 33 Unspecified power
- 34 Affectionate touch
- 35 Chopin's homeland
- 36 "I have nothing to say right now"
- 40 2001 No. 1 hit for Jennifer Lopez
- 41 Actor Cheadle
- 42 Cold case breaker, often
- 43 Leaks (through)
- 44 It goes with a twist
- 47 Fender model, familiarly
- 49 Snail-paced
- 50 "Doctor Who" network
- 53 "Take a load off"
- 54 Cannoli filling
- 57 "Your point is well taken"
- 60 Arlene of "One Life To Live"
- 61 "Can you pick me up?"
- 62 Participates in the super G
- 63 Pasta often served "alla vodka"
- 64 Where pants may split
- 65 That, in Santiago

- 10 Like a TV show about making a TV show
- 11 Cartoon caveman's garb
- 12 Women in ___ (educational advocacy org.)
- 14 Histogram, for one
- 16 Extremely, informally
- 20 x, in the equation 15x - 17 = 133
- 24 "Zero stars"
- 25 Angelic ring
- 26 All those against
- 27 Milky gem
- 28 "Avengers: Infinity ___"
- 30 Barely bearable
- 31 "How did my life somehow get worse?!"
- 32 "My feeling is ..."
- 35 The Atlantic, to a Brit
- 37 Gym units
- 38 The U.N.'s location in Manhattan
- 39 French refusal
- 44 Tends to, as houseplants
- 45 UCLA rival
- 46 Trudges
- 48 AirBaltic hub
- 50 Jet, to an air traffic controller
- 51 Anvil or stirrup
- 52 Either director of 2010's "True Grit"
- 54 Rapper Flo
- 55 Thing in an online cart
- 56 In addition
- 58 "Jeopardy!" host Jennings
- 59 0-0, say

8/6

Themeless Sunday 45 by Adrian Johnson

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13			14				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

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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Horoscopes

AQUARIUS: This week, ground yourself in a steady practice as emotions and miscommunication may cloud your path. Don't force clarity—some truths unfold in their own time. Focus on creative pursuits, but be mindful of lingering wounds or unrealistic expectations that could lead to disappointment. With patience and an open heart, you'll find what is truly meant for you.

PISCES: This week, embrace all parts of yourself—light and shadow—because self-acceptance sets the tone for how others treat you. Be mindful of power imbalances in relationships, work, and finances; avoid giving too much or letting others take advantage. Stand firm in your worth—don't seek approval at the cost of integrity or fall for generosity that comes with strings attached. Move with intention, trust your intuition, and protect your energy.

ARIES: This week, tune into your intuition and trust the quiet wisdom within you. Pay attention to the emotions that rise, especially in relationships—some truths reveal themselves not through words, but through what lingers in your mind. Express gratitude for those who support you, but keep certain plans and financial matters private until the time is right. You may find yourself irresistibly drawn to someone or, just as likely, radiating a magnetic energy that others can't ignore—embrace it, but move with patience and purpose.

TAURUS: This week, discipline and clarity will serve you well—trust logic over impulse in love, career, and finances. A strong mentor or authority figure may challenge you, but meeting high standards with integrity will bring respect and insight. Channel frustration into movement, stay sharp, and let a steady mind guide your path.

GEMINI: This week, find balance between structure and spontaneity. If authority feels stifling, resist wisely—take what serves you and leave the rest. Old wounds may shape your relationships, but awareness can break the cycle. Financially and professionally, discipline is key; if restrictions feel unbearable, it may be time to create your own path.

CANCER: This week, honor the balance between duty and desire—some pressures must be met, but others can wait. Stability comes from following proven paths in love, work, and finances, not chasing chaos. If overwhelm creeps in, release what no longer serves you before it drags you under. The future is yours, but only if you move with intention, not desperation.

LEO: This week, face what lingers in the shadows—unspoken truths, repressed emotions, and unfinished conversations. The pull between solitude and connection is strong, but relationships built on balance, trust, and mutual respect will flourish. A deep bond may form or rekindle, bringing harmony in love, friendship, or work, and partnerships all hold the potential for lasting success. True abundance comes from aligning with those who uplift and support you.

VIRGO: This week calls for balance—choose your steps wisely. A tempting distraction may pull you from your goals, but avoiding responsibility will only lead to frustration, whether in work, finances, or relationships. If you feel stuck or overwhelmed, resist the urge to escape; instead, face challenges head-on, knowing that slow healing is still progress. Trust in steady effort, lean on collaboration, and stay the course—what feels turbulent now will smooth in time.

LIBRA: This week, focus on clear intentions and decisive action—your ability to manifest what you desire is stronger than ever. Strike a balance between work and relationships, as tensions may arise, but trust that you have the wisdom to navigate them. New opportunities in love and career are unfolding, requiring both courage and discretion; keep your plans close until they are ready to take shape. Stay focused, trust your abilities, and step forward with confidence—big shifts are coming your way.

SCORPIO: This week, let go of what no longer serves you, or risk being consumed by what remains. Seek refuge in home, stillness, and patience, especially in times of financial or emotional strain. If you feel unseen or burdened, reach for the support that exists around you. Nothing is permanent—protect your resources, lean on others, and trust the storm will pass.

SAGITTARIUS: This week, nurture your home, your heart, and the spaces in between. If a relationship feels distant, step back and see it clearly—nostalgia won't change reality. Let go of the past in love, work, or personal growth, or risk missing what's ahead. Trust the pull toward independence, creativity, and deeper truth—this is your moment to move forward.

CAPRICORN: This week, step back and reassess where your energy flows. Career momentum is building, but if progress feels stagnant or relationships strained, you may be pushing too hard or neglecting what matters. Slow down, realign, and nurture what truly serves you—whether in love, work, or personal growth. Trust that the right opportunities will unfold when you create space for balance.

Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1. Dressed
- 5. (K) Maple trickling
- 8. Widespread
- 12. (K) You can dig it
- 13. (K) Tarzan's mom is one
- 14. Etching fluid
- 15. (K) Hand-holding necessities?
- 16. Some gloss over it
- 17. Common lunch shop
- 18. (K) Wildlife sanctuary
- 20. Saluting one in Annapolis
- 21. Happen again
- 23. (K) Over one's head
- 26. (K) Acoustic organ?
- 27. (K) Like uncooked meat
- 30. (K) Chipmunk or gerbil
- 32. Stop working
- 34. Cape in Massachusetts
- 35. (K) Place to get clean
- 37. (K) Stopped sleeping
- 38. Unlike chicken scratch
- 40. Primitive weapon
- 43. Unflinching in battle
- 47. (K) Young stallion
- 48. (K) "___ a good time to have cake"
- 49. (K) Costing nothing
- 50. Remove from a position
- 51. Tailgate party site
- 52. (K) Eye drop
- 53. (K) It supplies plenty of wood
- 54. "To Kill a Mockingbird" author
- 55. (K) Cause no ___ (not hurt anyone)

DOWN

- 1. Blacken, as barbecue chicken

- 2. Passed-down tales
- 3. Charitable offerings
- 4. (K) Be entitled to after earning
- 5. Broadside from a battleship
- 6. (K) Per, in a store
- 7. Cheerleader's asset
- 8. Highway speed verifier
- 9. (K) Like a decorated cake
- 10. Manicurist's need
- 11. (K) Change one's story?
- 19. Show a stamped hand at an event
- 20. Hypothetical remedy
- 22. (K) Tesla product
- 23. (K) A compass can help make one on graph paper
- 24. (K) Ghostly word
- 25. (K) Unusual
- 27. (K) ___ Grande
- 28. Biblical boat of fame
- 29. (K) Mighty small
- 31. (K) Pull
- 33. "___ Night" by William Shakespeare
- 36. Market piggy? (2 words)
- 38. Coffee-and-milk drink
- 39. Moisten, in a recipe
- 40. Any Glasgow native
- 41. (K) Add milk to your cereal
- 42. (K) "Who ___ wants bananas?"
- 44. (K) Length x width
- 45. (K) Close to you
- 46. Elected period
- 48. (K) Feeling a bit sickly

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

Come over?

Look for the answer in next week's paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

Previous riddle answer:

Writer's block?
9-A) PAD

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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		

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

- 1 reciting numbers (8)
- 2 King of talk show fame (5)
- 3 subtle differences (7)
- 4 what couscous is made from (5)
- 5 short snoozes (7)
- 6 indelible markers (8)
- 7 foxes and jackals (7)

SOLUTIONS

NT	COU	LA	ES	NUA
RRY	WHE	AR	ES	NA
NIN	CA	ING	AT	PS
ES	SH	PI	CAT	NC

Previous Answers: 1. FIRSTS 2. FATTENED 3. SQUIDWARD 4. JOYS 5. HYNDE 6. MUSES 7. EXCISE

8/28

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

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Valentine's Day



But Valentine knew that marriage was not just a tradition—it was a sacred bond, built on love and commitment. He defied the emperor's order and secretly performed weddings for young couples. When Claudius learned of this, he had Valentine arrested. Even in prison, Valentine remained steadfast in his faith and kindness. The jailer's daughter visited him often, and according to legend, Valentine left her a note before he was executed, signing it "From your Valentine."

Valentine was put to death on February 14, but his courage and selflessness were not forgotten. Centuries later, the Christian Church declared February 14 a day to honor him. His story reminds us that love is more than a fleeting emotion—it is a commitment, sometimes requiring bravery and sacrifice.

How the Day Became a Celebration of Love

For many years, February 14 was a day to remember St. Valentine, but it was not yet a celebration of romance. That changed in the 14th century, when the English poet Geoffrey Chaucer wrote about lovebirds choosing their mates in mid-February. Chaucer's poem, *The Parliament of Fowls*, suggested that February 14 was the time when birds found their partners, leading people to associate the day with romance. Soon, young men and women in Europe began writing love notes to one another, a tradition that grew over time into the Valentine's Day we know today.

Traditions Around the World: The Many Ways We Show Love

As time passed, different cultures developed their own ways of celebrating this special day.

United States and Canada: Children exchange cards and small gifts with classmates, and people express love through flowers, chocolates, and kind words.

France: French lovers write poems and letters, a tradition dating back to the 1400s.

England: Long ago, young women placed bay leaves under their pillows on Valentine's Eve, hoping to dream of their future husband.

Italy: Italians celebrate with chocolates, especially Baci, which means "kisses" in Italian, symbolizing sweet words of love.

Denmark: Danish men write gaekkebreve, playful rhyming poems,

without signing their names. The recipient must guess who sent it.

Japan and South Korea: In Japan, women give chocolates to men on February 14. A month later, on March 14—White Day—men return the favor. In South Korea, those who did not receive a gift gather on Black Day in April to eat black bean noodles together.

Brazil: Instead of February 14, Brazilians celebrate Lovers' Day on June 12 with music, dancing, and gift-giving.

South Africa: Some women pin the names of their crushes to their sleeves, an old Roman tradition that still survives today.

Philippines: In the Philippines, many couples choose Valentine's Day to get married in large wedding ceremonies.

Symbols of Valentine's Day: What They Mean

Many symbols of Valentine's Day remind us of the deeper meaning behind love and devotion:

Hearts – The heart represents love, not just as an emotion, but as an act of kindness and sacrifice.

Cupid – In Roman mythology, Cupid's arrows cause people to fall in love. But real love, unlike Cupid's arrows, is not something that simply happens—it is something we must choose every day.

Roses – The rose is a symbol of beauty and devotion. Love, like a rose, must be nurtured with care.

Doves – Doves symbolize loyalty, as they remain with the same partner for life. True love requires commitment and faithfulness.

The True Meaning of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is not just about candy and cards. It is a reminder of the virtues of love—kindness, loyalty, and selflessness. True love is not always easy. Sometimes, it means putting others before ourselves. It means standing up for what is right, as St. Valentine did, even when it is difficult. It means choosing patience over anger, generosity over selfishness, and forgiveness over resentment.

Love is not something we give only on one day of the year. It is something we practice every day in how we treat our parents, siblings, friends, and even those we do not know. A kind word, a helping hand, or a simple act of generosity can be more valuable than any gift.

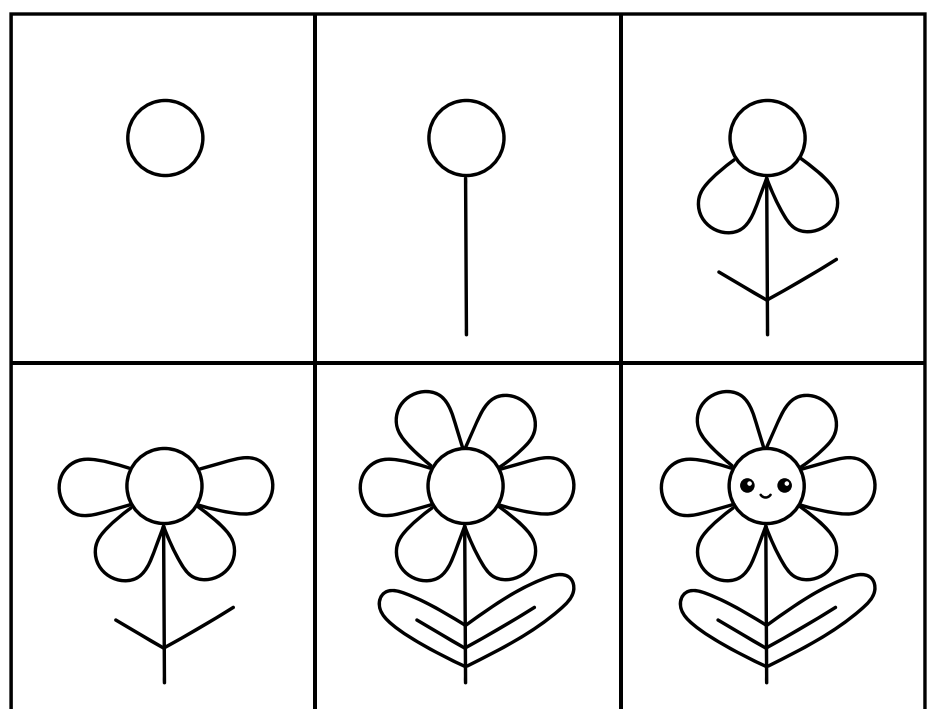
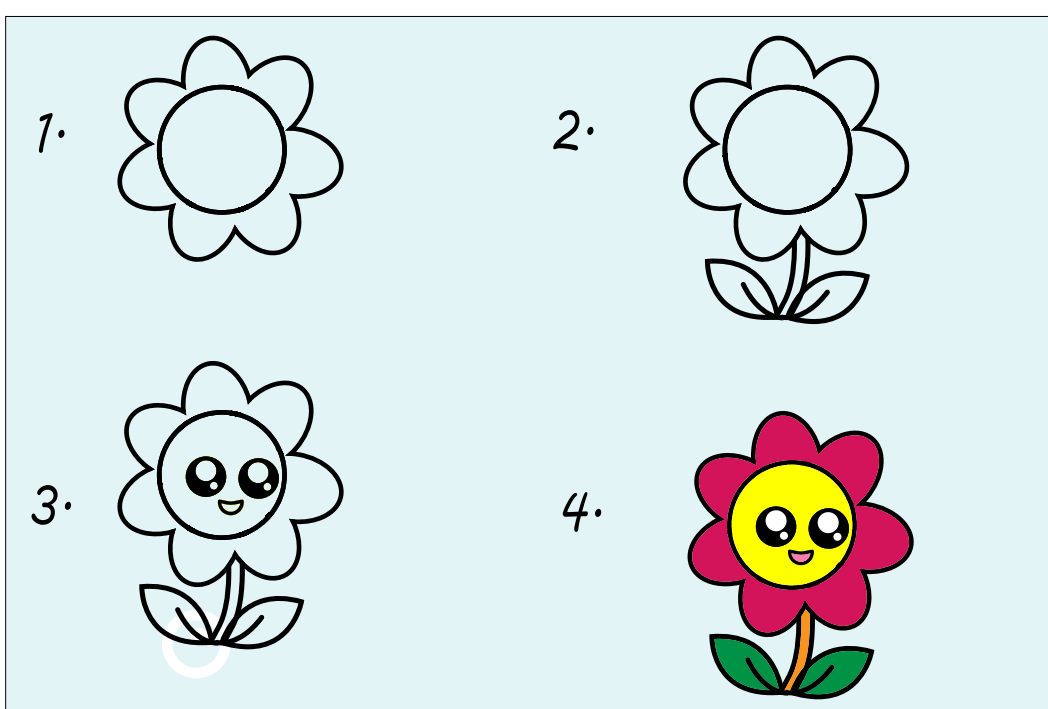
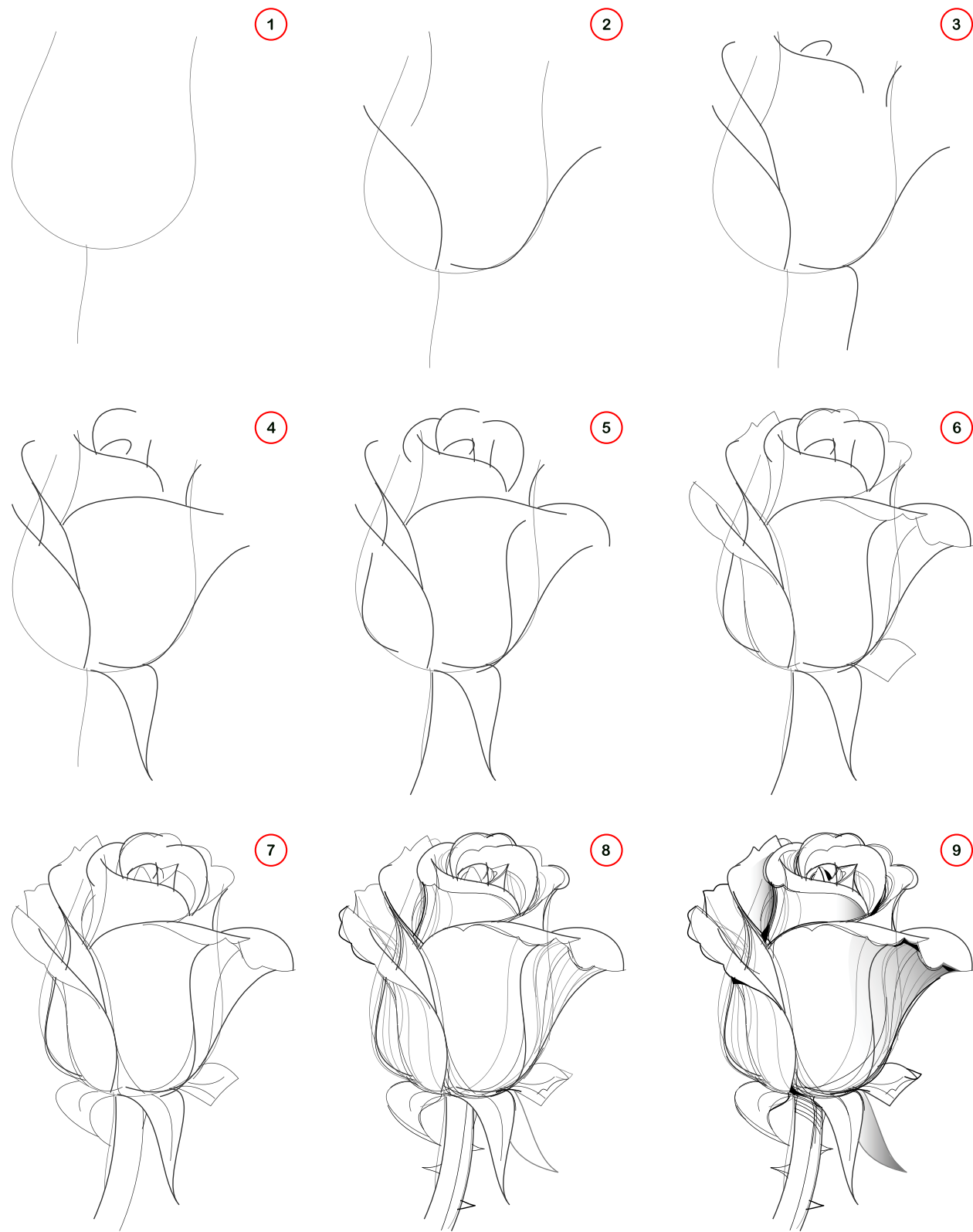
This Valentine's Day, remember that the greatest gift you can give is love—not just in words, but in actions.

Throughout history, men and women have honored the virtues of love, loyalty, and kindness. Valentine's Day, celebrated on February 14, is one such occasion. It is a time not only for giving flowers and cards but for remembering that true love is not just a feeling—it is an action. It is something we choose to do by showing patience, generosity, and selflessness. But how did this tradition begin? And what lessons can we learn from those who came before us?

The Story of St. Valentine: A Man of Courage

Long ago, in ancient Rome, there lived a man named Valentine. He was a priest and a man of great faith. At the time, Emperor Claudius II ruled Rome with a firm hand, and he believed that young men made better soldiers if they were not married. So he passed a law forbidding them from wedding, thinking it would make his army stronger.

Learn to Sketch Like a Pro 3 Different Ways



Solve the math equation
Can you solve this in -one- minute?

+ 2 = 6

- 3 =

+ 7 =

- + = ?

= = =

Solve the math equation
Can you solve this in -one- minute?

+ 8 = 15

+ 4 =

+ 9 =

- + = ?

= = =

Complete and Match

1	b		d
2	f		h
3	d		k
4	s		n
5	b		r
6	d		r
7	f		g
8	s		l
9	c		b
10	g		t

For Smart Kids

× 6

- 6 × 2 = 12
- 6 × 3 = 18
- 6 × 4 = 24
- 6 × 5 = 30
- 6 × 6 = 36
- 6 × 7 = 42
- 6 × 8 = 48
- 6 × 9 = 54
- 6 × 10 = 60

Pink Light Blue Red Yellow Purple Orange Blue Tan Green
12 18 24 30 36 42 48 54 60

KIDS crossword
"Valentine's day"

February 14

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Love, Loyalty, and the Strength of Connection

By Jane Noyce

In the wild, survival is often dictated by strength, speed, or stealth. But for elephants, the secret to success is something more enduring: loyalty. These giants of the animal kingdom thrive not through solitary dominance but through deep, lasting relationships. They form lifelong bonds, support one another in crisis, and even mourn their dead. Their ability to nurture connections, communicate across vast distances, and work together for the good of the herd sets them apart. In a world that often prizes competition, the elephant reminds us that true strength lies in unity, empathy, and devotion to those who walk beside us.

Elephants are among the most intelligent animals on the planet, possessing a brain structure remarkably similar to our own. With the largest brain of any land animal, they demonstrate advanced problem-solving skills, emotional intelligence, and even self-awareness—passing the mirror test, an indicator of consciousness shared only with a handful of species. But what truly defines them is their extraordinary capacity for social bonds.

African and Asian elephants live in matriarchal herds led by an elder female, who guides the group using knowledge passed down through generations. These herds, often made up of mothers, daughters, aunts, and grandmothers, remain together for life. They communicate using a complex language of trumpets, rumbles, and low-frequency infrasound, which can travel miles across the savanna. Recently, researchers



Family of Elephants

Take a lesson from the herd: cherish those who stand with you, protect the vulnerable, and lead with kindness.

have discovered that elephants may even have names for each other—distinct vocal calls used to address specific individuals, much like human names.

Male elephants, on the other hand, lead more independent lives, forming loose bachelor groups or traveling alone. Yet even they maintain social ties, forging bonds with other males in a display of camaraderie and mutual support.

Few animals exhibit empathy as profoundly as elephants. They comfort distressed companions, assist the injured, and even pause their migrations to grieve the loss of a fallen herd member. Stories abound of elephants returning to the bones of their deceased, gently touching and caressing them with their trunks, as if paying their respects. In moments of

crisis, elephants rally together, encircling the vulnerable and fending off threats with unwavering determination.

In one documented case, an elephant calf became stuck in the mud of a drying riverbed. Rather than abandon the struggling youngster, the herd worked tirelessly, using their trunks and tusks to pull it free. They did not leave until the calf was safely back on solid ground. This instinct to help, to protect, and to care for others is hardwired into their being—a lesson in unwavering devotion.

The elephant's reliance on community is not just a sentimental trait; it is a survival strategy. In an unpredictable world of droughts, predators, and human encroachment, their

ability to work together ensures their continued existence. Knowledge is passed from one generation to the next—where to find water in a dry season, which migration routes are safest, how to respond to danger.

For humans, the lesson is clear: independence has its place, but lasting success is built on the foundation of strong relationships. Whether in families, businesses, or communities, those who invest in others, share wisdom, and uplift those around them create a legacy that endures.

The qualities that make elephants successful in the wild—teamwork, communication, and emotional intelligence—are the same

traits that help people thrive in business, leadership, and personal relationships.

Teamwork and Trust – In both elephant herds and human societies, the most successful individuals understand the power of collaboration. Just as elephants rely on one another for protection and guidance, people who build strong professional and personal networks find greater resilience and opportunity. Research shows that workplaces with high levels of trust and cooperation outperform those driven by individual competition.

Emotional Intelligence – Elephants recognize distress and offer comfort, a skill that is just as valuable in human interactions. Leaders who demonstrate empathy, who listen, and who support their teams foster stronger, more loyal organizations. Studies have shown that emotionally intelligent leaders inspire greater productivity and job satisfaction.

Long-Term Thinking – The matriarchal leadership of elephant herds is built on generational wisdom. The ability to think beyond immediate gains and plan for the future—whether in conservation, business strategy, or personal growth—is a defining trait of successful individuals and organizations.

On this Valentine's Day, let the elephants remind us of what truly matters—connection, loyalty, and love. Whether in friendships, family, or romantic relationships, the bonds we nurture shape our lives. Take a lesson from the herd: cherish those who stand with you, protect the vulnerable, and lead with kindness.



Calvin and Hobbes
by WATTERSON

HEY, CALVIN! ARE WE NEAR A SLAUGHTERHOUSE, OR DID YOU FORGET YOUR DEODORANT?!

DROP DEAD, SUSIE! YOU'RE SO UGLY, I HEAR YOUR MOM PUTS A BAG OVER YOUR HEAD BEFORE SHE KISSES YOU GOODNIGHT!!

IT'S SHAMELESS THE WAY WE FLIRT.

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO FALL IN LOVE?

WELL ... SAY THE OBJECT OF YOUR AFFECTION WALKS BY...

YEAH?

FIRST, YOUR HEART FALLS INTO YOUR STOMACH AND SPLASHES YOUR INNARDS.

ALL THE MOISTURE MAKES YOU SWEAT PROFUSELY.

THIS CONDENSATION SHORTS THE CIRCUITS TO YOUR BRAIN, AND YOU GET ALL WOZZY.

WHEN YOUR BRAIN BURNS OUT ALTOGETHER, YOUR MOUTH DISENGAGES AND YOU BABBLE LIKE A CRETIN UNTIL SHE LEAVES.

THAT'S LOVE???

MEDICALLY SPEAKING. HECK, THAT HAPPENED TO ME ONCE, BUT I FIGURED IT WAS COOTIES!!

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4/8 WATTERSON