

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

TOWN HALL

Human Services Online Donations Portal

The New Canaan Human Services has launched an online portal for donating to the Food Pantry, domestic violence services, back-to-school supplies and support, the holiday program, and the warm-up fund. More information is available at https://www.newcanaan.info/departments/human_services/index.php.



On February 25th, Scott Becker was appointed Chief Building Official for the Town of New Canaan. He has been with the town since 2020 and recently served as Interim Chief. The Building Department handles permit processing and enforces the Connecticut State Building Code. Photo credit: Town of New Canaan.

AROUND TOWN

Quiet Zone Costs Drop

A proposed quiet zone along Metro-North's New Canaan Branch may cost significantly less after the Federal Railroad Administration ruled that expensive Constant Warning Time technology is not required due to electrical interference. This could lower the project's estimated \$19 million cost by up to \$9 million. Officials plan to conduct a full diagnostic of the line's crossings to create an updated plan and assess safety concerns.

Hazardous Waste Collection Dates

New Canaan and neighboring towns have announced 2025 hazardous waste collection dates, allowing residents to safely dispose of toxic, flammable, corrosive, or reactive materials at designated sites with proof of residency. While New Canaan's collection is scheduled for September 27, residents are encouraged to use earlier dates in nearby towns to avoid storing hazardous waste at home. The full list of collection dates and locations can be found at https://www.newcanaan.info/T8_R595.php.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Taking Fundraising to New Heights



A helicopter hovers above Waveny Park as it releases over 2,000 golf balls during the 5th Annual NC Color Drop on Saturday, March 22, 2025—each ball representing a chance to win prizes and raise funds for college scholarships for New Canaan High School seniors.

BY ELIZABETH BARHYDT

There are few moments in life where you get to say the words, "And then the helicopter came in and dropped 2,000 golf balls out of the sky." Unless you're talking about a Mission Impossible movie or you live in New Canaan in late March. Because here we celebrate the arrival of spring by launching a full-scale aerial assault of golf balls over Waveny Park. For a good cause, of course.

On Saturday, March 22 at exactly 10:00 a.m., the 5th Annual NC Color

Drop took off—literally. Each of those 2,000+ balls was purchased in advance by New Canaan residents hoping to snag a prize while supporting the New Canaan Scholarship Foundation (NCSF), which raises money for need-based college scholarships for New Canaan High School seniors. It's a win-win: help children go to college, maybe win a truck or a \$2,000 gift card to Walter Stewart's.

This year there was something new: Superintendent Dr. Bryan Luizzi and Board of Ed Chair Hugo Alves actually

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For those who missed the chance to buy a ball this year, donations are still being accepted online at www.nchs-sf.org.



Superintendent Dr. Bryan Luizzi and Board of Education Chair Hugo Alves joined the flight.



Composting Comes to South School



South School students sort lunch waste into color-coded composting and recycling bins, part of a new sustainability initiative launched in partnership with Planet New Canaan. The program, supported by the Anderson Fund and community donations, has already diverted hundreds of gallons of waste from landfills.

South School Principal Matt Kascak, along with staff, students and parents, have partnered with local environmental and sustainability charity Planet New Canaan (www.planetnewcanaan.org) to launch a composting initiative at the school. Planet New Canaan is paying for this composting program through the end of the school year with grant funding from the Anderson Fund and community donations.

Launched on March 17, this effort is designed to take compostable items—lunch food scraps, paper napkins, as well as the compostable food trays and plant-based cutlery South School uses, and process them into compost. During the first week, ten 64-gallon bins of compostable materials were collected. In addition, South School collected ten 44-gallon trash cans of water bottles,

beverage cartons and other plastic materials for recycling.

This 'Green Gold' can be used in gardens and on farms, returned to nurture the Earth from which they came. The alternative? These compostable items usually end up in landfills, where they decompose and generate methane, which is a greenhouse gas. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), over half of the methane released into the atmosphere from landfills comes from landfilled food waste. Composting eliminates this, and turns trash into treasure.

"We decided to return to recycling, which had been stopped when COVID hit, and Planet New Canaan got us involved with composting," says Principal Kascak. "It's going extremely well." Parents assisted with the rollout

of the new composting program by volunteering in the lunchroom to help the children navigate the new system.

"Planet New Canaan is grateful for the leadership Principal Kascak and the South School community have shown by supporting this composting initiative, which is so important for the welfare of New Canaan's children," says Planet New Canaan board member Katie Owsley. "We look forward to the opportunity to partner with and support New Canaan's other public schools with their own composting and recycling programs. South School is leading the way!"

With this composting program, New Canaan joins public schools in many neighboring towns, including Greenwich, Wilton and Fairfield.

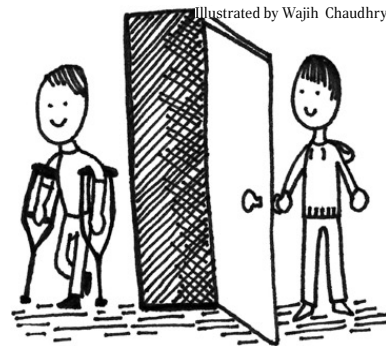
COLUMN

Kindness

BY JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

Kindness is the most important character trait of all. It cannot be put on like a shirt for a special occasion because it develops through repeated daily decisions to think and act kindly. Kindness is a key quality to look for in all relationships, especially in a mate.

Pay attention to how you and others treat the less powerful or socially awkward—the needy friend, the elderly grandparent, waitstaff, rambunctious children, grumpy customers, and bad



drivers—just to name a few. These often-overlooked situations can reveal and help us measure kindness both in

others and in ourselves.

When Sasha was in college, her boyfriend came to the house where she was babysitting to help her care for two little kids. As she bathed the older girl in the bathroom, she overheard his kind, playful voice as he fed dinner to the one-year-old in his high chair. She remembers thinking that she wanted this man to be the father of her children. He is.

Excerpted from Jill Woolworth's book, *The Waterwheel*.

Silver Hill Hospital Commits to Major Security Reforms Following Escaped Patient Incident

BY ELIZABETH BARHYDT

The president of Silver Hill Hospital promised sweeping changes to safety and admissions policies during a tense public meeting Tuesday night, weeks after a former patient escaped the psychiatric facility and was later apprehended at JFK Airport carrying a hatchet, sledgehammer, and a written plan to kill.

Dr. Andrew Gerber, president and medical director of the 94-year-old psychiatric hospital, stood before an audience of approximately 40 neighbors and town officials to address what he called a "wake-up call." Flanked by senior staff members and security experts, Gerber laid out a five-point plan to prevent future incidents, rebuild trust, and reestablish a sense of safety in the residential neighborhood that has coexisted with Silver Hill since 1931.

"We deeply regret jeopardizing your trust," Gerber said. "These events are unacceptable. We must — and will — do better."

The meeting followed the March 10 arrest of Darren Yu Huang, 25, a former Ridgefield man who absconded from Silver Hill's inpatient program in late February. According to prosecutors, Huang was caught at JFK International Airport with a hatchet, a sledgehammer, and a note that included a plan to shoot two people. His arrest came nearly one year after he allegedly attempted to set fire to Silver Hill's admissions building, an incident that involved breaking windows and pouring gasoline on the property.

Despite the severity of that 2023 episode, Huang was re-admitted to Silver Hill following a court hearing. On March 10, a state judge revoked his bond and ordered him held without release, describing him as an "extreme danger."

Gerber told attendees that allowing Huang to return to Silver Hill was a mistake. "I deeply regret that decision. It will not happen again," he said.

The focus of the meeting quickly shifted from Huang's case to the hospital's broader responsibilities. Attendees raised longstanding concerns over security breaches, patient elopements, and what many described as a lack of transparency from the hospital.

Over the past year, four separate incidents involved Silver Hill patients leaving campus. One residential patient rang a neighbor's doorbell asking to use a phone. Another entered a nearby home after leaving in an Uber. A third crossed into a neighbor's property while walking on the hospital grounds. The fourth, most serious, was Huang's escape.

"Why was he even there?" asked Amy Blazer, a longtime Valley Road resident. "We've been hearing the same promises for decades — and every time there's another incident."

In response, Gerber and his staff presented a detailed plan intended to prevent such breaches. The plan includes increasing the number of full-time security officers from 11 to 15, building a staffed security booth at the campus entrance, installing 17 new perimeter cameras, and implementing wearable tracking devices for residential patients.

The hospital also adopted stricter admissions policies. According to Gerber, patients with pending violent criminal charges or documented dangerous behavior will now be excluded from admission. The facility has also revised its discharge procedures to ensure that patients who opt out of treatment do not enter the neighborhood unsupervised.

A new neighborhood notification system launched earlier this month now allows residents to receive immediate alerts via text or email if a patient leaves campus. "We will send out messages within minutes of any event," said Molly Norton, Executive Director of Quality Experience at Silver Hill. "We owe you that."

Still, many residents voiced skepticism. "We are not your partners," said one resident. "We are your neighbors. And we expect to feel safe in our homes."

Some expressed concern that the hospital, originally described in a 1931 document as a "simple hillside farmhouse," has grown beyond what the residential neighborhood was designed to accommodate. "This is not the Silver Hill of 1931," said Brianna Young, who helped organize the community response and petitioned town officials. "Mental health care is essential, but a locked inpatient facility for criminal cases does not belong in a residential neighborhood."

Young also launched a Change.org petition titled Demand Enhanced Security Measures and Transparency at Silver Hill Hospital, New Canaan CT, which as of Tuesday night had 336 signatures. The petition describes the recent escape as part of a pattern of safety failures and states: "This was not just an unfortunate and isolated incident... There is a dire need for improvement in the safety measures and security protocols adopted by Silver Hill Hospital and partnership from the Town of New Canaan."

First Selectman Dianna Carlson acknowledged the neighborhood's frustration and referenced a dormant 2015 private agreement between the hospital and the now-inactive Silvermine River Neighborhood Association. She urged residents to reconstitute the group as a means to formalize oversight and accountability. "Silver Hill is committed to working with you," Carlson said. "But you have to be organized in order to hold them to it."

The Security Director at Silver Hill said the hospital is also working with the Department of Homeland Security to conduct a full vulnerability assessment. "This isn't just a policy change," he said. "This is an overhaul."

Silver Hill treats roughly 3,000 patients a year. The facility includes a 42-bed inpatient unit, residential treatment for 50 to 60 patients, and outpatient services. Gerber emphasized that the majority of patients are not violent, and most receive treatment voluntarily.

Nonetheless, residents said the hospital's long history with New Canaan should not exempt it from oversight. "This can't happen again," Blazer said. "One more incident and we're talking about consequences — not conversations."



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COLUMN

Best Bites: New Canaan



BY PAUL REITANO

Whenever I get a call from a 718 area code, I get a little excited and a little nervous. Excited, because Brooklyn people are my people: loud; funny; unaware of their surroundings. Nervous, because it could be my mom. Did I miss her birthday? Wait, did someone die? Still, Brooklyn people are often the best people. The combination of good food, foul language, and exposure to all of the ups and downs life has to offer on a daily basis can really sharpen one's toolset for the onslaught thrown at you later in life. But what happens when you take one of us and plopp us down in tony New Canaan? Read on to find out.

Paul: When did you decide to move to New Canaan?

Vanessa: April, 2018. I will tell you I came here kicking and screaming.

Paul: Why?

Vanessa: Just the idea of it. Mike, my husband, he took me up - he was like "just trust me." It was Christmas time, I was pregnant with my second, Preston - and I don't know if it was the hormones or what - but we drove down Elm Street for the first time, the lights were twinkling, the lampposts were all dolled up; I felt like I was in a Hallmark movie. And I just started crying.

Paul: Why the emotion you think?

Vanessa: I think it was the first time I realized that I could maybe give my kids a life I never had.

Paul: Where'd you grow up?

Vanessa: Sunset Park, Brooklyn.

Paul: How was growing up there different from growing up here in town?

Vanessa: You know, I get laughed at a lot because I didn't know how to swim for a long time. I was good at running though. I killed in the relay.

Paul: Top three things you ran from as a kid?

Vanessa: Pitbulls, drug addicts, and cars. We lived under the BQE.

Paul: You don't have to run from the Pitbulls here.

Vanessa: No, the dogs are much nicer here. Growing up here is a dream for my kids.

Paul: Are you keeping it real with them, or full bubble?

Vanessa: A little bit of both. The other night our school had bingo and

they're like "who didn't get a prize?" Ten hands go up and boom, everyone gets a prize. My little guy looks at me like, "Mommy, I only got one prize." I said look, "sometimes you lose in bingo. Sometimes you lose."

Paul: Things were harder for you.

Vanessa: I grew up in a house of substance abuse, stuff like that. There would be times where I'd walk in my house and there was like no lights and no hot water. To take a bath, sometimes my mom would boil water in a pot. I remember...having to wait for the water to cool off.

Paul: How'd that life, and growing up in the city, mold you?

Vanessa: I grew up fast, Paul. I went to my first nightclub at 13. By the time I was 21, I'd experienced pretty much everything.

Paul: So, growing up fast - you actually miss out on growing up?

Vanessa: Yes. Just the city too, it tweaks you.

Paul: Agreed. I pulled up at a valet the other day - tipped him, gave him the keys. I was watching him drive off and for a moment I thought, "I really hope that guy works here."

Vanessa: They're not driving away with your car here, Paul, don't worry. I will tell you though, New Canaan is my forever place. I will be buried here. My kids will always have a home here.

Paul: Does your Brooklyn come out there though, sometimes? Like when you least expect it?

Vanessa: You know what? I've built such a nice community of friends in New Canaan, and I think they love me for who I am. My Brooklyn comes out all the time to be quite honest with you. I don't hide her anymore. I am who I am, and I think my friends here in town appreciate me for that.

Paul: What's your mom think of New Canaan?

Vanessa: She thinks we live on an actual farm. Like, she thinks I'm actually going out and milking cows.

Paul: Just to be sure - you're not milking cows, right?

Vanessa: No, our milk comes from Walter Stewarts.

Paul: That's some nice milk. Alright, give me your favorites in town.

Vanessa: My family and I do this thing called Summer Sundays. When the weather gets nice. First we walk to Red Grape and get a Paso Robles Cabernet. We take it to Locali-

Paul: BYO at Locali. Smart.

Vanessa: Yeah. We start with the meatballs and polenta.

Paul: Very nice. I'm good with polenta now - all because of Locali.

Vanessa: Right? Then my husband and I get the Chicken Milanese.

Paul: You share it?

Vanessa: Absolutely not.

Paul: Also, very nice. So you're taking down the whole thing solo?

Vanessa: I cut it in half and save the rest for later.

Paul: That's disappointing. I pictured you crushing an entire Milanese in front of the kids.

Vanessa: Most of the time I just eat the other half when I get home.

Paul: To be fair, that's not saving half. That's just waiting.

Vanessa: I'm spreading it out.

Paul: Spreading out the Milanese.

Vanessa: Anyway, after Locali we all go to Gelatissimo.

Paul: Flavor?

Vanessa: The Fig and Goat Cheese.

Paul: Goat Cheese gelato?

Vanessa: I'm telling you.

Paul: It's good?

Vanessa: You have to try it. It's excellent.

Paul: So, Summer Sundays. Is it the food or is there something more going on?

Vanessa: It's the whole thing. It's walking through New Canaan with my kids. Knowing I could have never even have imagined this when I was their age - and just feeling really proud that I can give them the life growing up that I never had. And really happy that we can all experience it together, as a family.

Paul: We're glad you're here, Vanessa. Thank you for sharing.

Vanessa: Anytime.

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YOUR NEWS BRIEFING CONTINUED From Page 1

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Traditional Asian Cuisine at Library



On March 20th, chef Catherine Macdonald led a hands-on workshop at the Library, teaching participants how to make traditional Asian foods with cultural significance. Attendees prepared dumplings, longevity noodles, and almond cookies. The event was part of the Library's ongoing community programming. Photo credit: New Canaan Library. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

Family and Children's Agency Speaks



Rob Cashel and Lisa Habasinski from Family and Children's Agency recently spoke at the New Canaan Rotary Club, outlining the organization's services for children, families, adults, and seniors. Programs include foster care, mental health counseling, substance use treatment, and senior support. Family and Children's Agency employs over 220 staff and was assisted by more than 500 volunteers last year. Photo credit: New

Canaan Rotary Club.

Wavny Residents Attend NCHS Musical



Recently, Wavny residents attended a weekend performance of Les Misérables at New Canaan High School. Photo credit: Wavny LifeCare Network.

SCHOOLS

South School Students Calculate Combinations



Recently, fourth graders at South School used problem-solving skills to calculate outfit combinations. The activity involved four shirts, three pants, and two pairs of shoes. Students determined the total number of possible combinations. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

SLS Seventh Graders Perform Shakespeare



After reading and studying A Midsummer Night's Dream, St. Luke's seventh graders performed selected scenes from the play. The performance was held in the Wyckoff Family Black Box Theater. It served as a conclusion to their classroom work on the text. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

NCCS Kindergarten Friendship Celebration



New Canaan Country School kindergarten students recently took part in an event where they introduced one of their classmates to that classmate's family and shared what they liked about them. The activity helped students practice seeing things from another person's point of view. It also got them ready for their next unit about family and community. Photo credit: New Canaan Country School.

SLS Students Showcase Biomimicry Innovations



At the fifth annual Biomimicry Symposium, St. Luke's Upper School students presented projects that applied natural adaptations to real-world issues. Each project addressed a specific challenge from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The event highlighted biomimicry as a practical tool for problem-solving. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

SLS Fifth Graders Present Native Cultures

St. Luke's fifth graders created an

exhibit on Native American cultures. They researched tribes, wrote stories based on Indigenous myths, and made pinch pots in art class. The exhibit was shared with families and the school community.

SLS Volunteers with Filling in the Blanks



Recently, sophomore student leaders at St. Luke's organized a meal-packing event in partnership with Filling in the Blanks. Students and faculty worked together to prepare meals for local distribution. The effort aimed to support those facing food insecurity in the community. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

SPORTS

NCHS Football Captains



The New Canaan Rams have named Ryan Brooks, Adrian Delicata, Andrew Esposito, Mikey Hiramman, and James McInerney as football captains for the 2025 season. Photo credit: New Canaan Football.

Football Gridiron Hall of Fame

The FCIAC will hold its inaugural Football Gridiron Hall of Fame induction on March 27th in Hamden. Among the honorees are Chris Silvestri (New Canaan, Class of 1994) and longtime New Canaan head coach Lou Marinelli, inducted as an at-large candidate.



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APRIL 6, 2025

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11:30 AM ADULT FORUM

DISCUSSING:

THE STATE

OF THE

TOWN

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ARE
WELCOME



2025 Community Cup Tees Up Golf and Giving in New Canaan

The New Canaan Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Clubs of New Canaan and Stamford are teaming up to host the 2025 Community Cup, a charity golf tournament set for Monday, May 19, 2025, at Silvermine Golf Club in Norwalk. The event brings together golfers, sponsors, and local nonprofits for a day of relaxed competition—all for a good cause.

Designed to blend community engagement with philanthropic impact, the tournament will direct winnings to nonprofit organizations chosen by each participating foursome. With a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m., players will enjoy an 18-hole “Shamble” format tournament following a barbecue lunch. For those less interested in golf but still eager to be part of the action, a cocktail reception and buffet dinner kick off at 5:00 p.m., with a separate registration option available for \$75.

Participation costs \$425 per player or \$1,700 per team of four. Foursomes will compete not just for bragging rights but for the opportunity to support a favorite local charity. The top-scoring teams will have prize money donated to the nonprofit

of their choosing, thanks to the support of four local business sponsors.

It’s not just the winning teams that will make a difference. On-course challenges like Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin—sponsored by a lineup of local businesses—mean every swing has the potential to send funding toward area nonprofits. Winners of each challenge will also get to pick which cause benefits from their success.

The tournament doubles as a networking opportunity for business leaders, residents, and nonprofit advocates. Whether strategizing on the green or chatting over cocktails, participants will have the chance to build community connections in a laid-back setting.

Sponsorships come with a variety of perks and price points. Top-tier options like the \$2,500 “Mickelson” and “Bubba” levels include a complimentary foursome, tee signs, and naming rights to a specific contest. Other packages, from \$1,000 Hole-in-One sponsors to \$250 Hole/Tee signage, offer businesses and individuals a chance to support the cause and gain exposure during the event. All sponsors will be featured on



a dedicated microsite, promoted through social media and event communications.

Beyond the fairway, proceeds from the tournament will fuel charitable efforts by the Rotary Clubs and support community events produced by the Chamber throughout the year. From seasonal festivals to civic programs, the funds raised on May 19 will ripple outward into broader community impact.

Silvermine Golf Club, located at 95 North Seir Hill Road, offers a scenic and accessible course for participants. Its location, just minutes from both New

Canaan and Stamford, makes it a convenient hub for golfers across Fairfield County.

Event organizers are accepting registrations and sponsorship commitments by mail or email through the New Canaan Chamber of Commerce. Credit card and check payments are accepted, and additional details can be found at newcanaanchamber.com.

Whether swinging for charity or mingling over cocktails, the Community Cup offers a fresh way to support local causes—one drive, putt, and toast at a time.



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150 Celebrate World Down Syndrome Day at the New Canaan YMCA



The New Canaan YMCA and 21 Strong partnered to host their 13th annual World Down Syndrome Day celebration on Sunday, March 23, open to all ages and abilities in the community.

World Down Syndrome Day takes place annually on March 21 to signify the uniqueness of triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome that causes Down Syndrome. The national day aims to raise awareness and understanding of Down Syndrome to create a single global voice

advocating for the rights, inclusion, and well-being of people with Down Syndrome around the world.

As part of its commitment to serving individuals with special needs and their families, the New Canaan YMCA hosts its annual World Down Syndrome Day celebration in partnership with 21 Strong, a local organization in Fairfield County comprised of families who came together because their lives have been enriched by Down

syndrome.

Over 150 participants attended the World Down Syndrome Day celebration at the Y on Sunday, March 23. The community event featured family-friendly activities including fun in the Kid Zone, dancing, games, sports, martial arts, music, a photo booth, and more, celebrating the abilities of individuals with Down Syndrome in the community. The meaningful event came together thanks to event volunteers, participants

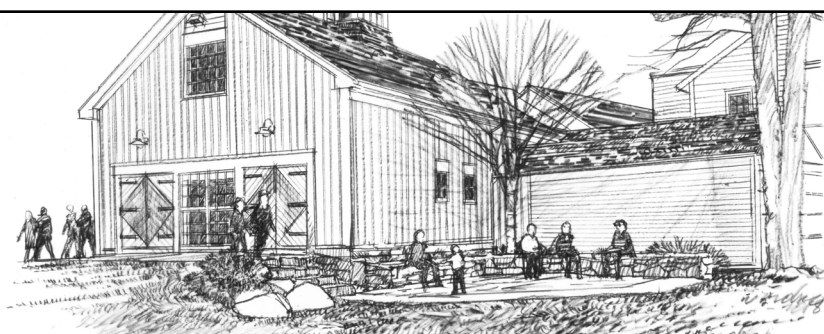
and their families, Y staff, and 21 Strong.

The New Canaan YMCA serves over 130 children, teens, and adults with special needs each year through meaningful programs, support, events, and resources. For additional information, contact Carolyn Kaufman, Director of Inclusion & Support Services at the Y at 203-920-1656 or c Kaufman@newcanaanyymca.org.



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The Traveler's Heart

By THE REV. JOHN KENNEDY

This coming Sunday (March 30) is the fourth in Lent, and is known as Laetare Sunday, a moment of joy in the midst of the solemn Lenten season. "Laetare" means "rejoice," and today's Gospel—the Parable of the Prodigal Son—is cause for celebration. It is a story of extravagant grace, though it does pose a very real challenge for us as well.

Jesus tells of a father with two sons. The younger makes an astonishing request: "Father, give me my share of the inheritance." In the ancient world, inheritances were only divided upon a father's death. This son is, in effect, wishing his father dead. Even more astonishing, the father grants his request, tearing apart his life, or "bios," the Greek word translated in the parable as "property" (Luke 15:12). The son quickly sells his share, travels far from home, and squanders

everything.

Broke and starving, he hires himself out to feed pigs—an unthinkable humiliation for a Jewish man. At rock bottom, he "comes to himself" (15:17) and decides to return home, hoping for nothing more than a servant's position. But before he even reaches the house, "his father saw him and was filled with compassion" (15:20).

The father runs to meet him. Dignified men did not run in that culture—it meant lifting your robes, exposing your legs. But the father doesn't care. He throws his arms around his son, kisses him, and calls for a robe, a ring, and a feast. The son tries to give his rehearsed apology, but the father cuts him off. There is no earning his way back. He is restored by grace; a pure gift.

Jesus is telling us: No matter who you are or what you've done, God welcomes you home.

But the story doesn't end there.

“Jesus is telling us: No matter who you are or what you've done, God welcomes you home.”

The older son, returning from the fields, hears music and dancing. When he learns that his brother has come home and their father is celebrating, he is furious. "All these years I have worked like a slave for you, and you never even gave me a goat! But when this son of yours comes back, you kill the fatted calf?" (15:29-30)

His words reveal what's in his heart. He doesn't say my brother but this son of yours. He sees only injustice. He has obeyed the rules, done everything right, yet it is the younger son who is being honored.

Once again, the father responds with tenderness: "Son, you are always with me, and all

that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate, because this brother of yours was lost and has been found" (15:31).

At the start, the younger son is lost. By the end, he is home. But the older son—the dutiful, obedient one—is now the one who is estranged.

This parable presents two ways people try to find their place in the world—and with God. The younger son follows what the pastor and writer Tim Keller called, in his book *The Prodigal God*, the way of "self-discovery": rejecting tradition and living as one pleases. The older son follows the way of moral conformity, believing that through diligence and goodness,

he can earn his place. But Jesus shows that both sons are lost. Both want the father's things, not the father himself.

The younger brother's sin is obvious—self-indulgence, rebellion. The older brother's is more insidious. He believes his obedience entitles him to reward. His relationship with the father is transactional. He does not understand grace.

For religious people, there is always the temptation of becoming the older brother—believing that faithfulness and morality earn us God's favor. But Jesus warns that this, too, is a form of lostness. Some of us see Jesus as a teacher, an example, maybe even a boss—but not as a savior. Some seek, through their own merits, to earn God's favor rather than simply receiving it. But the Gospel invites us into a different way—one in which we obey not to gain a sense of righteousness, but to love and know God.

And then, Jesus leaves us with a cliffhanger.

Will the older brother enter the feast? Will he accept his father's invitation? We don't know. The parable remains unresolved because we are meant to finish it. Jesus is inviting us to see ourselves in the story.

Are we the younger son, in need of returning home? Or are we the older son, standing outside, unwilling to embrace grace?

As Leonard Cohen wrote in *The Book of Mercy*, "Blessed is the One who waits in the traveler's heart for their turning." May we hear the invitation and come home—to the God who watches and waits for us, and who rejoices when we return.

The Rev. John Kennedy serves as Associate Rector at St. Mark's Episcopal 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
christiansciencet.org/newcanaan

Sunday 10:30 AM, in person only. Sunday School is available during Sunday Service and is open to children and young people up to the age of 20. There is also childcare available for children too young for Sunday School.

Wednesday Testimony Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month, join by zoom or by phone 646 558 8656. Reading Room Hours: Open Mondays 11-2, Call to confirm hours 203-966-0293. All are welcome to the Sunday and Wednesday services, Sunday School, and the reading room.

First Presbyterian Church

178 Oenoke Ridge Road 203.966.0002
fpcnc.org

Sunday Service: 10am in person or via LocalLive. All are welcome. Coffee Hour after the service is also available in person or via Zoom. Dedicated childcare is available for all children via Wee Care Nanny Agency from 8:45-11:30am in the Nursery School. Transcripts of previous sermons are also available via the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan's website. Recurring Events: Every Saturday 9:15am (closed) and 10:30am (open): Alcoholics Anonymous. Every Tuesday 8pm: Men's A.A.

Third Wednesday from 6-7:30 PM: Wednesdays at the Well are intergenerational opportunities to learn and grow in faith together. Dinner will be served and all ages are invited.

Upcoming Events:

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

April 17th at 7 PM: Maundy Thursday Tenebrae and Communion Service.

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

Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church

21 Cherry Street 203.966.0020
www.starcc.com
Service Schedule:

Saturday: Vigil for Sunday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The Sunday 8:30 a.m. mass is live-streamed and recorded. **Monday-Friday: 7:00 am and 5:30 pm**
Saturday: 7:00 am

Recurring Events:

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

Fridays 7:30am-6pm: Eucharistic Adoration (September-June)
Saturday 8:30am: St. A's Healing Rosary Prayer Group

Upcoming Events:

April 4th 7 PM: Join the Stations of the Cross through costumed actors, readings and music. These interactive Stations are designed to challenge and invite us all to reflect and join Christ on His journey to Calvary.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

111 Oenoke Ridge 203.966.4515
churchoffice@stmarksnewcanaan.org
www.stmarksnewcanaan.org

Sunday Services: 8:00am: Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite I; **9:00am:** Outdoor Holy Eucharist Rite II; **10am:** Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite II (Live Stream also available on the St. Mark's website). Coffee Hour follows the 10am service.

Church School during the 10am service: Godly Play for children in kindergarten through second grade; Holy Moly for third and fourth grades; Meet in the Middle for fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Professional childcare is offered for children ages four and under. Families with children who are not yet ready to separate for childcare are invited to use the rocking chairs at the rear of the chapel.

Weekday Services: Monday-Friday, 8:30am: Morning Prayer Rite II by Zoom.

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

Recurring Events:

First 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 with James O'Donnell. Former Master of Music at London's Westminster Abbey, now Professor of Music at the Yale School of Music. This recital will be enhanced by a video screen, giving us a view of his virtuosity at the organ console. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/WTFZ4>.

April 19th at 7:30 PM: The Great Vigil of Easter.

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

Upcoming Events:

April 17th at 7:30PM: Maundy Thursday Service.

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
cbcnnewcanaan@gmail.com
www.cbcnewcanaan.org

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZZUNa8aHI3O_Syp_XOKDg

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CBCNewCanaan/>

Sunday School at 10:00am
Worship Service at 11:00am
Live Facebook Broadcast 11:30 am

Upcoming Events:

April 5th from 10 AM- 12 PM: Comprehensive Retirement Planning Sessions. This course offers real world strategies and methods.

April 18th from 12-2 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
www.gracecommunity.info

Welcome to Grace Church, where we strive to build a church of action, founded on Biblical truth, characterized by faith, grace, community, service, authenticity, clear thinking, and cultural relevance. Grace Community Church is an exercise in knowing God, knowing truth, and building community that extends to our full lives, not just to our Sunday mornings.

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

Upcoming Events:

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

April 18th at 5 PM: Good Friday Service followed by a Potluck Supper at 6 PM. More information and the sign up for supper is available at <https://shorturl.at/EpnZi>.

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 Jewish resources that bring more positivity, Jewish education, charitable activity, good deeds and blessing to our lovely town.

We are about Judaism, not affiliation. Regardless of your background, and however you choose to define your level of Jewish observance or identity, the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center can add spirituality, joy, study, community and connection for you and your family. The programs of the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center are held in various locations, all located in New Canaan.

Temple Sinai (Reform Synagogue)

458 Lakeside Drive; Stamford, CT 06903
203.322.1649

www.templestainaistamford.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=bFJQem9HWfCxU0EzZUM2VENEZmgYUT09#success>

COLUMN

The Best Book to Read in Lent



BY MAREK ZABRISKIE

I fell in love with the Gospel of Luke while living in Paris on \$3 a day after graduating from college in 1982. Before I moved to France, my college mentor gave me a small book with the four gospels and the book of Acts in French. I read it every day.

The French philosopher Ernst Renan called Luke's Gospel "The most beautiful book in the world." I agree. The Gospel of Luke was the third gospel to be written, after Mark and Matthew were written and before John was composed.

Luke probably wrote his gospel between 75-85 A.D., after the Roman armies had surrounded Jerusalem and destroyed the Temple in 72 A.D. Christians were now being persecuted, and a strong Christian community was located in Rome. St. Paul had planted his churches, composed his letters, and had been executed in 63 A.D. – at least 12 years before Luke set pen to parchment.

Luke probably addressed it to a Christian audience, whereas Matthew addressed a Jewish audience. John addressed a Greek audience steeped in philosophy. Luke wrote to sophisticated readers and was better educated than most of the writers of the New Testament.

He is the only Gentile (non-Jewish) author in the New Testament and was said to have been a physician. He used the finest Greek found in the New Testament and some specific medical terminology found nowhere else.

Luke is believed to have been Paul's companion in prison in Caesarea for two years near the end of Paul's life. This would have given them great amounts of time to talk together. In II Timothy, we read that Luke was the last to be with Paul in Rome before he was taken from his cell in Rome and executed outside the city walls of Rome.

Luke begins by dating from the reigning Roman emperor. He is less focused than Matthew

on interpreting Jesus' life as the fulfillment of Jewish prophecy. Hence, Luke seldom quotes the Old Testament and never uses the term Rabbi, but always uses the Greek word "Master."

Luke's Gospel is the first part of a two part work – the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Together, these two books comprise 28% of the New Testament. By classical standards Luke/Acts is short, but by New Testament standards it is the longest work in the New Testament. It has 52 chapters and takes up one quarter of the New Testament.

Both Luke and Acts are addressed to a Gentile named "Theophilus," who may have been a high Roman government official or perhaps a Roman leader who Luke was teaching or trying to convert. Many believe that he was Luke's patron. "Theophilus" in Greek means "lover of God." Hence, he may signify anyone who loves or is interested in God.

There is a mountain motif in Luke/Acts. Luke is the journey from Galilee up to Jerusalem, which is located at an elevation of 2,474 feet and culminates with Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection atop Mt. Calvary in Jerusalem.

The book of Acts is the story of the Apostles' journey down the mountain to carry the gospel around the world. Acts is our best account of the Early Church. It ends with Paul in Rome, where he wrote his famous Letter to the Romans, which is the next book in the Bible after Acts.

Luke fills in gaps about Jesus' birth and childhood that are omitted by the other evangelists – Matthew, Mark, and John and he tells us more about Jesus' resurrection appearances than anyone else (Luke 24:1-53). He, therefore, paints a more "complete picture" of Jesus. Luke's narrative covers a span of sixty years of history. The initial impression is one of completeness and continuity. No one else captures as much of the story as Luke.

Luke was a great story teller. He told short vignettes with great artistry. He painted with words, which is why the Dutch painter Rembrandt called Luke his favorite gospel due to Luke's "visual stories."

Luke also has Jesus tell more parables than any other evangelist – 24 parables in all. He alone has Jesus tell the parable of the Good Samaritan, the Unjust Judge and the Prodigal Son – three of

The Gospel of Luke is perhaps the greatest book ever written.

the most beloved parables of all time. Luke is not verbose. He writes sparingly in a simple, straight forward style. The wonderful quality of these parables is not their length but their artistry.

Although he never personally met Jesus, he tells us that like a journalist he interviewed many eyewitnesses who knew Jesus. Paul may have introduced Luke to the great figures of the Early Church. Luke reportedly interviewed the Virgin Mary and painted her portrait, which is the Black Madonna, which resides in Czestochowa, the great Polish pilgrimage site.

Luke was also a historian, who set out to write an "orderly account" of what took place in Jesus' life. Therefore he inserts historical dates and names to anchor his story. When Luke introduces John the Baptist, he uses no fewer than six contemporary dates to fix John the Baptist in time. "In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar (1), Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea (2), Herod being tetrarch of Galilee (3), and his brother Philip being tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis (4), and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene (5) in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas (6), the word of God came to John." (Luke 3:1-2)

This gospel is often called the "Gospel of the Holy Spirit" because the Holy Spirit appears as the protagonist or the key actor in this gospel.

Luke also portrays Jesus as a great healer. Here we have Luke, who reportedly was a physician, writing about the greatest healer in all of history. Luke captures more healing stories than any other evangelist.

His is the inclusive and universal gospel. Christ is a man for all persons. When tracing Jesus' genealogy, Matthew traces Jesus back to Abraham, but Luke traces him back to Adam as the founder of the human race.

Above all Jesus is seen as friends of outcasts and sinners. Luke depicts Jesus constantly breaking social boundaries, reaching out to lepers, Gentiles, Samaritans, women, and the poor. Luke alone makes a despised Samaritan the hero of one of his parables and gives roles to people who were normally invisible or forgotten

in society. Luke highlighted the role that women played and showed how inclusive Jesus' message was. The birth narrative of Jesus is told from Mary's point of view. He tells us about Elizabeth, Anna, the widow of Nain, Martha, Mary, and Mary Magdalene. He also reveals Jesus' great gift for healing and his preferential treatment for the poor.

He captures a compassionate Jesus, who offers preferential treatment for the poor. When Joseph and Mary bring their offering to the temple for Mary's purification it is the offering of the poor (two turtledoves).

In Matthew's Beatitudes (5:3) Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit." In Luke's Sermon on the Plain, Jesus merely says, "Blessed are the poor." The Greek word that he uses, "ptokos," signifies "the poorest of the poor."

If it were on Broadway, it would be a musical for it is full of praise music. Mary sings her Magnificat (1:46-55), Zechariah his Benedictus (1:68-79), Simeon his Nunc Dimittis (2:29-32), and the angels their Gloria in excelsis Deo

Finally, Luke portrays Jesus as the ultimate man of prayer. Before each great event in his life, Jesus prayed. At his baptism (3:21), before he began healing, before he first collided with the Pharisees (5:16), and before delivered his Sermon on the Plain (6:12-38), Jesus prayed.

Before choosing the twelve disciples (6:12), questioning the disciples concerning who he was, before the first prediction of his death (9:18), on the Mount of Transfiguration (9:29), as he hung upon the cross (23:46), and as Peter faced his hour of testing (22:32), Jesus prayed.

If you're looking for a great book to read in Lent, look no further than the Gospel of Luke. It will richly reward you.

The Rev. Marek P. Zabriskie, is Rector of Christ Church in Greenwich, an author, editor of The Bible Challenge series, founder and executive director of the Center for Biblical Studies. He loves time with his wife and daughters, walking his Corgi, fly fishing, tennis, travel, walking caminos in Europe, studying languages, and sharing God's Word.

COLUMN

Passover: A Sacred Reminder of Who We Are



BY RABBI MITCHELL HURVITZ

There is so much data overload and so much to remember on a daily basis that it can sometimes feel overwhelming. It is easy to become distracted and let non-important information dissipate from our minds. But what about the essential items we don't want to forget?

We must create lists to remind us of our daily goals and help us prioritize our time. Equally as important, these lists remind us who we are and where we are going.

As Jews, we are commanded to "remember." We understand that our collective heritage is only retained because each generation passes it on to the next. So, we retain our sacred memories and anchor them with ritual and liturgy. There is no greater example of this than our Passover observance.

Our Seder observance is the rabbinic lesson plan by which we "eat" our history.

Each seder ritual item and every Haggadah word pronounced captures our Jewish memories.

- Matzah - the bread of poverty; a reminder of the haste by which we fled Egyptian bondage.

- Maror - the bitter herb; so we might taste our reminder of the bitterness of our enslavement.

- Haroset - the sweet concoction of apples, wine, and nuts; looks like the mortar by which the slaves had to build Pharaoh's cities, and yet tastes sweet to remember our ultimate redemption.

- Karpas is the green vegetable - our reminder that spring comes with its seeds of renewal and hope for a better future.

- Beitzah - the roasted egg; a reminder of the sacrifices offered

to God by our spiritual ancestors and a symbol of life.

- Z'roa - the roasted shank bone; the remainder of the lamb sacrificed and whose blood went upon the Israelite's doorposts so that the angel of death would "Passover."

The seder plate creates our interactive Jewish historical memory experience as we then continue:

- We dip the green vegetable twice to taste the tears from the slaves' eyes.

- We diminish our full wine cup, a drop for each plague, noting that our full cup of "life" is reduced because evil brought horrible consequences to other human beings.

- We open our doors and invite Elijah to come and sip from the cup of wine we have set aside so that he can announce the coming of an era of peace.

- We sing from Moses Maimonides's words, written 900 years ago: "Ani ma'am..." "I believe with all my heart in the coming of a messiah, and even though he may tarry, I will wait each day for his arrival."

- While we recite Maimonides' words, we also share the words of the Jews of Germany written in 1939: "I believe in the sun even when it is not shining. I believe in love even when I do not feel it. I believe in God even when he is silent."

With each ritual word voiced and our seder experience rediscovered, we find our memory and relearn who we are and where we're going.

Memory can be elusive, yet it is critical to our very being. It shapes, guides and anchors us.

God tells us that each week during our Sabbath observance, we must take the time to remember who we are and why the world was gifted to us. By annually re-telling our Passover story, we are linked to all of our past generations, all of our People in the world today, and all of our future generations. With Passover, we become "One" with eternity.

It is frustrating when an individual begins to have trouble

With each ritual word voiced and our seder experience rediscovered, we find our memory and relearn who we are and where we're going.

remembering. However, profound individual memory loss is tragic. People often become wholly dependent on others for help and support; but while they may not remember who we are, we remember who they are.

As a sacred community, the loss of memory by some exposes all to vulnerability.

We embrace our holy rituals, words, and narratives because we

know the power of our spiritual anchor. Without our shared memories, we would be empty and directionless.

Our memories fill us up, remind us of what's possible, and motivate us to take more significant actions moving forward. Our preservation of collective memories through our stories, ritual observances, and liturgy drives us to bring the

possibility of being a little closer to a messianic era each day.

This Passover season, let's share the memories of our history, biblical and personal. Let's remember and help others remember so we can preserve our past, anchor our present, and shape our future.

Shabbat Shalom.

Temple Shalom's Senior Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz is a scholar,

teacher, community activist and preacher, and is recognized as one of the prominent religious 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 national publications.

"I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being." Oscar Wilde

The entire theatre industry has suffered greatly over the past few years. Fairfield County producing theatres are still rebuilding, too. While some sources of funding have vanished, new opportunities like this one have come about.

March 27, 2025 WORLD THEATRE DAY GIVING DAY



Please support the nonprofit producing theatres of Fairfield County!

Your support on **WORLD THEATRE DAY**, today, March 27, to any or all of the participating Fairfield County nonprofit producing theatres listed here will help keep the vibrant cultural landscape alive and well in Fairfield County.

For web links and phone numbers for all participating theatres, go to FCPT.INFO



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

LEGAL AD

March 27, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Parks, 2025: New Canaan Nature Center Pond Dredging", New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at the Department of Public Works Office, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, CT, 06840, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

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

Bidders attention is called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment to be observed and to the requirements for the prompt commencement and completion of the work. Work shall commence on or after August 4, 2025 and be completed by October 3, 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

March 27, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Intersection Improvements, 2025 - Rte. 123 at Brushy Ridge Rd and Locust Ave", New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on April 24, 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 90 days after the actual date of the bid opening.

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

HELP! My 401(k) Account is Down! What Should I Do?



By PATRICIA CHADWICK

Don't panic!!! There's a strong likelihood that you are not alone witnessing the fall in your retirement fund assets. I'd be willing to wager that just about anyone with a 401(k) plan—or other tax-advantaged defined contribution retirement plan—who is more than twenty years from retirement, is in the red for the first three months of this year. From its high in late February, the S&P500—one broad measure of the U.S. stock market—has fallen by more than 10%, a decline that is considered to be a "correction" in the market. It may not be of much consolation to realize that you have company in your misery; however, hopefully you will take some solace in the fact that, over the last 45 years, i.e. since the inception of the defined contribution industry, there have been numerous market corrections and even "bear markets"—defined as a stock market decline of 20% or more.

So—how do you answer that burning question, "What should I do?" Before answering that question, it's key to keep in mind that your retirement account is most likely the longest term asset that you own. If you are thirty years old, and you anticipate retiring at the age of 65, you are de facto planning to hold that account for thirty-five years and then on into retirement. That is likely far longer than you will own a house. When you're looking into the future some twenty or thirty years for returns on your retirement plan, it's important not to panic. The short term vagaries in the stock market are part of the "cycle of life" in the world of investment. If you had been really "smart" and had predicted correctly that the market was going to fall 10% and had sold all the stocks in your retirement portfolio and invested the proceeds in cash, I would argue that you had been wonderfully "lucky." You might congratulate yourself; however, that smart

selling means that the job is only half done. You will then have to be "smart" (or lucky) a second time so that you get reinvested into the market before it rallies. There are people who spend their days engaging in short term buying and selling of their personal accounts. They are professional traders, and while some make good money in that career, many more do not. Most Americans with 401(k) plans have careers in a broad array of other industries and sectors of the economy; for them, short term volatility, while unsettling, should be put in the context of the long term horizon they must take to fund their retirements.

Here are a few basic precepts to keep in mind when the stock market is making you lose sleep at night. Most employees are paid every 15 days (or perhaps every two weeks). That is also when their 401(k) deductions are withdrawn from their payroll and invested into the fund options they have selected. It is also when the employee match is made by the employer, money that is added to the employee's retirement account. If on payday the market seems to be crumbling, don't panic. Rather, remember this: (1) you are averaging down when you buy stocks in a declining market; (2) the employer match, whether it is 2% or 4% or more, is found money; (3) if the employee invests the full amount of the employer match—e.g. 4% of gross revenue that is matched by a 4% contribution by the employer—the employee has instantaneously made a 100% return on their contribution; (4) over the long haul, the U.S. stock market return has been one of the best ways for individuals to build wealth and to enhance their retirement income.

So—what is roiling the stock market right now? Very simply, it's economic uncertainty, driven by events that have taken place since the new administration was voted into office on January 20th. In particular, the imposition of tariffs on Canadian, Mexican and Chinese imports into the U. S.—with the threat of

The stock market is nervous about tariff wars and government employee layoffs, and it's hard to see a timeline for resolution. But the underpinnings of the U. S. economy remain vibrant.

expanded tariffs by as early as April 2, on imports from numerous other countries—is having a negative impact on the outlook for both inflation and consumer demand, as the costs of tariffs are passed through to retail consumers. Coinciding with the tariff war is the ongoing layoff of Federal Government employees which is raising concerns of rising unemployment and slowing economic growth. The market is observing these challenges and reacting. It's key to remember that the stock market is a forward-looking barometer of economic prosperity—the past is of no interest to stocks—and if the above-mentioned trends continue, the impact on corporate earnings growth is likely to be unfavorable. Thus, the current angst and turmoil in the prices of stocks. That said, there are still strong underpinnings to the U.S. economy, and it is not guaranteed that a recession is at all inevitable, particularly if the issue of tariffs can be resolved before too much damage is done. My pragmatism makes me optimistic, but not overly confident in a peaceful solution.

So—how does one try to manage through this maze of economic concerns when it comes to that long term asset that is your future retirement income? Let's put the defined contribution history in perspective. The 401(k) market was spawned in 1978 by an act of Congress. Today, it is a more than \$4 trillion behemoth, one that is highly regulated by the Federal Government—both the companies that manage the assets as well as the individuals who are portfolio managers as well as client service, marketing and sales representatives. In the intervening 47 years, the industry has developed

an array of sophisticated products that cater to the needs of working people, enabling them to enhance their income in their "golden years." Far and away, the most popular vehicle today in the toolbox of retirement fund options available to employees is the "Target Date Fund," a product that is designed to take into consideration the age of each employee and each one's propensity for risk. Their value lies in being highly concentrated in equities during the first few decades of an individual's employment years, and reducing equity risk exposure as one nears retirement age. Virtually all companies' defined contribution plans offer both target date funds and an array of other options that allow employees to make their own investment decisions. The product has proven to be a value-added investment when used by employees as a long term tool for building wealth.

No one likes to lose money on investing, not even in the very short run. Maybe a picture of the long run can pick your spirits up when things seem tough. The attached chart is of the S&P500 over a period of 90 years. Look at each serious decline in the market and then what happened afterward. Despite the current dislocations, there is much to be optimistic about in the long term.

Patricia Chadwick is a businesswoman and an author. Her second memoir, Breaking Glass, with the subtitle: Tales from the Witch of Wall Street, came out last May. It tells of her "growing up" and succeeding in what was then the all-male bastion called Wall Street. Breaking Glass is a sequel to her first Memoir, Little Sister, the story of her childhood in a religious community-turned-cult. www.patriciachadwick.com



90-Year History of the Price of the S&P500

LEGAL AD

**TOWN OF NEW CANAAN
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands Agent has approved the following application:

Permit Number (IW-25-12) issued to Rozie and Vincent Cucuzza, 501 Spring Water Lane, Map 31 Block 11 Lot 117. Prepare site for construction activities and install all soil and erosion controls. Proposed improvements will consist of removing the existing pool and patio located west of the dwelling and rebuilding a new 32'x16' pool and patio in relatively the same location. The new pool will align with the house providing a slightly larger buffer between the patio and the watercourse. Drainage improvements will consist of a patio drain connected to a gravel trench drain located along the westerly edge of the proposed pool patio. Upon completion, all disturbed areas will be stabilized and planting as indicated.

LEGAL AD

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TOWN OF NEW CANAAN
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS of the Town of New Canaan will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 7, 2025 this hearing is scheduled to be a hybrid meeting and will be both in person in the Board Room at Town Hall, 77 Main Street and virtually via zoom at 7:00 p.m. Zoom link will be posted on the calendar at newcanaan.info.

1. 995 South Avenue – Zoning Variance – Upon application of Andrea Gomes, Esq, Hinckley Allen, Authorized Agent, for 995 South Ave, LLC, owner(s) for a Variance of Section(s) 3.5.E.2 to allow the reconstruction of a single-family structure 22.2' from the front property line and the reconstruction of a two-family structure 28.1' from the front property line in the 2 Acre Zone at 995 South Avenue (Map 30, Block 52, Lot 4).

2. 26 Turner Hill Road – Zoning Variance – Upon application of Richard Vail, Authorized Agent for Carla Watson, owner(s), for a Variance of Section(s) 3.5.E.2 to allow construction of a 2-story addition 18' from the side property line in the Two Acre Zone at 26 Turner Hill Road (Map 39, Block 105, Lot 1).

Luke T. Tashjian, Chairman
Dated: March 27, 2025

LEGAL AD

**TOWN OF NEW CANAAN
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands Agent has approved the following application:

Permit Number (IW-25-9) issued to Martha Hennig, 94 Indian Rock Road, Map 33 Block 34 Lot 37. Prepare site for construction activities and install all soil and erosion controls. Demolish existing house. Remove existing patio and walkways. Abandon existing septic system. Abandon existing well. Drill new well. Remove trees as indicated. Remove portion of existing driveway loop and re-grade area. Construct new single-family house with attached patio. Install new septic system. Install 540 s.f. rain garden as indicated. Install new driveway configuration. Re-grade portions of property and stabilize with lawn. Remove erosion controls upon project completion.

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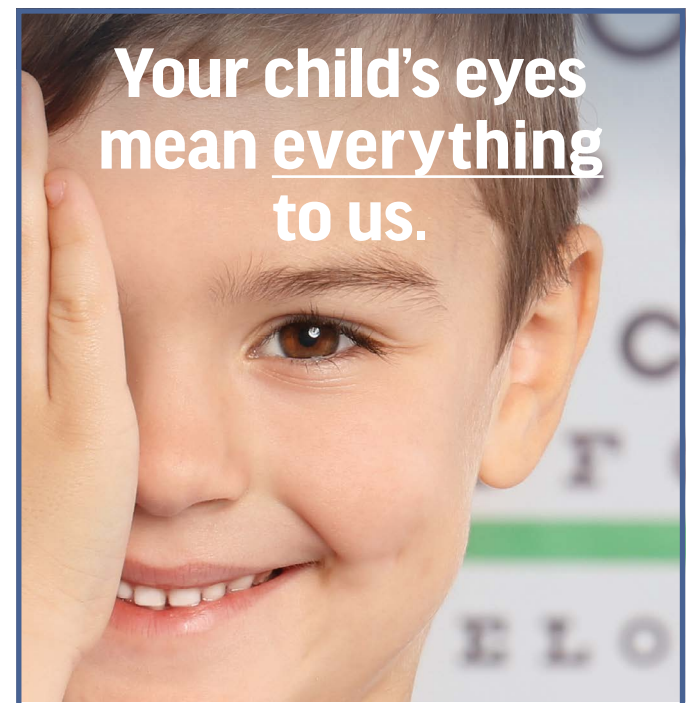
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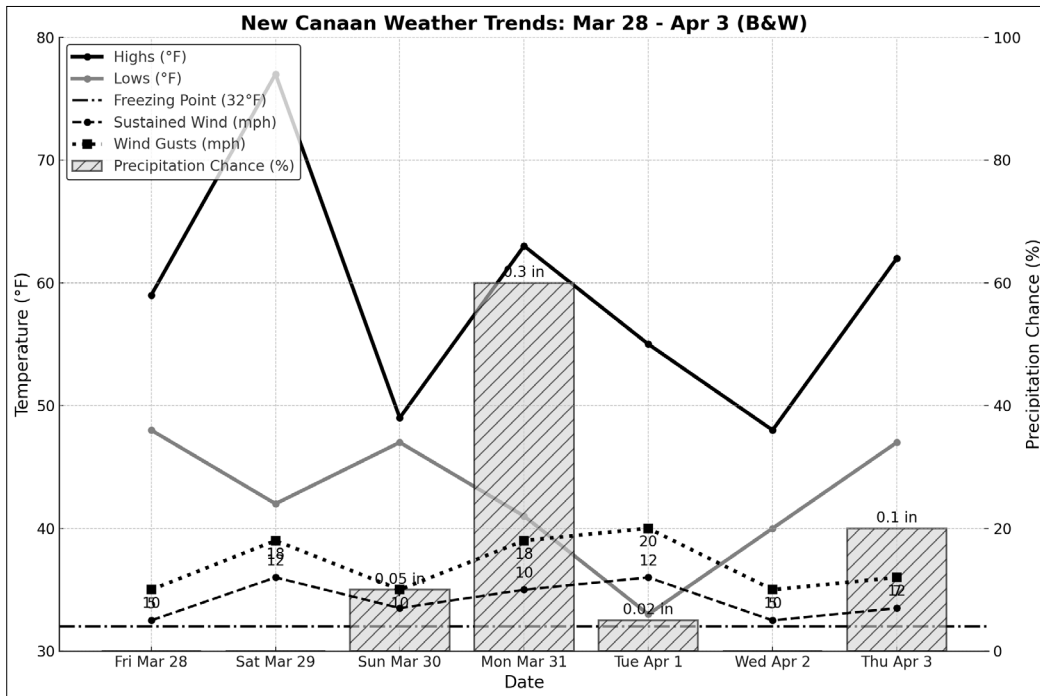
New Canaan Weather Forecast: Here's What to Expect

By EMMA BARHYDT

As March transitions into April, New Canaan is beginning to feel the shift toward true spring. The week ahead will bring a mix of mild temperatures, breezy afternoons, and periods of rain. While no major storms are on the horizon, residents should be prepared for changing conditions day by day. From warm highs in the 70s to cooler, cloudier moments, it's a classic early spring pattern—perfect for those ready to embrace the season, weather and all.

Friday, March 28 will start with variable cloudiness, leading to a high near 59°F. Light winds around 5 mph will contribute to a comfortable atmosphere, making it an excellent opportunity for outdoor activities. As evening approaches, temperatures will drop to a low of 48°F under partly cloudy skies. Residents planning nighttime outings should consider a light jacket to stay comfortable.

Anticipate a breezy and warmer day with times of clouds and sun, on Saturday,



March 29 as temperatures soar to 77°F. Southwest winds at 10–15 mph will add a refreshing breeze, enhancing the pleasant conditions. This unseasonably warm weather presents an ideal chance to enjoy local parks or engage in outdoor sports. Overnight, temperatures will cool to a low of 42°F with mostly clear

skies, providing a comfortable setting for evening events.

Sunday, March 30 brings a shift in the weather pattern with cloudy and cooler conditions, and a high around 49°F. Light northeast winds at 5–10 mph will maintain a calm atmosphere, though the increased cloud cover may limit sunshine. It's advisable to plan indoor activities or

dress warmly for any outdoor engagements. Nighttime lows will be near 47°F under overcast skies, suggesting a cool and cloudy evening ahead.

For Monday, March 31 you can expect cloudy and warmer conditions with a couple of showers and a possible thunderstorm, as the high reaches 63°F. Southeast winds

at 10 mph will accompany the unsettled weather, making it prudent to carry an umbrella throughout the day. These conditions may affect outdoor plans, so having indoor alternatives is recommended. Evening temperatures will dip to around 41°F with lingering showers, leading to a damp and cool night.

Tuesday, April 1 will start breezy, then transition to plenty of sunshine with a high near 55°F. Northwest winds at 10–15 mph will bring a crisp feel to the air, offering a refreshing spring day. This weather is suitable for outdoor activities, provided you're dressed appropriately for the cooler temperatures. Overnight lows will be around 33°F under clear skies, so gardeners should take precautions to protect sensitive plants from potential frost.

A blend of sun and clouds is expected on Wednesday, April 2, with a high of 48°F. Light winds around 5 mph will contribute to a calm and cool day, making it ideal for leisurely walks or light

outdoor tasks. The mix of sun and clouds will create a pleasant atmosphere despite the cooler temperatures. Nighttime lows will be near 40°F under partly cloudy skies, leading to a cool but comfortable evening.

On Thursday, April 3, low clouds will dominate the sky, with a high reaching 62°F. Light southeast winds at 5–10 mph will accompany the cloud cover, resulting in a mild yet overcast day. While the temperatures are pleasant, the lack of sunshine may make the day feel cooler than it is. Evening lows will be around 47°F under cloudy skies, suggesting a mild but gray night ahead.

Spring is gradually making its presence felt in New Canaan, offering a mix of warm days, cooler spells, and periodic showers. It's an opportune time to enjoy the outdoors while staying prepared for the varied spring weather. Keeping an eye on daily forecasts will help residents make the most of the season's offerings.

Traveling? Check The Week Ahead Nationally

By EMMA BARHYDT

Northeast: Early Week Rain and Midweek Cooldown

A storm system will kick off the week with periods of rain across the Northeast, bringing milder air especially to coastal and southern parts of the region. In northern and mountainous areas, the early-week precipitation could start as a wintry mix before changing to rain. After the front passes, cooler air settles in by midweek, dropping daytime highs from the 50s–60s °F early in the week to the 40s °F in many areas midweek. Overnight lows will range from the upper 20s °F inland (and in higher elevations) to around the 40°F mark near the coast. Late in the week, expect drier conditions and a slight rebound in temperatures under partly cloudy skies.

Southeast: Stormy Start Giving Way to Warm Sunshine

The Southeast will see an active start to the period as a cold front sparks rounds of showers and thunderstorms early in the week. Some storms could be strong, with heavy downpours and gusty winds, especially in coastal and Gulf proximity areas. By midweek, once the front pushes through, drier and slightly cooler air moves in. Skies clear to mostly sunny, with daytime highs easing from the upper 70s and low 80s °F early on to the upper 60s and 70s °F midweek. Overnight lows will generally be in the 50s inland and near 60°F along the coast. Toward the end of the week, warmth and a bit of humidity build

back in, bringing a return to pleasant, spring-like conditions under plenty of sunshine.

Midwest: Swinging Temperatures and Midweek Showers

The Midwest will experience a roller-coaster of spring weather. The week begins with a recent warmth giving way to cooler conditions behind a departing front. Early in the period, a few areas (especially in the far north) may see lingering light rain or even wet snow showers as temperatures briefly dip. Daytime highs start off only around the 40s °F in northern sections on Monday, while southern parts of the region could still reach the 50s. As high pressure briefly settles in, Tuesday looks drier but cool for many locales (highs in the 40s to low 50s °F, with some upper 50s farther south). Overnight lows will range from near freezing (around 30–32°F) in the north to the upper 30s and 40°F range in the south. By midweek, a new disturbance brings clouds and another round of rain showers, helping temperatures moderate back into the 50s (and even low 60s in the southwestern Midwest). Toward Friday and Saturday, expect gradually improving conditions with partly cloudy skies and seasonable temperatures returning.

Southwest: Warm, Dry, and Breezy at Times

The Southwest is poised for a generally dry and warm stretch through early April. High pressure and mostly clear skies will allow temperatures to climb well above early-spring averages in many

areas. Daytime highs will range from the mid-70s °F to mid-80s °F across lower elevations, with some desert locations approaching the 90°F mark on the warmest afternoons. Overnight lows will be comfortable – generally in the upper 40s to mid-50s °F – though high desert and mountain locales will cool down more sharply, occasionally dipping into the 30s °F at night. Expect plenty of sunshine overall, though occasional breezy conditions may develop in the afternoons, especially in canyon areas and open desert, as weather systems pass to the north. Aside from a stray mountain shower in northern parts of the region, no significant precipitation is anticipated this week.

Northwest: Cool and Unsettled with Periodic Rain

The Northwest can expect classic early-spring conditions with frequent clouds and bouts of precipitation. A series of Pacific weather disturbances will move through during this period, keeping the region cool and unsettled. Coastal areas and lowlands will see on-and-off rain showers, especially from late Monday into midweek, while higher elevations (such as the Cascades and northern Rockies) receive rain changing to late-season snow at times. Daytime highs will mostly hover in the 50s °F for lower elevations (with a few milder breaks reaching the low 60s in rain-free intervals), and mountain communities will stay cooler in the 40s °F or lower when precipitation is ongoing. Overnight lows will generally fall into the mid-30s to mid-40s °F across the region, with some

interior valleys dropping near the freezing mark on clearer nights. Residents should be prepared for brisk winds near frontal passages and quickly changing conditions—sun breaks followed by showers—typical of spring in the Northwest.

West Coast: Pacific Storms Then Gradual Clearing

Along the West Coast, an incoming Pacific system will bring an unsettled start to the week. Expect increasing clouds and areas of rain spreading into the region by Monday, especially for central and northern coastal areas. Coastal regions and inland valleys of California will likely get periods of light to moderate rain early in the week, while the Sierra Nevada and other higher terrain could see a fresh coating of spring snowfall at the peaks and rain at lower elevations. Daytime temperatures will be moderated by the clouds and rain, with coastal highs mainly in the 60s °F and inland valley highs in the upper 60s to low 70s °F on drier days. Overnight lows should range from the mid-40s °F along the coast to the lower 50s °F farther inland (and cooler, down into the 30s, in the mountains). By midweek, a second disturbance may bring additional showers, particularly to central portions of the coast, though there is some uncertainty in how far south significant rain will reach. Late in the week, high pressure could begin building, leading to more sunshine, milder afternoons, and diminishing chances of rain as the weekend approaches.

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NEW SALE

| Address | Original List | List Price | Sold Price | DOM | BR | FB | Acres |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----|----|----|-------|
| 116 Juniper Road | \$3,100,000 | \$3,100,000 | \$3,100,000 | 20 | 6 | 6 | 2.00 |

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| Address | Price | Day | Time | Broker |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|----------------------|
| 200 Park Street #12 | \$475,000 | SAT & SUN | 12:00-2:00PM | William Raveis |
| 106 Logan Road | \$2,595,000 | SAT & SUN | 1:00-4:00PM | Berkshire Hathaway |
| 312 Elm Street #3 | \$1,275,000 | SAT | 12:00-3:00PM | Brown Harris Stevens |
| 87 N. Wilton Road | \$4,995,000 | SAT | 2:30-4:30PM | William Raveis |
| 58 Greenley Road | \$6,895,000 | SAT | 12:00-2:00PM | William Raveis |
| 181 Lambert Road | \$3,650,000 | SUN | 1:00-3:00PM | Houlihan Lawrence |
| 26 Pequot Lane | \$5,890,000 | SUN | 1:00-3:00PM | Coldwell Banker |

NEW LISTINGS

| Address | List Price | SqFt | Price/SqFt | AC | BR | FB |
|------------------------|-------------|-------|------------|------|----|----|
| 234 Park Street #21 | \$450,000 | 990 | \$454.55 | | 2 | 1 |
| 312 Elm Street #3 | \$1,275,000 | 1,908 | \$668.23 | | 2 | 2 |
| 201 Gramercy Park #201 | \$1,375,000 | 1,395 | \$985.66 | | 2 | 2 |
| 106 Logan Road | \$2,595,000 | 4,273 | \$607.30 | 4.00 | 4 | 3 |

March Market Report

The high end is leading growth, as economic uncertainty is impacting lower price segments more heavily.



BY JOHN ENGEL

1. How has New Canaan's inventory changed in February 2025 compared to 2024?

New Canaan's inventory fell from 68 homes in February 2024 to 50 in 2025, a 26.5% drop. Darien declined 21.4% to 22 homes, Westport fell 10.2% to 79, Wilton stayed flat at 34, Stamford dropped 5.7% to 165, Norwalk decreased 10.6% to 118, and Greenwich fell 25% to 93, a new record low.

Inventory is dropping everywhere. This sharp decline in New Canaan signals robust demand, likely fueled by school appeal and the back-to-work trend in Manhattan, where 65% of companies now require 3+ in-office days, per HousingNotes.com. Economic uncertainty post-election may be deterring some sellers, keeping inventory tight. Greenwich's steeper drop and 47% sales increase may push luxury buyers to New Canaan's high-end market.

2. How does New Canaan's price per square foot in February 2025 compare to 2024?

New Canaan's price per square foot rose to \$494 in February 2025, up 13% from \$437 in 2024. Darien's \$759 increased 20.2%, Westport's \$611 rose 12.3%, Wilton's \$395 grew 17.9%, Stamford's \$362 went up 10.7%, Norwalk's \$404 increased 15.8%, and Greenwich's \$762 jumped 8.1%.

Prices are rising everywhere. New Canaan's higher months' supply (2.2 vs. Darien's 1.2) indicates less inventory pressure here, moderating price growth. Darien's faster rise reflects stronger demand from Manhattan commuters, while New Canaan's growth is tempered by a larger inventory base, offering buyers more options. Greenwich's 25% inventory drop and 47% sales surge since 2024 indicate a tighter luxury market there.

3. How did closed sales in New Canaan in February 2025 compare to 2024?

New Canaan's closed sales increased from 7 in February 2024 to 9 in 2025, up 28.6%. Westport rose 41.7% to 17, Stamford grew 11.6% to 77, Greenwich increased 47% to 25, but Darien fell 36.4% to 7, Wilton dropped 12.5% to 7, and Norwalk declined 15% to 34.

New Canaan's growth in closed sales reflects steady demand, likely from families prioritizing schools, despite economic uncertainty after the election. Darien's volume decline is surely a reflection of ultra-low inventory there. Competition there is off-the-charts. Greenwich's sales surged 47% to 25 homes from 17, despite a 25% inventory drop, suggesting a hot luxury market there as well.

4. How is median sales price in New Canaan in February 2025 compared to 2024?

New Canaan's median sales price reached \$2,900,000 in February 2025, up 31.8% from \$2,200,000 in 2024. Greenwich's \$2,870,000 increased only 14.7%, Darien's \$2,855,714 increased 26.5%, Westport's \$1,938,794 grew 38.1%, Wilton's \$1,234,429 rose 2.3%, Stamford's \$559,000 went up 11.6%, and Norwalk's \$585,000 increased 15%. New Canaan, Darien, and Greenwich's sharp rise suggests stronger luxury demand. The high end is leading growth, as economic uncertainty is impacting lower price segments more heavily.

5. How has the dollar volume of closed sales in New Canaan in February 2025 compared to 2024?

New Canaan's dollar volume hit \$30,639,000 in February 2025, up 69.2% from \$18,100,000 in 2024.

Westport's \$32,959,500 rose 38.1%, Stamford's \$32,959,500 increased 38.1%, Greenwich's \$71,750,000 was up 68.8%, Darien's \$19,990,000 rose 26.5%, Wilton's \$8,411,700 increased 2.3%, and Norwalk's \$8,411,700 also rose 2.3%.

All towns saw gains: New Canaan, Darien, and Greenwich are price-driven, reflecting high-end demand, while Westport and Stamford benefit from higher sales volume. This split highlights a bifurcated market, with luxury buyers driving growth despite economic headwinds.

6. Is New Canaan more of a seller's market in February 2025 compared to 2024?

Yes. New Canaan's months' supply dropped to 2.2 in February 2025, down 24.1% from 2.9 in 2024, signaling a seller's market. Darien's 1.2 fell 14.3%, Wilton's 1.6 dropped 5.9%, Westport's 2.7 declined 12.9%, Greenwich's 3.7 was down 49%, and Stamford and Norwalk held at 1.8. Over five years, New Canaan's supply fell from 14.4 months to 2.2, but it's unlikely to reach Darien's 1.2 anytime soon due to a larger inventory

base here (50 vs. 22 homes), moderating the pace of decline.

7. What was the average time on market for homes in New Canaan in February 2025 vs. 2024?

New Canaan's days on market rose to 35 in February 2025, up 29.6% from 27 in 2024. Darien's 16 fell 40.7%, Westport's 22 dropped 12%, Wilton's 12 declined 65.6%, Stamford's 19 fell 34.5%, Norwalk's 19 dropped 5%, and Greenwich's 20 was down 13%. New Canaan's slower sales reflect fewer new listings (18 vs. Westport's 32), reducing buyer options. The back-to-work trend may also be shifting buyer focus to towns on the main line and with more inventory, like Westport.

8. Have interest rates impacted buyer behavior in New Canaan in February 2025?

Inventory matters more than rates. With rates flat at 6.5% (jumbo) and 6.75% (conforming), loan applications are also reportedly flat, paired with less inventory. New Canaan's pending sales fell 29.4% to 12 from 17 in 2024. Darien's 19 rose 18.8%, Westport's 14 grew 46.2%,

Wilton's 10 increased 25%, Greenwich's 20 were up 33%, Stamford's 77 grew 11.6%, and Norwalk's 34 fell 15%.

Only Norwalk and New Canaan fell. Greenwich at 20 is coming off the bottom and could hardly go lower for such a large town. High rates could weigh on New Canaan's pending sales, but low supply (2.2 months' supply) sustains competition, as buyers prioritize school quality to "trade up" despite rate concerns.

9. Will inventory increase across Fairfield County in Spring 2025?

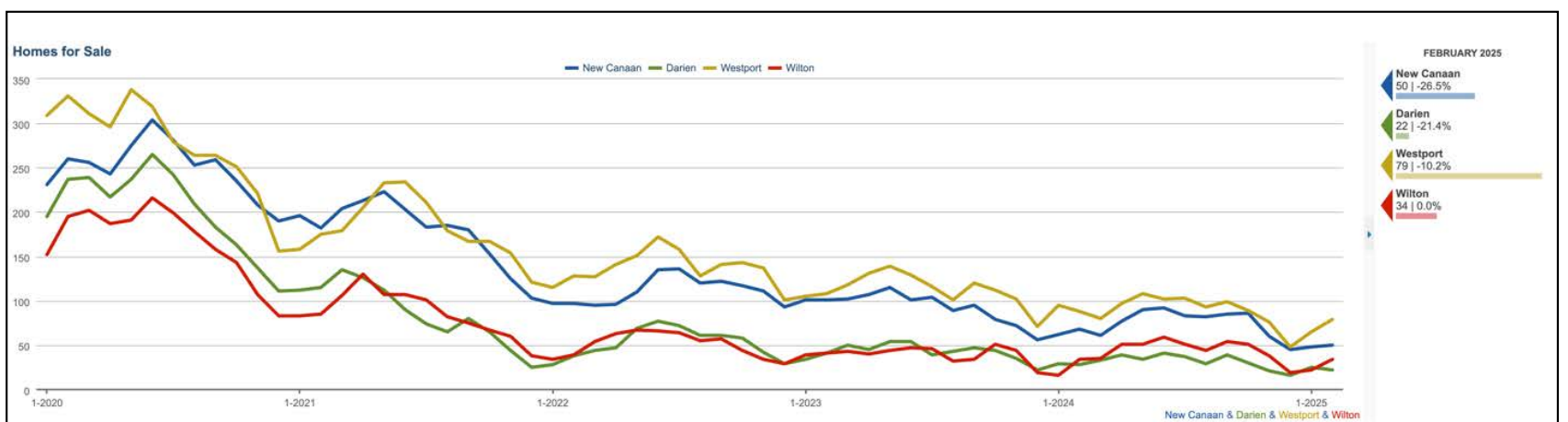
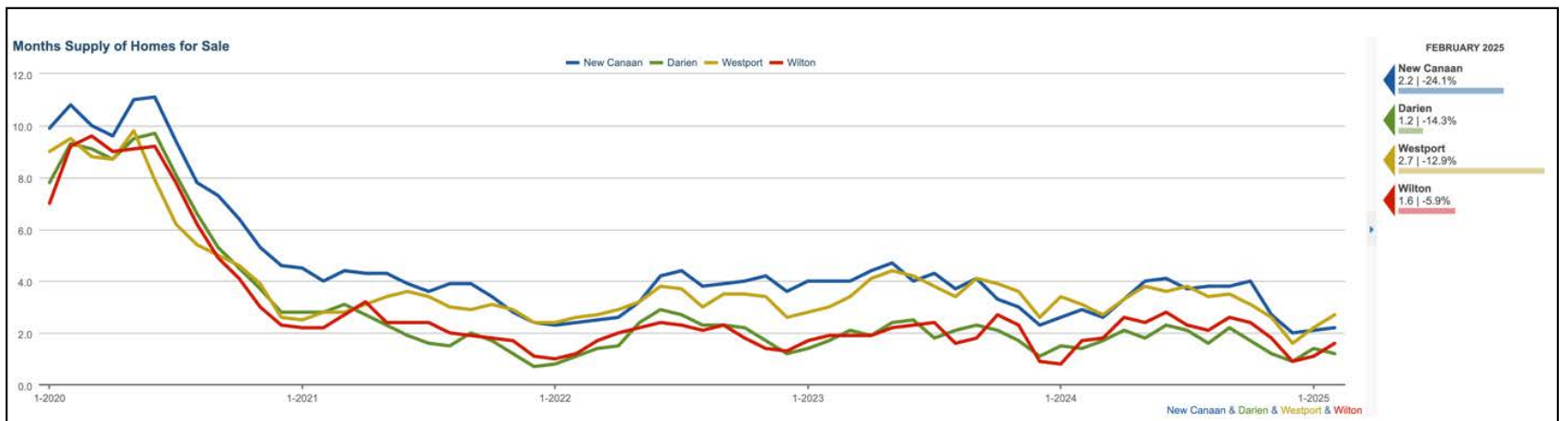
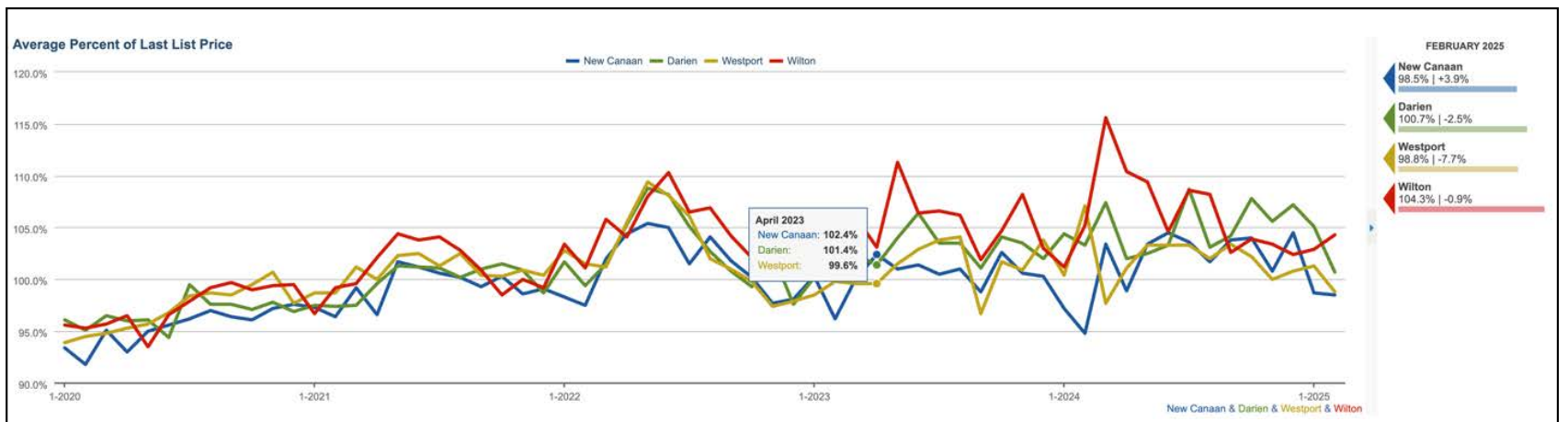
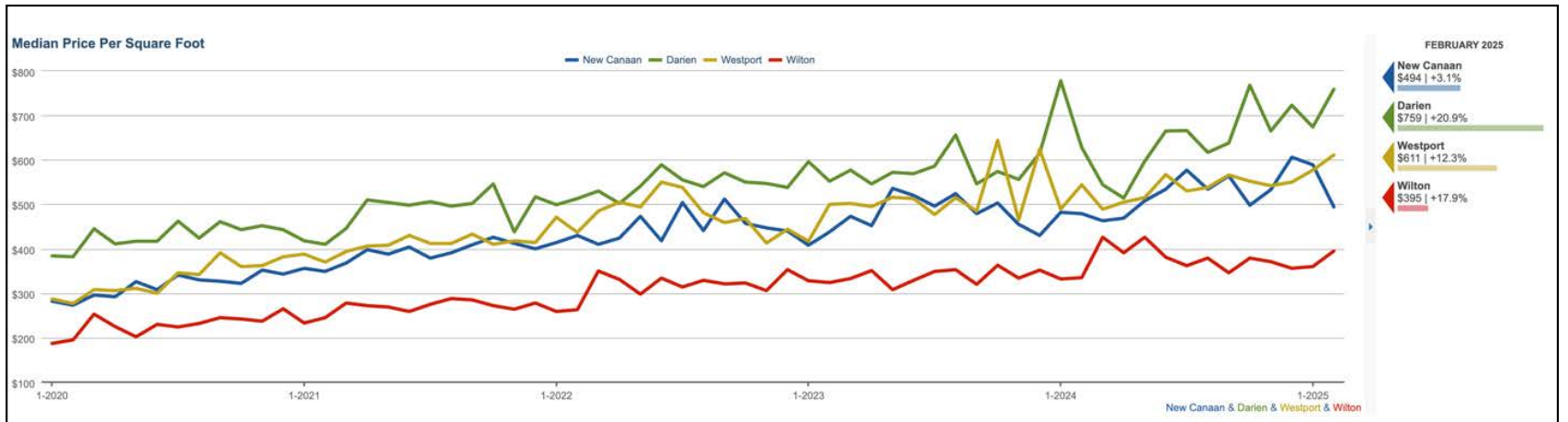
Inventory should rise 5-10% in Spring 2025, following seasonal trends to list before the school year ends. Lower rates (below 6%), a 10.1% increase in equity, and the back-to-work trend will encourage some sellers to list, as will improved economic confidence after the post-election stock market correction. We expect the back-to-work trend to prompt relocations, but this will disproportionately benefit towns along the main Metro North line such as Westport (79 homes) and Greenwich (93 homes).

10. Is the market rising at the high, low, or middle end, and should builders build speculatively?

The high end is rising faster, with New Canaan's at \$2,900,000 (up 31.8%) and 60% of homes selling at/above asking. Greenwich saw a 25% inventory drop to 93 homes from 124 and a 47% sales surge to 25 homes from 17 in February 2025. However, 70% of listings (65 homes) lingered over 30 days, indicating overpricing or issues like outdated homes, signaling strong but selective luxury demand over \$6.5 million.

New Canaan is now seeing \$1.6 teardowns (Douglas Rd.), resulting in more speculative builds priced in the high \$3's (Park Street). Sustainable? We think so, but builders may begin focusing on moderately priced towns like Wilton (104.3% list-to-sale, 1.6 months' supply), where demand is strong, sales are quicker (12 days), and price growth (5-7% projected) is stable. High-end markets like New Canaan (35 days, 2-4% growth) carry more risk due to economic volatility.

John Engel is a broker on The Engel Team at Douglas Elliman, and he is going to Yankee Stadium for opening day. In baseball and real estate, the rich get richer. Owners in Los Angeles, Boston, and New York spend at record levels, while smaller teams (Tigers, A's, Padres) shrink and reevaluate. It's similar to the run-up of prices in luxury real estate markets (Palm Beach and Darien) continuing to outpace those of more modest markets (Norwalk and Orlando).



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Amphibians - Looking for Love in all the Wet Places



wood frog

By FRANK GALLO

"Peep, Peep, Peep, Peep, Quack, Quack, Quack, Whirrrrrrrrrr..." The cacophony is almost deafening. It's late March and this exuberant symphony emanates not from within an avantgarde orchestra pit, but rather an inky black forest puddle – the utterances of hundreds of amorous amphibians...

What I am observing within the wetter recesses of the forest is the ancient mating rituals of spring peepers (*Pseudacris crucifer*), wood frogs (*Lithobates sylvaticus*), and American toads (*Bufo americanus*).

Wood Frogs begin the Spring symphony, often emerging from winter dormancy (brumation) in late February, when snow is still present. They are quickly joined by spring peepers, whose surprisingly loud voices belie their diminutive 1.5" stature. A single male peeper can emit 90 decibels of sound – think revving motorcycle at 25 feet. The sound can travel for hundreds of yards, especially at the height of the breeding season in March and April. American toads arrive at the pools in late March or early April to add their voices to the chorus, rounding out the early Spring refrain.

It is the males that are making noise to beat the band. The spring peepers "peep", the wood frogs "quack" like dinky ducks, and the American toads produce a "whirring" sound – like a combination of humming and whistling – from vocal sacs in their throats.

Females of all three species are larger than the males and will move toward vocal males, attracted by their singing. In the case of American toad courtship, the more robust, lower voiced, males draw most of the females. As I watch, the male toads are

alternately coupling with other toads and vibrating their air-filled throat sacs in an ardent attempt at charming nearby females. However, some males adopt a more subtle approach, quietly waiting in the shadows to steal females lured in by singing males. Several distinct calls can be detected by a careful listener. In addition to their mating trill, males that are accidentally clasped by another male issue a short "release trill" informing the clasper of their error. As I pick up a male toad, it emits a soft "chirp," which is often the precursor to their release trill.

Although breeding can occur in ponds, lakes, streams, and marshes throughout Connecticut, many amphibians prefer temporary vernal pools. Indeed, wood frogs and several salamander species require these sites for breeding. Why are such pools so popular, given their ephemeral nature and vulnerability to the eccentricities of New England's weather? A good dry spell can cause them to vanish into thin air, making vernal pools an all-your-eggs-in-one-basket proposition. For amphibians, a major advantage to vernal pools is the lack of fish, which means fewer predators and greater relative safety for their young.

Female toads lay double jelly-like strands containing as many as several thousand eggs. At first transparent, the strands collect silt and other debris, making them difficult for predators to see. Algae also grows on the egg strings, turning them green and adding to their camouflage. Toad eggs hatch within 1-2 weeks and the young can complete their metamorphosis into toadlets within 3 more weeks. But this can still be too slow. If the vernal pool dries up even a day too soon, all the young are lost. I have seen this happen in new vernal pools forming at



spring peeper



american toad

the New Canaan Nature Center in areas where old agricultural tile drains have collapsed. Each year, as the ground continues to settle, these young vernal pools become progressively deeper and remain wet longer. I hope this will be the year that thousands of tiny toadlets, spring peepers, and wood frogs disperse from their edges into the nearby woods.

Perhaps because of their temporary nature, vernal pools are not regulated and protected in every state. Fortunately, given their importance to amphibians as breeding and rearing sites, Connecticut wetland regulations assure them some protection, helping to safeguard the survival of our wetland revelers.

The annual serenade of spring peepers, wood frogs, and American toads is a chorus I look forward to hearing each year, both as a harbinger of spring

and as an affirmation and celebration of life. Their time-honored symphony is a true spectacle of nature, one I hope everyone has the chance to experience.

What you can do to protect amphibians.

1. Limit the use of toxic pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers, especially in Spring.
2. Leave tree and shrub cover to provide shade and help limit evaporation from the pools.
3. Leave dead logs and leaves on the forest floor to help maintain moisture.
4. To prevent compaction, avoid the use of heavy machinery near vernal pools especially when the ground is not completely frozen or dry.

Frank Gallo is the Senior Naturalist at the New Canaan Nature Center located at 144 Oenoke Ridge in New Canaan.

Calling all sophisticates, literary enthusiasts, and our very clever Sentinel readers!
Enter to Win Cash Prizes in our Cross-Over Contest!

Sentinel Literary Competition

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

Dear Reader,

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.

Example 1:

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 to be found.

"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?

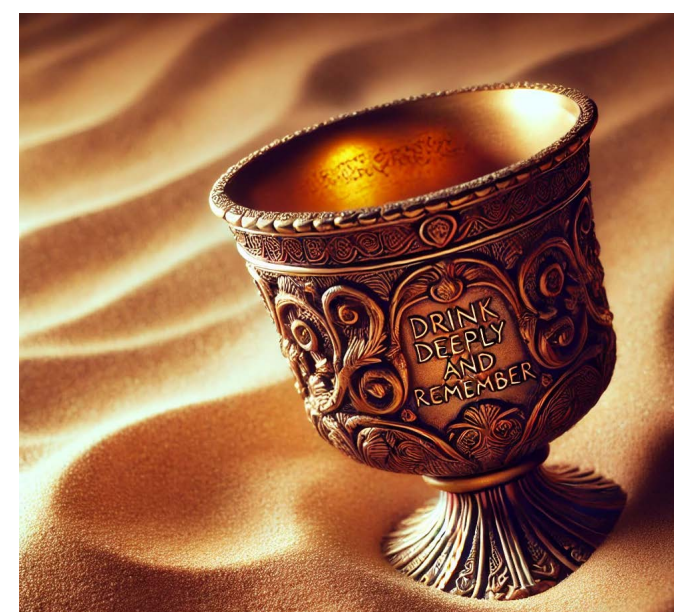
The Sock Dimension.

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.



THE TALE OF BENJAMIN BUNNY BY BEATRIX POTTER, AUTHOR OF "THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT"



One morning a little rabbit sat on a bank. He pricked his ears and listened to the trit-trot, trit-trot of a pony. A gig was coming along the road; it was driven by Mr. McGregor, and beside him sat Mrs. McGregor in her best bonnet.



As soon as they had passed, little Benjamin Bunny slid down into the road, and set off—with a hop, skip, and a jump—to call upon his relations, who lived in the wood at the back of Mr. McGregor's garden.



That wood was full of rabbit holes; and in the neatest, sandiest hole of all lived Benjamin's aunt and his cousins—Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail, and Peter. Old Mrs. Rabbit was a widow; she earned her living by knitting rabbit-wool mittens and muffatees (I once bought a pair at a bazaar). She also sold herbs, and rosemary tea, and rabbit-tobacco (which is what we call lavender).



Little Benjamin did not very much want to see his Aunt. He came round the back of the fir-tree, and nearly tumbled upon the top of his Cousin Peter.



Peter was sitting by himself. He looked poorly, and was dressed in a red cotton pocket-handkerchief.



"Peter," said little Benjamin, in a whisper, "who has got your clothes?" Peter replied, "The scarecrow in Mr. McGregor's garden," and described how he had been chased about the garden, and had dropped his shoes and coat.



Little Benjamin sat down beside his cousin and assured him that Mr. McGregor had gone out in a gig, and Mrs. McGregor also; and certainly for the day, because she was wearing her best bonnet.



Peter said he hoped that it would rain. At this point old Mrs. Rabbit's voice was heard inside the rabbit hole, calling: "Cotton-tail! Cotton-tail! fetch some more camomile!" Peter said he thought he might feel better if he went for a walk.



They went away hand in hand, and got upon the flat top of the wall at the bottom of the wood. From here they looked down into Mr. McGregor's garden. Peter's coat and shoes were plainly to be seen upon the scarecrow, topped with an old tam-o'-shanter of Mr. McGregor's.



Little Benjamin said: "It spoils people's clothes to squeeze under a gate; the proper way to get in is to climb down a pear-tree." Peter fell down head first;

but it was of no consequence, as the bed below was newly raked and quite soft. It had been sown with lettuces.



They left a great many odd little footmarks all over the bed, especially little Benjamin, who was wearing clogs.



Little Benjamin said that the first thing to be done was to get back Peter's clothes, in order that they might be able to use the pocket-handkerchief.

They took them off the scarecrow. There had been rain during the night; there was water in the shoes, and the coat was somewhat shrunk.

Benjamin tried on the tam-o'-shanter, but it was too big for him.



Then he suggested that they should fill the pocket-handkerchief with onions, as a little present for his Aunt. Peter did not seem to be enjoying himself; he kept hearing noises.



Benjamin, on the contrary, was perfectly at home, and ate a lettuce leaf. He said that he was in the habit of coming to the garden with his father to get lettuces for their Sunday dinner.

(The name of little Benjamin's papa was old Mr. Benjamin Bunny.) The lettuces certainly were very fine.



Peter did not eat anything; he said he should like to go home. Presently he dropped



half the onions. Little Benjamin said that it was not possible to get back up the pear-tree with a load of vegetables. He led the way boldly towards the other end of the garden. They went along a little walk on planks, under a sunny, red brick wall. The mice sat on their doorsteps cracking cherry-stones; they winked at Peter Rabbit and little Benjamin Bunny.



Presently Peter let the pocket-handkerchief go again.



They got amongst flower-pots, and frames, and tubs. Peter heard noises worse than ever; his eyes were as big as lolly-pops!

He was a step or two in front of his cousin when he suddenly stopped.



This is what those little rabbits saw round that corner! Little Benjamin took one look, and then, in half a minute less than no time, he

hid himself and Peter and the onions underneath a large basket....



The cat got up and stretched herself, and came and sniffed at the basket. Perhaps she liked the smell of onions! Anyway, she sat down upon the top of the basket.



She sat there for five hours. I cannot draw you a picture of Peter and Benjamin underneath the basket, because it was quite dark, and because the smell of onions was fearful; it made Peter Rabbit and little Benjamin cry.

The sun got round behind the wood, and it was quite late in the afternoon; but still the cat sat upon the basket.



At length there was a pitter-patter, pitter-patter, and some bits of mortar fell from the wall above.

The cat looked up and saw old Mr. Benjamin Bunny prancing along the top of the wall of the upper terrace.

He was smoking a pipe of rabbit-tobacco, and had a little switch in his hand. He was looking for his son.



Old Mr. Bunny had no opinion whatever of cats.

He took a tremendous jump off the top of the wall on to the top of the cat, and cuffed it off the basket, and kicked it into the greenhouse, scratching off a handful of fur.

The cat was too much surprised to scratch back.

When old Mr. Bunny had driven the cat into the greenhouse, he locked the door.

Then he came back to the basket and took out his son Benjamin by the ears, and whipped him with the little switch.

Then he took out his nephew Peter.



Then he took out the handkerchief of onions, and marched out of the garden.



When Mr. McGregor returned about half an hour later he observed several things which perplexed him.

It looked as though some person had been walking all over the garden in a pair of clogs—only the footmarks were too ridiculously little! Also he could not understand how the cat could have managed to shut herself up inside the greenhouse, locking the door upon the outside.

When Peter got home his mother forgave him, because she was so glad to see that he had found his shoes and coat. Cotton-tail and Peter folded up the pocket-handkerchief, and old Mrs. Rabbit strung up the onions and hung them from the kitchen ceiling, with the bunches of herbs and the rabbit-tobacco.

"The Tale of Benjamin Bunny" Continues Potter's Beloved Rabbit Chronicles

Beatrix Potter's *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny*, first published in 1904, remains a classic of early 20th-century children's literature. As a sequel to *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, the story follows Peter and his cousin Benjamin as they return to Mr. McGregor's garden to retrieve Peter's lost clothing—left behind in his earlier, hasty escape.

The narrative introduces Benjamin's father, Mr. Benjamin Bouncer, and extends Potter's gentle commentary on obedience, mischief, and the consequences of childhood impulsiveness. The cousins' adventure is met with familiar peril when they are trapped under a garden

basket by Mr. McGregor's cat, only to be rescued later by Benjamin's stern father.

Potter, who both wrote and illustrated the tale, continued to pair precise language with naturalistic watercolor illustrations. According to the Victoria and Albert Museum, her depictions of English gardens and countryside creatures were drawn from real-life observation on her family's estate.

The Tale of Benjamin Bunny helped cement the popularity of Potter's fictional universe, with its blend of charming anthropomorphism and understated moral lessons. More than a century later, the book remains a fixture in nursery libraries, preserving the legacy of a writer whose rabbits are still widely read and recognized.



Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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

TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 1

Town Council

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

Wednesday, April 2

Parking Commission

7-8 p.m., Location not posted at time of publication.

Thursday, April 3

Health & Human Services Commission

8:45-10 a.m., Town Hall Board Room & via Zoom

Town Council

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

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-first-selectman-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 Auditorium
 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.

The Power of Validation with Terry D'Elisa, PsyD

10:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim and Dede Bartlett Auditorium
 Terry D'Elisa will discuss what validation is (and what it is not), provide helpful ways to respond to strong emotions, and help you teach your children how to cope better and self-regulate when confronted with day-to-day challenges. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/spednet-dr-delisa-106329>.

Grand Opening of Fred Astaire Dance Studio

3-6 PM at III Main Street, New Canaan
 Go celebrate the grand opening of Fred Astaire. There will be a mini workshop, prizes, group dancing, and a special show.

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-kl2.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-kl2.org/o/sms/article/2046049>.

March 31

Woodcarving

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
 Join Dennis Taylor to explore this time-honored craft. Dennis will help you learn to carve actual projects, explain basic wood cuts, tools and safety tips. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

Vienna: The Mecca of Classical Music

2:30 PM at the Lapham Center
 The last years of Mozart's life, Beethoven's deafness, and the turbulent life of Strauss. Run time: 26 minutes. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

April 1

Knitting with Sue Scannell

11 AM at the Lapham Center
 Learn to knit with master knitter Sue Scannell. If you ever wanted to learn to knit or to get help on a project you put away, join Sue. There will be some yarn and needles available. 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.

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.

April 2

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 3

Free Medicare Counseling

By Appointment at the Lapham Center
 Dick Neville, a CHOICES certified Medicare counselor, provides free, objective, person-centered assistance about Medicare options and related benefits including: enrolling, choosing a supplemental plan and Part D prescription drug plan, and understanding Medicare Advantage plans. Available to New Canaan residents and Town employees. Call (203) 594-3620 to schedule appointment.

SAVE THE DATE

April 4

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.

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.

Cocktails & Cuffs

6:30-8:30 PM at the Little Plucky
 Join the Little Plucky for an unforgettable decoupage experience with Megan Reed Design. Learn the basics of this fabulous craft and create your own unique design while enjoying cocktails. Tickets are \$75 and available at <https://tinyurl.com/3u8r82yu>.

April 5

Spring Shells

2-4 PM at the Little Plucky
 Celebrate the arrival of spring! Join for an unforgettable decoupage experience with Megan Reed Design. Tickets are \$75 and available at <https://tinyurl.com/4njx53x8>.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee: The Musical- Day One

7 PM at the New Canaan Library
 The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is a riotous musical, complete with audience participation. This fast-paced crowd pleaser follows an eclectic group of six mid-pubescents as they vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. Tickets are \$40/person and available at <https://www.connecticutstagecompany.org/spelling-bee>.

April 6

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>.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee: The Musical- Day Two

2 PM at the New Canaan Library
 The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is a riotous musical, complete with audience participation. This fast-paced crowd pleaser follows an eclectic group of six mid-pubescents as they vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. Tickets are \$40/person and available at <https://www.connecticutstagecompany.org/spelling-bee>.

April 7

Woodcarving

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
 Join Dennis Taylor to explore this time-honored craft. Dennis will help you learn to carve actual projects, explain basic wood cuts, tools and safety tips. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

Composers for Beauty in Vienna

2:30 PM at the Lapham Center
 A documentary focusing on the revival of beautiful classical music in Vienna. Run time: 1 hour and 15 minutes. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

April 8

Knitting with Sue Scannell

11 AM at the Lapham Center
 Learn to knit with master knitter Sue Scannell. If you ever wanted to learn to knit or to get help on a project you put away, join Sue. There will be some yarn and needles available. 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.

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

Conversations with Business Leaders: Emilie Rubinfeld

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
 The 2025 Conversations with Business Leaders speaker will be Emilie Rubinfeld, Global President of New York-based luxury fashion house Carolina Herrera. In conversation with Bob Mitchell, co-Ceo of Mitchells Stores, Rubinfeld will not only relate insights from helming of one of fashion's most important legacy houses, but will also informally share looks from the current collection on stage. Register at <https://shorturl.at/HQYPA>.

April 11

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.

April 12

Adaptive Circus Program

3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
 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-copy-adaptive-circus-program-94306>.

April 14

Johann Sebastian Bach: The Fifth Evangelist

2:30 PM at the Lapham Center
 Convincingly conveys Bach's motives as a Christian composer, who placed himself and his work entirely at the service of God. Run time: 25 minutes. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

April 15

Art Gottlieb's History Discussions: The First Air War

10 AM at the Lapham Center
 For the first time in the history of warfare, World War I employed the use of aircraft on a large scale. In addition to airplanes, observation balloons and Zeppelins flew missions of reconnaissance and occasional bombing raids. During what was still an age of individual honor and chivalry, fighter pilot aces were immortalized as national heroes. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

Knitting with Sue Scannell

11 AM at the Lapham Center
 Learn to knit with master knitter Sue Scannell. If you ever wanted to learn to knit or to get help on a project you put away, join Sue. There will be some yarn and needles available. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

April 16

Woodcarving

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
 Join Dennis Taylor to explore this time-honored craft. Dennis will help you learn to carve actual projects, explain basic wood cuts, tools and safety tips. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

April 16

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

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

hours prior to testing. Free event. Call 203-594-3620 to register.

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-glass-house-glass-houses-131397>.

Free Medicare Counseling

By Appointment at the Lapham Center Dick Neville, a CHOICES certified Medicare counselor, provides free, objective, person-centered assistance about Medicare options and related benefits including: enrolling, choosing a supplemental plan and Part D prescription drug plan, and understanding Medicare Advantage plans. Available to New Canaan residents and Town employees. Call (203) 594-3620 to schedule appointment.

April 18

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.

April 21

Ways of Listening: The Magic of Mozart with David Stein

2:30 PM at the Lapham Center In this presentation David Stein explores the Gran Partita for Winds, a Mozart masterpiece. The program uses video clips of performances and a live illustration at the piano. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

April 22

A Conversation with Georgette Harrison

9:30 AM at the New Canaan Library Join Georgette Harrison for a conversation about parents under pressure. Register at <https://newcanaancares.org>.

Art Gottlieb's History Discussions: The Battle of Jutland

10 AM at the Lapham Center In the frigid North Sea off the Danish Peninsula of Jutland, the Royal Navy's Grand Fleet and the Imperial German

Navy's High Seas Fleet battled it out in what was to become the largest and most famous naval battle of World War I. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

April 23

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 24

Gridiron Dinner and Show- Night One

6 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan Join the 63rd Annual Gridiron Dinner and Show Honoring Wendy Coleman Dixon Hilboldt. The festivities will begin at 6 pm for cocktails, 7 pm for Dinner and 8 pm – The Show will begin. A donation in Wendy's honor will be made to the New Canaan High School Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$175/person and available at <https://gridironclubofnc.org/registration/>.

April 25

Gridiron Dinner and Show- Night Two

6 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan Join the 63rd Annual Gridiron Dinner and Show Honoring Wendy Coleman Dixon Hilboldt. The Show will begin at 8 pm. A donation in Wendy's honor will be made to the New Canaan High School Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$175/person and available at <https://gridironclubofnc.org/registration/>.

Opening Night: The Importance of Being Earnest

7:30 PM at Powerhouse Theatre The esteemed Oscar Wilde's most well-known comedy, The Importance of Being Earnest, is rich with love, banter, friendship, and conflict. This whirlwind of complex relationships and comedic commentary is a show you don't want to miss. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

April 26

Watercolor Botanical Painting with Sarah Crossman

10:30 AM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center Learn to Paint Beautiful Watercolor Flowers. Join artist Sarah Crossman for a one-day workshop designed for all skill levels. In this hands-on session, Sarah will guide you through the basic techniques of watercolor painting, with a focus on capturing the vibrant beauty of tulips as seasonal inspiration. Materials will be provided. Tickets are \$75/members, \$90 for non-members, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org>.

Faster Things - Allman

Brothers Tribute

7 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center Faster Things conjures the twin guitar harmonies and searing slide guitar sounds, hammond organ, harmony guitar and unusual time signatures of the original Allman Brothers band with passion. Tickets are \$35/person and available at <https://carriagebarn.org>.

The Importance of Being Earnest

7:30 PM at Powerhouse Theatre The esteemed Oscar Wilde's most well-known comedy, The Importance of Being Earnest, is rich with love, banter, friendship, and conflict. This whirlwind of complex relationships and comedic commentary is a show you don't want to miss. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

April 27

The Importance of Being Earnest

2 PM at Powerhouse Theatre The esteemed Oscar Wilde's most well-known comedy, The Importance of Being Earnest, is rich with love, banter, friendship, and conflict. This whirlwind of complex relationships and comedic commentary is a show you don't want to miss. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

Oldham Nature & Environment Lecture:

Carl Safina

3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium The 2025 Oldham Nature & Environment lecturer will be Carl Safina, to culminate the town-wide celebration of Earth Month with its theme of biodiversity. The Oldham Nature and Environment Lecture series is dedicated to presenting leading scientists, policy makers, strategists, and other experts to speak to our community about the many ways climate change is threatening our world, enabling us to be well informed on the topics of climate science and policy, and biodiversity impact and loss. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-nature-environmentoldham-biodiversity-speaker-113300>.

April 28

Two Geniuses: Karajan and Mozart

2:30 PM at the Lapham Center Both born and raised in Salzburg, both musical geniuses. This documentary uncovers the similarities and differences between them. Run time: 55 minutes. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

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 3

Kentucky Derby Party

5:30 PM at the Inn, 73 Oenoke Ridge Road Attend a Kentucky Derby party. Mint juleps and hors d'oeuvres will be served. All financial proceeds benefit The Inn, Waveny's Independent Living Community. Tickets are \$150/person and available at <https://shorturl.at/XUK39>.

May 8

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.

Free Medicare Counseling

By Appointment at the Lapham Center Dick Neville, a CHOICES certified Medicare counselor, provides free, objective, person-centered assistance about Medicare options and related benefits including: enrolling, choosing a supplemental plan and Part D prescription drug plan, and understanding Medicare Advantage plans. Available to New Canaan residents and Town employees. Call (203) 594-3620 to schedule appointment.

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-cares-home-tour/>.

May 20

Art Gottlieb's History Discussions: Over There

10 AM at the Lapham Center Borrowing the title of the classic song by George M.

Cohen, this last installment of a five-part series commemorating World War I will focus on events leading to America's entry into the war in 1917 and her contribution towards Allied victory in November of 1918. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

BLOOD DRIVES

Friday, March 28

Green's Farms Church 71 Hilldale Road Westport, CT 06880 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Sunday, March 30

Greenwich Blood Donation Center 99 Indian Field Road Greenwich, CT 06830 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Wednesday, April 2

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

Masonic Lodge DARIEN 354 Post Road Darien, CT 06820 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Support Services & Meetings

April 1

The Connection Cure: A Conversation on 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-hill-library-author-talk-127930>.

April 2

Caregiver Support Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center Join this group of experienced and compassionate 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.

April 25

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 This training will certify you as a QPR gatekeeper. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/suicide-prevention-training-question-persuade-and->

refer-128081.

Every Friday

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

Every Saturday

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

AA Meeting-Laundry and Dry Cleaning Group

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

Lost Then Found NA Meeting

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

Every Monday

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

Adult Child AI-Anon Meeting

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

Every Tuesday

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

Every Wednesday

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

AI-Anon Parent's & Newcomer's Mtg.

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM Silver Hill, Jorgenson House 208 Valley Rd., New Canaan

Every Thursday

AA Big Book Meeting. Wheelchair Access Thursdays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan New Canaan Parent Support Group 7- 8:30 PM St. Mark's Episcopal Church New Canaan

Our Neighbors

April 5

The 38th Annual Jazz Festival

8 AM- 7 PM at the GHS Performing Arts Center 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich This year's festival will feature 15 visiting jazz bands from across the region – and as far away as Canada – showcasing the talent and dedication of young musicians. The day will also include masterclasses led by 11 top-tier jazz clinicians based in New York City, offering invaluable instruction on all jazz instruments. The program is available at <https://shorturl.at/xJOIh>.

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 Word before "Sea" or "snake"
- 6 Sounds at pounds
- 10 Musician's booking
- 13 "Am not" retort
- 14 Medicinal succulent
- 15 "Duke of ___" ('60s song title that contains two titles)
- 16 "Thrift Shop" rapper (Theme hint: Note the last several letters of each starred clue's answer)
- 18 Fruit in a gin cocktail
- 19 Bang shut
- 20 National Gallery of British Art, today
- 21 Part of an act
- 22 The best man gives one
- 24 Soul seller?
- 25 "Cagney & Lacey" co-star
- 31 Hiking trails
- 35 Clearing in the woods
- 36 Three-layered cookie
- 37 Order a la ___
- 39 Penalize, informally
- 40 Bras and slips
- 42 Polite chaps

DOWN

- 43 *Former country that residents called
- 46 Veer, like a jet
- 47 Vice President Harris
- 51 Ice's state
- 54 Musical about hippies protesting the draft
- 56 Show up for
- 58 Analogous
- 59 *Out too late
- 61 Pull with effort
- 62 ___ Pet (terra-cotta "companion")
- 63 Lead or gold
- 64 Corn unit
- 65 Lip or cheek
- 66 Little brothers, maybe

- 11 Golf club with grooves
- 12 Elation
- 15 Cadillac SUV
- 17 Engrave
- 21 Leo or Libra
- 23 Start's start?
- 24 Leg joint
- 26 Composer Ned
- 27 Make a choice
- 28 CNN anchor
- 29 No longer in Drafts
- 30 Droops
- 31 ___ vault (Olympic event)
- 32 Opera solo
- 33 Two ___ for a twenty
- 34 Hampering
- 37 Ship's staff
- 38 Make public, as grievances
- 41 Old oath that anagrams to "aged"
- 42 Dodgeball venue

- 44 Dogs from Japan
- 45 DEA agent
- 48 Concur
- 49 Garrets' relatives
- 50 Vexed constantly
- 51 "The Sweetest Taboo" singer
- 52 Gumbo vegetable
- 53 One may cheat a polygraph test
- 54 "That's funny!"
- 55 Yard sale stipulation
- 57 Birds that fly almost silently
- 59 Lenovo laptops, e.g.
- 60 Person who's often booed, briefly

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| V | I | T | A | L | O | K | A | P | I | S | I | S |
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| C | O | U | R | T | S | K | E | T | C | H | Y | E |
| S | T | A | S | H | E | E | K | S | H | I | N | G |
| T | R | A | P | E | Z | E | T | A | O | | | |
| R | O | L | O | A | V | I | V | B | O | C | C | E |
| O | M | A | R | M | A | M | A | S | T | O | O | K |
| T | E | N | S | E | R | O | U | T | E | L | S | E |
| C | A | B | | | | | | | | | | |
| M | U | S | H | R | I | S | O | T | T | O | | |
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| R | B | G | | | | | | | | | | |
| C | A | N | | | | | | | | | | |
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Final Amount by Chris Gross

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Horoscopes for Next Week

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19) The Sun continues to illuminate your sign, infusing you with vitality and a desire for new beginnings. However, with Mercury retrograde in Aries, it's prudent to pause and reflect before initiating major endeavors. Neptune's recent ingress into your sign enhances your intuition, urging you to trust your inner guidance. This week, focus on refining your plans and embracing patience as you prepare for the forward momentum to come.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20) The cosmic energies encourage introspection and solitude, providing a fertile ground for self-discovery. With Mercury retrograde highlighting your subconscious realm, pay attention to dreams and intuitive nudges. Neptune's shift into Aries may bring hidden insights to the surface, aiding in emotional healing. Use this time to release what no longer serves you and cultivate inner peace.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20) Your social sphere is abuzz with activity, yet Mercury's retrograde advises caution in communication. Misunderstandings can arise, so strive for clarity and active listening. Neptune's recent move into Aries inspires you to align your aspirations with your true purpose. This week, focus on nurturing authentic connections and revisiting long-term goals with a discerning eye.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) Career matters take precedence as the Sun highlights your professional sector. However, Mercury's retrograde may cause delays or require reevaluation of current projects. Neptune's entry into Aries encourages you to infuse creativity into your ambitions. Use this period to reassess your career path, ensuring it aligns with your deeper values and vision.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22) A thirst for knowledge and adventure permeates your spirit, urging you to explore new horizons. Yet, with Mercury in retrograde, travel plans or educational pursuits may require extra attention to detail. Neptune's recent transition into Aries enhances your philosophical outlook, inviting you to embrace spiritual growth. This week, balance your desire for expansion with mindful planning and openness to new perspectives.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22) Deep introspection is called for as Mercury retrograde stirs your sector of transformation. Financial matters, particularly shared resources, may need careful review. Neptune's move into Aries illuminates subconscious patterns, offering opportunities for healing. Focus

on establishing clear boundaries and addressing any lingering emotional or financial entanglements.

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22) Relationships come into focus, with Mercury retrograde prompting reflection on partnerships. Open and honest communication is essential to navigate potential misunderstandings. Neptune's recent entry into Aries encourages you to seek balance between independence and connection. This week, reassess your commitments and ensure they align with your personal growth and harmony.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21) Daily routines and health habits are highlighted, urging you to implement mindful practices. Mercury's retrograde may bring attention to areas requiring adjustment or reevaluation. Neptune's transition into Aries inspires innovative approaches to well-being. Focus on creating a balanced lifestyle that nurtures both your physical and emotional health.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21) Creative pursuits and romantic endeavors are energized, yet Mercury retrograde advises a measured approach. Revisiting past projects or relationships may offer valuable insights. Neptune's recent move into Aries enhances your imaginative faculties, encouraging artistic expression. Engage in activities that bring joy and allow your creativity to flourish while remaining attentive to detail.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19) Home and family dynamics take center stage, with Mercury retrograde prompting reflection on domestic matters. Neptune's entry into Aries may blur boundaries, necessitating clear communication with loved ones. This week, focus on creating a harmonious environment and addressing any unresolved issues within your personal sanctuary.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18) Communication is key, yet Mercury's retrograde may lead to misunderstandings if not handled carefully. Neptune's recent transition into Aries enhances your intuitive insights, aiding in articulating your ideas. This week, practice active listening and ensure your messages are conveyed with clarity and empathy.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Financial considerations come to the forefront, with Mercury retrograde urging a review of budgets and expenditures. Neptune's move into Aries inspires innovative approaches to income generation. Focus on aligning your financial decisions with your core values and long-term stability.

Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1. Disagreement on the small side
- 5. (K) BBs and cannonballs
- 9. (K) First lady?
- 12. (K) Angel's accessory in paintings
- 13. (K) Keepsake
- 15. Mimicked
- 16. Microwavable meal (2 words)
- 17. One not required to finish a sentence
- 19. Prefix meaning "new"
- 20. (K) Guinness World Record suffix
- 21. (K) Wear away, as shoreline
- 23. (K) Word of departure
- 26. Down east, strangely, in the U.S.
- 27. Huge amount
- 28. (K) Belts in a barber shop

- 31. Hors d'oeuvre food, often
- 33. (K) What many do nightly
- 34. (K) Divided 39-Down nation
- 36. (K) November tuber
- 37. According to (2 words)
- 38. Owns
- 41. Nonstick pan spray brand
- 43. (K) Least puzzling
- 45. (K) What Sicilians are
- 48. Sister of Erato
- 49. Lemon ___ pie
- 50. Royal name of Norway
- 51. (K) The iguana in your room
- 52. Dropper's shout
- 53. (K) Not a single one

- 3. On one's toes
- 4. Type of list
- 5. (K) Keyboard stars?
- 6. What to do after a tough loss (2 words)
- 7. (K) What you can find worms in
- 8. (K) Related to 25-Down
- 9. To distinguish or elevate
- 10. Contend
- 11. Have a lapse in judgment
- 14. Arizona-to-Kansas dir.
- 18. (K) Bound or spring
- 22. (K) Lessens or subtracts from
- 24. (K) "I guess so"
- 25. (K) Lamb's mom
- 26. (K) "Results ___ vary"
- 27. (K) Sailor's domain
- 28. Mole in the bushes?

- 29. ___-la-la
- 30. Defensive structure in "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- 32. (K) Belonging to the wife
- 35. Police officer's shout from outside (2 words)
- 37. Acid variety
- 38. (K) Very common greeting
- 39. (K) Chinese or Thai
- 40. (K) Winter heat provider
- 42. Last name among boxing legends
- 44. (K) Clickable thing
- 45. Troublemaking little kid
- 46. (K) From whence to drive golf balls
- 47. Back then

Can you find the answer to this riddle within the solved puzzle?
Plotted plant?
Look for the answer in next week's paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

Previous riddle answer:
PICKED-OUT ROCK?
5-D) MINED

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 20 | | | | 21 | | | 22 | | 23 | 24 | 25 |
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| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | 31 | 32 | | | | |
| 33 | | | | | 34 | 35 | | | | | |
| 36 | | | | | 37 | | | | 38 | 39 | 40 |
| | | | | 41 | 42 | | 43 | | 44 | | |
| 45 | 46 | | | | | 47 | | | 48 | | |
| 49 | | | | | | | | | 50 | | |
| 51 | | | | 52 | | | | | 53 | | |

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

- 1 people with patients (10)
- 2 quality of a good witness (11)
- 3 antagonism (9)
- 4 Blue Jays stadium, once (7)
- 5 took for granted in advance (11)
- 6 Scottish model Olumide (6)
- 7 asks to the party (7)

SOLUTIONS

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| ST | CLI | SK | IBI | PRES |
| UPPO | YDO | IANS | ITES | ILI |
| NIC | CE | SED | TY | LITY |
| EUNI | CRED | ME | HO | INV |

Previous Answers: 1. PATCHING 2. MINSTREL 3. BEEPS
4. OVERLOADED 5. HEADSET 6. OBFUSCATING 7. DEEPEST 9/11

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

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

Find and color.

FIND ALL HIDDEN

car pizza butterfly ice cream glove

fish Strawberry bell egg knife

FIND ALL HIDDEN

moon fried egg snail glove hex nut

bat boomerang groin candy ring

FIND ALL HIDDEN

crown flag knife letter brush

button pencil heart watermelon ice cream

Sudoku for Kids

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| | 6 | | 1 | | 2 | | | |
| | 3 | 2 | | | 5 | | | |
| | 4 | 5 | | | | | | 3 |
| 6 | | | | 5 | 2 | | | |
| | | 6 | | | | | | 1 |
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| 4 | | 1 | 3 | | | | | 5 |

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

SUDOKU

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 6 | | | | 9 | 7 | | |
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Easy

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| 4 | | 7 | 3 | | 1 | 5 | | 2 |
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| 9 | | | | | 2 | | | 5 |

Hard

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| 3 | 4 | | 7 | | | 9 | | |
| | | 8 | 9 | | 2 | | | |
| | 2 | | 3 | | | 5 | | |

Very Hard

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| | 7 | 2 | | | | | | 5 |
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Sudoku answers

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

This Week in History & Fun Things to Celebrate

National and International Observances

Respect Your Cat Day (March 28): A day dedicated to honoring and appreciating our feline companions.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day (March 29): Honors U.S. military personnel who served during the Vietnam War.

April Fools' Day (April 1): A day for playing practical jokes and spreading hoaxes.

World Autism Awareness Day (April 2): Promotes understanding and acceptance of people with autism.

National Burrito Day (April 3): Celebrates the popular Mexican dish, typically observed on the first Thursday of April.

Historical Events

April 2 2005: Pope John Paul II Passes Away: End of a papacy that began in 1978.

1979: Three Mile Island Nuclear Accident (March 28): A partial meltdown of a reactor

in Pennsylvania heightened awareness about nuclear safety.

1974: Discovery of the Terracotta Army (March 29): Chinese farmers uncovered the burial site of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang.

1981: Assassination Attempt on President Reagan (March 30): President Ronald Reagan survived gunshot wounds in Washington, D.C.

1889: Inauguration of the Eiffel Tower (March 31): The iconic Parisian landmark was officially opened.

1976: Founding of Apple Inc. (April 1): Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, and Ronald Wayne established Apple Computer Company.

2005: Death of Pope John Paul II (April 2): The pontiff's passing marked the end of a significant era for the Catholic Church.

1953: Announcement of the First Polio Vaccine (April 3): Dr.

Jonas Salk revealed successful tests of a polio vaccine.

Notable Birthdays

Vincent van Gogh (March 30, 1853): Influential Dutch painter known for works like *Starry Night*.

Gordie Howe (March 31, 1928): Canadian ice hockey player, known as "Mr. Hockey" for his prolific career.

Debbie Reynolds (April 1, 1932): American actress and singer, starred in *Singin' in the Rain*.

Hans Christian Andersen (April 2, 1805): Danish author famed for fairy tales like *The Little Mermaid*.

Marlon Brando (April 3, 1924): Acclaimed actor known for roles in *The Godfather* and *A Streetcar Named Desire* and played Superman's dad in *Superman: The Movie*.

Sports Events

Major League Baseball Opening

Week: The 2025 MLB season kicks off, with teams like the New York Yankees and New York Mets starting their campaigns.

Fun and Quirky Observances

National Something on a Stick Day (March 28): Encourages enjoying foods served on a stick, from corn dogs to kebabs.

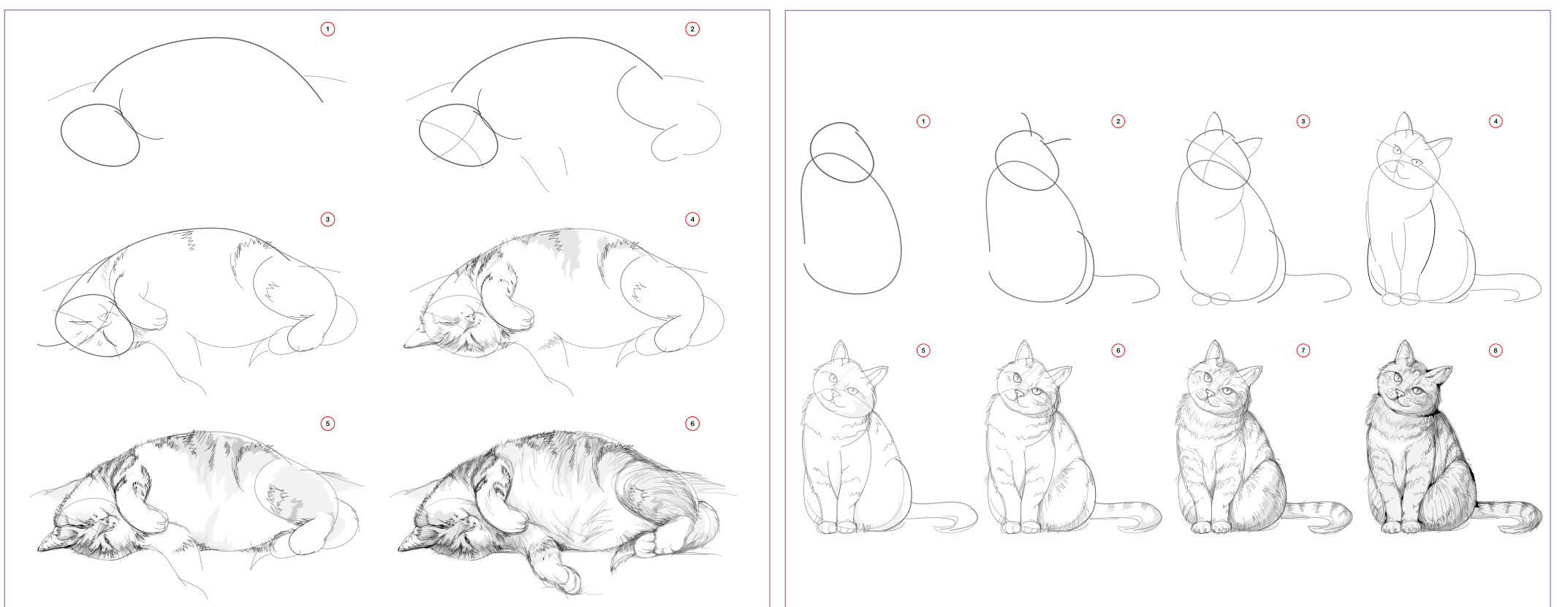
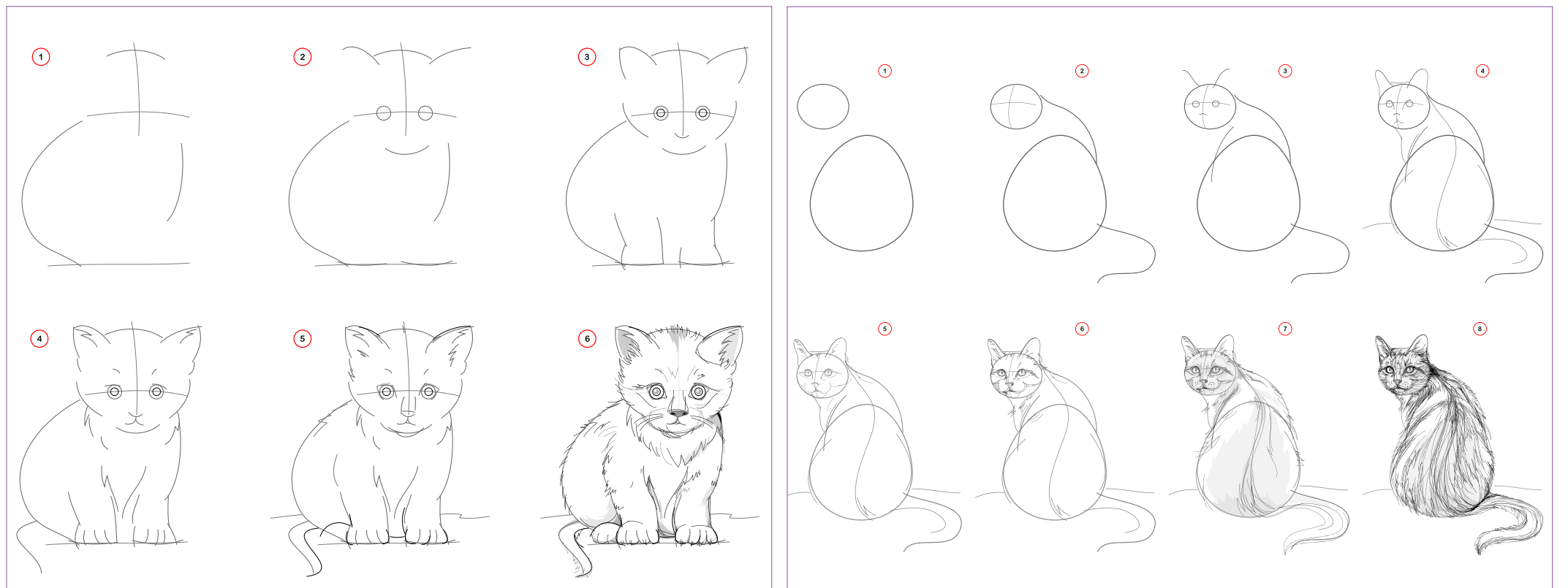
National Black Forest Cake Day (March 28): Celebrates the decadent German dessert made with chocolate, cherries, and whipped cream.

Find a Rainbow Day (April 3): Encourages people to look for and appreciate the beauty of rainbows.

Bonus Highlights

National Cherry Blossom Festival (Washington, D.C.): Peak bloom expected between March 28-31, 2025, celebrating the gift of cherry trees from Japan.

Learn to Sketch Cats Like a Pro in Honor of Respect Your Cat Day



Drawing lesson

How to Draw a Cat

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

First Letter Game

for kids

HOW MANY?

1 - light blue 2 - blue 3 - green 4 - dark green
5 - yellow 6 - orange 7 - pink 8 - brown

Color This Leopard Mandala



Coloring engages both hemispheres of the brain, combining creativity with logic to enhance focus and reduce stress. The repetitive motion promotes mindfulness, helping to lower cortisol levels and improve mood. Studies show that coloring intricate patterns, such as mandalas or detailed images like a flower, can activate the brain's reward system, releasing dopamine and fostering relaxation. This activity strengthens fine motor skills, improves hand-eye coordination, and encourages problem-solving by selecting colors and patterns. For all ages, coloring provides a simple yet effective way to boost mental clarity, enhance cognitive function, and promote a sense of calm.



Here is just one example of what your mandala might look like.

Ghost Cats

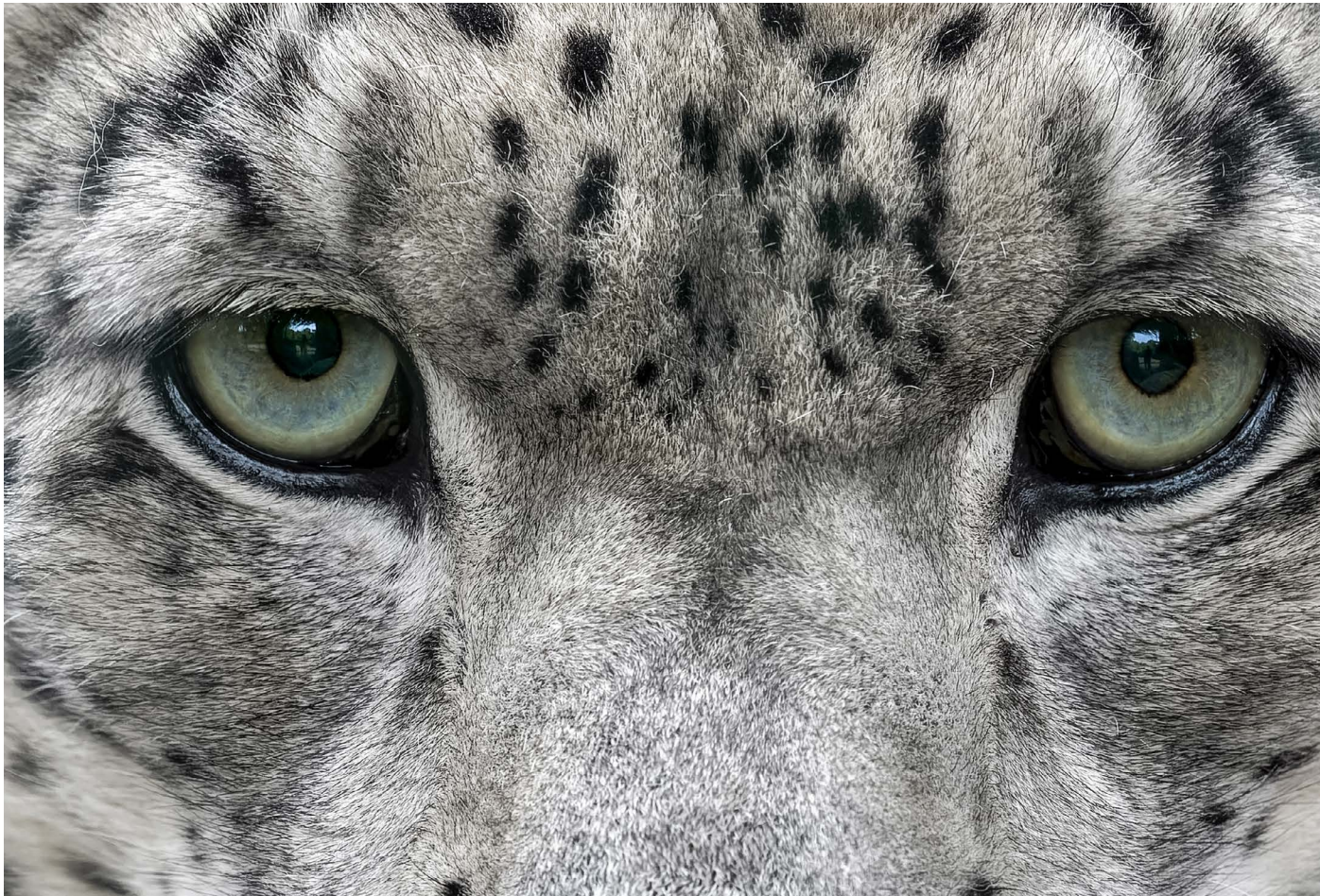
High above the clouds in the Karakoram Range, four ghostlike figures moved in harmony with the wind. Elusive, powerful, and draped in snow-spotted camouflage, a mother snow leopard and her three cubs scaled sheer cliffs in northern Pakistan—living proof that wild magic still pulses in this world. These cats are not just surviving; they are quietly conquering one of the planet's most rugged, inhospitable domains.

Snow leopards (*Panthera uncia*), long known as the "ghosts of the mountains," roam some of the highest elevations on Earth—between 9,800 and 17,000 feet above sea level. Their habitat spans 12 nations from China to Nepal to Russia, but it's in the northern reaches of Pakistan, near K2, that one of the most awe-inspiring sightings in recent memory took place.

In the snowbound Karakoram Mountains of northern Pakistan, a breathtaking encounter has brought global attention to these most elusive creatures. Sakhawat Ali, a gamekeeper and wildlife enthusiast from the remote village of Hushe, captured rare footage of a female snow leopard accompanied by her three nearly full-grown cubs—four apex predators moving in quiet unison through the cliffs of Central Karakoram National Park.

"For the past 15 days, I had been noticing leopard pawmarks," Ali told the *Good News Network*. "While I was on the roof of my house, I used binoculars to observe the mountains and spotted a female snow leopard along with her four cubs." ([GNN story link](https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/rare-sighting-of-four-snow-leopards-together-sparks-frenzy-of-excitement-watch/))

Ali filmed the animals from a distance of about 150 meters. His footage—now widely shared—offers a



Snow leopards remain listed as "Vulnerable" on the IUCN Red List. According to the United Nations Environment Program, threats include shrinking habitat, retaliatory killings from livestock predation, and poaching. Yet, as this sighting proves, progress is being made.

Dr. Zakir Hussain, Chief Conservator of Parks and Wildlife for Gilgit-Baltistan, called the footage a victory for community-driven conservation. "Eighty percent of the region's communities are engaged in the tracking, monitoring, and reporting of snow leopard populations," he told *CNN*, noting how local knowledge and citizen science have become essential tools in protecting these animals.

Local villagers celebrated the sighting—even as they remain mindful of potential livestock conflicts. Their involvement in preservation efforts demonstrates a growing understanding that healthy predator populations are indicators of ecological resilience, not threats.

The snow leopard's range crosses national boundaries, and so does its future. The Global Snow Leopard Forum, an alliance of the 12 range countries, works to coordinate conservation strategies across borders through science, education, and policy.

And what can humans learn from this master of high places? The snow leopard survives not through dominance, but discipline. It succeeds through patience, stealth, and stillness. These animals teach us that strength isn't always loud—it can be silent and surefooted.

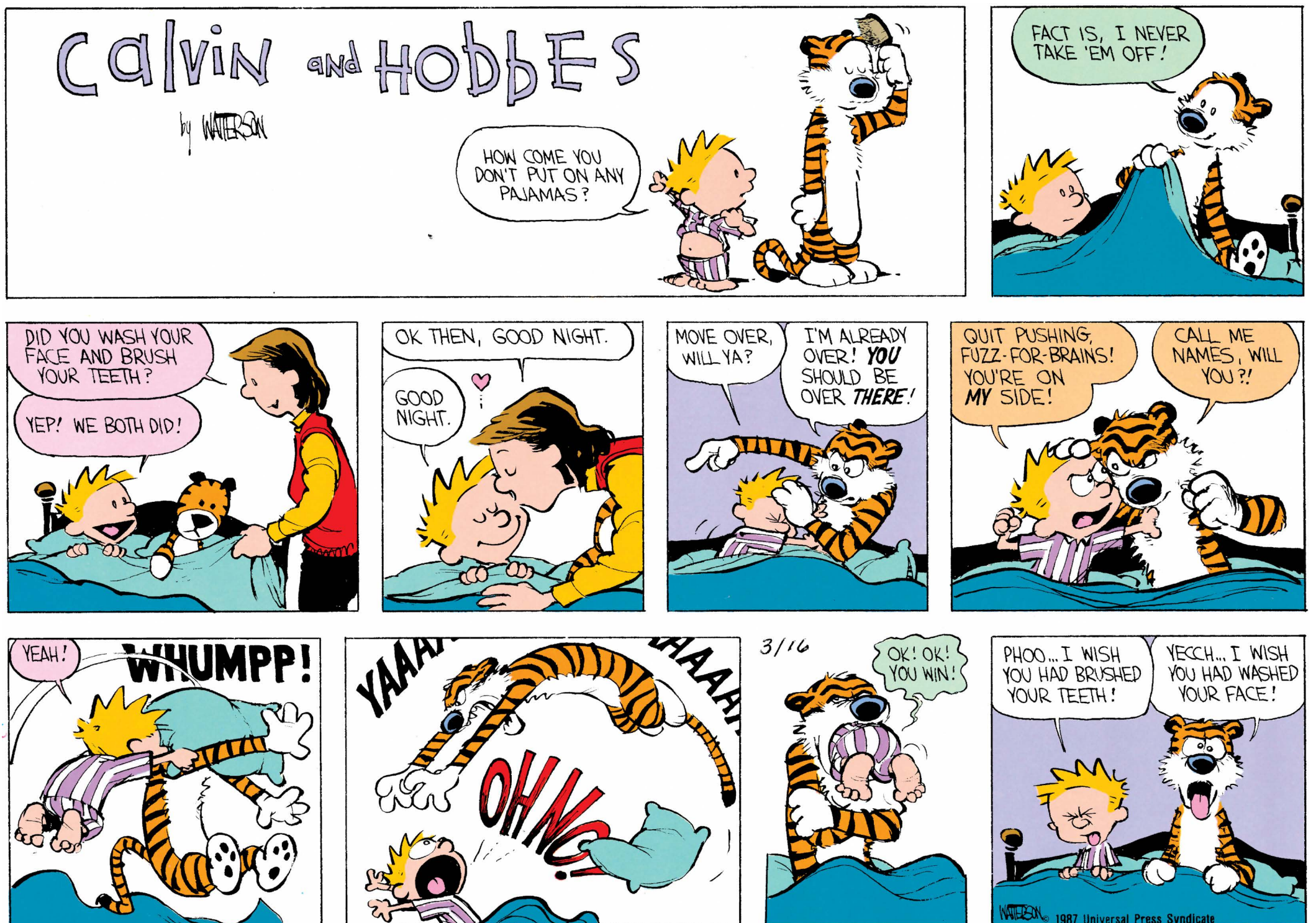
As the mother leopard guides her three young through the sheer cliffs of northern Pakistan, she exemplifies what it means to persist, protect, and prevail. For those who watch with wonder from below, she offers another lesson: true greatness leaves no trail, only inspiration.



rare glimpse into the family life of a species so elusive it's been dubbed "the ghost of the mountains." ([Watch the video on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=doaQDGdS-2Y))

Snow leopards (*Panthera uncia*) are supreme high-altitude predators, ranging across 12 countries including Russia, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan. Perfectly adapted to life above 10,000 feet, their wide paws distribute weight on snow like natural snowshoes, while their powerful hind limbs allow them to leap nearly 50 feet in pursuit of prey such as Siberian ibex and argali. Their long, thick tails offer balance and warmth, and their patterned coats blend seamlessly with ice and stone.

What makes this sighting remarkable is not only its rarity, but what it reveals: a thriving maternal unit in an unforgiving ecosystem. Healthy cubs signal strong prey populations, which in turn reflect healthy high-altitude habitats—an encouraging sign in a region where climate change, infrastructure development, and habitat degradation threaten biodiversity.





Tony's at The J House
will be hosting
Easter Brunch &
Easter Dinner on
Sunday, April 20th.

Indulge in new
dishes, tasty
seasonal favorites
and specialty,
handcrafted drinks!

*Happy
Easter*