

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

POLICE AND FIRE

Safe Driving Week

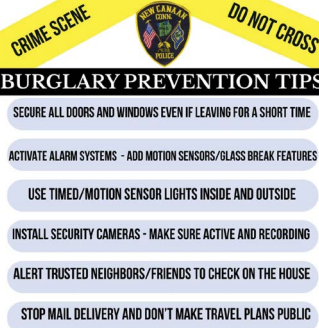
New Canaan High School will hold Safe Driving Week from April 21-25 to raise awareness about distracted and impaired driving. The event is organized by School Resource Officer Shane Gibson, the NCPD School Resource Officers, Youth Services Division, and patrol officers.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Event



New Canaan will host a prescription drug take-back event on April 26, from 10 am to 1 pm outside Town Hall. The event is part of the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day and is organized by the New Canaan Police Department and New Canaan Cares. A permanent medication drop-box is also available at the police station. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

Burglary Prevention



New Canaan Police have responded to five residential burglaries over the past six weeks. Residents are encouraged to review burglary prevention tips, report any suspicious activity, and use available services such as security assessments and vacation house checks. For more information or to request assistance, call 203-594-3500. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

Animal Control Appreciation Week



This past week was Animal Control Appreciation Week, during which Officer Sean Godejohn was recognized for his work in New Canaan. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



May Fair Returns to St. Mark's

By ELIZABETH BARHYDT

St. Mark's Episcopal Church will host its 76th annual May Fair from May 8 to May 10, marking a Mother's Day weekend tradition that draws thousands from New Canaan and nearby towns. The three-day event includes a ticketed preview party, carnival rides, food, entertainment, and the popular White Elephant Tag Sale. All proceeds benefit the church's outreach programs and grants to local nonprofits.

The festivities begin Thursday, May 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. with the White Elephant Preview Party, a ticketed event for ages 21 and older. Attendees will receive two drink tickets and early access to shop donated goods, from artwork and jewelry to linens and sporting equipment. Tickets, priced at \$50, go on sale April 21 on the May Fair website.

Friday's "Night Lights" event runs from 5 to 10 p.m. and features unlimited amusement rides with the purchase of a \$35 wristband, available beginning at 4 p.m. More than 20 rides—including Zero

Gravity, The Tornado, and Cliffhanger—will line the midway. Face painting, barbecue from the Holy Smokers, and St. Mark's famous strawberry shortcake round out the evening offerings.

Saturday's main fair is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with rides continuing until 6 p.m. Visitors can browse tents selling books, toys, plants, and outdoor goods, while enjoying a variety of local foods, including wood-fired pizza, brisnet, corn on the cob, and ice cream. The original Strawberry Festival shortcake will be available Friday and Saturday while supplies last.

Live entertainment on Saturday begins at 11:30 a.m. with the New Canaan Town Band, followed by the Pivot Ministries Choir at 12:30 p.m. The 3rd Annual May Fair Dog Show starts at 1:30 p.m., open to all canine contestants regardless of breed or talent level. Participants may register by emailing their contact and dog details to msilvermine@gmail.com.

Children and families can take a ride on "Old Faithful," New Canaan's

antique fire engine, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Face painting returns throughout the day. A plant tent will offer a variety of selections for last-minute Mother's Day gifts.

Shuttle service provided by GetAbout New Canaan will run from the Lumberyard Parking Lot on Friday evening and throughout the day Saturday.

May Fair Chair John Kennedy, Jr. emphasized the role of community volunteers in organizing the event. "My biggest takeaway has been the importance of people," he said. "It's the special bond among volunteers that unites us and strengthens our community."

The fair began in 1949 as the Strawberry Festival and is now one of the largest annual events in New Canaan. More than 500 volunteers contribute to its success each year. All proceeds fund the ministries of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and provide grants to nonprofits assisting those in need.

COLUMN

What's Happening in Theaters Around Us?



By Tom Nissley,
for the Ridgelea
Reports on
Theatre.

The most important number that you can see this week is Curt Call's splendid production of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes." It's an amazing show with vibrant and just plain excellent

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Public Energy Forum 4/22

Senator Ryan Fazio (R-36) and Representative Tom O'Dea (R-125) will host a public forum on energy costs and policy at the New Canaan Library on Tuesday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m. The event is part of a statewide tour by lawmakers to present alternatives to current

energy policies

Senator Fazio, ranking member of the Energy & Technology Committee, has proposed the Consumers First Act, a plan aimed at reducing electricity rates. The plan includes eliminating the public benefits charge on electric bills. The forum

will provide residents an opportunity to engage directly with their legislators on energy policy. The event is open to the public, and no registration is required.

For more information, visit the New Canaan Library's website at www.newcanaanlibrary.org.

PLEASE NOTE

There is no
Sentinel
coffee this
Friday.

Thank you!

COLUMN

Christmas Trees

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

A Christmas tree is glittery and beautiful, and unaware that it has been cut off just above the roots. Similarly, we humans enjoy decorating ourselves with clothing, social status, accomplishments, and possessions. It is good to enjoy these things. Just remember that they are decorations. They are not our real substance.

Friendship, family, faith, and service to others—these are substance, not decoration. They are the roots

that help us flourish. They provide meaning, connection, and purpose.

Fashions and fame, like decorated Christmas trees, are only with us for a season. People of substance, like healthy trees, grow for many years and give shelter and shade to others.

Alyssa refers to friends who remind her of Christmas trees as "shiny people." These are people she can't get close to because they are intent on impressing her with their beautiful lives. She decided for herself to focus on being a blessing to her friends



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

instead of impressing them. As she did so, the roots of her confidence and well-being grew deeper.

COLUMN



By DIONNA CARLSON

Final Budget, Town Activities and Celebrating America 250

As we move into the heart of spring, the annual budget process draws to a close. The Town Council has completed its review of both the Town and Board of Education budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. After thoughtful deliberation, the Council approved an increase of 3.47% to the General Fund Budget and a 4.24% increase in the amount to be raised by taxation. This ensures we can continue providing essential services while investing in the future of our community. The full Town Council Approved Operating and Capital Budgets for FY 2025-26 can be found at the Finance Department homepage at www.newcanaan.info/Departments/Finance

The Board of Finance will set the mill rate for property taxes at its meeting in June, and we will keep you informed as we move forward.

Town and Community Activities

Spring brings with it an exciting season of community activities! In partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Planet New Canaan, we are promoting Clean Your Mile from April 21st to April 27th. This initiative is a fantastic opportunity for residents to come together and help clean up our beautiful town.

Clean Your Mile effort has three key components: New Canaan families picking up roadside trash in neighborhoods; community groups scouring public spaces including parks and schools; and merchants cleaning up sidewalks, storage areas and parking spaces in the downtown village district. The Board of Selectmen will be participating on Earth Day, April 22nd, by cleaning an area around Town Hall. Whether you join with your neighbors, a community group, or your own team, let's make New Canaan sparkle this spring.

Another beloved New Canaan tradition is the 34th Annual George Cogswell Memorial Fishing Derby on April 26th. A heartfelt thank you to the Police Benevolent Association, Highway Department, and Parks and Recreation Department for their continued support in making this event possible and free-of-charge each year. Mill Pond will be stocked with trout prior to the event, bait will be provided, and there will be prizes. Anglers aged 15 and younger are invited to participate. Join the fun and register at newcanaan.info and click on Departments, Recreation, Register, and Programs.

America 250 Celebration

Looking ahead, we are also beginning plans to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States, which will take place between Flag Day (June 14, 2026) and Veterans Day (November 11, 2026). Two Lights for Tomorrow is the nationwide kickoff of the celebrations, and we encourage everyone to participate by placing two lights in your windows this Friday, April 18th, to honor the 1775 overnight ride of Paul Revere.

To further support the national, regional and local efforts to commemorate our nation's 250th Anniversary, we have established a New Canaan America 250 Planning Committee with 18 members from across town organizations and chaired by Administrative Officer Tucker Murphy. The group is organizing a series of local events to honor New Canaan's history, community spirit and contributions to America's story. Opportunities for local organizations to participate include exhibits, historical reenactments, lectures, walking tours of local landmarks, participating in the Fourth of July Parade, showcasing art inspired by American history, and organizing town-wide celebrations. All events will be included in a New Canaan 250th calendar on newcanaan.info, and participants will have access to the official New Canaan 250th logo for marketing.

Finally, it's not too early to prepare for summer! Be sure to purchase your passes for the Benko Pool, Mead Park Pickleball and Tennis, and Kiwanis Beach at newcanaan.info and click on Departments, Recreation, Register, and Programs.

Dionna Carlson is the New Canaan First Selectman. Her leadership is guided by a respect for local decision-making and a commitment to keeping residents informed and engaged. Read more from Dionna each month by subscribing to her email newsletter, *News From Town Hall*. To sign up to receive the newsletter visit newcanaan.info and click on the red bar at top, *Sign Up For Alerts*. To read the current issue of the newsletter visit newcanaan.info and click on the yellow bar at top, *News From Town Hall*.



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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 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
christiansciencect.org/newcanaan
Sunday 10:30 AM, in person only. Sunday School is available during Sunday Service and is open to children and young people up to the age of 20. There is also childcare available for children too young for Sunday School.
Wednesday Testimony Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month, join by zoom or by phone 646 558 8656. Reading Room Hours: Open Mondays 11-2, Call to confirm hours 203-966-0293. All are welcome to the Sunday and Wednesday services, Sunday School, and the reading room.

First Presbyterian Church

178 Oenoke Ridge Road 203.966.0002
fpcnc.org
Sunday Service: 10am in person or via LocalLive. All are welcome. Coffee Hour

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

Upcoming Events:

April 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 20th: Easter Services will be held in the morning at 6:30, 7, 8:30, 10, and 11:30 AM. 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

Join us for

Easter on

God's Acre

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

6:00am

Sunrise Service, Church Steps

9:00am*

Traditional Worship Service, Meeting House

10:15am

Easter Egg Hunt and Fellowship, Church Lawn

11:00am*

Traditional Worship Service, Meeting House

*Church School Chapel and Nursery Care are available at both the 9:00am and 11:00am services.

LIVESTREAM WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.

The Congregational Church of New Canaan

23 Park Street, New Canaan, CT 06840

(203) 966-2651

www.godsacre.org

St Mark's Episcopal Church

NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

Celebrate the Joy of Easter

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

This community of love is better with you in it.

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

STMARKSNEWCANAAAN.ORG | 203-966-4515

111 OENOKE RIDGE • NEW CANAAN, CT



By Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Kinnally

While walking around the parish property a couple of weeks ago, I noticed the crocuses and daffodils very slowly making their way upward through the newly-mulched flower beds. They seemed hesitant to bloom, especially when I had seen flowers in full bloom in some nearby towns. I wondered if there was a problem with our perennials-on-the-property: Are these flowers waiting for something in particular before they burst into springtime? Are they holding back in order to make a grand entrance? Are they afraid to leave the “comfort” of the underground and fearful of what the sun, rain, or a late frost might do to them? At that I point I stopped my musing because this train of thought was getting me nowhere. Then, in a moment of inspired insight, I realized that I was longing deeply for spring with its warmth, color, and

hope. Not only that -- I realized I was dying for Easter.

Easter is Christ rising up from the darkness below and breaking into an ordinary Sunday morning with glorious light, turning every Sunday into the Day of Resurrection. Easter is an invitation to bring your darkest moments, your worst sin, your addictions, your self-doubt, your fears, your anxiety, your loneliness, and your grief into the brightness of Christ-risen-in-glory so that those things will fade in the light of Jesus’ shining face. Easter is the proof that for those who die, life is merely changed, not ended.

In the cycle of life, death is the reality that breaks our hearts, gives us that indescribable empty feeling, and leaves us with an aching for the dear one who is no longer in our midst. Christ’s resurrection gives us the hope that our broken hearts can heal, our emptiness can be filled in with God’s Spirit, and our longing for our loved ones is satisfied by their presence in that great communion of saints. With Jesus, death no longer has the last word. With Jesus, there is a dwelling place with Him prepared by Him and promised to us as recorded in the Gospel of John, Chapter 14: Do not let your hearts be troubled. You

Easter is an invitation to bring your darkest moments, your worst sin, your addictions, your self-doubt, your fears, your anxiety, your loneliness, and your grief into the brightness of Christ-risen-in-glory so that those things will fade in the light of Jesus’ shining face.

have faith* in God; have faith also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.

Imagine that day when we arrive at that “dwelling place” prepared for us and we stand before the Risen Christ. You will see His wounds, and He’ll see yours. But the pain has gone away because He has taken the worst of it to the Cross where it all died; and then He came back to life so that you can experience hope beyond all hope and know what it means to live, and live forever.

Resurrection opens the door to a new

reality – now and in the life to come. So as we continue our journey into springtime and witness the new life around us, keep thinking of Easter, and life, and glorious light. In many Christian traditions, the seven days after Easter are considered Easter Sundays, and the Season of Easter lasts 50 days. It’s only fitting that there are more days of Easter than of Lent! Therefore, we owe it to ourselves to revel in Easter joy and hold onto the hope that comes from knowing that God has provided everything that Jesus promised in an earlier chapter of John’s Gospel (10:10): “I came that they might have life and have it abundantly.”

Rev. Msgr. Rob Kinnally is the pastor of St. Aloysius Catholic Church in New Canaan and the Vicar General of the Diocese of Bridgeport.

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 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.

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



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



All Are Welcome!
178 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT
www.fpcnc.org 203-966-0002 ext. 1

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

SAINT ALOYSIUS PARISH

Roman Catholic Church • Diocese of Bridgeport
21 Cherry Street, New Canaan, CT 06840
starcc.com

Helping to keep New Canaan beautiful for 86 years.



newcanaanbeautification.org

24 Town Planters



Lee Garden

Train Station



33 Traffic Triangles

Our initiatives rely entirely on donations and volunteers. Enjoy the beauty of 227 hanging baskets, Mead Park, Gold Star Walk, Pine Street mailboxes, 65-holiday wreaths, Waveny Care flowers, Lobster Fest flowers, and more.

199 ELM STREET



PRIME OFFICE SPACE IN A PREMIUM LOCATION

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

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



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COLUMN

New Canaan Beautification League. You Know Them, You Just Don't Know Their Name



Getting the triangle ready

By GERI RHOADES

Eighty-six years ago, a small group of volunteers held their first meeting with the idea of helping make New Canaan more beautiful. They named their group the Garden Center. In 2006, the name was changed to the New Canaan Beautification League (NCBL). Today, more than 200 volunteers continue this important work.

As you enter New Canaan, you are greeted by blooms at the Welcome to New Canaan signs and the traffic triangles that their volunteers have planted and maintained. When you marvel at the blooming trees on Cherry Street, it's been them since 1962. Do you know those lovely centerpieces you enjoy while eating your lobster at the annual Lobsterfest? NCBL has been creating them since 2012. Have you visited a loved one at Waveny Care and admired the flower arrangements in the dining room and public areas? They provide those for four months of the year. And they love every minute of making all this and more happen.

As they begin their 86th year of civic beautification work, they reflect on our humble beginnings. "Initially, we focused on growing Victory Gardens and sending seed money to European farmers as part of the Victory Garden campaign," says Nancy Mallings, NCBL's current president.

After the war, the group planted 38 trees around Mead Park and established the Gold Star Walk to commemorate 38 New Canaan men killed in WWII. In 1976, they joined forces with the Garden Club creating 65 handmade holiday wreaths to decorate New Canaan's many public and private buildings. In 1970, they planted the first of the 33 traffic triangles they maintain. Over the years, the New Canaan Beautification League has continued to create and sustain many new civic beautification projects, including 227 hanging baskets each spring, planting and caring for the Mead Park Plaza on Richmond Hill Road, helping to refurbish the entrance to Mead Park, and creating landscaping at the Train Station, Town Hall, the Post Office drive-through, the School House Apartments, and the EMT building. This year, they will design the landscape at the newly renovated Police Station and 150 new trees on South Avenue.

One of NCBL's most prized areas is the Olive W. and George S. Lee Memorial Garden at 89 Chichester Road. Gifted to the organization by George Lee in 1978, it has become an explosion of

**More than 200
hardworking volunteers
contribute over 10,000
hours each year.**

hundreds of unique and rare species that amaze and delight visitors strolling through its many paths, which include azaleas, rhododendrons, and wildflowers throughout the blooming seasons. Entry is free and open to anyone who wants to enjoy the beauty from dawn to dusk.

While most people appreciate their work, many may not know how it all comes together. This group is incredibly proud of their history and the volunteer efforts they've put forth since 1939. The goal is to make the New Canaan Beautification League a more familiar name in New Canaan. The more than 200 hardworking volunteers contribute over 10,000 hours each year, filling New Canaan's shared spaces with beautiful and beneficial plantings and promoting horticultural education for all. Keep an eye out for them in their bright green shirts and upcoming programs and projects, most open to the public.

NCBL welcomes volunteers with diverse talents to join the group and one of its 33 committees. Membership is open to anyone wanting to do good work and have a lot of fun along the way!

They rely 100% on tax-deductible donations and volunteers to continue creating and maintaining their year-round civic beautification projects. To support or join the New Canaan Beautification League, visit their website at <https://newcanaanbeautification.org>.

Of course, the NCBL can't do all this without valuable help from the Department of Public Works (DPW), The Student League of Boys (SLOBS), and the National Charity League. Creating all this beauty truly takes a village, and their partnerships mean the world to them.

Callout: More than 200 hardworking volunteers contribute over 10,000 hours each year.

Geri Rhoades, PhD, is a New Canaan resident and Board Member of the New Canaan Beautification League. Since retiring from the field of Communications, Geri has concentrated on helping to make the world a better place.



2024 Hanging Baskets



Hanging basket volunteers in action

YOUR NEWS BRIEFING
CONTINUED From Page 1

AROUND TOWN

Two Lights for Tomorrow



New Canaan will take part in the national Two Lights for Tomorrow event on April 18–19 by encouraging window light displays to mark the 250th anniversary of Paul Revere’s ride. The initiative is organized locally by the New Canaan 250th Planning Committee and supported by the America 250 CT Commission. Residents are advised to use flameless lights and can share photos using #TwoLightsForTomorrow. Photo credit: Town of New Canaan.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND
NONPROFITS

Emilie Rubinfeld Visited Library



On April 10, Emilie Rubinfeld, Global President of Carolina Herrera, spoke at the New Canaan Library as part of the 2025 Conversations with Business Leaders series. The event included a discussion on the fashion industry and a runway presentation. Photo credit: New Canaan Library.

SLS Speaks at Rotary Club



Dr. Mary Carter, Head of School at St. Luke’s, spoke at the New Canaan Rotary Club about the school’s focus on academics, technology, and student development. She highlighted initiatives including a middle school robotics project, the “Compass” counseling program, and a Leadership Institute for upper school students. Photo credit: New Canaan Rotary Club.

NCNC Spring Yoga



On April 7th, the New Canaan Nature Center launched its spring yoga program with a Vinyasa class led by Julie Deery. Open to all experience levels, the session marked the start of the center’s seasonal wellness offerings. Photo credit: the New Canaan Nature Center.

Waveny Hosted Breakfast



On April 9, Waveny Inn hosted a breakfast meeting with the New Canaan Board of Realtors. Local nonprofits shared information about their services and how residents can support them

through donations and volunteering. Photo credit: Waveny LifeCare Network.

Spring Fever Floral Arrangements



Recently, members of the New Canaan Garden Club created floral arrangements inspired by pieces in the Spring Fever exhibit at the Carriage Barn Arts Center. Photo credit: Carriage Barn Arts Center.

SCHOOLS

Model UN Conference



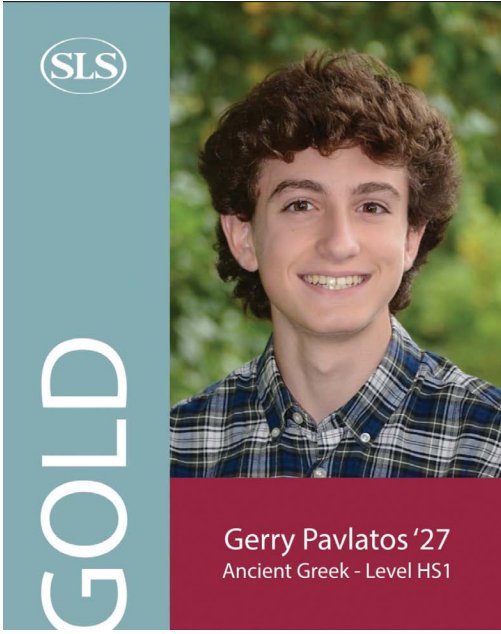
On April 5th, members of St. Luke’s School’s Model United Nations team attended the Frederick Gunn School Model UN Conference. The event focused on negotiation and collaboration as part of the committee process. Madeline Levin ’26 was recognized as Outstanding Delegate, while Denis Gannon ’26 and Reese Kubick ’25 received Best Delegate honors. Photo credit: St. Luke’s School.

SLS Visits NYC



Recently, eighth-grade Mandarin students from St. Luke’s School took a field trip to New York City, where they explored traditional Chinese garden design at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The trip connected their classroom studies to real-world applications. Photo credit: St. Luke’s School.

COLT Poetry Recitation Contest



On March 16, nine St. Luke’s School students received medals at the 2025 Connecticut COLT Poetry Recitation Contest. The event required students to memorize and recite a poem in a language other than English for a panel of judges. Participants were evaluated on accuracy, pronunciation, and delivery. Photo credit: St. Luke’s School.

SPORTS

NCHS Girls Lacrosse Activity



Recently, the New Canaan High School girls lacrosse team took part in a volunteer activity with Filling in the Blanks. Photo credit: New Canaan Girls Varsity Lacrosse.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING APRIL 15

External Audit Firm

The board reviewed the selection of PKF O’Connor Davies as the external auditor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. The total estimated cost is \$113,450, which covers both the Town and the Board of Education audits.

Automated External Defibrillators
(AEDs)

The board approved a request from the New Canaan Police Department to purchase two replacement AEDs from Stryker for \$5,889.96. These defibrillators are essential for emergency response and will support officers in patrol and side job vehicles.

Desktop Replacement

The board approved a contract with SHI for the purchase of 45-10Zig Hero Clients for \$36,870. This procurement is part of the IT Department’s effort to complete desktop upgrades.

OpenGov Software Renewal

The board approved a one-year contract renewal with OpenGov Inc., an online permitting program, for \$35,077.35.

Request for Travel

The board approved an estimated \$1,926 in travel expenses for Diane Wilson to attend the National GFOA Conference in Washington, D.C., from June 29 to July 2, 2025.

New Hire – Assistant Residential
Building Inspector

The board approved hiring Tim Blakeman as the Assistant Residential Building Inspector. Blakeman, a general contractor for 30 years, will work 20–25 hours per week while he completes licensing.

Probationary Status – IT Department

The board approved the removal of Matt Bulan from probationary status following strong performance and successful integration into the IT Department.

Day Care Center

The board approved a purchase order in the amount of \$32,000.00 related to the annual grant for the Day Care Center of New Canaan. The funding supports preschool, after-school, and summer programs for local families.

Interim Health Director

The board approved the appointment of Geno Gagnon as interim health director.

Tax Collector

The board approved the appointment of Sebastian Caldarella as acting tax collector.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The board approved the renewal of an \$8,400 annual contract with KGA for Employee Assistance Program services. The program covers full and part-time town employees as well as volunteer firefighters and ems. The services range from mental health support to legal and financial counseling.

Water Fountain Purchase

The board approved a \$13,942 contract with Equiparts Corp. to purchase four water fountain bottle fillers. Two units will be installed at Mead and Irwin Park to replace the 10-15 year old fountains. The other two will replace existing units at the NCHS track and Waveny playground.

Police Department Irrigation System

The board approved a \$23,665 contract with Summer Rain Sprinkler Systems Installation, Inc. This project will include the design and installation of irrigation systems for Police Department plantings.

Generator Removal

The board approved a \$23,980 contract with Northeast Generator to remove and relocate the temporary police station’s emergency generator. The unit will be returned to the wastewater treatment plant.

Technology Equipment for Police
Department

The board approved a contract of up to \$35,000 with CDW-G for the purchase of technology equipment for the new Police Department building. Equipment will be installed by the internal IT department to save on costs.

Playhouse Exterior Railing

The board approved a \$24,183.50 contract with Stamford Forge to fabricate and install the Playhouse pedestrian ramp. This ensures ADA compliance and helps to define the platform and step.

Intersection Improvements – Conrad
Road

The board approved a \$86,767.50 contract with Peter Lanni, Inc. for intersection improvements on Conrad Road.

FD Parking Lot Paving

The board approved an \$80,352.50 contract with Burns Construction to repave the Fire Department’s rear parking lot.

Irwin House

The board approved a \$58,050 contract with Fuss & O’Neill for environmental services related to the demolition of the Irwin House and the guest house. This includes hazardous materials inspections, monitoring, and compliance documentation.

Vehicle Location Devices

The board approved a \$26,640 contract with Samsara for geo-tracking devices on town owned equipment.

Park Benches

The board approved an \$18,000 purchase order for teak park benches from Country Casual Teak.

Irwin Park Project Trees

The board approved a \$25,000 contract with Planters Choice LLC for the installation of trees in Irwin Park as part of the club’s restoration plan for the Irwin Meadow along the border of Wahackmee Road.

Capo Field Materials Testing

The board approved a \$50,000 contract with Tri-State Materials Testing. The project entails the materials testing for the Capo Field project.

Finance Department Temporary
Staffing

The board approved a purchase order of up to \$30,000 with Creative Financial Staffing for temporary staffing services.

THEATER COLUMN
CONTINUED From Page 1



dancing. Once you see it you’ll be tap dancing in your head for days.

It’s playing through April 26 at the Kveskin Theatre on the campus known as Sterling Farms and you can ask for tickets by calling 203-461-6358. I guarantee that if you do get to this show you’ll continue to be glad you did. Anne Cavaliere plays Reno Sweeney. Chris Balestiere plays Billy Crocker. And Samantha Van Nostrand plays Hope Harcourt, who is newly engaged to Lord Evelyn Oakley (David Anctil). The direction and choreography is by a team: Gordon and Karen Casagrande, and Matt Stolfi.

Several other nearby productions have just closed and they were good ones. The beautifully done “Agnes of God” that was playing at the Westport Community Theater and directed by Tom Holehan for one. It starred Priscilla Squiers, Lucy Babbitt, and Celine Montaudy.

“La Cage aux Folles,” at the Music Theatre of Connecticut is another show that was very nicely produced and a delight for anyone who was able to see it. Probably you remember it from some other season. It’s not new. The story takes place on the French Riviera and involves a politician copying our current Mr. Musk who has made a campaign promise to destroy the flagrant lifestyle of the homosexuals who entertain tourists along the strip by singing and dancing in drag. Right now his daughter is in love with and engaged to the son of two men who live together and run the infamous La Cage. It has a delightful ending, and Lou Ursone, who is otherwise the Producer of all the works at Curtain Call, stars in this production as the nasty politician.

“Theatre People” just closed at the Westport Country Playhouse. It was a fun romp about several actors wanting to produce a new play and also introduce a lovelorn sponsor to his muse, who was about to sing in a concert with another love interest. There will be more programs at the Playhouse, including a showing of the movie “JAWS,” and then a production about the filming of it, called “The Shark is Broken.” Watch for it.

I love that all of these productions came so close to the Spring Holidays. Some overlapping with either Passover or Easter, which are the real and super-dramatic basis for the entire Judeo-Christian traditions.

And don’t forget that on April 24 and 25, the New Canaan Gridiron Club will be doing it’s own “drag” production of a tribute to Wendy Coleman Dixon Hilbolt. For tickets: www.gridironclubofnc.org.

Rams Walk Off Panthers in 4-3 victory

By Christopher DeMuth

The New Canaan Rams varsity baseball team beat Masuk in a dramatic 4–3 win at home on Monday, clinching the game in the bottom of the eighth inning. In a tight non-conference matchup, New Canaan overcame an early deficit, leaned on strong pitching, and ultimately sealed the win with timely hitting and heads-up baserunning.

The game opened with New Canaan striking first. Leadoff hitter Tristan MacAllister singled and later scored, giving the Rams a quick 1–0 lead. Masuk responded in the top of the third with a three-run rally, briefly grabbing the momentum from the Rams. New Canaan answered in the bottom of the frame to tie the game 3–3, and after four scoreless innings from both sides, the Rams scored in the eighth to earn the walk-off victory.

After falling behind in the first inning, Masuk’s offense broke out in the top of the third. Sophomore Nico Convertito sparked the Panthers with a run-scoring double. He was followed by Connor Fulchino and Cascella, who each delivered RBI hits, pushing Masuk ahead 3–1. All three runs came in the inning as the Panthers strung together quality at-bats against New Canaan starter Zak Joslin.

New Canaan wasted no time in responding. In the bottom of the third, the Rams put together a rally of their own. Hits from D’Andrea and MacAllister helped set the table for victory. New Canaan plated two runs to even the game out to 3–3.

After the six-run swing across the third inning, both teams settled in. Joslin regained control of the game for the Rams, ultimately tossing seven full innings. He allowed just one earned run and struck out eight while giving one walk. His ability to limit Masuk after the

third kept New Canaan in the game and gave the batting lineup chances to retake the lead.

For Masuk, Justin Fanning took over in relief and was effective. The right-hander pitched six innings, giving up three runs (two earned) and striking out five. His performance kept New Canaan off the board from the fourth through the seventh, matching Joslin inning for inning.

With the game tied at 3–3 entering extra innings, New Canaan brought in Wes Gallo in relief. Gallo worked a quick top of the eighth, retiring the Panthers in order and putting the Rams in position to win.

In the bottom of the frame, D’Andrea reached base via a walk. A passed ball and a sacrifice moved him to third base. With the winning run just 90 feet away, a ground ball off the bat of Benny Heagle led to a throwing error, allowing D’Andrea to cross the plate for the game-winning run.

Team and Individual Highlights

-Tristan MacAllister went 2-for-4 with a run scored.

-D’Andrea reached base twice, scored two runs, and came home with the game-winner in the eighth.

-Benny Heagle had a single, two stolen bases, and the walk-off ball in play.

-Adrian Delicata drove in three runs and had three hits.

-Zak Joslin: 7.0 IP, 1 ER, 8 K, 1 BB.

-Wes Gallo: 1.0 IP, 0 R, 0 H, 0 BB, 0 K (earning the win).

Sports Roundup: Golf, Tennis, Baseball, and More

By Christopher DeMuth

Girls Golf

April 9 – Silvermine Golf Club (Par 32)

New Canaan’s girls golf team delivered a strong performance in their match against Wilton, posting a team score of 159 to Wilton’s 188. Maxie Mirin led the way for the Rams with a 36, followed closely by Lauren Livesay’s 37. Carielle D’Elisa (42), Chloe Cui (44), and Lily Mohr (48) rounded out New Canaan’s scoring. For Wilton, Justine Bonafide and Saanvi Kakarlapudi each carded a 42, with Preethi Vijay (47) and Gabrielle Charhon (57) completing the lineup.

Boys Tennis

April 14

New Canaan boys tennis came up just short in a tightly contested 4–3 loss to Staples.

The Rams swept three of four singles matches with strong wins by Jackson Mountford (6–0, 5–7, 6–1), Julian Doshi (7–6, 4–6, 6–2), and Roger Rosales (6–3, 6–1). In doubles, however, Staples prevailed in all three matches, including a 6–1, 6–4 win by Brett Lampert and Aleko Vergakis over New Canaan’s Tommy Fox and Keck MacIver.

Boys Baseball

April 9 – New Canaan 10, Westhill 0

New Canaan’s offense erupted for 14 hits in a dominant shutout win over Westhill. The Rams scored in four of six innings and were led at the plate by MacAllister (2-for-3, 2 RBI, 1 double) and Maddox Hoffman (1-for-3, 2 RBI, 1 HR). Thomas Shullman added two hits of his own, helping New Canaan put up a five-run third inning to blow

the game open. The Rams played flawless defense and allowed just one hit in the win.

April 10

The Rams kept rolling with a 5–1 road win against Immaculate. Luke Ungaro (2-for-4, RBI) and D’Andrea (2-for-4, 1 double) paced the offense, while the team stole three bases and committed no errors in the field. Thomas Shullman and Alex Etergino each chipped in with a hit, as the Rams scored all five of their runs between the second and fifth innings.

Boys Volleyball

April 11

New Canaan boys volleyball put together a dominant showing against Greenwich, sweeping the Cardinals in straight sets, 3–0. The Rams controlled the pace of play from the opening serve, using communication and

consistent serving to stay in command. With this win, the team continued its upward momentum early in the season.

Girls Softball

April 10 – New Canaan 7, New Milford 4

New Canaan picked up a big win over New Milford behind a strong offensive effort. The Rams built an early lead and kept it going, using timely hitting and solid pitching to stay in front.

April 15 – New Canaan 10, Danbury 3

The Rams followed up with another victory, this time over Danbury. New Canaan’s bats stayed hot, putting up double digits and keeping the pressure on the Hatters throughout. The defense held strong to support a complete team win.

Girls Lacrosse: Nail-Biter Win



Over Rye

April 10 – New Canaan 8, Rye 7

In an out-of-state matchup, the Rams beat Rye in a one-goal battle. New Canaan came through in the clutch with key defensive stops late in the fourth quarter.

Boys Lacrosse

April 12 – New Canaan 14, Glastonbury 2

The Rams dominated from start to finish in a blowout

win over Glastonbury. New Canaan’s offense fired on all cylinders, while the defense stifled any scoring threats throughout the game.

April 15 – New Canaan 5, St. Joseph 1

In a more defensive-minded battle, New Canaan controlled the tempo and limited St. Joseph to just one goal. The Rams maintained possession and capitalized on their scoring chances to secure another conference win.

Weekly Sports Round Up

School	Sport	Date	Opponent	Result
New Canaan	Baseball	4/10	Immaculate	Win 5–1
New Canaan	Baseball	4/11	Fairfield Prep	Loss 2–11
New Canaan	Baseball	4/14	Masuk	Win 4–3
New Canaan	Baseball	4/15	Abbott Tech	Win 7–0
New Canaan	Boys Lacrosse	4/12	Glastonbury	Win 14–2
New Canaan	Boys Lacrosse	4/15	St. Joseph	Win 5–1
New Canaan	Boys Tennis	4/14	Staples	Loss 3–4
New Canaan	Volleyball	4/9	Joel Barlow	Loss 1–3
New Canaan	Volleyball	4/11	Greenwich	Win 3–0
New Canaan	Girls Lacrosse	4/10	Rye HS	Win 8–7
New Canaan	Girls Lacrosse	4/12	Morristown HS	Win 15–7
New Canaan	Girls Golf	4/9	Wilton	Loss 159–188
New Canaan	Softball	4/10	New Milford	Win 7–4
St. Luke’s	Girls Golf	4/10	King	Loss 0–5
St. Luke’s	Girls Tennis	4/14	Canterbury School	Win 6–1
St. Luke’s	Baseball	4/10	King	Win 8–3
St. Luke’s	Baseball	4/11	Harvey	Win 10–0
St. Luke’s	Baseball	4/14	Rye Country Day	Loss 0–5
St. Luke’s	Boys Tennis	4/10	Masters (NY)	Win 6–1
St. Luke’s	Boys Tennis	4/15	Rye Country Day	Win 4–3
St. Luke’s	Boys Lacrosse	4/10	Greenwich Country Day	Loss 3–20
St. Luke’s	Boys Lacrosse	4/14	Harvey School	Win 17–8

Sports Schedule

18 APR, FRI	10 – 11:30am	Boys Freshman Lacrosse - Boys vs Fairfield Prep 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840	6 – 7pm	Boys JV Volleyball vs Stamford High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
19 APR, SAT	11am – 1pm 11am – 1pm 1 – 2:30pm	Girls JV Softball @ Glastonbury 330 Hubbard St, Glastonbury CT 06033 Girls Varsity Softball @ Glastonbury 330 Hubbard St, Glastonbury CT 06033 Boys Varsity Lacrosse - Boys @ Christian Brothers Academy 850 Newman Springs Rd, Lincroft New Jersey 07738-1698		
21 APR, MON	3:10 – 3:40pm 4 – 6pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5pm 4 – 5pm 4 – 4:30pm 4 – 4:30pm 4 – 4:30pm 4:30 – 6pm 6 – 7pm	Girls Varsity Golf @ St. Joseph 40 Tashua Knolls Lane, Trumbull CT 06611 Girls JV Softball vs Norwalk Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Freshman Baseball vs Norwalk 468 South Avenue, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys JV Baseball @ Norwalk 125 East Ave., Norwalk CT 06851 Boys Varsity Baseball @ Norwalk 176 Strawberry Hill Avenue, Norwalk CT 06851 Girls Varsity Softball vs Norwalk Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Girls Varsity Tennis vs Fairfield Warde 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Boys JV Tennis @ Fairfield Warde 755 Melville Ave, Fairfield Connecticut 06825-2000 Boys Varsity Tennis @ Fairfield Warde 755 Melville Ave, Fairfield Connecticut 06825-2000 Girls JV Tennis @ Fairfield Warde 165 Stillson Rd, Fairfield Connecticut 06825 Boys Varsity Volleyball vs Bridgeport Central High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Boys JV Volleyball vs Bridgeport Central High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840		
22 APR, TUE	3:15 – 6:15pm 4 – 6pm 4 – 6pm 4 – 5:30pm 4 – 5pm 4:45 – 6:45pm	Girls Varsity Golf @ Danbury High School 100 Aunt Hack Road, Danbury CT 06811 Boys JV Tennis @ Greenwich High School 109 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich CT 06870 Boys Varsity Tennis @ Greenwich High School 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830 Boys Freshman Lacrosse - Boys vs Ridgefield High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Tennis vs Greenwich High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls JV Tennis @ Greenwich High School 9 Indian Rock Lane, Greenwich CT 06830		
23 APR, WED	4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:30pm 4 – 5pm 4 – 4:30pm 4 – 4:30pm 4:30 – 6:15pm	Boys Freshman Baseball vs Fairfield Ludlowe 468 South Avenue, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Baseball @ Fairfield Ludlowe 210 Old Dam Road, Fairfield Connecticut 06824 Girls Varsity Lacrosse - Girls vs Sacred Heart Academy 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Boys Varsity Volleyball vs Stamford High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Softball vs Fairfield Ludlowe Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Track - Outdoor @ Fairfield Warde 755 Melville Ave, Fairfield Connecticut 06825-2000 Girls Varsity Track - Outdoor @ Fairfield Warde 755 Melville Ave, Fairfield Connecticut 06825-2000 Boys JV Baseball @ Fairfield Ludlowe 1433 Stratfield Rd, Fairfield CT 06825		
24 APR, THU	4 – 6pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:30pm 4 – 5:30pm 4 – 5pm 4 – 5pm 4:30 – 5:30pm 5:30 – 6:30pm 6 – 7:15pm 6:30 – 8pm			Girls Varsity Tennis @ Wilton High School 395 Danbury Rd, Wilton CT 06897 Boys Freshman Baseball @ Fairfield Warde 755 Melville Ave, Fairfield Connecticut 06825-2000 Boys JV Baseball vs Fairfield Warde 468 South Avenue, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Baseball vs Fairfield Warde Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys JV Lacrosse - Boys vs Staples High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls JV Softball @ Fairfield Warde Old Dam Rd, Fairfield Connecticut 06825 Girls Varsity Softball @ Fairfield Warde 755 Melville Ave, Fairfield Connecticut 06825-2000 Boys Varsity Tennis vs Wilton High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Boys Varsity Volleyball @ Danbury High School 43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811 Girls Varsity Lacrosse - Girls @ Staples High School 70 North Ave, Westport CT 06880 Boys JV Volleyball @ Danbury High School 43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811 Girls JV Lacrosse - Girls @ Staples High School 70 North Ave, Westport CT 06880 Boys Varsity Lacrosse - Boys vs Staples High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
25 APR, FRI	4 – 5:30pm 4 – 5:15pm	Boys Freshman Lacrosse - Boys @ Darien High School 80 High School Lane, Darien CT 06820 Girls Freshman Lacrosse - Girls vs Darien High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840		
26 APR, SAT	2 – 3:30pm 4 – 5:30pm 5 – 6:30pm	Girls JV Lacrosse - Girls @ Greenwich Academy 200 N Maple Ave, Greenwich Connecticut 06830-4799 Boys Varsity Lacrosse - Boys vs Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Lacrosse - Girls @ Garden City High School 82 Turkey Lane, Cold Spring Harbor New York 11724		
28 APR, MON	4 – 6pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5:45pm 4 – 5pm 4 – 4:30pm 4:30 – 6:15pm 4:30 – 6pm 4:30 – 6pm 5:30 – 7:30pm 6:30 – 8:30pm	Girls JV Tennis @ Darien High School Nearwater Ln, Darien CT 06820 Boys JV Baseball vs Greenwich High School 468 South Avenue, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Baseball vs Greenwich High School Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840 Boys Varsity Tennis vs Stamford High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Tennis @ Stamford High School 55 Strawberry Hill Ave, Stamford CT 06902 Girls JV Softball @ Greenwich High School 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830 Boys Freshman Baseball @ Greenwich High School 10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830 Boys Freshman Lacrosse - Boys vs Chaminade High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Boys JV Tennis vs Ridgefield High School 11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840 Girls Varsity Softball @ Greenwich High School 4 Ritch Avenue West, Greenwich Connecticut 06830		

This Week’s Chamber SPOTLIGHTS

Comprehensive Care of New Canaan



Jaime Ruszkowski M.D. was born and raised in Connecticut and received her degree magna cum laude as an Honors Scholar in molecular and cell biology from the University of Connecticut. She completed her medical degree with honors from Albany Medical College in New York, graduating in the top of her class and elected to

Alpha Omega Alpha, the prestigious Honor Medical Society. She always knew she wanted to be a primary care physician and went on to graduate from the Yale primary care internal medicine residency program, where she was honored to be chosen to serve an additional year as chief resident. She is thrilled to be practicing in her home state since 2012. She takes pride in caring for her patients in a warm, relaxed and honest environment and is most rewarded by her relationships with patients. Her special interests include preventive care, obesity, diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family. She is also very active with food allergy education, fundraising, awareness and advocacy at both the state and national level. She opened her Concierge Internal Medicine practice in May 2023 and has been very happy taking care of her community. She was appointed Medical Director for New Canaan in 2025. She has been chosen as a Castle Connolly top doctor yearly since 2021 in both CT & NY. <https://www.ccncpc.com/>

Earth Garden

Earth Garden is a full service florist and plant shop in downtown New Canaan serving the community for over 33 years. We deliver daily to most of Fairfield County and Northern Westchester County. Our services include florals for weddings, events and memorial services. Our mobile team provides floral as well as interior and exterior planted designs for private homes.

<https://earthgardenflowers.com>



PLAYING THIS WEEK AT

THE PLAYHOUSE

MINECRAFT

THE AMATEUR

93 Elm Street
New Canaan

And Join Us in the Pub !

CINEMALAB.COM
for showtimes and tickets

Prosperous Planning



Prosperous Planning is a comprehensive independent financial planning and asset management firm dedicated to our clients' financial well-being. Our mission is to provide exceptional service, fostering a long-lasting, trusting relationship as we guide you through every stage of your life. We commit to being your steadfast partner, equipping you with information, choices, and professional recommendations to streamline and simplify your financial journey, all while pursuing your distinct financial objectives.

At Prosperous Planning, our unwavering focus is on understanding and prioritizing your unique needs and aspirations. Your best interests are our top priority, and we deliver thoughtful, sound recommendations with a range of options

tailored to your individual situation. Unlike generic, one-size-fits-all approaches, we take a creative, individualized approach, thinking outside the conventional boundaries to provide personalized and impartial product suggestions.

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<https://www.renewalbyandersen.com/window-company/710-westchester/about-us>

New Canaan CARES



New Canaan CARES is an independent, lifestyles – free-of-charge. New Canaan CARES also non-profit community organization focused on leads the Local Prevention Council, the New Canaan advancing the health and well-being of youth and Coalition, a group committed to enhancing the lives of New Canaan youth and families through drug programs that support and strengthen parenting prevention and education.

skills, positive youth development, and healthy cprostor@newcanaancares.org



New Canaan

Sentinel

PUBLISHER

Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com

Elizabeth Barhydt

EDITORS & COPY EDITORS

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

Local, Local, Local

A century after Woodrow Wilson declared that government must be “an instrument of civilization,” Connecticut’s governing class appears to have adopted a post-Wilsonian corollary: that government must not merely serve but redesign society according to abstract notions of equity. Thus, the state now proposes the “Fair Share” housing mandate, a policy endeavor that treats towns as interchangeable blocks in a centrally planned grid—each to be assigned its “fair share” of affordable housing units by distant analysts armed with spreadsheets and unconstrained by modesty.

The premise is as bold as it is brittle: that housing affordability in Connecticut—a problem born of inflation, taxation, and regulatory overreach—can be solved by mandating thousands of new units in towns whose existing infrastructure, environmental constraints, and character are deemed irrelevant. Three scenarios have been advanced by the consultants tasked with this cartographic feat. Each reflects a kind of legislative megalomania in which top-down imposition is preferred to local deliberation.

The first simply resurrects a previously rejected model, favored by a developer-aligned nonprofit, which inflates “housing need” by factoring in everything from rising utility costs to local tax burdens—as though zoning boards, not state energy policy and unfunded mandates, are the source of residents’ economic woes. The second, even more ambitious, abolishes caps on how much housing a town might be ordered to accommodate, thereby sentencing small municipalities to demographic transformations they neither invited nor can feasibly absorb. The third leans on metrics such as job proximity and regional affordability, data points scrubbed clean of human context and offered as scientific justification for what amounts to civic colonization.

In all three cases, local governance is reduced to a procedural obstacle, its preferences and practicalities overridden by those who mistake bureaucratic abstraction for wisdom. This is not policy; it is central planning under the guise of social justice.

Consider New Canaan—a town that, far from resisting change, recently earned a four-year moratorium under the state’s 8-30g statute by developing legitimate affordable housing. Here is a municipality that acted, that planned, that built—only to discover that achievement is no defense against further demands from a state that equates fairness with compulsion and progress with density.

The logic behind these mandates is both economically unsound and philosophically hollow. That a household is “cost burdened” does not, by itself, indicate a failure of housing supply. The costs in question—energy bills inflated by state surcharges, property taxes driven by mandates—are themselves functions of state action. That the state now invokes the consequences of its own policies as justification for seizing zoning authority from local governments is a maneuver so brazen it would make Machiavelli blink.

Moreover, the faith that an increase in housing stock will, in the long run, produce affordability is belied by recent history. Stamford, despite aggressive multifamily development, has not seen rents decline in any meaningful way—its proximity to New York ensuring that demand outpaces even the most ambitious supply-side fantasies. And in the short term, these mandates will do precisely nothing to help cost-burdened families. The construction timelines alone make that clear. More immediate relief would come from expanding rental subsidies, reducing energy costs, and creating conditions conducive to wage growth.

But that would require humility—an acknowledgment that towns are not the problem and that bureaucratic fiat is not the solution. Instead, Hartford advances policies that are perfectly calibrated to ignite litigation, drain local coffers, and dismantle what remains of home rule.

The principle at stake is older than zoning ordinances and more enduring than housing trends: local self-government. Connecticut’s towns are not administrative subdivisions to be managed from a distance. They are expressions of civic judgment, repositories of social capital, and, at their best, exemplars of how a free people orders its life together.

That principle is now imperiled by policies whose only consistency lies in their disregard for nuance and place. The “Fair Share” mandate is not merely ill-conceived. It is philosophically offensive, economically implausible, and democratically corrosive. It should be rejected not with apology but with conviction.

For in the end, the state cannot simultaneously claim to be the guardian of equity and the enemy of local prudence. To mandate fairness by destroying local autonomy is to sacrifice the democratic process on the altar of ideological symmetry.

Let towns govern. Let planners plan. And let Connecticut remain a state of communities—not an administrative abstraction with asphalt ambitions.

Editorial Page

Reject “Fair Share” Housing Mandates

Is Connecticut poised to have the largest tax increase due to a new housing policy that the legislature may pass?

Background:

Two years ago housing legislation “Fair Share,” phase one (based on New Jersey’s heavy-handed Fair Share model which has spurred unending lawsuits) was passed by Connecticut legislators to “study” the idea and come up with housing allocations for each town. Now, a consulting company hired by the State has provided our 169 towns with three scenarios of unworkable housing allocations that would make every town into a sea of apartment buildings.

Non-profit governmental organization, Open Communities Alliance (OCA), has been promoting “Fair Share” legislation as the solution to Connecticut’s affordability issues, by mandating municipalities to create their fair share of “housing need” in the state.

If Fair Share allocations become a mandate, it will undermine local zoning control and threaten the health, safety, environment and fiscal viability of all of Connececiut’s municipalities. Land is inherently local and unique. Each town— urban, suburban, or rural — has been “assigned” hundreds, even thousands, of new housing units under three flawed scenarios, none of which respect the unique needs or infrastructure limitations of the 169 diverse municipalities in our State. This would be on top of the much-maligned 8-30g legislation which narrowly defines “Affordable Housing” (i.e. naturally occurring affordable housing and deed restricted affordable housing built prior to 1989 is not included) and the 10% threshold has proven to be a mathematical impossibility for many municipalities to achieve without the benefit of state subsidies that have been to date inequitably allocated by the state.

The Problem with “Fair Share” Scenarios

Scenario 1: Rolls forward

an earlier OCA scheme, which was rejected in two prior sessions by the legislature for its burdensome allocations and onerous litigious enforcement. The roll forward further inflates “housing need” by factoring in rising “cost burdens” driven by Connecticut’s skyrocketing energy costs (public benefits surcharges added to electric bills) and local property taxes (state underfunding of education and mandates on municipalities). As CT169Strong predicted, this approach balloons allocations, ignoring important local realities and constraints.

Scenario 2: Uses the same OCA framework but includes allocations to high poverty cities like Hartford and Bridgeport and removes the 20% cap on affordable housing quotas on any municipality. While 141 of 169 municipalities are challenged in reaching the state’s 8-30g arbitrary 10% affordable threshold, fair share puts 8-30g on steroids: some municipalities will face allocations well over 20%! The result? Absurdly high allocations for smaller towns, setting unattainable goals that will financially destabilize communities and escalate local property taxes without improving affordability.

Scenario 3: Abandons OCA’s model, and replaces it with a formula based on regional affordability, regional housing production, and job access in the state. This method, favored by the city planner “technical experts” the study’s consultants were forced to use, is yet again unworkable for CT’s 169 municipalities. While this version highlights the state’s underinvestment in cities it also imposes massive development quotas on those very cities, again completely disregarding infrastructure limits and environmental concerns.

Why All Three Models Fail

All three scenarios share a fatal flaw: they ignore the unique infrastructure, natural resources, and zoning priorities and limitations of each town. Imposing such one-size-fits-all development mandates on municipalities

without a comprehensive policy to address the lacking infrastructure funding, current high construction costs and support services needed to justify such exponential development statewide is doomed to failure. Such policy only benefits the lawyers, nonprofits, and developers eager to bypass local zoning processes through litigation and judicial determinations. Municipalities in CT (just like NJ with decades under Fair Share) will face unending litigation based on vague bill language, overburdened local services, adverse environmental impacts and higher property taxes—further burdening residents already struggling with the lack of affordability in Connecticut.

The Big Picture in a Rapidly A Changing World

Since “Fair Share” phase one was passed 2 years ago, the economic realities have shifted dramatically:

Runaway Inflation: Soaring costs for labor, materials, and land—now worsened by potential tariffs—make development costlier. High interest rates further limit affordability. Holding towns accountable for uneconomical private-sector development shortfalls is unfair and fuels parasitic lawsuits, not solutions.

Misguided Policies: Instead of vilifying local zoning, the state should cut red tape—allow out-of-state contractor licensing, expand apprenticeships, stop unbalanced, anti-landlord policies that reduce rental inventory, waive conveyance fees for affordable projects, reform housing vouchers and eliminate prevailing wage mandates. Subsidies for rent and electricity, funded through the state budget (not tacked onto electric bills), would reduce residents’ cost burdens faster than any over-regulated building project.

Flawed Metrics: Using “cost burdened” residents to justify housing quotas is illogical. It’s like telling someone struggling with car payments that they should now have a new, even pricier model. Flooding the market with housing won’t

guarantee improved affordability for Connecticut residents—and it may just attract even more cost-burdened newcomers from other states. Stamford’s rapid multifamily development has failed to lower rental costs due to its proximity to the metro NY area.

A Better Way Forward

Connecticut’s affordable housing needs require practical, community-driven solutions, not developer-driven mandates. Let’s:

Protect Local Zoning: Empower towns to plan development that fits their infrastructure for safe and sustainable managed growth without adversely impacting the environment.

Lower Costs Directly: Fund energy and rental subsidies to allow renters to access more of the private sector rentals and ease their cost burdens.

Boost Jobs: Create a pro-business climate by ending anti-business state mandates and reducing energy costs to bring high-paying jobs back to Connecticut, lifting wages and affordability for all residents.

Collaborate, Don’t Dictate: Work with all 169 municipalities - cities, suburbs, and rural towns - to craft tailored solutions, not pit them against each other.

Time to Act

The “Fair Share” concept has reached the end of its useful life and belongs in the trash. It only serves developers and nonprofits interests, not Connecticut’s residents. Let’s reject these top down mandates and champion local zoning to build stronger, more affordable communities together. Check your town’s unworkable mandated fair share numbers here: Draft Fair Share Allocation Results and join the fight to keep zoning local with CT169Strong.org.

Kathryn Braun, Alexis Harrison, Barry Michelson, Jan Schaefer, Maria Weingarten

All five individuals are members of CT169Strong, a grassroots advocacy group dedicated to local control of zoning and finding solutions to Connecticut’s affordability crisis

LETTER

Somewhere Good: A Mom’s Wish for Autism Awareness Month

As the mother of a young adult on the autism spectrum I am grateful for this month’s effort to spotlight this ubiquitous neurological disorder. But I hope more than t-shirts, wristbands, marches and calls to wear blue, the biggest take away is an understanding of its complexity – and a heightened sensitivity to the challenge and joy of difference.

Just like the rest of the population, no two people with autism are alike. Autism claims a host of renowned scientists, artists, writers and musicians. Bill Gates suggests in his recent biography that as a child he would have likely been diagnosed with autism.

On the other end of the spectrum, there are people with autism who lack the language skills to speak, the motor skills to care for themselves, the sensory skills to self-regulate, and the cognitive skills to navigate the world alone.

My daughter, Erin, falls somewhere in the middle of the spectrum, but closer to the second group.

While I and those who love her perceive moments of uncanny recall and insight, she struggles with everyday tasks. When she was two, my father-in-law, trying to wrap his head around her diagnosis, wondered if she might one day be able to walk to the corner and buy herself a cup of coffee. I had no idea, but I hoped so.

Erin will always need someone to help her navigate the world. At one time this reality would have felt cataclysmic. Today, possibly due in part to months like this, it’s just the way it is and it’s ok. It’s more than ok.

Parenting a child with a disability is a process of trial and error, opening every door and window to find therapies and solutions, setting goals and pivoting, hoping for one thing, readjusting, learning to redefine hope. Today, I hope the world will be kind to Erin.

I recently compiled a collection of essays about Erin and our family. Reading through my stories about a mom discovering and navigating an unexpected world of difference, two themes surfaced again and again: joy and gratitude.

Erin has taught us to appreciate and to celebrate small things many take in stride: we must pause before getting into the car to listen to birds “tweeting,” this morning’s chocolate muffin elicited a round of applause. Erin actively seeks out moments of joy.

Her enthusiasm is contagious, only eclipsed by my gratitude for the people who have helped us get this far. Some days they are people we know well – doctors, caregivers, friends. Many days they are strangers who offer patience, kindness, a smile.


Last fall in an effort to garner job and social skills training, Erin (and I) took on the task of delivering our town newspaper to local businesses. Many stops turned into a small celebration as Erin bounded into each store with her bag of goods. Barbers, bank tellers, restaurant and bookstore owners reached for lolli-pops, stickers, pens – something they could give back as she handed them their paper.

As I watched this exchange and instinct to give and to give back play out again and again, I felt like I was getting to see behind a curtain, that this is what we are wired to do, how we are wired to be. I often feel that way with Erin. She barrels in, breaks down the façade, and begs people to be themselves – open, welcoming, kind.

However brief – an encouraging nod, a word – a reply to her endless question – “What is your name?” – means more than anyone could ever know.

So to celebrate Autism Awareness Month, please be on the lookout for difference in all if its many forms – and when you see it let your heart be full, let down your guard, and see where it takes you. I’ve spent the past twenty-three years there - and guarantee it’s somewhere good.

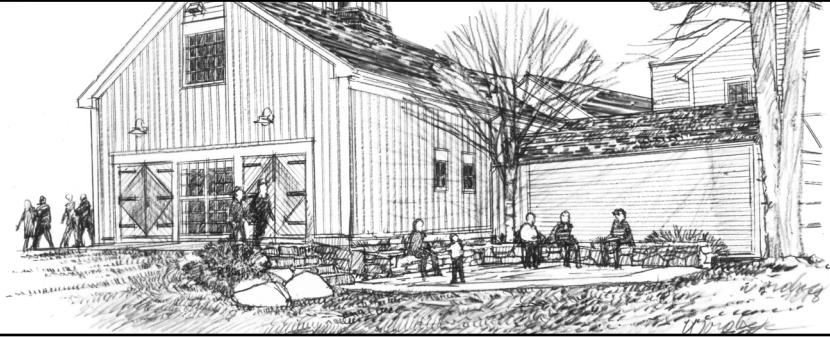
Erin O’Connor is a participant in the Greenwich-based ABILIS Inc. program which provides a broad spectrum of support services to individuals of all ages that have special needs and disabilities. Eileen O’Connor’s collection of essays: eating, pizza backwards and other adventures will be available later this spring.




Keith E. Simpson

Associates

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Dull to Shine



By Icy Frantz

I don't consider myself much of a crafter.

I don't know how to knit or needlepoint. I don't weave, macrame, or woodwork.

And although we had an arts supply closet full of construction paper, glue sticks, scissors, crayons, paints, fabric scraps, shells, googly eyes, pipe cleaners, and popsicle sticks when our kids were younger, I haven't actually been in there since then. That was quite a while ago.

So, when a friend called this fall, asking if I would be interested in four very old, dirty, and tarnished brass nautical lamps, I didn't jump at the offer.

However, I did go over to his house to take a look. And as advertised, the lamps were indeed old, dirty, and tarnished.

He recommended that I take them to a silversmith.

So, I did. The silversmith, after pointing to the \$150-an-hour sign, suggested that I do it myself.

"It will take all winter," he said.

And maybe it was the challenge — how could polishing lamps take all winter? — but reluctantly, I decided to give it a go.

So, on my first quiet winter weekend, I grabbed a lamp and the supplies I had purchased, cranked up some music, and committed to an afternoon of "crafting."

I am not sure if it was the anticipation of a solo afternoon or the prospect of getting started, but I was oddly excited.

Armed with a soapy sponge and a bucket of warm water, I went to work.

Immediately, I was reminded of the many times our dogs have emerged from the Long Island Sound, wet and muddy.

A preliminary run of the hose removed some of the superficial sludge, but greater attention was needed to clean the more intricate areas - beneath the nails, the snout, and the eyelids.

The same was true with

Making way for the shine reminded me that there is endless potential in all of us, no matter how old and tarnished.

the lamp - after a good cleaning, I used an old toothbrush to get into the harder-to-reach crevices.

Getting beneath the dirt gave me an initial rush. The lamp was no longer dirty; just old and tarnished.

It was time to polish.

To be clear, I was a novice polisher; aside from a few pieces of flatware, I truly had no experience. My kids introduced me to YouTube "how to" videos, and the perfect one guided me through the strong and overwhelming odor of the chemicals.

Did I mention I was wearing rubber gloves?

Hands protected, I polished while our dogs looked up at me with long faces— "Wouldn't a walk or a game of toss be fun right about now?"

But I was not to be deterred.

Time and sore wrists were the price I paid for the first semblance of shine. A

very small area of the base that was once dull...was now just a little less dull.

Success breeds success: I kept going.

I got a little lost in my own world (maybe that is one of the gifts of crafting; it's meditative in nature).

Buff. Breathe. Buff. Breathe.

I was finding my rhythm and the peace that comes with being quiet.

Sure, my mind wandered off...

Is Monday a bank holiday? Will our children know a world that is peaceful and kind? I need to get my black loafers resoled. Did I return that email? Order dog food? Read the board notes? Write the piece? Make the reservation? Cancel the reservation?

I noticed I was wasting precious energy on the past, anxious about the future, and not very good at staying in the present.

So, I returned repeatedly

to the job at hand - the lamp and the polish.

I spent close to five hours on my lamp that Saturday afternoon.

Light turned to dark. Dull to shine.

The small pile of dirty cloths grew increasingly bigger, and I noticed that just when I thought I had restored an area of the lamp to its original beauty, there was more tarnish to remove.

I would swipe the cloth over an area, expecting it to come away clean, but there it was—more black residue. It seemed to never end.

And isn't that just like life - or at least my life? Not necessarily the removal of black residue, but the peeling back of layers.

I work my way through one conflict, one issue, one mental block, one heartache, and even one joyful occasion, and then just when I think I have gotten somewhere—and certainly I have—I come to realize that there is more to

uncover.

Patience, pause, and perseverance; the work progresses, but is never done.

And maybe that is not a bad thing—there is always more to polish.

But then again, there is always more shine, and shine is my goal.

In the end, I lost the challenge.

The silversmith was right – not only had it taken all winter, but I am still not finished and it's now spring.

However, those quiet winter weekends taught me a few lessons.

It's magical to watch transformation.

Buff. Breathe. Buff. Breathe,

There is solace and slog in the process.

But making way for the shine reminded me that there is endless potential in all of us, no matter how old and tarnished.

I still don't consider myself much of a crafter, but I am richer because of it - or at the very least \$150 an hour richer and a little proud that I did it myself.

Icy Frantz - The Icing on the Cake, Icy@icyfrantz.net

Residences and Businesses to Display ‘Two Lights’ April 18 and 19

As a kick-off to the nationwide commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States in 1776, New Canaan residents, business owners, government and cultural organization leaders are invited to display two lights in windows on April 18 and 19, 2025. The lights will symbolize Paul Revere's famous Midnight Ride of April 18 and 19, 1775 before the start of the American Revolutionary War.

Displaying two lights, known across the country as Two Lights for Tomorrow, is supported by the America 250 CT Commission and the New Canaan 250th Planning Committee.

For the Two Lights displays, the Fire Marshal's office strongly suggests using electric light bulbs or flameless, battery-operated candles or flashlights in windows and not using any device with a burning flame.

New Canaan participants are encouraged to share descriptions and photos of their lights with #TwoLightsForTomorrow.

Local Committee

The New Canaan 250th Planning Committee, established by First Selectman Dionna Carlson and chaired by Administrative Officer Tucker Murphy, has 18 members from across town organizations. The group is planning a series of local events from June 14 to November 11, 2026, to honor New Canaan's history, community spirit and contributions to America's story.

Local organizations are invited to mark the semi-quintecennial of the nation's founding by hosting activities that showcase New Canaan's rich heritage, civic pride and patriotic spirit. Opportunities include exhibits, historical reenactments, lectures, walking tours of local landmarks, participating in the Fourth of July Parade, showcasing art inspired by American history, and organizing town-wide celebrations. Visit <https://ct250.org/> for more details on themes and opportunities.

All events will be included in a New Canaan 250th calendar on newcanaan.info, and participants will

have access to the official New Canaan 250th logo for marketing. For more information or to get involved,

email Tucker.Murphy@newcanaanct.gov by May 1st, 2025, or call 203-594-3002 to discuss your ideas.



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Music of Benjamin Britten

The Friends of Music at St. Mark’s New Canaan, CT Presents

Music of Benjamin Britten. Saturday, April 26th, 2025, 5pm, in the soaring mid-century modern St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT.

Performed by Trevor Scott, tenor; with Eliana Barwinski, mezzo-soprano; Susan LaFever, French horn; all accompanied by Tomoko Nakayama, pianist.

Trevor Scott and friends will perform works of one of the most distinguished composers of the 20th century, Benjamin Britten. Included will be Canticle I - My beloved is mine, and I am his (tenor & piano); Canticle II – Abraham and Isaac (tenor, mezzo-soprano, & piano), and the extraordinary Serenade (tenor, horn, & piano).

Lyric tenor Trevor Scott is currently in his second year of a Masters of Musical Arts degree in Early Music, Art Song, and Oratorio, studying through a degree program sponsored by both the Yale School of Music and Yale Institute of Sacred Music. This past summer, he was honored to make his

professional international operatic debut, singing with the Danish National Opera in the chorus of Bohuslav Martin ’s The Greek Passion. He was also thrilled to be the tenor soloist in Bach’s Mass in B Minor (presented by Yale’s Schola Cantorum and Juilliard’s J415), which toured across England and Scotland.

Eliana Barwinski is a versatile mezzo-Soprano celebrated for her captivating performances and extensive musical expertise. Currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Religion and Music at Yale University’s Institute of Sacred Music, Barwinski has completed two years of her DM in Voice Performance from Indiana University and graduated with an MM and BM in Voice Performance with honors from the University of Michigan.

Horn player Susan LaFever: is a frequent recitalist and soloist and has toured the U.S., Europe, Mexico and Asia. Susan has given master classes at the University of Iowa, Western Illinois University, and UC, Santa Barbara and has presented clinics and performances at several Northeast

Horn Workshops, the International Women’s Brass Conference, the International Horn Symposium, and the National Flute Association Convention. She has degrees in performance from Union College, University of Nebraska, and Manhattan School of Music.

Pianist Tomoko Nakayama, a native of Japan, holds a Bachelor of Music in Harpsichord Performance and a Master of Music in Collaborative Piano from The Juilliard School. Her extensive experience includes collaborations with the International Vocal Art Institute in Israel, Opera on the Avalon, Tanglewood Music Center, Wolf Trap Opera, New York Lyric Opera Theatre, Lyric Theater of Connecticut, and Washington National Opera.

The program is presented by the Friends of Music at St. Mark’s, New Canaan, CT.

General tickets \$30, Students \$10 (\$35 and \$15 day of the event)

A light reception follows.

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 this hearing is scheduled as a hybrid meeting to be held in the Town Meeting Room at Town Hall, 77 Main Street. Access to this Public Hearing will be in person and via an on-line system at 7:00 p.m. to hear and decide the application(s) as follows:

1. 146 Oenoke Ridge – Upon application of William Pollack, Keith E. Simpson Associates, Authorized Agent for Town of New Canaan, owner(s), for Special Permit approval pursuant to Section(s) 6.4.G.1 to permit grading more than 1,000 cubic yards and soil disturbance of more than 10,000sq ft. of the spoils that are produced from an onsite pond dredging project in the Open Space Zone at 146 Oenoke Ridge (Map 32, Block 20, Lot 41).
2. 272 Elm Street – Upon application of VMI, Inc., C/O Frank Vuoso owner(s), for a Special Permit approval pursuant to Section(s) 4.4 to allow pet grooming as secondary use to Pet Supply in the Business A Zone at 272 Elm Street (Map L, Block 16, Lot 89).

**Dated: April 17, 2025
New Canaan, Connecticut
Daniel Radman, Chairman**

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission at a special meeting held via hybrid and in person on April 10, 2025 duly adopted the following resolution(s). Approved Applications become effective upon the filing of a copy thereof in the office of the Town Clerk.

1. RESOLVED, 82 Brookwood Lane – that the application of Amy Zabetakis, Rucci Law Group, LLC, Authorized Agent for Brookwood Hills, LLC, owner(s), for a nine (9) lot Subdivision of 31.7932 acres of property located in the Two Acre Zone at 82 Brookwood Lane (Map 33, Block 41, Lot 4) is approved 6-3 with conditions based on Site Plan dated 4/9/25.
- 2.RESOLVED, Discussion and consideration of the request of David Rucci, Lampert, Toohey & Rucci, LLC, Authorized Agent for 14 Richmond Hill, LLC, owner(s), to amend the Zoning Regulation dated June 16, 2007, amended December 6, 2024 to amend Section(s) 5.4.C to allow the Planning and Zoning Commission to reduce certain requirements for legally non-conforming lots in order to facilitate the redevelopment of these lots and housing in the Apartment Zone is denied 8-1 without prejudice.

**Krista Neilson, Secretary
Dated April 10, 2025**

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.

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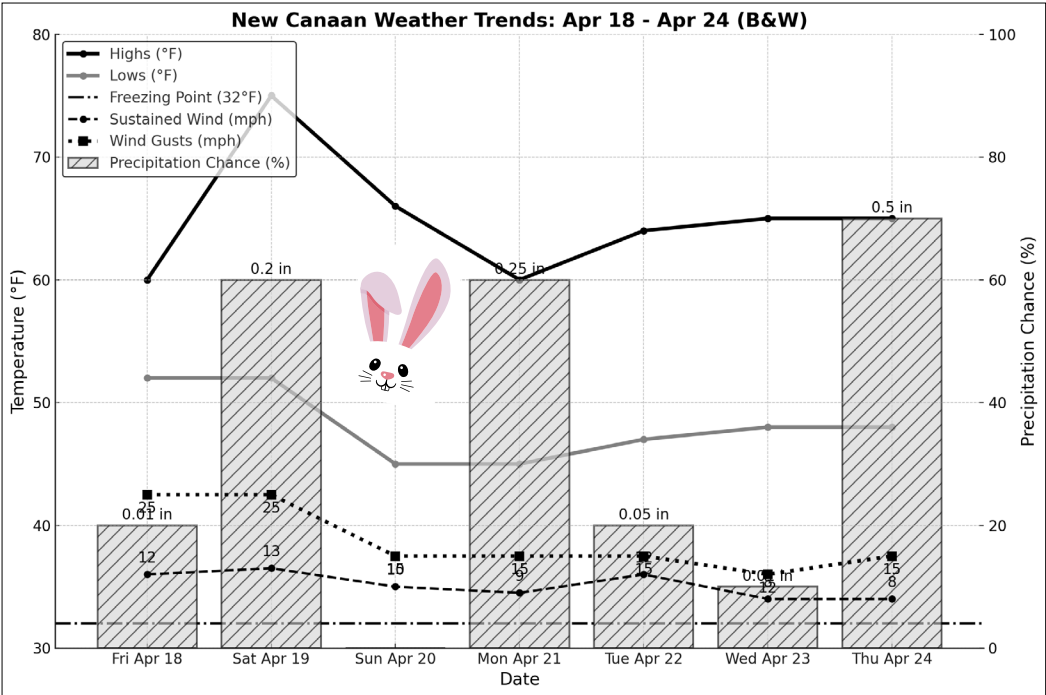
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New Canaan Weather Forecast: Here's What to Expect

By Emma Barhydt

As mid-April arrives in New Canaan, residents can expect a classic mix of spring weather, featuring intervals of sunshine, occasional rain, and a wide swing in temperatures. The upcoming week starts on a mild note with periods of warmth, followed by a cooler stretch and then the potential return of wet weather late in the week. While no severe storms are forecast, the variability of the season remains in full swing, making it wise to stay tuned to daily forecasts.

Friday, April 18 will be mostly cloudy and seasonably mild, with highs reaching around 60°F. A light south breeze will pick up to 10–15 mph by afternoon, with gusts up to 25 mph possible. There's a slight 20% chance of a passing afternoon shower, but most of the day should stay dry and pleasant under a mix of clouds and sunshine. Overnight, expect mostly cloudy skies with lows near 52°F and a gentle south-southwest wind around 10 mph. Any chance of rain will



diminish to less than 10%, making for a calm and mild spring night.

Saturday, April 19 ushers in a burst of warmth, with morning clouds giving way to partly sunny skies and highs soaring to a springlike 75°F. A southwest breeze of 10–15 mph will bring a touch of humidity, making it feel even

warmer. There's a 30–50% chance of a light, passing shower in the afternoon as a cold front approaches, though it's unlikely to disrupt the day. During the evening, the chance of a shower continues early (up to 60%), then conditions turn mostly cloudy with lows around 52°F and light west-northwest winds after the front passes.

Sunday, April 20 features a return of bright skies and pleasant weather. Expect partly sunny conditions throughout the day, with highs climbing to 66°F and a refreshing northwesterly breeze at 5–15 mph. Humidity levels will be low, making it one of the most comfortable days of the week for outdoor activities. Evening skies

begin mostly clear but turn increasingly cloudy overnight, with lows dipping to around 45°F and light winds shifting from the east. Rain is not expected, and the night will remain dry and cool.

Monday, April 21 will bring more clouds and a dip in temperatures as an unsettled weather pattern develops. Skies will be mostly cloudy with highs reaching just 60°F, and a southeast breeze around 5–10 mph will add a bit of a chill. Scattered showers become increasingly likely through the afternoon into early evening, with a rain chance of 40–60%. Overnight, expect periods of rain to continue with steady temperatures in the mid-40s, north winds at 10–15 mph, and roughly a quarter-inch of rain possible by morning.

Tuesday, April 22 begins with leftover clouds and perhaps a lingering shower, but improvement is on the horizon. As the day progresses, skies will become partly sunny and breezy, with highs in the lower to mid-60s and northwest winds around

10–15 mph drying out the area. Any early rain chances drop to around 10–20%, setting the stage for a brighter afternoon. The night will be mostly clear and cooler, with lows settling near 47°F and a light north-northwest breeze.

Wednesday, April 23 looks to be one of the drier, more pleasant days of the week. Skies will be partly sunny and temperatures will reach into the mid-60s, with light winds making for comfortable conditions. The chance of rain remains very low, and the day should stay dry. Clouds may begin to increase by evening, leading to partly cloudy skies overnight with lows in the upper 40s, but no precipitation is expected during the night.

Thursday, April 24 is shaping up to be a cloudier, potentially wetter day as another frontal system approaches. Skies will be mostly cloudy to overcast with highs in the mid-60s and a light southerly wind around 5–10 mph. Forecast models suggest a 60–70% chance of rain during the day, with the potential for brief periods of

Traveling? Check The Week Ahead Nationally

By Emma Barhydt

Northeast

Across the Northeast, the upcoming week will showcase a classic spring transition with a notable early warm spell giving way to a return of cooler, seasonable conditions. A ridge of high pressure will bring unseasonably warm temperatures into the weekend, with highs reaching well into the 70s°F and widespread sun. This warmth will be short-lived, however, as a strong cold front sweeps through by late Sunday into Monday, ushering in a shot of Canadian air and triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms. Behind the front, temperatures will cool markedly, with highs falling back into the 50s to low 60s°F and overnight lows dipping into the 30s and 40s°F, which could support patchy frost in inland valleys. The start of the workweek will feature dry and brisk conditions under building high pressure before a gradual warming trend resumes by mid-to-late week, lifting highs back into the 60s°F. Overall, the region will experience a brief burst of warmth followed by a return to a more typical mid-spring pattern, with fluctuating temperatures and a few periods of rain likely.

Southeast

In the Southeast, summer-like warmth will dominate much of the week as a ridge of high pressure and persistent southerly flow drive temperatures well above normal. Highs will climb into the low to mid-80s°F across much of the region, with some interior areas reaching the upper 80s°F, while overnight lows remain mild in the 60s°F. The start of the period will be largely dry, aside from a few isolated thunderstorms. However, by early next week, a sagging frontal boundary from the Midwest will introduce a more unsettled pattern, particularly

across the interior Southeast and Southern Appalachians. Multiple rounds of showers and thunderstorms are expected from midweek onward, raising concerns for localized flash flooding where heavy rain repeats, especially in the Tennessee Valley and surrounding highlands. While coastal areas will remain relatively dry and warm, inland regions will see increasing humidity and a growing potential for storms. Despite these storm chances, temperatures will remain warm and springlike, with little risk of any late-season frost.

Midwest

The Midwest will contend with a highly active spring pattern, marked by severe weather threats, heavy rain, and rapid temperature swings. The weekend begins with a potent storm system pushing through the region, bringing a risk of strong to severe thunderstorms from the Plains into the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys, accompanied by heavy rainfall and a heightened threat of flash flooding in already saturated areas. Large hail, damaging winds, and isolated tornadoes are all possible during this stretch, especially across the central and southern Midwest. As the front passes early next week, cooler air will sweep in, dropping daytime highs into the 50s°F across the north and 60s°F farther south, with overnight lows falling into the 30s°F—potentially cold enough for frost or even a light freeze in parts of the Upper Midwest. A brief respite of calmer weather will follow midweek before another storm system approaches by late in the period, renewing the risk of rain and thunderstorms. Expect a week of classic spring variability, with dramatic warm-ups, sudden cool-downs, and a near-constant dance between dry spells and storm threats.

Southwest

The Southwest will open the week under the influence of an upper-level trough, keeping conditions cooler and more unsettled than usual for April. Highs in the lower deserts will initially remain in the 60s to low 70s°F, with even cooler readings in higher elevations, and widespread clouds, scattered showers, and gusty winds will persist into the weekend. Snowfall will continue in the high country of the Four Corners region, with accumulation possible above 7,000–8,000 feet. Critical fire weather conditions will persist in parts of New Mexico and west Texas early in the period, with strong winds and low humidity, though some improvement is expected as moisture increases. As the trough exits, high pressure will gradually rebuild, allowing temperatures to rebound to near or above normal levels by midweek, with highs returning to the upper 70s to mid-80s°F and overnight lows in the 40s and 50s°F. Another upper trough approaching by late week may bring increased winds and light precipitation to northern parts of the region, but most areas will trend warmer and drier as the week progresses.

Northwest

A mixed pattern of rain, wind, and mountain snow will characterize the week in the Northwest, with a succession of Pacific systems driving changeable conditions. The period starts cool and unsettled, with daytime highs in the 50s°F along the coast and 40s°F in the mountains, accompanied by frequent valley rain and snow in higher elevations, particularly in the Cascades and northern Rockies. A short break in the weather may come early next week before the next frontal system arrives midweek, bringing another round of rain, high-elevation snow, and brisk winds. Gusts could

top 40–50 mph in exposed areas east of the Cascades, and the Climate Prediction Center highlights a slight risk for high winds during this period. Temperatures will remain near to slightly below seasonal norms, with highs in the 50s to low 60s°F and lows in the 30s to low 40s°F. The end of the week could bring drier conditions as the trough exits, but the pattern remains unsettled overall, typical of a Northwestern spring.

West Coast

The West Coast, particularly California, will enjoy a relatively stable week, dominated by fair weather and above-average warmth under the influence of a persistent offshore ridge. Inland temperatures will range from the 70s to mid-80s°F in the Central Valley and Southern California, while coastal areas remain cooler, generally in the 60s to low 70s°F with marine clouds possible in the mornings. Overnight lows will range from the upper 40s to mid-50s°F, with a slight dip in colder inland valleys. As a new trough develops midweek over the Western U.S., pressure gradients will tighten and bring gusty winds to typical mountain and desert passes in California, including a risk of elevated fire weather concerns by Wednesday and Thursday. These winds could gust above 40 mph in exposed areas and will coincide with drier air, though no significant precipitation is expected. While far northern California may see a few showers, Central and Southern California will remain dry throughout the week. A minor cooling trend may arrive late in the period, but the overall outlook remains warm, dry, and sunny for most of the state—classic springtime weather for the region.

ST. MARK’S CHURCH IN NEW CANAAN ANNOUNCES LINE-UP FOR MAY FAIR 2025



*** SAVE THE DATES ***
Thursday White Elephant Preview Party – May 8, 5-7PM
Friday Night Lights – May 9, 5-10PM
Saturday May Fair – May 10, 9AM-3PM (Rides until 6PM)
*** FUN FOR ALL AGES ***
20+ Amusement Midway Rides, White Elephant Tag Sale, Book Sale, Toy Tent, Outdoor & Sporting Goods Tent, Plant Tent for Mother’s Day, Food Court with Holy Smoker BBQ, Strawberry Shortcake, Face Painting, Live Entertainment, and Much More!
MONEY RAISED FOR CHURCH’S OUTREACH PROGRAMS
NEW CANAAN, CT (Wednesday, April 16, 2025) – Spring abounds, and May Fair is merely weeks away, a celebration always shared on the same weekend as Mother’s Day. For 76 years, May Fair has been a beloved multi-generational, family-favorite local event, attracting thousands of visitors from New Canaan and its surrounding towns. Rain or shine, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church kicks off the weekend events on its campus grounds with the second Annual White Elephant Preview Party on Thursday, May 8, from 5-7PM, Friday Night Lights on May 9, open from 5-10PM, and Saturday’s May Fair event on Saturday, May 10, open from 9AM-3PM, rides staying open until 6PM. All details are as follows and also available on the May Fair page of St. Mark’s website.

“After my first year as chair of the May Fair Executive Committee, my biggest takeaway has been the importance of people. Having experienced the weeks and hours of preparation, the endless organization and details, and the hands-on hard work, I truly believe it all comes down to the connections we make. It’s the special bond among volunteers that unites us and strengthens our community,” reflects current May Fair Chair John Kennedy, Jr. “In today’s uncertain world, working together creates joy, fosters fun and laughter, and brings happiness as a community, igniting a feel-good emotion that has a ripple effect.”
All net proceeds support St. Mark’s ministries and special grant support to other nonprofits who serve those in need. For more information about grant opportunities, please visit our website.
Please refer to the following three-pages for all details on May Fair 2025. Information is also available on the May Fair page of St. Mark’s website.
What’s Happening: Event Highlights
Hours of Operation
Tickets & Wristband Sales
White Elephant Tag Sale - Pre-Event Donation Days
Volunteer Locally - All Welcome!
St. Mark’s May Fair, originally known as the Strawberry Festival, was established in 1949. This annual event now attracts thousands of visitors from New Canaan and neighboring towns in Fairfield and Westchester Counties. The weekend-long festivities are organized by the May Fair Executive Committee, which receives significant support from more than 500 volunteers who dedicate their time and energy to both the preparation and the event days. All net proceeds from the fair benefit St. Mark’s ministries and provide special grants to other nonprofits that serve those in need. St. Mark’s Episcopal Church is a community built on love, where members contribute their time, talent, and resources. It is part of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, the Episcopal Church of the United States and the worldwide Anglican Communion.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS
The Midway Rides - Weather Permitting

Open Friday night and all-day Saturday (hours listed below)
More than 20 rides, including Zero Gravity, The Tornado, Cliffhanger, Rock Star, Sky Hawk, and more
Friday Night Lights & Wristband Sales
Access to all Midway rides with purchase of \$35 wristband bracelet, valid Friday only (not Saturday)
Available for purchase at May Fair Grounds, Friday, May 9, beginning at 4 PM
GetAbout New Canaan Shuttle Service to May Fair Grounds
GetAbout will provide shuttle van service to May Fair on Friday night and Saturday from the Lumberyard Parking Lot (hours listed below)
Old Faithful Rides for All Ages - Saturday Only, 10AM-1PM
Ride around town on the beloved antique fire engine “Old Faithful”
Face Painting for All Ages - Friday Night & Saturday All-Day
An audience favorite! Whimsical and creative face designs for the young, and the-young-at-heart.
Food Court Offerings
St. Mark’s own Holy Smokers BBQ pulled pork and beef brisket
Award-winning (unofficially) Bell Tower BBQ sauce
Fresh corn on the cob, grilled burgers, and hot dogs
Newly added wood-fired pizza truck and pop-up ice cream shop
The Original Strawberry Festival’s Shortcake & Ice Cream
For 76 years, this forever favorite will be available Friday night and Saturday (while supplies last!)
White Elephant Preview Party - Thursday, May 8 from 5-7PM
This is a tickets-only event. Tickets may be purchased on the May Fair Website for \$50 each as of April 21st. Must be 21 years or older to attend.
Ticket price includes preview and shopping of White Elephant items for purchase that evening and two drink tickets.
White Elephant Tag Sale - Open to all on Saturday, 9AM-3PM
Embrace spring cleaning! It’s a fundraiser for a cause.
Review our accepted donations list, click here. Donation days listed below.
Great treasures found among artwork, jewelry, fine goods & collectibles, furniture, linens, housewares, books, toys, outdoor & sporting goods, and much more.
Live Entertainment - Saturday Only
11:30AM - New Canaan’s Town Band
12:30PM - Pivot Ministries Choir
1:30PM - May Fair Dog Show - All welcome - any level of experience and talent welcome!
Calling all four-legged, tail-wagging entrants for our 3rd Annual May Fair Dog Show.
Email msilvermine@gmail.com with your name, phone number, email, and dog name.
Plant Tent Gifts for Mother’s Day!
Remember Mom on Sunday, May 11th! Plant varieties will be available to purchase.



It’s Wine O’Clock at Franco’s

By JOHN KRIZ

You can tell much about a person from how he or she approaches wine. Is the focus technical, on yeast strains and the type of oak barrels used? Or is it about the terroir, delving deeply into weather and soil types? Maybe it’s the filtering, or lack thereof, and the proper way to decant.

For Carl Franco, the avuncular owner of Elm Street anchor Franco’s Wine Merchants www.francoswine.com the focus is on pairing wine with food, and matching the wine to each course. It’s about maximizing enjoyment of the meal, in the company of friends. Conversation and conviviality. Community.

Franco’s started as a grocery store in the 1920’s, founded by Albert Franco, Carl’s uncle. “The day after Prohibition ended, my uncle drove up to Hartford and got a liquor license, so officially [we] became a liquor store in 1933,” he notes. Albert was later joined by his sister Lydia, his brother Emil and his brother Dick (Carl’s father). In the 1980’s the older generation retired, and the store was turned over to Carl’s brother Rick and his sister Anne Franco MacAndrew. Carl joined them in the early 1990’s, and is now the family steward of the business.

The Franco family has a long history of involvement in the town. Carl’s sister, Katie Franco O’Neill, is on the Parking Commission, as was his brother Rick and his father. His sister Kelley was on the Waveny LifeCare Network board, and his sister-in-law Mary is a current vice-chair. “We’ve always done our best to support many of the local charities such as the NCHS Scholarship Fund, the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society, Town Players, Staying Put and many of the local churches.”

Running a Liquor Store

The best aspect of running a liquor store? “The most interesting part is just really the day-to-day interaction with customers, and just conveying my knowledge and trying to garner from them what is it that they might be looking for, or what their taste would be if they’re not quite familiar,” he says. Some customers are novices, wanting to learn about wine. Others just want a nice bottle for dinner. Still others are connoisseurs, seeking a specific region or grape variety. No matter. Carl is there to assist. Plus, he personally tastes around 90% of the \$50 a bottle and under wines, so most of his tasting and food pairing comments are based on his direct experience.

Customer Service

Service is a watchword, and Franco’s has always been service-oriented, Carl stresses, noting the store’s free delivery. Since Uber, Carl says people think delivery is a new thing, but Franco’s has been delivering “since the 1920s when it was a grocery store. And so it’s just part of who we are. It’s helping the customers out.” He goes on to say that “it’s just the hands-on customer service as well, and not just the knowledge. We get to know our customers and we know them. We know their children. It’s a whole small town interaction thing. How’s your mother doing? I know she was sick. How’s your kid doing at college? I know it’s his freshman year and it’s... it’s not a selling point. It’s just what we do.”

What’s New?

Wines to try, according to Carl, include German and Alsatian whites, such as Rieslings and wines from the Mosel. He says they’re ignored too often because people assume they’ll be very sweet, but that’s not always the case. And

then there are wines from lesser known areas of the Loire and Burgundy, plus southern France. “I think people have preconceived notions,” about areas, and he tries to open customers’ vistas.

Franco’s holds afternoon wine tastings on Fridays and Saturdays. “They’re all wines that I think people should try and introduce themselves to because they’re just either unusual grapes, unusual regions, where they come from, or quite frankly, just a nice family run vineyard.” Carl notes that “just having an open mind” is important. If you’ve been a red wine drinker, try some whites. And vice versa.

Spirits are also having their day, remarks Carl, going on to say that Millennials might not want to do what their parents do -- but grandparents are another story. And grandparents enjoyed cocktails. This is not only driving sales of tequila, gin, rye and bourbon, but also liqueurs such as Grand Marnier, Sambuca, Amaretto, Fernet Branca and Chartreuse, which are often used in mixed drinks. He laments that categories such as vintage Port have fallen off, concluding that “with cocktails now being so big by the time people are done with dinner, they’re like, ‘I’ve had enough.’”

New Canaan Life

“I think New Cannan is a great community,” says Carl, “so the advantages outweigh the disadvantages by far. People do like to support the downtown.” Newcomers to New Canaan are particularly noted. People could come from New York City, or be used to on-line shopping, and “it’s kind of nice to get them introduced into what a real village feel is like. And I try my best to do that if I notice a new customer in because it’s not just this business: it’s just so many of the other ones [downtown businesses].”

In addition, he says the downtown streets and sidewalks are always clean, and the New Canaan

Beautification League’s hanging flower baskets are inviting. “People seem to take notice to know what the town needs. So right now I’m not seeing anything that’s lacking at the moment as in regards to the vibrancy of downtown.”

Parking

It seems parking is an inevitable concern for downtown retailers. Carl notes positively a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting and discussion on the topic with First Selectman Dionna Carlson. For Carl, a key issue is turnover of parking slots, with the ‘hang time’ increasing due to the growth of restaurants and loss of parking spots on Elm Street due to safety concerns around crosswalks. These factors have crimped foot traffic, asserts Carl, who says there is “a need for short-term parking on Elm Street,” for customers who have only a quick errand to run. The most common complaint Carl hears from his customers is that “I would come in more often, but I can never find parking.” Carl goes on to say that “‘Convenient’ is the key word here. Every business in town is battling the internet, and the biggest advantage the internet has is convenience.”

In the Store

Walk in to Franco’s and you’ll soon be embraced by the welcoming, lived-in feel, with beers and chilled beverages in the back, spirits on the right, liqueurs and premium wines on the left, and more everyday wines in the middle. You never feel rushed or have to search for help, and they’ll happily take it to your car – even if it’s a hike to get there. And the store window always has something new. Hey, it’s downtown New Canaan. It’s just how we roll.

John J Kriz is a 30+ year resident of New Canaan. The views expressed are his own.

DVCC Welcomes Survivor and Advocate, Ashley Bendiksen, Voice of Courage

The Domestic Violence Crisis Center (DVCC) will host its 23rd Annual Voices of Courage Spring Luncheon on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at Tokeneke Club in Darien. This year’s keynote will be given by nationally recognized speaker and advocate, Ashley Bendiksen, who will share her personal journey as a survivor of teen dating violence and speak to the critical need for prevention, awareness, and community support at all levels. Tickets and sponsorships for the event may be purchased at VoicesofCourage-DVCC.org.

With a message rooted in both lived experience and field expertise, Bendiksen will explore the complex dynamics of intimate partner violence—what makes it difficult to leave, the red flags young people often miss, and what she wishes she had known earlier. She will also address how families, schools, and communities can better support youth and survivors of all ages through prevention education, open dialogue, and advocacy.

“In sharing my story, I hope to empower others—especially young people—to recognize unhealthy relationships early, speak up, and know they’re not alone,” said Bendiksen. “Education and awareness can change, and even save, lives.”

Bendiksen is a sought after expert on domestic violence, uniquely specializing in how abuse impacts youth. She has spoken at leading conferences, including NOVA (National Organization for Victim Assistance) and the National Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation (CESE), and has delivered expert testimony in support

of a Massachusetts bill mandating employment protections for victims of abuse. Bendiksen is also the Founder of the Blue Hearts Project, a global storytelling platform for survivors, and was featured in a 12x award-winning documentary. Additionally, Bendiksen serves on the Board of Directors for the Women’s Resource Center and co-owns Island Youth Coaching, a consulting and life coaching agency dedicated to supporting and empowering youth. Learn more at ashleybendiksen.com.

“All too often, people think domestic violence doesn’t happen in Fairfield County—but I can tell you it does,” said Suzanne Adam, Chief Executive Officer of DVCC. “Voices of Courage is not only a fabulous event, it is critical to our mission. Funds raised from the luncheon ensure we will be there to answer the call when a domestic violence victim needs our services.”

Last year, DVCC provided direct services to 3,619 survivors of domestic violence across Stamford, Norwalk, Darien, New Canaan, Weston, Westport, and Wilton. All proceeds from the luncheon will benefit DVCC’s mission to provide effective services, support, and education for the prevention and elimination of domestic violence in Connecticut communities.

DVCC offers a full range of services including crisis intervention through its 24-hour hotline and two emergency safe houses, adult and youth counseling, legal advocacy, housing and financial sustainability, and prevention education. All services are free and confidential.

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SALLY KALTMAN

1936 – 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Sally Brandes Kaltman, on April 12, 2025, following complications from dementia.

Sally was born in Atlanta, Georgia, to Floyd and Peggy Brandes. She grew up in Miami, Florida, where she attended Miami Beach High School before earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Miami in 1958.

That same year, she married the love of her life, Allen Kaltman, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Together, they began a life of adventure that took them from New Jersey to Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, before settling in Stamford, Connecticut, where they raised their family and lived for 50 years. After Allen's passing in 2008, Sally moved to New Canaan, CT, and later to Vero Beach, Florida, in 2024.

Sally was preceded in death by her husband, Allen Kaltman. Survived by her daughters, Tracy Kaltman-Ahmed of Minneapolis, MN, and Jan Kach and son-in-law, Robin Kach, of Vero Beach, FL. Her grandchildren, Sara Jackson (and husband Richard Jackson), Alex Ahmed, Alison Kach, and Nicholas Kach; and her great-granddaughter, Layla Jackson.

Professionally, Sally was a talented residential interior designer before finding her true passion in antiques. She opened

Obituaries

a small shop in New Canaan, eventually expanding to a prominent storefront on Elm Street known as Sallea Antiques. Her impeccable taste, keen eye for detail, and innate sense of style helped her build a successful antiques business that flourished for over 30 years. She exhibited at select antique shows across the country and was highly respected in the field.

Sally will be remembered for her elegance, creativity, love of animals, and unmatched flair for curating beauty. She was a world traveler, sharing countless journeys with Allen, always eager to explore new places and cultures.

Sally will be laid to rest beside her husband, Allen, at Fairfield Memorial Park Cemetery in Stamford, CT. A memorial service will be held in the Stamford area in late June to celebrate her life.

She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.



BEVERLY BALDWIN

May 25, 1938 - April 4, 2025

Beverly Carter Baldwin went to be with the Lord, on Friday, April 4. She was at peace with her loving family present. Beverly was 86 years old and lived a strong wonderful Christian life.

Beverly was born in the Philippine Islands where her father, a career Naval Officer, served prior to WWII. She and her mother moved to Washington, DC before

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 Carol@SentinelHometownNews.com.

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

May 6th 2025

11-1 pm
1-3 pm

Door prize with every ticket

AT THE NEW CANAAN PLAYHOUSE

93 ELM STREET

www.blossomhill-foundation.org/mothers

Call for free quote!



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REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD EDITOR

John Engel | John.Engel@Elliman.com

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD CONTRIBUTORS

Christa Kenin | Christa.Kenin@Elliman.com

Robyn Bonder | Robyn.Bonder@Elliman.com

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
101 Parade Hill Road	\$1,349,000	SUN	11:00-1:00PM	Call It Closed Realty
95 Louises Lane	\$2,895,000	SUN	1:00-3:00PM	Compass

NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
101 Parade Hill Road	\$1,349,000	1,304	\$1,034.51	0.19	3	2
202 Gramercy Park #202	\$1,550,000	1,573	\$985.38		2	2
24 Oak Grove Place	\$1,599,000	1,938	\$825.08	0.45	4	2
27 Rippowam Road	\$2,612,500	3,446	\$758.13	3.85	4	3
139 Jelliff Mill Road	\$2,725,000	6,072	\$448.78	1.16	5	5
95 Louises Lane	\$2,895,000	4,900	\$590.82	3.30	5	3

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
37 Lakeview Avenue #37	\$1,699,000	\$1,699,000	\$1,875,000	8	4	3	
508 Ponus Ridge	\$3,950,000	\$3,950,000	\$4,400,000	13	5	6	2.84

This Isn't a Rally. It's a Relocation.



BY JOHN ENGEL

Global Shocks, Local Spin

Ray Dalio doesn't forecast downturns; he forecasts breakdowns. "We're not just heading for a recession," [he said](#). "We're witnessing the slow unraveling of the old world order." What he means: U.S. debt is unsustainable, trust in the dollar is eroding, internal conflict is rising, and the geopolitical advantage we've had since 1945 is slipping.

Larry Fink agrees. In his 2025 shareholder letter, the BlackRock CEO [writes](#), "Persistent inflation and geopolitical fragmentation will constrain global growth." In private conversations, Fink [says](#) most CEOs already believe the U.S. is in a recession.

Jamie Dimon [puts the odds of recession at 50%](#), citing tariffs, inflation, deficits, global unrest, and asset bubbles. He warned of a "stagflationary environment" not unlike the 1970s.

Meanwhile, in Fairfield County, agents are quoting bidding wars and predicting a hot spring market. It's as if none of this is happening.

Why the disconnect? Blame psychology. Daniel Kahneman called it the **availability heuristic** — our tendency to overweight recent experience when forecasting the future. A few strong closings in March and the phones start ringing. But this isn't a recovery. It's reflex.

New York City — Not Falling, Not Rising

Jonathan Miller [calls](#) Q1 2025 "a return to zero." Not collapse. Not growth. Zero. Manhattan's average luxury sale price rose to \$10.3M, but that's because the average size rose. Price-per-square-foot? Flat.

Inventory in the top 10% fell 24.1% year-over-year. Cash deals dominated: 58% of all transactions, 90% for properties above \$3M. Still, bidding wars accounted for just 5.4% of sales — no different from [last year](#).

So is this a good time to buy? Roberto Cabrera thinks so. He's no cheerleader — he's co-host of Boroughs & Burbs and one of the sharper NYC minds. His take: inventory is tight, demand hasn't disappeared, and buyers who wait for lower rates will pay higher prices. Cabrera calls this "the eye of the storm" — calm for now, but unlikely to last.

History supports him. New York doesn't recover by accident; it reinvents. In the late 1970s, Ed Koch faced near-bankruptcy. He kept the lights on and laid the groundwork for housing development. Giuliani cut crime and balanced the budget. Bloomberg rezoned 40% of the city, built Hudson Yards, greenlit Cornell Tech, and backed the construction or

preservation of 165,000 housing units between 2004–2013.

What followed? A wave of capital. Foreign buyers. Private equity. Wall Street bonuses — \$28.5 billion in 2006; \$33 billion in 2021. Tech migration. Low rates. The myth of NYC as "bulletproof" was built [during those booms](#).

Roberto, that myth is wobbling. Office occupancy is still stuck below 60%. Metro-North ridership is down 32% from pre-pandemic highs. The hedge funds are relocating. Related is building "Wall Street South" in Palm Beach. The Texas Stock Exchange (TXSE), backed by BlackRock and Citadel, launches this year.

When New York Sneezes...

You've heard it: "When New York sneezes, Connecticut catches cold." True. But the inverse is also true. When capital leaves New York, it doesn't disappear; it moves.

[SmartMLS](#) reports that New Canaan's median sale price in February hit \$2.9M, up 31.8% year-over-year. Price per square foot rose 13% to \$494. Dollar volume surged 69% to \$30.6M. Months of supply: 2.2, down from 2.9 the year before.

Days on market fell to 15. The list-to-sale price ratio hovered at 100%, even as [rates held above 6.75%](#) and jumbo financing tightened.

But this isn't about rates. It's about trust. Buyers aren't chasing appreciation. They're chasing insulation. Privacy. Liquidity. In a world where you can't trust the Fed or the headlines or the banks, a \$3 million house in a AAA-rated town with 99.8% tax collection starts to look like the safest asset in America.

This isn't a rally. It's a relocation.

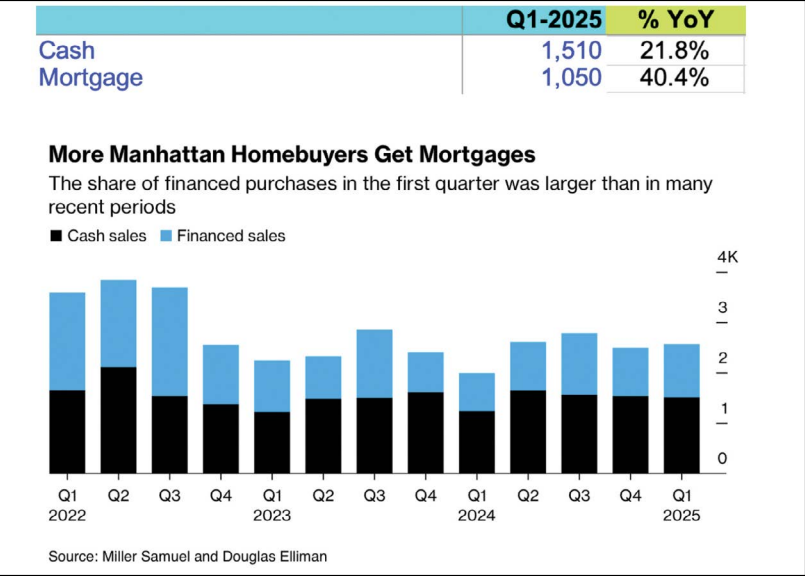
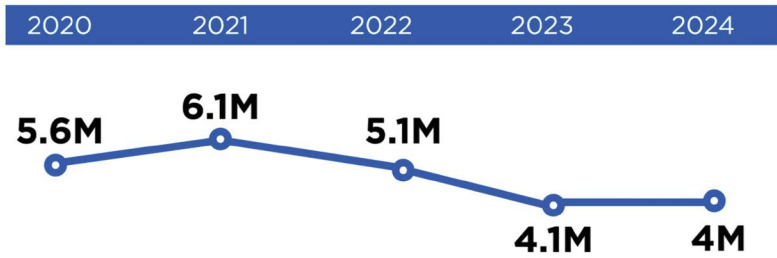
"We're not just heading for a recession. We're witnessing the slow unraveling of the old world order."

A capital flight from complexity to simplicity. From city to cul-de-sac. It's defensive.

And here's the warning: If you think this is bullish, you're reading it wrong. Inflation isn't going away. The Fed may raise again. If rates touch 8% and lending tightens, the 2025 market could stall. Sellers hoping for 2025 to be "the year" should sell in 2025.

John Engel is a broker with Douglas Elliman in New Canaan and these opinions are his own. The online version contains hyperlinks to the articles and charts referred.

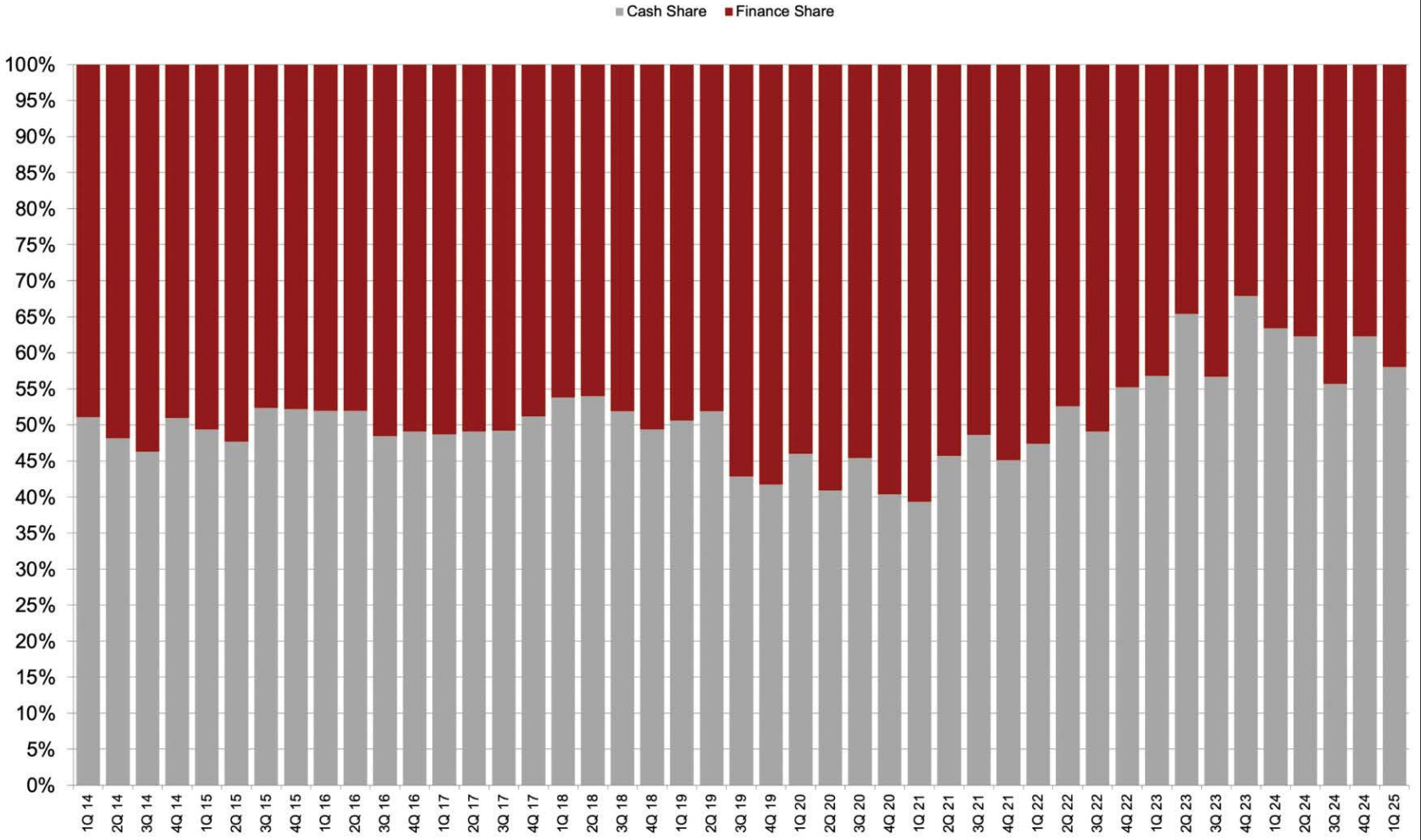
Home Sales



Manhattan Matrix	Q1-2025	%Δ (QTR)	Q4-2024	%Δ (YR)	Q1-2024
Average Sales Price	\$2,236,193	7.1%	\$2,087,958	21.1%	\$1,846,391
Average Price Per Sq Ft	\$1,704	0.4%	\$1,697	9.8%	\$1,552
Median Sales Price	\$1,165,000	5.9%	\$1,100,000	11.0%	\$1,049,399
New Development	\$2,380,000	-2.0%	\$2,427,500	13.3%	\$2,100,000
Re-Sale	\$1,035,000	7.2%	\$965,285	6.2%	\$975,000
Number of Sales (Closed)	2,560	2.6%	2,496	28.8%	1,988
Days on Market (From Last List Date)	90	15.4%	78	23.3%	73
Listing Discount (From Last List Price)	6.6%		9.2%		6.6%
Listing Inventory	7,399	20.1%	6,161	7.5%	6,885
Months of Supply	8.7	17.6%	7.4	-16.3%	10.4

Source: Elliman Report: Q1-2025 Manhattan Sales

Manhattan Market Share Of Cash v. Financed Sales



Cash Sales Source: Douglas Elliman
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Real Estate Appraisers & Consultants



Yikes! I Need to Cook Lamb!

By JOHN KRIZ

Lamb, especially leg of lamb, is a classic Easter meal, but it often intimidates people. Maybe not as much as a Thanksgiving turkey, but still a challenge. Choices. Recipes. Help!

Fear not. Read on, and find some no-brainer recipes and advice.

Choices

Butterflied Lamb This is a leg of lamb that has been boned, and not tied up into a roll. It comes out more or less flat. This cut is best cooked on a grill, so if you're up for that, and the weather is co-operating, this is an option. Note that carving a butterflied leg of lamb is very easy.

Whole Leg of Lamb These come long and oblong, with several types of bones in them. As such, they can create challenges depending on the size of your oven or roasting pan. Plus, carving them can be a challenge best performed by a surgeon.

Semi-Boneless Leg of Lamb Similar to whole leg of lamb, but less so, and easier to carve.

Boned and Rolled Leg of Lamb As the name says, it's boneless, so is very easy to carve. Simply put, it's a butterflied leg of lamb that's been tied up in butcher's twine, or maybe put in a mesh bag. Be sure to cut the twine or bag off before carving.

Lamb vs. Mutton

Lamb is a young sheep. Mutton is an old sheep. Mutton has a strong taste and is best reserved for the adventurous.

Grass Fed?

Lambs are ruminants, meaning they are designed to eat grasses. If the lamb is grass fed, it should say so on the wrapping. In my view, grass fed is best, as it's how nature designed.

Where to Find Lamb

Around Easter you'll find that most grocers and butchers carry leg of lamb, though they might not have all the choices listed above available.

Most of the lamb you'll find will be from the USA or Australia. Australian lamb is almost always grass fed.

New Canaan Butcher has lamb, but you might want to order ahead and ask for the exact cut you want. Stewart's Market has lamb, as does Acme (which often carries Australian grass fed lamb), Whole Foods and Stew Leonard's. You might consider trying The Hickories (www.thehickories.org) organic farm in Ridgefield, which raises lamb, among many other things. Availability varies, so check first.

Cooking

Butterflied Leg of Lamb I recommend marinating it overnight, covered, in red wine, some olive oil, a tablespoon of brown sugar, a shot of red wine vinegar and either dried rosemary or some fresh sprigs. If you're energetic add a quartered onion and some peeled garlic cloves to the mix. Then cook it on the grill until done. Feel

free to add salt and pepper, and some diced garlic and dried rosemary, on the lamb while cooking. What's 'done'? Depends on taste, but medium rare is usually best. Start cooking with high heat to sear it on each side, then lower the heat. Note that butterflied leg of lamb will have variable thicknesses, so parts could be medium, and others medium rare or rare. Cooking time is usually around 45 minutes, but keep checking.

Leg of Lamb – All Other Types Here I recommend taking a knife with a long, narrow blade, such as a paring knife, and poke some holes in the lamb and stuff those holes with garlic cloves cut in half lengthwise. Assume 5-6 of these – more if you like garlic. Line the roasting pan with foil (eases clean up) and in the bottom add a peeled, quartered onion, a head of garlic cut sideways to expose all the cloves, and a sprig or two of fresh rosemary. Also pour some red wine and/or beef broth in the roasting pan to at most ¼ inch depth. Put the lamb in the pan. Mix some olive oil, dried rosemary, and diced garlic or garlic powder (assuming you like garlic) in a bowl and brush it over the lamb. Sprinkle the lamb with salt and pepper. Cook at 325 degrees until done, which is around 130-135 degrees internal temperature for medium rare. (Cooking time varies with size. Lamb with bones takes longer.) Use an instant read thermometer in the thickest part to test. Transfer done lamb to a carving board. If you want some bling, lay a sprig or two of fresh rosemary on the lamb to impress everyone before carving.

Carving

Carving depends on the bone structure and that varies depending on how your lamb was butchered. Use a decent, sharp chef's knife, a carving fork and some tongs. You'll likely need a sharp paring knife to cut around the bones once the big bits of meat have been carved off.

Condiments

The British like mint sauce with lamb. It comes in a jar. Others prefer Pickapeppa sauce from Jamaica. Up to you. If it's gravy you seek, skim what fat you can off the roasting pan drippings, add some flour (I like arrowroot – gluten free) and mix with a whisk. If your pan is not deep, pour the drippings into a big bowl and whisk – avoids spills. Homemade!

Leftovers

Cold lamb is terrific. Try it if you have not yet done so. I recommend carving all the meat off the bones once dinner is over and the meat has cooled. Store it in a tight container.

Wine

Yes, you'll need wine with your lamb. (Is that even a question?) As always tastes vary, but speaking as a winemaker I recommend a nice Syrah (sometimes spelt Shiraz). But most decent red wines will work.

John J Kriz is a 30+ year New Canaan resident, scratch cook and home winemaker. The opinions expressed are his own.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

Open Mic Night

FPCNC Open Mic: Diverse Expressions
Featured Performance by Sarah LeMieux

You are invited to an evening to share
music and/or poetry (originals and
covers welcome)!



Wednesday April 23

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
followed by an
open jam session

178 Oenoke ridge,
New Canaan CT

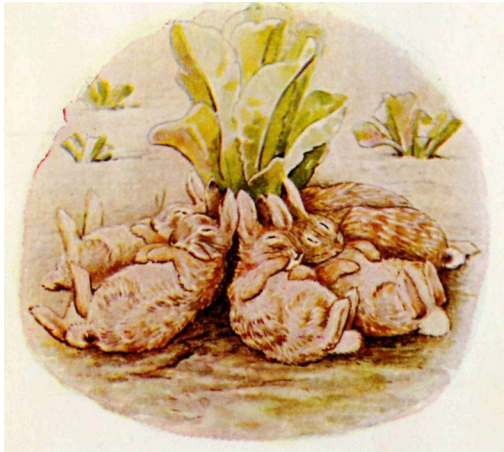
Walk-ins Welcome

Contact Nick Depuy at
nickdepuysite@gmail.com
to sign up and for more information

The Sentinel

The Tale of the Flopsy Bunnies BY BEATRIX POTTER

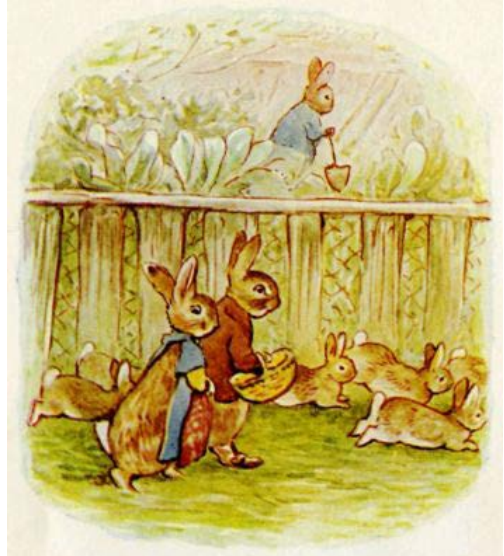
It is said that the effect of eating too much lettuce is "soporific."



I have never felt sleepy after eating lettuces; but then I am not a rabbit.



They certainly had a very soporific effect upon the Flopsy Bunnies!



When Benjamin Bunny grew up, he married his Cousin Flopsy. They had a large family, and they were very improvident and cheerful. I do not remember the separate names of their children; they were generally called the "Flopsy Bunnies."



As there was not always quite enough to eat,—Benjamin used to borrow cabbages from Flopsy's brother, Peter Rabbit, who kept a nursery garden.



[“The Tale of the Flopsy Bunnies” Deepens Beatrix Potter’s Rabbit Stories](#)

Beatrix Potter's *The Tale of the Flopsy Bunnies*, published in 1909, continues the world introduced in *Peter Rabbit* and *Benjamin Bunny*, shifting focus to Benjamin and his wife, Flopsy. Now parents to six rambunctious young rabbits, they navigate familiar perils with a blend of mischief and mild suspense.

The story unfolds in Mr. McGregor's garden, where the Flopsy Bunnies, after overindulging in overripe lettuce, fall asleep and are captured by McGregor. He ties them in a sack, intending to cook them. Benjamin and Flopsy, with the help of the tidy field mouse Thomasina Tittlemouse, outwit McGregor and rescue the children, replacing them with vegetable refuse.

The tale offers gentle lessons in caution and

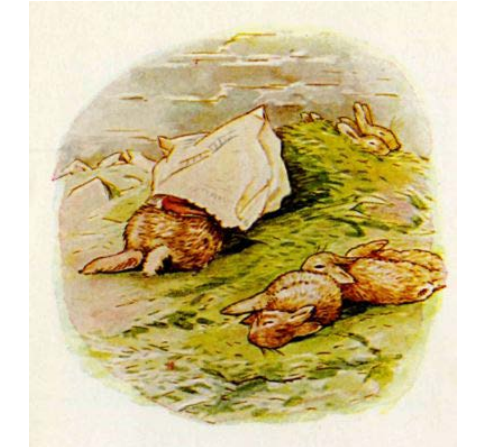
Sometimes Peter Rabbit had no cabbages to spare.



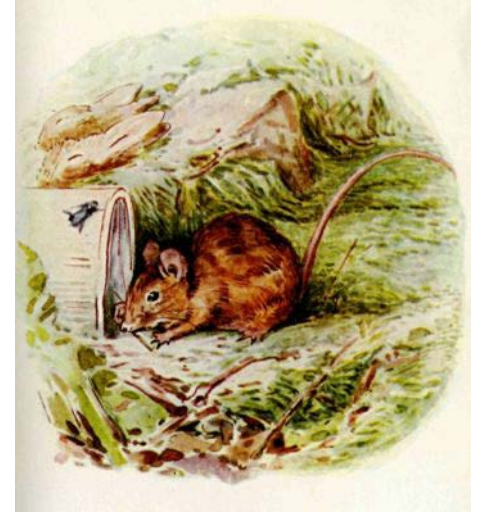
When this happened, the Flopsy Bunnies went across the field to a rubbish heap, in the ditch outside Mr. McGregor's garden.

Mr. McGregor's rubbish heap was a mixture. There were jam pots and paper bags, and mountains of chopped grass from the mowing machine (which always tasted oily), and some rotten vegetable marrows and an old boot or two. One day—oh joy!—there were a quantity of overgrown lettuces, which had "shot" into flower.

The Flopsy Bunnies simply stuffed lettuces. By degrees, one after another, they were overcome with slumber, and lay down in the mown grass.



Benjamin was not so much overcome as his children. Before going to sleep he was sufficiently wide awake to put a paper bag over his head to keep off the flies.



The little Flopsy Bunnies slept delightfully in the warm sun. From the lawn beyond the garden came the distant clackety sound of the mowing machine. The bluebottles buzzed about the wall, and a little old mouse picked over the rubbish among the jam pots. (I can tell you her name, she was called Thomasina Tittlemouse, a woodmouse with a long tail.)



She rustled across the paper bag, and awakened Benjamin Bunny. The mouse apologized profusely, and said that she knew Peter Rabbit.

While she and Benjamin were talking, close under the wall, they heard a heavy tread above their heads; and suddenly Mr. McGregor emptied out a sackful of lawn mowings right upon the top of the sleeping Flopsy Bunnies! Benjamin shrank down under his paper bag.

resourcefulness. It also reinforces Potter's themes of parental protection and cleverness in the face of danger. Thomasina Tittlemouse, introduced here, would go on to star in her own book, establishing Potter's interconnected character universe.

Potter's watercolors again depict English garden life with precision. According to the Morgan Library & Museum, her illustrations were drawn from careful observation, lending naturalism to her anthropomorphic characters and rural settings.

Though quieter than earlier entries, *The Tale of the Flopsy Bunnies* contributes significantly to the charm and continuity of Potter's world. The title characters, rarely named individually, embody collective childhood vulnerability. More than a century later, the book continues to engage readers with its subtle humor, pastoral imagery, and enduring moral core.

The mouse hid in a jam pot.

The little rabbits smiled sweetly in their sleep under the shower of grass; they did not awake because the lettuces had been so soporific. They dreamt that their mother Flopsy was tucking them up in a hay bed.

Mr. McGregor looked down after emptying his sack. He saw some funny little brown tips of ears sticking up through the lawn mowings. He stared at them for some time.



Presently a fly settled on one of them and it moved. Mr. McGregor climbed down on to the rubbish heap— "One, two, three, four! five! six leetle rabbits!" said he as he dropped them into his sack. The Flopsy Bunnies dreamt that their mother was turning them over in bed. They stirred a little in their sleep, but still they did not wake up.

Mr. McGregor tied up the sack and left it on the wall. He went to put away the mowing machine.



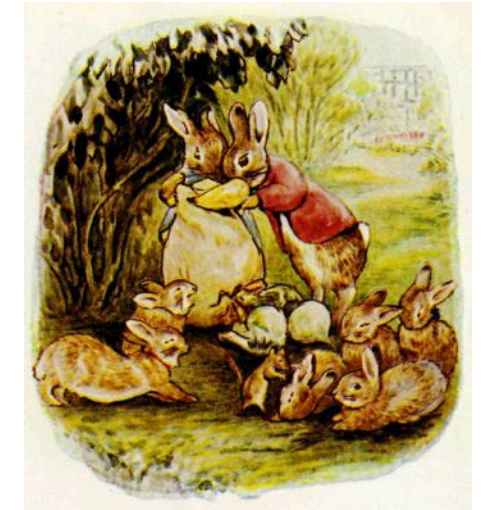
While he was gone, Mrs. Flopsy Bunny (who had remained at home) came across the field. She looked suspiciously at the sack and wondered where everybody was?



Then the mouse came out of her jam pot, and Benjamin took the paper bag off his head, and they told the doleful tale.

Benjamin and Flopsy were in despair, they could not undo the string.

But Mrs. Tittlemouse was a resourceful person. She nibbled a hole in the bottom corner of the sack.



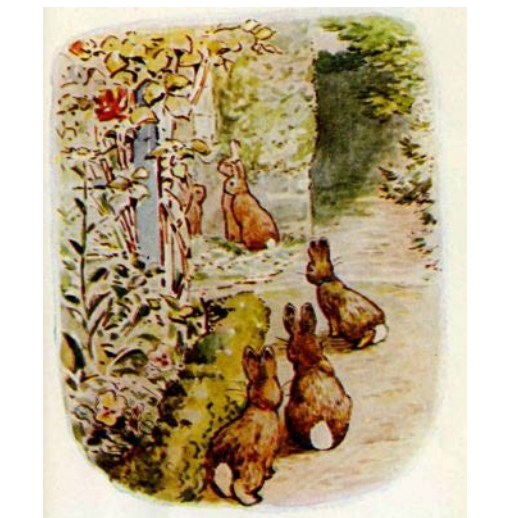
The little rabbits were pulled out and pinched to wake them.

Their parents stuffed the empty sack with three rotten vegetable marrows, an old blacking-brush and two decayed turnips. Then they all hid under a bush and watched for Mr. McGregor.

Mr. McGregor came back and picked up the sack, and carried it off.

He carried it hanging down, as if it were rather heavy.

The Flopsy Bunnies followed at a safe distance. They watched him go into his house. And then they crept up to the window to listen.



Mr. McGregor threw down the sack on the stone floor in a way that would have been extremely painful to the Flopsy Bunnies, if they had happened to have been inside it. They could hear him drag his chair on the flags, and chuckle— "One, two, three, four, five, six leetle rabbits!" said Mr. McGregor.



"Eh? What's that? What have they been spoiling now?" enquired Mrs. McGregor. "One, two, three, four, five, six leetle fat rabbits!" repeated Mr. McGregor, counting on his fingers—"one, two, three—" "Don't you be silly; what do you mean, you silly old man?" "In the sack! one, two, three, four, five, six!" replied Mr. McGregor. (The youngest Flopsy Bunny got upon the window-sill.)



Mrs. McGregor took hold of the sack and felt it. She said she could feel six, but they must be old rabbits, because they were so hard and all different shapes.

"Not fit to eat; but the skins will do fine to line my old cloak."

"Line your old cloak?" shouted Mr. McGregor—"I shall sell them and buy myself baccy!"

"Rabbit tobacco! I shall skin them and cut off their heads."

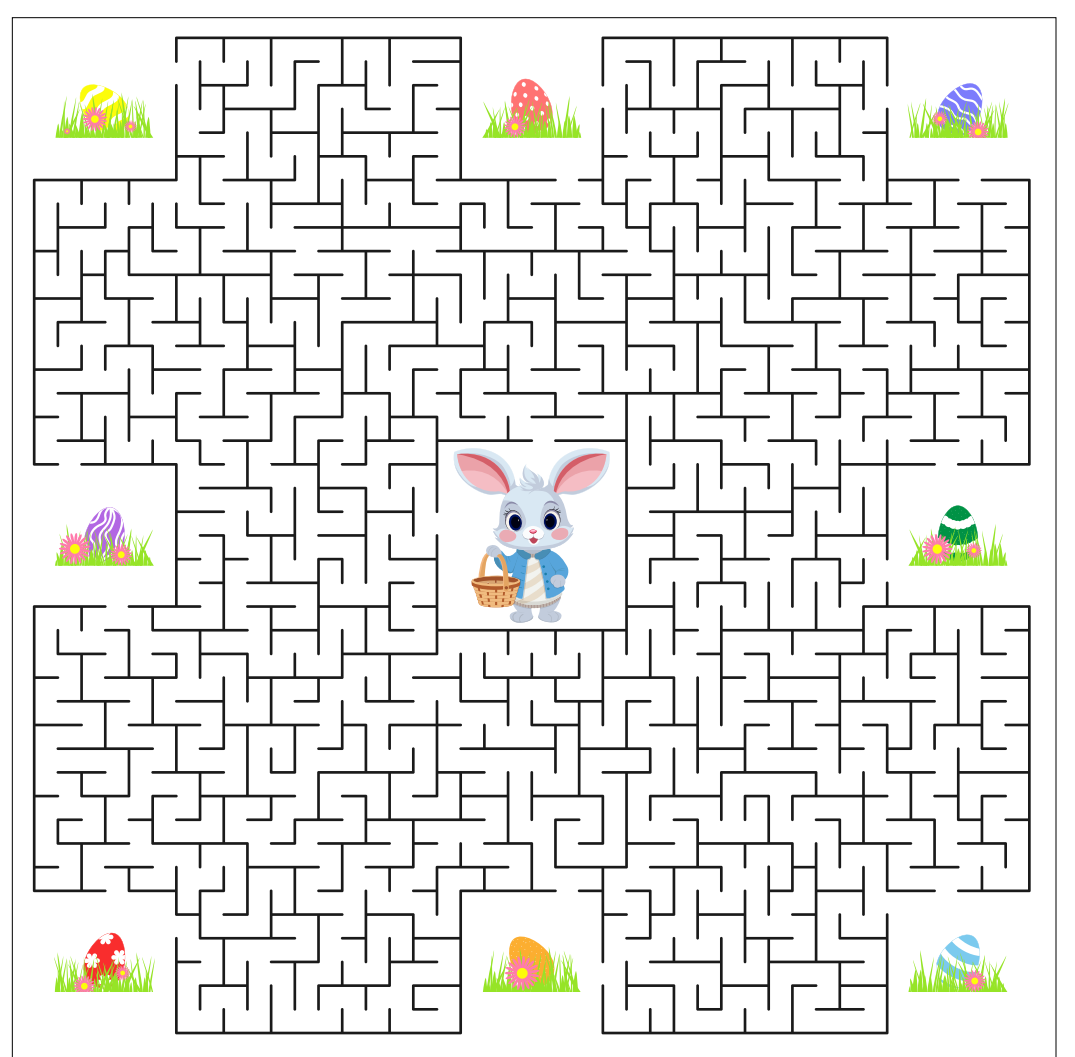
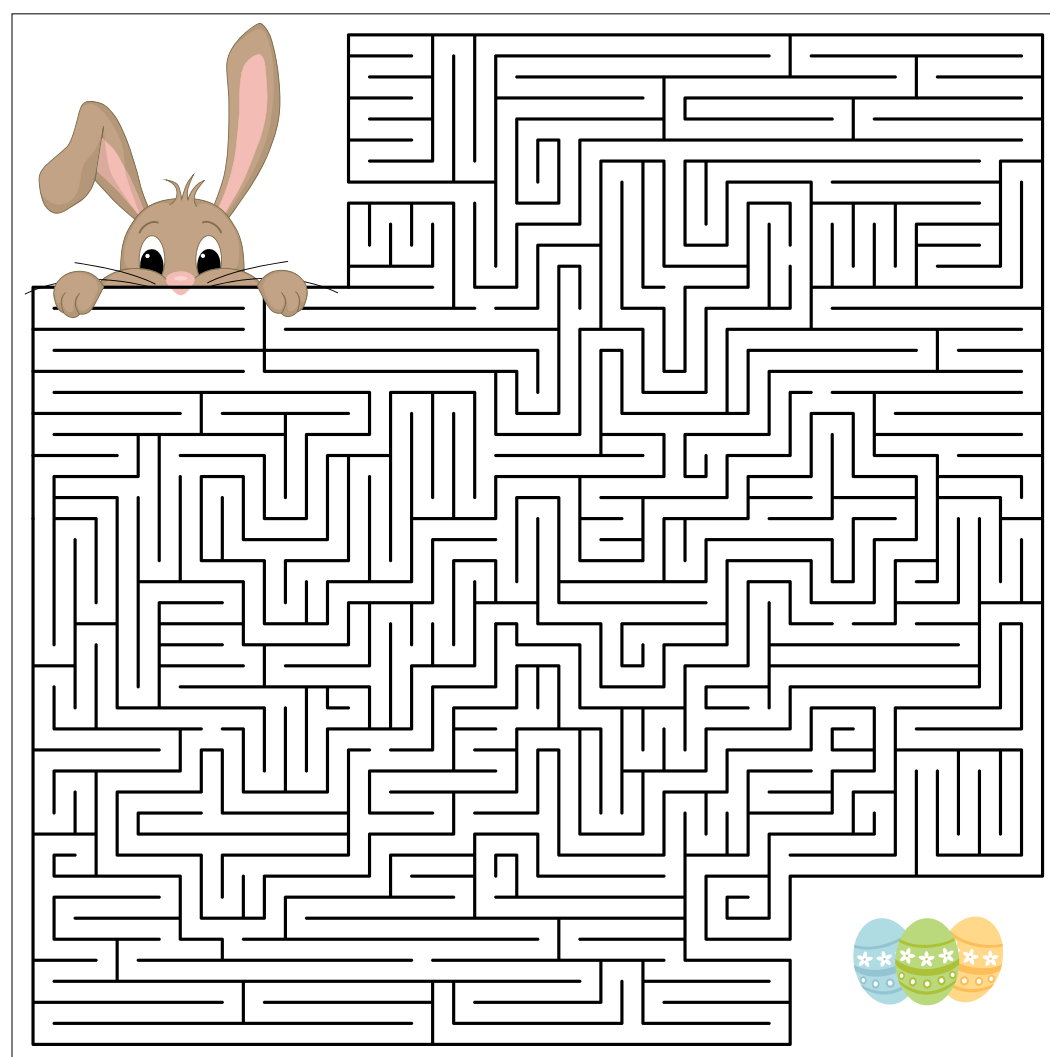
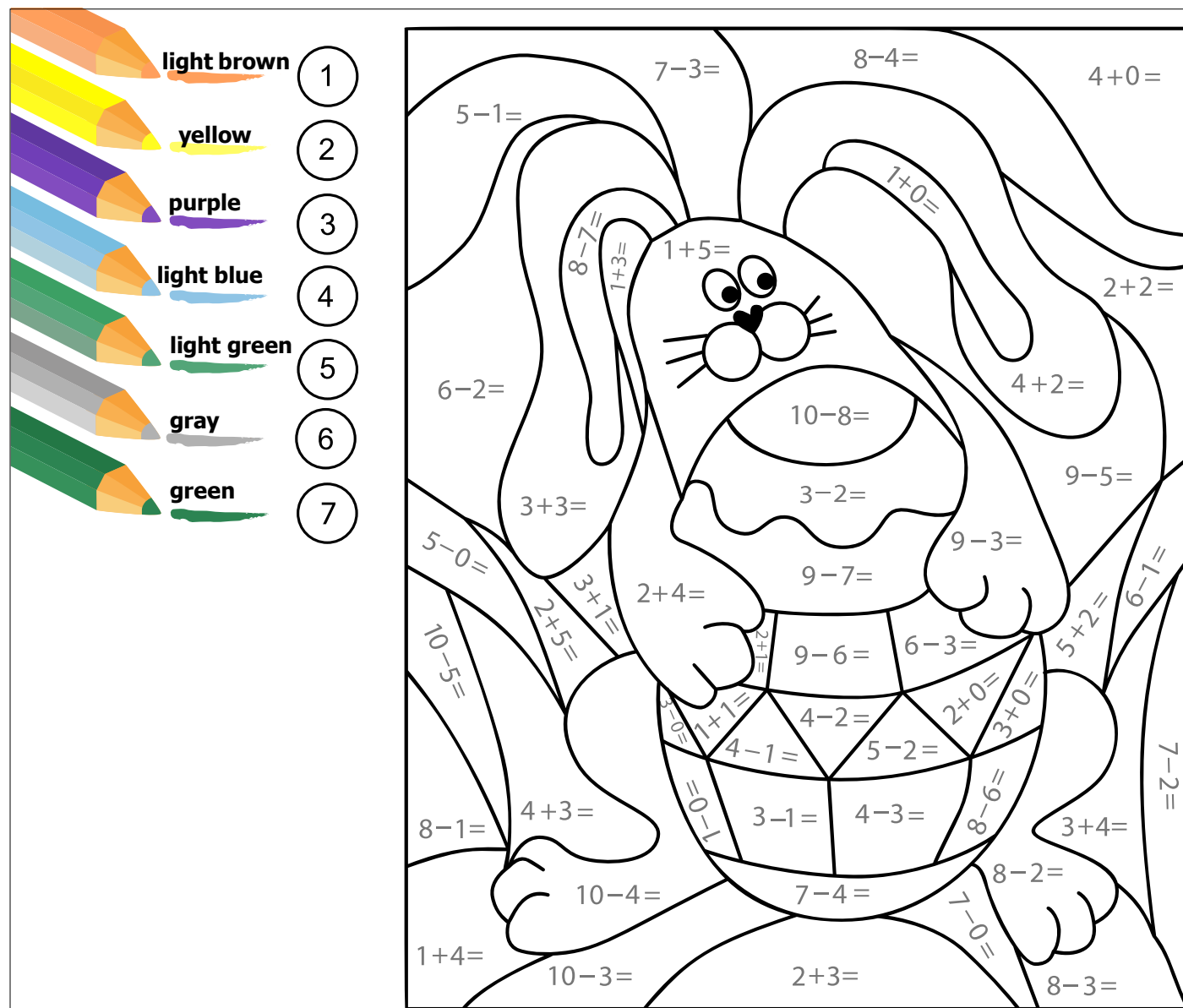


Mrs. McGregor untied the sack and put her hand inside.

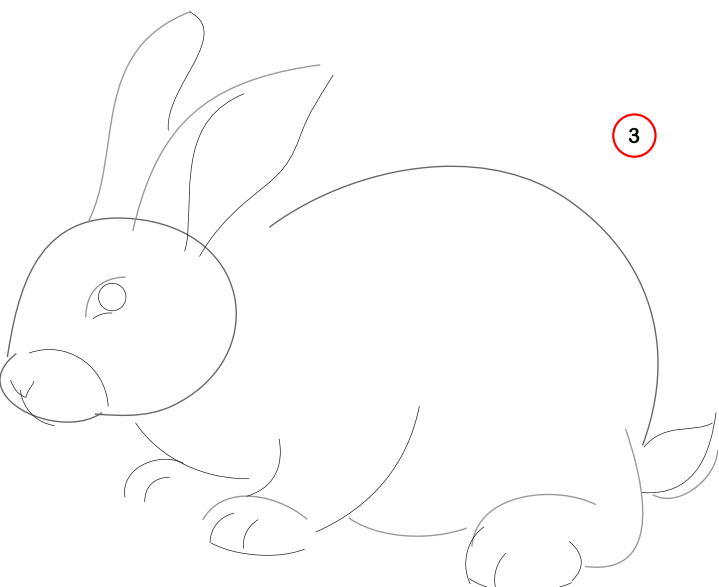
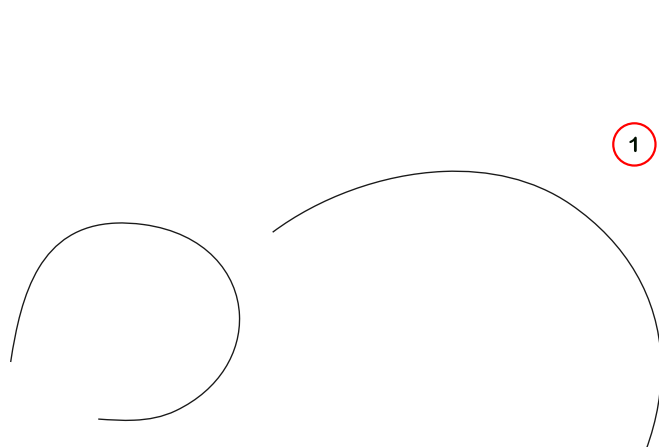
When she felt the vegetables she became very very angry. She said that Mr. McGregor had "done it a purpose."

And Mr. McGregor was very angry too. One of the rotten marrows came flying through the kitchen window, and hit the youngest Flopsy Bunny. It was rather hurt. Then Benjamin and Flopsy thought that it was time to go home.

So Mr. McGregor did not get his tobacco, and Mrs. McGregor did not get her rabbit skins. But next Christmas Thomasina Tittlemouse got a present of enough rabbit-wool to make herself a cloak and a hood, and a handsome muff and a pair of warm mittens.



Grab Your Sketch Book



Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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

TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, April 21
[Affordable Housing Committee](#)
7-8 p.m., Location not posted at time of publication.

Tuesday, April 22
[Board of Selectmen](#)
8:30-10 a.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom

Wednesday, April 23
[Town Council](#)
7-9 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom

Thursday, April 24
[Police Department Building Committee](#)
8-9 a.m., Location not posted at time of publication.

April 17
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>.

Navigating the Tricky Elements of Memoir Writing Series
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
Writing a memoir can be tricky, if not frustrating. Telling personal or familial truths can be emotional and prompts the “editor” in one’s head to intervene and upend the writing project. This instructional class aims to tame that editor, and to help writers work through the emotions to get their story down on paper. Register at <https://shorturl.at/XzKbk>.

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 19
Writing Tips: The Writer’s Voice, What Is It?
10:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
In this program, you will read excerpts of well-know writers' "voices." In turn, we will read excerpts from our own projects to "hear" the voice in our writings. You will rewrite and/or create voice as determined in the discussions of the stories we read in class. This will be a workshop style critique class. Register at <https://shorturl.at/8NxHw>.

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.

Sit and Stitch with Aggie
2 PM at the Lapham Center
Stuck on a stitch? Want to add dimension to your work? Join Aggie for lessons and tips on the best ways to embellish your project, and use decorative stitches. 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.

A Conversation with Sen. Ryan Fazio and Rep. Tom O’Dea
6:30 pm at the New Canaan Library
The topic to be discussed is energy costs and energy policy.

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/lI79V>.

SAVE THE DATE
April 25
COFFEE AND CONVERSATION 8:30–9:30 AM at Lapham Center with the [New Canaan Sentinel](#) for a weekly community coffee and conversation.

Relief Print Making Workshop Series with Evelyn Harvey
12 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
This class explores the process of printmaking by creating your own image through ideation, carving your image onto the printmaking block, inking, registration of paper, and printing. Over three sessions, participants will create their own relief block and print a run of their own design. The other classes will be held on May 2nd and May 9th. Tickets

are \$165/non-members, \$150/members, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/relief-print-making-workshop/>.

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
Community Wish Send-Off Celebration – Come Be Part of the MAW CT Magic!
10 AM on Elm Street
Join Make-A-Wish Connecticut and the New Canaan community as we send local wish kid Ezekiel off in style before his big wish to Disney World. Line the street, bring your cheers, wear blue, and help us show Ezekiel just how much his community supports him. There will be firetrucks, the Wish Jeep, prizes, Disney magic, and a whole lot of heart. No RSVP needed.

Earth Day Celebration
10 AM - 5 PM at Grace Farms
Join Grace Farms for their annual Earth Day Celebration, a day packed with nature-inspired learning and fun for all ages. Connect to the natural world by exploring the native landscapes surrounding the double LEED Gold Certified River building, and attend pop-up talks, demonstrations, and experiences led by our knowledgeable educators throughout the day. The schedule and tickets are available at <https://gracefarms.org/event/earth-day-celebration-2025>.

Last Saturday on the Trail: Edible Wild Mushrooms of Connecticut
10 AM at the New Canaan Library
Join for a special program with Ryan and Emily Bouchard, the founders of the Mushroom Hunting Foundation. Ryan and Emily will teach everyone how to identify mushrooms that are safe and delicious to eat and offer a tremendous variety of health benefits. Learn more about how to incorporate edible mushrooms into your daily life. Register at https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/1m4UC9AP90w70zN-5YoXPA.

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/iIoO0>.

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>.

Music of Benjamin Britten
6 PM at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
The Friends of the Music at St. Mark’s presents Music of Benjamin Britten. The Staff Singers of St. Mark’s are some of the most talented vocalists in the area, and Trevor Scott, tenor, is no exception. More information is available at <https://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/friends-of-music/>.

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

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

April 27
Open-ended Art Exploration with Barbara Rucci
12-2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Arlene H. Grushkin Children's Program Room
Famlies 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.

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>.

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

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

April 28
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.

Sit and Stitch with Aggie
2 PM at the Lapham Center
Stuck on a stitch? Want to add dimension to your work? Join Aggie for lessons and tips on the best ways to embellish your project, and use decorative stitches. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

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

April 29
Lunch & Learn: iPhone Photography with Jane Beiles
12 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Join an interactive iPhone Photography workshop with Jane Beiles, acclaimed photographer for publications including The New York Times, Architectural Digest and House Beautiful. The class is designed for any, and all, levels of photographers seeking to elevate their game. Tickets are \$65/ members, \$75/non-members, and please bring your own lunch. Register at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/putting-your-best-frame-forward/>.

Open Tech
2-4 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
If you need help with email, smartphones/

Continued

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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 30

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.

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.

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>.

May 1

2025 New Canaan Community Foundation Spring Luncheon

11:30 AM at the New Canaan Country Club
Each year, New Canaan Community Foundation hosts a benefit luncheon that raises critical funds to support our work in the community. This year’s luncheon will highlight our local work in Education. More information is available at <https://www.newcanaancf.org/upcoming-events>.

Sip and Paint

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

May 2

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

May 3

Kentucky Derby Party

4 PM at Grace Farms
Flamenco Guitarist Antonia Jiménez presents a concert at Grace Farms. Antonia is one of the leading voices in Flamenco guitar, a centuries-old tradition centered in Andalusia Spain. Tickets are \$25 and available at <https://shorturl.at/2RjH4>.

Kentucky Derby Party

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

May 5

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.

Sit and Stitch with Aggie

2 PM at the Lapham Center
Stuck on a stitch? Want to add dimension to your work? Join Aggie for lessons and tips on the best ways to embellish your project, and use decorative stitches. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

May 6

Cherry Blossom Tea

11 AM and 1 PM at the New Canaan Playhouse
Celebrating Mothers everywhere to benefit the Children of Blossom Hill. Enjoy lunch, signature cocktails, cherry blossom tea, shopping and our flower bar. Tickets are \$100 and available at <https://blossomhill-foundation.org/mothers/>.

May 7

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.

May 8

Ask the Attorney with Nedder and Associates, by appointment

2-4 PM at the Lapham Center
An attorney from Nedder and Associates, LLC will be available for a free, private, fifteen minute consultations to answer your legal or financial questions. Free event. Please call (203) 594-3620 to schedule your appointment.

Free Medicare Counseling

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

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.

May 9

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION 8:30–9:30 AM at Lapham Center with 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.

May 10

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 cocktails and a delightful meal. The night’s honorees will be 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/>.

May 14

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 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 NCLT. Register at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/348e3he>.

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.

May 15

Deadline for the Civics Essay Contest, Grades 7 – 12

All New Canaan students in grades 7-12 can share their interest in civics by entering this essay contest co-sponsored by the New Canaan League of Women Voters and New Canaan Library. First prize is \$300, second prize is \$200, and third prize is \$100. Essay Prompt: “This is a municipal election year. Why do these local elections matter?” More information is available at <https://shorturl.at/0XaFE>.

May 16

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

New Canaan CARES 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, and cocktails. Tickets are available at <https://newcanaancares.org/new-canaan-cares-home-tour/>.

May 19

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, visit <https://newcanaanchamber.com/2025/03/24/2025-community-cup-sign-up/>.

May 20

Art Gottlieb’s History Discussions: Over There

10 AM at the Lapham Center
Borrowing the title of the classic song by George M. Cohen, this last installment of a five-part series commemorating World War I will focus on events leading to America’s entry into the war in 1917 and her contribution towards Allied victory in November of 1918. Free event. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

May 30

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/>.

June 1

Ice Cream Social

1-3 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society
Join the Ice Cream Social for old fashioned games, an antique car show, ice cream cake and more. The New Canaan Town Band will play at the event. Free.

BLOOD DRIVES

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

Monday, April 21

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

Thursday, April 24

Norwalk Hospital
34 Maple Street
Norwalk, CT 06856
12:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Friday, April 25

VFW
465 Riverside Avenue
Westport, CT 06880
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Support Services & Meetings

April 17

Navigating the New Landscape of Long-Term Care with Lou and Jessica Pelletier

2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Community Room
Join Lou and Jessica Pelletier from Pelletier Senior Planning as they delve into the evolving world of long-term care planning, especially the growing need for care among seniors and baby boomers. Register at <https://shorturl.at/MxrbP>.

April 21

First Aid Training by New Canaan EMS

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Community Room
First aid training is designed to teach people the basic principles and techniques for providing immediate help if and when they witness a serious injury or illness. The goal of first aid is to preserve life and prevent the condition from worsening in the safest way possible until professional medical help is available. Register at <https://shorturl.at/fXbW4>.

April 23

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>.

April 25

Suicide Prevention Training: Question, Persuade and Refer

11 AM at the New Canaan Library,

McLaughlin Meeting Room
QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer - the 3 simple steps anyone can use to help prevent suicide. Those trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis This training will certify you as a QPR gatekeeper. Register at <https://shorturl.at/fDkp1>.

Every Friday

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

Every Saturday

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

AA Meeting-Laundry and Dry Cleaning Group
Saturdays at 10:30 AM
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

Lost Then Found NA Meeting
Wheelchair Accessible
Saturdays at 7 PM
United Methodist Church (back entrance)

Every Monday

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

Adult Child Al-Anon Meeting
Mondays at 12 PM
St. Mark’s Church, Youth Room

Every Tuesday

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

Every Wednesday

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

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

Every Thursday

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

Our Neighbors

April 24

Me, Myself & Barbra with Jenna Pastuszek

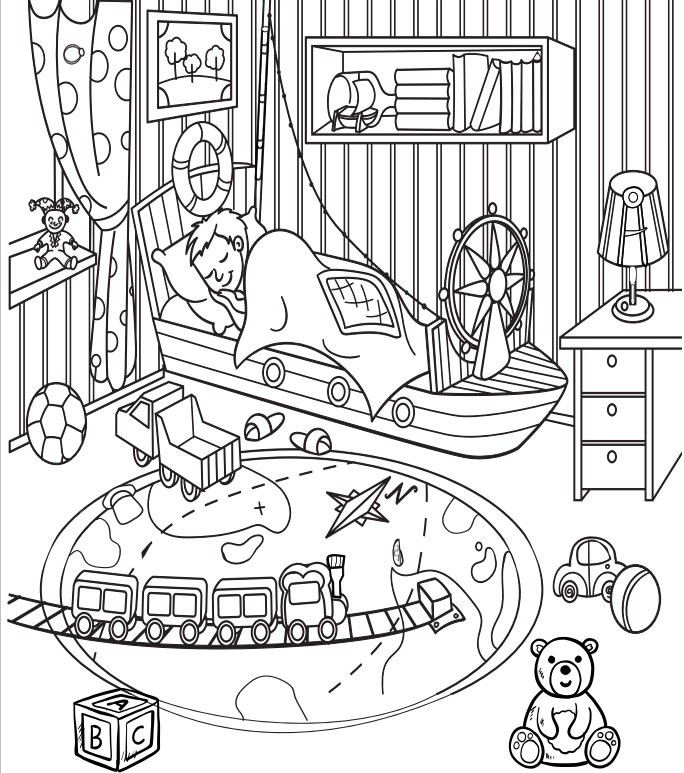
7 PM at the Westport Country Playhouse
25 Powers Court, Westport
Attend an evening a lifetime in the making featuring the music of Barbra Streisand. There will be a pre-show cocktail party. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/3VySV>.

May 16

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/najpq>.

Find and color.



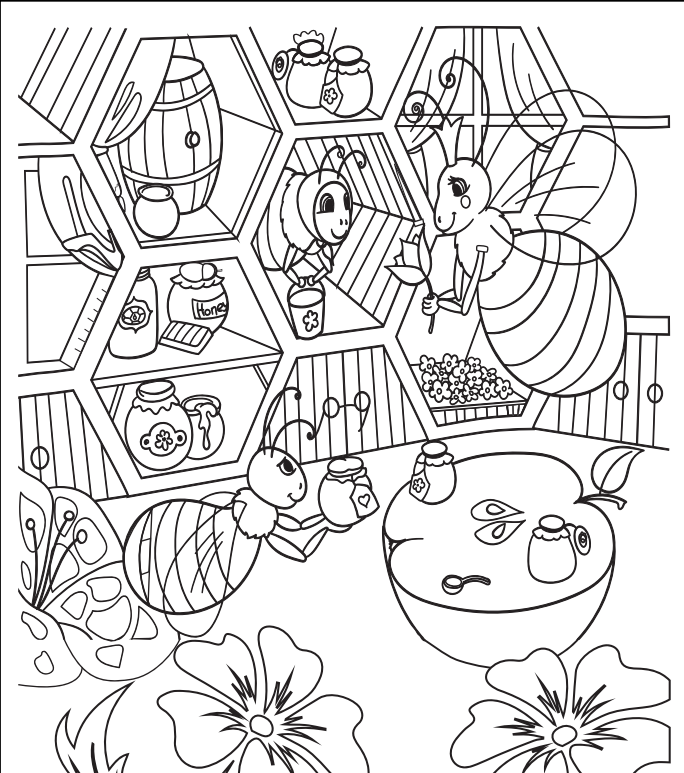
FIND ALL HIDDEN

- paintbrush
- orange slice
- pencil
- compasses
- screwdriver
- ring
- pipette
- lollipop
- bread
- cap



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- wristwatch
- banana
- glasses
- flag
- cook hat
- bottle
- puzzle
- vase
- bat
- Cup



FIND ALL HIDDEN

- baseball bat
- toothbrush
- glasses
- candle
- heeled shoes
- Acorn
- ruler
- candy
- nail
- kano

Sudoku for Kids

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

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

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

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

SUDOKU

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Sudoku answers

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

Bottom row – Very Hard

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

Bottom row – Hard

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

Bottom row – Easy

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

Top row – Very Hard

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

Top row – Hard

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

Top row – Easy

PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

FIND 10 HIDDEN OBJECTS

HELP THE RABBIT FIND 21 EGGS

EASTER WORD SCRAMBLE

 NYBUN □ □ □ □ □	 NEH □ □ □	 KENCHIC □ □ □ □ □ □
 GEG □ □ □	 KETBAS □ □ □ □ □ □	 WERLOF □ □ □ □ □ □

FIND 10 HIDDEN OBJECTS IN THE PICTURE

HOW MANY CARROTS?

	+		=	□	
	+		=	□	
	+		=	□	
	+		=	□	
	+		=	□	

FIND THE CORRECT SHADOW

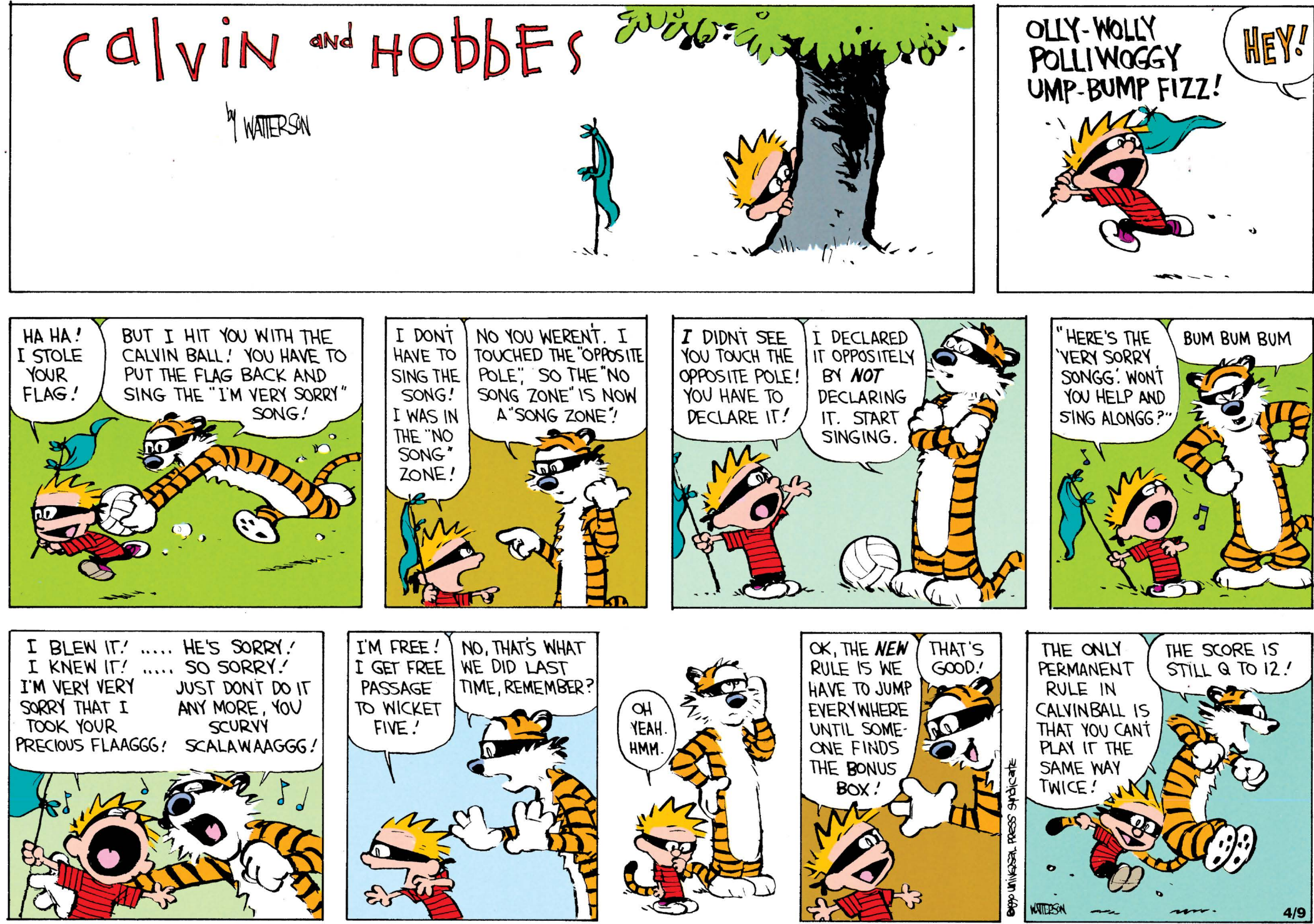
HAPPY E.....!

1. Easter, 2 ↑ bird, 2 → butterfly, 3. cupcake, 4. egg, 5. rabbit, 6. hen, 7. bee, 8. tulip, 9. grass



EDUCATION

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



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COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE NEW ENGLAND COTTONTAIL

Happy Easter Little Cottontail

By JIM KNOX

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

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

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

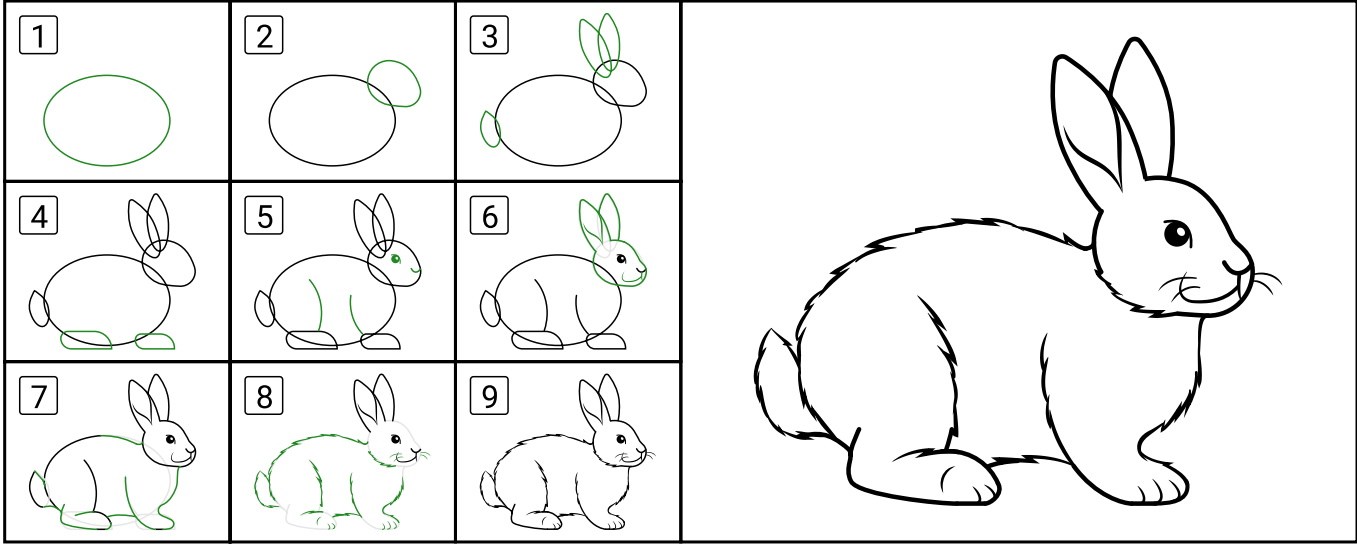
The Eastern Cottontail Rabbit, *Sylvilagus floridanus*, is abundant throughout Connecticut, and does indeed make return trips to Fairfield County's all-you-can-eat suburban salad bar. This is the species we see grazing along the green shoulders of the Merritt Parkway and zipping into hedgerows at the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

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

While this native New England rabbit was uniquely adapted to the habitats and natural habitat succession of New England, development and land practices altered the landscape. With the introduction of the more adaptable Eastern Cottontail from other regions of the country in the early 1900's, the native found itself with stiff competition for limited resources.



Perhaps no animal is more synonymous with spring than the rabbit.



Closer scrutiny reveals two distinct creatures. The New England Cottontail is a creature of forests, specifically transitional forests, known as thickets. Naturally, these occur in the aftermath of forest fires, floods and severe storms. These rabbits thrive in the dense cover of these regrowth areas. They rarely stray far from that cover

and their eyesight is designed to detect potential predators at close range.

The Eastern Cottontail, by contrast, is a creature of open spaces. They prefer grasslands and meadows, as well as their manicured counterparts such as parks, lawns and golf courses. In short, they were practically designed for suburbia.

While these close-cousin species share excellent hearing, sense of smell and swiftness of foot, one key adaptation makes a world of difference—eyesight. With eyes approximately 50% larger than their thicket-dwelling cousins, Eastern Cottontails hold the advantage in human-altered New England. With such distance vision, they

can venture further from cover to access plentiful grasses while still tracking potential predators from a safe range. Likewise, they are the look-alike cousins who invade our gardens and scurry under our fence lines.

Though both species are approximately 14-19 inches in length and up to 2.5 pounds in weight, the unique traits of the

New England Cottontail include: smaller ears, fine black fur lines along the edges of those ears and a black star at the crown of the head. Sadly, these specialists have lost approximately 85% of their home range in New England and they need our help.

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

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

So the next time you see that adorable icon of spring, remember there's more to them than meets the eye...and the ears.

Jim Knox serves as the Curator of Education for Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo and as a Science Adviser for The Bruce Museum. His passions include studying our planet's rarest creatures and sharing his work with others who love the natural world.