

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

POLICE AND FIRE

Arctic Hero Award



On April 5th, the New Canaan Police Department earned the Arctic Hero Award for leading public safety fundraising at the Special Olympics Penguin Plunge in Fairfield. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

TOWN HALL

Town Approves \$181M Budget

The Town Council has approved a \$181 million budget for fiscal year 2025–26, marking a 3.47% increase from the current year. The majority of funding will support education and town operations. The projected mill rate will rise from 16.144 to 16.767.

AROUND TOWN

Grant Awarded for Cemetery Upkeep

New Canaan is among 37 Connecticut towns awarded an \$8,000 state grant to help maintain neglected cemeteries. Funded through death certificate fees and managed by the Office of Policy and Management, the program supports work like mowing, clearing overgrowth, and repairing headstones. The goal is to provide basic upkeep for burial sites that have fallen into disrepair.

BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Budd Visits the Inn

Laura Budd, Executive Director of the New Canaan Chamber of Commerce, spoke to Waveny Inn residents about the history and development of the town's downtown business district. She also covered current retail trends and upcoming changes. Residents received community materials and participated in a Q&A session.

McCormick Visits Library

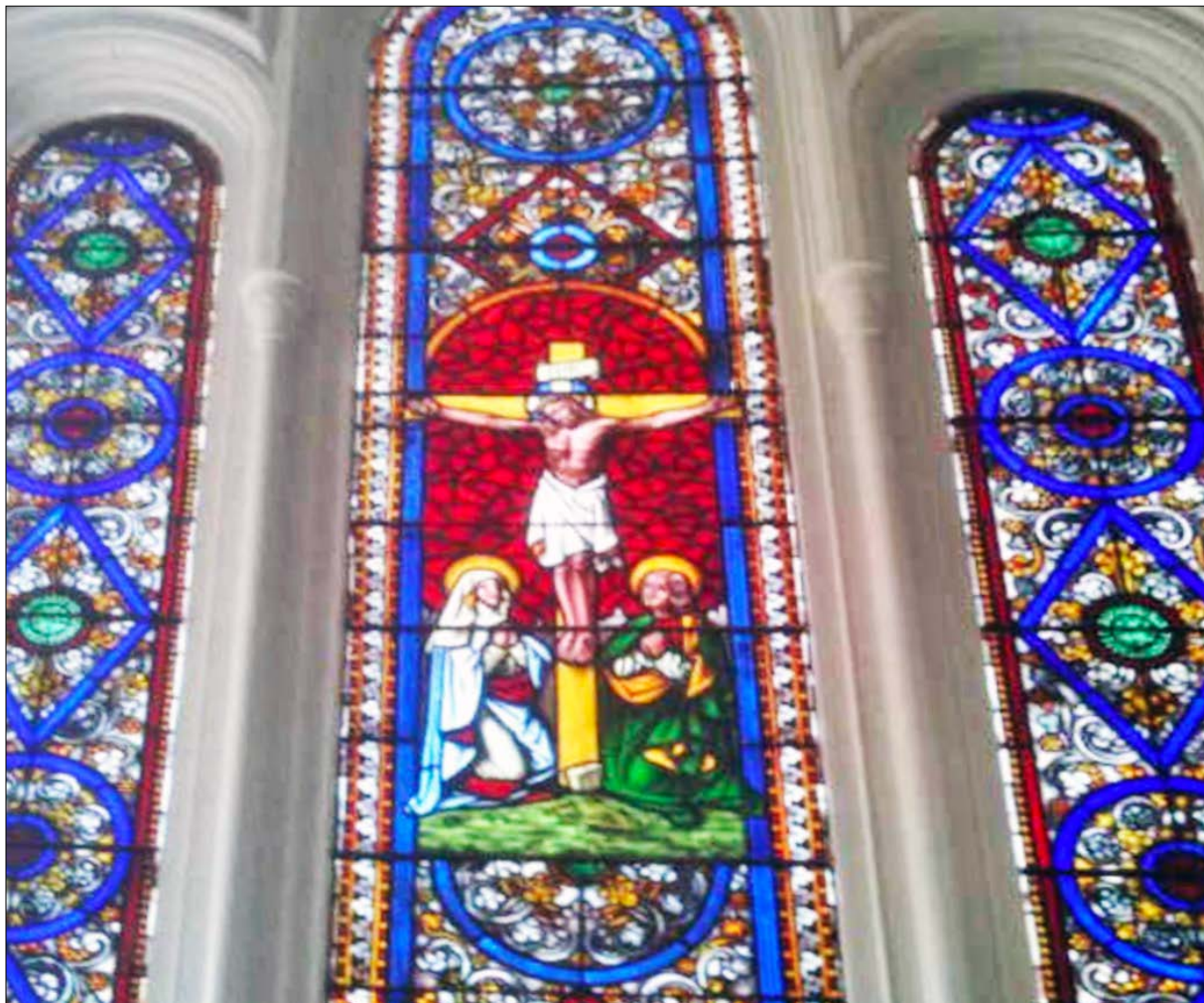


On April 2nd, the New Canaan Library held an event where Dina Powell McCormick spoke with CEO Ellen Sullivan Crovatto about her book, *Who Believed in You?*. McCormick discussed the role of mentors in her life and career. Photo credit: New Canaan Library.

Babs Book Signing



CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



The magnificent stained-glass window above the altar at St. Michael's honors Rev. David Ogden, the church's first full-time rector, who died in 1845. Gifted by his son, Captain Sereno Ogden, the window portrays Christ crucified with Mary and St. John at His feet. The original artist is unknown, but the window was later repainted by renowned New Canaan artist Daniel Putnam Brinley, who also designed six additional sanctuary windows now relocated within the modern church.

Sanctuary and Stewardship: New Canaan Museum Acquires Historic Church on God's Acre

By ELIZABETH BARHYDT

In the center of New Canaan, where three steeples rise around a green hill called God's Acre, a new chapter has taken root in the soil of memory. The New Canaan Museum and Historical Society has purchased the 2.3-acre property long home to St. Michael's Lutheran Church. At once a place of worship and a physical record of the town's past, the church is now entrusted to the care of the institution dedicated to preserving and interpreting New Canaan's history.

This acquisition, recorded at \$2.1 million, does not retire a sanctuary. It extends its life. Through a carefully structured agreement, the church will continue to host worship under the auspices of St. Michael's Lutheran congregation while also serving as an integral part of the Museum's growing campus. "It really is an amazing win," said benefactor Dede Bartlett. "That's exactly the way to put it. It is a win-win for everybody."

Constructed in 1835 as the original home of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the building predates the railroad and the Civil War. It is the oldest surviving church structure in New Canaan and one of the most visible landmarks on God's Acre. The Episcopal congregation eventually moved up Oenoke Ridge, and in 1956, the building was adopted by a newly

formed Lutheran congregation. With only minimal alteration, it became St. Michael's—its architecture remaining largely unchanged, its stained-glass windows growing only more luminous with time.

"The windows are exceptional," Bartlett said. "I hope you have the opportunity, as we did a couple of months ago, to go in when the sun is coming through. It is magical."

Inside the sanctuary, light filtered through memorial windows creates shifting mosaics of color that speak to the spiritual and artistic sensibilities of the late 19th century. Installed around 1902 when the building was still occupied by St. Mark's, these stained-glass panels bear symbols of Christian belief—the dove, the open book, the Alpha and Omega, the lamb, and the chalice—all arrayed in pairs along the nave.

The physical beauty of the space is matched by its symbolic importance. The church stands within a geography layered with ritual. The name "God's Acre" once referred to the plots of land reserved for burial and prayer in early American villages. In New Canaan, it has become a civic commons—home to three congregations, a place of shared ceremony, and now the keystone of a museum campus.

The Bartletts, longtime New Canaan residents and historic

preservationists, felt a special responsibility when the opportunity to support the acquisition arose. "When Jim and I heard about this two years ago, we felt it was absolutely critical to step up—to help the Museum, to help New Canaan, and to help the church," said Bartlett. "We're only the 13th owners of a historic property ourselves, and we've preserved two barns on our land—one dating to 1749. We are living every day with the glories of preservation."

The Museum, under the leadership of Executive Director Nancy Geary and Board President Tom Monahan, negotiated the purchase over the course of two years. Bartlett praised Geary's vision: "She's already led the Museum into an era of unparalleled renewal. What she has done with the building that houses the 100-year-old carriage is exceptional. The permanent exhibit on New Canaan's history is exceptional. She's made sure the entire campus is woven together."

The acquisition effectively doubles the Museum's footprint—from two to 4.5 acres. The expanded space will allow for increased exhibition capacity, new educational programming, and broader partnerships with other civic and cultural institutions. "It will allow for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

The 'Fix-It Café' Is Coming

Local environmental and sustainability charity Planet New Canaan is holding a 'Fix-It Café' on Saturday, April 26, at Lapham Community Center. "The idea is to repair, rather than throw away, items that are still usable, but need a bit of care – keeping such items out of landfills,

and saving the resources needed to make new ones," says board member Dawn Kurth. "It's all part of Reduce, Reuse, Renew and Recycle."

There will be five repair stations: 1) Lamps and small electrical items, 2) Small furniture, 3) Guitar restringing, 4) Bicycles,

and 5) Sewing & clothing. Each repair station has eight available slots of thirty minutes each, starting at 10am.

Anyone seeking 'fix-it' help needs to reserve a time slot in advance. Sign-up at www.Planetnewcanaan.org/events

PLEASE NOTE

There is no Sentinel coffee on Good Friday.

Thank you!

COLUMN

Relationships Over Tasks

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

Most people would agree that their relationships are more important than daily tasks, but our academic training and the demands of work teach us to prioritize tasks over relationships. Making space in our schedules for relationships is a lifelong discipline that pays rich dividends. Human relationships are living "things" that require attention, time, light, and nourishment. They are worth more than income or fame.

When we make a phone call, play with our child, date our spouse, celebrate



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

or console a friend—especially when that friend is ill or has a loss, that person is unlikely to forget what we did. People's end-of-life regrets are more often about relationships not attended to than accomplishments not achieved.

Consider what five things you

want said about yourself on your 80th birthday. These are your goalposts, the buoys by which to navigate your life. For 99 percent of people, good relationships top accomplishments on the list.

After bragging about his professional accomplishments, a 40-year-old executive in marital crisis realized that he wanted his wife at his 80th birthday party more than he wanted his long line of potential girlfriends. He began prioritizing his marital relationship, and he is still married.

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



Congratulations to Kevin & Debby McIntosh celebrating fifty years! Their anniversary is this April..... "50 years of Bliss! And 40 years in New Canaan."

BOE Discusses SEL Curriculum, Student Safety, and More Activity

By ANNE WHITE

New Canaan's Board of Education spent over an hour examining how the district is approaching student mental health, school climate, and social-emotional learning (SEL), engaging in a detailed discussion that touched on student resilience, data interpretation, and the tension between emotional education and physical development.

At the center of the conversation was the district's use of the Comprehensive School Climate Inventory (CSCI) which measures perceptions of safety, belonging, emotional well-being, and civic engagement. According to Dr. Susan Bliss, Director of SEL for New Canaan Public Schools, while many scores were consistent across elementary and middle schools, "social-emotional security" was among the lowest-rated categories, particularly among students.

Bliss explained that unlike staff and parents—who consistently rated school climate metrics above 3.5 on a 5-point scale—students reported an average closer to 3.0 when asked if they felt emotionally safe or had witnessed repeated teasing. "It reflects national trends," Bliss told the board. "Every district using this instrument is seeing lower scores in emotional safety."

While the conversation covered data integrity and comparative analysis, several board members shifted the discussion toward the methods being used to address student well-being. One focal point: whether the district's SEL curriculum—which includes tools like the Mood Meter, affirmation exercises, and lessons in emotional vocabulary—strikes the right balance.

Board Member Matt Campbell questioned whether too much focus on emotional self-monitoring could backfire. "If we teach them to walk on eggshells," he said, "they become more fragile." He pointed to the discrepancy between how adults and students perceive emotional safety and asked whether this reflects increased sensitivity among children or misalignment in communication.

Others echoed concern about over-involvement. "We've heard from parents who say there's too much intervention at recess," Campbell added. "If we're always stepping in, we're not giving kids the space to learn conflict resolution on their own."

Bliss acknowledged the challenge. "Our goal is to help kids learn how to problem solve," she said. "We're training teachers and recess monitors to ask questions like, 'What could you do differently next time?'—not to shut things down." But she also noted the district's obligation to ensure safety: "We're a public school. We can't let them duke it out."

Amid these concerns, Board Member Julie Toal steered the discussion toward what she described as a "practical, unifying goal": increasing physical activity in elementary schools.

"I think our kids need more movement during the day," Toal said. "Whether it's a second recess, a longer recess, or more gym time—there's so much research that shows this improves academic outcomes, stress management, and behavior. It's a natural solution to many of our goals."

Toal made clear that her proposal was rooted in her own observations as a parent. "Kids come home on rainy days and they have only had indoor recess which is inside their classroom," she said. "PE is only once every eight days. That's not enough."

She expressed concern that the district's SEL curriculum may be too intense, especially for younger students. "We're going heavy on the Mood Meter," Toal said. "Talking to kindergartners about anxiety—it's too much at that age."

Dr. Bliss responded by highlighting the variety of SEL tools in use. While programs like RULER are part of the approach, she emphasized that each school's climate committee crafts its own action plan, combining formal frameworks with more traditional skills such as using "I statements," resolving conflict, and regulating behavior.

"The point is not to fixate on emotions," Bliss said. "It's to help students return to learning ready to focus."

The board also discussed survey design and how it may impact results. Bliss noted that 49% of students selected "neither agree nor disagree" on certain questions, including ones that reference "most kids" in their wording. "That introduces ambiguity," she said. "And the state is changing the survey structure for that reason."

Looking ahead, the district may reconsider whether to continue using the same assessment in 2026, especially as changes to the format could affect data continuity.

Despite the range of opinions, there was agreement on one point: creating healthy school climates is labor-intensive but essential. "The work is valuable," said Bliss. "These kids are our future. When we teach them resilience, empathy, adaptability—that's what strengthens a community."



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Riley Brothers Earn Eagle Scout Awards



Luke Riley, 15 years - Sophomore at St Lukes School **Matthew Riley, 18 years - Senior at New Canaan High School**

Matthew Riley (age 18, a Senior at New Canaan High School) and Luke Riley (age 15, a Sophomore at St. Luke's School) both of New Canaan, have earned the Boy Scouts of America's highest advancement award, the Eagle Scout Award. They were recognized in a Court of Honor ceremony on March 29, 2025. Less than 5% of Boy Scouts earn the rank of Eagle. Each candidate must earn 21 merit badges and successfully complete a service project to earn his Eagle. Matthew Riley chose to restore a historic meadow at the Mather Homestead including the extensive removal of invasive species, rebuilding a dilapidated stone wall and building and installing birdhouses. Luke Riley chose to create a self guided tour of the Mather Homestead including laser etched signs that were produced at the Maker's Lab at St. Luke's School that display QR codes as well as an audio tour.

The Mather Homestead is a Registered National Historic Landmark that was built in 1778 during the Revolutionary War and was home to six generations of Mathers, including Stephen Tyng Mather who was the first director of the National Park Service. It is located on the border of New Canaan and Darien. <https://www.matherhomestead.org/>

Matthew is also involved in the Service League of Boys (aka SLOBs) as the AVP Philanthropy, NCHS Volleyball, Young Philanthropists of New Canaan, Mather Homestead Teen Board, Ram Council, and the St. Aloysius Youth Ministry.

Luke is also involved in Varsity Soccer and Tennis at St. Luke's School, Mather Homestead Teen Board, Young Philanthropists of New Canaan, FOCUS and St. Aloysius Youth Ministry.

Both are members of Troop 45 which is affiliated with St. Aloysius Church and are the sons of Rich and Michelle Riley.

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating in citizenship and develops personal fitness. For over a century, the BSA has helped build the future leaders of this country by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. The Boy Scouts of America believes – and, through over a century of experience, knows – that helping youth is a key to building a more conscientious, responsible and productive society.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONTINUED From Page 1

lecture series, concert series, programs, more children's activities," said Bartlett. "And our costume collection—the finest in the state—will finally have the space it needs."

The arrangement also avoids what Bartlett called the quiet losses of inaction. "Other towns have found that when they didn't preserve, they had regrets," she said. "There's going to be no regret on this."

The plan allows St. Michael's Lutheran Church to continue its worship uninterrupted. "We're very excited about all the potentials," Bartlett said. "And the joy of building, and seeing this come to fruition, is terrific."

In describing their approach, Bartlett emphasized their broader philosophy. "Jim and I invest in change-makers—people who

are committed to preserving New Canaan's unique history and moving it into the 21st century. This town is not covered in amber—it grows, it evolves. It is terribly important that you preserve as well as project."

The significance of the property lies not only in its past but in its capacity to shape the future. In this way, the transaction echoes a pattern familiar to American towns: churches that outlive their original congregations, buildings that accumulate stories over generations, institutions that reinterpret their purpose without erasing their roots.

"This church, in the middle of God's Acre, holds a remarkable place in New Canaan's history," said Geary. "It is critical to the Museum's mission that it be preserved in perpetuity."

Ken D'Arinzio, representing St. Michael's Lutheran, echoed the same forward-looking tone: "St. Michael's looks forward to working with the Museum on this next phase of its church life."

Bartlett added that the Museum's May 30

gala will celebrate the acquisition and what it represents. "It's always a fundraiser—but this year, there's so much to celebrate," she said. Scheduled from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., the gala will feature live music, food, and opportunities to explore the expanded vision for the Museum. "It's a chance for everyone to come together—not just to support the Museum, but to take part in shaping its next chapter."

The community response has been deeply felt. "We got a lovely note the other day from a lady who said, 'Thank you so much. I'm enjoying living in New Canaan more and more.' That makes you feel terribly good," Bartlett said. "When somebody stops you at CVS and says, 'Thank you,' and you don't even know them—it's just a very sweet thing."

She hopes others will be inspired to join in the work. "We like to encourage people to get involved. The joy of getting involved, the joy of building—it's fun. And we're lucky to live in a town where there is so much available to do."



The whole Historical Society and Museum campus - now nearly 5 acres - includes the original Town Hall (now the Historical Society and Museum offices) and the newly acquired church.



The 1764 Hanford-Silliman House, which is still there as an historic house museum.



Board President Tom Monahan with Dede Bartlett, Executive Director Nancy Geary, and St. Michael's Lutheran transition team member Ken D'Arinzio in front of the church.



Holy Week at St. Mark's, New Canaan

- Palm Sunday, April 13**
 - 8AM Holy Communion Rite I
 - 9AM Outdoor Holy Communion
 - 10AM Holy Communion Rite II with Choir
 - 5PM Holy Communion
- Maundy Thursday, April 17**
 - 6PM Holy Communion with Choir and Footwashing
 - 7PM to 11:30AM All-Night Vigil
- Good Friday, April 18**
 - 12PM Good Friday Liturgy with Choir
 - 6PM Good Friday Liturgy
- Holy Saturday, April 19**
 - 8AM Liturgy for Holy Saturday

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Easter at St. Mark's, New Canaan

- Saturday, April 19**
 - 7:30PM Great Vigil of Easter
- Sunday, April 20**
 - 7AM Outdoor Sunrise Eucharist
 - 9AM and 11AM Festival Choral Eucharist
 - 10AM Easter Egg Hunt
 - Festive Coffee Hour follows 9 & 11AM services

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COLUMN



BY PAUL REITANO

We all have secrets to confess. And my interviewee this week has a big one - so I thought it'd only be fair if I joined in. Here's one I haven't ever told a soul; some 15 years ago I used to go to Weight Watchers meetings in Manhattan. What's the big deal you say - a lot of people used to go to those; don't shame. Fair enough - but back then I was in my late twenties, and could pretty much eat whatever I wanted. I went to the meetings... for the conversation. Some guys go to sports bars - others play actual sports - I liked to talk about how underrated danishes are, and this was my crowd. After some questionable gazes from the WW vets - I'd sip hot tea with a dozen or so of my hungry brothers and sisters and revel in the detail. Everyone was trying to stay on their plans - portobello mushrooms and steamed cauliflower - but there was always a breaking point. A sugar sprinkled blueberry muffin that glistened in a deli window - a lonely birthday cake slice at an office party; it was the sweet stuff that broke them. Once broken - this crowd really fell off the wagon. One chocolate croissant led to four.

Muffins were gateway drugs to eating an entire box of Honey Nut Cheerios after their families had gone to bed for the night. Whether that says more about the addictive nature of sugar or the fragility of the human condition is for you to decide. Take my friend, Andrew. Here is a strong, handsome fellow who doesn't even really like deserts. But it was a Cinnamon Bun that sent him down a path of destruction. Thankfully...he's lived to tell the tale.

Okay, Andrew where are you from?
Andrew: Columbus, Ohio

And what do you do for a living?
Andrew: I'm a DevOps Engineer.

Oh, okay. What's that?
Andrew: It's a type of Software Engineer.

Oh, okay. What's that?
Andrew: I write and build software and the infrastructure required for deploying the software.

Best Bites: New Canaan

And that's not all right?
Andrew: My wife Sarah is the area director for Young Life New Canaan and I'm a volunteer leader for them as well.

Why is that work important to you?
Andrew: High school is hard. Not only is high school hard, everything is vying for your attention. And really, what's vying for your attention is also vying for your sense of worth.

So if you're a teen and you play sports, that can define who you are?
Andrew: Yeah, it can be incredibly lonely and confusing if that's also how you define success in life.

So, where do you come in?
Andrew: Young Life believes that every kid deserves the opportunity to hear that they're loved - no matter what.

Amazing work. Now, I've been wanting to interview you for a while, did you know that?
Andrew: I didn't.

You're in great shape, assuming you're a former athlete - but over the years - I've gotten the sense that you're a good eater.
Andrew: I can be, yes.

I'll give you a baseline. At the end of dinner I usually end up with three plates around me. I finish my food, then my kids' food. I guess my question is; how many plates are around you when dinner ends?
Andrew: Just mine, but like, when we cook at home my plate is probably two times the size of what it should be.

You're having two portions at the outset?
Andrew: Yeah, for sure.

That's very efficient.
Andrew: A couple weeks ago, Sarah and I got two pizzas from Locali-

Sarah, your lovely and amazing wife.
Andrew: She goes upstairs to change her clothes and by the time she comes down; I'd eaten an entire pizza.

So, she goes upstairs. She just wants to like, take her watch off and boom - you kill an entire pizza.
Andrew: Yes.



Andrew: There were times where everything would be gone by the time I got home. The only evidence would be the crumbs in the car.

Paul: Since you ate the paper.

Andrew: I didn't always eat the paper.

That must've been quick.
Andrew: In my mind it felt like thirty seconds but in reality it was probably a little longer.

Crusts, too?
Andrew: Of course. Actually, Sarah used to not eat her pizza crusts and I'd have them. It was a real win-lose.

Totally - you're getting more in but it's like feeding rice to a pigeon. At some point there's an expansion that's going to happen.
Andrew: Right, right. I don't have Celiac or anything but that much gluten will get you.

So, you're a pizza guy - are you a sweets guy as well?
Andrew. I wasn't really...until BreadsNBakes.

So the people know, BreadNBakes is a relatively new bakery just over the town line in Scotts Corners.
Andrew: Yes, a friend had recommended it.

Okay, so you go into BreadsNBakes for the first time. Are you alone?
Andrew: No, I'm with Sarah.

You walk up and it's getting closer to your time to order - the pressure builds - you look behind the glass and what do you see?
Andrew: A cinnamon bun.

And do you like what you see?
Andrew: It just looks irresistible when you see it. It's just the right size.

You get a coffee with it?
Andrew: Cold brew.

How'd the bun taste?
Andrew: It was still warm.

That's obviously huge.
Andrew: There was just enough texture, but it was still kind of melted. It gets chewier and softer as you go in - and I don't know how they do this - but they wrap it in this very thin type of parchment paper - and the bun gets to this point where it caramelizes and just becomes one with the paper.

Bro, are you eating the paper, too?
Andrew: You are faced with that decision. Like it's hard to tell where the bun ends and the paper begins.

Flavor-wise, are we talking like a heavy vanilla, heavy cinnamon?
Andrew: It's super balanced. And the icing-to-roll ratio is perfect.

Paul. So, you're eating this thing
Andrew: Eating is being generous. Inhaling maybe.

What's Sarah thinking while you are basically just becoming one with this roll right in front of her?
Andrew: Yeah. I mean I did my best not to be an absolute animal.

Sure - you kept your clothes on.
Andrew: I did.

So, this is the first experience. It's fair to say it...evolved.

Andrew: There were Saturday mornings where I'd get there 20 minutes early and wait for them to open.

Are there other people in line?
Andrew: There's a few of us.

And what's the order? Multiple buns?
Andrew: Saturday mornings I'm getting a Cinnamon Bun, a Morning Bun, and an Almond Croissant for myself.

You live on the east side of New Canaan, that's what, a 15 minute drive?
Andrew: It's 14 minutes.

Do all the pastries make it home?
Andrew: There were times where everything would be gone by the time I got home. The only evidence would be the crumbs in the car.

Since you ate the paper.
Andrew: I didn't always eat the paper.

So, eating three bespoke pastries in 14 minutes, I can tell you this is probably not unprecedented. But you're also operating a motor vehicle. Ever run off the road mid-bite?
Andrew: No, but there's a couple stop signs in Pound Ridge I definitely blew through.

At its peak, how often are you doing this?
Andrew: About twice a week.

Why'd you stop?
Andrew: Um, shame.

No shame in what you did, Andrew.
Andrew: Also Sarah said, "You can't go to BreadNBakes this much."

Probably for the best. So if a young person from New Canaan wants to reach out to you or Sarah to talk about their faith - will you take them to BreadNBakes for a Cinnamon Bun?
Andrew: Definitely.

If you'd like to reach out to Andrew's wife Sarah to talk about Young Life, she can be reached at: sarahtdugal@gmail.com

If you'd like to reach out to Andrew to talk about Young Life, or Cinnamon Buns, or Almond Croissants, he can be reached at: Adugal.9@gmail.com



First Presbyterian
New Canaan

Come Join Us!

Lent & Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday Service

April 13, 10:00am

Maundy Thursday Service

April 17, 7:00pm

Good Friday Service: Seven Last Words of Christ

@ NC Community Baptist Church
April 18 - (12 noon-3:00 pm)

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20
7:00am, Sunrise Service
8:00am, Breakfast
10:00am, Easter Service followed by Easter Egg Hunt



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HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion - April 13

7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Monday, April 14 - Wednesday, April 16

Mass at 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Monday, April 14

3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Confessions (Chapel)
Lenten Family Holy Hour

Wednesday, April 16

7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service

Holy Thursday, April 17

7:00 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

8:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer in the Church
Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose (Chapel)

Good Friday, April 18

7:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

12:00 Noon

3:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer in the Church
Confessions in the Chapel
Stations of the Cross
Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Stations of the Cross

The church will remain open for silent prayer until 9:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 19

7:00 a.m.

12:00 Noon

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer in the Church
Blessing of Easter Food in the Church
Confessions in the Chapel
The Vigil of Easter
• Blessing of the New Fire
• Lighting of the Pascal Candle
• Blessing of Water
• Sacraments of Initiation for New Catholics

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, April 20

Masses at 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Please note: No 5:00 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday

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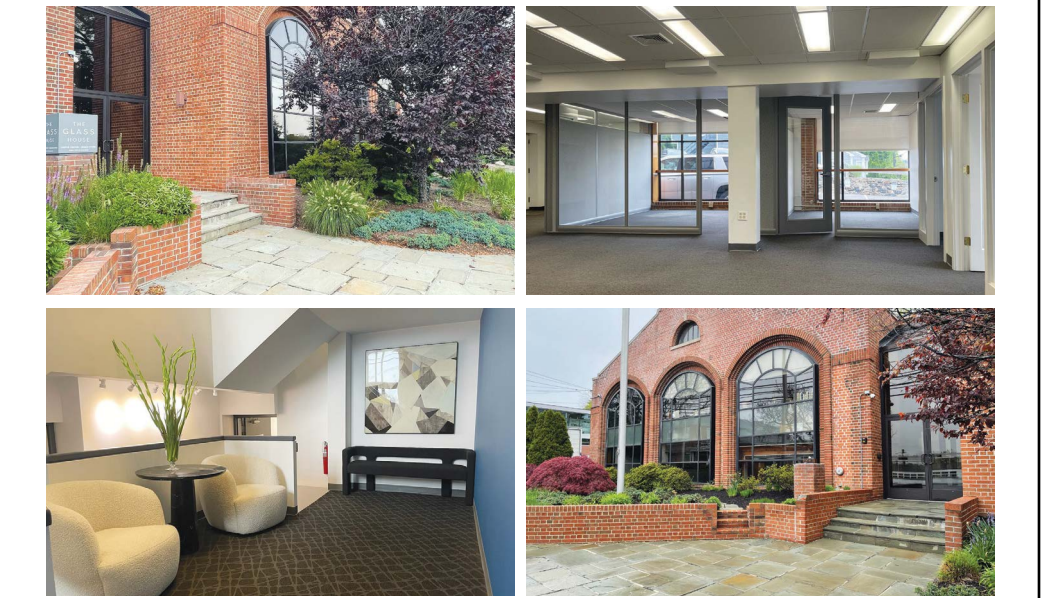


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YOUR NEWS BRIEFING CONTINUED From Page 1

On April 7th, Babs Costello held a cookbook signing at the New Canaan Library in partnership with Elm Street Books, personalizing copies for attendees. Photo credit: New Canaan Library.

Silvermine Guild Speaks at Rotary Club



Barbara Linarducci, CEO of the Silvermine Arts Guild, recently spoke to the New Canaan Rotary Club about the organization's programs and impact. She noted that the Guild includes nearly 300 juried artists, operates 14 studios, and offers more than 1,000 classes each year. Linarducci also highlighted outreach efforts in Norwalk and Stamford schools, along with partnerships with local agencies. Photo credit: New Canaan Rotary Club.

NCNC Candle-Making Workshop



On April 3rd, Karry Wilson of The Riverfield House led a candle-making workshop. During the event, participants made their own scented candles. Photo credit: New Canaan Nature Center.

Student Jazz Ensemble Performs at Waveny



Allison, Nicholas, Anthony, and Lucas from the New Canaan High School Jazz Ensemble recently performed a live jazz program at Waveny Inn. Residents attended the afternoon event, which featured a selection of jazz pieces. The performance was part of a student-led music outreach visit. Photo credit: Waveny LifeCare Network.

SCHOOLS

West and South School Food Drive



Recently, students at West School and South School participated in a food drive led by School Resource Officer Vartuli. The nonperishable items were collected for “Slam Dunk for Hunger” and donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

SLS Studies Spices



Mr. Salandra’s fifth-grade class recently studied how the search for spices influenced European exploration. Students took part in a blind smell test of spices tied to historical trade routes. The activity introduced their unit on New York and Connecticut colonization. Photo credit: St. Luke’s School.

Magic at East School



Recently, Brian Curry visited East School and performed magic acts which brought their favorite books to life. The event used visual tricks to engage students with literature. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

NCCS Service Event Honors Kyle

New Canaan Country School and the Horizons community recently held a two-day service event in memory of Kyle A. Markes, with participation from volunteers of all ages. The event was organized by Kate Roomet and Taryn Laében. Photo credit: New Canaan Country School.

SLS Service Learning



Last week, thirteen Upper School students from St. Luke’s School traveled to Philadelphia for a service learning program focused on poverty, homelessness, and inequality. They partnered with local organizations to prepare meals and distribute clothing. The experience provided opportunities to engage directly with these issues in an urban setting. Photo credit: St. Luke’s School.

The SLS Times Arrives



Recently, Middle School students at SLS published the first edition of The SLS Times. The newspaper includes articles, interviews, and creative writing. The paper was entirely produced by students in grades five through seven. Photo credit: St. Luke’s School.

NCPS Autism Awareness Day

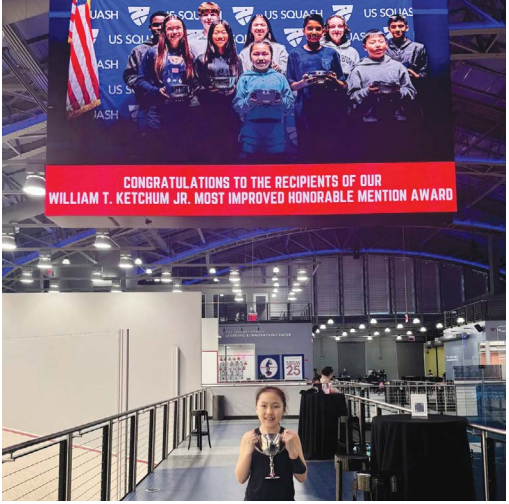
On April 2nd, students and staff at New Canaan Public Schools wore blue in recognition of World Autism Awareness Day. The event was part of Autism Awareness Month, observed each April. The goal was to raise awareness and understanding of autism.



Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

SPORTS

Cao Named Silver Squash Champion



Angela Cao, a third grader at West School, was named the 2025 U.S. Junior National Silver Squash Champion in the Girls U11 division. She also received the William T. Ketcham, Jr. Honorable Mention Most Improved Award. Both honors were awarded through the national junior squash program. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

NC Softball Begins



New Canaan softball began its spring season despite cold weather. Players from several divisions took the field following winter training. Photo credit: New Canaan Softball.

COLUMN



By SCOTT HERR

Palm Sunday, this year April 13th, begins the Passion week recalling the events leading up to the climax of the Christian celebration of Easter. Unlike Christmas, it is what is referred to as a “moveable feast,” based on the lunar calendar. This year, the Jewish celebration of Passover begins before sundown on Saturday, April 12, 2025, and ends after nightfall on April 20. The Passover recalls the central liberating act of God in setting free the Hebrew slaves from their captivity in Egypt. Easter, for Christians, recalls the central liberating act of God in raising Jesus from the dead. One essential part of both stories is the unsavory fact of the shedding of innocent blood. As the history of both events go, there is not religious symbolic transfer of guilt in order to realize liberation. Innocent blood is poured out. I have often wondered

“But if she could have looked a little further back, into the stillness and the darkness before Time dawned, she would have read there a different incantation.” - Aslan

why foundational freedom, goodness, truth and beauty, requires such costly sacrifice?

Philip Yancey, in his book, “What’s So Amazing About Grace?”, tells the story how during a British conference on comparative religions, experts from around the world debated what, if any, belief was unique to the Christian faith. They began eliminating possibilities. Incarnation? Other religions had different versions of gods’ appearing in human form. Resurrection? Again, other religions had accounts of return from death. The debate went on for some time until C. S. Lewis wandered into the room. “What’s the rumpus about?” he asked, and heard in reply that his colleagues were discussing Christianity’s unique contribution among world religions. Lewis responded, “Oh, that’s easy. It’s grace.”

Christians believe the God of the Exodus is the same God embodied in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and the events of “Holy Week”

and Easter are the ultimate expression of God’s taking upon God’s self the sins of the world to bring forgiveness and open the way for reconciliation. The Apostle Paul, in one of the most astonishing statements of the New Testament asserts, “In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself...” and even more shockingly, claims, “For us God made him who knew no sin to become sin so that we might become the righteousness (or justice) of God” (II Corinthians 5:21).

The events of both the Passover and Holy Week also remind us how stubborn, duplicitous, selfish and hard-hearted humans can be, even in the face of suffering. It was Pharaoh who would not relent but insisted on maintaining a system of injustice and oppression. Only when judgment was meted out on the firstborn did he relent and let the Hebrew slaves go, but even then, he sought revenge and his soldiers faced a watery death in pursuit. In the events

remembered in “Holy week,” the crowds of Palm Sunday yelling “Hosannah, Hosannah, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” soon were yelling, “Crucify, crucify!” Yes, both stories remind us of human brokenness and evil, yet of God’s desire for wholeness and shalom, best defined as “the way it’s supposed to be.”

In this coming week, we remember God’s grace at work even in the midst of the dark forces of death and destruction. The good news is, as real as they may be, the forces of death and destruction will not have the last word. C.S. Lewis retells the story of the resurrection in one of my favorite scenes of “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe”.

Edmund, one of the children central to the Chronicles of Narnia, betrays his friends to the wicked White Witch. Aslan, the Lion King, sacrifices himself for Edmund because, according to the Deep Magic of Narnia, a traitor must forfeit their life to the White Witch.

Aslan is sacrificed on the Stone Table by the Witch, and all seems lost...

Immediately after the sacrifice of Aslan, the White Witch and her minions leave for battle, leaving Aslan’s dead body on the Stone Table. Susan and Lucy, two of the children who watched, came out from hiding and wept over Aslan.

Greatly saddened, the girls tried to untie the lion, but mainly cried until they were horrified to see mice scampering all over the dead lion. But then Lucy is surprised to realize the mice had come to nibble away the cords that bound Aslan.

The mice left as dawn arrived, and as Susan and Lucy walked around aimlessly, the first rays of sunrise broke the sky and they heard a deafening crack. As they turned around, the Stone Table had been broken in half, and Aslan was gone!

Lucy asked if this was more magic, and a voice behind her answered her, telling her that it was, indeed, more magic. It was Aslan, alive and well! They rushed to him, with Susan asking him if he was a ghost. He relieved their fears with his warm breath, and explained, “It means that though the

Witch knew the Deep Magic, there is a magic deeper still which she did not know. Her knowledge goes back only to the dawn of time. But if she could have looked a little further back, into the stillness and the darkness before Time dawned, she would have read there a different incantation. She would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor’s stead, the Table would crack and Death itself would start working backwards.” The story goes on to tell of the eventual victory over the death-dealing forces of the White Witch.

Whatever story you’re living by, consider the different incantation of self-giving love. Self-giving love is the deeper magic that makes death work backwards! That’s from where true freedom and new life comes! Even through all the ambiguities and perplexities, the death and destruction of our lives and world, remember there is a deeper magic and we are invited by God to receive it and live into it. Chag Pesach sameach! Happy Easter!

The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr is one of the pastors serving the First Presbyterian Church of 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:

April 16th at 12:30 PM: Lenten Musical Moments. Join for 30 minutes of scriptures, prayer, and music.

April 20th: The Easter Sunrise service will be at 6 AM.

April 27th at 5 PM: Spring Celebration Concert in support of the Mary Bradley Clarke Fund. The concert will feature performances by the Chancel Choir, Children and Youth Choirs, along with musical guests and instrumentalists.

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

April 23rd from 6:30-8 PM: Join FPCNC Open Mic Night, an evening to share music and/or poetry. Walk-ins Welcome.

April 20th: The Easter Sunrise Service will be at 7 AM followed by breakfast. The Easter service will be at 10 AM followed by an Easter egg hunt.

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. As Healing Rosary Prayer Group

Upcoming Events:

April 20: Easter Services will be held in the morning at 6:30, 7, 8:30, 10, and 11:30. There will be one afternoon service at 1 PM.

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

April 20th: The Easter Sunrise Eucharist will be at 7 AM. Easter Festival Choral Eucharist at 9 and 11 AM.

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.

Upcoming Events:

April 20th: The Easter Service will be at 11 AM in the Saxe Middle School Auditorium.

United Methodist Church

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

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

Upcoming Events:

April 20th: Easter Sunday Service with special music at 10 AM. After, there will be an Easter egg hunt and petting zoo.

Community Baptist Church

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

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZ2UNa8aHI3O_Syp_X0KDg
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CBCNewCanaan/>

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

Upcoming Events:

April 18th from 12 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 and May 21st 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>.

April 20th: Easter Service at 9:30 AM followed by an Easter egg hunt and refreshments.

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.

Upcoming Events:

April 12th and 13th at 8:15 PM: Join for uplifting, joyous, delicious and spiritual Community Seders. Register at <https://shorturl.at/gYx67>.
Maariv, the evening prayer service, will take place before the Seder at 7:45PM.

Temple Sinai (Reform Synagogue)

458 Lakeside Drive; Stamford, CT 06903
203.322.1649

www.templeainaistamford.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>

Rams Volleyball Sweep Westhill Vikings 3-0

By Christopher DeMuth

New Canaan Rams Varsity Boys Volleyball had a successful Monday afternoon with a 3-0 win over the Westhill Vikings. The match saw the Rams dominate in straight sets with scores of 25-15, 25-13, and 25-21.

The Rams’ offensive attack was led by senior Donovan West, who had a standout performance, finishing the match with 3 kills on 11 attempts, a hitting percentage of .273. West’s ability to convert in critical moments was a big factor in New Canaan’s success, as he constantly kept the Vikings on their heels. But West wasn’t alone. Junior Nolan McLaughlin stepped up with 9 kills in the match, finishing with a hitting percentage of .300. McLaughlin’s solid offensive performance in all three sets was crucial in keeping the Rams ahead.

In total, New Canaan served at an 83.3% success rate, converting 52 out of 62 serves. The Rams kept the pressure on the Vikings by serving aggressively and making it difficult for them to get into a rhythm.

Despite some bright moments, Westhill just couldn’t find their rhythm against the Rams. The Vikings were able to win some points here and there, but they struggled to put together any consistent runs. Their best set was the third, where they managed to score 21 points, but it wasn’t enough to overcome New Canaan’s dominant play.

Westhill’s offense was unable to get going, with only 15 kills across the three sets. Senior attacker Donovan West and junior Zane Tickoo each registered a few successful kills for the Vikings, but their offensive output was not nearly enough to challenge New Canaan’s defense.

Defensively, the Vikings struggled to contain the Rams’ attacks. New Canaan’s ability to mix up their offense and keep Westhill guessing was shown in the fast pace of the match. The Rams’ defense was on point, with 2 blocks and 20 digs in total.

While the Rams’ offense certainly grabbed the headlines, their defense also played a big part in the sweeping victory. New Canaan saw a solid 2 blocks and 20 digs in total. Senior Mason Park stood out once again, leading the team with 10 digs.



Nolan McLaughlin spikes ball against Westhill in 2nd set. Photo credit Christopher DeMuth

“Nolan was the best on the court for sure, hitting hard from the front and back row, Donovan West was super effective with his serves”



New Canaan begins set against Westhill Photo credit Christopher DeMuth

Donovan West was super effective with his serves.” Looking ahead, they will soon face off against Joel Barlow, Greenwich, and Trumbull.

With such a well-rounded team, the Rams are looking good as the spring season moves into full swing.

New Canaan High School Varsity Sports Roundup

By Christopher DeMuth

Baseball

April 1 – Stamford 10, New Canaan 4

The New Canaan Rams opened their baseball season with a matchup against the Stamford Black Knights. Although the Rams ultimately fell short 10-4, it was a well fought game.

After a scoreless start through four innings, New Canaan found their rhythm late in the game, putting up one run in the fifth, two in the sixth, and another in the seventh. The Rams totaled five hits and committed just one error.

Stamford struck early with a run in the first and followed up with another in the third. The fourth inning

showed an impressive display, as the Black Knights exploded for eight runs, creating a lead that the Rams could not close despite their late-game push.

Though the final score read 10-4 in Stamford’s favor, the Rams’ late push and overall energy on the field offered encouragement for the games ahead. Just starting the season, hiccups are to be expected, and there is certainly time left for corrections.

Boys Lacrosse

April 5 – New Canaan 16, Mamaroneck 5

The Rams boys lacrosse team launched into the season with a win, defeating Mamaroneck 16-5 on April 5.

Putting up 16 goals in a single game is no small feat, Especially against Mamaroneck, a traditionally strong program. Whether in transition or set plays, the Rams were dialed in.

This win gives the Rams a strong foundation as they continue their spring campaign and aim to make a deep run in their season. The boys will be facing one of the hardest schedules they have ever faced this year, so early wins are a good sign.

Girls Lacrosse

April 5 – Westhampton Beach 10, New Canaan 9

In a thrilling and hard-fought game, the New Canaan girls lacrosse team came just shy of a win, falling 10-9

to the Westhampton Beach Hurricanes.

New Canaan’s offensive unit kept the pressure on, and the defense held strong throughout. Although they didn’t come away with the win, the team played well, and displayed good game intelligence throughout.

Games like these are often defining moments early in a season. With such a narrow margin, it’s clear that New Canaan is competitive and ready to bounce back stronger in upcoming matchups.

Girls Golf

April 2 – New Canaan 178, Fairfield Ludlowe 214

The girls golf team teed off the season with

a commanding win over Fairfield Ludlowe, finishing with a team score of 178 to Ludlowe’s 214.

Leading the way for New Canaan was Lauren Livesay, who shot a 41. Maxie Mirin followed closely with a 43, while Carielle D’Elisa added a 46. Rounding out the scoring were Chloe Cui with a 48 and Lily Mohr with a 54. Fairfield Ludlowe’s top scorer was Tatum Reilley with a 52, followed by Ella Leavy with 53, and Maggie McCarthy with 54. The Rams’ dominant win suggests good things in the upcoming season.

Boys Volleyball

April 5 – Newington 1, New Canaan 0

The Rams took on the

Newington Nor’easters in a neutral-site tournament match and came up just short in a close contest, falling 27-25 in a single set.

Although New Canaan didn’t come away with the win, the narrow margin against a strong opponent are encouraging signs. With experienced seniors and juniors such as Jeremy Scubert, the season is looking promising

As the spring season gets into full swing, the New Canaan Rams are showing promising performances across many sports. From the golf course to the lacrosse field, and from the baseball diamond to the volleyball court, Rams athletes are setting the scene for a successful spring season.

Weekly Sports Round Up & NCHS Schedule

School	Sport	Date	Matchup	Result
New Canaan	Boys Lacrosse	4/5	New Canaan vs Mamaroneck NY High School	Win – 16–5
New Canaan	Boys Lacrosse	4/8	New Canaan vs Somers High School	Win – 10–5
New Canaan	Girls Lacrosse	4/5	New Canaan vs Westhampton Beach High School	Loss – 9–10
New Canaan	Girls Lacrosse	4/8	New Canaan vs St. Joseph	Win – 16–3
New Canaan	Girls Golf	4/2	New Canaan vs Fairfield Ludlowe	Loss – 178–214
New Canaan	Softball	4/8	New Canaan vs Guilford	Win – 7–3
St. Luke's	Girls Golf	4/2	St. Luke’s vs Sacred Heart (Greenwich)	Loss
St. Luke's	Girls Tennis	4/2	St. Luke’s vs Hopkins School	Loss – 1–6
St. Luke's	Girls Tennis	4/3	St. Luke’s vs Greens Farms Academy	Win – 4–2
St. Luke's	Girls Lacrosse	4/3	St. Luke’s vs Millbrook School	Loss – 11–12
St. Luke's	Girls Lacrosse	4/7	St. Luke’s vs Hopkins School	Win – 8–6
St. Luke's	Baseball	4/1	St. Luke’s vs Greens Farms Academy	Win – 12–2
St. Luke's	Baseball	4/3	St. Luke’s vs Greens Farms Academy	Win – 11–8
St. Luke's	Baseball	4/5	St. Luke’s vs Taft School	Loss – 6–15
St. Luke's	Boys Tennis	4/2	St. Luke’s vs Wilton High School	Win – 4–2
St. Luke's	Boys Tennis	4/8	St. Luke’s vs Brunswick School	Loss – 1–6
St. Luke's	Boys Lacrosse	4/2	St. Luke’s vs Hopkins School	Win – 13–7

11	APR, FRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4 – 5:45pm4 – 5:30pm4 – 5:15pm4 – 4:30pm5:15 – 6:15pm	Boys Freshman Baseball vs Fairfield Prep Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Tennis @ Fairfield Prep 1073 North Benson Road, Fairfield CT 06824 Boys Varsity Volleyball @ Greenwich High School 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830 Boys Varsity Baseball @ Fairfield Prep 1073 North Benson Road, Fairfield CT 06824 Boys JV Volleyball @ Greenwich High School 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830
12	APR, SAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am – 1pm12 – 2pm12 – 1:30pm1 – 2:30pm1 – 2:30pm2:30 – 3:30pm3:30 – 5pm	Boys Varsity Tennis vs Weston High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Softball @ Brookfield High School 45 Longmeadow Hill Road, Brookfield CT 06804 Girls JV Softball @ Brookfield High School 45 Longmeadow Hill Road, Brookfield CT 06804-1351, Brookfield CT 06804-1351 Boys JV Lacrosse – Boys vs Glastonbury 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Lacrosse – Girls vs Morristown High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls JV Lacrosse – Girls vs Morristown High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Boys Varsity Lacrosse – Boys vs Glastonbury 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
14	APR, MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4 – 5:45pm4 – 5:45pm4 – 5:45pm4 – 5:30pm4 – 5pm	Boys JV Baseball vs Masuk High School 468 South Avenue, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Baseball vs Masuk High School Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Tennis @ Staples High School 70 North Ave, Westport CT 06880 Girls Varsity Softball @ Staples High School 88 North Ave, Westport CT 06880 Girls Varsity Tennis vs Staples High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
15	APR, TUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10:30am – 12pm11am – 1pm12 – 1:30pm12 – 1:30pm4 – 6:15pm4:30 – 6pm6 – 7:30pm	Girls Varsity Tennis @ Norwalk 11 Ingalls Ave., Norwalk CT 06854 Boys Varsity Tennis vs Norwalk 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls JV Softball @ Danbury High School 43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811 Girls Varsity Softball @ Danbury High School 43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811 Boys Varsity Baseball vs Abbott Tech Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Lacrosse – Boys vs St. Joseph 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Boys JV Lacrosse – Boys vs St. Joseph 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
16	APR, WED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 – 2:30pm2:30 – 4pm4:30 – 6pm	Girls Varsity Lacrosse – Girls @ Nyack High School 360 Christian Herald Rd, Nyack New York 10960-1132 Girls JV Lacrosse – Girls @ Nyack High School 360 Christian Herald Rd, Nyack New York 10960-1132 Boys Freshman Lacrosse – Boys vs St. Joseph 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
17	APR, THU	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11am – 1:15pm11 – 11:30am4 – 5:45pm4 – 5:45pm4 – 5:45pm4 – 5pm5 – 6pm5:30 – 6:30pm7 – 8:30pm	Boys Varsity Tennis vs Fairfield Ludlowe 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Tennis @ Fairfield Ludlowe 785 Unquowa Rd, Fairfield CT 06824 Boys Freshman Baseball @ Staples High School 70 North Ave, Westport CT 06880 Boys JV Baseball vs Staples High School 468 South Avenue, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Baseball vs Staples High School Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys JV Volleyball @ Trumbull 72 Strobel Rd, Trumbull Connecticut 06611-5597 Boys JV Lacrosse – Boys @ Wilton High School 395 Danbury Rd, Wilton CT 06897 Boys Varsity Volleyball @ Trumbull 72 Strobel Rd, Trumbull Connecticut 06611-5597 Boys Varsity Lacrosse – Boys @ Wilton High School 395 Danbury Rd, Wilton CT 06897

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during these challenging times, whether it's helping a senior settle into assisted living or clearing out a family home. Caring Transitions of Norwalk CT serves the Norwalk, New Canaan, Darien, Westport, Wilton and Weston communities. Each Caring Transitions location is locally owned and operated.

<https://CaringTransitionsofNorwalkCT.com>

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Silvermine at Home is a certified and bonded non-medical home care agency, that is locally owned and operated and in the heart of New Canaan. We are passionate about serving the community with the highest quality care custom fit to your family’s needs. Since 2019 we have been providing concierge non-medical homecare to New Canaan and surrounding towns in CT and also servicing the New York area.

Our CEO, Elena Westhaver is dedicated to the community and committed to quality person-centered care. Her phenomenal compassion for her clients and caregivers, and positive feedback from clients and families are part of the

reason why Silvermine At Home is an agency like no other.

Elena is highly regarded in the care at home arena and has over a decade of experience in managing and working hands-on with clients of all ages. She has held various roles including positions in assisted livings, skilled nursing facilities, home care and hospice agencies.

Within every organization she has been, Elena quickly becomes a household name in the respective community due to her dedication to and empathy for those needing care.

Elena has an incredible following of caregivers because of her management style, work ethic and abilities. Elena is like

no other, she can easily enter a home or facility and make the potential client or family feel comfortable.

“I look forward to working with my incredibly talented staff as we help many more clients in our local community, now and in the future. I am especially grateful to all of the organizations I have worked for and the incredible opportunities that I have been fortunate to have. I also look forward to working with all of my colleagues to make sure everyone who needs non-medical homecare is getting the best care possible through my role at Silvermine at Home, our family caring for yours”.

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Stories, Songs, & Senses



Stories, Songs, and Senses is a sensory play class for children 12 months - 3 years old and their caregiver. Class will begin with a story and songs. Then it's time to get messy! There will be 3-4 sensory bins filled with various materials and textures as well as 1-2 art activities, all related to a central theme. Play

with your child at each of the stations or stick with a favorite - watching as they dig into the mess and learn about the world and themselves.

Liz Ballantyne runs Stories, Songs, and Senses here in New Canaan and is a mom of two. She holds a Masters in Early Childhood Education and Early

Childhood Special Education and has over 17 years of teaching experience. Liz believes that sensory play is one of the best ways to foster brain development in young children and it is so much fun! At home, it can be hard to provide lots of messy learning experiences which is one reason she began a sensory play class.



New Canaan Sentinel

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The Gospel According to New Canaan

In the center of New Canaan, where three steeples form a triangle over God’s Acre, the town has quietly pulled off something remarkable—a seamless union of history, preservation, community faith, and future vision. It didn’t involve an emergency hearing, a protest march, or an impromptu civics lesson in the checkout line at Walter Stewart’s. No, this was New Canaan at its best: thoughtful, elegant, and harmonious.

The New Canaan Museum and Historical Society has acquired the 2.3-acre property long home to St. Michael’s Lutheran Church. It is the oldest surviving church structure in town, a quiet sentinel since the 1800s. It predates the railroad and the Civil War. Instead of watching it slip into disrepair or be eyed by a developer with a fondness for glass and steel, our citizens have chosen a higher road. It has turned a sanctuary into a centerpiece.

The arrangement—graceful and efficient—allows the church to continue holding services while becoming a vital part of the Museum’s expanding campus. A sacred space now doubles as a site for historical education, cultural programming, and, yes, more children’s activities (because in New Canaan, we always have need of more children’s activities).

It’s a preservationist’s dream and a planner’s delight. “It really is an amazing win,” said longtime benefactor Dede Bartlett, who—with her husband Jim—helped ensure the project’s success. “That’s exactly the way to put it. It is a win-win for everybody.” No small feat in a world where “win-win” often means someone walks away quietly disappointed.

In other towns, old churches get turned into event venues or condos with names like The Sanctuary at Elm. The stained glass is repurposed as wall décor. The history is diluted to a QR code on a brass plaque. But not here. Here, they read Churchill and mean it: “We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us.” New Canaan understands that a church doesn’t lose its soul when it changes hands—it gains new purpose when treated with reverence.

That reverence is evident in every detail. The stained-glass windows—sunlight passing through lambs, chalices, and open books—still flood the sanctuary with kaleidoscopic color. The building remains architecturally intact, spiritually present, and civic-minded in function.

The Museum, under Executive Director Nancy Geary and Board President Tom Monahan, spent two years negotiating the purchase. They’ve effectively doubled the Museum’s footprint, with new room for lectures, concerts, and exhibitions, and space—finally—for the Museum’s costume collection, described as the finest in Connecticut.

As Bartlett said, “There’s going to be no regret on this.” Other towns wake up to find a wrecking ball in their rearview mirror. That did not happen here—and in New Canaan, it rarely does.

We often say New Canaan gets it right. But here, in the shadow of three steeples, that statement becomes literal. The Museum and the church, side by side, each playing their part. Not a compromise, but a convergence. And in that, there is something quietly profound.

Editorial Page



“Frankly, I don’t remember why I called this meeting.”

COLUMN

Book Review: Midcentury Houses Today

By JUDY OSTROW

Camouflaged by rock formations and wooded surroundings along New Canaan’s side roads, and hidden in plain sight on its larger thoroughfares, is a collection of nearly a hundred houses that date from the late 1940s through the mid-1970s. They were built by a group of architects on a mission. Their goal: to design homes for a rapidly changing American landscape following the Second World War, with new forms and ideas to meet the moment of baby boom-meets-expanding suburbia.

The local pioneer of a group that would become known as the Harvard Five was Eliot Noyes. Inspired by his time with Walter Gropius at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design, he sought a location to raise his young family and build a practice around the ideas that he and his colleagues had formulated. Finding New Canaan acreage to be moderately priced, and zoning restrictions not too onerous, Noyes built his first house on Lambert Road in 1947. Then a pilgrimage of sorts began.

Following him to New Canaan was a handful of fellow travelers from Harvard, and their blueprints for a design era that has since been characterized as Midcentury Modern. They included John Johanson and Landis Gores, as well as Marcel Breuer, who emigrated to the US in 1937 from a design path that began with Gropius at the Bauhaus, a mecca of modern art and design that had been shuttered by the Nazis in 1933. Philip Johnson is perhaps the best-known exponent of this movement; his own Glass House on Ponus Ridge Road is now a National Trust site and a travel destination for fans of modernism. The fate of some other local modernist houses has not been so fortunate.

With comparatively small footprints and square footage, single-glazed, energy-inefficient windows and flat roofs, about two dozen of the houses had fallen to the wrecking ball by the turn of the twenty-first century, including Noyes’ first, 1947 house. Their disappearance was not universally mourned. More than one local armchair critic compared these houses, with their sharp angles and lack of traditional architectural ornament, to packing boxes. Yet advocates appeared.

Cristina Ross, a New Canaan resident and Cooper Union-trained architect, had met Philip Johnson at an architectural critique. His designs resonated with her own sensibilities, and some years later when she was looking for a property for development, she wound up buying a parcel that included one of Johnson’s local commissions: the diminutive Alice Ball house, built in 1953. In seeking zoning approval for her plans, she discovered that many locals were not fans of modernism, despite the celebrity of Johnson and the global reputations of his colleagues.

While approvals for Ross’ plans were eventually secured, it was her encounter with another local architect, Jeffrey Matz, that engendered a dialogue that eventually became the first edition of *Midcentury Houses Today*. In concert with two notable talents, architectural photographer Michael Biondo and graphic designer Lorenzo Ottaviani, Ross and Matz set out to show how these houses, some of which have now survived for nearly eighty years, could

In seeking zoning approval for her plans, she discovered that many locals were not fans of modernism, despite the celebrity of Johnson and the global reputations of his colleagues.



accommodate the more expansive lifestyle needs of twenty-first century buyers. In this meticulous and artfully compiled narrative, they also demonstrate that these unique houses—with careful and sensitive alteration—can meet the demands of a local real estate market that one can no longer call “moderately priced.” The book, which achieved #5 in *Architectural Digest*’s top 20 titles for 2015, sold out. After its four co-producers lightly edited the original, including three previously unpublished projects, they released the book’s second edition last summer, again with Monacelli Press, now an imprint of Phaidon.

Matz, a third-generation architect whose father worked with Breuer, grew up in the Westchester house that his parents built. Thus familiar from childhood with the pristine aesthetic of modernism, he and Ross, using seventeen extant examples in New Canaan, demonstrate the evolution of each house from its original form to its current presence. Biondo’s accompanying photographs, floor plans that show each structure in as-built and current footprints, and text to enlighten the reader about the professionals, the technologies, and the materials that preserve and make these classic moderns sustainable, form a valuable reference. The creative partners have fashioned a book that is not just a beautiful coffee table volume, but a practical guide for any homeowner considering the purchase or preservation of a modernist home.

The range of transformations presented is dramatic. Strict preservationists can admire the purity of the time capsule that is Eliot Noyes’ second home, built in 1954 and untouched by renovation to this day,

Fans of New Canaan’s architectural heritage will have the opportunity to experience its modernist masterpieces firsthand. The New Canaan Historical Society’s Modern House Day Tour returns Friday, October 18. The tour will feature access to five—possibly six—of the town’s premier midcentury homes, including examples by some of the original architects profiled in *Midcentury Houses Today*.

Tickets go on sale April 15 and traditionally sell out quickly. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit nchistory.org/modern-new-canaan

its fieldstone façade resting seamlessly within a mature landscape of tall pines. Others can ooh and ahh at the cover portrait and descriptive text for Lee House II, built by John Black Lee, a New Canaan contemporary of the Harvard Five, with subsequent alterations and additions designed by two renowned contemporary architects, Toshiko Mori and Kengo Kuma. In between are multiple solutions that honor the original designs with a bow to contemporary needs, and adhere to the ancient Vitruvian principles of good architecture: beauty, utility, and integrity.

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COLUMN

Tariffs, Trade and Capital Investment in the U.S.



PATRICIA CHADWICK

The globalization of economies—that of the U.S. as well as most of the rest of the world—began in earnest in the early 1980s when China was entering the global trading sphere. But as early as the 1920s, American companies had already started building manufacturing plants in Europe—both General Motors and Ford Motor Company were in Germany. Within the next couple of decades, American heavy equipment manufacturers—names like Caterpillar Tractor, Bucyrus-Erie and John Deere—built facilities in Belgium, the UK, and Germany. Those strategic capital investments were designed primarily to meet the demand for American-made hard goods, and, at the same time, to avoid the onerous tariffs associated with importing American-made machinery into Europe. A similarly high tariff was imposed on equipment manufactured in Europe and shipped to the U.S. Thus, the vast majority of the production by American companies in Europe was sold within the continent.

In the aftermath of World War II, a multi-national trade treaty, The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (also referred to as GATT and later as the World Trade Organization, or WTO) was established among twenty-three countries across the globe. Notably it did not include the three Axis powers, (all of which later joined), nor did it include Russia. The purpose of that treaty was to reduce global tariffs, and at the conclusion of the first meeting (in 1947), global tariffs were settled at around 40%. A quarter of a century later, the treaty included 102 countries, and by 1994, the count was 123. Over that period of time, from 1947 until 1993, the group met eight

times, with each consecutive meeting reaching agreement to lower global tariffs, until by 1993, they were at 3.8%. See the nearby chart.

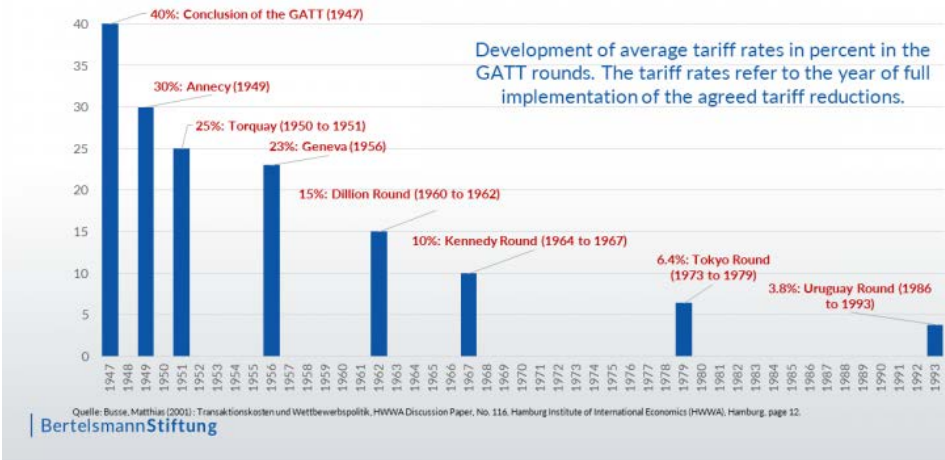
The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 fueled the opportunity for U.S. companies to augment their investments in Europe as well as export to a burgeoning marketplace. Over the subsequent thirty years, the continued thrust of globalization was a boon to countries on a global scale, but in particular to the U.S. In 2008, the GDP of the Eurozone was on a par with that of the U.S.—each with approximately \$14 trillion. By 2023, U.S. GDP was nearly 100% higher at \$28 trillion, while the Eurozone experienced a paltry 10% growth during that fifteen-year span. Over the same period, wage gains in the U.S. far surpassed those of the OECD (38 industrialized nations across Europe and East Asia) and unemployment reached a decades low of 3.4% in 2023.

The sudden and unprecedented imposition on tariffs this week—on more than 150 independent countries, notably excluding Russia—in some cases reaching more than 90%—brought my ninth grade civics class to mind. Wasn't the power to levy tariffs the constitutional responsibility of the legislative branch of government? I knew I wasn't wrong; however, what I had not appreciated, and what I learned from doing some research, was that, over the last 60-plus years, Congress has passed a number of laws that have expanded the President's authority and latitude regarding tariffs. The last piece of legislation on that matter was in 1977, and since there is no member of Congress today who was also a member in 1977, I was out of luck in trying to reach anyone for an explanation of the rationale for that concession. It's almost unfathomable to think that any member of Congress at that time would have foreseen the possibility that the President might raise tariffs by anything close to what has been done this week.

Trade deficits have

Trade deficits have commonly existed in the U.S. for decades and logically reflect the reality that the American economy is both largely consumption-based and has experienced greater income growth

Global tariff reductions since the end of the Second World War



commonly existed in the U.S. for decades and logically reflect the reality that the American economy is both largely consumption-based and has experienced greater income growth than countries in the rest of the OECD. On the other hand, the sizable trade surplus derived from the export of services—transportation, software, entertainment, government services, etc.—offsets much of the goods deficit. The purported reason for the President's unprecedented tariff hikes is to put pressure on American industrial companies to relocate their manufacturing facilities to the U.S. However, for-profit companies in the U.S. are accountable to their shareholders, and the process of determining where and how much to make capital investments is largely a function of where the greatest return will be derived. Two important factors influencing that return on investment include: (1) the cost of capital and (2) the cost of labor. Heavy manufacturing is both capital and labor intensive, and the geographic disparity in labor rates around the world is an essential factor in determining where facilities will be constructed. The claim that

manufacturing jobs in the U.S. have been lost is true. It is also true that the cost of labor in the U.S. is among the highest in the industrialized world. A recent report on CNBC's Squawk Box shared the dramatic difference between the all-in hourly wages for autoworkers in North America. In the U.S., the rate is \$70; in Canada, it is \$40; in Mexico, it is \$6. That staggering difference in labor cost explains why the auto industry spreads the cost of car production among the neighboring countries, rather than concentrate it in the U.S. Less capital intensive industries—e.g., companies that produce clothing and footwear—generally have far lower selling prices, making the input cost of labor of critical importance. The emerging economies of Asia, on account of their low relative labor rates, provide opportunity for better investment returns. Today, close to 100% of the world's footwear is produced in Asia. Raising tariffs on imported footwear will not induce producers to move to the U.S. Those investments cannot be successfully uprooted and transferred to the U.S. because the economies that exist, in Vietnam as an example, simply cannot be replicated

in the U.S. Yet, the President has announced a 46% tariff on exports from that country.

Tariff policy as a "one size fits all" concept is foolhardy. Using a rifle, rather than a shotgun, approach feels like an option with more potential for success. But even a battle with China (the most obvious candidate to target) could wreak havoc with middle-class Americans, so many of whom run their own businesses and rely on Chinese imports because China is the only manufacturing source in the world for the goods they sell.

That being said, in just the last few years, there has been a significant increase in capital investment in the U.S. for an array of goods. That change was in response to COVID-19 in early 2020. The perilous impact on the economy is memorable—supply chain bottlenecks, lasting for months and in some cases well over a year, that wreaked havoc in every corner of the country. The U.S. was hostage to both foreign production and to shipping gridlock for products that were deemed essential to American security—largely components for high-tech/defense/health care industries. Sensing urgency,

corporate C-suites accepted the reality that higher production costs were acceptable if only to ensure a secure source of goods for the domestic market. The popular notion of "just in time" supply chains had proven to be unreliable. In an about face, high-tech companies, and even the likes of Walmart, shared their plans to increase investment in onshore production. With the support of several pieces of Federal legislation, billions of dollars of reshoring investment began in 2021 and continues to this day. That trend by U.S. manufacturers has been augmented by foreign companies—a good example is the Taiwanese giant chip producer TSMC which is building extensive manufacturing facilities in Arizona.

Over the last seventy-five years, there has been a long and successful record of global reduction in tariffs. That trend has augmented economic growth, improved standards of living, enhanced labor participation on a global scale. Success doesn't mean that the system is perfect, but perfection won't be achieved with a broadscale application of tariffs that bear little resemblance to the underlying issues on a country by country basis, and it will likely cause massive economic harm before things get sorted out. And as this column goes to print, the President has just declared a 104% counter tariff on all Chinese imports. Holy Toledo!

Patricia Chadwick is a businesswoman and an author. Her first book (2019): Little Sister: A Memoir, tells the story of her growing up in a religious community-turned cult in the 1950s and 1960s. Her most recent memoir (2024), Breaking Glass, with the subtitle: Tales from the Witch of Wall Street, came out last May. It is a sequel to Little Sister and tells of her starting out on the lowest rung of the corporate ladder and succeeding in what was then the all-male bastion called Wall Street. www.patrichadwick.com

COLUMN

Restoring Industrial Sovereignty and Environmental Sanity

BY ALEX SARISON

The American Founders, in their deliberations, did not stumble upon tariff authority by accident. The Constitution, in Article I, Section 8, grants Congress the power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations," and this was not a ceremonial clause. For much of the 19th century, the federal government was funded largely by tariffs. Abraham Lincoln, an ardent Whig before he was a Republican, viewed tariffs as both moral and prudent—protective measures meant to ensure the dignity of American labor and the viability of American industry.

From the 1820s through the 1920s, the United States grew from a collection of frontier states into an industrial behemoth behind a wall of

tariffs. This was not incidental. In 1861, Congress passed the Morrill Tariff, significantly raising import duties. The result was a boon to Northern manufacturing—an insulated economic sphere capable of producing locomotives, steel, textiles, and rifles, free from foreign price pressures. As Charles Beard observed, the rise of America's internal industrial capacity was inseparable from its protective tariff regime.

The twentieth-century commitment to global tariff reduction, codified by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in 1947 and culminating in the 1995 creation of the World Trade Organization, was hailed as the triumph of liberal economic philosophy. But its costs were obscured by

American consumers, insulated from the sweatshop and the smokestack, buy low and look away.

the celebratory rhetoric of comparative advantage. As the West dismantled its tariffs, capital became mobile, chasing returns wherever wages were lowest and environmental standards weakest. American towns emptied. Textiles left North Carolina for Guangdong; steel mills in Pennsylvania rusted as South Korean output soared.

This was not "creative destruction." It was sanctioned abandonment. Washington, in its bipartisan embrace of globalization, ceded industrial sovereignty to a supply chain built atop cheap labor and

foreign authoritarianism. According to the Economic Policy Institute, the U.S. lost more than 5 million manufacturing jobs between 2000 and 2020. Median wages stagnated. The social consequences accumulated while coastal technocrats championed container ports and logistics platforms.

Global trade has also imported moral hazards. Cheap goods arrive not only wrapped in plastic but steeped in invisible costs. They are manufactured in provinces where rivers run black with chemical runoff, where

industrial waste is dumped into waterways with impunity, and where energy is generated by burning low-grade coal. A cargo ship crossing the Pacific emits as much sulfur oxide as 50 million cars. Each bargain-priced hoodie or electronic gadget, produced in environmental anarchy, accumulates into planetary cost.

The human ledger is worse. Forced labor, child exploitation, and prison labor in Xinjiang persist behind the euphemism of "global sourcing." The trade order, marketed as the handmaiden of progress, has

become a system wherein moral distance facilitates moral evasion. American consumers, insulated from the sweatshop and the smokestack, buy low and look away.

In our scramble for stock market appreciation and quarterly profit growth, we have forgotten a fundamental truth: wages are higher in the United States not by accident, but because this nation demands more—clean air, safe working conditions, the right not to be exploited. Tariffs are not barriers to trade; they are boundaries of principle. They level the field against nations that recognize no floor beneath labor and no ceiling above pollution.

Trade policy cannot just be about consumerism and free markets—it must also be a reflection of values.

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Spring Tune-Up: Repair Over Replacement for Patio Furniture



As outdoor living spaces return to daily use in New Canaan, homeowners are taking a practical approach to spring preparation. Rather than discarding aging patio sets, many are opting to clean, repair, and restore what they already have—part of a growing trend that values durability and sustainability over seasonal consumption.

Cleaning is the first step. Experts recommend using a soft sponge or brush with a mild, non-abrasive cleaner—ideally one formulated for outdoor furniture or car exteriors. According to professionals who work with restoration-grade finishes, dish detergents should be avoided as they tend to leave a greasy film that attracts dust. A thorough rinse and a soft cloth dry help preserve finishes and prevent buildup.

Swiveling chairs benefit from a light application of silicone spray to keep joints moving smoothly. Homeowners should inspect each piece

for signs of corrosion, loose joints, or worn glides on chair and table legs. Replacing these small parts can extend the life of a set by years.

For those whose furniture sits under bird-heavy trees or in areas with high pollen, covers are essential. Left exposed, even well-made metal or teak pieces can suffer from moisture and organic debris. Storing furniture upright and allowing for proper drainage during the off-season can prevent freeze damage.

Umbrellas, too, require attention. Safety protocols call for always closing them when not in use to avoid wind damage. High winds can turn unsecured pieces into safety hazards, especially when storms arrive without much warning.

Vinyl straps are often the first component to show their age. While tools like Mr. Clean Magic Eraser can help, mold or staining may require

full replacement. Still, homeowners are encouraged not to dismiss older furniture outright. According to local refurbishing experts, many metal and teak sets from decades past are made with higher-quality welds and structural integrity than today's mass-market options.

One solution gaining popularity in Fairfield County is powder coating. The process involves stripping old paint and applying a new finish that is oven-baked to form a strong, resilient surface. With a wide range of colors and finishes, restoration projects often leave pieces looking better than new—without the environmental footprint of buying replacements.

Patty DeFelice, who operates Patty's Portico, has seen an uptick in residents seeking to restore rather than replace. Her shop receives photos of aging furniture for consultation and estimates. "We're seeing 30-, even 40-year-old sets come through," she said. "They were built to last—and with restoration, they do."

LEGAL AD

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN COUNCIL OF NEW CANAAN NOTICE OF PASSAGE REGULAR MEETING - April 3, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Council of New Canaan, at its Regular Meeting held in person and virtually via Zoom, passed the following legislative act:

Approved and amended the Report and Recommendation made by the Board of Finance of Town Appropriations for the fiscal budget period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, in summary as follows:

Total Town Appropriations plus School Expenditures paid by the Town	\$ 67,208,207
Board of Education Appropriation	\$ <u>113,797,271</u>
Total	\$ 181,005,478
Less Estimated Revenues	\$ 11,206,288
Less Proposed Contribution from Fund Balance	\$ <u>5,000,000</u>
Amount to be raised by Taxation	\$ 164,799,190
Sewer District - Total Sewer Operating Budget	\$ 2,125,289

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a summary of the Budget adopted by the Town Council is available for inspection during normal office hours at the Office of the Town Clerk located at 77 Main Street, New Canaan, CT.

The Budget, as approved, will become effective eight days after publication or eight days after filing with the Town Clerk, whichever event shall last occur.

Dated at New Canaan, Connecticut, this 3th day of April, 2025

Cristina A. Ross
Vice Chairman and Secretary, Town Council

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Town Council of the Town of New Canaan will be held at 7:00 p.m. on April 23, 2025, in the Town Hall Meeting Room and via Zoom, for the following purposes:

A. To consider and act upon the resolutions entitled:

1. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$91,100 For The PARKING 2026 Project And The Financing of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$91,100
2. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$555,000 For The Fire Equipment 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$555,000
3. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$143,403 For The Emergency Management 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$143,403
4. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$390,000 For The EMS 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$390,000
5. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$5,096,500 For The DPW Town Buildings 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$5,096,500
6. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$5,815,000 For DPW Administration & Engineering 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$5,815,000
7. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$1,106,500 For The DPW Parks 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$1,106,500
8. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$800,000 For The School District Technology 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$800,000
9. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$3,013,000 For The Schools 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$3,013,000
10. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$1,210,000 For The DPW Wastewater Treatment 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$1,210,000
11. Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$270,000 For The Bond Premium 2026 Project And The Financing Of Said Appropriation By The Allocation of Bond Proceeds On Hand In An Amount Not To Exceed \$270,000

Copies of said proposed resolutions are on file and open to public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk.

B. To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting.

Revitalize with Powder Coating

Rather than replacing timeworn metal furniture, consider professional restoration. Patty's Portico offers refinishing services that breathe new life into vintage or weathered patio sets. Using powder coating, they apply an oven-baked finish that forms a hard, weather-resistant surface. The result is a durable and elegant makeover, with hundreds of colors, textures, and patinas available to suit any aesthetic. For a free estimate, send photos to pattysportico@gmail.com or visit [Pattysportico.com](https://pattysportico.com).

Martha Stewart herself has praised the results.

Discover Hidden Gems at Auction

While giving old furniture a facelift, you may also consider expanding your outdoor ensemble by shopping smart. Estate auctions are one of the best-kept secrets for sourcing unique, high-quality patio pieces at affordable prices. Patty's Portico's **MaxSold** auction offers a treasure trove of outdoor finds, including timeless furniture awaiting a second life. Browse the full auction at <https://maxsold.com/auction/97920/bidgallery> to explore what could soon be on your patio.

From careful cleaning to strategic upgrades and smart shopping, spring is your signal to reclaim and reimagine your outdoor living space.

LEGAL AD

ACTION TAKEN BY THE INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Monday, April 7, 2025

1. Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands Commission of the Town of New Canaan, at its meeting on 04/07/25 made the following decision:

Application IW-24-43 – 82 Brookwood Lane, Brookwood Hills, LLC, Map 33 Block 41 Lot 4. The proposed regulated activity for which an inland wetland permit is being sought is the construction of common infrastructure to support a proposed nine-lot residential subdivision. The regulated infrastructure activities include the conversion and expansion of a single lane asphalt driveway; the installation of associated stormwater best management practices; the installation of power, communication and data utility lines; the installation of a dry hydrant; and the completion of wetland and watercourse mitigation activities. Permits are not being sought for the development of each lot.

APPROVED with Special Conditions.

LEGAL AD

TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PASSAGE

Notice is hereby given that at a Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of New Canaan held on March 20, 2025, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolution Authorizing An Appropriation Of \$201,000 For The Dunning Stadium 2026 Project And The Financing of Said Appropriation By The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Of The Town And Notes In Anticipation Of Such Bonds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$201,000

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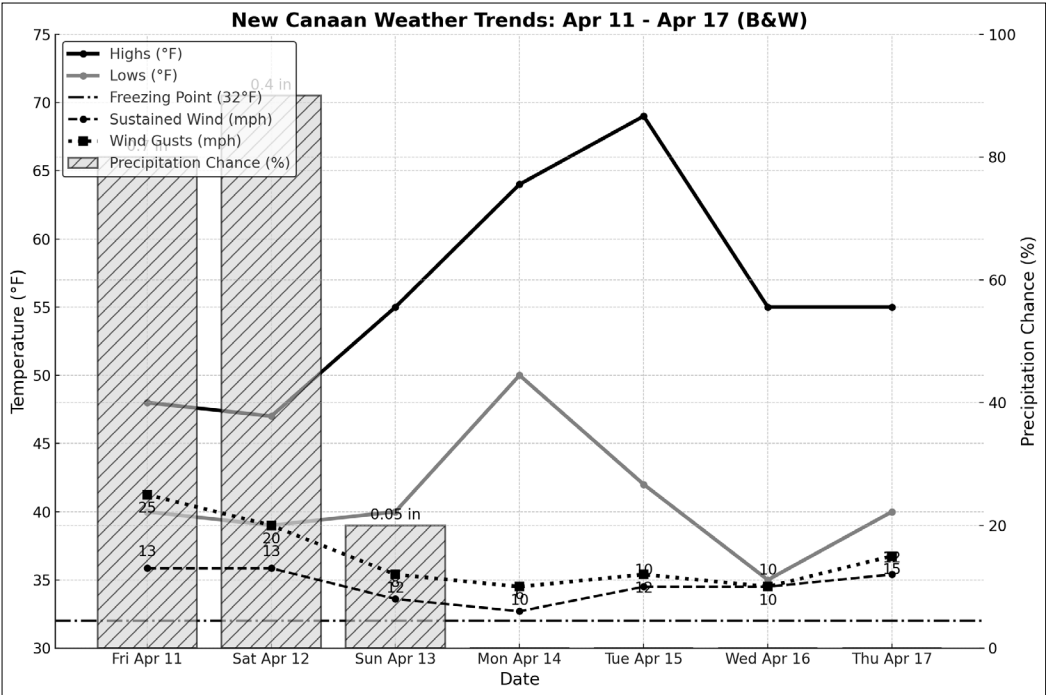
(800) 342-0343

New Canaan Weather Forecast: Here's What to Expect

By Emma Barhydt

As April unfolds in New Canaan, anticipate a medley of springtime weather. The upcoming week promises a blend of mild temperatures, occasional showers, and moments of sunshine. While no significant storms are expected, it's wise to stay prepared for the varied conditions that early April often brings.

Friday, April 11 will be chilly and wet with cloudy skies and a high around 48°F. Occasional light rain and drizzle are expected during the day, becoming steadier and heavier in the evening and overnight. Winds will be easterly around 10–15 mph, with gusts up to ~25 mph, and the damp air will keep humidity near saturation. The chance of precipitation is about 80%, with up to 0.5–0.8 inches of rainfall possible by late Friday night. While no weather advisories are in effect, local drivers should take care during commutes as heavier rain could reduce visibility and create slick conditions.



Saturday, April 12 stays cool and rainy with highs around 47°F and a nighttime low near 39–40°F. Skies will remain overcast with rain likely for much of the day with up to 90% chance of precipitation, tapering to lighter showers or drizzle by the evening. Northeasterly winds of 10–15 mph will make

it breezy, and the atmosphere will be very humid during periods of rain. Another quarter to half an inch of rain could fall on Saturday, so soggy conditions are expected throughout the day. Watch for minor ponding on roads and walkways.

Sunday, April 13 is expected to start with some lingering moisture but then

improve, with a high of 55°F and a low around 40°F. Areas of morning mist or drizzle are possible early on, but skies should turn partly sunny by afternoon as drier air moves in. The chance of any rain is fairly low, and northwest breezes up to 10 mph will usher in less humid air. Sunday afternoon should offer the best window of the

weekend for enjoying time outdoors.

Monday, April 14 will feel much warmer and brighter, with mostly sunny skies and afternoon highs reaching the low to mid-60s. The morning starts cool, around 50°F, but sunshine and a light west wind will help temperatures climb steadily through the day. Humidity will be moderate, making for comfortable conditions, and no rain is expected. The UV index will be higher, peaking around 7 in the afternoon, so consider sun protection despite the pleasant weather.

By Tuesday, April 15th spring warmth will peak with highs in the upper 60s to near 70°F and nighttime lows in the low 40s. Skies should be mostly sunny and the day will be quite pleasant; expect a light to moderate west-southwest breeze around 10 mph. Humidity remains comfortable, and the chance of any precipitation is very low. It will be a gorgeous, breezy day with a high UV index near 7 and no weather hazards to worry about.

Local parks and trails will be especially inviting under these near-ideal conditions.

Wednesday, April 16 turns cooler again with an afternoon high in the mid-50s and overnight lows dipping into the mid-30s. Expect a mix of sun and clouds – forecasts range from partly sunny to mostly cloudy – but it should stay dry with virtually no chance of rain. West-northwest winds around 10 mph will bring in crisp air, keeping humidity levels modest. No advisories are anticipated; it will just be a notably cooler day following Tuesday's warmth.

The weather settles into a calm, seasonable pattern by Thursday, April 17, with daytime highs around the mid-50s and nighttime lows near 40°F. After a cloudy start in the morning, sunshine will return, leading to mostly clear skies later in the day. Winds will shift to the northwest at about 10–15 mph, and with the drier air, humidity will be moderate. There is virtually no chance of precipitation, and the UV index will climb back

Traveling? Check The Week Ahead Nationally

By Emma Barhydt

Northeast

A late-week storm will open the period with cold, wet conditions across the Northeast, bringing widespread rain and wintry weather to higher elevations, especially in interior areas where slushy snow is possible. Along the coast, persistent onshore winds coinciding with a full moon may cause minor coastal flooding. The storm will gradually exit by Sunday, leaving behind a raw, chilly air mass that will keep daytime highs in the upper 40s to mid-50s°F and overnight lows in the 30s°F, raising frost concerns in inland valleys. A brief warming trend is expected by midweek as high pressure builds, pushing highs into the 60s°F before another frontal system approaches mid-to-late week, bringing a renewed chance of showers. While this second system appears less intense, it will reinforce the unsettled and cool pattern, with temperatures fluctuating and conditions remaining variable through the end of the week.

Southeast

The Southeast will transition from a stormy start to a period of tranquil spring weather. Rain and thunderstorms will linger early in the period, especially across the Carolinas and southern Appalachians, before cooler, drier air settles in behind a cold front. High pressure will dominate through early week, keeping skies fair and temperatures below normal, with highs ranging from the 60s to 70s°F and overnight lows dipping into the 40s and even upper 30s°F in rural interior areas, potentially leading to patchy frost. A significant

warming trend will develop midweek as southerly winds return, lifting daytime highs into the 70s and low 80s°F and increasing humidity, particularly along the Gulf Coast and Florida, which will remain dry and sunny throughout the period. A midweek cold front may trigger scattered showers and thunderstorms, especially in the Tennessee Valley and Gulf states, but any rainfall will be isolated. By late week, cooler air will return, reinforcing fair skies and pleasant temperatures typical of mid-spring.

Midwest

The Midwest begins the period recovering from a strong storm system that brought rain and snow, with lingering showers and flurries tapering off by Saturday. High pressure will then build in, bringing improving skies and brisk conditions through Sunday and Monday, with highs in the 50s to 60s°F and lows in the 30s°F, possibly leading to frost in northern areas. A powerful upper ridge will usher in a dramatic warm-up by midweek, with highs soaring into the 70s and even low 80s°F–15°F above average in some places—before a midweek cold front sweeps through, bringing a band of showers and isolated thunderstorms. While the risk of severe weather is limited, gusty storms are possible from the Mississippi Valley into the Ohio Valley. Behind the front, cooler, more seasonable air will return, with highs falling back into the 50s and 60s°F and breezy northwest winds settling in. The week overall will feature a classic spring transition from chilly and damp to warm and stormy, ending with a refreshing cooldown.

Southwest

The Southwest will experience a hot,

dry stretch of weather dominated by a strong ridge of high pressure that will drive temperatures 10–20°F above average. Desert regions, including southern Arizona and southeastern California, will see highs surge into the upper 80s to mid-90s°F, with some locations likely hitting 100°F—weeks ahead of the typical onset of triple-digit heat. Overnight lows will remain elevated as well, ranging from the upper 60s to low 70s°F in urban and lowland areas. Conditions will remain dry across nearly the entire region, with no significant precipitation expected outside of a small chance for light showers or high-elevation snow in the far northern Rockies or Four Corners by early next week. The ridge will weaken slightly toward the end of the period, allowing for modest cooling, but temperatures will remain well above normal with continued sunshine, warm afternoons in the 80s°F, and cool mornings in the 50s to 60s°F.

Northwest

The Northwest will see a dynamic pattern of alternating rain and sun as a series of Pacific storms bring valley rain, mountain snow, and brisk onshore winds to the region. The weekend begins with a frontal system delivering precipitation from the coast to the northern Rockies, followed by a brief dry window late Sunday into Monday. Another system will arrive midweek, producing more widespread showers in lower elevations and snow in the Cascades and northern Rockies. In between systems, transient ridges will allow for brief warming and clearing skies, particularly across inland areas. Daytime highs will range from the 50s°F near the coast during rainy periods to the 60s°F and occasional 70°F readings in

sheltered interior valleys during sun breaks. Temperatures will trend downward again late in the week as another Pacific trough brings increased clouds and a fresh round of showers. Overall, the region will experience a typical spring mix of changeable weather, with short-lived mild spells punctuated by cool, wet intrusions.

West Coast

The West Coast will enjoy a warm, dry stretch of weather under the influence of a persistent high-pressure ridge that will block Pacific storms and bring widespread sunshine. Temperatures will be well above normal for April, with inland California and the Central Valley reaching into the upper 80s to mid-90s°F and desert regions approaching 100°F. Coastal areas will enjoy mild weather as well, with highs in the 70s°F and some inland zones nearing 80°F, although marine fog may return late in the week to cool the shoreline slightly. The hot spell will likely peak midweek, with many areas tying or breaking daily records. Rain chances will remain minimal through at least Wednesday, but a weak Pacific trough may approach by Thursday or Friday, bringing cloud cover, onshore breezes, and a slight chance of showers to far northern California and the Pacific Northwest coast. Central and Southern California will remain dry. A cooling trend will set in late week, moderating inland highs back into the 70s and 80s°F, but overall, the region will enjoy an extended run of sunny, unseasonably warm spring weather.

First Selectman Dionna Carlson to Address New Canaan Men’s Club on Budget, Housing, and Infrastructure

New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson will brief members of the New Canaan Men’s Club this Friday on the town’s goals, priorities, and recently adopted \$181 million budget. The public update is scheduled to begin at 10:40 a.m. in Morrill Hall at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge. Given significant interest in her remarks, the club has opened the meeting to spouses of members.

Carlson’s presentation is expected to cover infrastructure improvements, the town’s workforce housing strategy, and the fiscal direction set by the newly approved 2025 town budget. One prominent infrastructure focus has been the enhancement of cellular coverage across New Canaan. Gaps in service have been a consistent concern for both residents and emergency responders. Town officials have engaged with carriers and evaluated placement options for new towers or distributed antenna

systems, though no final construction timeline has been announced.

On housing, Carlson has signaled the town’s ongoing attention to workforce and affordable housing options. This includes ensuring compliance with the state’s 8-30g statute while preserving local control. Discussions at recent meetings have reflected a desire to balance state requirements with thoughtful development that aligns with New Canaan’s community character and infrastructure capacity.

The town budget passed unanimously last week by the Town Council represents a 4.36% increase over current spending. Initially, the council considered a \$300,000 reduction to the Board of Education’s proposed budget. The final budget includes a smaller, \$150,000 reduction. Carlson had previously voiced support for measured adjustments that preserve the educational quality of New Canaan schools while



addressing taxpayer concerns.

Carlson, who served for eight years on the New Canaan Board of Education, including three as chair, brings a finance-driven approach to her

current role. She is a Chartered Financial Analyst and held senior roles at GE Capital before her public service. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

In her most recent public letter, Carlson confirmed the Board of Selectmen had approved the 2025 schedule for outdoor dining. The program begins May 1 and will run through early November, continuing a policy adopted during the COVID-19 pandemic that has since become a seasonal fixture for local restaurants and residents.

The Men’s Club meeting will begin at 10 a.m., with Carlson’s address scheduled for approximately 10:40 a.m. The club, which provides programs and activities for men aged 55 and older, continues to welcome new members. Membership inquiries can be directed to ncmens@ncmens.info.

YMCA Celebrates Y-Ball Basketball Championships

The New Canaan YMCA’s Youth Basketball League (Y-Ball) season came to an exciting close on Saturday, April 5, featuring 12 championship games played by participants in kindergarten through high school. The Y congratulates all players on a successful season filled with skill improvement, teamwork, and fun while developing their passion for basketball.

- 2024-2025 Y-Ball Champions:
- Kindergarten Boys: Notre Dame
 - Kindergarten/1st Grade Girls: Wings
 - 1st Grade Boys: Stanford
 - 2nd Grade Girls: Liberty
 - 2nd Grade Boys: Miami

- 3rd/4th Grade Girls: Mystics
- 3rd/4th Grade Boys: Creighton
- 5th/6th Grade Girls: Wake Forest
- 5th/6th Grade Boys: UConn
- 7th/8th Grade Girls: James Madison
- 7th/8th Grade Boys: Knicks
- High School Boys: Spurs

As part of the Y’s commitment to youth development, Y-Ball provides kids and teens in the community with opportunities to develop basketball skills, teamwork, and a love for the sport. Open to kids and teens from kindergarten through high school, the program is designed to create an inclusive and welcoming environment

where each player feels valued and can thrive.

The longstanding Y-Ball program proudly fosters an ‘everybody-plays’ philosophy, ensuring that every participant—regardless of skill level—has the chance to play and grow within the sport.

Y-Ball runs from December through early April and features weekly practices and games. Volunteer coaches, often parents of participants, lead each team through developing players’ skills while instilling sportsmanship, teamwork, and confidence-building both on and off the court.

Lenwood Latta, Sports Director at the New Canaan YMCA, shared, “The goal of our Y-Ball program is to provide opportunities for kids and

teens in the community to come together to play the sport they love while improving basketball skills, fostering teamwork, making friends, and having fun.”

The program instills life-long values in young athletes, including collaboration, communication, and respect for others. Y-Ball not only improves basketball skills but also fosters a sense of belonging, bringing families and community members together in a positive and supportive environment for all.

To learn more about the New Canaan YMCA’s Y-Ball league and youth sports programming, visit www.newcanaanymca.org.



New Canaan YMCA Y-Ball Kindergarten Boys’ Champions: Team Notre Dame



New Canaan YMCA Y-Ball 4th-5th Grade Girls’ Champions: Team Mystic



New Canaan YMCA Y-Ball 2nd Grade Boys’ Champions: Team Miami



High Schoolers Win at World Championships

Two Rye Country Day School students Jenny Xu ‘27 (Armonk, NY) and Arianna Yu ‘28 (New Canaan, CT) won three medals at the International Skating Union Synchronized Skating Junior World Championships in Gothenburg, Sweden, proudly representing Team USA as members of Skyliners Junior.

Held on March 7-8, the competition, which featured 24 teams from 19 countries, showcased the world’s top junior synchronized skating talent. In their short program, Jenny and Arianna’s team earned a silver medal for their impressive performance to “Nessun Dorma” from the opera “Turandot.” They followed this with a bronze medal in their long program, which was set to the theme of “Northern Lights” and featured music from the film “Interstellar.” With their outstanding performances, Jenny and Arianna’s team also secured the overall bronze medal at the Championships. Having qualified in early February, Jenny and Arianna were one of only two teams from the United States selected to compete in this prestigious event.

200 Years of Masonry Celebrated

Saturday, May 31, 2025 at 6:30 The Harmony Lodge 67 will celebrate 200 years of Masonry in service of the New Canaan community. We welcome you to Save the Date for a night of Dinner, Music and Dancing with entertainment by local band sensation “Mind the Gap”, and selections for the Town Brass ensemble.

Celebrate Mother’s Day with Purpose at Blossom Hill’s Cherry Blossom Tea

Blossom Hill Foundation invites the community to its annual Mother’s Day celebration, the Cherry Blossom Tea, on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at the New Canaan Playhouse. This elegant fundraising event offers guests the choice of two seatings: 11 AM to 1 PM or 1 PM to 3 PM.

The Cherry Blossom Tea combines meaningful giving with a delightful social experience. Guests will enjoy a light, healthy lunch accompanied by specialty teas and sparkling wine while browsing a curated selection of Mother’s Day gifts from local vendors. The event features a custom flower bar, exquisite jewelry, artisanal perfumed candles, designer sunglasses, and premium skincare products.

“Our Mother’s Day event celebrates the nurturing spirit that connects us globally,” said Shiva Sarram, Founder and Executive Director of Blossom Hill. “While guests enjoy a beautiful afternoon, they’re also supporting educational programs that transform the lives of children affected by conflict and displacement.”

All proceeds support Blossom Hill’s mission of education for peace, funding innovative programs that serve vulnerable children and youth worldwide.

Tickets: <https://blossomhill-foundation.org/mothers/>

Cherry Blossom Tea

Celebrating Mothers everywhere
to benefit the Children of
Blossom Hill

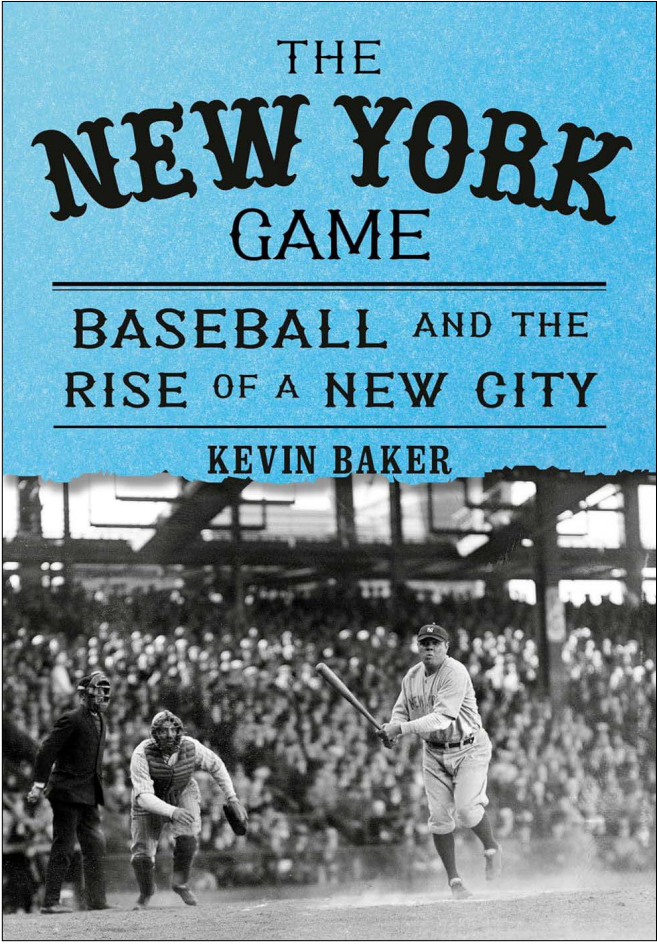
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www.blossomhill-foundation.org/mothers

Author Kevin Baker: the Game That Built a City



Celebrated author Kevin Baker will discuss his latest book The New York Game: Baseball and the Rise of a New City, which was voted Sports Illustrated #1 Book of 2024. This hugely entertaining history of baseball and New York City is bursting with larger-than-life figures and fascinating stories from the game’s beginnings to the end of World War II. In Baker’s hands the city and the game emerge from the murk of nineteenth-century American life—driven by visionaries and fixers, heroes and gangsters. He details how New York and its favorite sport came to mirror one another, expanding, bumbling through catastrophe and corruption, and rising out of these trials stronger than ever.

Kevin Baker is a novelist, historian, and journalist. He received an American Book Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and is a member of the board of the Society of American Historians. A contributing editor and columnist at Harper’s and a contributing editor at The New Republic, Baker collaborated with Ken Burns and Lynn Novick on The Holocaust and the United States, a 2-hour documentary film for PBS exploring the American response to the Holocaust.

The author talk will take place on Thursday, April 24, 2025, from 7:00pm – 8:00pm in the Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium at New Canaan Library. Event registration is available on the Library’s website at: <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/KevinBakerBaseball>

For more information, please contact Miki Porta at mporta@newcanaanlibrary.org

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MICHAEL MCDONAGH

July 15th, 1943 – April 5th, 2025 With profound sadness and unwavering faith, we announce the passing to heaven of Michael Joseph McDonagh, 39-year New Canaan Resident, on Saturday, April 5, with his wife of 56 years, Jeanne, by his side. His legacy will live on through his loving family; his wife Jeanne, his son; Sean Michael McDonagh (Laura) of Pittsford, NY, his three daughters; Michelle McDonagh Baxter (David) of Princeton, NJ, Christine McDonagh Conroy of Pelham, NY, and Katie McDonagh Small (Jonathan) of New Canaan, CT, and his nine adoring grandchildren, who he lovingly referred to as the littlest pickles; William, Brook, May, Bernadette “Bea”, Ava, Michael, Jack, Blake, and Duke. Michael was born on July 15th, 1943, in the Riverdale section of the Bronx to proud parents Anne and Michael J McDonagh from county Mayo, Ireland. Michael was their fourth child of five and their first son, and grew up alongside his three older sisters, Mary, Anne, and Bernadette, and his younger brother, William “Billy”. As a young man, Michael worked in his father’s Irish pub on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, learning the value of hard work, honing his people skills and discovering his love of community. He graduated from Cardinal Farley Military Academy in 1962. He studied to become an Irish Christian brother but ultimately earned his degree in Marketing from Manhattan College in 1968, while also serving in the United States Marine Corps from 1964-1970. He went on to work in television broadcasting production and advertising sales with a career spanning 50 years. He could talk for hours about his adventures and the many people he met along his career path, but the story he cherished most was how he met his wife, Jeanne. Michael was working as a TV producer for the NY Mets and Jeanne worked the VIP elevator at Shea Stadium. After creating reasons to ride in Jeanne’s elevator more than necessary, Michael went home and told his father he had met the woman he was going to marry. After some persistence, Jeanne finally agreed to a first date, which included a trip to the top of the Empire State Building where Michael declared his intent to marry her. And marry they did, on August 17th, 1968. Within the first few years of their marriage, their joint faith was tested with the sudden loss of both of their fathers, Michael’s brother, Billy, in the line of duty, and Michael’s sister, Bernadette, to cancer. Despite these hardships, Michael’s faith was strengthened and gave him extraordinary courage that shaped his life and his family. He would seek out lighting candles at church for everyone he loved any chance he had. Michael was committed to serving his New Canaan church community across a variety of organizations. He was a Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator with the Knights of Columbus, a Pastoral Council member and Eucharistic Minister for St. Aloysius Catholic Church, and a chairman for the Holy Family Passionists Retreat center for 50 years. He volunteered on Emmaus youth retreats and at the Convent House food pantry. He participated in a weekly men’s Bible study, New Canaan Men’s Group, and upon retirement he faithfully attended daily 7AM mass at St. A’s followed by coffee and breakfast at Tony’s Deli. Of all his accomplishments across his 81 years, he is most proud of his roles as husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother and friend. People may forget what you said, but they’ll never forget how you made them feel. All who knew Michael will remember how he made them feel, his sense of humor, his love of telling stories, his commitment to his church, his steadfast faith, his courage in the face of tragic loss, his pride for his Irish heritage, and his willingness to help his family, friends, or even a stranger in need. Living each day through the motto of “put the other fellow first.” Michael will rest in peace knowing his legacy of Faith, courage and commitment will endure. Visitation will took place on Thursday, April 10 at Hoyt Funeral Home, New Canaan, CT. A

Obituaries

Funeral Mass will be held to honor and celebrate Michael’s life on Friday, April 11, 10am, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, 21 Cherry Street, New Canaan, CT. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Michael’s memory to the New Canaan EMS at: <https://www.newcanaanems.org/donate>

PAUL STRASSMANN

Paul A. Strassmann, who survived Nazi occupation as a teenage resistance fighter to become one of the world’s foremost authorities on information management and the first Director of Defense Information for the Pentagon, and Chief Information Officer of NASA, died on Friday at his home in New Canaan, CT. He was 96. Over a career spanning more than six decades, Strassmann held executive positions at General Foods, Kraft, and Xerox before being appointed as the first Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense in 1991, and CIO of NASA in 2002. Throughout his extensive career, he championed the concept that information should be measured and managed as a crucial corporate asset - a revolutionary idea when he first began advancing it in the 1960s. He developed methods for calculating “return on management” and “information productivity.” A prolific author, and influential thinker and public speaker, he wrote 9 books and over 500 articles. Steve Jobs spoke about how Strassmann’s ideas influenced him in a talk delivered at MIT in 1992 [1] [1] <https://www.strassmann.com/pubs/mit/1992-steve-jobs.html> During his tenure at Xerox (1969-1985), he was responsible for all its information systems worldwide and was a key contributor to shaping Xerox’s business strategy for office automation. During this time Xerox established the famous Palo Alto Research Center (PARC), the birthplace of the personal computer and fundamental inventions widely used today, including the mouse, the desktop, displays with movable windows and fonts, laser printers, ethernet networking, object-oriented programming, and the internet. Born in Trencín, Czechoslovakia in 1929, Strassmann joined the partisan resistance fighting Nazi occupation. After the war in 1948, he emigrated to the United States, where he studied at the Cooper Union in New York and met Mona Frankel, to whom he was married for 68 years. He later earned a master’s degree in industrial management from MIT. Strassmann began his corporate career at General Foods in 1961, before joining Xerox in 1969, where he rose to become Chief Information Officer. His meticulous research into quantifying the business value of information technology resulted in his seminal 1985 book, “Information Payoff: The Transformation of Work in the Electronic Age.” In 1991, Strassmann was appointed to serve as the Pentagon’s first Director of Defense Information. He helped design and implement the Pentagon’s plan to achieve \$71 billion in post-cold-war budget savings. He is a 1993 recipient of the Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service – the Defense Department’s highest civilian recognition. In 1997 he was named to the CIO Hall of Fame by CIO Magazine as one of the twelve most influential CIOs of the decade. He has held faculty appointments at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the University of Connecticut, Imperial College in London, England, and as Distinguished Professor of Information Sciences at George Mason University. His public involvement includes presentations to the US Senate and House of Representatives, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, the British House of Commons, and the USSR Council of Ministers. Strassmann was chairman of the committee on information workers for the White House Conference on Productivity. Strassmann is a recipient of the Gen. Stefanik Medal for his actions as a guerilla commando from September 1944 through March 1945 in Czechoslovakia. He is survived by three children and seven grandchildren.

RICHARD FRANCO

June 4 1945 - March 14, 2025 Richard ‘Dick’ Allen Franco, 79, a native and long time resident of New Canaan, CT, passed away peacefully on March 14, in Franklin, OH. Dick graduated from New Canaan High School in 1963 and graduated from Boston University in 1967. After graduating, he worked as a graphic artist in a New York advertising agency for several years. He later followed in the family tradition of owning a liquor store which was in Rowayton, CT. He attended sommelier training in California, to enhance his already extensive wine knowledge, to provide the best possible experience for his customers. Dick was an avid sailor and lived for a time on the Chesapeake Bay, as well as near Mackinac Island on Lake Huron, where he and his wife, Candace, sailed regularly. He was a sports car enthusiast, with emphasis on racing, rallying and, especially, Formula One. He also greatly enjoyed tennis and snow skiing. Dick was predeceased by his father and mother, Emil and Emily Franco of New Canaan, in 2000 and 2001, respectively. He is survived by his beloved wife, Candace Franco of Franklin, OH, his loving daughter, Sarah Butchart, and her husband Ben, of Salisbury, NC, and his two grandsons, Sebastian and Maddox. He also is survived by his sister, Cynthia Franco of Sebastopol, CA, and his brother, Robert Franco and sister-in-law, Sue, of Greensboro, NC. The family will be holding a Celebration of Life for Dick at the Richard Childress Racing Museum in Lexington, NC, on April 27.

ARLENE DUBIAGO

Arlene O. DuBiago (Oslander), 79, passed away peacefully on February 5, at UMass Memorial Hospital. Arlene was the beloved wife of Nicholas DuBiago, with whom she shared 57 wonderful years. She was a devoted mother to her two daughters, Nicole J. DuBiago of New Canaan, CT, and Alanna M. Bodio, and her husband Stephen of Mendon and grandmother to Brayden and Emmalyn Bodio. Born in Middletown, CT, Arlene was the daughter of Joseph and Marion (Hilgert) Oslander. She grew up with her two loving brothers, Joseph and his late wife Florence and Donald, and his wife Noreen, both of Madison, CT, and her sister, Evelyn Barnes and her husband William of Niantic, CT. She took great joy in her extended family and cherished her nieces and nephews, who will forever hold her memory dear. Arlene graduated from Daniel Hand High School in Madison and pursued her passion for education by earning her bachelor’s degree from the University of Connecticut, followed by a master’s degree from SCSU. Arlene’s passion for teaching took on many different roles, with her favorite being the 13 years she spent at Toddler Time Preschool in New Canaan. Arlene was involved in the Junior Women’s Club of Stamford and the Kiwanis Club of Stamford. She was Chairman of the Board of ARI of CT, joined Newcomer’s Club in New Canaan and held various PTO positions in her daughters’ schools. In later years, she was instrumental in the building of South Avenue Cottage and stayed on the board for New Canaan Group Home Inc. as their Secretary. The DuBiago family invites all who knew and loved Arlene to join them in celebrating her life. There will be calling hours on April 24, at Thomas M. Gallagher Funeral Home, 104 Myrtle Avenue, Stamford, CT, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. A celebration of life will be held at Our Lady Star of the Sea, 1200 Shippan Ave., Stamford, CT, on April 25, at 10:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, donations in Arlene’s name may be made to : Alzheimer’s Association or Special Olympics Connecticut.

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

Rotary Club Previews 40th Anniversary Lobsterfest Celebration with Sponsor Reception



The Rotary Club of New Canaan hosted sponsors and volunteers of the 2024 Lobsterfest at a reception held at the New Canaan Museum and Historical Society, where they unveiled plans for the 40th Anniversary Lobsterfest Celebration to be held on September 25 and 26. Guests gathered in the historic Main Street building, enjoying refreshments and conversation as club members detailed the expanded scope of this year's two-day community event. A poster announcing the dates of the upcoming celebration was also unveiled. Club leaders, Rotarians, and community supporters discussed how Lobsterfest proceeds would benefit local nonprofits and service organizations. The gathering also celebrated the Rotary Club's decades-long commitment to service and community engagement. This year's Lobsterfest will continue its tradition of serving thousands of lobster dinners and bringing the community together for live entertainment, children's activities, and family-friendly festivities. Photos from the event captured a cross-section of New Canaan's civic leadership and business community, showcasing the strong partnerships behind the Rotary's signature fundraiser. Photos courtesy of Chieh Jen.



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NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
60 Lakeview Avenue, #1	\$835,000	1,854	\$450.38		3	2
40 E. Maple Street	\$1,495,000	2,084	\$717.37	0.22	4	3
311 S. Bald Hill Road	\$1,495,000	3,148	\$474.90	2.43	4	2
2 Sleepy Hollow Road	\$1,999,000	5,658	\$353.31	2.62	4	3
652 Ponus Ridge	\$3,750,000	7,775	\$482.32	2.00	6	5
208 Canoe Hill Road	\$3,950,000	5,465	\$722.78	3.00	6	6
358 Lukes Wood Road	\$10,995,000	16,008	\$686.84	4.78	7	8

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
187 Park Street #9	\$999,000	\$999,000	\$999,000	90	4	2	
259 New Norwalk Road #7	\$995,000	\$995,000	\$1,225,000	8	3	2	
418 Carter Street	\$1,780,000	\$1,780,000	\$1,700,000	90	7	4	2.64

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
311 S. Bald Hill Road	\$1,495,000	SAT & SUN	1:00-3:00PM	Houlihan Lawrence
40 E. Maple Street	\$1,495,000	SUN	1:00-3:00PM	William Raveis
652 Ponus Ridge	\$3,750,000	SUN	1:00-4:00PM	Coldwell Banker

Smart Homes



BY JOHN ENGEL

What is a smart home? If “smart” means convenience, efficiency, security, and comfort, let’s start with something dumb: the closets, often overlooked. The smartest, most efficient closet I ever saw was Tommy Hilfiger’s in Greenwich back in 2009. I saw only a few white shirts. I thought, *This cannot be*. It wasn’t. Turns out, next to the white shirts were the blue ones, then the pink ones, and so on — hundreds of shirts, travelling up through a gap in the ceiling into the attic on a motorized dry-cleaners conveyor. Closet heaven. The epitome of efficiency and convenience. Rather than enlarge Tommy’s closets to impractical size, let’s put Tommy’s shirts in the attic. Instead of making Tommy climb stairs, bring the clothes to Tommy. Estimated price for a dry-cleaner conveyor installed in your home: \$15k - \$400k. But I ask again, is this a smart home, or just a mechanical one?

Wine cellars are getting smarter and are now so much more than climate-controlled storage. Those in a museum want education: Who made it and when, and why should I care? So too with wine — we enjoy it more when we know the whole story: terroir, grape, vintage and vintner. The very best wine cellars go beyond boring inventory control to tell the story of each bottle, what’s it worth, how reviewed, and when to drink it. Smart homes kick it up a notch: if Chianti is best in Chianti, let’s project a 3D hologram of the Tuscan Hills, Napa Valley, or Mendoza on the glass walls of the cellar. These are cellars to entertain and inform, but are they smart?

Speaking of glass walls, here’s a sidebar. For 99.9% of human history, a wall’s major purpose was to hold up the building. No longer, and not for the last 100 years. When Louis Sullivan ushered in the first “curtain walls” of glass in Chicago, we were free of that convention. Or so Philip Johnson thought when he built a glass house. He said glass walls are the world’s most expensive wallpaper, but Philip didn’t have 3D holograms, so very next level.

Therefore, given curtain walls and technology allowing modular spaces, why have smart homes regressed to stick-built colonials, built out in the weather, one at a time, and not particularly ecologically, economically, or sustainably smart? But I digress.

The National Association of Realtors 2023 “Smart Home Technology Report” found that smart features can increase resale value by 3-5%, saying these features are more valued by Millennials and Gen Z than they are by older buyers. But a May

“What is happiness? It’s a moment before you need more happiness.” – Don Draper, “Mad Men”



2023 WSJ article contradicts this, saying smart tech might make a home more desirable but rarely translates to a proportional increase in sale price. They cite high-end systems like Crestron and Lutron costing \$15,000+ but criticize even simpler, cheaper upgrades like Nest thermostats and Ring cameras as a turn-off. Why? Tech-heavy homes may risk deterring buyers who prefer simple wall switches. Most of us don’t want anything too fussy or complicated, certainly nothing that requires re-education, and when smart is complicated, this is the reason buyers won’t pay up for it.

In 2024, 60% of new condos in Fairfield County offered smart tech, up from 45% in 2023. Homes with smart features sold 20% faster in 2024 (NewHomeSource) and are expected to sell 25% faster this year.

Energy management and fuel efficiency is the biggest driver of smart home technologies. Thermostats know who’s home and what’s the weather outside, and adjust accordingly. It’s considered “smart” to convert from oil (70%-80% efficiency) to cleaner natural gas (90% -98%) or super-high-

efficiency heat pumps (HSPF 10 equals 293% efficiency). My geothermal heating and cooling system (400% efficiency) added about \$50,000 in expense but paid for itself in less than 5 years by reducing fuel bills by nearly \$1,000 per month. An efficient home is a smart home.

Scott Hobbs, custom builder, says “Load Shedding” is a smart home idea. Smart generators employ power-management strategies that ensure critical systems remain powered by prioritizing essential loads (refrigerator, heating) over the hot tub and the dryer and manage increased start-up loads while not having to oversize for unusual conditions.

Is the (\$14,000) Tesla Powerwall 3 (13.5kWh) “smarter” than Scott’s smart generator? Probably. Not only useful during an outage, but when combined with high-efficiency solar panels (\$11,000 for 4kW) and power-management software, it will manage the load as well as schedule your electric vehicle charging after midnight for less and sell the excess power back to the grid. (At 30 cents per kWh, solar payback is currently

7-10 years, only marginally smart.)

Smart speakers are a \$10 billion market, a strong indication of smart home ecosystem adoption. This market is currently dominated by the Amazon Alexa (65% market share, 500 million sold) and Google Nest (23% share), with the Apple Homekit (10% share) a distant third.

Sonos’ \$1.6 billion in sales lead the premium audio space category with an estimated 15-20 million devices in 7-8 million U.S. households, offering multi-room systems priced from \$180 (Roam 2) to \$899 (Arc).

Apple’s HomePod (\$299) targets audiophiles wed to Apple’s Homekit system, while Bose offers high-fidelity sound to Alexa or Google Assistant homes.

How did Amazon win over my mother? With a free hockey-puck sized speaker and mastery of one command: “Alexa, play more Frank Sinatra.” In my house, Apple’s HomeKit turns on lights and music in the morning, changes playlists every two hours, and turns the lights off at bedtime. But it is not smart, merely automated and no smarter than a dimstore mood

ring. I love John Coltrane, but not at bedtime. The WSJ complaint this week that Alexa+ and Apple AI haven’t arrived resonates.

So, what is smart and interesting?

Stiltz is a freestanding compact elevator for your home, \$25,000 installed, and less with a 30% tax credit. Reddit’s spinal cord injury community calls it life-changing.

LaundryJet is a central vac for your laundry, sucking it through 6” tubes in the walls, depositing it in the basement. For those of us who saw Willy Wonka’s Chocolate Factory, this version is child-proof and pet-proof.

Samsung smart refrigerators have touchscreens and interior cameras to check food remotely. Boring. I’ve never seen a smart refrigerator in New Canaan.

Electrochromic glass tints automatically, improving efficiency and eliminating the need for blinds. At \$70 to \$150 per square foot, smart glass is expensive.

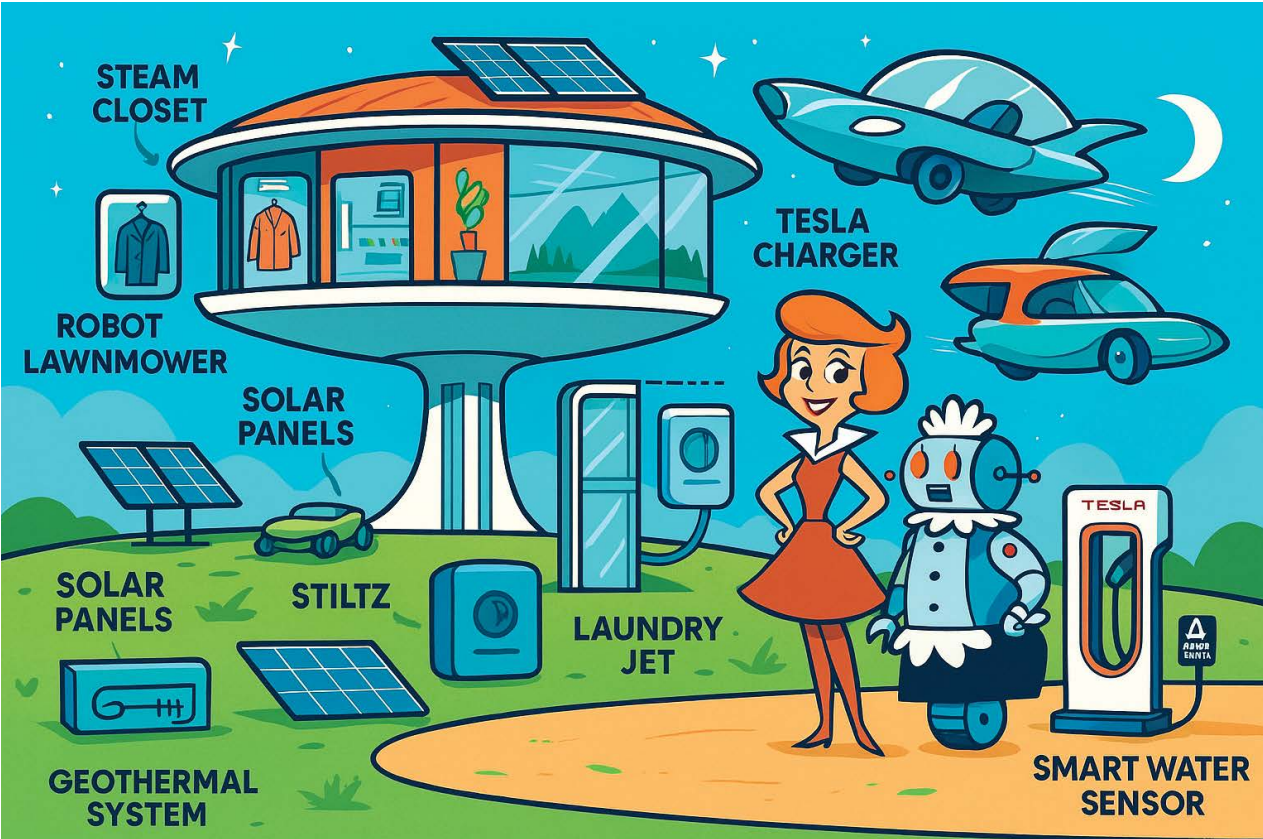
Flo by Moen smart water monitor (\$529 plus install) detects leaks and shuts off the water, thus potentially preventing massive damage. Meredith Bach, now of Howard & Gay Insurance, says it will lower your insurance and is a required feature on many new homes.

The LG Styler steam closet sanitizes, steams, and de-wrinkles clothes. Too bad we’re all dress-down casual and work from home. This was smart back in the 1950’s.

Robot lawn mowers (Husquevarna \$5900), with 3 million sold, have not caught on around here. Smart enough to avoid obstacles and learn boundaries, they’ll silently mow your 2.5 acre lawn with a 50% slope in the same checkerboard pattern as Yankee Stadium. Silently sounds nice.

Since the functions of the smart home so quickly become necessities, the smart home requires constant updating to remain smart and not be taken for granted. It reminds me of a Don Draper quote from Mad Men: “What is happiness? It’s a moment before you need more happiness.”

John Engel says The Engel Team at Douglas Elliman just got a little smarter this week with the addition of Deke Rothfuss, 38-year veteran of Goldman Sachs. If municipal bonds are the quiet librarians of the investment world—reliable, tax-efficient, and a little dull—then real estate is their louder, better-dressed cousin who shows up with blueprints, tax shelters, and an Airbnb side hustle. Muni bonds might fund a school, hospital, or fire station. Real estate is the school, hospital, or house—same town, same benefit, different way to hold value.



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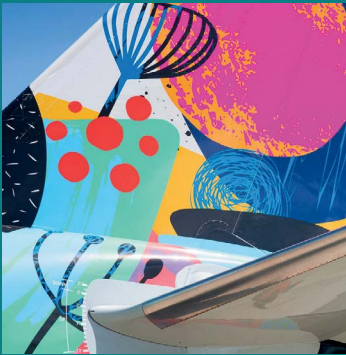


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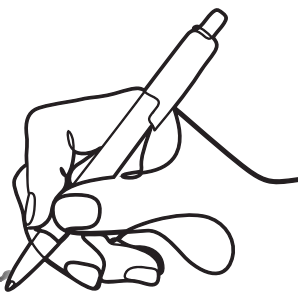


Your Island Escape Awaits.

BERMUDA  AIR

Thank you to all the sophisticates, literary enthusiasts, and very clever Sentinel readers!

Here are the winners in our Cross-Over Contest!



Sentinel Literary Competition

APRIL Writing Challenge #425: Ladybug Paradox

The ladybug is both adored and feared. Its bright red shell with black spots says “I am beautiful”—but also “I am not to be messed with.” It looks like a lucky charm, but it is a silent destroyer of garden pests, devouring thousands of aphids with methodical efficiency. It’s small, but it is armored and poison to potential predators. Quiet, but decisive. This month’s contest explores what it means to hold strength inside softness, to wear camouflage with purpose, and to wield power without fanfare.

For Ages 15 & Under: “More Than I Seem”

Winner receives \$25 and publication in the Sentinel!

Prompt:

In 100 words or fewer, write about a character, animal, or object that’s misunderstood. Maybe it’s underestimated, overlooked, or mistaken for something it’s not. Like the ladybug, it might look harmless—but has a secret strength, a job to do, or a hidden side no one sees. You can write a story, poem, letter, or journal entry. Surprise us with what’s under the surface.

Example 1:

I’ve lived under the floorboard for ninety-three years. Long enough to hear every footstep and forgotten spell in the room above. They think I’m a relic, dropped by accident. But I wasn’t dropped—I was hidden. I’m iron, cold and clever, and I open what must never be opened unless things get really bad. And judging by the sounds last night—the whispering cloaks, the crackling air—it’s getting close. There’s a girl now. She has the gift. She dreams about me. Soon, her heel will catch on the plank. She’ll pull it loose. And I’ll be ready.



Example 2:

They always forget me. Shoved into closets, car trunks, backpacks. I sit quietly, waiting. Then the rain comes. They curse the sky, scowl at the clouds, and finally remember me—useless no more. I rise, unfolding my ribs like wings, shielding hair, shoulders, secrets. No one thanks me. But I hear the whispered relief. I am not flashy. I am not fragile. I am the quiet shield between you and the storm. You think I’m just a thing you carry. But when everything opens up above you, I’m the only thing standing between you and drowning.

For Ages 16 & Up: “Camouflage and Clarity”

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

Prompt: In 250 words or fewer, write a scene, monologue, or vignette about a character who uses perception to their advantage. Maybe they’re underestimated because of their looks, voice, or demeanor. Maybe they hide their power until the moment it’s needed. Like the ladybug, they should move through the world with quiet certainty—capable, strategic, and exact. Show us the moment their message becomes unmistakable. The setting could be a boardroom, a greenhouse, or anywhere in between. The reveal should linger.

Example:

She arrived in Warsaw with two names: one in her passport and one stitched inside her head, like a birthmark.



At the embassy, they referred to her as “the language attaché,” which was as good a euphemism as any. She wore low heels, took her tea without milk, and let the attachés dismiss her as charmingly irrelevant. But she was not irrelevant. She was patient.

She observed.

When the Russian trade delegate’s briefcase disappeared for eight minutes at Chopin Airport, she noted it. When the German cultural attaché suddenly “transferred,” she sent no farewell card—but filed a separate report. The men spoke freely near her. That was the trick, always. To be present but never seen. To smile like a hostess while listening like a wiretap. Tonight, the asset would arrive at the opera. He’d be carrying a red folder and a limp. He would nod twice, then vanish into the crowd. The envelope he left behind would pass through three hands before reaching London.

She would never be thanked.

She wore a coat the color of wine. On the collar: a pin shaped like a ladybug—bright, small, unnoticed. If anyone asked, it was a gift from her niece.

No one ever asked.

And when the world finally shifted, when the lines on the map redrew themselves again, she would still be watching. Still recording. Still dangerous.

Deadline: Midnight, April 27, 2025. Winners announced in the first May 2025 issue.

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



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CUT & GLUE

=LADYBUG=

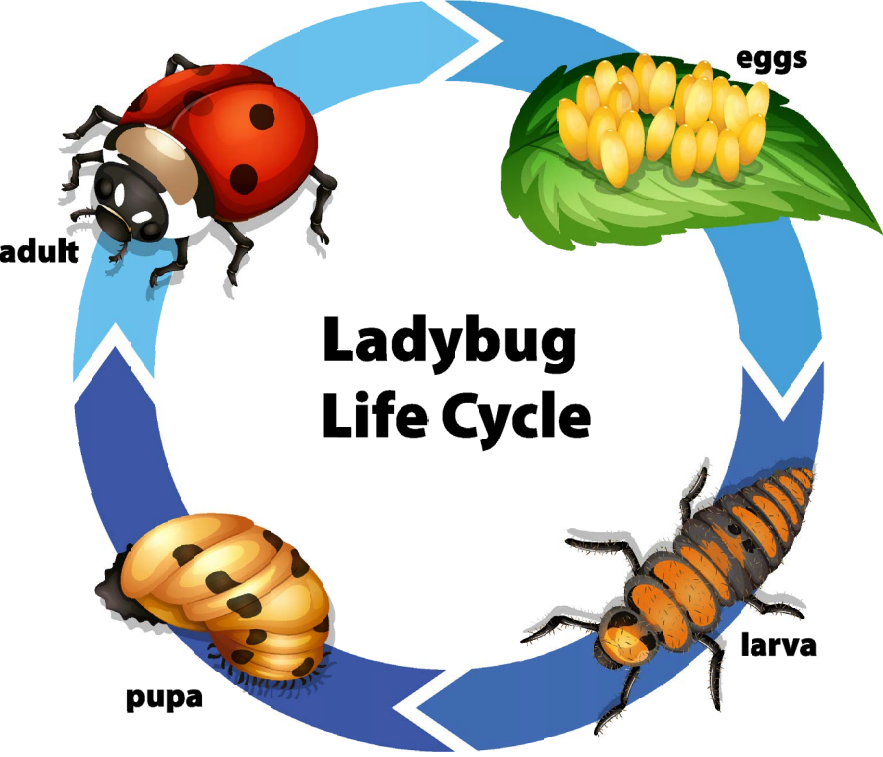
1 cut out

2 glue

A cut and glue activity for a ladybug. It includes a yellow banner with instructions: 'CUT & GLUE', '=LADYBUG=', '1 cut out', and '2 glue'. Below the banner is a circular inset showing a completed ladybug. To the right are the individual pieces to be cut out: two red wing halves with black spots, a black body with two white eyes, six black legs, and a black head.

CROSSWORD FOR KIDS

A crossword puzzle for kids with illustrations of insects and a legend. The legend lists: 1. Butterfly, 2. Mushroom, 3. Bug, 4. Flower, 5. Ladybug, 6. Frog. The crossword grid has the following letters filled in: Row 1: 1 Across (Butterfly), 2 Down (Mushroom), 3 Across (Bug), 4 Across (Flower), 5 Down (Ladybug), 6 Down (Frog). The grid is 6 rows by 10 columns.



+ =

+ + = 10

- = 1

= ?

Learn to Sketch Ladybugs Like a Pro

A step-by-step drawing tutorial for a ladybug. It shows 10 numbered steps: 1. Circle, 2. Add head, 3. Add antennae, 4. Add eyes, 5. Add legs, 6. Add spots, 7. Add spots, 8. Add spots, 9. Add spots, 10. Final colored ladybug. Below the steps is a grey box with the text 'Step by step drawing tutorial'.

How to draw a ladybird

A series of five numbered steps showing how to draw a ladybird. Step 1: A semi-circle. Step 2: A vertical line down the center. Step 3: A line across the bottom. Step 4: A line across the top. Step 5: A line across the bottom. Below the steps is a grey box with the text 'Count and Write'.

Connect the dots

A connect the dots puzzle for a ladybug. It shows a ladybug with numbered dots from 1 to 18. The puzzle is a black and white line drawing of a ladybug.

HOW MANY ?

A counting activity for insects. It shows a garden scene with various insects: ladybugs, bees, butterflies, and snails. Below the scene are five boxes for counting: , , , , and .

Count and Write

A counting activity for insects. It shows five rows of insects: 1. 4 bees, 2. 3 butterflies, 3. 1 caterpillar, 4. 5 ladybugs, 5. 2 snails. To the right of each row is a box for writing the count: .

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

TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 15

[Board of Selectmen](#)
8:30-9:30 a.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom

[EMS Commission](#)
6-7 p.m., NCEMS Headquarters

Wednesday, April 16

[Housing Authority](#)
5:30-6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room

[Police Commission](#)
6-7 p.m., Town Hall

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.

Computer Basics: Tech Security
2 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
In this class, learn how to identify and protect yourself from common internet scams. You will also learn about the benefits of two-factor authentication, antivirus software, and how to create strong passwords. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/computer-basics-tech-security-135937>.

Dancing through the Ages: The History of Dance with Fred Astaire Dance Instructors
6-8 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society
Join this event to learn, observe and discuss dancing throughout history as taught by Amy and Marko, the owners of the newly opened, Fred Astaire Dance Studio on Main Street. Learn the Virginia Reel, a Waltz from the Civil War Era, the 1970's Hustle, and some fun line dancing of today. Refreshments and a demonstration by the pros will complete the evening. Tickets are \$25/museum members, \$40/non-members, and available at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/9bw4ap7>.

April 12

Opening Reception: Impressionism Then and Now
3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Lightburn Gallery
Celebrate the opening of the Spring/Summer 2025 exhibition, Impressionism Then and Now: Dmitri Wright and the American Lineage. Featuring historic works of American Impressionism as well as contemporary pieces continuing the tradition, this is a personal story of Impressionism told and seen through one painter’s journey. Register at <https://shorturl.at/Lt9ll>.

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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

VITA Free Tax Preparation
11 AM- 5 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Get your 2024 taxes filed for free at New Canaan Library through SimplifyCT. SimplifyCT uses VITA, a secure, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) certified program that’s been developed to connect individuals to volunteer IRS certified tax preparers who can give you advice and file your taxes. Drop-ins are welcome. Register at <https://shorturl.at/KDebZ>.

Chair Yoga
11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
With the support of a chair, this gentle Chair Yoga class will help you improve postural alignment, maintain pelvic mobility, reduce muscle tension and gain strength through flowing movements and focused breathing. Register at <https://shorturl.at/r9giz>.

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.

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.

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.

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

SAVE THE DATE

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

NO COFFEE AND CONVERSATION 8:30 – 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center

April 21

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.

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.

Local Water Conditions and Conservation
11 AM at the New Canaan Library, Community Room
Join a conversation between local water experts on the condition of our local waterways and aquifers, and why conservation is necessary for biodiversity and supplies of clean water for our consumption. This program is co-sponsored by Planet New Canaan and the New Canaan Land Trust as part of Earth Month: New Canaan Celebrates Biodiversity. Register at <https://shorturl.at/GEAqx>.

Lunch & Learn: Susan Guerrero on her father photographer Pedro Guerrero
12 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society
Bring your lunch and hear from Susan Guerrero, the daughter of Pedro Guerrero. Pedro was an internationally famous architectural photographer. He was known for his interior and exterior photos of these mid-century masterpieces. Tickets are free for members, \$10/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/zxypl>.

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.

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/>.

Baseball and the Rise of a New City with Best-Selling Author Kevin Baker
7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Join historian Kevin Baker as he talks about the hugely entertaining history of baseball and New York City. Bursting with larger-than-life figures and fascinating stories from the game’s beginnings to the end of World War II, was voted Sports Illustrated #1 Book of 2024. Register at <https://shorturl.at/ll79V>.

April 25

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.

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>.

Open Morning for Writers
10:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
Open Morning for Writers is a quiet writing space for writers. There will not be any instruction or talking in the room. Bring your pens, your notebooks, or computers (with power cords) to write for one and a half hours without distractions. New and emerging writers are welcome; prompts will be on hand in the room for anyone needing inspiration on a new project. Register at <https://shorturl.at/iloOO>.

Principles of Cooking: Fish
11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Kend Kitchen + Community Room
Take your fish cooking skills to the next level in this hands-on demonstration-style class. Whether you want to cook a weeknight meal or impress guests with restaurant-quality meals, this class will give you the skills you need. Register at <https://shorturl.at/cCgzO>.

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>.

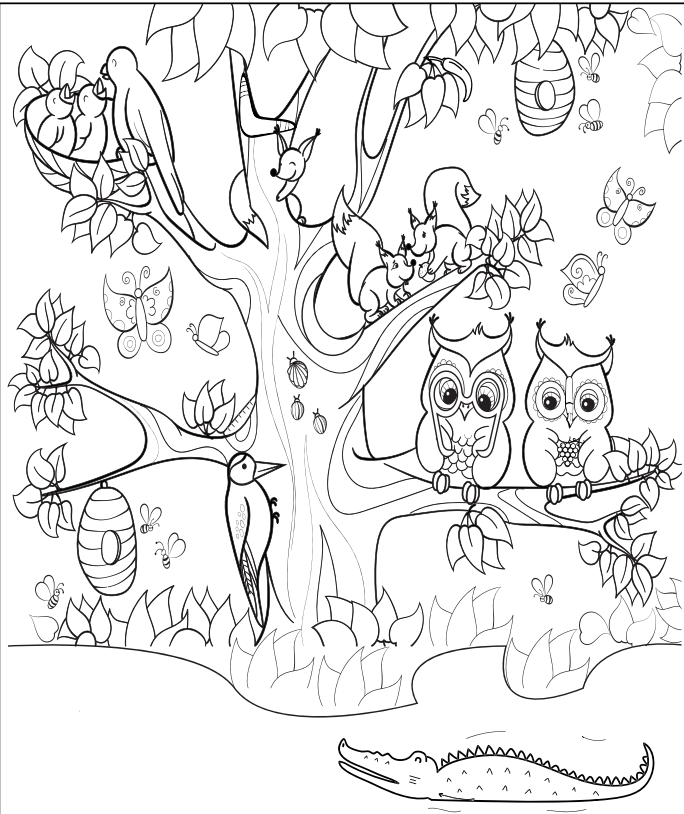
The Importance of Being Earnest
7:30 PM at Powerhouse Theatre
The esteemed Oscar Wilde’s most well-known comedy, The Importance of Being Earnest, is rich with love, banter, friendship, and conflict. This whirlwind of complex relationships and comedic commentary is a show you don’t want to miss. Tickets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

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Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

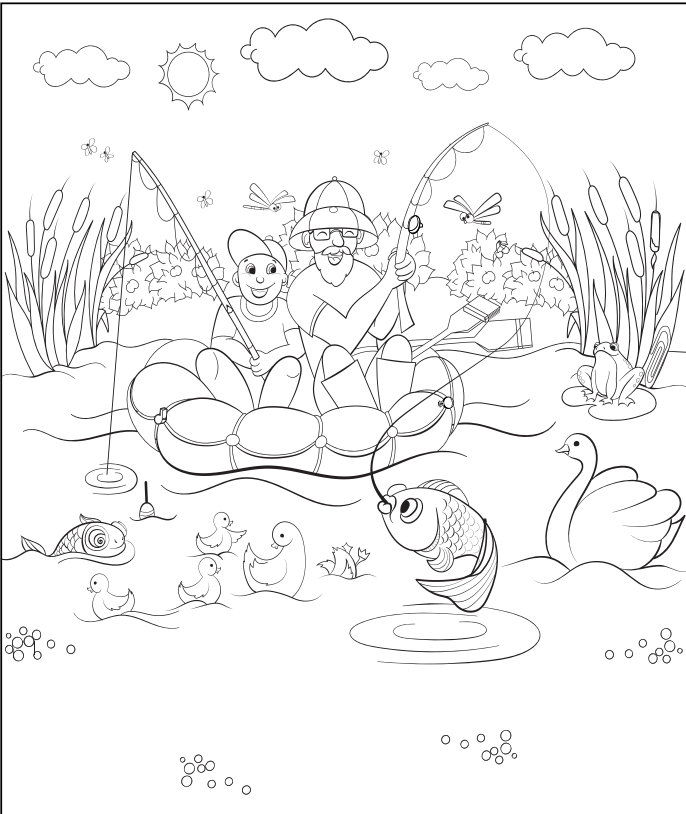
<p>April 27</p> <p>Open-ended Art Exploration with Barbara Rucci 12-2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Arlene H. Grushkin Children's Program Room Families can drop in to make art with Barbara Rucci. There will be three different art stations where you can explore your creativity. No registration needed, this is a drop-in program.</p> <p>Picnic-Palooza 12:30-2:30 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society Pack your picnic, blanket and favorite stuffed animal and go to Picnic Palooza. There will be Jumpin' Jams, Old Faithful firetruck rides, games, craft and more. Register at https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/x6ngce8.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>April 28</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>April 29</p> <p>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</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>April 30</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>An Evening with Former U.S. Ambassador to Russia, John Sullivan 6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium Join for a conversation with John Sullivan, former U.S. Ambassador to Russia, as he shares insights from his tenure during one of the most tumultuous periods in U.S.-Russia relations. With decades of experience in diplomacy and public service, Ambassador Sullivan will discuss key moments from his time in Moscow, the challenges of international diplomacy, and the future of global relations. Register at https://shorturl.at/NGU4F.</p> <p>May 1</p> <p>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.</p> <p>May 2</p> <p>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.</p> <p>May 3</p> <p>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.</p> <p>May 8</p> <p>Ask the Attorney with Nedder and Associates, by appointment</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Quilling Art Class 6:30-8 PM at the Little Plucky Join a fun evening exploring an ancient art form some believe has been around since 105AD. Create your own modern twist by using thin paper rolled up to make different shapes and designs. A shadow box will be provided to hang your work of art. Enjoy some nibbles, some bubbly while creating your own piece of art to keep or give to a loved one.</p> <p>May 9</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>May 10</p> <p>Under The Sea Gala 6:30 PM at the Maritime Aquarium Join The Summer Theatre of New Canaan for their 22nd Anniversary Gala, an unforgettable "Under the Sea" celebration. Enjoy an evening with cocktails and a delightful meal. The night's honorees will be philanthropists Robert Miller and Kathy Klingenstein, along with Broadway's Arbender Robinson. The evening will feature performances by stars of the Summer Theatre's upcoming Broadway production of Disney's The Little Mermaid. Tickets are available at https://stonc.org/under-the-sea-gala/.</p> <p>May 14</p> <p>Lunch & Learn: Chris Schipper of New Canaan Land Trust 12 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society Bring your brown bag lunch, snack or soup and hear from Chris Schipper</p>	<p>of the New Canaan Land Trust who will discuss the importance of the Grupes House. The property abuts the Grupes Reservoir and connects directly to the Browne Preserve, one of the first properties to come under the protection of the Land Trust. It will now be the new headquarters for NCLT. Register at https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/348e3he.</p> <p>May 16</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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/.</p> <p>May 19</p> <p>2025 Community Cup 12 PM at the Silvermine Golf Club The New Canaan Chamber of Commerce, and the Rotary Clubs of New Canaan and Stamford are combining efforts this year to host the 2025 Community Cup - a charity golf event. The afternoon will begin with a barbecue lunch followed by a shotgun start and played in a "Shamble" format. There will be a casual cocktail party and buffet dinner after the 18-hole tournament. For more information and to sign up, visit https://newcanaanchamber.com/2025/03/24/2025-community-cup-sign-up/.</p> <p>May 20</p> <p>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.</p> <p>May 30</p> <p>Celebrate New Canaan: Annual Gala 25 10 AM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society Join under moonlight for the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society's annual gala and fundraiser. Dance to the music of Fake ID Band and dine on delicious food prepared by Diane Browne Catering. There will be cigars and spirit tastings on the Historic Trail. Register at https://nchistory.org/celebrate-new-canaan-annual-gala-25/.</p> <p>BLOOD DRIVES</p> <p>Thursday, April 10 Holy Spirit Church 403 Scofieldtown Road</p>	<p>Stamford, CT 06903 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM</p> <p>Friday, April 11 United Church of Rowayton 210 Rowayton Ave Norwalk, CT 06853 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM</p> <p>Monday, April 14 UCONN One University Place Stamford, CT 06901 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM</p> <p>Wednesday, April 16 Masonic Lodge DARIEN 354 Post Road Darien, CT 06820 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Merritt 7 501 Main Avenue Norwalk, CT 06856 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM</p> <p>Friday, April 18 St. Philip's Church 25 France Street Norwalk, CT 06851 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Saturday, April 19 Union Baptist Church 805 Newfield Avenue Stamford, CT 06905 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM</p> <p>Support Services & Meetings</p> <p>April 23</p> <p>The Power of Collaboration: Fostering Family Support for Teen Success! 6:45 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium This free program will discuss parenting high school students in regard to positive health, academic, and social decisions for their teen years and their future. Panelists will also offer teens practical coping strategies for self-care and stress management that can be applied during their high school experience. Register at https://shorturl.at/zndHk.</p> <p>April 25</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Every Friday AA Speaker Meeting Wheelchair Access Fridays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan</p> <p>Every Saturday AA Meeting-Sober Citizens Group Saturdays at 9:15 AM First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan</p> <p>AA Meeting-Laundry and Dry Cleaning Group Saturdays at 10:30 AM First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan</p> <p>Lost Then Found NA Meeting Wheelchair Accessible Saturdays at 7 PM</p>	<p>United Methodist Church (back entrance)</p> <p>Every Monday</p> <p>AA Meeting Wheelchair Access Mondays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan</p> <p>Adult Child Al-Anon Meeting Mondays at 12 PM St. Mark's Church, Youth Room</p> <p>Every Tuesday</p> <p>Adult Child Alanon Meeting Tuesdays at 12 PM St. Mark's Parish House, Conf. Room</p> <p>Every Wednesday</p> <p>AA Step Meeting Wheelchair Access Wednesdays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan</p> <p>Al-Anon Parent's & Newcomer's Mtg. Wednesdays at 7:30 PM Silver Hill, Jorgenson House 208 Valley Rd., New Canaan Every Thursday</p> <p>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</p> <p>Our Neighbors</p> <p>April 13</p> <p>Cars and Coffee Darien Season Opener 6:30 AM at the Old Kings Market 25 Old Kings Hwy S, Darien Join a Sunday morning cars and coffee with a car show. Gates open at 6:30 am. To be eligible for an award, your car must be on the field by 7:30 am. Judging begins at 8 am. Awards will be awarded at 10 am. More information is available at https://shorturl.at/0UmQ7.</p> <p></p> <p>April 24</p> <p>Me, Myself & Barbbra with Jenna Pastuszek 7 PM at the Wesport Country Playhouse 25 Powers Court, Westport Attend an evening a lifetime in the making featuring the music of Barbra Streisand. There will be a pre-show cocktail party. Tickets are available at https://shorturl.at/3VySV.</p> <p>May 16</p> <p>The Palace's 13th Annual Gala, Featuring Kool & The Gang 5:30 PM at the Stamford Palace Theatre 61 Atlantic St, Stamford Celebrate the arts, arts education, and Honorees Lynne Colatrella and Michael Fedele. Tickets to this pre-show celebration include: Premium orchestra seating for Kool & the Gang show, open bar, a silent auction, and more. Tickets are available at https://shorturl.at/najpqq.</p>
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Find and color.



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- glasses
- dividing pen
- moon
- arrow
- pepper
- protractor
- boomerang
- ice cream
- grape
- sea shell



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- book
- ring
- bell
- candle
- cherry
- crown
- pencil
- paper clip
- whistle
- banana
- glasses



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- walking stick
- stairs
- binoculars
- bread
- wishbone
- golf club
- snake
- sausage
- funnel
- magnifying glass

Sudoku for Kids

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

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

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Easy

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Hard

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	2			3		9		
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Very Hard

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Easy

	5	3						4
			6	8				
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Hard

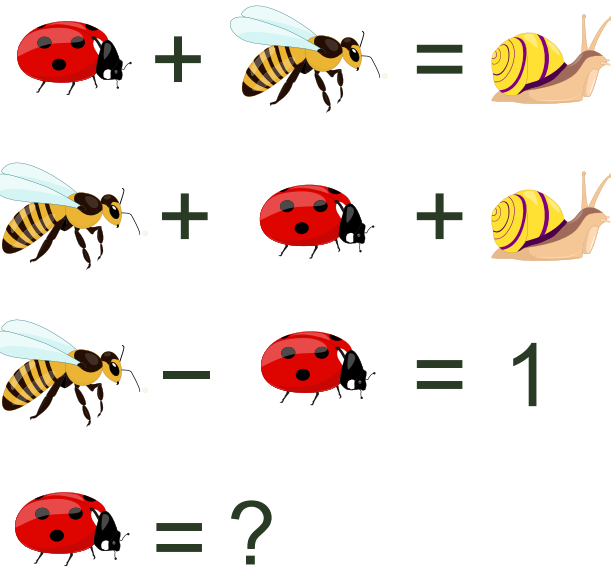
2				6				
			3	1		2	6	
8	6	1						3
7			8	3				
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Very Hard

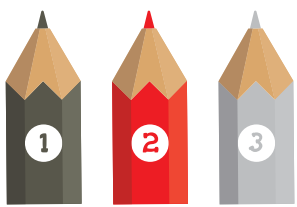
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			6	7	4			
2								3
		4	7		2	1		
5	6						2	7
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1								8
8	3	9	2	1	6	7	4	5


Sudoku answers

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




A cartoon ladybug character with a large, round body. The body is divided into sections with numbers: the head has a '1' on the forehead and a '2' on the antenna; the thorax has a '2' on the upper part and two '1's on the lower part; the abdomen has two '1's on the sides and a '3' on the bottom. The legs are numbered: the front legs have '2's on the upper segments and '3's on the lower segments; the hind legs have '2's on the lower segments. The ladybug has a single eye, antennae, and a small tail-like appendage.



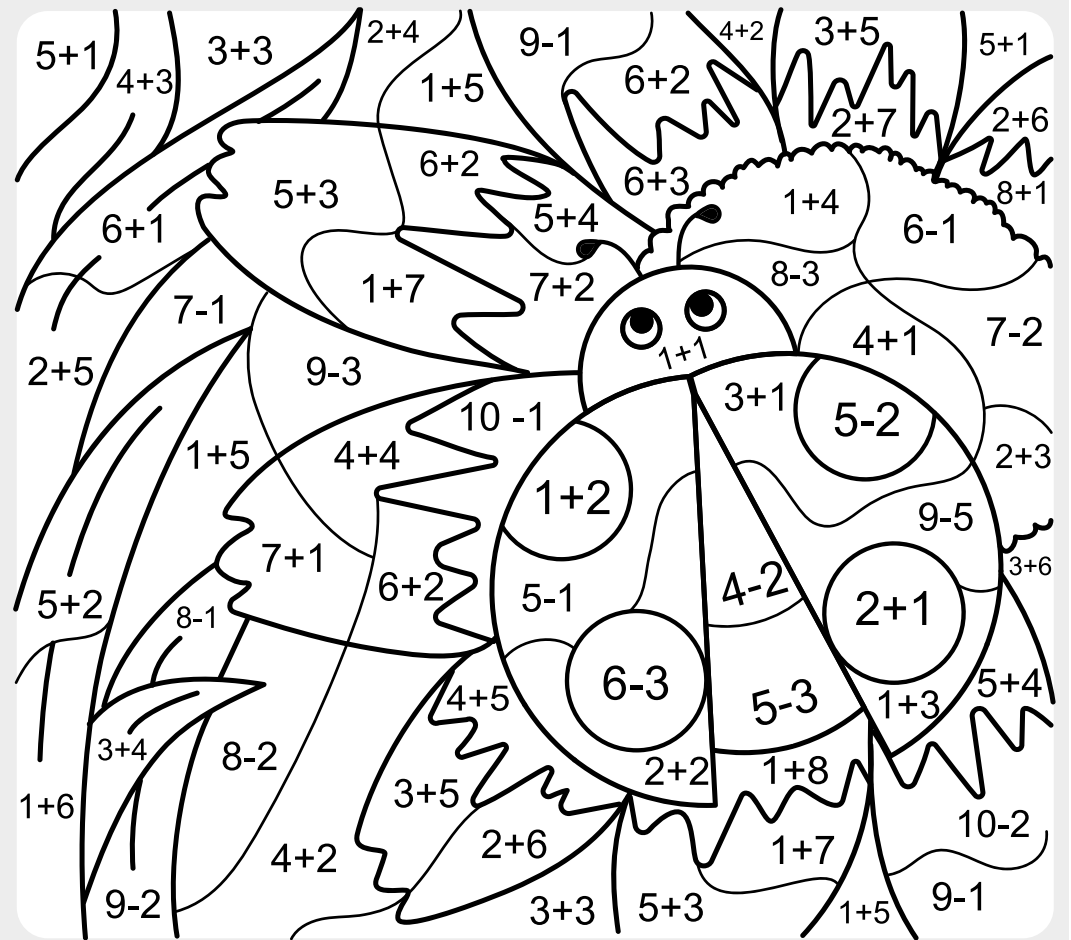
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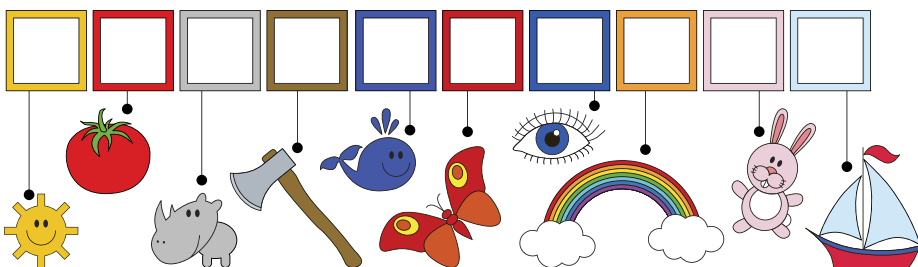
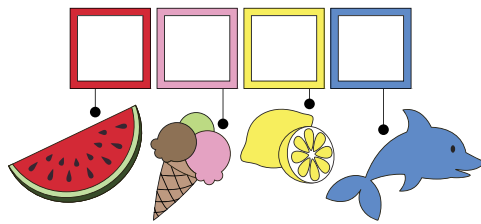
7 = 

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A simple line drawing of a strawberry plant. It features a central vertical stem with two curved branches extending to the left and right. On the left branch, there is a large strawberry with a green leafy top and a green three-lobed leaf below it. On the right branch, there are two strawberries, one above the other, both with green leafy tops. The strawberries are red with small yellow seeds.



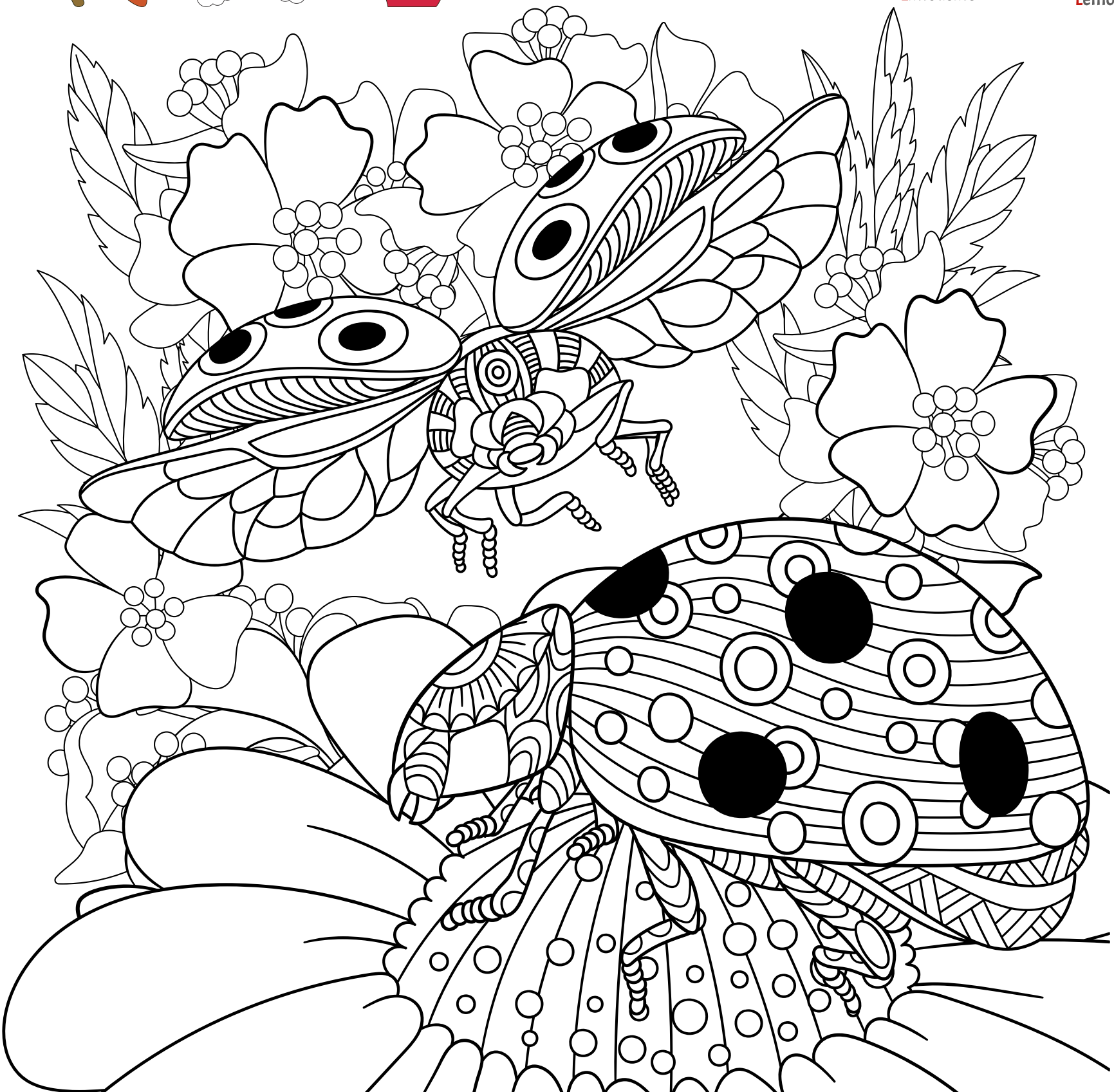
MINI GAME FOR KIDS



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



Color This Ladybug Mandala



Nature’s Tiny Terminator

Most of us see a ladybug and smile. We regard it as a cheery emblem of garden charm, a red-dotted lucky penny of the insect world. But what if I told you that behind those polka-dotted wings lies the heart of a cold-blooded killer?

The ladybug—more properly, the lady beetle—is no flower-hopping pacifist. It is, in fact, one of the most formidable insect predators in the garden. Armed with a voracious appetite and a jaw structure that would make a shark blush, the ladybug is nature’s armored tank in miniature, designed for one thing: the annihilation of harmful aphids.

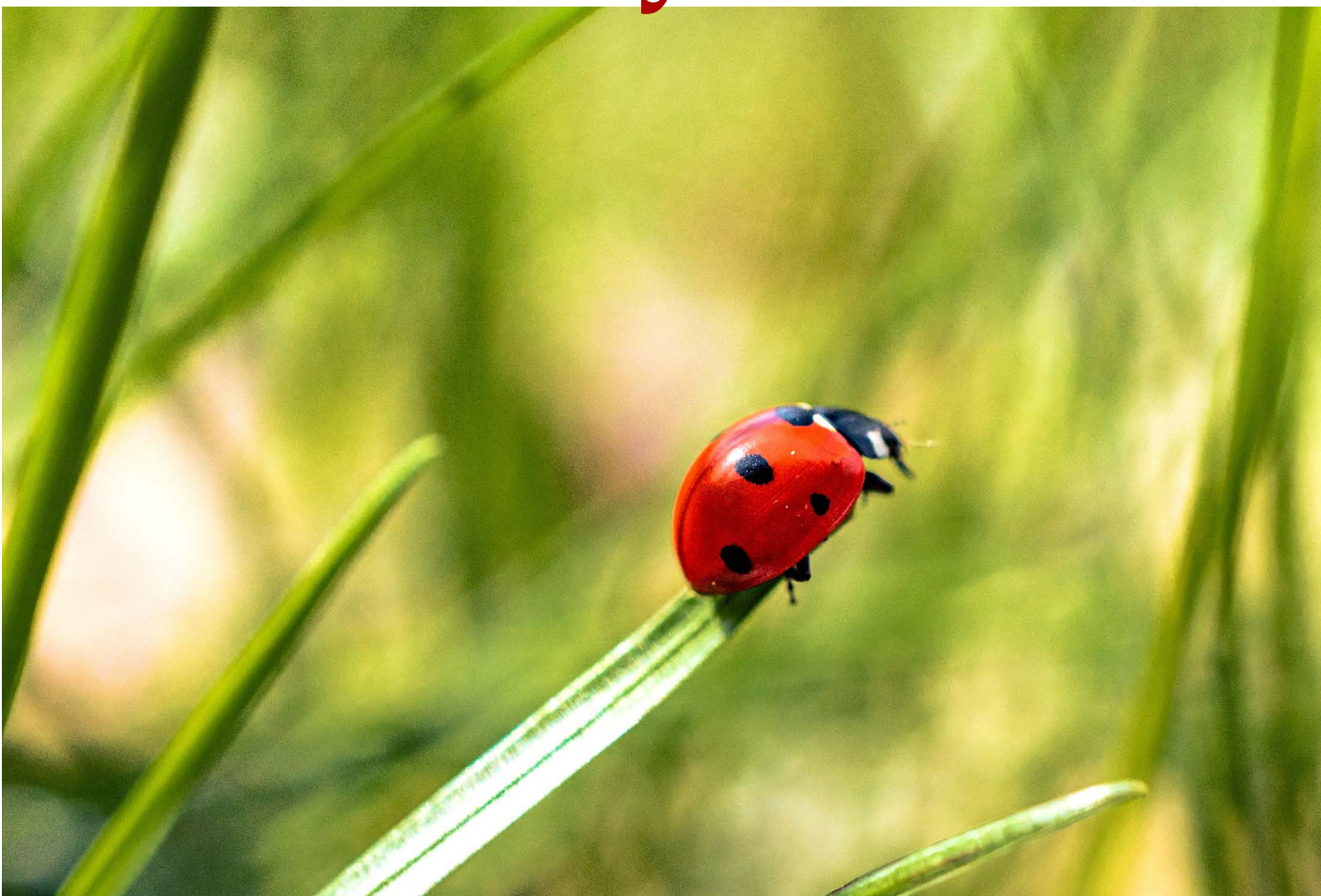
A single ladybug can consume up to 5,000 aphids in its lifetime. That’s not a typo. According to entomologists at the University of California’s Integrated Pest Management Program, both adult ladybugs and their larvae actively hunt aphids, scale insects, and mites—soft-bodied pests that ravage everything from rose bushes to tomato plants. These miniature monsters may be only a few millimeters long, but they are relentless and methodical.

Ladybug larvae resemble tiny alligators—elongated, dark, spiky—and they begin hunting shortly after hatching. They don’t wait for a meal to fall into their laps. They patrol, sniff out their prey, and dismantle it with needle-pointed mandibles. Gardeners may not recognize these juveniles at first glance, but to aphids, they are the grim reapers of the foliage.

Their reputation as aphid assassins has not gone unnoticed. Farmers and organic growers deploy them like mercenaries. In greenhouses and orchards, crates of ladybugs are released as natural pest control agents, sparing crops from chemical pesticides. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has supported ladybug releases for decades, especially in citrus orchards and alfalfa fields.

The species we most often see here in Greenwich is the seven-spotted lady beetle, *Coccinella septempunctata*, an import from Europe brought over in the 1970s. It quickly established itself, outcompeting some native species but succeeding in one key mission—wiping out pests that decimate local flora.

Yet not all is rosy in the realm of the ladybug. The Asian multicolored lady beetle, *Harmonia axyridis*, introduced as a biological control agent, has shown a tendency to overstay its



Ladybug eating aphids.



The Asian Lady Beetle mimics the Lady Bug but invades homes in the fall, has an acrid odor, and has the potential to bite humans.

in the battle for balance in our backyard ecosystems.

Other insects and animals tend to avoid eating ladybugs because they are chemically defended and visually advertised as unappetizing. The vivid red or orange coloration with black spots functions as aposematic signaling—a biological warning that says, Don’t eat me. I taste terrible.

When threatened, a ladybug can engage in a process called reflex bleeding, excreting small droplets of yellowish, foul-smelling hemolymph (insect blood) from its leg joints. This fluid contains toxic alkaloids such as coccinelline, which taste bitter and can induce vomiting in predators. According to research published by the Entomological Society of America, even one bite of a ladybug can condition a bird or lizard to avoid similarly colored insects in the future.

Birds, frogs, and other insectivores learn quickly to associate ladybugs’ distinctive coloration with discomfort. Once a blue jay or a toad experiences the consequences of sampling one, it typically avoids all similar-looking beetles, leading to evolved mimicry in other insects that imitate ladybug coloring for protection.

The ladybug’s success isn’t rooted in brute strength but in strategic defense. It announces its presence like a biological billboard, warns with color, and defends with toxins. Most of the natural world takes the hint.

But perhaps what’s most remarkable about the ladybug is not its kill count—it’s its adaptability. The ladybug thrives across continents, in climates ranging from arid scrublands to northern forests. Its success lies in its resilience, its efficiency, and its ability to blend into the world without drawing undue attention until it’s time to act.

There’s a lesson here for us. In a world that rewards loudness and spectacle, the ladybug shows the strength of quiet effectiveness. It reminds us that success doesn’t always roar. Sometimes it crawls forward deliberately, eyes fixed on the target, doing the work while others overlook it. The ladybug wastes nothing. It’s agile, opportunistic, and mission-driven—qualities we’d be wise to emulate.

From the boardroom to the backyard, the message is the same: perception matters, stay focused, remain adaptable, and never underestimate the power of patient, determined pursuit. It’s the ladybug’s world—we’re just borrowing a few leaves of it.

The ladybug thrives because it sends a clear, unmistakable signal about what it is. It wears its colors like a manifesto: bold, unapologetic, and impossible to misread. To predators, it says, “Touch me and regret it.” To humans, “Trust me, I’m helpful.”

People can adopt this strategy by learning to broadcast their core values and non-negotiables without apology. When your intentions and boundaries are clear, those inclined to exploit or oppose you often choose not to.

Meanwhile, the Ladybug quietly destroys entire colonies of aphids, protecting flowers and crops. Similarly, people can focus on meaningful work, making themselves legible to allies and unappealing to adversaries.

The ladybug proves that clarity of message is powerful—and that strength can wear a beautiful shell while delivering precision and impact beneath it.

