The Sentinel | Local News

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

NewCanaanSentinel.com

Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com **LOCAL NEWS**

POLICE AND FIRE

BRIEFING



The New Canaan Police Department recognized Officer Hamilton's final shift before his deployment with the U.S. Air Force and Connecticut Air National Guard. He will be deployed overseas for several months. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

TOWN HALL

BOF Approves Budget

The New Canaan Board of Finance approved a \$181.15 million budget for fiscal year 2026, a 3.56% increase from the previous year, with \$120.2 million allocated to the Board of Education. Taxation requirements were reduced by \$4.1 million, capital expenses by \$4.8 million, and taxpayersupported capital by \$1.2 million. The Town Council will hold a public hearing on Apr. 1 and finalize the budget on Apr. 3.

AROUND TOWN Local Phishing Scam

A phishing scam impersonating New Canaan business Palomino Bazaar has sent over 200 fraudulent PayPal invoices, directing recipients to call an unconnected phone number. The business owner suspects a compromised password led to the breach and has closed the affected PayPal account. The Better Business Bureau advises businesses to monitor for impersonation and to report scams.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

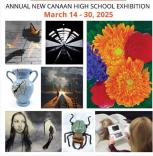
National Charity League Visits Waveny



Recently, Waveny LifeCare Network hosted 32 National Charity League members to explore volunteer opportunities and services. During their visit, they created flower arrangements for short-term rehab patients and donated to The New Canaan Thrift Shop. Photo credit: Waveny LifeCare Network.

Through Our Eyes XIII Exhibit Now Open

Through Our Eyes XIII



The Carriage Barn Arts Center is currently hosting the 13th annual Through Our Eyes XIII exhibition, featuring work

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

8-30g Moratorium Upheld, Fight Far from Over

BY ANNE WHITE

New Canaan's four-year moratorium on Connecticut's affordable housing statute, Section 8-30g, has been upheld by the state's Department of Housing (DOH), reinforcing the town's ability to control local zoning decisions. The March 3, 2025, ruling dismissed arguments from developers and housing advocates who sought to overturn the moratorium, confirming that New Canaan met all statutory requirements. However, as new legislative proposals in Hartford push for greater state control over zoning, local leaders warn that the fight is far from over.

State Confirms Moratorium, Rejecting Developers' Challenge

The DOH's ruling reaffirmed that New Canaan successfully documented its affordable housing efforts, allowing the town to maintain its exemption from Section 8-30g challenges until 2028. Developers, including 51 Main Street LLC and W.E. Partners LLC, had petitioned the state to revoke the moratorium, arguing that the town failed to demonstrate continuous compliance with affordability restrictions for units at Millport Apartments and Canaan Parish.

The DOH rejected this claim, clarifying that Connecticut law does not require towns to provide ongoing compliance data beyond initial certification. "To read the Petition and intervenors' briefs, one would presume that the statute and Regulations refer extensively to a requirement of ongoing and continuous compliance... In fact, while the requirements for an application are set forth specifically in the statute and Regulations, such requirements do not include any reference to or requisite introducing amendments that would from over.

ruling stated.

The decision confirms that New Canaan's certification of affordability restrictions-based on deed restrictions, zoning approvals, and financing agreements-was sufficient under state law. Developers' attempts to argue that Millport and Canaan Parish had fallen out of compliance due to income verification issues were dismissed as legally irrelevant.

Hartford's Legislative Push: New Threats to Local Zoning

While New Canaan's moratorium provides temporary protection, proposals in the Connecticut General Assembly could undermine local zoning control in the near future. Senate Bill 1313 and House Bill 6831 both aim to increase housing density statewide by overriding municipal zoning laws.

Senate Bill 1313: This bill would require towns to allow high-density housing developments within a halfmile of train stations, bypassing local zoning rules and eliminating public hearings. Proponents argue it will alleviate Connecticut's housing shortage, but opponents say it disregards infrastructure limitations and school overcrowding. "How are we supposed to accommodate this level of growth when we don't even have the sewer capacity?" asked Maria Weingarten, a member of New Canaan's Board of Finance when she testified against the bill.

Ride"): This bill seeks to condition municipal funding on compliance with state-prescribed housing density

evidence of ongoing compliance," the have reduced its most aggressive provisions. "Threatening to withhold hundreds of millions in vital funding for failure to comply with aggressive state-prescribed zoning is wrong," Fazio said in a committee hearing. His amendments failed on party-line votes.

Developers' Next Steps: Legal **Challenges and More Applications**

Following the court upholding the denial of the 51 Main Street affordable housing proposal by New Canaan's Planning and Zoning Commission, developer Arnold Karp's legal counsel, Timothy S. Hollister of Hinckley Allen & Snyder LLP, filed a motion seeking an extension of time to file a motion to reargue the decision. This procedural move indicates the developer's intent to challenge the commission's ruling and potentially pursue further legal avenues to advance the project.

A Temporary Victory, But The Fight Continues

The DOH's ruling validates New Canaan's efforts to manage housing growth, but the state's legislative push for centralized zoning authority represents a growing challenge. With Connecticut's Democratic-controlled government pushing hard for increased density, towns like New Canaan and Greenwich may find themselves increasingly at odds with state policymakers.

"This isn't just about housing," Weingarten said. "This is about whether House Bill 6831 ("Work Live local governments will continue to have a say in their own futures."

For now, New Canaan's moratorium stands. But with Hartford moving mandates. State Senator Ryan Fazio aggressively to reshape zoning laws, has pushed back against the measure, the town's fight for local control is far

BOF Passes \$181.15 Million Budget

By Elizabeth Barhydt

On March 6, 2025, the New Canaan Board of Finance finalized its \$181.15 million fiscal year 2026 budget, closing out a months-long review that cut millions in proposed spending while maintaining the town's commitment to infrastructure, public services, and education.

Chairman Todd Lavieri summed up the board's approach in his Budget Letter (see the editorial page for full letter) issued on March 10: "When the Board of Finance received the budget from the First Selectman's office in January, we set three goals: reduce the amount paid in taxation by \$3 million, cut capital expenses by at least \$3 million, and lower taxpayer-supported capital spending by \$1 million. We accomplished all thre

The amount raised by taxation was cut by \$4.1 million.

Bonded capital requests were reduced by \$4.8 million.

Taxpayer-supported capital spending (not bonded) fell by \$1.2 million.

Despite these reductions, town expenses will still rise by 3.56%, largely due to contractual salary and benefits increases across town departments and schools. "Of this increase, 94% is driven by contracted increases in salaries and benefits for Town, Police, and Fire department employees and school district teachers, administration, and other school-related employees," Lavieri explained.

Much of the March 6 final vote was a confirmation of previous decisions made over the course of the month.

Education remains the dominant line item, consuming 66% of the total budget. Lavieri previously underscored the board's continued investment in impact of the budget will be the mill rate. remains strong."

the school district, which was recently The new budget assumes a mill rate of ranked #1 in Connecticut. "A high-quality, high-performing school district has been a focus for this town for many years," he

Debt remains well-managed, with CFO Anne Kelly-Lenz reporting a \$35 million bond issuance at a 3.34% interest rate, generating a \$1.912 million bond debt is \$139 million, with \$7 million scheduled for repayment this year.

The historic renovation of The Playhouse movie theater—which won a national award for best refurbishmentwas highlighted as an example of none. the town's ability to execute highfinancial discipline.

In his letter Lavieri emphasized that the town is shifting toward a "Debt Diet", In the end, they exceeded those balancing capital investments with a commitment to gradually paying down this year, to go on a Debt Diet so we can absorb our investments while continuing to pay down our debt on a straight-line basis," he stated.

One of the more discussed line items had been the \$201,000 appropriation for a new scoreboard and play clocks at Dunning Stadium. The project, originally planned for the Board of Education's long-term capital budget, was accelerated to ensure installation before the 2026 athletic season.

emerged, raising the question: who would cover the shortfall?

Superintendent Bryan Luizzi assured the board that fundraising efforts led by the All Sports Booster Club and the Parent Faculty Association would close the gap. It's a minor detail discipline applies at every level.

16.78, marking a 3.96% increase over last year's rate of 16.44.

Lavieri framed the increase within a broader context of value and investment. "As we have discussed over the past few years, our Town financials remain in very good shape," he said. "We strive as a board and as a town to deliver value and premium. The town's total outstanding results for every dollar we collect and manage.'

If silence at the budget hearing on the March 6 was surprising, it shouldn't have been. Last year's meeting drew only one public comment. This year, there were

The lack of public feedback does quality projects while maintaining not necessarily indicate a lack of interest—a consistent pattern in how the town approaches its budget process. Still, Lavieri encouraged residents to stay engaged.

Now that the Board of Finance has obligations. "We will push hard, starting completed its work, the budget heads to the Town Council for review and final approval. The process unfolds as follows:

April 1 - Public hearing on the

April 3 - Town Council votes on the final budget.

June - The final mill rate is set, taking into account any last-minute revenue adjustments.

Residents can access budget However, a \$14,000 funding gap documents and meeting details on the town website.

In the end, the March 6 meeting and Lavieri's follow-up statement confirmed one thing: New Canaan's budget is a reflection of the town's priorities and long-term vision.

"Over the past 15 years, we've in a multimillion-dollar budget, but it made major capital investments in our underscores how even in a town with schools, Town Hall renovations, road a \$9.94 billion Grand List, financial repairs, athletic fields, and public safety," Lavieri said. "We have a AAA rating For taxpayers, the most immediate by Moody's, and our financial standing

COLUMN

Vulnerability Drops

By JILL S. Woolworth, LMFT

Titration is the chemical process of slowly adding drops of one substance into a test tube containing another substance until a certain reaction occurs. Sharing our personal stories deserves a similar careful process. People haven't earned the right to know our whole story when they first meet us. What works best is when we share a few drops of vulnerability at a happens slowly. time-and wait to see if our gesture is well received and reciprocated.

process is as a fisherman baiting a hook, hoping a fish will bite.

Think of intimacy as "into-mesee." In order to develop healthy intimacy, it helps to choose our friends thoughtfully and test them as we go. We can become more sensitive to our own level of willingness to share, and let others see into us gradually. Sharing our vulnerability is the key to wholehearted living. For best results, it

dream, a goal, a disappointment, and Another way to imagine this a fear with each other. Each of these book, The Waterwheel.



things was a vulnerability drop. As a David and Eric decided to share a result, their friendship deepened.

Excerpted from Jill Woolworth's

COLUMN: THE VIEW FROM THE PLAYHOUSE

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



PRSRT STD

PAID Permit #2475

BY LUKE PARKER BOWLES

BEFORE ANORA'S UNLIKELY OSCARS SWEEP, WE WERE BETTING ON IT. WHY?

Some nights are magic. The kind you wish you could bottle up, keep on a shelf, and uncork whenever the world starts feeling a little too ordinary.

So it was at The Playhouse on January 16. After a

rapt audience took in a screening of the remarkable film Anora, New Canaan's own Alex Coco-an infuriatingly young, handsome and altogether brilliant producer-spoke with yours truly about the film, storytelling, and why cinema is still so enormously

And then, not six weeks later, there they were, he and the movie's cast and crew, on stage at the Dolby Theatre, as director Sean Baker held the little statue that symbolizes the Academy's highest honor, the Oscar for Best Picture.

We couldn't make this up if we tried.

If you were there that night at The Playhouse, you felt it. The kind of energy that doesn't just stay in the room-it lingers. It follows you home. Because Anora isn't just a film. It's a story with a pulse, sharp and raw and heartbreakingly funny. And at its core, there's Alex Coco-a New Canaan High School graduate and now the producer of an Academy Award-winning film.

Anora wasn't supposed to win-at least, not if you ask the major studios, the executives who poured millions of dollars into their marketing campaigns, or the cynics who still believe that independent film is fighting a losing battle. Anora was made with just \$6 million-less than the catering budget of some productions-and yet it won. Not because of hype, not because of a franchise, but because it was the best. You get it wrong an awful lot, Hollywood, but this is a delightful surprise.

'We always knew Anora was special," Baker said after the win. "To see it connect with audiences on this scale? It's surreal."

Surreal, yes-but entirely deserved.

Because here's the thing: independent films don't just need to be made. They need to be seen.

Coco's role producing the independent film required a mix of art, diplomacy, and sheer determination. To do it well means making sure that every single dollar goes to what's on-screen. It's about believing in something before the rest of the world does. For Coco, that belief has paid off. But before the golden statues and the standing ovations, before the world decided that Anora was great, Coco was here in New Canaan, talking to a room full of people on the edge of their seats about the power of cinema.

And, if you ask me, that moment-moderating the Q&A session with Alex Coco at The Playhouse, properly passionate about storytelling—that was The Playhouse and its engine, Cinema Lab, showing what we do best. Because here's the thing: independent films don't just need to be made. They need to be seen. On the big screen. It doesn't serve them simply to be dropped onto a streaming platform, where they are easily lost in the mix or, at best, constantly paused as you get a snack, use the loo, get distracted by life's rich pageant of things demanding your attention. At The Playhouse, we invite you to get out of the house, out of your own head, and to share these moments with people you don't know, in the dark. There's nothing

Sean Baker put it eloquently: "Watching a film in a theatre with an audience is an experience. We can laugh together, cry together, scream in fright together, perhaps sit in devastated silence together. And in a time in which the world can feel very divided, this is more important than ever."

The man is right. You simply cannot replace the feeling of sitting in a dark room with neighbors, gasping in unison, feeling something real together. There's a reason filmmakers still fight for that experience. It's the reason we fought to bring The Playhouse back to life in the first place. The night Coco was here exemplifies why we do

this. If we're very lucky, we will continue to be a small part of stories like this, slightly ahead of the rest of the world. And not just because we're proud to have championed the people who wound up on stage that night, although of course we are. It's because we want to spark something in the audience.

Let's say you're an aspiring film maker in New Canaan, scribbling a script in your notebook, convinced that you'll never make it in film because you're not from Hollywood, not from New York, not from the places where "real" filmmakers come from. And then, one night, you watch a guy who went to your high school-whom you once spent an evening with at a local movie theatre after watching his film, surrounded by strangers and neighbors—take home an Oscar.

That does something.

At The Playhouse, we know this. We aren't just running a cinema; we are building a place where you are always welcome and where stories begin. Where you can sit in a theatre and hear someone like Alex Coco say, I was right where you are. Keep going.

You don't always realize you're in the midst of something brilliant until after it's happened. But, if you're lucky, you'll be in the room when it does.

Luke Parker Bowles is the Co-CEO and Founder of Cinema Lab/The Playhouse in New Canaan.



BUY THE HOUSE. Your dog will thank you.



AT DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE theengelteam.com (203) 858-0266



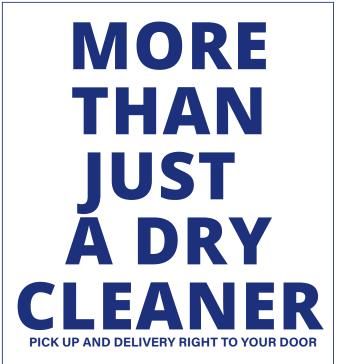
Regular eye exams are essential for detecting early signs of age-related conditions such as glaucoma, macular degeneration, and diabetic retinopathy.

For children, eye health and vision quality play an essential role in physical, cognitive, and social development.

Our team is here to provide comprehensive care and support for all your family's eye health needs.



Robert J. Fucigna, M.D. 1445 East Putnam Ave., Old Greenwich OPHTHALMOLOGY-CT.COM (203) 348-7575



LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR **FAMILY OF BRANDS AT** FABRICARECLEANERS.NET

MORE THAN JUST A DRY CLEANER-

203-229-0001





COLUMN

Best Bites: New Canaan



By Paul Reitano

We all make mistakes. Say, maybe your wife asks you to refill the windshield wiper fluid in the car after the refill light's been on for three weeks. You waddle over to the car, pop the hood, and confidently pour half a gallon of windex into the coolant reservoir — all the way to the tippy-top. You will make the excuse that you didn't have your glasses on, but even if you did have your glasses on, you wouldn't have known the difference. Because you are an idiot. You have the car towed to C&H downtown, wait at the library for two **Me:** What do you do for a living? hours while someone competent drains the coolant system, then give them three hundred dollars for the indignity.

But that was yesterday, and in time mistakes like that fade along with other memories we choose not to remember. What about mistakes of greater consequence? The ones you live with every day - do they ruin your life? Redirect purpose? Help find meaning? For Nabil West, owner of the N. West Gallery on Main Street, one missed step nearly cost him his life - but he took that mistake and let it refocus his life in a profound way.

Me: So what was life like before Connecticut?

Nabil: We lived in Williamsburg. I was a music producer, DJ, and lead singer for an Indie Rock band.

Me: Band name?

Nabil: Mar La Singer. We were totally unheard of.

Me: Maybe that explains why you never made it big - no one ever heard you.

Nabil: Possibly.

Me: Brooklyn must've given you some nice food memories, though.

Nabil: I lived off the Graham L stop in Williamsburg. There was a momand-pop pasta shop, Savinos. It was definitely one of Williamsburg's best kept secrets; small operation, mid-block surrounded by residential buildings. It was easy to miss walking by — but the pasta was incredible!

Me: And now you're in Fairfield County, where a misguided Alfredo costs 35 bucks.

Nabil: It's one of the reasons I'm doing a lot of cooking at home these days. Also, I'm vegetarian and it's just easier.

Me: My wife is a vegetarian but when the moon is full, she eats bacon. Are you that type of vegetarian?

Nabil: No meat for me. I have a list of sixty or so dishes on my phone. I know It's not just the food but the experience of being there. There's nothing else like it in town.

the recipes by heart at this point.

Me: What about your family — are they also stuck with the beans and kale?

Nabil: No, I'm pretty good in the kitchen, so most of the time, I'm making two meals.

Nabil: I'm a fine art photographer and I own the N. West Gallery in New

Me: Origin story?

Nabil: I started shooting in 2009 after I .. fell off a roof.

Me: Like a *roof* roof?

Nabil. You know in Brooklyn, how instead of hanging out in the backyard, you're hanging out on peoples' roofs?

Me: Oh wow, like a building roof.

Nabil: I reached down to pick something up, stumbled, then fell all the way down.

Me: Did you think that was it?

Nabil: There was a moment when I was looking at the ceiling of the ambulance and I thought it was the last thing I'd ever see.

Me: But it wasn't.

Nabil: I was in intensive care for eleven days, went through a ton of reconstructive surgeries. And once I started to come out of it, I just had this new appreciation for the world's beauty. Sounds cliché but it's how it all happened. I was looking around at art, nature – just thinking of how beautiful everything was around me. And I started shooting.

Me: What specifically did you want to capture?

Nabil: I began to travel the world. I would research a location before I got there. I used Google Earth and an app called Sky Portal to set up my specific Me: Noted. location and shoot a very unique moment in time. Say I wanted to shoot the Italian Alps. I would think, You know what would be cool is if I shot it with the Milky Way behind it. You know what'd be cool is if I shot it with the Milky Way behind it, and with three other planets in that shot. There is a moment where you can capture it all - you just have to be there for it.

Me: Tell me about N. West Gallery.

Nabil: It's a fine art gallery. I think it has a very NYC sensibility to it, in terms of the works and the vibe and atmosphere.

Me: What will I find in there right now?

Nabil: We have a show coming up in March called Soulscapes by David Susan. It's portrait and landscape photography from around the world. His portrait work is amazing. David has this uncanny ability to connect with people from vastly different cultures. You have to really see it to get it - it's in the eyes.

Me: OK, you've just sold a piece and you want to celebrate with a nice lunch. Where do you go?

Nabil: Chef Prasad, no contest. It's not just the food but the experience of being there. There's nothing else like it in town. You walk through the door and once you're in, there's all this ornate trim and molding, with these blue and white walls. Spices are categorized in massive cylinders on what feels like an elongated kitchen counter. It almost makes you feel like you're walking into someone's home. They have these big tables and you're likely sharing it with a family or a couple you'd never met before. But by the end of the meal you end up having had a great conversation with them. It's a very dinner-party sensibility.

Me: What's the last great thing you ate there?

Nabil: Two dishes stand out. The Onion Bahajia, which is like the best possible version of onion rings. And the Shrimp Gassi, which is shrimp cooked in roasted coconut, coriander, and coconut milk. It's coconuty and it's spicy.

Me: Spicy, spicy?

Nabil: Like, for real spicy.

Nabil: It had me on the edge. But I mean, that's where I like it.

Me: Indeed. Thanks for the time.

N. West Gallery 70 Main St. New Canaan, CT Thurs-Sat. 12-6pm Soulscapes by David Sussan March 22-April 19 Info@nwestgallery.com

YOUR NEWS BRIEFING CONTINUED From Page 1

by New Canaan High School student artists and showcasing a range of artistic mediums. Photo credit: Carriage Barn Arts Center.

NCNC Syrup Making



On March 11th, the New Canaan Nature Center boiled tree sap to produce syrup. Visitors observed the process and learned about maple sugaring. Photo credit: New Canaan Nature Center.

Author Russell Shorto Visited Library



On March 9th, The New Canaan Library hosted author Russell Shorto for a discussion on his book, Taking Manhattan. He examined historical events that shaped New York and the United States. Photo credit: New Canaan Library.

Rotary Volunteers Pack Meals



and volunteers packed meals for Feed My Starving Children at an event organized by Grace Community Church. In a two-hour shift, they packed 36,936 meals, contributing to over 100,000 meals in two days. Photo credit: New Canaan Rotary Club.

Jeanne Gnuse Shares Memoir



Recently, Rotarian Jeanne Gnuse discussed her memoir, The Red Mustang, about her life with her late husband, Tom Gnuse. The book covers his career, their family, and his work with the Tourette's Foundation. Jeanne wrote her memoir to preserve their family history for future generations. Photo credit: New Canaan Rotary Club.

PEOPLE IN TOWN SLS Wins Quiz Bowl



St. Luke's Middle School Quiz Bowl team ended their winter season with a win against nationally ranked Middlesex Middle School. The team has been competing for three years and participates in after-school matches during the winter and spring. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

Keira Named CT Distinguished Young Woman



Recently, Keira Zheng '25, a Rye Country Day senior and New Canaan resident, was named Connecticut's 2025 Distinguished Young Woman. She also received the peer-voted Spirit Award. Zheng will compete for the national title in June. Photo credit: Rye Country Day School.

NCHS Juniors Attend Broadway

SCHOOLS



Recently, New Canaan High School juniors attended a Broadway production of The Great Gatsby after studying the novel in class, gaining insight into how it was adapted for the stage. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

NCHS Career Night

New Canaan High School's Career Night took place on March 12th, featuring 17 panels with professionals from various industries. Seniors in the Senior Internship Program attended, while other students were encouraged to participate. The event included New Canaan High School alumni and industry experts, with sessions consisting of introductions and a Q&A.

NCCS Second Graders Art Class



Recently, second-graders at New Canaan Country School have been practicing color layering by painting Japanese koi fish with watercolors. They apply translucent washes to observe how colors blend and create depth. The lesson covers basic techniques in color interaction and traditional Japanese art. Photo credit: New

Canaan Country School.

NCCS Celebration of American Indian

On March 3rd, New Canaan Country School fourth-grade students held a Celebration of American Indians, featuring stories, songs, dances, and traditional games. The event marked the conclusion of a half-year study, which included an in-house field trip to examine Indigenous artifacts. Students explored history through research, creative expression, and hands-on learning.

Book Challenge at Saxe



Recently, Six Saxe Middle School students completed the 40 Book Challenge. Their top book selections included The Walls Around Us, Lovely War, I Was Born for This, The Inheritance Games, The Housemaid's Secret, and Keeper of the Lost Cities: Unraveled. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

OUR NEIGHBORS

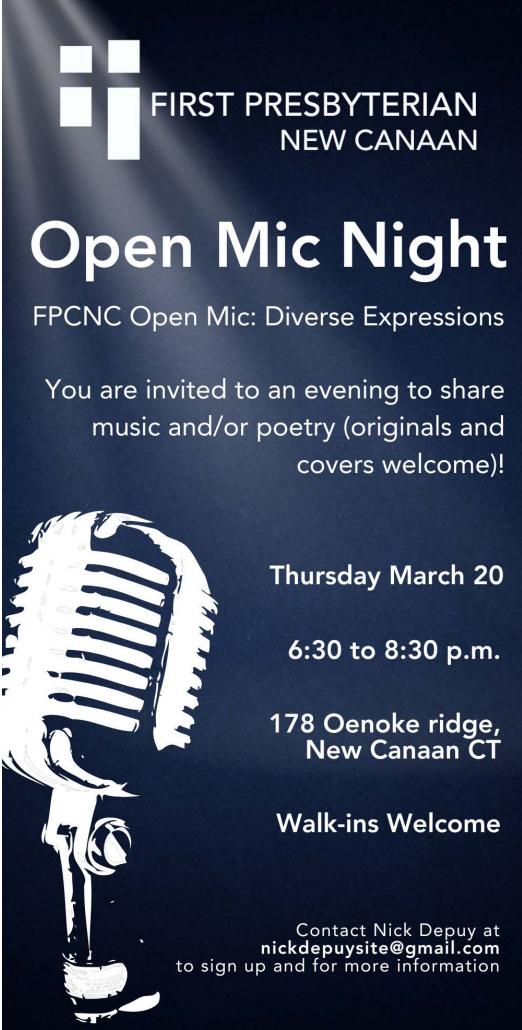
Warehouse Proposed for Former WWE Site

V20 Group has proposed a 112,757-square-foot warehouse on the former WWE production site on Hamilton Avenue, which it purchased last year for \$7.5 million. The facility would accommodate up to three tenants and include parking, loading zones, and infrastructure updates. The city's land use agencies will review the project, which requires site plan approval and a special permit.

Recalled Cookie Dough

Wave Hill Breads in Norwalk has recalled four frozen cookie dough products due to undeclared allergens, including wheat, milk, and soy. The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection warned of potential health risks for those with allergies. Customers can return the product for a full refund.





COLUMN

The Rising Tide of Cancer in Younger Adults



Cancer has long been associated with aging, as its prevalence increases due to the accumulation of genetic mutations, cellular damage, and decreased immune surveillance over time. Yet, an alarming and underreported crisis is unfolding—colorectal cancer (CRC) rates in younger adults have nearly doubled since the 1990s. This is in stark contrast to the declining CRC rates among older adults.

So why has this seismic A Deadly Shift in Cancer shift remained largely in the Trends shadows? The answer may lie in the overwhelming noise of today's media landscape, where critical public health crises can be drowned out by the barrage of global headlines. But when have we ever witnessed such a dramatic surge in cancer among our youth while simultaneously seeing improvements in our senior population? This

An alarming and underreported crisis is unfolding—colorectal cancer (CRC) rates in younger adults have nearly doubled since the 1990s. mobilize resources, ramp contributors, yet genetic adults originate in the rectum,

funding priorities.

much larger iceberg—one that, if left unchecked, might herald an even broader health emergency for our younger generation.

According to a recent 2024 report, colorectal cancer has catapulted to the leading cause of cancer death in men under 50 and the second-leading agenda. cause in women under 50, trailing only breast cancer. Two decades ago, CRC ranked fourth in cancer-related deaths for both groups. What's driving this shift?

up research funding, and explanations alone fail to compared to just 24% in those pinpoint their root causes. account for the dramatic Failure to act reflects the rise in early-onset cases. growing dysfunction within Instead, experts have been left federal health programs, speculating about a range of dwindling confidence in their potential culprits: the modern capabilities, and a fractured diet laden with low-fiber, system of oversight and high-fat, processed foods; excessive sugar consumption; This disturbing trend chronic inflammation could be just the tip of a from environmental toxins; sedentary lifestyles exacerbated by screen addiction; exposure to microplastics and chemicals like triclosan; or a surge in inflammatory conditions such as Crohn's disease and irritable bowel syndrome. The sheer breadth of possible factors underscores the urgent need for a more targeted research

> Whatever the cause, the data is undeniable. Earlyonset CRC (diagnosed in individuals under 50) has been rising globally at a rate of 2% to 4% annually since

over 65. The disproportionate impact on younger individuals makes it all the more critical to identify-and mitigatewhatever is fueling this surge.

The Challenges of Early **Diagnosis**

Unraveling the mystery behind early-onset CRC has been frustratingly slow. Most studies have been limited in scope, investigating only single contributing factors rather than the complex interplay of genetic, environmental, and lifestyle influences.

Meanwhile, younger patients face an additional, deadly challenge: delayed diagnosis. Many are diagnosed at more advanced stages, despite having fewer overall health complications. This suggests that younger they develop into full-blown individuals may either be malignancies, offering a dismissing early warning major protective benefit to signs—constipation, rectal Certain risk factors—the 1990s, with the most bleeding, sudden bowel surrounding the procedure's glaring paradox should serve family history of CRC or dramatic increases seen in changes-or are not being preparation, colonoscopy Ph.D, MPA/MHA, FACHE is as a wake-up call, compelling polyps, inflammatory bowel those under 30. Notably, taken seriously by healthcare remains the gold standard President & CEO of Waveny public health agencies to disease—are well-established 37% of CRC cases in younger providers because of their for CRC screening—and it LifeCare Network

age. It also raises another saves lives. disturbing question: Is the aggressive in younger patients?

Recognizing this trend, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and the U.S. Multisociety Task Force on Colorectal Cancer recently revised their screening recommendations, lowering the suggested age for routine CRC screening from 50 to 45. While a step in the right direction, it may not be enough.

A Tale of Two Generations

Colorectal cancer is still most commonly diagnosed in individuals over 65, yet paradoxically, incidence in this older cohort is declining. Even more striking, older patients are less likely than their younger counterparts to be diagnosed with advanced disease. What explains this discrepancy?

One factor may adherence to routine colonoscopies. Early detection through colonoscopy allows for the removal of precancerous polyps before seniors. Despite the stigma

Meanwhile, researchers disease itself becoming more are making strides in molecular tumor profiling, a breakthrough that analyzes the DNA and biological markers of tumor tissues to guide targeted treatment strategies. This emerging field holds promise in improving outcomes, but prevention and early detection remain the most powerful weapons in combating this growing crisis.

A Call to Action: No More **Ignoring the Warning Signs**

Despite being a highly treatable disease when caught early, a colorectal cancer diagnosis can be devastating-especially for younger individuals who never expected to face such a battle.

We can no longer afford complacency. The rise of colorectal cancer among younger generations signals an urgent need for increased awareness, research, and prevention efforts. If we fail to act, we risk overlooking the early warning signs of a broader health crisis that could have devastating consequences for our younger generation.

Russell R. Barksdale, Jr.,

TV News Editor Bencivenga to Speak at Men's Club

Mike Bencivenga, a threeeditor and producer at WABC's Eyewitness News, will address the New Canaan Men's Club on March 14 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge. His presentation will explore how television news has evolved over the past 40 years, examining changes in newsroom operations, reporting styles, and the industry's adaptation to on journalism. digital platforms.

time Emmy Award-winning begins at 10 a.m., with work, including the prestigious and director in theater and film. sold-out runs in both Los Bencivenga scheduled to speak Edward R. Murrow Award, at approximately 10:40 a.m. His named after the legendary CBS discussion will draw on his correspondent who reported decades-long experience at one from London rooftops during of the nation's top local news World War II. His expertise stations, where he witnessed spans investigative journalism, firsthand the transition from live breaking news coverage, film to digital broadcasting, the and in-depth storytelling, rise of 24-hour news cycles, making him a respected figure and the impact of social media in broadcast journalism.

Beyond television news, Bencivenga has received Bencivenga has built a

The Men's Club meeting numerous accolades for his distinguished career as a writer enjoyed critically acclaimed, expectations of audiences in a He started in entertainment Angeles and New York. writing sketch comedy and performing improv in theaters journalism and entertainment across the country. His play provides a unique perspective Billy & Ray, which tells the story on storytelling, whether in the of how director Billy Wilder newsroom or on stage. At the and mystery novelist Raymond Men's Club meeting, Bencivenga Chandler collaborated to write is expected to offer insights into the screenplay for Double the challenges and opportunities among members. Those Indemnity, won the Keith that have shaped television Hedrick Prize for Best Play in news, from ethical dilemmas

His experience in both New York. The production later in reporting to the evolving

digital age.

The New Canaan Men's Club welcomes new members aged 55 and older. The club hosts weekly meetings featuring guest speakers from various fields, fostering intellectual engagement and camaraderie interested in joining can email ncmens@ncmens.org for more

Bigger. Bolder. More Refined.



"A generously sized interior, impressive feature content, and good looks." - Car and Driver

The Chevy Trax is one of the BEST new-car values on the market today. In stock, available for test drive and immediate delivery.

Together let's drive.



www.karldirect.com 261 Elm Street New Canaan, CT 06840 203.966.9508

Honesty. Integrity. Service. Trust. Since 1927











PRIME OFFICE SPACE IN A PREMIUM LOCATION

Located in the heart of downtown New Canaan, this pristine 2,210 square foot commercial space offers a prime location directly across the street from the New Canaan Metro-North train station and just 300 feet from the retail center. The space is bright, streetfacing, and features six exterior offices with stunning floor-toceiling windows, two interior offices, an open workspace, and a kitchenette area. Previously used by a hedge fund and financial management firm, this turnkey office space is ready for immediate occupancy and offers the perfect setting for your business. Just a short walk to the village center, this is an ideal location for those seeking a prestigious, accessible downtown address.

THE ENGEL TEAM AT DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE theengelteam.com (203) 247-4700



Rew Canaan Sentinel **PUBLISHER**

Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com Elizabeth Barhydt

EDITORS & COPY EDITORS

Emma Barhydt, Peter Barhydt [editor-in-chief], Liz Leamy, Caroll Melgar, Anne W. Semmes, Robert Williamson, Cordelia Webb

Local Control Matters

In Connecticut's ongoing experiment with government by central decree, the legislature has once again dusted off the tired playbook of top-down mandates, this time with Senate Bill 1313, a measure designed to impose high-density housing by fiat. The bill would strip municipalities of the authority to govern their own land-use policies, mandating asof-right development within a half-mile of transit stations. Local public hearings? Eliminated. Local environmental and infrastructure reviews? Obsolete. Local zoning discretion? A relic of the past.

This legislative effort, which differs from the "Work, Live, Ride" bill in that it requires no affordable housing component and is not an opt-in program, is a blunt instrument of state control. It is a decree that density, unmoored from considerations of infrastructure or community planning, is inherently good and must be imposed. Towns such as Greenwich and New Canaan, which have spent decades cultivating careful zoning strategies to balance growth with environmental protection, school capacity, and public Board of Finance passed the infrastructure, would be reduced to passive recipients of state directives.

Such measures are not new. Over the years, Connecticut's municipalities have repeatedly repelled similar attempts to override local governance, successfully arguing that growth should be dictated by those who understand their communities, not by Hartford bureaucrats eager to legislate uniformity. But this time, the outcome may be different. Connecticut's government is now a single-party apparatus, a trifecta and triplex of one party control, rendering opposition an exercise in futility. What was once merely an overreach is now the natural trajectory of a legislature that neither seeks nor requires consensus.

This bill, whether or not it advances in the full legislature, is an unmistakable sign of that trajectory.

The practical consequences of Senate Bill 1313 all three goals. are obvious to anyone who has given a moment's thought to municipal planning. Infrastructure in many Connecticut towns is already stretched thin. Roads are congested. Sewer systems are at capacity. School districts, already responsible for funding most of their infrastructure, will be left scrambling to accommodate surging enrollment numbers.

At a recent public hearing in Hartford, one official posed the obvious question: "How are we supposed to accommodate this level of growth when we don't even have the infrastructure?" The response from legislators was silence. No plan was offered, because none exists.

Beyond the financial and logistical implications, Senate Bill 1313 represents an erosion of the public's role in governance. An attorney who testified at the hearing articulated this plainly: "As-of-right means no public hearing. No public comment. No ability for a town's zoning commission to do a site-specific or project-specific review. It removes all oversight."

This bill is a manifestation of a governing philosophy that sees municipal decision-making not as an essential feature of governance, but as an inconvenience to be swept aside.

This philosophy was on full display during the public hearing, when one legislator, rather than engaging on the bill's substantive failings, sought instead to diminish those who dared to object. Fixated on the price of homes in affluent towns, he repeatedly asked, "When was the last time you sold a \$250,000 home?"

The question implied that towns with high property values have forfeited their right to self-determination, that their concerns about infrastructure, school capacity, and environmental impact are mere posturing, that their resistance to Hartford's heavy hand is rooted not in governance but in privilege.

Such exchanges make plain the hostility with which some in Hartford view the state's well-run towns, not as models to emulate but as obstacles to overcome. The impulse is not to elevate struggling municipalities to the standards of those that flourish, but to strip excellence of its advantages, to impose a dull uniformity in which every town is governed, taxed, and planned in the same uninspired manner.

Localism has long been Connecticut's strength. It has been the foundation upon which towns have built their economic vitality, preserved their landscapes, and cultivated their schools.

This fight has been waged before, it will continue to be waged, and each time the outcome is far from certain.

You may watch the testimony from the February 19th hearing-particularly from 1:46 to 2:30 here: https://www. youtube.com/watch?v=7BgcBT7REFo online.

Editorial

Hartford Legislative Planning & Development Committee



"I'll be honest ... there are books by James Joyce that are easier to follow than these bad boys."

Budget Letter from Board of Finance Chairman

BY TODD LAVIERI

This week, the New Canaan FY 2025-2026 budget. This budget now goes to the Town Council for their review, and approval.

When the Board of Finance received the budget from the First Selectman's office in January, we set three goals to accomplish with our review: one, to reduce the amount paid in taxation by \$3 million; two, to reduce the total amount of capital expense by at least \$3 million; and three, to reduce the amount of taxpayersupported capital expense by \$1 million. Working collaboratively with each department, we accomplished

We reduced the amount raised by taxation by \$4.1 million, we cut the capital expense by \$4.8 million, and we reduced the taxpayersupported capital (not bonded), by \$1.2 million. Our total town expenses will rise by 3.56%. Of this increase, 94% is driven by contracted increases in salaries and benefits for Town, Police, and Fire department employees and school district teachers, administration and other school-related employees.

In addition to those financial goals, we focused on achieving our overall strategic goals. Those include the funding of all the necessary school needs, full support

needs, Health and Human Services, and funding other required Town infrastructure expenses including roads and buildings, and other Town of New Canaan services and district was ranked Number support. We also focused 1 in the State of Connecticut on managing our debt and other longer-term financial guidelines and objectives.

needed capital investments over the past 15 years for our schools, the Town Hall and repairs for the Waveny House and grounds, annual road repairs and paving, new or improved athletic fields, and investments. We will push hard, starting this year, to go on a Debt Diet so we can several refinancings over the new asset. past five years, not including year, and closed at 3.34%.

taxpayer's desire for services, with an eye on the impact on taxes. The town residents and for the taxes paid as we can this town. collectively deliver.

As we have discussed over roads, and facilities continue final 2025-2026 Budget.

shape.

Highlights from the budget process thus far

As you know, our school after a steady, decade-long process of climbing up the ladder to reach the top spot. A We have made many high-quality, high-performing school district has been a focus for this town for many years, and together with renovation, improvements our great administration, terrific teachers, motivated and engaged parents and students, and the support of our taxpayers, we continue to a renovated Police Department have a great school district. building among many other The entire school budget represents 62% of our total budget.

Our Playhouse movie absorb our investments, while theater won an award for the continuing to pay down our best refurbished theater in the debt on a straight-line basis. country. To have a thriving The average interest rate we theater, we need to continue to pay on our debt is 3.67% after go out and support this great

Our pensions remain overour recent offering that we funded reflecting the ethical took to market March 5th this responsibility we have to ensure that our commitments As always, our goal is to are met, and that the 'can is challenge and optimize the not kicked' down the road operating and capital requests penalizing current and future in order to represent the residents and taxpayers. Prudent financial pension management and investment over the past 20 years will be any final financial assumptions taxpayers want as much value a long-lasting achievement for

for our Police, Fire and EMS the past few years, our Town to meet the high usage and financials remain in very good demands that our residents require. We have a Aaa rating by Moody's.

> Our emergency services including Fire, Police and EMS collectively responded to literally thousands of calls and incidents in the past year.

I could go on - suffice it to say, we strive as a board and as a Town to deliver value and results for every dollar we collect and manage.

I would like to thank all the departments for the work they did to prepare their budgets for our review. And I would like to also thank the hundreds of volunteers in this town who truly help make this town a success. Not just those on the boards and commissions, but the volunteers who help make all of our parks and Town assets including Irwin Park, Bristow Bird Sanctuary, the Powerhouse Theater, the Carriage Barn, and Waveny look so incredible each year. Coaches, C.E.R.T. volunteers, and so many others who volunteer their time, or generously donate their money to invest in maintaining and improving our town, including our Library among many other assets and activities ... thank

We will continue to monitor as this current year ends in June. At that time, we will set Our other assets, parks, the new mil rate and adopt a

Fazio is Correct on Immigration and Safety

2019, Connecticut Democrats went well beyond this. They pushed through a change to the law taking away the ability of local police to cooperate with objections of every Republican in the state legislature and even some in their own party. Now, with a new legislative session underway, several senators, including our own Senator Ryan Fazio, have proposed a common-sense amendment to this law. Some have responded to that proposal with a lot of overheated rhetoric. To cut through the noise, let's focus on the facts.

Senator Fazio's amendment targets two gaps in the latest version of the Trust Act. He proposes that illegal immigrants convicted of Class C, D, and E felonies—crimes including manslaughter, sexual assault, burglary, arson, or identity theft—or those with judicial

In 2013, Connecticut discretion. This isn't a mandate; dangerous offender among us. enacted the so-called "Trust it's an option. But you wouldn't Act" to foster trust between know that from the hysteria they're symptoms of a broader illegal immigrants and state whipped up by Democrats, who failure. Open borders and law enforcement. The idea warn of ICE raids that have sanctuary policies, championed was simple: unless you're no relevance to this law one by the Democrat Party, have a criminal, local police way or another. The Trust Act unleashed a humanitarian and wouldn't report you to federal already blocks ICE from freely public safety crisis across the immigration authorities. In operating in jails, courthouses, country. Millions have flooded safety.

federal agencies-over the amendment means implicitly citizens alike-crime, strained endorsing some ugly outcomes. resources, and eroded trust Take Sanjay Silvan Walsh, a in government. Democrats Jamaican national convicted of cloak this in folksy platitudes sexually abusing two minors in and avuncular assurances, but sense, we believe in law, Connecticut. After serving just their refusal to address the order, and sovereignty. Fazio's 21 months of a 10-year sentence, consequences exposes a cynical the state ignored an ICE detainer and released him back into our communities. ICE had to track off base-it's a modest fix. It him down a risky and costly empowers law enforcement to move that could've been avoided hand over serious offenders with cooperation. Or consider without turning Connecticut Emerson Eduardo Ferreira, a into a deportation mill. Brazilian national convicted Republicans, independents, of sexual assault and violating and pragmatic Democrats restraining orders. Connecticut should see it for what it is: a let him walk free after his step toward accountability and sentence, forcing ICE to arrest safety. The left's reaction—shrill him later in Brooklyn, CT. Then and unhinged—reveals their there's Alejandro-Martinez, who priorities. They'd rather protect killed Nicholas Diaz, a father of criminals than citizens, clinging three, in a drunk-driving crash. to a sanctuary dogma that's

These aren't isolated cases or schools—a fact conveniently in, exploited by traffickers and ignored by those peddling political opportunists who see sanctuary ideology over public them as nothing more than a voting bloc to lock in power. The Opposing Fazio's cost? Suffering for migrants and agenda.

Fazio's amendment isn't warrants can be turned over to The state shrugged off a federal crumbling under scrutiny and amendment. federal authorities at the state's deportation request, leaving a lived experience.

The real question is trust. Do you trust the architects of this mess-the Democrat Party who've spent years excusing lawlessness under the guise of compassion? Or do you trust leaders like Fazio, who offer solutions rooted in reason and respect for the rule of law? For too long, politicians have chased the approval of activists and ignored the voters who put them in office. Connecticut deserves better. We need public servants who secure our communities, not just their electoral futures.

As citizens of common proposal aligns with those principles, especially balancing state autonomy with federal responsibility. It's not about fearmongering-it's aboutfacing reality. The Trust Act can protect the innocent without shielding the guilty. In the end, trust belongs to those who prioritize the safety and will of the people over ideology. That's a choice Republicans and others of good will have always stood for, and it's one Connecticut should make now with this much needed public safety

David Lancaster

"Dress Like a Mensch"

Jewish law emphasizes that to dress immaculately is a way of honoring the Divine within ourselves.



BY RABBI MITCHELL HURVITZ

I started reading from my local daily printed newspaper when I was young.

However, it was a bit of a challenge because I was required to wait for my father z'l to get his initial access. He would hand me each section when he had completed his reading, and would always read in the order of the paper itself. I would wait impatiently for the sports section so I could review the box scores along with the news articles.

When I was 12 years old, I secured a paper route. Besides the earned income, the daily bonus was the ability to secure my free copy of the newspaper for myself. I found that I too flipped through the sections of the paper in order. I would review each headline and usually read at least a few of the lines of most

When I started college, my printed newspaper habit grew to three papers. However, early in my marriage, this practice introduced tension between me and Roseanne because she disliked the ink of newspapers "getting on everything." I held out for a few years longer when online news and digital papers became the norm.

Similarly to giving up my beeper several years after everyone else, I relented with going digital. I found that the transition prompted me to read many more headlines, but I started to read significantly fewer articles.

Too often, I read what I think I'm interested in without paying much attention to other items. Realizing this is the case, I try to force myself to pick at least ten articles a day to read that I wouldn't normally read.

Entertainment news is especially forced is; but, a more traditional upbringing often feel our dress how we are all created equally in God's image. Shame as with most of my experiences, it often delivers unexpected benefits when I try something new.

I never once paid attention to the Oscars, but the day after the event, I noted a headline: "Oscar Night's Naked Dresses and History of the Sheer Look," I'm not sure it was a rabbinically approved article, but I clicked and read about a new style aesthetic of "How naked can I look?"

The naked-dressing theme was interesting because it an illustration of how a secular ethos can be in such a great conflict with traditional Jewish teachings. Within the article, the argument for "pushing the envelope with naked fashion" was articulated as a concrete response against those who might commit the "sin" of body shaming. I had a compassionate response to this stated intention.

When it comes to one's body, no one should ever be made to feel anxious or self-conscious. From personal experience, I can describe the hurt that can come with being a victim of fat shaming or other critical comments.

Temple Sholom articulates within our Bar/Bat Mitzvah handbook a policy on a ritual dress code for those who attend worship services:

• It is appropriate to dress in nicer clothes when attending synagogue.

1. Jacket and tie and/or skirts & dresses (of an appropriate length).

2. Women are invited, but not required, to cover their heads while on the bimah.

3. We ask that girls and women do not come to the bimah with bare shoulders.

After articulating the dress code, it concludes with the statement: "For further guidance, feel free to speak with Rabbi Mitch."

Over the years, dress code was a hot topic at ritual committee meetings. Temple members with

code policy is too liberal. Members who are more and guilt can be productive when they prompt us to we should articulate is the suggestion that it is kingdom. "appropriate to dress in nicer clothes when attending synagogue" and leave it up to the individual to discern what "nicer" means to them. I confess to an initial inclination toward the more traditional perspective.

While growing up, my mother z'l demanded that my brothers and I always attend synagogue with a jacket and tie. When we protested that the other would dismiss the objection and tell us we needed to "dress like a mensch."

Later in life, I learned the midrash:

unlaced is among those who are of the haughty spirit. ethos. Suppose we dress intending to raise ourselves shoulder or his cap tilted back or sits crosslegged...

He is among those with a haughty spirit. When we walk outside, how we dress matters.

immaculately is a way of honoring the Divine within ourselves. Dressing well is considered part of healthy spiritual self-esteem. We dress for success in a way that reflects well on us and God.

In the creation story, we witness the first consequence of Adam and Eve's sin of eating the forbidden fruit: "The eves of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths." Adam and Eve became self-conscious about their and is recognized as one of the prominent religious bodies. Before their sin, they did not recognize any feeling of shame.

A sense of modesty is a significant variable that separates us from the animal kingdom. Before eating from the forbidden tree of knowledge of good and evil, human beings were not more than animals.

With knowledge comes a sense of the Divine and *national publications*.

progressive in their upbringing often feel that all live on a much higher plane than the physical animal

An old conflict between Jewish and non-Jewish values was emphasizing the internal vs. the external regarding "true beauty." The ancient Greeks focused primarily on aesthetics and held physical beauty above all. Judaism always asserted that we can discover true beauty only within holiness.

However, the ancient sages understood that how children were often not doing the same, my mom we appear on the outside has the potential to train us to emphasize the need for inner moral beauty, and thus, why we need to "dress like a mensch."

The new popular mode of "naked dress" is He who walks in the marketplace with his shoes seemingly a minor twist on the ancient Greek beauty He who walks with his cloak thrown over his to a more outstanding moral character; I think most would then consider more carefully when and how to dress appropriately in "nicer clothes."

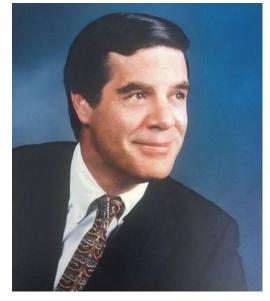
I would never go to someone at a worship service Iewish law emphasizes that to dress and tell them they did not dress nicely enough. The sin of embarrassing another individual is much more grievous than how someone chooses to dress. However, when not in the moment, I think it is appropriate to teach the lesson on why and how we can "dress like a mensch." Maybe this ethos can be next year's Oscars' fashion theme.

Shabbat Shalom.

Temple Sholom's Senior Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz is a scholar, teacher, community activist and preacher, leaders in the Greenwich area and beyond. A frequent guest speaker at synagogues and churches, study groups, community institutions and universities, he is a charismatic personality who engages individuals and stimulates hearts and minds. His teachings can be found in Greenwich Sentinel and in other local and

Obituaries

The Sentinel does not charge for obituaries because every life in our community deserves to be honored and remembered without financial barriers. By providing this service at no cost through our Sentinel Foundation, we ensure that families can share their loved ones' stories freely, preserving their legacies as part of New Canaan's history. To submit an obituary email Caroll@NewCanaanSentinel.com



JAMES CARTY

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, James H. Carty, affectionately known as "Rico," on Sunday, March 9.

Born on June 12, 1944, in Cambridge, MA, Rico was the son of the late Thomas J. Carty and Agnes Carty. He attended the Fessenden Day School and later graduated from the Buckingham Browne & Nichols School, where he distinguished himself as an exceptional athlete, excelling as a pitcher in baseball and a guarterback in football. Rico continued his academic journey at the College of the Holy Cross before studying International Relations at the London School of Economics. Additionally he served in the Air National Guard during the Vietnam War. His passion for global issues led him to Gambia, where he worked to improve the quality of life for its people. Upon returning to the U.S., he furthered his studies in international economics at The New School in New York and embarked on a successful career in the financial industry.

In his later years, Rico found joy in being deeply involved in the New Canaan community, where he and his family settled. He was a devoted father, actively participating in his children's sports activities-sometimes even in sports they weren't involved in. Rico was also an avid golfer and a proud member of the New Canaan Men's Club, where he served as Vice President and played an active role in the Bridge and Book Clubs. He was deeply devoted to his faith, proudly active in the RCIA and Emmaus programs, and served as president of the PTA at St. Aloysius School. He loved being with his family, especially during summer gatherings, where laughter and shared memories abounded. A loyal New Englander, Rico also found great joy in cheering for the Red Sox and Patriots, with a win from either team often coming in a close second to his love for his family.

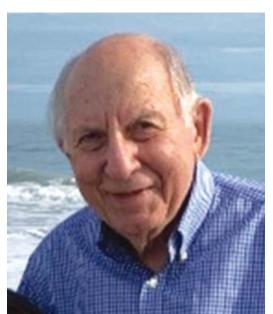
Rico is survived by his devoted wife of 53 years, Sarah; his children, Philip (Denise), Chris

(Megan), Anne (Brian), and Liz (PJ); and his nine cherished grandchildren: Taylor, Finley, Madelyn, Ryan, Soda, Emmett, Caitlyn, Noah, and Liam. He is also survived by his brother Thomas J, Carty Jr. and nephew Thomas J. Carty III.

A man with an ever-positive spirit, Rico touched the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing him. His warmth, generosity, and love for his family and friends will never be forgotten. He will be deeply missed, but his memory will live on in the hearts of all who loved him.

A receiving line will take place on March 14, from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. in the Narthex of St. Aloysius Church in New Canaan, followed by a funeral Mass at 10:00 a.m. Burial will be held privately.

In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made in his memory with the Wounded Warrior Project or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



GEORGE MARANIS

George M. Maranis, age 91, long time resident of New Canaan, CT, died peacefully on March 3, in Tucson, Arizona, surrounded by his family.

He was born in Boston, Mass., on February 23, 1934, the only child of the late Nicholas George Maranis and Cleopatra Sarmaniote Maranis.

George graduated from Boston Latin School in 1951, and went on to Harvard University, where he graduated with a degree in economics in 1955. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he proudly served his country for two years. After his discharge, he matriculated at Columbia University, where he received his MBA degree. Shortly thereafter, he received his CPA certificate from the State of New York.

It was in New York that he was recruited by Deloitte, Haskins & Sells and began his 35-year career with the firm. He met his wife to-be, Linda Weisner, at International House in New York City and they were married on June 25, 1960.

During his career with Deloitte, he had assignments Boston, MA, where he was admitted to the partnership in 1971; White Plains, NY; Stamford, CT; Barcelona, Spain; Providence, RI and New York City. George was in his office on the 102nd floor of the World Trade Center at the time of the first bombing, in the basement of the building, in 1993. He survived the evacuation from the building without any serious harm.

George and his family moved to New Canaan in 1976. He was active in town affairs, including membership on the Board of Finance and the town's audit committee. After his retirement, he served six years as the Town Administrative Officer. He was also active in the Round Table and Senior Men's Club, where he was appointed

auditor, and served on the board of directors and as treasurer of the Merritt Parkway Conservancy.

George never lost his love of Boston, where he was a member of the St. Botolph Club and a fervent fan of the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots. Another love of his was gardening and attending to his property. His greatest priority, however, was always his family.

George is survived by his loving wife, Linda, of 65 years, daughter, Susan Maranis Boisvert of Plano, Texas, daughter, Diane Maranis Wade of Culver City. CA. and three granddaughters. Claudia and Julia Boisvert and Kate Wade. He was predeceased by a daughter, Alexis Mankin Maranis, in 1975.

George wrote: "I cannot leave this earth without thanking my Lord for the blessing of 65 years with my dearest Linda, and I also was blessed with the gift of my daughters, Susan and Diane, who exceeded my expectations in every possible way."

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice.



ELIZABETH PAULEY

Elizabeth (Bette) Pauley, 100, passed away peacefully on February 27. Born on September 17, 1924, in Winsted CT, she was the daughter of Dominick and Christine Alipranti. Bette and her husband James Pauley built their home in New Canaan, CT where she lived for 64 years.

Bette was employed by Conde Nast Publishing Company for 50 years and worked in New York City. She loved the fashion industry and once retired she started her own business Years Gone By, purchasing, repairing and selling vintage clothing. She also enjoyed working part time at premiere antique auctions and estate

Bette enjoyed gatherings. She was an excellent cook and hosted many family holiday gatherings throughout the years. Tuesday nights were always Canasta Night with her good friends, and she looked forward to their annual travel events. She enjoyed being outside, working around her yard, gardening and spending time on the beach relaxing or walking searching for shells. She had an affection for animals and always had dogs in her home, including her last, beloved Cody.

Bette is survived by her brother Frank Alipranti, nieces, stepson, grandchildren, great grandchildren and close friends. She was predeceased by husband, James Pauley, parents, sister, brothers and stepson.

The family will receive friends at 11:00am at

Hoyt Funeral Home, New Canaan on March 24, 2025, with burial to follow at Lakeview Cemetery at 11:30. Memorial donations can be made to Best Friends Animal Society or a charity of your choice.



PHILIP EIDELBERG

Philip G. Eidelberg, 87, of New Canaan, CT, passed away on February 22, in New Canaan, CT.

Philip was born in Nancy, France to Ludwig and Marthe Eidelberg on March 6, 1937. His family escaped from Europe to the United States in the early 1940s and he attended high school at Riverdale Country School, graduating in 1954. He went on to earn a B.A. degree in History from Harvard University in 1958 and a PhD degree in History from Columbia University in 1970. Philip worked as a lecturer for the University of South Africa for 29 years. He enjoyed French cuisine, reading and spending time with his family.

Philip is survived by his stepson, Dietrich Moor of New Canaan, CT, his daughter-in-law. Heather and grand-children, Nathaniel, Andrew and Elizabeth Moor. He is preceded in death by his wife, Martha, and parents, Ludwig and

ANNE WARD

Anne Sullivan Ward, 74, of New Canaan, CT, died peacefully on March 8, after a long illness.

She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Richard S. Ward; her two sons, Daniel S. Ward and Andrew A. Ward; her two stepsons, John S. Ward and Brian A. Ward; and 8 grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister, Louise S. Bagby of NJ, and her brother, Jack Sullivan of VA, and two nephews.

Anne was born in Glen Ridge, NJ, and graduated from the Glen Ridge School system in 1968. While she was at Glen Ridge High School, she spent a term in France as an American Field Service Exchange Student. She attended Earlham College in Richmond, IN, and spent her junior vear abroad in France. Her love of French served her well during her professional law career in NYC as a paralegal at Cravath, Swaine & Moore. She met Dick Ward while working on a case in Europe. They married in 1979, and she joined him in Belgium, where both Daniel and Andrew were born. They moved back to the States to Virginia in 1987, and to New Canaan in 1992, where she was active in the New Canaan League of Women Voters. She enjoyed her legal work, her travels, her sculpting avocation, and being at their second home on the beach in Lavallette, NJ; but she loved her family the most.

Her extended family and circle of lifelong friends loved her back for her passionate will to make life better for all of them. We will all miss her forever.

Creating Space for God: A Lenten Invitation to Creativity



Meg Newton

We are a week and a half into the season we call Lent, the weeks leading up to Easter when we are encouraged to be intentional about prayer and repentance, fasting, and caring for the poor—three practices that Jesus teaches about in Matthew 6. Those practices are meant to remind us of our finiteness, our fragility, and our need for a savior—and to prepare our hearts for the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.

If you've chosen a practice for

this season, my prayer for you is that it wouldn't just be about discipline and staying faithful to chocolate, or staying off social media, or fasting on Fridays, or serving at a local food bank. All of which are good in their own right (well, we could debate about giving up chocolate!), but a Lenten practice is about more than just sticking with something. It should help you make space for God to draw you to Himself, to show you the ways you've wrongly prioritized or idolized things in your life, to increase in a you a desire to pray and to be honest

What could you make this Lent? that thing—whether it's not eating In what way could you be creative, as a reflection of being made in the image of a creative God?

myself accountable, not to appear

certain days during Lent-and during Lent. First, I love the idea I'm saying that here to hold of adding something as a Lenten practice-a moment, behavior, righteous!-but I've also been response, or creative task-as a reading Adorning the Dark, a book way to make space for God. And about "making" and creativity by specifically, a sonnet a day? What the songwriter and author Andrew an amazing way of intentionally before God, and to renew in you a Peterson-and in it, Peterson noticing beauty and praising God grateful, humble awe of the gospel. mentions that a while back he each day, and of partnering with I've chosen to fully fast on started writing a sonnet a day God our Creator in the creative it to Instagram, use it as a prompt

So my challenge to myself and this Lent? In what way could you be creative, as a reflection of being made in the image of a creative God? Maybe you could be intentional in the way you prepare to plant your garden—which is an amazing creative act. Maybe you could bake bread for your family. (I have some sour dough starter I'm willing to share if you want to take that route!) Maybe you could write a haiku, if not a sonnet, that describes something of God's creation that you pause to really photo of something that brings you joy, and rather than just posting

for prayers of praise.

Whether you consider yourself to you is-what could we make artistic or creative or not, you are, even if you just haven't found your medium. (Maybe it's creativity with numbers, or furniture arranging, or hair styles!) So even as you maybe give up meat or social media or Netflix this Lent, also add something creative, and use your creativity as a way to reflect and draw closer to our Creator and Savior, who loves you and has gifted you and wants you to know Him more.

Meg Newton is a wife, mother notice. Maybe you could snap a of two teenagers, occasional poet, baker of very basic sour dough bread, and the associate pastor of Trinity Church 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.

Upcoming Events:

March 28th at 5 PM: A night of family fellowship and BINGO fun. Gather in Smith Hall for some friendly competition. Pizza will be served, and amazing prizes will be available to win.

First Church of Christ, Scientist 49 Park Street 203.966.0293

christiansciencect.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:

April 6th at 11:30 AM: Adult forum with First Selectman, Dionna Carlson. Discussing: the state of the town.

Now through April 13th: Annual Lenten Food Drive. Bags with a list of items are available in back of Church.

March 20th from 6:30-8:30 PM: Open Mic Night. An evening to share music and/or poetry. Walk-ins are welcome.

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

Recurring Events:

Last Monday of every month 7pm: Women's Praise & Worship Holy Hour

Fridays 7:30am-6pm: Eucharistic Adoration (September-

Saturday: 7:00 am

Saturday 8:30am: St. A's Healing Rosary Prayer Group

Upcoming Events:

March 14th at 7 PM: Stations of the Cross For Healing. All who are experiencing any type of chronic medical condition and caregivers are welcome.

March 19th from 9 AM- 4 PM: Connecticut March For Life. Mass will begin at 9, followed by the bus departing at 10 AM. To register, visit https://starcc.com/respect-life/

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 PrayerRite II by Zoom.

Wednesday at 12:05pm: Noonday Eucharist in the chapel.

Recurring Events:

First Wednesday at 1pm: Laundry Love volunteering opportunity to come alongside people who are struggling financially by assisting them with their laundry. First & Third Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm: Youth Group

Upcoming Events:

April 5th at 5 PM: Master Organ Recital: James O'Donnell. Former Master of Music at London's Westminster Abbey, now Professor of Music at the Yale School of Music, James O'Donnell is one of the most sought-after artists of his generation. This exceptional recital will be enhanced by a video screen, giving us a view of his virtuosity at the organ console.

St. Michael's Lutheran Church

5 Oenoke Ridge 203.966.3913 office@stmichaelslutheran.org www.stmichaelslutheran.org

Sunday Service at 10:00 am. Following the service there is coffee, cookies and conversation' in the Fellowship Hall.

> **Recurring Events:** Thursday 12 PM: Alcoholics Anonymous

Trinity Church New Canaan | Darien

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

Join us Sundays at 11:00 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@umcofnewcanaan.org www.umcofnewcanaan.org

Sunday Service is at 10:00 am followed by coffee and conversation during Fellowship Time. Sunday School is available during Sunday Service. All are welcome.

Community Baptist Church

174 Cherry Street 203.966.0711 cbcnewcanaan@gmail.com www.cbcnewcanaan.org

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UCoZ2UNa8aHI3O_Syp_X0KDg

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CBCNewCanaan/ Sunday School at 10:00am

> Worship Service at 11:00am Live Facebook Broadcast 11:30 am

Upcoming Events: April 18th from 12-3 PM: Good Friday Service: Seven Last Words of Christ.

Grace Community Church

9:30am Service @ New Canaan High School, 11 Farm Road, New Canaan 203-966-7600 info@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.

www.gracecommunity.info

Join us **Sunday mornings at 9:30am** or via GCC's Facebook page or YouTube page. Nursery care and Sunday school/ teen programming is available for babies through 12th grade. Coffee and bagels available in the lobby after the service, all are welcome.

Upcoming Events: March 19th & April 16th at 6:30 PM: Trivia Night at Dry Dock Bar & Grille in Norwalk.

> Talmadge Hill Community Church 870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road; Darien, CT 203.966.2314 talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com

www.talmadgehill.org Ministers: Rev. Carter Via and Rev. Cheryl Bundy Sunday

worship service at 10:00am in person. All are welcome! We encourage everyone to stay for coffee hour after the service. Sunday School is every Sunday during the service and uses the Godly Play curriculum. Please reach out with any questions utilizing information listed above!

Recurring Events:

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

Chabad 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 Iewish 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.

Upcoming Events:

March 14th at 5 PM: Pi Day Purim. The night will start with supper and a mad science show followed by a Megillah reading. Visit Chabad's website to signup.

> Temple Sinai (Reform Synagogue) 458 Lakeside Drive; Stamford, CT 06903 203.322.1649

www.templesinaistamford.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 Sholom

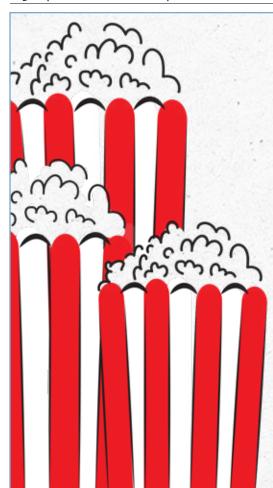
300 E. Putnam Ave. Greenwich, CT 06830 203-869-7191

www.templesholom.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=bFJQem9HWFcxU0EzZUM2VENEZ mgyUT09#success



PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS

ENCORE

SEE A MOVIE • ENJOY A DRINK • GRAB A BITE • MEET A FRIEND

- Unlimited Movies
- No Online Booking Fees
- 20% off Concessions (excluding alcoholic beverages)
- Plus More!

\$24/mo

JOIN NOW

CinemaLab.com

A CINEMA LAB Experience

LEGAL AD

March 13, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan,
Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Vine
Cottage ADA Accessible Ramp" 61 Main Street,
New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local
Time on Thursday, April 10, 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 Departmentof Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840. Digital Copies of the contract documents must be obtained by contacting Tiger Mann, Director of Public Works, DPW via email tiger.

mann@newcanaanct.gov

A mandatory PreBid Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM. Meet in front of the Playhouse Theatre.

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.

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

March 13, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan,
Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Intersection
Improvements 2025 - Conrad Road", New Canaan,
Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on April
3, 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 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, 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 shall begin on or after June 23, 2025 and shall be completed by August 22, 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

March 13, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan,
Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Playhouse
Theatre ADARamp/Stair/Compactor - Dumpster
Enclosure" New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00
a.m. Local Time on Thursday, April 10, 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 Departmentof Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840. Digital Copies of the contract documents must be obtained by contacting Tiger Mann, Director of Public Works, DPW via email tiger.

mann@newcanaanct.gov

A mandatory PreBid Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM. Meet in front of the Playhouse Theatre.

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.

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

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, March 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. 31 Oak Street - Upon application of Robert Lourenco, owner(s), for Special Permit approval pursuant to Section(s) 3.7.E to allow a garage structure that will exceed the maximum building coverage by 662 sq. ft. and in return will deed restrict the height of 1,311 sq. ft. of various structures on the property to 18' or less in the B Residence Zone at 31 Oak Street (Map N, Block 61, Lot 934).

2. 89 Chichester Road - Upon application of David Rucci, Lampert, Toohey & Rucci, LLC, Authorized Agent for New Canaan Beautification League, Inc., owner(s), to allow a modification of conditions to a Special Permit dated March 31, 2016 in the Two Acre Zone at 89 Chichester Road (Map 26, Block 22, Lot 1.)

LEGAL AD

March 13, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "New Canaan EMS Ambulance, 2025", New Canaan, Connecticut, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time on April 10, 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 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, 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.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 45 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

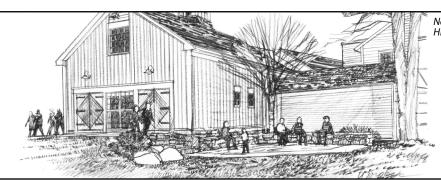
TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT



RESIDENTIAL DESIGN

LAND PLANNING

PROJECT COORDINATION







203.966.7071

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

Design for Freedom Summit 2025 to Address Modern Slavery in the Built Environment

will take center stage in New who escaped forced labor in SVP of Sustainability at Canaan on March 27 as Grace Farms hosts the 2025 Design for Freedom Summit, bringing together industry leaders determined to eliminate modern slavery from construction supply chains. The summit, now in its fourth year, is expected to draw over 600 professionals An estimated 28 million people from architecture, engineering, construction, government, technology, and real estate.

The focus is clear: dismantling the widespread but often unseen reliance on forced labor in the materials that make up our buildings. The annual summit builds on momentum from previous years, advancing practical solutions for ethical decarbonization, circularity, and supply chain accountability.

This is the moment for shelter to be called to account," said Sharon Prince, CEO and founder of Grace Farms. "The food and fashion industries have already taken steps to expose and eliminate forced labor. Now, we must confront the fact that many of our homes, offices, schools, and hospitals are built on human exploitation."

Confronting an Invisible

The day will begin with a keynote conversation featuring Grace Forrest, founding director Director at Grace Farms, the Henriksen from Harvard

A growing global movement child rights lawyer and activist leaders such as Myrrh Caplan, India and now fights for others Skanska, Neil Jacobs, CEO of trapped in the system. Their Six Senses, and Dave Lemont, stories will serve as a sobering Executive Chairman of Acelab. reminder of the real people Discussions will center on new behind supply chain statistics technologies, such as AI-driven and set the tone for the urgent material tracking and blockchain discussions that follow.

> The numbers are staggering. working in mines to extract cobalt for batteries, laborers manufacturing steel under abusive conditions, and quarry workers breaking stone in extreme heat without pay.

"Our sisters and brothers would not be enslaved if we refuse to touch that mammoth amount of tainted goods," Prince has said in past summits.

This year, attendees will engage in deep-dive panels and strategy sessions that go beyond awareness-raising to provide tangible solutions.

A key morning panel,

From Awareness to Action

Accountability," will examine how companies can identify and supply chains. Moderated by Sarah Billington from Stanford Nora Rizzo, Ethical Materials University and Heather

verification, that help businesses ensure ethical sourcing.

Another session. worldwide are trapped in "Generational Forest forced labor, generating over Stewardship in Haida Gwaii," \$150 billion in illicit profits will showcase the Haida Nation's annually. This includes children commitment to sustainable forestry. Leticia Hill, CEO of HaiCo, and Jeff Mosher, Chief Forester of Taan Forest, will highlight how traditional land stewardship can be a model for the building industry.

At the same time, the summit will address one of the industry's most pressing challenges: the intersection of forced labor and climate impact. As Fiona Cousins, Americas Chair of global engineering firm Arup, pointed out at last year's event, 8% of global carbon emissions come from concrete cement manufacturing, with another 8% from steel production— "Innovation in Supply Chain two industries notorious for exploitative labor practices.

This year's "Scaling Up remove forced labor from their Circularity" panel, featuring

Every building tells a story of humanity - either of dignity or exploitation.

Sharon Prince, CEO & Founder



using recycled and low-carbon University Architect at UVA. materials can help phase out emission materials.

Committing to Change

Perhaps the most impactful moments of the summit will come in the afternoon, when organizations will announce their commitment to new Design for Freedom pilot projects—realworld construction initiatives that adhere to ethical sourcing principles. One such case study, for Human Rights and Business, New Canaan's Grace Farms is the University of Virginia's Karsh Institute of Democracy, will be Director of MASS Design Group. presented by a team including

The session "Accelerating both unethical labor and high-Design for Freedom Internationally", moderated by Elaine Mitchel-Hill, Design for Freedom's International Lead, free until all of us are finally will examine how governments and organizations worldwide can align around ethical sourcing standards. Speakers include Baroness Young of Hornsey from the UK Parliament, John Morrison, CEO of the Institute and Alan Ricks, Co-Executive

As industry leaders reflect

will close the summit with a call to action, tying the fight against forced labor to the broader movement for human rights and sustainability.

Building a Just Future

True to Grace Farms' ethos, the summit will not be all statistics and strategy. Attendees will also experience the "With Every Fiber" exhibit, led by Anna Dyson of the Yale Center for Ecosystems + Architecture, which explores bio-based materials as alternatives to laborintensive supply chains. Tours of Grace Farms' award-winning SANAA-designed campus will illustrate how architecture can be both sustainable and ethically sourced.

The day will conclude with a cocktail reception, where professionals from across sectors can forge new collaborations to drive change beyond the summit.

"None of us are truly free," Prince has said, quoting Archbishop Desmond Tutu. "This is our moment to transform the way we build-to create a future that upholds dignity at

With the world watching, poised to once again serve as a beacon for global change.

Registration for the 2025 Mike Castle, VP of Operations on the path forward, Hugh Design for Freedom Summit is of Walk Free, and Amar Lal, a panel will include industry University, will explore how at Hourigan, and Alice Raucher, Evans, CEO of Global Citizen, open at gracefarms.org online.

Former NBA Player Chris Herren on Substance Use Prevention

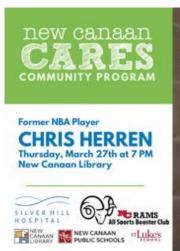
welcome former NBA player and nationally recognized speaker Chris Herren for a powerful discussion on substance use awareness and prevention at New Canaan Library on March 27, 2025, at 7 p.m. Through his personal journey—from a rising basketball star to the depths of addiction and ultimately recovery-Herren has dedicated his life to changing the way communities talk about substance use.

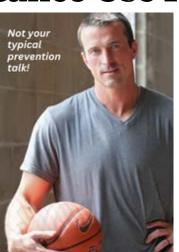
The event, free and open to the public, aims to educate parents, students, and community (grades 9 and up) from outside works to shift the conversation

New Canaan CARES will members on the dangers of early New Canaan Public Schools are substance use and the importance invited to attend the library event. of judgment-free conversations. Rather than focusing solely on addiction's end stages, Herren emphasizes the significance of play for Boston College and later preventing that first step into for the Denver Nuggets and Boston substance use. His message Celtics in the NBA. But behind encourages open dialogue and the success, addiction took hold, proactive strategies to help young leading to a downward spiral that people make healthier choices.

> students in grades 9-12 will hear into recovery, Herren travels the Herren's story firsthand during country sharing his experiences a school-day presentation. In the and offering a message of hope. evening, parents and students His foundation, Herren Talks,

Herren's own story is one of triumph and tragedy. A standout high school player, he went on to cost him his career and nearly New Canaan High School his life. Now, more than 15 years





from addiction's last day to its first and to empower young people with the tools to avoid substance

Presented in partnership with New Canaan CARES, Silver Hill Hospital, NC Rams All Sports Booster Club, New Canaan Public Schools, New Canaan Library, and St. Luke's School, this event highlights a community-wide effort to support youth and families in making informed, healthy decisions.

Those interested in attending can register at www. newcanaancares.org.

New Canaan Weather Forecast: Here's What to Expect

By Emma Barhydt

Expect a mix of dry, sunny days and periods of rain this week, New Canaan, with temperatures consistently trending above average for mid-March. A system moving in over the weekend will bring gusty winds and widespread rain Sunday before clearing out by Monday afternoon. A dry and mild period follows midweek before another storm system brings rain back to the area by Thursday. Here's what to expect day by day.

Friday, March 14 will be a partly sunny and dry day, with a high near 53°F. Winds remain light, making for a comfortable end to the workweek. Patchy fog may develop overnight as temperatures dip to $40^{\circ}F$, morning may start off with roads for late-night travelers. particularly in low-lying areas. expected, but early morning drivers on Saturday should be cautious of reduced visibility in fog-prone spots.

off the weekend with a could develop after 8 PM, times, and gusty winds of milder but cloudier day, with making for a damp Saturday 30+ mph are likely in the by mid-morning, conditions major weather disruptions, it an umbrella handy for the wet

New Canaan Weather Trends: Mar 14 - Mar 20 (B&W) Highs (°F) Lows (°F) --- Freezing Point (32°F) ■ Wind Gusts (mph) Precipitation Chance (%) 0.05 in

some patchy fog, but visibility hours remain mostly dry and a high near 60°F, with calm, but by the evening, rain increasing humidity ahead Saturday, March 15 kicks front approaches. Showers Widespread rain, heavy at

Sunday, March 16 brings

thunderstorm is possible, and downpours may cause No major travel impacts are improves by mid-morning as gray skies, gusty winds, localized flooding in poor near 60°F. A mix of sun and temperatures rise. Daytime and periods of rain. Expect drainage areas, particularly clouds will dominate, but a after dark.

chances increase as a warm of an approaching cold front. morning commuters may clouds by evening. Winds will

in the mid-50s as drier air moves in. A breezy northwest evening will be calm and cool, with lows in the upper 30s.

Tuesday, March 18 will be one of the nicest days of the week, with sunshine, light winds, and seasonably mild temperatures. Highs will reach the upper 50s, making for a comfortable and dry day. With no precipitation expected, roads will remain clear, providing excellent conditions for commuters and outdoor activities. Overnight lows will dip into the mid-30s, arriving on March 20, New but no frost is expected.

weak system passing to the Monday, March 17's north may bring increasing remnants of Sunday's rain, but and comfortable day. With no highs in the mid-50s. The night and the potential for wet afternoon and evening. A gradually improve. Skies turn will be an excellent midweek

partly sunny, with a high break from the weekend's wet conditions.

Thursday, March 20 is wind will help clear lingering spring's official arrival, and clouds, making for a crisp the weather will feel the but pleasant afternoon. The part with highs in the low to mid-60s. Skies will feature a mix of sun and clouds, but an approaching storm system may bring increasing clouds late in the day. While Thursday should remain dry, a chance for showers returns overnight into Friday. The overall trend favors a warm start to spring, though wet weather may be on the horizon heading into the following weekend.

With the spring equinox Canaan is shifting away Wednesday, March 19 is from winter's grip. Warmer going to be a partly sunny temperatures and periodic and mild day, with highs rain events will likely continue through late March. While no sharp return to cold is expected, residents should stay prepared for spring showers and breezy conditions encounter wet roads from the remain light, ensuring a calm in the weeks ahead. Enjoy the warmer afternoons and keep weekend ahead!

Traveling? Check The Week Ahead Nationally

By Emma Barhydt

Northeast: Mild Start, Rain and Cooling Trend

The Northeast will begin the period with unseasonably mild temperatures, with highs reaching the 50s and 60s, and even climbing near 70°F in parts of the Mid-Atlantic. However, a strong cold front will sweep through late Sunday into Monday, bringing widespread rain and a few thunderstorms, with heavy downpours that could cause localized flooding. Behind the front, cooler air will drop highs into the 40s, with overnight lows settling into the upper 20s to 30s. A brief midweek warm-up may push temperatures back into the 50s, but another cooldown could return by the end of the week, reinforcing the back-and-forth pattern typical

Southeast: Warm and Stormy Start, Drying Out Midweek

The Southeast will experience warm and unsettled conditions, with highs reaching well into the 70s and low 80s ahead of a significant storm system. Severe thunderstorms are expected over the weekend, particularly across the Gulf Coast and Southeastern states, where damaging winds, tornadoes, and torrential rain are possible. By Sunday, storms will push into Georgia, Florida, and the Carolinas before

a cold front clears the region, bringing cooler and drier air early next week, with highs dipping into the 60s and lows dropping into the 40s and 50s. High pressure will settle in by midweek, allowing temperatures to gradually climb again, with lateweek highs rebounding into the upper 70s in southern areas.

Midwest: A Clash of Seasons with Storms, Snow, and a Temperature Drop

A dynamic storm system will bring a mix of spring-like warmth, severe storms, and winter conditions to the Midwest. Ahead of the system, temperatures will surge into the 60s and even the low 70s in the southern Midwest, while colder air lingers in the north with highs in the 30s and 40s. Severe thunderstorms and heavy rain will impact the Ohio Valley and lower Midwest, while the northern Plains and Upper Midwest brace for snow and high winds, potentially creating blizzard-like conditions. By Sunday, much colder air will surge in behind the front, sending highs across the region back into the 30s and 40s, with lows plummeting into the 20s and even teens in the far north. A brief warm-up is possible midweek before another system could bring

additional rain and snow. Southwest: Dry and Warm with a Few Windy Days

warm days and cool nights dominating the forecast. above freezing. Lows across the region will generally Highs will generally range from the 70s to low 80s in range from the 30s in lower elevations to well below lower elevations, while mountainous areas will stay freezing in the mountains. The wet pattern will cooler, with highs in the 50s and 60s. Gusty winds persist into early next week before a brief drying will develop over the weekend, particularly across west Texas and parts of New Mexico, increasing wildfire danger. A weak system may bring scattered showers and high-elevation snow to parts of Utah Mountain Snow and Colorado by late weekend, but most areas will stay dry. Overnight temperatures will remain chilly in higher elevations, with lows in the 30s, while desert regions will see lows in the 40s to low 50s. By midweek, tranquil conditions will return, with seasonable temperatures continuing through the end of the period.

Northwest: A Classic Wet Pattern with Rain and Mountain Snow

coastal areas and much colder conditions in the temperatures. mountains. Snowfall will be significant in higher

The Southwest will remain mostly dry, with elevations, where temperatures will struggle to rise trend midweek, but another round of rain and snow may arrive late in the period.

West Coast: Another Round of Heavy Rain and

A powerful Pacific storm will impact the West Coast, particularly California, with heavy rainfall and mountain snow. Northern California will see significant precipitation over the weekend, with several inches of rain possible, while the Sierra Nevada could receive multiple feet of snow, creating hazardous travel conditions. Coastal areas will see highs in the upper 50s to 60s, while Southern California will be slightly warmer, reaching the mid-The Pacific Northwest will remain active, with a 60s to low 70s. Lows will range from the 40s to series of storms bringing persistent rain to coastal low 50s along the coast. As the storm moves south, areas and heavy snow to the Cascades and northern rainfall will weaken but still bring scattered showers Rockies. A significant atmospheric river event is to central and Southern California. By midweek, expected to bring widespread precipitation through conditions will improve as the system exits, the weekend, with highs in the 40s to low 50s in leading to drier weather and a return to seasonable

ESTATE DASHBOARD

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD EDITOR

John Engel | John.Engel@Elliman.com

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD CONTRIBUTORS

Christa Kenin | Christa.Kenin@Elliman.com Robyn Bonder | Robyn.Bonder@Elliman.com

FEATURED OPEN HOUSE

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
151 Butler Lane	\$1,399,000	SAT & SUN	12:00-2:00PM	Coldwell Banker
9 Twin Pond Lane	\$2,250,000	SAT & SUN	2:00-4:00PM	William Raveis
232 Park Street #17	\$515,000	SUN	1:00-3:00PM	William Raveis
23 Benedict Hill Road	\$2,899,000	SUN	1:00-3:00PM	Douglas Elliman

NEW LISTINGS											
Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB					
151 Butler Lane	\$1,399,000	3,078	\$454.52	1.00	4	3					
9 Twin Pond Lane	\$2,250,000	5,460	\$412.09	2.00	4	4					
277 Indian Rock Road	\$2,300,000	2,460	\$934.96	3.24	3	2					
33 Stonehenge Drive	\$2,695,000	7,116	\$378.72	2.00	6	5					

NEW SALES										
Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres			
378 Valley Road	\$1,425,000	\$1,425,000	\$1,575,000	12	4	3	2.89			

Things I Think I Think



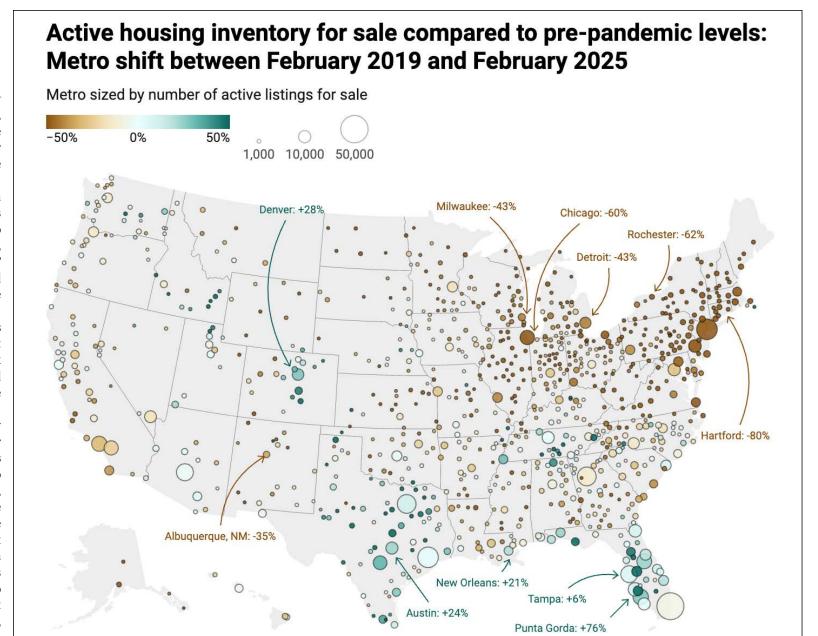
By John Engel

In today's Gospel, Jesus, sounding annoyed, says, "This is an evil generation, it seeks a sign." It made me wonder what He would have said about this generation and about the New Canaan real estate market.

In the month or so since Trump took office, in the month since the Spring market started, it seems everybody is looking for a sign. Are we going into a recession? Are we really annexing Greenland, Panama, and Canada? Are we serious about tariffs? And how will all of this affect New Canaan's real estate market and MY equity in MY home? Give me a sign!

First, why are we demanding a sign? There's so much volatility. It's a week where Wall Street has already given back all the gains of the last six months. The S&P index fell 2.7% and the Nasdaq fell 4% on Monday. What do modern-day prophets like Warren Buffet say?

Buffet, in his latest shareholder letter (February 22, 2025) says, "Focus on Long Term Value over Market Noise." The real estate translation of this advice is to own the best quality you can afford to hold and maintain for the long haul. Buffet writes, "Your company is 100% American, and we believe in America," reinforcing his confidence in the resilience of the U.S. economy despite the current volatility. The fact that he highlighted long-term holdings like Coca-Cola and American Express as examples of "fishing where the fish are" is a nod to finding enduring value. The real estate equivalent is investing in Greenwich, New Canaan, Darien, and Westport, the four best performing stocks in



"In the month since the Spring market started, it seems everybody is looking for a sign."

Fairfield County, over the long term. Sound obvious? The contrarian approach would be to invest in those markets that have shown the greatest gains in the last two years, including Stamford and Norwalk, which are each up 20%. I believe Buffet is telling us to invest in the house you know you can sell in a good market or bad market. I believe Buffet is a New Canaan kind of guy.

Buffet says, "Adapt to Change." He used the example of his shift from avoiding railroad stocks to recognizing their value as the industry consolidated, saying, "When the world changes, you must change." The real estate lesson here came to me yesterday when a Darien seller said he was ready to list his house. He has two pools, a tennis court, a sport court, three acres of lawn, and a beautiful house. But his life has changed, his job has changed, his children are older, and this is no longer the right home at this stage of his life. Many of us are holding on to good homes because of the memories, because these homes have been good investments, because we want a place "the kids" can come home to, but I think my Darien friend has realized Buffet's lesson, that its okay to change your mind about what is the right home, what is the right size, and be willing to let go. With only 22 houses for sale in Darien today, this seller should do well, downsize, maybe buy some of Buffet's railroad stocks.

Let's go back to today's Gospel because there is an interesting history lesson in there. When Jesus said, "The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment ... and She will condemn them," it made me wonder who is this Queen of the South and what's her story? Jesus was referring to the Queen of Sheba, who packed up her camels with gold, spices, and jewels in Yemen and traveled about 1,600 miles through the rugged Hijaz mountains to visit Jerusalem's wise king Solomon to get the answers to "hard questions." Traveling 20-30 miles per day, the journey took 80 days each way, assuming no major delays from weather, bandits, or diplomacy. It's said thousand miles to get the answers you can get right here each week for free.

the Queen of Sheba story, to make the point that particularly in Sunbelt states. Five Connecticut real when we don't like the advice, many of us just move estate markets made Fast Company's Top 10 list of

on to the next prophet. He is saying, I have given you the answers and yet you stand here asking for some great sign.

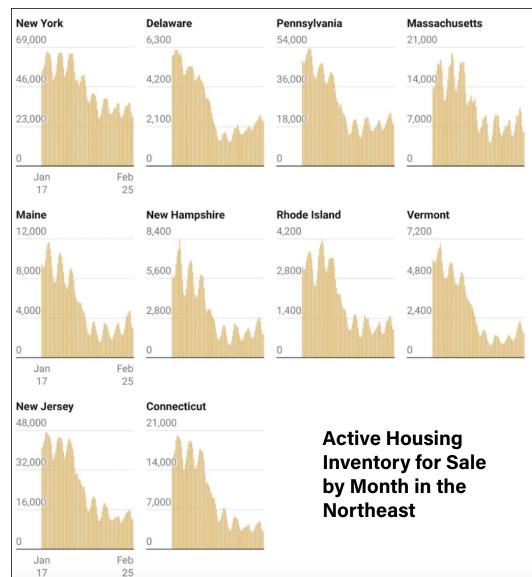
So too from Buffet we hear the same advice he has always given: Invest in quality and stop trying to time the market. Be willing to let go of long-held beliefs as the situation changes. So too in real estate, the analogies are clear:

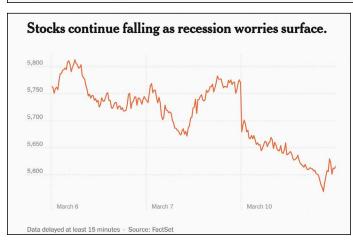
- Don't wait for interest rates. They should not be driving your decision. It is amazing to me how many times the word "rates" is a part of the conversation when buyers are considering a purchase. Buy the best real estate you can afford, in a well-run town, in the generally positive U.S. economy. 7.25% rates are the historical average, and most modern-day prophets are predicting that if rates move, they won't move much.
- Don't hold on to a house for too long because it was a good idea when you bought it. Said differently: Don't hold on to the wrong house too long because you're locked into a low interest rate, because the kids might come back, or because inertia is difficult to overcome.

Things I Think I Think:

Wall Street has its worst day this week with the S&P index falling 2.7% and the Nasdaq falling 4% on Monday. Does this affect the real estate market? Yes, the Fairfield County high-end real estate markets correlate closely with Wall Street. A jittery stock market will have a negative impact on higher-end real estate sale prices in lower Fairfield County. A good deal of the wealth pouring into our real estate over the last four years came at first from pandemicera stimulus and then from several successive years of stock market gains. Any contraction in the stock market will be felt at the top end of the range, particularly in deals over \$3 million.

According to Fast Company magazine, housing inventory was up 27.56% this February, compared to one year earlier. That's a substantial gain. Should she returned home "with all she desired." Three we panic? No. The national picture is still one of low inventory, 23.1% below the pre-pandemic levels of February 2019. Inventory is rising, and prices The point of the Gospel is one of frustration. are falling, but it's particularly felt in some of the Exasperated, Jesus uses several examples, including most overheated markets of the past five years,





particularly Connecticut? Connecticut was less reliant on pandemic-era migration and built fewer new homes, and we continue to build fewer homes now. I think low inventory levels will persist here, resulting in fewer transactions and agents leaving the business. We will continue to experience modest price increases in Fairfield County while the nations hottest markets (Texas and Florida) experience a correction.

John Engel is a broker with the Engel Team at Douglas Elliman in New Canaan, and he is wondering where the birds went. Two weeks ago, there was snow in his yard and dozens of birds feeding. Now, the crocus and daffodils are popping out and the birds have alternatives. No doves this week. Like the doves,

Why no inventory in the Northeast, and John adapts to the changing seasons.

markets in the country where inventory levels are

72% to 81% lower than they were six years ago. The

Fairfield County (#1), Hartford (#3), Norwich (#5),

New Haven (#7) and Waterbury (#8) markets lead

their list of the 50 markets with the greatest drop in

inventory, bucking the national trend.

e Sentinel

Education | Reviews | Community Calendar | Puzzles & Children's Puzzles | Comics | Wildly Successful | Horoscopes

Imagine you had \$100 to spend on buy new books for the library? Fix up a playground? Add more ice cream shops? Every year, town leaders have to make big decisions like this-but instead of \$100, they decide how to spend millions of dollars!

Why We're Writing This for You

At the New Canaan Sentinel, we believe that everyone in our town, our community works. That's why we created this special article just for you!

New Canaan is a great place to live, with excellent schools, parks, and friendly neighborhoods. But did you know that it takes a lot of planning—and money—to keep everything running? Grown-ups in our town meet every year to decide how much money should go to

Where Would You Spend the Town's schools, roads, police, firefighters, and other important services.

Even though kids don't vote or anything in New Canaan. Would you pay taxes, this affects you, too! The for teachers, books, and sports. decisions made now help shape the town where you live, learn, and play. We want to help you understand how these choices are made so you can be part of your community. Let's dive into how New Canaan's leaders decide where the town's money goes!

How Does New Canaan Decide How to Spend Money?

Every town needs money to run including kids, should understand how smoothly, and New Canaan is no different. The town needs to pay for schools, parks, police officers, firefighters, and many other services that help keep people safe and happy. The way the town decides how to spend its money is called the budget process.

Step 1: Planning the Budget

Finance meets to figure out how much meant the Board of Finance had to make

money the town needs for the next year. They talk about big things like:

How much money schools need

How much to spend on fixing roads and sidewalks.

How much is needed for firefighters, police officers, and emergency workers.

They also look at how much money the town has and how much they will need to collect from taxes. Taxes are the money that adults pay to the town everyone safe. to help cover these costs.

Step 2: Listening to the People

New Canaan's leaders hold meetings where people in town can share their thoughts about the budget. Sometimes, people ask for more money for schools or parks, and sometimes they want the town to spend less so their taxes don't

This year, at a public meeting, no one Each year, New Canaan's Board of showed up to share their opinions. That

was best for everyone.

Step 3: Where Does the Money Go?

Most of the town's money—about 70%—goes to schools. This pays for teachers, books, and school buildings. The rest of the money helps take care of things like:

Parks and playgrounds so kids have safe places to play.

Police and firefighters to keep

Fixing roads to make sure cars and buses can drive safely.

Step 4: Keeping Taxes Fair

New Canaan's leaders try to make sure people don't pay too much in taxes. This year, they worked hard to cut \$4 million from the budget. Even though they made these cuts, some costs—like paying teachers and firefighters—still

One challenge the town faced was a loss of money from car taxes because

decisions based on what they thought of a change in state laws. This meant the town had to adjust its budget to make up for that missing money.

Step 5: Final Approval

Once the Board of Finance finishes the budget, they send it to the Town Council, another group of town leaders. The Town Council can make changes before the final budget is approved. This year, the final vote will happen on April 3, 2025.

Why This Matters

The budget might sound like something only adults care about, but it affects everyone-including kids. The choices made today will help decide what your school, parks, and town look like in

By learning how New Canaan spends money, you are learning how your town works. Talk to your parents and let them know what you think!

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

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

Sentinel Literary

MARCH Writing Challenge #325: Literary Finds

March is a month of transitions and spring cleaning—winter turns to spring, the old gives way to the new, and change is everywhere. We throw open the windows and clean out the closets. This month's contest embraces transformation and lost things.

For Ages 15 & Under: "Letters from the Other Side"

Winner receives \$25 and publication in the Sentinel!

Prompt: If other things could talk, what would they say? Write a letter from an unusual point of view—maybe it's from a snowman to the sun, a worm to a robin, or a pencil to its owner. Whether it's heartfelt, hilarious, or completely bizarre, tell us what the world looks like from their perspective—in 50 words or fewer.

Example 1: A Snowman Writes to the Sun

Dear Sun,

Your warmth is wonderful, but every time you come out, I lose a little more of myself. My carrot nose fell off yesterday. My left arm is now just a soggy mitten in the slush. But still, I can't help loving your warmth.

Meltingly yours, Frosty

Example 2: A Book's Lament

Remember me? You used to take me everywhere—under blankets, to the park, even to the kitchen (I still have a spaghetti stain on page 42). But now I'm under your bed, all dusty and lonely.

Waiting (and sneezing), Your Book

For Ages 16 & Up: "What's Left Behind"

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

Prompt: Someone—or something—has disappeared. All that

remains is an object, a letter, or a single clue. In 150 words or fewer, tell the story of what was lost and what it left behind. It could be a person, a civilization, an animal, a way of life—anything that once existed and is now gone. Make it haunting, funny, mysterious, or

deeply human, but above all, make us feel the absence.

The archaeologist found it buried under layers of sand—an ornate drinking cup, its gold edges dulled by time. Someone had lifted it once, filled it, toasted with it. But to whom? A king? A god? They translated the inscription. It read: Drink deeply and remember. Remember what?

Example 2:

A single, lonely sock lay crumpled in the corner, its mate nowhere

"Another one," Detective Whiskers muttered, adjusting his tiny detective hat. "That's the third this week."

He sniffed the sock. A faint trace of fabric softener... and betrayal. Mrs. Jenkins stood in the doorway. "I put both in."

They always say that. Whiskers narrowed his eyes. This wasn't an

accident. This was organized crime. The Great Sock Heist had gone on for too long.

He turned back to the dryer. A draft of warm air whispered through the vent. Whiskers felt the fur on his back prickle.

Could it be? Were the legends true?

The Sock Dimension.

A place where single socks vanished, sucked into a swirling vortex of static electricity and lost laundry.

Whiskers flicked his tail. He'd crack this case. No sock left behind.

Deadline: Midnight, Friday, March 28, 2025. Winners announced in the April 3, 2025 issue.

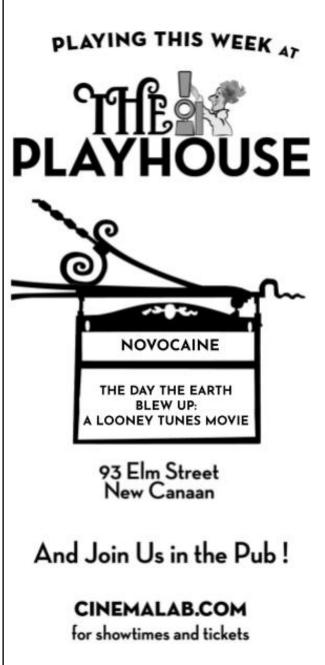
How to Enter: Craft your clever response to this month's prompt, then visit www.GreenwichSentinel.com/sentinel-writing-competition to submit it. Multiple entries are welcome, and pseudonyms are accepted—giving you the freedom to be as inventive as you like.

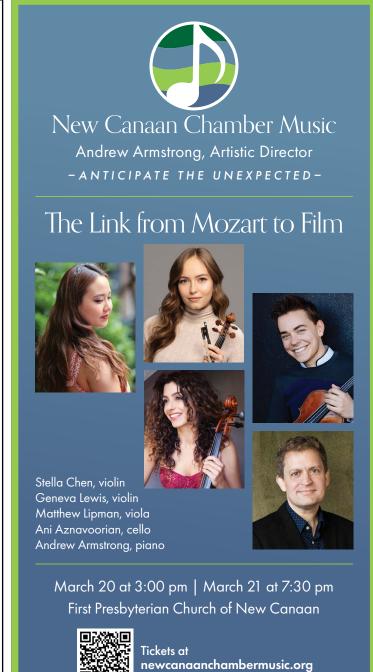














Submit your events at: newcanaansentinel.com/submit-an-event/

TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 18

Pension Committee - Special 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Location not posted at

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

Town Council

time of publication.

7-9 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via

Wednesday, March 19

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

Police Commission 6-8 p.m., Town Hall

Thursday, March 20

Town Council

7-9 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom

March 13

Nutrition, Wellness & Fitness For Teens with

10 AM in the NCHS Wagner Room

Join CARES & NCHS PFA for an interactive session with Dr. Katie Takayasu. Learn about smart nutrition tips for balanced meals & snacks, the connection between food & energy, and more. Give your teen the tools to fuel their body and mind for a healthier future. Register at https://newcanaancares.org/dr-

Shamrock Quilling

1 PM at the Lapham Center

Get in the spirit of St. Patrick's Day with this festive craft. Quilling is the art of rolling and shaping paper into beautiful forms. Free event. Call 203-594-3620

Ask the Attorney with Nedder and Associates, by appointment

2-4 PM at the Lapham Center

An attorney from Nedder and Associates, LLC will be available for a free, private, fifteen-minute consultations to answer your legal or financial questions. Free event. Please call 203-594-3620 to schedule your appointment.

Opening Reception Annual NCHS Exhibition:

Through Our Eyes XIII 5-6:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center

Join the opening of a new exhibit, featuring live chamber music by NCHS students: Niyathi Iyengar and Samuel Wang, violin, Anne-Eva Ritter, viola and Claire-Helene Ritter, cello. There will be a presentation of a scholarship award by the Carriage Barn Arts Center Board of Directors. This annual award is presented to an exceptional aspiring artist to further artistic pursuits. The exhibit will be open from March 14th through March 30th.

The Films of David Lynch: Lecture by Film **Historian Greg Blank**

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium

David Lynch was an American artist and filmmaker known for creating one of the most surreal and distinctive bodies of work in cinema history. Greg Blank is a New York-based filmmaker and film historian with over 15 years of experience. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/holdhistorian-greg-blank-130095.

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

March 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.

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. This is a free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

Microsoft Word Basics

2 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room

If you are new to Microsoft Word or want to learn about the latest version of Word, this class is for you. Learn the basics of navigating the Office 365 version of Word, from creating a new document and formatting fonts to adjusting paragraphs, changing margins, and saving and printing your files. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/ microsoft-word-basics-130078

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:// newcanaannature.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 17

Irish Dance: Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a Performance by the Anam Cara Students

10:30 AM at the Lapham Center

The Lapham Centers favorite Irish dancers will return to help celebrate St. Patrick's Day in style. Enjoy Irish treats while being awed and entertained by these talented young performers. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

VITA Free Tax Preparation

11 AM- 5 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. Dropins are welcome. Register at https://shorturl.at/ KDebZ.

March 18

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.

Community Preparedness Training

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede **Bartlett Auditorium**

Voices Center for Resilience is offering a Community Preparedness workshop to provide individuals with strategies to prepare in advance of an emergency. The program includes an overview of the basic components on how to be better prepared in your home, work and community, whether sheltering in place or evacuating. Register at https://voicescenter. org.

March 19

Tour: William Louis-Dreyfus Collection & **Katonah Museum of Art**

11 AM - 2 PM in Mt. Kisco, NY

Join for a visit to the William Louis-Dreyfus Foundation, in Mt. Kisco, NY, for a tour of the extensive collection made up of pieces by contemporary, emerging and self-taught artists. After, there will be lunch and a visit to the Katonah Museum of Art for a tour of their new Ali Banisadr exhibition. Tickets are \$50 for members and \$65 for non-members. Tickets are available at https:// carriagebarn.org/event/william-louis-dreyfus-kma/.

Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure Clinics

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Ellen Samai from New Canaan's Department of Health provides in-person blood sugar and blood pressure testing. Walk-ins welcome. If you plan to have your blood sugar level tested, it is recommend you fast for four hours prior to testing. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

Retirement Plans: Leave It, Move It, Roll It,

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Join a pizza lunch with a program presented by Nadine Vargas, Edward Jones Associate. Learn to handle your 401(k), pension or other employersponsored retirement plan when you leave a job. Learn about the most common distribution options, how to avoid having the IRS withhold 20% of your retirement distribution, how taxes, penalties and investment options factor into your decisions. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

Virus and Malware Basics

2:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room

Join to learn more about the different types of malicious software, how to tell if your computer is infected, and what you can do to protect your computer from viruses and malware. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/virus-andmalware-basics-130558.

March 20

Life Reimagined

1 PM at the Lapham Center

Purposeful living promotes happiness, longevity, a healthier heart and reduces the risk of Alzheimer's and other diseases. Hosts Marcy Rand, LMSW, Director, New Canaan's Human Services Department, and Robin Rockafellow, LCSW, lead an informal and friendly group discussion. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

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:// newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets/.

Les Misérables- Day One

7 PM at New Canaan High School

Les Misérables, the world's longest-running musical, is a powerful story of passion, redemption, and resilience set against the backdrop of revolution. With its unforgettable score and timeless themes, this Tony Award-winning masterpiece has captivated over 70 million people worldwide. Now, talented students are bringing this iconic production to life in what promises to be a breathtaking performance.

SAVE THE DATE

March 21

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION 8:30 - 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center Sponsored by the New Canaan Sentinel for a

Why & When Developmental Milestones Matter with Georgette Harrison

weekly community coffee and conversation.

4:30 PM at the New Canaan YMCA

Join Georgette Harrison, a psychotherapist specializing in early childhood and parenting, for an informative talk on developmental milestones for parents and caregivers of children ages 0 to 4. Learn about the various ways babies and young children develop, and discover how you can support them in reaching important milestones. Parents will also learn how to effectively communicate concerns with pediatricians and community providers. Register at https://newcanaancares.org/developmentalmilestones/.

Les Misérables- Day Two

7 PM at New Canaan High School

Les Misérables, the world's longest-running musical is a powerful story of passion, redemption, and resilience set against the backdrop of revolution. With its unforgettable score and timeless themes, this Tony Award-winning masterpiece has captivated over 70 million people worldwide. Now, talented students are bringing this iconic production to life in what promises to be a breathtaking performance.

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:// newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets/.

March 22

Les Misérables- Day Three

1 & 7 PM at New Canaan High School

Les Misérables, the world's longest-running musical, is a powerful story of passion, redemption, and resilience set against the backdrop of revolution. With its unforgettable score and timeless themes, this Tony Award-winning masterpiece has captivated over 70 million people worldwide. Now, talented students are bringing this iconic production to life in what promises to be a breathtaking performance.

March 24

VITA Free Tax Preparation

11 AM-5 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. Dropins are welcome. Register at https://shorturl.at/ KDebZ.

Spring Bulb Arranging Workshop with Bloomcraft

10:30 AM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center It's the perfect time of year to create an abundant spring bulb arrangement to take home and enjoy for weeks to come. Natalie McPartland of Bloomcraft will provide an array of vibrant spring bulbs like tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths. Perfect for beginners or flower enthusiasts, you'll learn the art of combining various colors, scents and textures. Tickets are \$125 for members, \$ 145 for non-members, and available at https://carriagebarn.org.

Growing Herbs Indoors for Beauty and Use

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Join for lunch and a program with Jen Cipriano from Copia Home and Garden. Jen will talk about indoor planting techniques, different types of herbs and how to care for them. Enjoy the benefits of growing

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

your own fresh herbs at home. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

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.

An Evening Dance Experience with Appetizers and Wine

5-7 PM at the Lapham Center

Amy and Marko from New Canaan's Fred Astaire dance studio will lead everyone in a dance lesson. No dance partner required. Come dance, sip and enjoy. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

March 26

Understanding Real ID

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Join a lunch and learn presented by Jeanthony Brito, AAA. The presentation will cover what Real ID is, why and when it is being enforced, and the requirements to obtain a Real ID driver's license or state ID. After the presentation, there will be a short Q&A session. Anyone who brings their documents can also meet with an AAA representative to review them and ensure they have everything needed to complete the process. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure Clinics

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Ellen Samai from New Canaan's Department of Health provides in-person blood sugar and blood pressure testing. Walk-ins welcome. If you plan to have your blood sugar level tested, it is recommend you fast for four hours prior to testing. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

March 27

Breakfast with the First Selectman

8 AM at Chef Luis Restaurant, 129 Elm St

Join the Chamber as they welcome First Selectman Dionna Carlson where she will provide her first annual address to the business community. Dionna will update everyone on a variety of issues her office is working on and take questions. Tickets are \$45 per person and available at https://newcanaanchamber. com/2025/02/21/breakfast-with-the-firstselectman-2025/.

Backyard Birds Presented by the Connecticut Audubon Society

11 AM at the Lapham Center

Learn to identify backyard birds by sight and sound, who is at the feeder during each season and what their feeding habits are. There will be samples of bird feeders and seed that can be used in your backyard to attract birds. Coffee and treats will be available. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

CARES Spring Community Program: Chris Herren

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett

From NBA Dreams to a Mission of Substance Use Awareness. Join for a powerful evening with Chris Herren, where he is changing the conversation on substance use, focusing on the first day, not the last. Register at https://newcanaancares.org/chrisherren/.

March 28

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.

Grand Opening of Fred Astaire Dance Studio 3-6 PM at 111 Main Street, New Canaan

Go celebrate the grand opening of Fred Astaire. There will be a mini workshop, prizes, group dancing, and a

Lecture & Reception with Katharine Earnhardt 6 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center

Join for a special reception and lecture with Katharine Earnhardt, Founder of Mason Lane Art Advisory. Katharine will lead an engaging conversation around art appreciation as a way to fuel personal and professional growth. There will be a reception followed by the presentation with a Q&A. More information is available at https://carriagebarn.org.

Spongebob the Musical- Day One

7 PM at Saxe Middle School

Welcome to The SpongeBob Musical at Saxe Middle School! Plunge into this all-singing, all-dancing, dynamic stage show. When the citizens of Bikini Bottom discover that a volcano will soon erupt and destroy their humble home, SpongeBob and his friends must come together to save the fate of their undersea world. Tickets are available at https://www. ncps-k12.org/o/sms/article/2046049.

March 29

Spongebob the Musical- Day Two

1 & 5 PM at Saxe Middle School

Welcome to The SpongeBob Musical at Saxe Middle School! Plunge into this all-singing, all-dancing, dynamic stage show. Tickets are available at https:// www.ncps-k12.org/o/sms/article/2046049.

April 1

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.

Mahjongg: An Introduction

6 PM at the Lapham Center

Join Aggie for this helpful overview of Mahjongg. Find out just what makes it so popular, and learn the basics of this exciting, low-pressure, social game. PowerPoint presentation followed by a Q&A. There will be chips & dips and small nibbles. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure Clinics 12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Ellen Samai from New Canaan's Department of Health provides in-person blood sugar and blood pressure testing. Walk-ins welcome. If you plan to have your blood sugar level tested, it is recommend

you fast for four hours prior to testing. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

April 4

Medicare Basics with Medicare CHOICES Counselors

11 AM at the Lapham Center

Medicare can be overwhelming and what you don't know can negatively impact your healthcare. This presentation will provide an overview of how Medicare works, coverage options, enrollment periods and key benefits. Dick Neville has been providing volunteer Medicare Counseling for over 20 years. Coffee and treats will be served. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

2025 Unite to Fight 5K Run/Walk

7:30 AM at Waveny Park

Join Filling in the Blanks at their Seventh Annual Unite to Fight 5K. Check in will begin at 7:30, Kids Fun Run at 8:15 and the 5K walk/run beginning at 8:45. Show your support, register as a fundraiser, walker, or runner, and spread community awareness of Filling in the Blanks' mission. There will be prizes, t-shirts and food. To register, visit https://runsignup. com/Race/CT/NewCanaan/UnitetoFight.

Spring Awakening Retreat with Grounded Meditation

9 AM-1 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center

This half-day retreat is designed to celebrate the arrival of Spring and embrace the theme of new beginnings. An immersive experience that will connect you to nature, your body, and your inner self through a variety of restorative practices. Tickets are \$150 before March 30th, \$175 after, and available at https://carriagebarn.org.

April 8

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.

A Night of Needlepoint

5 PM at the Lapham Center

Whether you are a total novice or an old pro, come in and join Aggie and friends for an evening of needlepointing. If you have questions about a work in progress or if you want to learn to stitch, Aggie will be available to provide assistance and offer "pro" tips. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

April 9

Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure Clinics

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Ellen Samai from New Canaan's Department of Health provides in-person blood sugar and blood pressure testing. Walk-ins welcome. If you plan to have your blood sugar level tested, it is recommend you fast for four hours prior to testing. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

April 10

Faux Faberge Eggs with Clever and Crafty

1 PM at the Lapham Center

Spend the afternoon with friends, as you create beautiful "Faberge" eggs for the holiday. Free event. Registration is limited, call 203-594-3620 to register.

Ask the Attorney with Nedder and Associates, by appointment

2-4 PM at the Lapham Center

An attorney from Nedder and Associates, LLC will be available for a free, private, fifteen-minute

tions to answer your legal or financial questions. Free event. Please call 203-594-3620 to schedule your appointment.

April 11

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. This is a free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

April 12

Adaptive Circus Program

3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett

Join Circus Moves for a special adaptive program for children with special needs and their families. Balancing, bouncing, tossing, trying, spinning, smiling, jumping, juggling, and lots of clowning around. Circus is for everyBODY. Best for families with children in grades K-6th. Register at https:// www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/copy-copyadaptive-circus-program-94306.

April 17

Life Reimagined

1 PM at the Lapham Center

Purposeful living promotes happiness, longevity, a healthier heart and reduces the risk of Alzheimer's and other diseases. Hosts Marcy Rand, LMSW, Director, New Canaan's Human Services Department, and Robin Rockafellow, LCSW, lead an informal and friendly group discussion. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

Glass House Presents Andrew Heid, Author of Glass Houses

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium

Glass Houses presents 50 stunning architect-

designed homes that utilize glass to maximum effect. Each house is celebrated with awe-inspiring photographs that showcase the dynamic, light-filled living spaces that only glass can deliver. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-glasshouse-glass-houses-131397.

April 30

Bytes and Bites: AI Insights, Appetizers and Wine

5 PM at the Lapham Center

In this session, find twelve ways AI and ChatGPT can help you with browsing, writing, summarizing, fact-checking, playing, sketching, translating or repairing photos. Be sure to bring your device to try these things first-hand. Presenter, Gary Webster, is a dynamic technology integrator and certified teacher, with over 15 years' experience teaching technology and design in the classroom. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

May 1

Sip and Paint

5 PM at the Lapham Center

Join this low-key evening of art, wine, and good cheer. Unleash your inner artist and have some fun. This event is \$10 per person. Space is limited, call 203-594-3620 to register.

May 9

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. This is a free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

May 16

New Canaan CARES Home Tour 10 AM at the Lapham Center

Tour elegant New Canaan homes while supporting the community work of New Canaan CARES. A private Post Tour "Patron Party" will be held from 2-4 PM at a sixth "bonus" home. Enjoy lite bites, live music, mocktails and cocktails. Tickets are available at https://newcanaancares.org/new-canaan-careshome-tour/.

BLOOD DRIVES

Friday, March 14

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

United Church of Rowayton 210 Rowayton Ave Norwalk, CT 06853 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturday, March 15

St. George/Fr. Germanos Stavropoulos Community Center 238 W Rocks Rd Norwalk, CT 06851

Monday, March 17

First Presbyterian Church Stamford 1101 Bedford St Stamford, CT 06905 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Thursday, March 20

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

Support Services & Meetings

March 21

Suicide Prevention Training: Question, Persuade and Refer

11 AM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room

QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer - the 3 simple steps anyone can use to help prevent suicide. Those trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. This training will certify you as a QPR gatekeeper. Register at https://www. newcanaanlibrary.org/event/suicide-preventiontraining-question-persuade-and-refer-128080.

March 26

Alzheimer's Support Group with the **Waveny LifeCare Network**

11 AM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room

Join an informative and supportive group session to help navigate changes related to memory loss and cognitive decline. This event will be facilitated by Chris DiElsi, a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) and an Alzheimer's Navigator at Waveny LifeCare Network. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/ hold-dementia-support-group-93006.

Lifestyle Medicine: Mental Health 11 AM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate

Conference Room

In this workshop, lifestyle medicine specialist, Dr. Raquel Harrison will discus mental health issues and how and where to get help. Dr. Raquel Harrison (MD, FACEP, dipABLM) is dual board certified in emergency medicine and lifestyle medicine. Register at https://www. newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-lifestylemedicine-112567.

April 1

Social Prescribing

6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium

Author Julia Hotz draws on scientific studies to show how social interactions can significantly reduce stress and anxiety, improve mood, boost immune function, and elevate our sense of purpose and inner peace. Presented in a panel with community partners including Silver Hill Hospital and the New Canaan Community Foundation. Register at https://www. newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-silver-hilllibrary-author-talk-127930.

April 2

Caregiver Support

Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias

Join this group of experienced and compassionate

April 25

Suicide Prevention Training: Question,

11 AM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin

QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer - the 3 simple steps anyone can use to help prevent suicide. Those trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis This training will certify you as a QPR gatekeeper. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/ event/suicide-prevention-training-question-

Every Friday

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

Every Saturday

Saturdays at 9:15 AM First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

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

Lost Then Found NA Meeting

AA Meeting Wheelchair Access

Adult Child Al-Anon Meeting Mondays at 12 PM

Every Tuesday

Adult Child Alanon Meeting Tuesdays at 12 PM

Every Wednesday

AA Step Meeting

Al-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 New Canaan

Our

March 9

The Irish Tenors with the Ridgefield **Symphony Otchestra** 7:30 PM at the Ridgefield Playhouse

The Irish Tenors have been Celtic music icons since their 1998 debut, boasting ten bestselling CDs and captivating audiences across the U.S. with their enchanting performances. They reignited America's love for Irish music, consistently drawing full houses and standing ovations. Tickets prices start at \$86 and are

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

experts to learn more about what help is available and how to access the services offered. Moderator: Shannon Vallerie, New Canaan Health Department. This lunch and presentation is free. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

Persuade and Refer

persuade-and-refer-128081.

AA Meeting-Sober Citizens Group

AA Meeting-Laundry and Dry Cleaning

Wheelchair Accessible Saturdays at 7 PM

United Methodist Church (back entrance)

Every Monday

Mondays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan

St. Mark's Church, Youth Room

St. Mark's Parish House, Conf. Room

Wheelchair Access Wednesdays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan

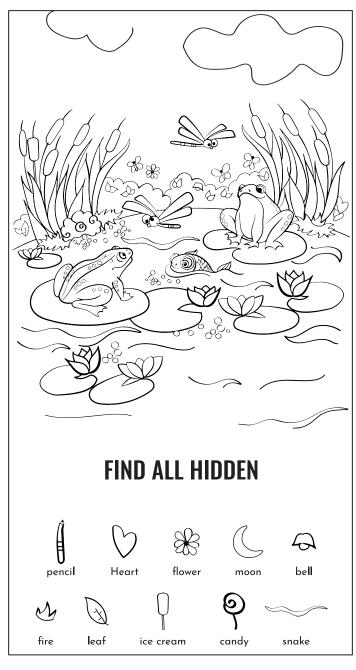
Thursdays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan **New Canaan Parent Support Group** 7-8:30 PM St. Mark's Episcopal Church

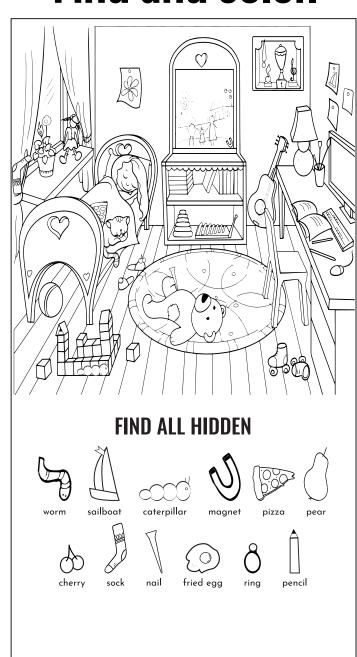
Neighbors

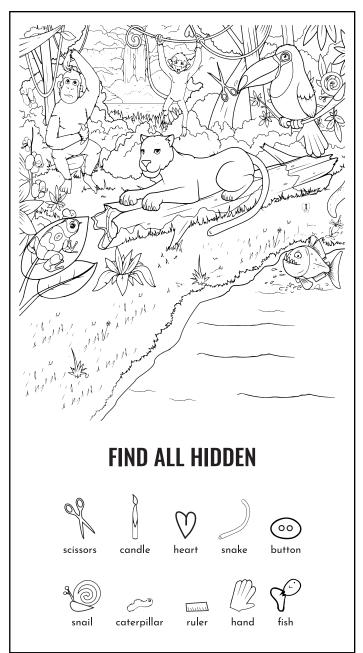
available at https://ridgefieldplayhouse.org.

The Connection Cure: A Conversation on

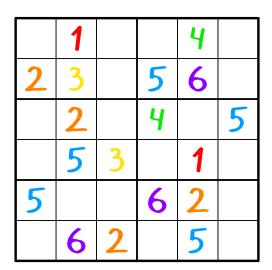
Find and color.

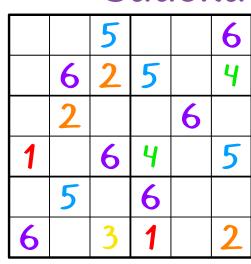






Sudoku for Kids





	5		6		4
7		6	2		
	6		3		2
	2	5	4		
6				4	
	4	3	1		6

	3			4	5
7		2	6		
	2				3
	4	5	1		6
2	6		5	1	
	1				2

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

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

			Н	lar	d			
3	1			5				
					3	9		
			4					1
2	3					8		6
	5	7				1	9	
4		9					7	2
1					7			
		8	6					
				2			3	4

		V	er	y F	lar	ď		
			6			5		
			3					
4			7	5				
						1	4	5
		5		8		6		
1	7	9						
				9	3			1
					1			
		4			5			

			E	as	У			
	2		5			7		
1		8	4	2	7			
7					9		1	
		5						4
2	6						5	1
9						3		
	8		9					3
			1	7	8	5		6
		7			5		4	

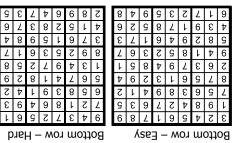
			Н	lar	d			
9				2	5			8
		1	8					5
			3				2	
5				1			9	3
	3						8	
8	9			3				4
	7				9			
4					3	7		
2			6	4				1

		V	er	y F	lar	d		
				1	8	5	4	2
1	4		7					6
						·		
8	3							
		1	3		4	2		
							6	3
2					1		5	9
5	9	3	8	6				

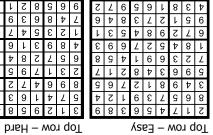
Sudoku answers

ند	٥	7	4	ø	œ	ω	6	9	L	
6	G	7	L	ε	Þ	9	8	2	6	
8	ε	9	9	6	2	Þ	ı	7	7	
ε	9	6	2	8	۲	7	9	7	Þ	
ç	8	2	Þ	L	ε	1	9	6	9	•
Þ	7	ı	9	ç	6	7	ε	8	ω	=
L	ŀ	3	6	Þ	ç	8	7	9	L	•
9	6	8	3	7	7	G	Þ	ı	G	
7	7	g	8	l	9	6	L	3	8	

Bottom row – Very Hard Bottom row - Hard



ε	9	7	G	Z	8	Þ	ı	6		7	ε	7	l	7	8	G	9	6
8	L	6	۲	9	Þ	ω	7	g		G	1	2	6	ε	9	8	Þ	Z
4	G	Þ	ω	6	7	9	8	L		6	8	9	L	Þ	G	ω	7	_
7	3	8	9	7	9	6	Z	ı		7	L	G	9	_	ε	6	8	Þ
L	6	9	7	8	ı	G	7	3		ω	6	ı	Þ	8	7	L	G	9
ç	Þ	ı	L	3	6	7	9	8		9	7	8	G	6	L	_	З	7
9	2	ε	8	g	7	ı	6	7		1	G	ω	7	7	Þ	9	6	8
6	ı	7	Þ	7	ε	8	ç	9		8	2	6	ε	9	┺	Þ	L	G
Þ	8	S	6	ŀ	9	L	3	7		Z	9	Þ	8	G	6	7	l	ε
Top row – Very Hard								Top row – Hard										



Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS 1 Scored

- perfectly on Producer of milk
- 8 Clock face
- **12** Devastation
- **14** If-thenstatement
- 15 Actress Roberts
- Stadium's
- relative Southern
- pronoun 18 Circular piece of
- dough? 19 2005 Coldplay hit whose title is sung after "And birds go flying at the ..."
- 22 Bikini top 25 Fixtures in entertainment centers
- 26 "We please"
- Person from Perth, e.g., informally
- Toss out Footwear item with no laces
- 33 Single strand found in hair
- Roomy vehicle
- **British** bathroom 38 Annoy
- 40 Sleep
- acronym Success-vs.failure choice
- 43 Sweetheart

ACROSS

1. (K) Get earth

off your skin

front, directing

have __ more?"

5. (K) Was in the

8. Each, to

a grocer

12. (K) "Do you

15. (K) Like

shreds

16. (K) How do

saxophone

13. Burden to bear

something in

you crush a

(3 words)

20. (K) By oneself

22.(K) Construct,

accessory

25. Defy authority

Previous riddle answer:

Prefix recently viewed? 7-D) Pre

27. Fishing net

as a 10-story

18. Polo period

21. Meaty stuff

building

24. Fluffy

26. Grad

spider's spirit?

11. Variety of

- 45 Capital of Dominica
- **46** Like hot fudge 48 Chest muscle, for short
- 49 E.R. workers 50 Make a deal with the devil
- **54** Notified 55 ___ Spunkmeyer
- cookies **56** Not at all
- urban Falco in "The
- Sopranos" 61 One may taste more sweet than sour
- **62** Run away to get hitched
- **63** Colleague
- **64** Cheer for Team Spain
- **65** Run easily **DOWN** 1 "Eureka!"
- 2 One may do laps ... or be found in a
- pool **3** The night before
- 4 Dresses in 5 Dressed (in)
- 6 Norway's capital 7 Good fortune
- 8 Relax at a spa 9 "Catch you later!"
- 10 Essential ___ acids 11 Sea's coun-
- terpart **13** Aid for a deaf person watching a video

- **14** Organs Brahma has eight of
- 420 21 "Chandelier" singer

20 Like 42 or

- 22 Low guitar variety
- 23 Measuring stick 24 Remark that
- other actors pretend not to hear
- 28 What's usually full of junk
- 29 Gleamed **30** One mixing things up at work
- 32 Like improbable chances
- 34 More recent **35** Birdlike 38 Manage to
- **39** Australian birds

get

- 41 Reject **42** Cookie in many
- crosswords 44 Lion sign 46 It often
- contains quartz crystals
- Skateboarder's jump **48** (I have
- something to tell you) 50 Staircase
- part 51 List-ending
- abbr. **52** Royal
- address **53** Awkward moment on a first date
 - 57 Pooh's jumping friend 58 It may be

coded in

Java 59 Martial artist Bruce

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER MATE MINKED PSST

IVI	(_			171	<u>'</u>	_ i \		ייו		-			<u>'</u>
Α	O	Е	R		\supset	Ν	_	Т	Е		_	Т	С	Н
С	Η	Е	Α	Р	S	Κ	Α	Т	E		Т	Α	R	Α
S	Е	N	S	Е	Τ		S	Α	Р	S		Ν	Ε	Т
			Е	S	С				F	0	_	L	Ε	D
М	_	C	R	0		R	Α	Υ	R	0	М	Α	N	0
U	Ν	Н			М	0	S	Ε	Υ		ם	U	N	Е
S	Т	Е	W		Α	Ν	Τ	S	E		В	R	Α	S
Т	R	Ε	Ε		Ζ	Α	D	Ε	R			Ε	М	_
В	Α	S	S	L	_	N	Е	S		Α	G	L	Ε	Т
Ε	М	Ε	Т	-	С				S	F	0			
Ν	J	В		Р	U	Р	U		ш	Α	Т	R	Α	W
Ι	R	Α	N		R	U	В	В	Ε	R	S	0	L	Е
С	Α	ᅵ	Ι		Е	N	Ε	М	Υ		Е	D	Ε	Ν
Е	L	L	Α		S	Υ	R	Ι	Α		Т	Ε	Χ	Т
9/3 © 2021 Androve McMael Universal														

© 2021 Andrews McMeel Universal www.upuzzles.com

Mye Grossyord The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

- 29. Things hanging
- around a roof 31. (K) It can hold
- many things 32. Knowing what's
- going on **34.** (K) Call off
- 35. (K) Intelligent **36.** (K) It can be
- booted 39. Love to pieces
- 41. (K) Having a little
- pre-stuffing nibble?
- 43. Wave a fist at 45. Mix ingredients 46. Firefighter's
- tool 47. (K) Rainbow's
- shape 48. Shaving-cream additive,
- sometimes 49. Salon goo
- 50. (K) "Ta-ta"
- **DOWN**
- 1. Fob-ulous item
- **51.** The landlord
- wants what?
- **7.** (K) Make an
 - egg an Easter egg 8. (K) Summer

2. (K) "Hi" in HI

3. Make music

fingers

sound

with one's

4. (K) "Get out

5. CD player's

(2 words)

6. Main dish

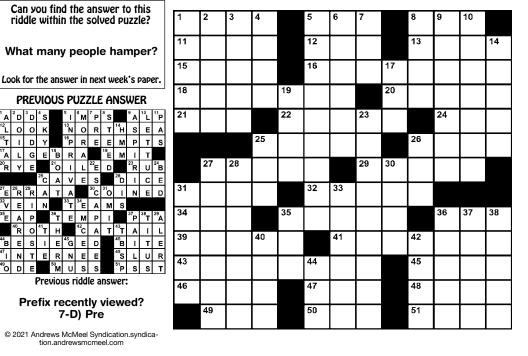
of my lane!"

important part

- refresher 9. Confer honor
- upon 10. Catastrophic,
- to an
- archaeologist? 14. (K) Old engine output
- 17. (K) Butter portion
- 19. Like a freshly sharpened knife
- 23. (K) Big sale type 25. Free from

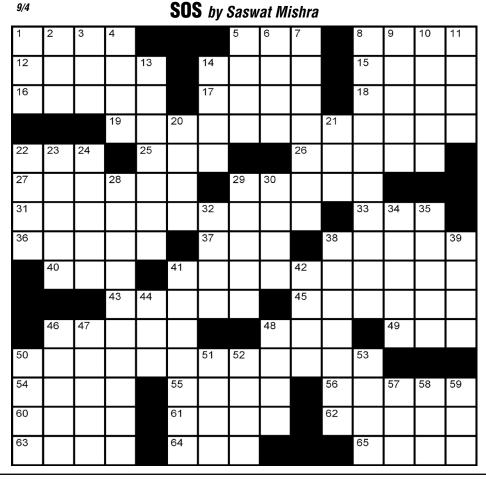
(with "of")

- 26. Park in NYC, for one
- 27. Underwater construction worker
- 28. (K) Say "That's my pick for
- class president" and
- sciences
- **31.** Moor plant 33. (K) Like soup
- that's too thin **35.** (K) Last word of "America
- the Beautiful" **36.** (K) "Ozma of Oz," for
- example 37. (K) Vegetable
- made into rings 38. Crane relative
- 40.(K) Fishing line holder
- 42. House of Romanov ruler 44. Amount to pay in a restaurant



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

www.GreenwichSentinel.com/subscribe www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/subscribe



Horoscopes for Next Week

Pisces (February 19 - March 20) Aries season outdated beliefs. urges you to get grounded, especially in finances and self-worth. If uncertainty clouds your decisions, step back and reassess rather than rush. Clarity will come, and when it does, trust yourself to make the right moves. This week is about strengthening your foundation before leaping forward.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) The Sun enters your sign this week, bringing a surge of energy and personal renewal. Mercury sharpens your communication, making it a great time to express your ideas with confidence. However, Venus retrograde urges caution—move with purpose, not impulse. Reflect on whether your current path aligns with your deepest values before charging ahead.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Aries season stirs deep introspection, making this a week of quiet realizations. Pay attention to emotions bubbling beneath the surface, especially in relationships and finances. Venus retrograde encourages releasing old wounds rather than dwelling on them. Take time to rest, journal, and reconnect with what truly brings you peace.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20) Social energy is high as Aries season sparks new connections and collaborations. While networking brings opportunities, be mindful of who you trust with your ideas. Venus retrograde may reveal which friendships are truly supportive. Stay innovative, protect your creative work, and focus on what excites you most.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Your career gains confidence, but ensure your ambitions align with your personal happiness.

pushes you to expand your mind through shifting perspectives. What you thought was into learning, embrace change, and challenge those around you.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22) This week reveals imbalances in emotional or financial exchanges. Aries energy highlights power dynamics, asking you to set firm boundaries. Instead of dwelling on past mistakes, use insights gained to move forward with clarity. Trust yourself and take quiet steps toward a healthier, more secure future.

Libra (September 23 - October 22) Relationships take center stage as Aries season highlights your connections. Whether romantic or professional, this is a time for honesty and realignment. Venus retrograde may stir past emotions, but don't overextend yourself just to keep the peace. Stand firm in your needs and let go of what no longer fits.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21) Busy energy surrounds you as Aries season revamps your daily routine. While opportunities arise, taking on too much too fast could lead to burnout. Prioritize tasks, set limits, and focus on what truly moves you forward. Sustainable progress beats frantic overcommitment every

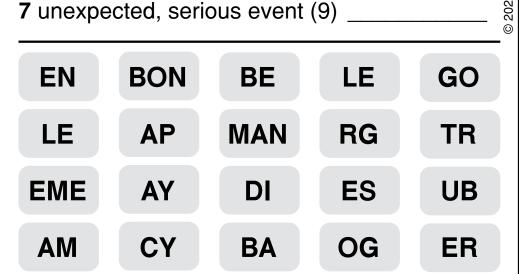
Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21) Creativity and romance heat up, but Venus retrograde asks you to reassess what truly excites you. Are you chasing temporary thrills or meaningful joy? Focus on projects and people that bring lasting fulfillment. This is a week for authenticity over distractions.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19) Home momentum as Aries season pushes you into and family matters demand attention as Aries the spotlight. Delayed projects may finally season stirs deep emotions. Unresolved conflicts move forward, but Venus retrograde asks you may surface, giving you a chance to clear the air to reassess long-term goals. Are you chasing Whether through direct conversations or quiet success or true fulfillment? Step up with reflection, seek closure where needed. A stable foundation starts with emotional honesty.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18) Your Leo (July 23 - August 22) A spark of curiosity words carry weight this week, making communication a powerful tool. Speak your travel, study, or new experiences. As Aries truth with confidence but avoid impulsive season encourages bold action, be open to comments. Venus retrograde may stir intense conversations—think before you react. Use this true may evolve, and that's a good thing. Lean energy to express yourself wisely and inspire

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

CLUES	SOLUTIONS	4
1 sternum and clavicle (5)		<u>.</u>
2 throw under the bus (6)		2
3 largest city in Jordan (5)		2000
4 seek information on the web (6)		Viim
5 attractive trinket (6)) (
6 it may need a change (6)		



Previous Answers: 1. VACANCY 2. COURTENEY 3. TRANCE 4. BÉRNIE 5. ALPHABETS 6. DERAIL 7. MESSAGE

This Week in History & Fun Things to Celebrate

This Week in History & Fun Holidays (March 15 – March 20)
Exciting events from the past and some fun and wacky celebrations coming up!
This Week in History

March 15, 44 B.C. – The Ides of March & Julius Caesar's Assassination Beware the Ides of March! On this day, Roman leader Julius Caesar was assassinated by a group of senators, including his friend Brutus. This event changed Roman history forever.

March 16, 1926 – The First Liquid-Fueled Rocket Launch American scientist Robert H. Goddard launched the world's first liquid-fueled rocket in Auburn, Massachusetts. His work laid the foundation for modern space exploration.

March 17, 461 – St. Patrick Passes Away

St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, is believed to have died on this day. His legacy is celebrated around the world with parades, shamrocks, and a whole lot of green!

March 18, 1965 – The First Spacewalk

Cosmonaut Alexei Leonov became the first person to walk in space. He spent 12 minutes floating outside his spacecraft, paving the way for future space missions.



March 19, 2003 - The Iraq War Begins

The United States and its allies launched military action against Iraq, marking the start of a conflict that lasted for years and reshaped global politics.

March 20, 1852 – 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' is Published Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, Uncle

Tom's Cabin, was published, bringing national attention to the horrors of slavery in the U.S. The book fueled the abolitionist movement and had a profound impact on American history. Fun and Wacky Holidays This Week!

March 15 – Everything You Think Is Wrong Day

A humorous day to embrace mistakes and rethink everything you thought you knew!

March 16 – National Panda Day A day to celebrate these black-andwhite icons of conservation. Watch panda videos, visit a zoo, or learn about efforts to protect them.

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day Get your green on! Celebrate Irish heritage with parades, traditional food, and maybe even a lucky fourleaf clover.

March 18 – Awkward Moments Day Ever had an embarrassing moment? Today is all about laughing at those awkward situations and moving on!

March 19 — Let's Laugh Day A day dedicated to humor and joy. Tell a joke, watch a comedy, or share a laugh with a friend!

March 20 – International Day of Happiness

A day to focus on what makes you happy. Spread kindness, enjoy the little things, and appreciate the good around you.

Other Fun and Wacky Celebrations Coming Up!

March 15 – World Consumer Rights Day

A day to learn about your rights as a consumer and how to make informed purchases.

March 16 – Freedom of Information

Promoting transparency and the public's right to access government records.

March 17 — Submarine Day A day to recognize the deep-sea explorers and military submariners who navigate the depths of the ocean.

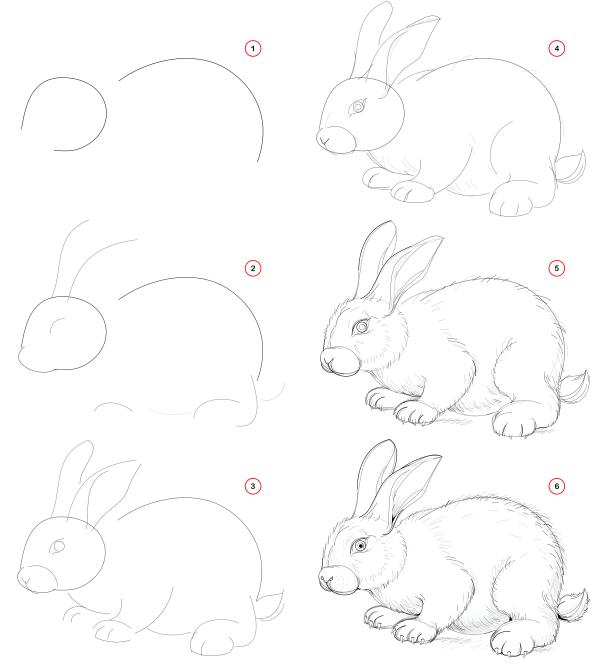
March 18 – Supreme Sacrifice Day Honoring those who have given their lives for others in acts of bravery and selflessness.

March 19 - National Poultry Day A celebration of chickens, turkeys, ducks, and all things poultry-related!

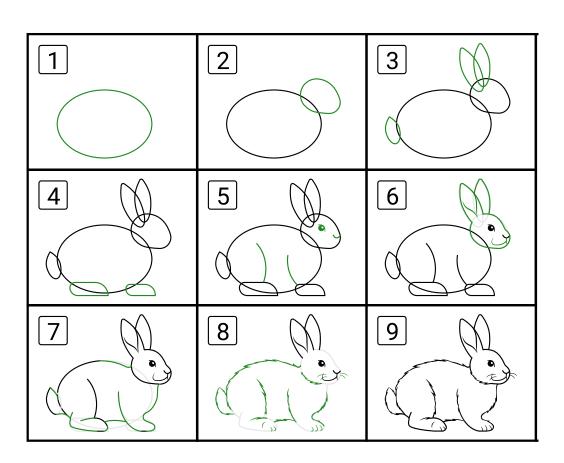
March 20 - First Day of Spring (Vernal Equinox)

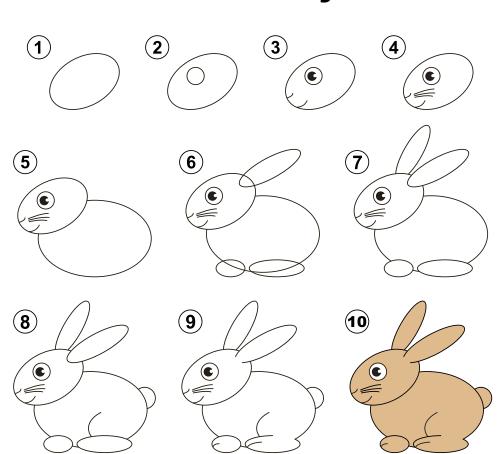
Winter is over! Today marks the official start of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, bringing longer days and blooming flowers.
How Will You Celebrate?

Will you wear green, laugh a little more, or learn about space history? With so many important events and fun holidays, there's something for everyone this week! Enjoy the celebrations!

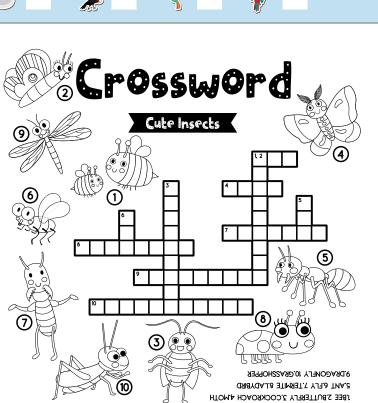


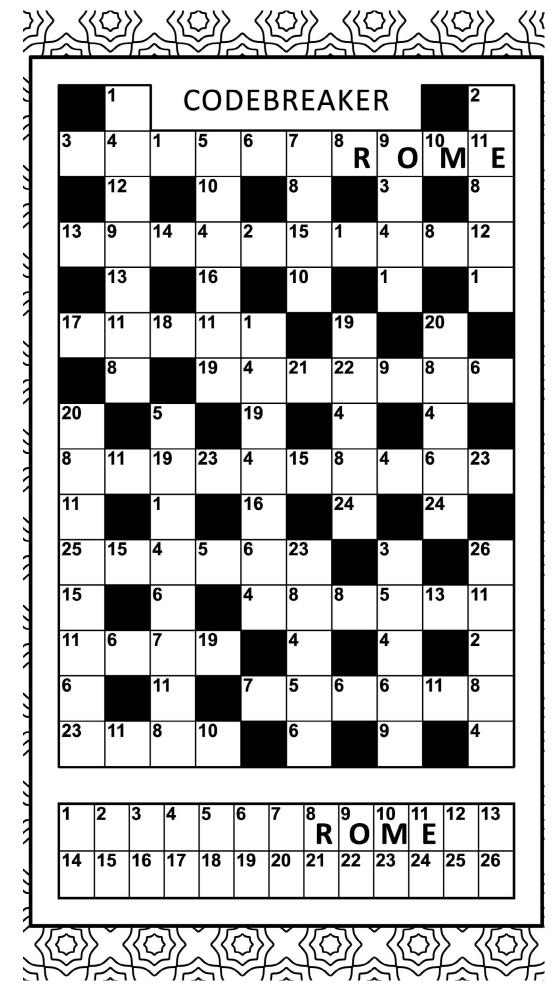
Learn to Sketch Like a Pro 3 Different Ways











Color This Mandala



Eastern Cotton Tail Bunny Hop

BY JIM KNOX

Perhaps no animal is more synonymous with spring than the rabbit. Throughout recorded history, it has served as both harbinger and metaphor for the season of life, renewal and growth. Though active year 'round, rabbits breed, reproduce and flourish with the coming of the spring season.

To most, the rabbit is a generic creature identified across cultures by its small brown body, long ears and hind legs, and overall adorable appearance. A closer look in our own backyard reveals a creature which deserves special attention, and even study.

If you ask most Connecticut residents the identity of the cute bunnies doing their utmost to eat the contents of their gardens, they'd identify the "Cottontail" as the culprit. They'd be right, at least generally. But there is more to this little beast than a casual glance may render.

The Eastern Cottontail Rabbit, "Sylvilagus floridanus", is abundant throughout Connecticut, and does indeed make return trips to Fairfield County's allyou-can-eat suburban salad bar. This is the species we see grazing along the green shoulders of the Merritt Parkway and zipping into hedgerows at the slightest approach. Yet, despite its familiarity and seeming omnipresence, this creature is no native New Englander.

That distinction is owned by its discrete, more reclusive cousin. The New England Cottontail, "Sylvilagus transitionalis", is the only rabbit native to Connecticut, New England and neighboring New York. It was the rabbit known to English colonists as a "coney", and is thought to have inspired the name the 1600's and 1700's.



England rabbit was uniquely resources. adapted to the habitats and and land practices altered is a creature of forests, close range. the landscape. With the specifically transitional

regrowth areas. They rarely Closer scrutiny reveals stray far from that cover and include: smaller ears, fine remember there's more to natural habitat succession of two distinct creatures. The their eyesight is designed to black fur lines along the them than meets the eye... New England, development New England Cottontail detect potential predators at edges of those ears and a and the ears.

introduction of the more forests, known as thickets. by contrast, is a creature of have lost approximately 85% adaptable Eastern Cottontail Naturally, these occur in open spaces. They prefer of their home range in New Coney Island, for its great from other regions of the the aftermath of forest fires, grasslands and meadows, abundance on the island in country in the early 1900's, floods and severe storms. as well as their manicured help. the native found itself with These rabbits thrive in counterparts such as parks,

> WE JOIN OUR HERO MEGAZORKS ABOVE PLANET GLOOB...

short, they were practically designed for suburbia.

While these close-cousin species share excellent hearing, sense of smell and swiftness of foot, one key adaptation makes a world of difference - eyesight. With eyes approximately 50% larger than their thicket-dwelling cousins, Eastern Cottontails hold the advantage in human-altered New England. With such distance vision, they can venture further from cover to access plentiful grasses while still tracking potential predators from a safe range. Likewise, they are the lookalike cousins who invade our gardens and scurry under our fence lines.

Though both species are approximately 14-19 inches in length and up to 2.5 pounds in weight, the unique traits of the New England Cottontail that adorable icon of spring, black star at the crown of the

While this native New stiff competition for limited the dense cover of these lawns and golf courses. In for their recovery. Study Connecticut and beyond.

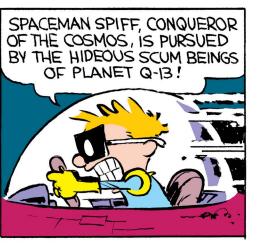
has revealed no evidence the species are hybridizing, and there are those who are coming to the aid of their wild neighbors in need. Through programs like the Young Forest Habitat Initiative and other restoration efforts, The Connecticut Department of **Energy and Environmental** Protection is conserving essential rabbit habitat. Given that 90% of our state's land is privately owned, citizens are making all the difference. By working with our state wildlife agency, our neighbors are managing their land to benefit New England Cottontails, along with native songbirds and amphibians. Additionally, groups such as The Catherine Violet Hubbard Wildlife Sanctuary have adopted land use practices which actively conserve native rabbit habitat right

here in Fairfield County. While an adorable appearance never hurts a marketing campaign, it doesn't speak to conservation merit. Yet the evolutionary wealth of native species is not to be dismissed. The plants and animals native to a region are the ones uniquely designed to survive amidst the conditions and environmental challenges of that region. More specifically, protection from introduced diseases and species often reside within the physical and behavioral makeup of our wild neighbors. By protecting them, we not conserve native biodiversity, we also promote our own resilience.

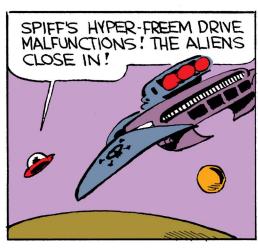
So the next time you see

Jim Knox is the Curator of The Eastern Cottontail, head. Sadly, these specialists Education for Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo and serves as a Science Adviser for The Bruce England and they need our Museum. He has a passion for sharing his work with Thankfully, there is hope endangered species here in

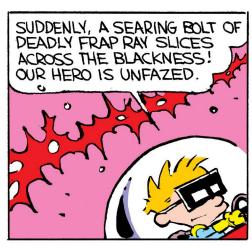


















THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT AUTHOR: BEATRIX POTTER

Once upon a time there were four little Rabbits, and their names were— Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail,



They lived with their Mother in a sandbank, underneath the root of a very big fir-tree.



'Now my dears,' said old Mrs. Rabbit one morning, 'you may go into the fields or down the lane, but don't go into Mr. McGregor's garden: your Father had an accident there; he was put in a pie by Mrs. McGregor.'



'Now run along, and don't get into mischief. I am going out.'



Then old Mrs. Rabbit took a basket and her umbrella, and went through the wood to the baker's. She bought a loaf of brown bread and five currant buns.



Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail, who were good little bunnies, went down the lane to gather blackberries:



But Peter, who was very naughty, ran straight away to Mr. McGregor's garden, and squeezed under the gate!



First he ate some lettuces and some French beans; and then he ate some radishes;



And then, feeling rather sick, he went to look for some parsley.



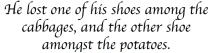
But round the end of a cucumber frame, whom should he meet but Mr. McGregor!



Mr. McGregor was on his hands and knees planting out young cabbages, but he jumped up and ran after Peter, waving a rake and calling out, 'Stop thief!'



Peter was most dreadfully frightened; he rushed all over the garden, for he had forgotten the way back to the gate.

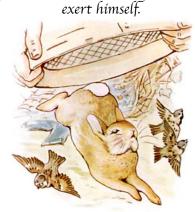




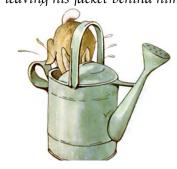
After losing them, he ran on four legs and went faster, so that I think he might have got away altogether if he had not unfortunately run into a gooseberry net, and got caught by the large buttons on his jacket. It was a blue jacket with brass buttons, auite new.



Peter gave himself up for lost, and shed big tears; but his sobs were overheard by some friendly sparrows, who flew to him in great excitement, and implored him to



Mr. McGregor came up with a sieve, which he intended to pop upon the top of Peter; but Peter wriggled out just in time, leaving his jacket behind him.



And rushed into the tool-shed, and jumped into a can. It would have been a beautiful thing to hide in, if it had not had so much water in it.



Mr. McGregor was quite sure that Peter was somewhere in the tool-shed, perhaps hidden underneath a flower-pot. He began to turn them over carefully, looking under each.

Presently Peter sneezed—'Kertyschoo!' Mr. McGregor was after him in no time.



And tried to put his foot upon Peter, who jumped out of a window, upsetting three plants. The window was too small for Mr. McGregor, and he was tired of running after Peter. He went back to his work.



Peter sat down to rest; he was out of breath and trembling with fright, and he had not the least idea which way to go. Also he was very damp with sitting in that can. After a time he began to wander about, going lippity—lippity—not very fast, and looking all round.



He found a door in a wall; but it was locked, and there was no room for a fat little rabbit to squeeze underneath.

An old mouse was running in and out over the stone doorstep, carrying peas and beans to her family in the wood. Peter asked her the way to the gate, but she had such a large pea in her mouth that she could not answer. She only shook her head at him. Peter began to cry.



Then he tried to find his way straight across the garden, but he became more and more puzzled. Presently, he came to a pond where Mr. McGregor filled his water-cans. A white cat was staring at some gold-fish, she sat very, very still, but now and then the tip of her tail twitched as if it were alive. Peter thought it best to go away without speaking to her; he had heard about cats from his cousin, little



He went back towards the tool-shed,

but suddenly, quite close to him, he heard the noise of a hoe—scr-r-ritch, scratch, scratch, scritch. Peter scuttered underneath the bushes. But presently, as nothing happened, he came out, and climbed upon a wheelbarrow and peeped over. The first thing he saw was Mr. McGregor hoeing onions. His back was turned towards Peter, and beyond him was the gate!



Peter got down very quietly off the wheelbarrow; and started running as fast as he could go, along a straight walk behind some black-currant bushes.

Mr. McGregor caught sight of him at the corner, but Peter did not care. He slipped underneath the gate, and was safe at last in the wood outside the garden.



Mr. McGregor hung up the little jacket and the shoes for a scare-crow to frighten the blackbirds.

Peter never stopped running or looked behind him till he got home to the big fir-tree.



He was so tired that he flopped down upon the nice soft sand on the floor of the rabbit-hole and shut his eyes. His mother was busy cooking; she wondered what he had done with his clothes. It was the second little jacket and pair of shoes that Peter had lost in a fortnight!



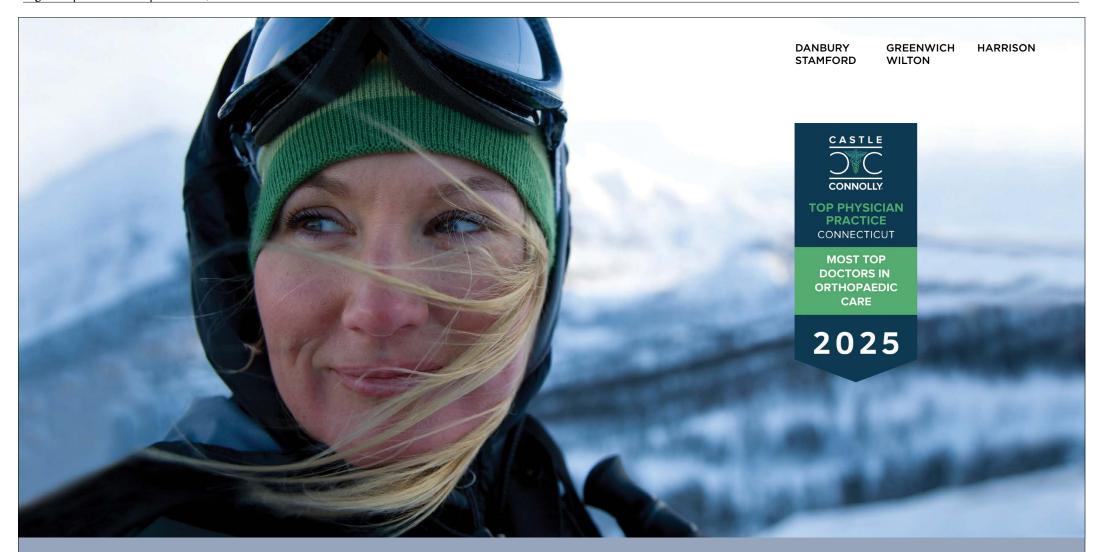
I am sorry to say that Peter was not very well during the evening.

His mother put him to bed, and made some camomile tea; and she gave a dose of it to Peter!

'One table-spoonful to be taken at bed-time.'



But Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail had bread and milk and blackberries for supper.



TOP PHYSICIAN PRACTICE BY CASTLE CONNOLLY.

That's the **ONS** difference.

ONS is proud Castle Connolly has recognized our outstanding quality and expertise. They also named 31 ONS specialists to their prestigious roster of Top Doctors. See the premiere Orthopedic and Neurosurgery practice in Fairfield and Westchester counties. **ONSMD.com**

Sometimes of the second of the

Same day ortho appointments available. | Most major insurance plans accepted.

SPORTS MEDICINE
HAND & UPPER EXTREMITY
TRAUMA & FRACTURE CARE
PRIMARY SPORTS MEDICINE
JOINT REPLACEMENT
PHYSICAL THERAPY
RHEUMATOLOGY
FOOT & ANKLE
PHYSIATRY
SPINE

