

## LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

### POLICE AND FIRE

#### Law Enforcement Torch Run



On June 6, the New Canaan Police Department will join the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Connecticut. They are raising funds through local sponsorships and by selling patches, T-shirts, and sweatshirts. All of the proceeds will support Special Olympics Connecticut. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

### AROUND TOWN

#### Cystic Fibrosis Fundraising Walk



On May 4, a cystic fibrosis fundraising walk was held at New Canaan High School, organized by the family of local resident Scarlett. The event included a dance performance and post-walk activities. Photo credit: New Canaan Softball.

#### 34th Annual Fishing Derby



On April 26, the 34th Annual George Cogswell Memorial Fishing Derby took place at Mill Pond. The event brought together young participants for a morning of fishing and community involvement. Photo credit: Town of New Canaan.

### LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

#### GetAbout Annual Spring Fundraiser



On Saturday, April 26, the Country Club of New Canaan hosted the GetAbout Annual Spring Fundraiser, drawing 225 guests for an evening of celebration and philanthropy. The event highlighted GetAbout's over 40-year commitment to providing safe, efficient, and professional transportation services to New Canaan residents. Photo credit: GetAbout.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Claudia Weber to Serve on International Board of Municipal Clerks

New Canaan's Town Clerk, Claudia Weber, has been nominated to the Board of Directors of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) and will be seated as a Director of IIMC this month. For the next three years, Ms. Weber will serve as one of two Region One Directors representing the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York.

Founded in 1947, IIMC is the leading and largest professional nonprofit association focused on improving the professionalism of its members and serving the needs of Municipal Clerks worldwide by promoting continuing education and certification through university and college-based institutions. With approximately 15,000 members, IIMC represents municipalities of fewer than 500 to more than 10 million people.

IIMC is affiliated with 49 of the United States and nine international Associations. It is composed of 11 Regions and each Region is represented by two Region Directors. In addition to the United States of America, the following countries are also active members: Canada, Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, England, Italy, New Zealand, South Africa, the Netherlands, and Wales.

Ms. Weber has been New Canaan's Town Clerk since 1998 and served as the Registrar of Voters prior to that. Previously, she served as the Assistant Clerk of the Probate Court, District of New Canaan, was appointed as one of two Confidential Assistants to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce by the Reagan/Bush administration and served as a staff member to both a U.S. Senator and a U.S. Congressman. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Weber is currently a Certified Municipal Clerk and a Chief Election Official with in-depth knowledge of election laws and election administration, technology, land and records management, preservation and



conservation. She is also the town's Registrar of Vital Statistics and oversees the issuance and management of all birth, marriage and death records. She manages an office of four staff members who together collectively manage approximately \$12 million in revenues annually.

Ms. Weber also serves as a Justice of the Peace and as a Notary Public. Her avocation and passion is animal rescue, and in 1985 she, and a handful of others, founded a local nonprofit dedicated to helping homeless pets and animals in need. She is known for her animal advocacy and has received numerous accolades for her work in that field.

## Community Spirit Shines at GetAbout's Annual Spring Fundraiser

On Saturday, April 26, 2025, the Country Club of New Canaan hosted the GetAbout Annual Spring Fundraiser, drawing 225 guests for an evening of celebration and philanthropy. The event highlighted GetAbout's over 40-year commitment to providing safe, efficient, and professional transportation services to New Canaan residents.

Attendees were treated to a delightful dinner and danced the night away to the lively tunes of Tangled Vine. The evening's entertainment included a mesmerizing performance by mentalist Phil "The Magic Man," who captivated the audience with his extraordinary feats. Guests also participated in both live and silent auctions, bidding on exclusive items and experiences to support GetAbout's mission.

For over four decades, GetAbout has been a vital resource for New Canaan residents, offering more than 10,000 rides annually. In 2024 alone, the organization provided 8,673 rides and delivered 5,742 Meals on Wheels to homebound residents. With a fleet of seven wheelchair-accessible vans and a team of professional drivers, GetAbout ensures that seniors and individuals with disabilities have reliable transportation for medical appointments, errands, and social activities.

The fundraiser underscored the strength of community spirit in New Canaan. It was a night where multiple generations came together, shared laughter, and danced under the stars, all in support of a cause that enriches the lives of many. The success of the event is a testament to the generosity and unity of the



Let the Bidding Begin! GetAbout Event Committee  
Helen Richards, Emily Alexander, Emily Umbdenstock, Caitlin Marcel, Laura Jenkins, Cynthia Saffi, Sarah Arestia, Sara Driscoll, Mollie Schimmel



Oh what a night! The Committee:  
Emily Umbdenstock, Kathy Skaperdas, Mollie Schimmel, Sarah Arestia, Cynthia Saffi, Laura Jenkins, Helen Richards, Sara Driscoll

New Canaan community, ensuring that GetAbout can continue its invaluable service for years to come.

For more information or to support GetAbout's mission, please visit [getaboutnc.org](http://getaboutnc.org).

## New Canaan Fire Marshal - Public Safety Announcement



Outdoor grilling remains one of the most popular ways to cook food. A grill placed close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. Over 10,000 home fires are started by grills on a yearly average. 64% of all US households own at least one outdoor bbq, grill or smoker.

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- Never leave your grill unattended.
- Grills should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Clean your grill by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

### CHARCOAL GRILLS

- There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

### PROPANE GRILLS

- Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.
- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.
- If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least 5 minutes before relighting it.

## "Two Frenchies, four hands" a piano recital by Tipton and Kimsey

The Friends of the Music at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, New Canaan, CT, proudly presents: "Two Frenchies, four hands" a piano recital by Edward Tipton and Andrew Kimsey. Saturday May 17th, 2025, at 5:00 PM, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan.

Much of the music coming from France, from the mid-19th century until the early 20th, has an unmistakable "French" sound - rich in tone color, sometimes ambiguous in harmony, and evocative of a certain mood or atmosphere. This recital features piano compositions of four prominent composers: Ravel, Fauré, Debussy, and Lili Boulanger, including two works for piano four hands: Ravel's Ma mère l'Oye (the "Mother Goose" suite), and Fauré's Dolly Suite for piano. Also included are solo works by Debussy (Estampes), Lili Boulanger (Prélude in D-flat) and Fauré (Nocturne No. 6, in D-flat). Join us for a tonal voyage to Impressionist France.

The event is followed by a light reception.

### COLUMN

## Boundaries Are Like Cells

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

A healthy cell in our bodies allows in what is nourishing and keeps out what is unhealthy. An unhealthy cell doesn't have that ability, which can lead to cancer. Boundaries work similarly in human relationships. All of us have had our boundaries violated, some more seriously than others. We can guard against being permeable to toxic relationships by paying close attention to what we allow into and exclude from our lives.

Our health depends on it.

Unhealthy friends may call frequently for advice or to complain repeatedly about the same thing. They may tell us that we are the only one who understands. Our egos can be easily seduced. After months or years of listening and being frustrated that nothing changes, we accumulate toxicity. Limiting our contact to common courtesy—occasional phone calls, cards, and texts—is hard, but life-giving. Our friend will find other

sources of support. He or she may or may not become healthier, but you definitely will.

Gray did everything he could for his friend Nick, but Nick's requests for money and his ranting about problems didn't end. Gray felt discouraged and stressed after their conversations. After several years, Gray ended their friendship when he moved to a new city. He still talks to Nick on occasion, but he is wary of engaging beyond a casual check-in.



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry



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From the scene, “Wendy’s Rules of the Road”, about Wendy and her high school friends with the red ‘67 VW Beetle -- pictured, L-R: Kitt Watson as Wendy, Eric Thunem as Polly Rutherford, Bill Walbert as Mike Doyle. Photos by Diane Knetzger.

# Gridiron Salutes Wendy Hilboldt with Laughter, Applause, and Deep Gratitude

PETER BARHYDT

If you were anywhere near the Country Club of New Canaan on April 24 or 25, you might have heard the sound of grown men in costume belting out show tunes about ambulance radios and kindergarten lesson plans. That’s how the Gridiron Club celebrates service in New Canaan—with a roast, a musical, and a room full of neighbors laughing not at someone, but for them.

This year’s honoree, or “Fall Gal,” was Wendy Coleman Dixon Hilboldt, whose name is synonymous in town with decades of tireless volunteerism, warm-hearted teaching, and near-legendary dedication to the New Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

“I just felt like a representative,” Wendy said. “Which is why I had all of the Ambulance Corps stand up.”

Wendy’s ties to Gridiron go back generations. Her father, Harry Coleman, was one of the Club’s original stars. “I would be in high school, the hallways of New Canaan High School, and the Advertiser would come out, and there would be my father in drag with a

wig on on the front page,” she remembered. “And I wanted to crawl under a desk.”

Even then, she understood what Gridiron was about: community, spirit, and celebration. It wasn’t long before she joined in. “Thirty years ago, they asked me if I would sing a solo as a Columbia student,” she said. “And they asked my daughter, Emily, who was 11 at the time, to play me.”

This year, the spotlight was hers alone—but not a spotlight she sought. “I don’t want to be special. I don’t want to be picked out of a crowd. Just let me jump into my toy tent this week like I’m doing. Just be me again.”

The show, like always, was built in secret. Eric Thunem, producer and director, described the process: “We interviewed, I think, 40 or 45 people. And we tell everybody, ‘Look, this is an honor, but it’s also a roast,’ so we’re looking for funny little things, quirky little things about Wendy.”

The show portrayed Wendy’s radio—never far from her hand—and her lifelong sense of urgency to help. “I was blessed with a lot of energy,” she said. “From early on, a purpose. I couldn’t just sit idle. I can’t just sit idle. One thing I do do—I enjoy a really good long book. I can sit forever and read a book.”

Bob Doran, who has served as emcee for 20 years, said: “It’s not just a show. It’s meant as a love letter to New Canaan volunteers. We laugh about it, but we really try to reflect on what really matters. Neighbors who care, who step up, and who make New Canaan the place we’re proud to call home.”

Wendy was especially proud of the tribute to her late husband. “They did such a beautiful job recognizing my late husband, Eddie. I thought it was so beautiful, so tastefully done. I sent the link to his sisters, and they were just so touched. And it was wonderful for my daughter to

see that too.”

The proceeds from this year’s show—expected to fall between \$5,000 and \$10,000—will benefit the New Canaan High School Scholarship Foundation, a cause dear to Wendy and her late father. “I feel pretty confident about being able to make a \$5,000 to \$10,000 donation,” said Thunem. “Certainly, hope we will.”

Wendy’s resume is deep: 46 years with the Volunteer Ambulance Corps, a career in education, leadership in launching the food pantry, and countless hours tutoring, driving, organizing, and—always—teaching. “I love children. I love, love children, and that’s hands-on,” she said. “Right now, I oversee Driver training for NCEMS and love orienting the newer drivers to all parts of New Canaan.”

She’s lived her whole life in New Canaan. “I came back after college to teach,” Wendy said. “I’ve gone to ladies’ night with my mother every single

year with my dearest friends. We have a table. We always put the table together.”

“Ladies’ night” was historically the final Thursday dress rehearsal of the Gridiron show — a long-standing tradition where the women of town gather in full force to cheer, laugh, and celebrate the honoree. For Wendy, it’s always been a special night to share with her mother, her closest friends, and her memories. “Even if we don’t know the person well, we just go and laugh and watch our husbands,” she said. “My husband, Jim, was in it for many years.”

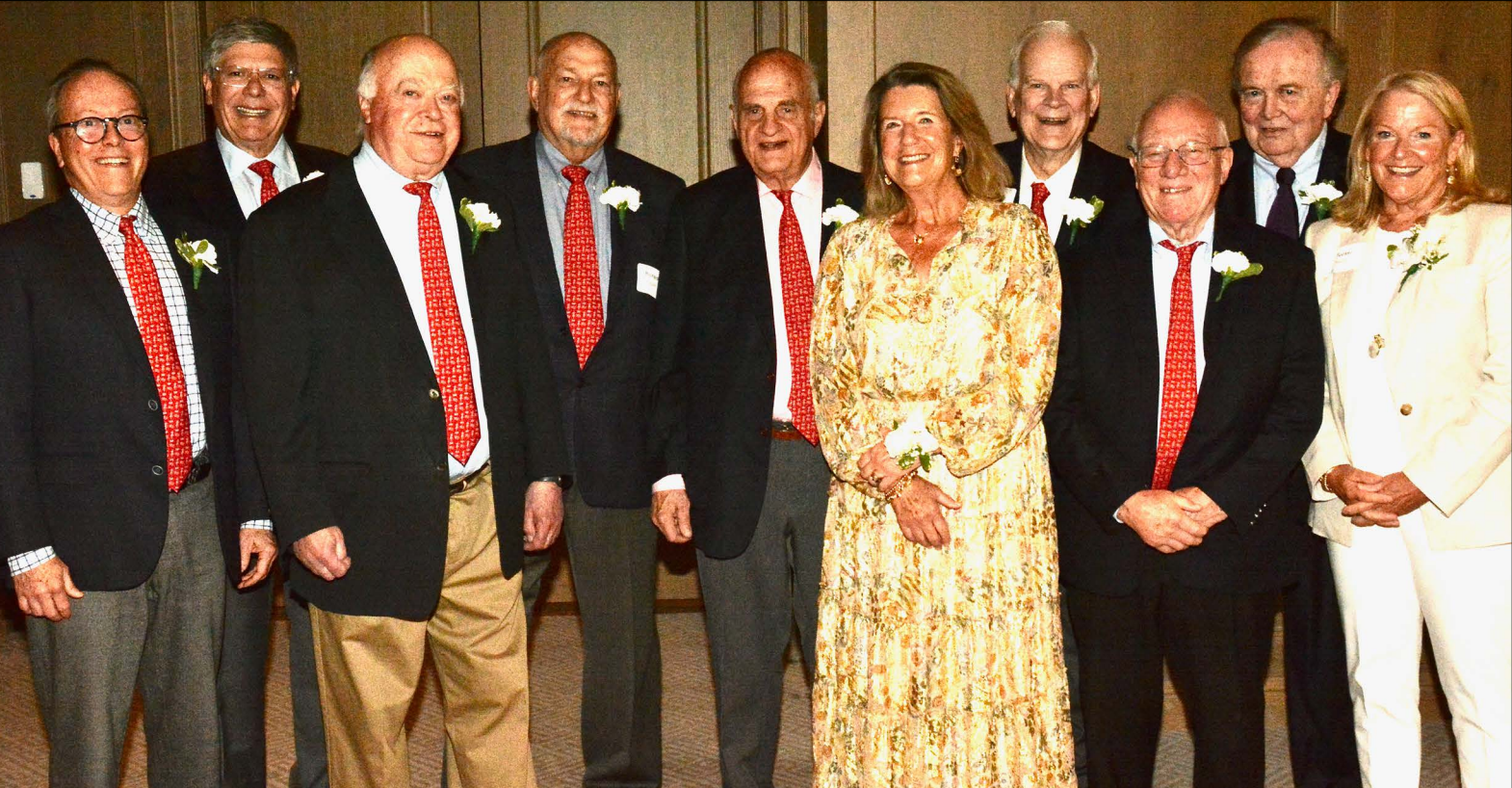
At the end of the recent Thursday evening, Wendy stood at the mic and gave her thanks — composed, concise, heartfelt. “I didn’t want to be too long, I wanted to be concise, and I didn’t want to cry,” she said. “I’m a very emotional person, so I was really excited I got through Thursday night without crying.”

But Friday was different. After that night’s performance she said, “I was great until I got to the church on Friday night. And then I started talking about how deeply the church has been a part of my life for almost 70 years, and I lost it.”

St. Mark’s Church isn’t just a building to Wendy — it’s a second home. She and her family have been longtime members there. She’s worked the May Fair for more than four decades. She grew up in the pews and raised her children under its roof.

Even now, days later, Wendy is still reflecting on what it meant to be honored. “It was so humbling and such an honor,” she said. “I still can’t believe it.”

Members of the Gridiron will take a well-deserved respite this summer. Once September arrives, they will be busy at work planning another fun and entertaining weekend celebrating community and next year’s Fall Guy or Gal.



Fall Guys and Gals (and the year each was honored / roasted) -- pictured, L-R: Leo Karl, III (2012), Bill Walbert (2015), Dave Hunt (2021), Richard Stewart (2006), Keith Simpson (2016), Wendy Hilboldt (2025), Tom Stadler (2024), Sperry DeCew (2005), George Baker (2011), and Tucker Murphy (2023). Photos by Diane Knetzger.



Bob Doran, Master of Ceremonies. Photos by Diane Knetzger.





Full cast in the Kick Line segment of the Closing -- pictured, L-R: Kitt Watson, Christian Murphy, Eric Glerum, Eric Thunem, Robert Curry, Nick Ranieri, Rab Ker, Bill Walbert, Hugo Alves. Photos by Diane Knetzger.



From the scene, "Dog? -- On It!", about Wendy delivering puppies from the family dog, yellow lab, "Chelsea" -- pictured, L-R: Robert Curry as Andrew Hilboldt, Kitt Watson as Molly Hilboldt, Christian Murphy as Emily Hilboldt. Photos by Diane Knetzger.



From the scene, "Say Your Prayers", about Wendy and her sister, Carrie, talking about school, messing up dad's record albums, and worrying about the garbage men -- pictured, Hugo Alves as Wendy in first grade (we identified Wendy in every scene except one as the character wearing the EMT vest). Photos by Diane Knetzger.



Opening number, which included two cartwheels (a Gridiron first!) -- clearly pictured, L-R: Rab Ker, Nick Ranieri, Christian Murphy, and Hugo Alves about to cartwheel. Photos by Diane Knetzger.



Audience member, Sven Englund, lifelong New Canaan resident, two-term Town Council member, and longtime (35+ yrs) volunteer firefighter. He also volunteers and helps run the Old Faithful vintage / antique fire truck. Photos by Diane Knetzger.



Lila Coleman, Wendy's mother; 96 years young and active as ever -- a New Canaan institution. Lila's husband, Harry, was the 1995 Fall Guy. Photos by Diane Knetzger.

## Spring Yard Work? Tackled.



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6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
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nickdepuysite@gmail.com  
to sign up and for more information

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# From Stone Doll to The Husky Effect: Toni Boucher’s Journey from Immigrant to Entrepreneurial Advocate

By TYLER AMORANDO

By the time Toni Boucher hit “save” on the final draft of her latest book, *The Husky Effect: How UConn Is Creating the Entrepreneurs of the Future*, she had completed a journey that started more than two decades earlier—and, really, much longer ago than that.

“This book is actually twenty years in the making,” she said. “Actually, it started with a cousin of mine who sent me sixty seven pages of notes about our early life in Italy before we immigrated.” That manuscript, filled with wartime memories, rural farming life, and family resilience, eventually became *Stone Doll: A Memoir*, due out this November. But *The Husky Effect*—released earlier this year—was the book that unexpectedly came first.

Boucher, a former Connecticut state senator and now First Selectman of Wilton, never intended to release the books out of order. But when co-author Josh Young—who helped organize her sprawling three hundred page draft—saw a story-within-a-story about business, entrepreneurship, and UConn, he had a bold idea. “Josh said, ‘We’ve got to release this one first. And we’ll do it during March Madness.’” With UConn’s basketball program surging to national prominence again, the timing felt right. “The title *The Husky Effect* made more and more sense,” Boucher said.



Toni Boucher, former state senator and current Wilton First Selectman, holds a copy of *The Husky Effect*, her newly released book exploring how UConn’s culture—especially its athletic and entrepreneurial programs—is shaping future business leaders. The memoir-in-disguise marks the first of two titles, with *Stone Doll: A Memoir* set to follow this fall.

*“Do not be afraid to fail,” she tells students. “The learning you get from failure is what makes you stronger.”*

Indeed, the book is part memoir, part institutional celebration. It explores how UConn’s culture, particularly through its athletics, has catapulted its reputation and applications—from 12,000 to over 63,000 annually—and how that success is influencing the next generation of entrepreneurs. “The national branding this university has gotten from its sports teams has been a game changer,” Boucher said. “And I hope some of the work I’ve done with the business school has helped shine a light on its entrepreneurship program.”

Her investment in UConn is deeply personal. After a long career in public office and a successful tenure at a thirty billion dollar investment firm, Boucher chose to honor her late husband Bud’s entrepreneurial spirit by endowing the Boucher Management & Entrepreneurship Department at UConn. “He worked so hard for so many years, and three

months after his business finally became a success, he passed away,” she said. “He never saw a penny of the financial reward. But I had to finish what he started.”

Boucher’s life is one of unlikely arcs. She arrived in the United States as a child from war-torn Italy, speaking no English and with illiterate parents. “My earliest memory is wrapping a stone in a dishcloth and cradling it like a doll. That was my only toy,” she recalled. From that humble beginning came a tireless work ethic—something her father, who had just a fourth-grade education, insisted upon. “Education is everything,” he would repeat. “It’s the way out of poverty.”

She took that lesson to heart, earning an MBA, running

seventeen political campaigns (winning fifteen), and mentoring young people at every stage. Even in her losses, she found ways to teach. “Do not be afraid to fail,” she tells students. “The learning you get from failure is what makes you stronger.”


That message runs through both *The Husky Effect* and the upcoming *Stone Doll*. While the former is focused on institutional innovation, the latter is deeply human—a story of perseverance through war, migration, discrimination, and loss. “It’s a Cinderella story,” her CEO once told her. “And Cinderella stories do come true.” Boucher, still amazed by her journey, agrees: “Every day I wake up and wonder, is this a fantasy?”

Despite the accolades and

achievements, Boucher said her motivation remains the same: to inspire others. “Most people write books to run for office. I’m doing this because I want people to know that if I could come from where I came from and make it, so can they.”

And with *Stone Doll* set to arrive for the holidays, she’s not slowing down. “We’re already in the final edits,” she said, noting that it’s a race against time. “I recently hit a big birthday. The hourglass is running, and there’s still so much to share.”

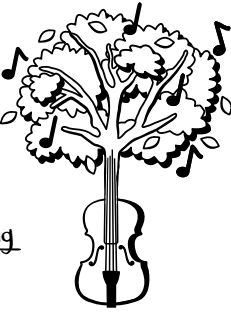
From a childhood marked by hardship to a life shaped by public service, family loss, and entrepreneurial triumph, Toni Boucher has lived many lives—and now, finally, she’s writing them down.




New Canaan Chamber Music  
Andrew Armstrong, Artistic Director

# Children's Concert

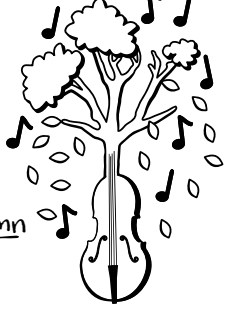
Excerpts from Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons"  
Performed by Music Conservatory Students under the Direction of Andrew Armstrong




Spring



Summer



Autumn



Winter


Sunday, May 18th, 3pm to 4pm  
The New Canaan Library's Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
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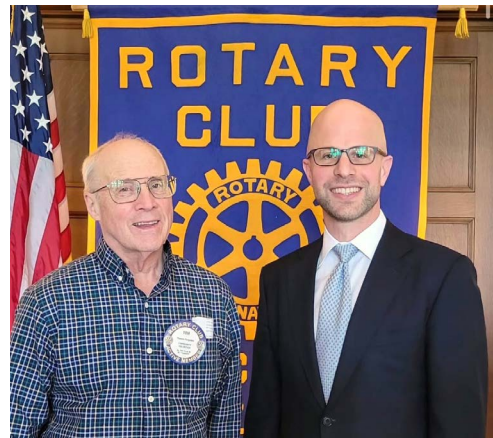


YOUR NEWS BRIEF  
CONTINUED From Page 1

Sportova Coming to NC

Sportova, a luxury fitness equipment and design company, is set to open its first showroom at 108 Main Street in New Canaan. The town approved the new business and requested more detailed visuals before moving forward with proposed exterior updates to ensure they align with local design guidelines.

Otten and Dahlstrom Visit Rotary Club



Dr. Marc Otten, a neurosurgeon with ONS and faculty member at Columbia University, spoke to the New Canaan Rotary Club about his work treating brain and spine conditions. The club also welcomed visiting Rotarian Dr. Joe Dahlstrom from Cedar Park, Texas. *Photo credit: New Canaan Rotary Club.*

2025 Award of Merit

The New Canaan Playhouse received a 2025 Award of Merit from Preservation Connecticut for its restoration, a collaborative effort between the town, Cinema Lab, and a team of design and construction experts. The Grupes House also received an honorable mention and will serve as the New Canaan Land Trust's future headquarters and conservation learning center.

Kentucky Derby Party at the Inn



On May 3, the Inn held a Kentucky Derby-themed event which was held with participation from residents, families, staff, and supporters. The funds raised will support ongoing programs for residents. *Photo credit: Waveny LifeCare Network.*

SCHOOLS

NCHS Safe Driving Week

New Canaan High School held Safe Driving Week from April 21-25 to raise awareness about common teen driving risks, including impaired driving, speeding, and distractions. The week featured simulations, safety demonstrations, and a presentation from a speaker impacted by a drunk driving incident. The initiative aimed to help students understand the real-world consequences of unsafe driving.

New Administrative Assistant at West



Valeska Diaz has been named the new Administrative Assistant at West School. Since 2022, she has served in several roles, including teaching assistant, guest teacher, and afterschool program coordinator. *Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.*

NCCS Visits Maritime Aquarium



Second graders from New Canaan Country School visited the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk as part of their science curriculum. They studied marine animals such as moon jellies and sand

tiger sharks to learn about biological systems and life cycles. The visit supported their ongoing classroom investigations of plant and animal development. *Photo credit: New Canaan Country School.*

SLS Relay for Life



The St. Luke's School Relay for Life team raised \$30,389 for the American Cancer Society. After a year of fundraising, students joined the Greater Danbury Relay for Life event on May 3. The event focused on cancer awareness and support efforts. *Photo credit: St. Luke's School.*

NCCS Grandparents & Special Friends Day



Last week, over 500 grandparents and special friends visited New Canaan Country School for the annual Grandparents' and Special Friends Day. They joined students in classrooms to take part in daily activities and lessons. *Photo credit: New Canaan Country School.*

SLS 2025 Scholars Symposium



Recently, forty-three St. Luke's School seniors presented their research at the 2025 Scholars Symposium. The event featured projects in STEM, Classical, Literary, and Global studies. Topics ranged from policing and therapy technology to music and cognitive science. *Photo credit: St. Luke's School.*

South & Saxe Walk to School Day



On May 2, South School and Saxe Middle School held Walk to School Day, with families walking or biking to campus together. The event took place before the start of the school day and included support from school resource officers. Officers assisted with arrival and helped manage traffic. *Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.*

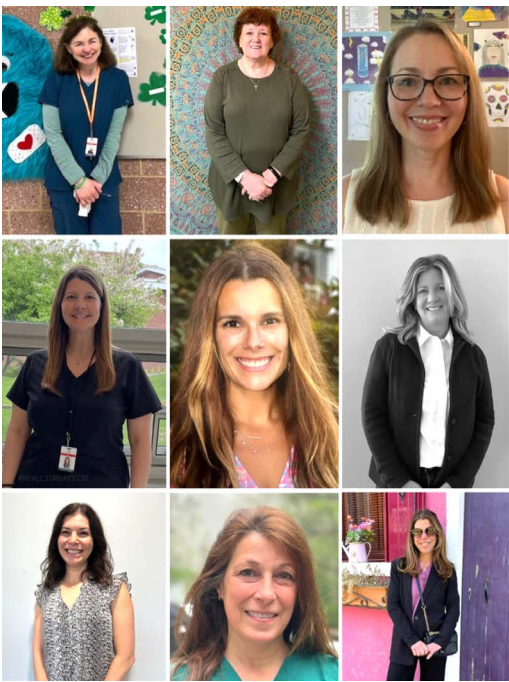
NCHS Tri-M Music Honor Society



On April 22, the New Canaan High School Music Department inducted 18 students into the Tri-M Music Honor Society based on academic performance, musical involvement, and community service. Sixteen seniors received honor cords and pins recognizing their participation in the program. *Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.*

National School Nurse Day

On May 7, National School Nurse Day, New Canaan Public Schools recognized their nursing staff for managing student health needs throughout the school year. *Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.*



SPORTS  
High School Hockey Hall of Fame



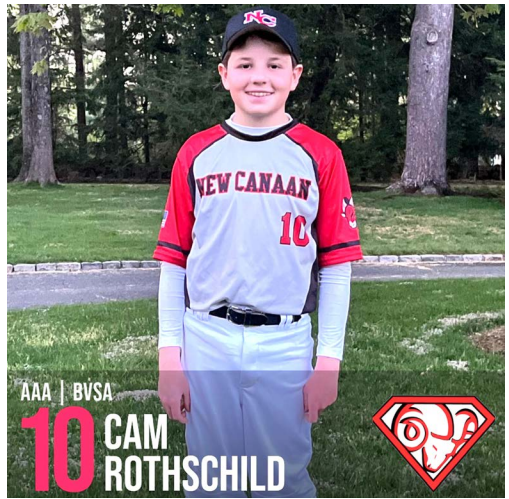
Bo Hickey will be inducted into the Connecticut High School Hockey Hall of Fame on Thursday, May 8. The event will be held at Cascades Fine Catering in Hamden, with a social hour at 6 pm followed by dinner at 7. Call 203-815-4940 for tickets. *Photo credit: New Canaan Football.*

Robinson Receives Scholar Athlete Award



On May 4, Luke Robinson, a two-time state champion quarterback, received a Scholar Athlete Award at the National Football Foundation Banquet. The event recognized student-athletes for achievements in both academics and athletics. *Photo credit: New Canaan Football.*

Baseball Player of the Week



Cam Rothschild of BVSA was named baseball player of the week for last week after pitching six innings with one hit allowed and no runs. At the plate, he went 7-for-12, recording two triples and six RBIs. *Photo credit: New Canaan Cal Ripken Baseball.*

NC Softball Class of 2038



This season, thirty-seven girls from New Canaan's Class of 2038 joined the town's youth softball program. *Photo credit: New Canaan Softball.*

ACROSS CT  
Purple Alert System

Connecticut has launched the Purple Alert system to help locate missing adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The system operates through 911 and works alongside the existing Amber and Silver Alerts, with added support from the Bring Me Home registry. Officials say it provides clearer protocols for law enforcement and has already been used in multiple cases.

Flood Insurance Information

After severe flooding in August 2024, officials are reminding Connecticut residents that standard insurance policies do not cover flood damage. Flood insurance is available regardless of a property's location in or out of a designated flood zone. Additional information and resources are available at <https://shorturl.at/3ORZA>.

MAY 6 BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING BRIEFS

Police Duty Weapon Purchase

The board approved a \$45,800.55 purchase from Jurek Brothers Inc. for 45 new duty weapons. The purchase will be allocated to the FY26 Budget.

Police Officer Training Travel

The board approved a \$130 travel expense to cover overnight lodging for an Officer, who will attend a two-day firearm training course.

Parking Pay Machines

The board approved a \$91,775 purchase of nine solar-powered Flowbird parking pay stations. The machines will be installed downtown on Elm Street and South Avenue. The new machines will operate on a pay-by-plate system, allowing drivers to purchase parking in 15-minute increments for up to two hours.

Carriage Barn Courtyard Project

The board approved the assistance agreement, the Pass- Through Agreement, the Statutory lien, and the Certificate of Applicant as part of the Carriage Barn Courtyard Renovation Project. More information on this project is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRWIZoKgOY>.

Firefighter Training Equipment

The board approved a \$20,000 purchase from Dynamic Training Solutions for a Hogwall Firefighter Training Prop. The Hogwall will be used to replicate scenarios for the fire fighters.

Fire Station Exhaust System Repair

The board approved a contract of up to \$15,000 with Air Cleaning Specialists in order to service the apparatus exhaust systems.

Paddle Tennis Court Maintenance

The board approved an \$11,714 contract with Riley Green Mountain Platform Tennis Courts to maintain the paddle tennis courts. The work will include repairs such as fixing and tightening screens, repainting, and fixing some wooden pieces.

Boiler & HVAC Maintenance Contracts

The board approved a request from the Department of Public Works to enter into three-year renewal contracts: \$47,932.50 to CV Longo Mechanical for boiler maintenance, \$12,309 to M.A. Garamella CO Inc for Gas Boiler Maintenance, \$951,566.74 to P&M Partners LLC for Cleaning Services, and \$155,562 to M.A. Garamella CO Inc for HVAC Maintenance.

Herb Cottage Condition Study

The board approved a \$6,500 contract with Architectural Preservation Studio, DPC to assess the Herb Cottage at the New Canaan Nature Center.

Design Services

The board approved a \$44,000 contract with Architectural Preservation Studio, DPC to design new classrooms, ADA ramps, and ADA bathrooms at a New Canaan Nature Center building.

Waveny House Change Orders

The board approved \$55,918 in change orders from Alden Bailey Restoration in the amount of \$55,918.00 for additional services related to the elevator installation at Waveny House.

Parks Garage Concrete Apron

The board approved a \$26,675 contract with Fortino Escalante to remove the old apron and install a new reinforced concrete apron with six bollards at the Parks Garage.

Equipment Purchase

The board approved a \$638,255.61 purchase of a new SECA Model ECO-900 Combination Sewer Truck from Chadwick Baross.

Pond Dredging

The board approved a \$195,456 contract with Peter Lanni Inc. to dredge Kiwanis Pond in the New Canaan Nature Center.

Signage

The board approved a \$28,782 contract with East Coast Signs to replace 533 existing street name signage as directed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Pave - Local Roads

The board approved a \$458,270.73 contract with Indus Seal Coating. The work entails the micro-thin overlay and/or crack sealing of various town roads.

Road Paving

The board approved a \$1,820,805.33 paving contract with FGB Construction to mill, reclaim and repave, as well as other necessary improvements of various town roads.

Intersection Improvements

The board approved a \$237,246.28 contract with Burns Construction to improve the intersection of Rte. 123/New Norwalk Road, Brushy Ridge Road and Locust Avenue/ Summer Street by realigning, repaving, sidewalk improvements and pedestrian signal improvements, and more.

National Public Works Week

The board approved the declaration of May 18 to May 24, 2025 as National Public Works Week in the Town of New Canaan.

Cape Seal for Local Roads

The board approved a \$135,580 contract with Seymour Seal Coating Services for cape sealing of local roads.

Full Time Employee

The board approved a request from the Human Resources Director to hire Amy Lehaney as the Director of Health beginning June 9, 2025.





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## This Week in Sports from Christopher DeMuth



New Canaan Girls Varsity game against Darien. New Canaan shooting deep into the second half with less than a minute left on the clock. Photo taken by Christopher DeMuth

In a highly contested matchup, the New Canaan Rams delivered a commanding victory on Saturday, defeating archrival Darien 8–4. Rarely in the rivalry between the two towns is such a dominant performance delivered.

The Rams came out firing in the first quarter, netting five goals while limiting the Blue Wave to just one. That opening burst set the tone for a wire-to-wire victory that left little doubt about which team left the least on the field.

“The Darien game brings a lot of emotions for everybody,” said New Canaan head coach Chip Buzzeo. “For the community, for the players on the field, for the coaches in every sport. It’s a big game. Of course I was happy. But more than anything, I was happy with our execution.”

New Canaan executed its game plan with precision, outshooting Darien 38 to 27 and winning 36 ground balls to Darien’s 22. The Rams also dominated the faceoff circle, winning 19 faceoffs to Dariens 2, thanks in large part to a standout performance from JT, who controlled the X from start to finish.

“JT dominated at the faceoff,” Buzzeo said. “That really set the tempo for us. Our defense took advantage of their matchups and controlled the game, and our goalies played great. It was a complete team effort.”

Goalie play was indeed another strong point in the game. JC registered 10 saves, while Cam

Lyden added 4 more for a combined 14 stops—two more than Darien’s 12. Even in unsettled moments, the Rams held firm, forcing Darien into 16 turnovers while committing the same number themselves. Defensively, New Canaan gave up just three goals over the final three quarters.

“We’ve been playing against top-tier teams and our guys are getting better every week,” Buzzeo said. “They’re going up against the number one defense in the state every day in practice, and they’re starting to reflect that intensity and intelligence in games.”

Offensively, New Canaan displayed the balance and depth that comes from having such a deep bench. While Grey Wildman drew extra attention following a massive outing against Iona Prep, it was Cole Campisi and Finn Rotor who exploded out of the gates.

“They had a plan to slow down Grey, and that opened the door for other guys,” said Buzzeo. “Cole and Finn had an incredible first quarter. Once they started making adjustments, other players stepped up. That’s what makes this group special—anyone can hurt you.” Compared to other teams in the FCIAC, the New Canaan team’s greatest strength comes from having several extremely strong players, rather than concentrating all the talent of the team into a single player.

Despite their offensive prowess, Buzzeo isn’t

calling this a one-dimensional team. On multiple occasions this season, New Canaan has allowed defensive midfielders, poles, and even a goalie to push in transition and take scoring chances.

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The team’s experience with New York programs who operate with a shot clock may also be paying off. While the FCIAC does not mandate one, the Rams’ early-season contests against shot-clock opponents forced them to play faster—and that urgency has carried over.

“I like playing faster. Every year, you evaluate your team and decide how you can best succeed. This year, we have the athletes to push the pace, and we’re doing it.”

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Looking ahead, New Canaan will face Greenwich, Ridgefield, and Don Bosco before postseason play begins. Buzzeo sees these matchups as important tests for the team.

“We haven’t built the scouting report yet, but Greenwich has some talented offensive players and a great goalie,” he said. “They rely heavily on momentum. We need to do what we did against Darien: start fast, finish our shots, and build a lead early.”

Despite graduating several defensive anchors like JP, Buzzeo remains confident in the team’s future.

“Our pipeline’s the strongest it’s ever been,” he said. “I coach the seventh and eighth graders, and I can tell you—we’re not taking a step back. We have young talent that’s been waiting for their turn.”

## Weekly Sports Round Up

School	Sport	Date	Opponent	Result	Score
New Canaan Boys	Baseball	4/30	Wilton	Win	New Canaan 14 – Wilton 13
New Canaan Boys	Baseball	5/2	Stamford	Loss	New Canaan 1 – Stamford 2
New Canaan Boys	Lacrosse	5/1	Iona Prep	Win	New Canaan 8 – Iona Prep 7
New Canaan Boys	Lacrosse	5/3	Darien	Win	New Canaan 8 – Darien 4
New Canaan Boys	Tennis	5/1	Darien	Win	New Canaan 4 – Darien 2
New Canaan Boys	Volleyball	5/1	Westhill	Win	New Canaan 3 – Westhill 0
New Canaan Boys	Volleyball	5/3	Greenwich	Win	New Canaan 3 – Greenwich 0
New Canaan Boys	Volleyball	5/6	Brien McMahon	Win	New Canaan 3 – Brien McMahon 0
New Canaan Girls	Lacrosse	5/1	Darien	Loss	New Canaan 2 – Darien 9
New Canaan Girls	Lacrosse	5/3	St. Anthonys	Loss	New Canaan 4 – St. Anthonys 15
New Canaan Girls	Lacrosse	5/6	Wilton	Loss	New Canaan 7 – Wilton 8
New Canaan Girls	Softball	4/30	Wilton	Win	New Canaan 8 – Wilton 2
New Canaan Girls	Softball	5/2	Stamford	Win	New Canaan 5 – Stamford 2
New Canaan Girls	Softball	5/5	Brien McMahon	Win	New Canaan 17 – Brien McMahon 0
St. Lukes Girls	Lacrosse	4/30	Holy Child	Loss	St. Lukes 9 – Holy Child 13
St. Lukes Girls	Softball	4/30	Rye Country Day	Win	St. Lukes 21 – Rye Country Day 6
St. Lukes Girls	Softball	5/3	Hopkins School	Win	St. Lukes 11 – Hopkins School 6
St. Lukes Boys	Baseball	4/30	Hopkins School	Loss	St. Lukes 1 – Hopkins 8
St. Lukes Boys	Baseball	5/2	Frederick Gunn School	Loss	St. Lukes 3 – Frederick Gunn 6
St. Lukes Boys	Lacrosse	4/30	King	Loss	St. Lukes 5 – King 13



# Rams Deliver Commanding Victory Over Darien

By Christopher DeMuth

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After causing turnover, New Canaan battles for the ball in a ground-ball situation.  
Photo taken by Christopher DeMuth



New Canaan runs the ball down the field at the top of the 3rd quarter.  
Photo taken by Christopher DeMuth

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9	MAY, FRI		4 – 5:45pm	Boys JV Baseball vs Westhill	Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840
			4 – 5:45pm	Boys Varsity Baseball vs Westhill	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 5:15pm	Girls Freshman Lacrosse - Girls vs Greenwich Academy	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 5pm	Boys Freshman Baseball @ Westhill	125 Roxbury Rd, Stamford CT 06902
			4 – 5pm	Girls Varsity Softball @ Westhill	125 Roxbury Rd, Stamford CT 06902
			5:30 – 7:30pm	Boys JV Tennis vs Darien High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
10	MAY, SAT		9 – 10:30am	Girls JV Softball @ Darien High School	80 High School Lane, Darien CT 06820
			10am – 12pm	Boys JV Volleyball @ Wilton High School	395 Danbury Rd, Wilton CT 06897
			10:30am – 12pm	Boys JV Lacrosse - Boys vs Fairfield Prep	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			11am – 12:30pm	Girls JV Softball @ Brien McMahon	80 High School Lane, Darien CT 06820
			1 – 2:30pm	Boys Varsity Lacrosse - Boys vs Fairfield Prep	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			2:30 – 4pm	Girls Varsity Lacrosse - Girls @ Ward Melville High School	380 Old Town Rd, East Setauket New York 11733-3499
			2:30 – 3:30pm	Girls JV Lacrosse - Girls @ Ward Melville High School	380 Old Town Rd, East Setauket New York 11733-3499
			3 – 4:45pm	Boys Varsity Baseball vs Brien McMahon	Mead Park, New Canaan CT 06840
12	MAY, MON		3:30 – 5:30pm	Girls Varsity Golf vs Darien High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 7pm	Girls Varsity Tennis @ Trumbull	72 Strobel Rd, Trumbull Connecticut 06611-5597
			4 – 5:30pm	Girls JV Softball vs Bridgeport Central High School	Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840
			4 – 5pm	Boys Varsity Baseball @ Bridgeport Central High School	1 Lincoln Boulevard, Bridgeport CT 06606
			4 – 5pm	Boys Varsity Tennis vs Trumbull	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 5pm	Girls Varsity Softball vs Bridgeport Central High School	Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840
			4 – 4:30pm	Girls JV Tennis @ Fairfield Warde	165 Stillson Rd, Fairfield Connecticut 06825
			4:30 – 5:30pm	Boys JV Volleyball @ Ridgefield High School	700 N Salem Rd, Ridgefield CT 06877
			4:30 – 5:30pm	Girls JV Lacrosse - Girls @ Sacred Heart Greenwich	1177 King St, Greenwich Connecticut 06831-2998
			5:45 – 6:45pm	Boys Varsity Volleyball @ Ridgefield High School	700 N Salem Rd, Ridgefield CT 06877
13	MAY, TUE		4 – 7pm	Boys Varsity Track - Outdoor vs St. Joseph	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 7pm	Girls Varsity Track - Outdoor vs St. Joseph	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 6:30pm	Boys Varsity Tennis @ Ridgefield High School	700 N Salem Rd, Ridgefield CT 06877
			4 – 6pm	Boys JV Tennis @ Ridgefield High School	60 Prospect Street, Ridgefield CT 06877
			4 – 5pm	Girls JV Lacrosse - Girls vs Brien McMahon	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 5pm	Girls Varsity Tennis vs Ridgefield High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			5 – 6:30pm	Boys Varsity Lacrosse - Boys @ Brien McMahon	300 Highland Ave, Norwalk CT 06854-4099
			6:30 – 8pm	Boys JV Lacrosse - Boys @ Brien McMahon	300 Highland Ave, Norwalk CT 06854-4099
			6:30 – 8pm	Girls Varsity Lacrosse - Girls vs Brien McMahon	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
14	MAY, WED		3:30 – 5:30pm	Girls JV Golf vs Staples High School	95 Country Club Rd, New Canaan CT 06840
			3:30 – 5:30pm	Girls Varsity Golf vs Staples High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 6pm	Boys JV Baseball @ St. Joseph	419 White Plains Road, Trumbull Connecticut 06611
			4 – 6pm	Boys Varsity Baseball @ St. Joseph	2320 Huntington Tpke, Trumbull CT 06611
			4 – 5:30pm	Girls Varsity Tennis @ Bridgeport Central High School	1 Lincoln Boulevard, Bridgeport CT 06606
			4 – 5pm	Boys Freshman Lacrosse - Boys @ Ridgefield High School	750 N. Salem Road, Ridgefield CT 06877
			4 – 5pm	Boys Varsity Tennis vs Bridgeport Central High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			4 – 5pm	Girls Varsity Softball vs St. Joseph	Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840
			4:30 – 5:30pm	Boys Varsity Volleyball vs Darien High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
			6 – 7pm	Boys JV Volleyball vs Darien High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840

Weekly Sports Schedule



New Canaan Sentinel

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# 100 Days of May

May, though modest in name, is a month of monumental exertion. It does not unfold so much as it surges—thirty-one days of converging obligations and emotional milestones. To navigate May requires poise, strength, and a kind of sacred stamina. Fortunately for all of us, mothers exist. And not only the mothers by biology, but all who mother—fathers, grandparents, stepparents, caregivers, godparents, educators, and neighbors—those who take up the sacred work of nurturing, planning, protecting, and praying.

Many have long referred to this time as the “100 Days of May,” and indeed it feels so. If ever there were a month engineered to test the limits of human coordination, it is this one. And if ever there were a population prepared to meet the test, it is the mothers of New Canaan.

*God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers.*  
**Rudyard Kipling**

Those who mother are the quiet quarterbacks of this season, orchestrating each day’s choreography with the finesse of a conductor and the endurance of a marathoner. It is they who balance the conference calls with costume creation, the carpools with cap-and-gown fittings. They are the reminder-writers, the schedule-keepers, the voice on the sideline urging one more stride. May is not survivable without them.

As schools wind down, expectations ramp up. Projects mount. Finals loom. Field trips multiply. In the midst of this, those who mother—whether working full time, part time, or full-heartedly at home—become the scaffolding beneath their children’s stress. They absorb the anxiety. They mitigate the chaos. And, still, they show up with grace for Mother’s Day brunch, pretending to relax while mentally color-coding the week ahead.

May’s tumult begins deceptively calm. The month arrives gently, adorned with blooming flowers and mild weather. It marks a convergence of conclusions and commencements, a pivotal point where school years wrap up, graduations abound, and wedding bells ring. The calendar transforms into an unyielding cadence of project completions, final exams, obligatory events, and unavoidable celebrations.

In our striving community—one known for its standards of excellence—it is worth pausing to acknowledge that even the strongest can fray. And no one is more vulnerable to that fraying than teenagers.

Too often, in our pursuit of perfection, we forget that the teenage soul is under siege. College pressures, social comparisons, unrelenting performance metrics—all intensified by the algorithmic tyranny of digital life—leave them gasping for room to simply be.

Let us say this clearly: high school students should not be living as if the stakes of every exam or essay are existential. They need room to falter. They need our presence more than our pressure. And most of all, they need grace.

May’s relentless march offers a powerful opportunity to extend that grace—to tell our teens, with word and deed, that they are loved not for what they produce, but for who they are. That a B-minus is not a moral failure. That missing a deadline does not define their future. And that asking for help is not weakness, but wisdom.

Life, much like May, is a series of sprints and recoveries. There must, however, be time for recovery.

To our New Canaan neighbors: take the breath May rarely affords. Look at your calendar—and then look beyond it. Ask not only what must be done, but what may be paused. In the race to arrive at June, don’t forget to witness May. Give yourself the same grace you extend to others.

And above all, thank the mothers—not just with flowers or cards, but with true, unhurried gratitude. They are the reason we survive this month. They are the heart of our homes, the memory-makers, the steady hands that carry us through.

As Rudyard Kipling once observed, “God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers.” In May, this feels less like metaphor and more like divine logistics.

So here’s to the mothers. Here’s to the teenagers trying their best. And here’s to all of us finding, somewhere in this beautiful whirlwind, the wisdom to slow down, the strength to show up, and the grace to understand what truly matters.



## LETTER For Real Answers to the Housing Shortage, Look at Work Live Ride

A funny thing happened when I set aside time to review Raised Bill No. 6831, also known as “Work Live Ride”, an opt-in housing bill making its way through the General Assembly that has been declared controversial by predictable opponents: I couldn’t find a real controversy.

In contrast to existing and other proposed legislation, Work Live Ride is genuinely an optional initiative created to fund transit-oriented housing around the state. Towns such as New Canaan are free to skip it. The legislation will not suddenly strip towns of state funding— or eligibility therefor— based on whether they opt into this program.

Here’s what Work Live Ride will do. Conservative estimates peg Connecticut’s housing shortage at a minimum of 100,000 units. Like nationally, the state shortage is not just a housing problem, but an economic problem that prevents job seekers from moving to Connecticut. If we were to acknowledge this reality, but leave it to the state to find ways to solve it outside of our own community, the solution might look a lot like Work Live Ride. The proposed legislation would establish prioritized funding in the specific areas of municipal sewer projects, incentive housing zones and other funds “for the purpose of transit-oriented development”. It would not, contrary to some assertions, render towns that do not opt in to Work Live Ride ineligible for these funds or any other funding. I want to thank State Representatives Lucy Dathan and Savet Constantine, and State Senator Ceci Maher, for their thoughtful approach, responsiveness, and commitment to offering balanced solutions when it comes to housing.

And what would opponents to an opt-in bill like Work Live Ride have us do? Opt out the whole state? In the coming weeks, be sure not to confuse anticipated soapbox speeches with real answers.

*Tim Klimpl*

## LETTER Give City Dwellers a Place to Park

Using the pretext of providing more affordable housing for struggling Connecticut residents, the Connecticut General Assembly seems primed to trigger a full-frontal assault aimed at municipal planning and zoning commissions, the integrity of urban neighborhoods, and local control.

In the best tradition of “Trumpian Tomfoolery” the Hartford Democratic Leadership is conspiring to concoct one “Big, Beautiful Bill” which will demolish home rule and neighborhood integrity, while bestowing a financial bonanza on real estate speculators and developers.

The legislative leaders hope to cobble together an unholy alliance between greed and good intentions, by using the seductive rhetoric of affordable housing as a vehicle for camouflaging their ill-conceived legislation.

One component of this strategy is a bill that would prohibit a municipal planning and zoning commission from adopting zoning regulations which mandate minimum off-street parking requirements. This results in greater density and greater profits for speculators and developers, while compelling neighborhood residents to scavenge for on-street parking which is often many blocks from their residence.

A recent proposal in my hometown of Bridgeport illustrates the folly of this no off-street parking approach.

Under cover of COVID, Bridgeport adopted zoning regulations which do not provide for minimum off-street parking. Community activists and members of the City Council have been imploring the Bridgeport Planning and Zoning Commission to reconsider its decision and amend its regulations.

Current Connecticut law allows a municipal Planning and Zoning Commission to enable “no more than one parking space for each studio or one bedroom dwelling unit or more than two parking spaces for each dwelling unit with two or more bedrooms.”

Raised Bill 7061, which will probably be incorporated into the omnibus “Big, Beautiful Bill,” would take that power away from municipal planning commissions.

Because of Bridgeport’s existing zoning regulations, the Planning and Zoning Commission was rendered powerless, when confronted by a proposal calling for a building containing 900 square feet of commercial space, along with 74 dwelling units.

The dwelling units consist of 36 studio/efficiency units, 34 one-bedroom units, and four (4) 2-bedrooms unit. These will be constructed in an already congested and densely populated urban area.

Raised Bill 7061 will foist this Bridgeport experience upon every town and city in Connecticut, while the proponents of the bill feign concern for poor and minority urban residents.

From a planning standpoint, a no minimum off-street parking standard is a disaster. Neither the city of Bridgeport not the State of Connecticut can be compared to New York or Boston. We do not have a well-developed mass transit network.

The law of unintended consequences will produce a situation which will live on after buildings have been built, profits reaped, and those responsible are long gone.

Where does a mother with children in tow, returning from the grocery store, find a convenient place to park?

Should a man or woman returning home after working a night shift, have to park several blocks from a residence and risk both inconvenience and personal safety?

What about residents with physical disabilities?

Where do residents find a suitable and legal place to park, when alternate side of the street parking is in effect following a snowstorm?

Will the “good intentions” faction of the coalition help these embattled residents when the crisis arrives?

Hopefully, Bridgeport will soon rectify its mistake and amend its regulations.

No matter what happens in Bridgeport, however, this parking dilemma should not be visited on the entire State of Connecticut.

Any “Big Beautiful Bill” which includes Raised Bill 7061, should not reach Governor Lamont’s desk.

*Carmen L. Lopez with thanks to Maria Weingarten for the submission.*

## LETTER Will Connecticut Towns Mirror San Francisco's Fate?

***H.B. 7033 in CT: An Act Prohibiting A Municipality From Imposing Any Penalty On Homeless Persons For Performing Life-Sustaining Activities On Public Land***

Picture walking through Waveny Park, finding needles, assorted filth, and scattered encampments. Imagine our towns beginning to mirror San Francisco’s streets, where rampant homelessness has crushed public safety, chased businesses, and gutted community pride. This grim future awaits Connecticut, including Greenwich and New Canaan, if House Bill “H.B.” 7033 becomes law. This legislation, if passed in Hartford, will erode both communal compassion and civic order. There will be nothing legally New Canaan or any town can do to stop this law from being implemented.

A brief background: In 2024, the U.S. Supreme Court’s City of Grants Pass v. Johnson decision backed a principle that towns can enforce ordinances to keep public spaces safe. The 6-3 ruling confirmed that fining or jailing people camping on public property does not violate the Eighth Amendment (“cruel and unusual punishment”), even with scarce shelter. This empowers municipalities to protect parks, sidewalks, and greens for residents, free from legal roadblocks.

H.B. 7033, being crafted in Connecticut’s Housing Committee would gut this power. Titled “An Act Prohibiting A Municipality From Imposing Any Penalty On Homeless Persons For Performing Life-Sustaining Activities On Public Land,” it bans penalizing sleeping or stashing belongings on public property. Democrats, never content to leave a proven bad policy alone, have doubled down on failure with this bill, testing liberals’ vaunted tolerance for homeless encampments except perhaps in their own back yards. If passed, it would squash Grants Pass vs. Johnson aligned ordinances, forcing towns to endure encampments indefinitely. Connecticut could soon resemble San Francisco, where over 8,000 homeless, open drug use, and public health disasters swamp public spaces.

San Francisco’s collapse is a frightful warning. Its soft policies on homelessness fuelled crime surges and business exodus, desecrating a vibrant and beautiful city. Connecticut, with 3,410 unhoused in 2024, isn’t immune from this result. New Haven’s Democratic Mayor Justin Elicker slams the bill, saying it cripples towns’ ability to blend compassion and order. He’s the lone prominent Democrat voice thus far speaking out against this bill.

Republicans propose a more common-sense approach: let towns forge solutions while funding fixes like shelters and job training. A strong economy and lower taxes would foster opportunity and do much to prevent widespread homelessness. H.B. 7033 provides zero dollars for housing, dumping encampment and safety costs on municipalities and towns. With Connecticut’s budget strained, Greenwich and New Canaan taxpayers will get stuck with all the costs.

Connecticut’s strength is its safe, thriving towns. H.B. 7033 risks turning parks into squatter camps, diminishing property values, safety, and civic pride. Grants Pass v. Johnson equips municipalities to act decisively; H.B. 7033 rips those tools away.

Lawmakers must kill this bill, champion local control, discipline, and solutions lifting the unhoused while safeguarding towns. Keep Connecticut’s streets clean and secure—not a mirror of San Francisco’s failed policies.

*David Lancaster*



COLUMN

# Tell Them They Are Awesome!



By LOCKEY COUGHLIN

Recently, my staff and I were kicking around an idea that we thought would help our students see themselves and their behavior more clearly and thus make positive adjustments. We thought it would be fun to spend a couple of hours imitating our students—dress in pajama bottoms, head to class late, blast our music ... you get the idea. We felt oh-so-clever and superior for a minute, imagining a scenario from a sitcom or an old Buffy episode.

Unfortunately, there was a dissenting opinion that we were, perhaps, supposed to act like adults. We should dial it back and remember how difficult high school is - hormones, growth, uncharted territory, brand-new experiences, and a lack of control over one’s own life. You might recall the feelings. This staff member

was mortified that we had so little empathy for what our students were going through and the reasons for their often irritating behavior. Hanging our heads low, we mumbled our agreement and embarrassment and shuffled down the hallway.

Instead of acting like children, our job as educators and parents is to set an example and provide as much guidance as we are allowed. Teens will only take so much advice, after all. Other than imitating their behavior, there are ways that can be remarkably effective, if not as gleefully superior.

My advice is always, first and foremost, to listen to what children are saying, or at least what they are trying to communicate. Please do not yell at them when they tell you, straight up, what is going on. Take a beat if you need to. Leave the room. Breathe. Support the honesty. Then, ask what they think should be done to help them make positive changes. Support honesty above all else. Why? Because when it matters most, you want them to come to you for help.

*In a post-COVID world, where many children learned to fear others and that isolation and computer screens equal safety, yes, showing up is anxiety-producing. We did that to them.*

After that, my best advice is to focus on the positive. What are students doing well? Let’s focus on that and celebrate the wins. I love giving awards. We give awards for everything, big and small, celebrating our students and staff for who they are and what they have accomplished throughout the academic year.

Honestly, I do not understand when people get peeved about participation awards. For some people, just showing up and participating is an immense challenge. In a post-COVID world, where many children learned to fear others and that isolation and computer screens equal safety, yes, showing up is anxiety-producing. We did that to them.

I only support being a little cranky about participation awards because they are not specific enough. Kids need to know that the award means

something. Just as with praise, awards should be highly specific so children (or anyone else) understand what others see in them, what makes them feel worthy, and where their superpowers lie.

For example, we awarded a student for making outstanding microscope slides in science class. Was this the best science student? No. He could barely stay awake during lectures, but labs? He was outstanding. This was a hands-on, project-oriented student. Based on this, we created a curriculum the following year where the students built a stock car. It’s now our most popular offering.

One year, we gave an ‘International Man of Mystery’ award to a student who did not interact socially with the other students. One year later, he is a social butterfly. The award acknowledged that we saw him and supported his need for time

and space. IT also let him know we were curious and wanted to get to know him better.

Of course, we have big awards. These awards require students to demonstrate leadership, peer support, academic prowess, and community service. We have awards voted on by the entire community, awards given by the Head of School, awards given by teachers, and awards for volunteerism. We ask community members to make up awards if they see merit in another community member. And yes, we give awards for showing up when it is a challenge.

We have a huge Gala for the presentation of these awards. Parents, staff, alums, and students are invited to attend. It looks like a wedding, with everyone sitting at tables, lots of food, treats, games, photo ops, and opportunities to say

wonderful things about each other. We are celebrating every single member of our community. There are tears and gushing speeches. Seniors are introduced as if they are rock stars, and we talk about each one individually before presenting their diplomas.

Yes, it costs a small fortune and requires an incredible amount of work, but it is the only time most of these individuals will likely be publicly and lovingly celebrated. So, if you have a problem with participation awards, then make them more specific and way bigger. It will elevate everyone in your community and fill your soul with immense joy.

*Lockey Webb Coughlin is the Founding Director of Education without Walls, LLC, a private micro-school in New Milford. Lockey@EducationWW.org*

## “Groove on the Green” - Free Concert and Dance Party on the Library Green



New Canaan Library invites the community to a free music and dance party under the stars, Saturday, May 17th on the Library Green. Guests can enjoy a special evening of live music and dance lessons beginning at 6:00pm and running until 9:00pm. The event will feature live music by the country band Shot Down performing their upbeat and energetic playlist of modern and standard country favorites. Guests will also be treated to expert dance instruction to tune up their line dancing skills, led by a team from New Canaan’s own Fred Astaire Dance Studio. Delicious BBQ will be available for purchase from the Avellino Family BBQ truck or bring your own picnic dinner.

“Think of it as New Canaan’s answer to Midsummer Night Swing at Lincoln Center or the Dance Party at Bryant Park,” noted Ellen Sullivan Crovatto, CEO, New Canaan Library. “We are thrilled to bring this free event back for another year launching the start of exciting new events and programs on the Library Green.”

Registration is required for this free event and is available online at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/groove-green-free-outdoor-concert-141484>

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets for any dance breaks between music sets, as seating will be very limited. Groove on the Green is a “Carry In + Carry Out” event in line with the Library’s sustainability aims. Compostable trash bags will be provided to guests upon entry. Attendees are encouraged to “Carry In” any seating, blankets, food etc. to enjoy on the Library Green and use the compostable trash bags provided to “Carry Out” all trash to dispose of at home.

Leading corporate sponsorship support has been graciously provided by Karl Chevrolet and Walter Stewart’s Market.

### LEGAL AD

#### TOWN OF NEW CANAAN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

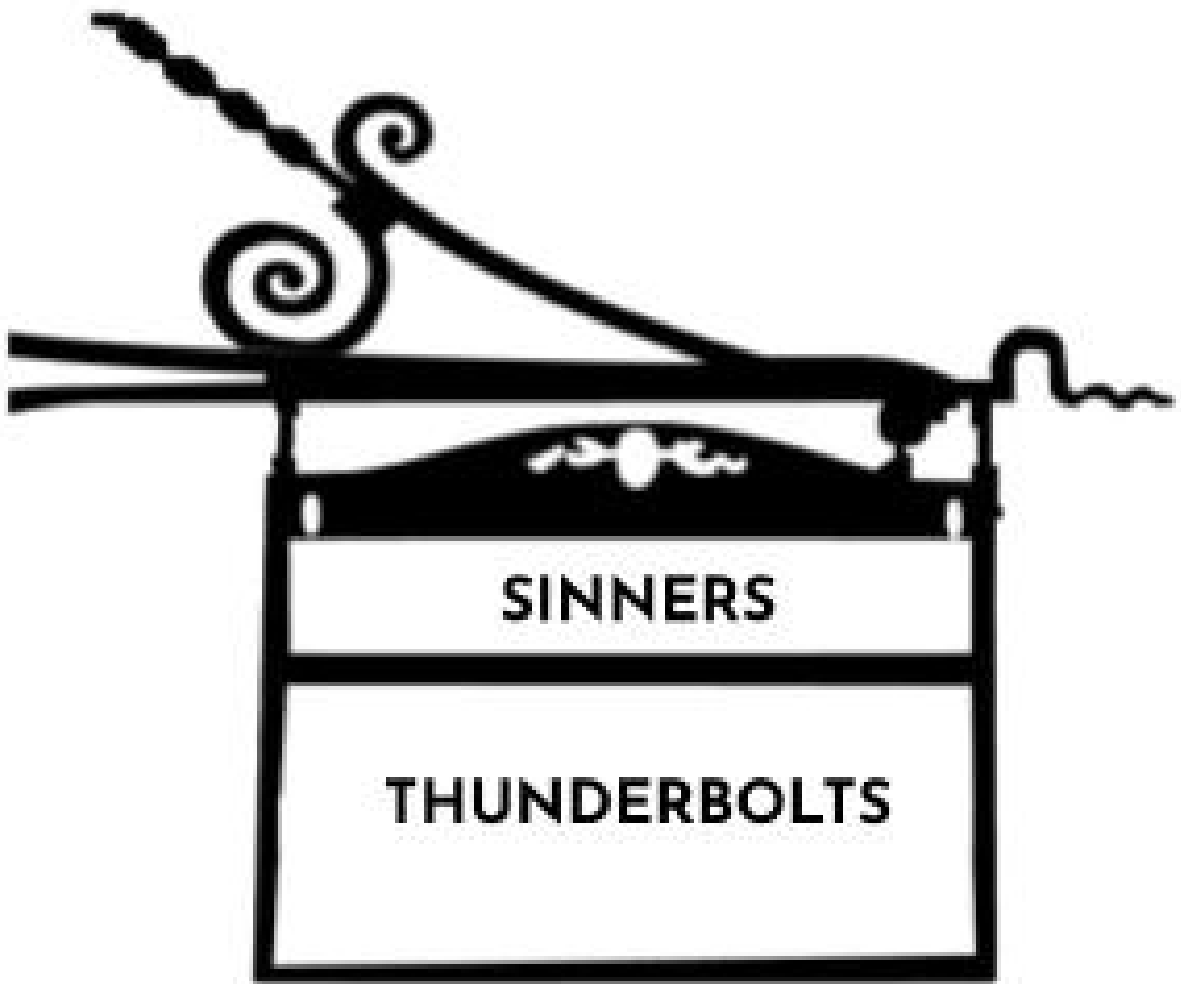
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS of the Town of New Canaan after a Public Hearing held via hybrid and in person on Monday, May 5, 2025 duly adopted the following resolution(s). Approved applications become effective upon the filing of a copy thereof in the office of the Town Clerk.

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

**Luke Tashjian, Chairman**  
**Dated May 5, 2025**

PLAYING THIS WEEK AT

THE  
PLAYHOUSE



93 Elm Street  
New Canaan

And Join Us in the Pub !

CINEMALAB.COM  
for showtimes and tickets



## Photo Submission Highlights Church’s Police Tribute



A wooden plaque featuring A Policeman's Prayer displayed in the front vestibule of St. Aloysius Church, as seen on May 2, 2025. The prayer, a fixture in churches and police departments across the country, asks for God's presence and justice during an officer's daily duties. Contributed photo by Greg Reilly. Editor's Note: The New Canaan Sentinel welcomes photos contributed by members of the community. Send photos with a brief description and your contact information to [Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com](mailto:Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com).

### A Policeman's Prayer

Dear Lord, be with me on my beat  
This day and every day.  
Grant that each weary block I walk  
May ease a brother's way.  
Let me be kindly to the old  
And to the young be strong,  
But let me triumph over those  
Whose acts are cruel or wrong.  
And when my own last summons comes  
And I stand in Your Court,  
Lord, may my rest with You be long,  
My punishment be short.

## Obituaries



MARK BROWN

Mark Bennett Brown Passed away peacefully after a long illness on the morning of April 28, 2025.

Born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Mark was the beloved son of Dr. Richard Bennett Brown and Mary McLeman Brown. A devoted husband, father, brother, and friend, Mark brought warmth, humor, and kindness into the lives of all who knew him.

Mark was an extraordinary father who poured unconditional love into his children each and every day. To him, family was everything — he often said that his greatest joy came from the time he spent with his wife and children. His devotion to his family was unwavering, and his love was the foundation of their home.

A man of many talents, Mark was a gifted and passionate musician. He played in several bands and was proud to have written and composed an impressive catalog of original music—leaving behind a lasting legacy that his children and loved ones will cherish forever.

In 2025, Mark was honored as AV Living Legend #58, a distinction that meant the world to him. He felt deeply grateful to be recognized by colleagues he admired and was proud to call friends.

Mark is survived by his loving wife, Danielle Gellella Brown, and their two children, Gia and Clyde Brown. He is also survived by his brother, Dr. Daniel Brown, his sister-in-law, Dr. Kelly Brown, and his niece, Devon Brown.

A wake will be held at Hoyt Funeral Home on Sunday, May 4th, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., with friends and family welcome at the family’s home directly following the service.

Mark’s presence, creativity, and gentle spirit will be missed beyond measure, but his love and music will live on in the hearts of those he touched. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Cancer Can Rock, an organization that meant a great deal to Mark. It gives musicians battling cancer the opportunity to record their original music professionally — something Mark was incredibly proud to be a part of.

Mark’s own session, including a performance and interview, is featured on their site. We’d love for you to take a moment to watch it and hear directly from him — it’s a beautiful piece of who he was.



MAE LIN

August 2, 1926 – May 3, 2025

Mae Phoebe Sycip Lin, beloved aunt, mentor, and friend, passed away peacefully on May 3, 2025. She was 98 years old.

Born in Fujian, China, on August 2, 1926, Mae moved to Shanghai with her family as a young girl. When the Second Sino-Japanese War broke out in 1937, her family fled to Manila,

Philippines, seeking safety and a new life. In 1944, they sought refuge on Fuga Island, along with about 30 other family members, under the guidance of her uncle, Alfonso Sycip. After a harrowing year, in 1945, the family was rescued by the elite US Alamo Scouts and brought back to Manila.

Mae’s resilience and determination guided her through life’s many challenges. She worked for many years at The Yuchengco Group of Companies, one of Southeast Asia’s oldest and largest conglomerates, where she rose to the position of Executive Vice President. She was one of the few women to attain such a high level of leadership, earning the respect and admiration of her colleagues.

After years of remarkable work, Mae moved to the United States in 1981, where she continued to inspire everyone she met with her kindness, sharp wit, and gentle spirit.

Mae was known for her words of wisdom, her love of folding origami birds, and her signature “smiling face” drawings, which she generously shared with anyone who crossed her path. She had an enduring love for storytelling, recounting family history, childhood memories, or humorous lessons from her career-and never missed an opportunity to offer thoughtful life advice to anyone who would listen.

Her mother’s favorite saying, “Always say what you mean and mean what you say,” was a guiding principle in her life, and she carried it with her in all her endeavors. Mae also prided herself on being a “lazy expert”-someone who could accomplish more with less effort and in less time, all while keeping a calm, unhurried demeanor.

She was predeceased by her beloved sister, Jane Sycip Lin-Fu, and her parents, Yu Lin and Unchong Sycip Lin. Mae is survived by her cherished nieces and nephews, Jeanette and Michael Chen of New Canaan, CT, Emanuel Fu of Potomac, MD, and Stephenie Fu of Washington, DC, as well as her brother-in-law, Ching Mark Fu of Potomac, MD.

Mae will be deeply missed for her wisdom, her warmth, her wit, and her ability to brighten any room she entered. Her legacy lives on in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing her.

A Celebration of Life was held at Hoyt Funeral Home, New Canaan, on Thursday, May 8. Interment was private at Ferncliff Cemetery in Hartsdale, NY.



HALVOR KIELLAND

Halvor Christian Heyerdahl Kielland, 78, passed away Thursday March 6, 2025, with his loving family at his bedside. He had been battling MDS for ten years and recovering from a bone marrow transplant in October 2024. His kind and stoic nature always shone through.

Born June 12, 1946, to Aggie Margaretha Heyerdahl and Knut Kielland in Oslo, Norway. Halvor adored his two sisters, Aggie Kielland Blom (Fredrik) and Brit Knutsdatter Kielland, who died tragically in 1954. Growing up surrounded by family instilled a deep sense of belonging and a love for his family’s Norwegian heritage. Hieronymus Heyerdahl was a signer of the Norwegian Constitution in 1814 at Eidsvoll

and his Great Grandfather, Hieronymus Heyerdahl was mayor of Oslo who is associated with the development of the current City Hall. Halvor especially loved nature and sports, specifically Skiing, Orienteering and Bandy creating a lifelong love of the outdoors. As a young person he would go on cross-country ski treks hut to hut for a week at a time covering hundreds of kilometers.

After High School and before his undergraduate studies he completed his service in the Norwegian Army’s Officer School, earning him the rank of Second Lieutenant. He went on to complete his undergraduate studies in marketing and social sciences, additionally taking shipping courses at the Oslo Shipping Academy. His passion for shipping took him from Oslo to London and then New York.

In 1973 while in New York he met the love of his life, Sherri. He stole her heart when they first met in Gracie Park, offering her a box of strawberries in gratitude for keeping an eye on his freshly wrapped shirts from the laundry. Eight months later, after a trip to Oslo for Christmas and meeting the extended family, he proposed. The deal was sealed when the couple was married in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania June 1974.

In 1976 they moved to New Canaan, CT, a month before their firstborn, H. Christian Heyerdahl Kielland, Jr. Two years later, their daughter Alexandra Brit Collings Kielland was born. Halvor was ever present, championing his children’s teams on the weekends, tumbling in leaf piles, sledding, and loving the numerous family vacations. When the children were younger there were also annual trips to Norway to know their cousins and enjoy his Norwegian family and friends. As adults there have been less frequent trips but equally meaningful.

Halvor spent the last 26 years of his more than 40 years in his shipping career with Charles R. Weber in New York and Greenwich, as a partner and retiring in 2012. In the later years of his career, he enjoyed and was always available for mentoring younger colleagues. Many of whom have commented on how appreciated his guidance had been. His keen knowledge of the industry, steady moral compass and trustworthiness earned him the respect of colleagues and clients globally. His smile, kindness, and sense of humor were his trademark.

Halvor regularly kept in touch with his closest friends from his teenage years in Norway. They call themselves GIFH or the “Boys from the Sea”. This year they celebrated their 60th anniversary. He frequently returned home multiple times a year to gather with friends and family, especially marking special occasions. In the US, he was a loyal friend to many. He maintained a close connection to friends through travel, golf, sailing, his love of the outdoors, and so many memorable social occasions. The New Canaan Winter Club, Utes, Country Club of New Canaan, where he could be regularly seen playing golf or cross-country skiing in the winter, Oslo Golf Club, American Chapter, Fiske Lubben and NAS were all near and dear to his heart. Halvor had an incredible zest for life and “can-do” attitude. A man could not be more loved! He will be remembered for a multifaceted, great life well-lived. Fair Winds and Following Seas.

Halvor is survived by his Wife of 50 years, Sherri(nee Collings), his two children and their spouses, Christian (Pua Mench) of Stowe, VT and Alexandra (Nick Zerzan) of Norwalk, CT, five grandchildren who meant the world to him, Charlie, Ellie, Vivie, Sybil and Jack, his sister Aggie Kielland Blom(Fredrik) of Oslo, Norway, his Brothers in Law Clifford Collings(Carolyn) of Virginia Beach, VA, Charles Collings(Liz) of Gladwyn, PA., Sister in Law Helen Collings of Radnor, PA as well as his many wonderful nieces and nephews on both sides of the Atlantic.

A Celebration of Life will be 11:00am EDT on May 31, 2025, at the Congregational Church of New Canaan, 23 Park Street, New Canaan, CT. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation in Halvor’s name either to Fred’s Team at Memorial Sloan Kettering for Cutting Edge Research or Country Club of New Canaan Foundation.

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



COLUMN

# Spring Commencement Wisdom that’s Stuck With Me

By SARAH DUGAL

It’s official: Spring is in full bloom in New Canaan! The daffodils at Irwin park are stunning, Allegra is on everyone’s nightstand, Galas-galore are taking place around town, and the seniors are wearing goggles 24/7. With college decision day (May 1st) in the rear-view, and graduations just around the corner, I’ve found myself thinking about one of my favorite commencement speeches, delivered back in 2005 by David Foster Wallace at Kenyon College.

I first became familiar with Wallace through his 1996 novel, “The Infinite Jest,” which I read as a second-year at the University of Virginia – and found to be depressing, beautiful, fascinating and dripping with religiosity. His rather-unorthodox speech, “This is Water,” I found to be much the same.

In it, Wallace challenged his audience with a statement that still resonates deeply, 20 years later: “In the day-to-day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.”

This observation stuck with me for years: the observation that we all seem to revolve our lives around something. That we are all religious, placing our confidence in one thing or another to produce meaning, value, identity and belonging, whether it be our academic or athletic achievements, jobs, relationships, wealth, etc. That – whether we’ve been to service recently or not in years – we spent yesterday, and the day before, and the day before that worshipping. Our schedules, commitments,

*“There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.”*

and finances typically point to, as Wallace puts it, “how you measure value without ever being fully aware that that’s what you’re doing.”

I wonder if this time of year puts that reality on display more prominently than others, both in my own life and the life of our community – through the lacrosse games, the AP tests, the benefit luncheons & the exchange of Summer plans. We are busy assigning value.

The tricky thing, Wallace identifies, about these forms of worship “is not that they’re evil or sinful, it’s that they’re unconscious... They’re the kind of worship you just gradually slip into, day after

day.” I may feel as though I’m exercising personal freedom, building my life, and yet, I’m tethered to my image, status, and accolades. The more I have, the more I want. We are free, as Wallace puts it, “to be lords of our tiny skull-sized kingdoms, alone at the centre of all creation.”

It’s here that Wallace arrives at an unlikely suggestion – as an unreligious intellectual – that, “the compelling reason for maybe choosing some sort of god or spiritual-type thing to worship–be it JC or Allah, be it YHWH or the Wiccan Mother Goddess, or the Four Noble Truths, or some inviolable set of ethical principles–is that pretty

much anything else you worship will eat you alive.”

Why? There is something life-giving to the conscious effort of diverting our gaze intentionally to something bigger than ourselves – especially that which grows our empathy and compassion for others. In the counter-cultural orientation toward love, fellowship & unity, we experience a different kind of freedom – a freedom from ourselves.

“But of course there are all different kinds of freedom,” Wallace reminds his audience. “And the kind that is most precious you will not hear much talk about much in the great outside world of wanting and achieving.

The really important kind of freedom involves attention and awareness and discipline, and being able truly to care about other people and to sacrifice for them over and over in myriad petty, unsexy ways every day.”

I wonder if it’s this freedom that the Apostle Paul had in mind when he wrote, “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free,” (Galatians 5:1).

*Sarah Dugal serves as the Area Director for Young Life in New Canaan. Young Life is a global, ecumenical non-profit that exists to reinforce that adolescents matter through relational youth ministry, create approachable spaces for students to explore faith, and model servant leadership in local communities. To learn more, visit NewCanaanYoungLife.Org.*

## Worship Directory and Services

### Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

682 South Avenue 203.966.5849  
www.ComeUntoChrist.org  
Sunday Service: 12:00 PM

### Congregational Church

23 Park Street 203.966.2651  
office@godsacre.org  
www.godsacre.org

**Sunday Services: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM.** The 10:00 am service is also live streamed and recorded, the video replay will be available throughout the week. Church School is available on Sundays for children ages 3 through 7th grade each Sunday from September through mid-June.

#### **Recurring Events:**

**Tuesdays at 9:30 AM:** Women’s Bible Study

**Wednesdays at 9:30 AM:** Bible Study

**Fourth Thursday from 12-2:30 PM:** Meet at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk to serve a meal.

### First Church of Christ, Scientist

49 Park Street 203.966.0293  
christiansciencet.org/newcanaan

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

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

### First Presbyterian Church

178 Oenoke Ridge Road 203.966.0002  
fpcnc.org

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

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

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**May 14 at 7 PM:** New Canaan High School Choral Program Spring Concert “Together in Harmony”.

**May 22 from 6:30-8 PM:** Open Mic Night. Join an evening to share music and/or poetry. Diverse Expressions Featured Performance by Frank Critelli. Contact nickdepuysite@gmail.com for more information.

### Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church

21 Cherry Street 203.966.0020  
www.starcc.com

#### **Service Schedule:**

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

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

#### **Recurring Events:**

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

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

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

### St. Mark’s Episcopal Church

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

**Sunday Services: 8:00am:** Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite

**I; 9:00am:** Outdoor Holy Eucharist Rite II; **10am:** Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite II (Live Stream also available on the St. Mark’s website). Coffee Hour follows the 10am service. Church School during the 10am service: Godly Play for children in kindergarten through second grade; Holy Moly for third and fourth grades; Meet in the Middle for fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Professional childcare is offered for children ages four and under. Families with children who are not yet ready to separate for childcare are invited to use the rocking chairs at the rear of the chapel.  
**Weekday Services: Monday-Friday, 8:30am:** Morning PrayerRite II by Zoom.  
**Wednesday at 12:05pm:** Noonday Eucharist in the chapel.

#### **Recurring Events:**

**First Wednesday at 1pm:** Laundry Love volunteering opportunity to come alongside people who are struggling financially by assisting them with their laundry.

**First & Third Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm:** Youth Group

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**May 10 from 9 AM- 6 PM:** May Fair 2025. There will be 20+ amusement midway rides, live entertainment, and much more! Rides will be available until 6 PM.

**May 17 at 5 PM:** Following the success of last season’s Bach-to-Bach recital, Andrew and Ned will present two works of the early 20th century for piano, four-hands, – Fauré’s Dolly Suite and Ravel’s own transcription of his Ma mère l’Oye (“Mother Goose”), as well as solo works of each composer.

### St. Michael’s Lutheran Church

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

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

#### **Recurring Events:**

**Thursday 12 PM:** Alcoholics Anonymous

### Trinity Church New Canaan | Darien

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

Join us **Sundays at 11:00 a.m.** at Saxe Middle School for lively worship, thoughtful and applicable teaching, weekly Communion, and an opportunity to make friends and grow in community. Trinity Kids (infants through fifth grade) and Trinity Youth (middle and high schoolers) take place during the service, and coffee and refreshments are served following worship. Trinity also holds services in-person in Greenwich and Larchmont, and on livestream via YouTube on Sundays at 9:45 a.m.; learn more at www.trinitychurch.life.

### United Methodist Church

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

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

### Community Baptist Church

174 Cherry Street 203.966.0711  
cbcnnewcanaan@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:**

**May 21 at 7 PM - May 23 at 9 PM:** Spring Revival.

**June 14 from 2-6 PM:** Friends & Family Picnic. Everyone, members, family, friends, and community are all welcome!

### Grace Community Church

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

info@gracecommunity.info  
www.gracecommunity.info

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

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

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**May 21st at 6:30 PM:** Trivia Night at Dry Dock Bar & Grille in Norwalk.

### Talmadge Hill Community Church

870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road; Darien, CT  
203.966.2314

talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com  
www.talmadgehill.org

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

#### **Recurring Events:**

**Thursdays at 9:30am:** Bible Study

**First Saturday at 8am:** Men’s Group

**Second Saturday at 10am:** Women’s Circle

### Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center

137 Putnam Rd  
info@chabadnewcanaan.org  
www.newcanaanjewish.org

The Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center is dedicated to strengthening and building the New Canaan Jewish Community by offering local 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.templesinaistamford.org

#### **Service Schedule:**

1st, 3rd & 5th Friday – 6pm in person and via zoom  
2nd & 4th – 7:30pm

#### **Recurring Events:**

**Fridays at 12 PM:** Torah Study

**Second Saturday at 10:30 AM:** Mussar

**First and Third Fridays at 5:30 PM:** Shabbat Service for Families with Young Children

**First Saturday at 8 AM:** Avodat Halev Discussion Group

### Temple Sholom

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

www.templesholom.com

**Services:** In-person and virtual Friday night Shabbat services, 6:30pm & Saturday morning Shabbat services, 10:30am.

#### **Recurring Events:**

**Saturdays at 9 AM:** Shabbat Study via zoom at https://zoom.us/j/94358392426?pwd=bFJQem9HWfcxU0EzZUM2VENEZmgYUT09#success



# Chamber Music Season grand finale “Roll Over Three B’s” May 15 and 16 and Free Children’s Concert May 18

JANE FOX

New Canaan Chamber Music invites audiences to “Anticipate the Unexpected” as they conclude their phenomenal Concert Season with exuberant matinee and evening concerts, plus the always popular annual Children’s Concert.

The May 15-16 concert grand finale entitled “Roll Over Three B’s” features returning world-class favorite musicians, Amy Schwartz Moretti, violin, and Edward Arron, cello, who join Andrew Armstrong, virtuoso pianist and Artistic Director of New Canaan Chamber Music. They will perform one of Johannes Brahms’ most beloved chamber music pieces, “Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major, Opus 8.”

Concerts will be Thursday, May 15 at 3 pm and Friday, May 16 at 7:30 pm at the First Presbyterian Church in New Canaan at 173 Oenoke Ridge. Tickets are available at [www.newcanaanchambermusic.org](http://www.newcanaanchambermusic.org).

The Children’s Concert will be a vibrant “listen and learn” experience on Sunday, May 18, 3 to 4 pm at the New Canaan Library. With mesmerizing charm and wit, Armstrong will introduce children to classical music from Antonio Vivaldi’s “The Four Seasons.” The music evokes the sounds of nature from murmuring streams and birdsong to thunderstorms and hunting horns and will be performed by Music Conservatory students. Free for Children with an adult ticket holder. Children are free with an adult ticket holder. Please register at [www.newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets](http://www.newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets).

In the two adult concerts, the “Unexpected” promised will be the introduction of composer Arno Babajanian’s “Piano Trio in F-sharp minor,” Performed exquisitely by Moretti, Arron, and Armstrong. Babajanian is known for blending Armenian folk music with the virtuosic styles of composers like Sergei Rachmaninoff. “Everyone is going to love it!” commented Armstrong.

Violinist Moretti is equally versatile as chamber musician, concertmaster, soloist, and educator, performing around the world and throughout the United States. She returns as a favorite of New Canaan Chamber Music, with whom she performed at the May 20, 2022, and March 2, 2023, concerts.

Cellist Arron is recognized worldwide for his elegant musicianship, impassioned performances and has appeared as a soloist with major orchestras, and as a chamber musician, throughout North America, Europe and Asia. He returns as a favorite of New Canaan Chamber Music, with whom he performed at the May 22, 2021, and December 4, 2022, concerts

Armstrong, Artistic Director of New Canaan Chamber Music, is praised by critics for his passionate expression and dazzling

## “Roll Over three B’s” Concerts on May 15 and 16 followed by popular Children’s Concert “Listen and Learn” about Vivaldi’s “The Four Seasons”

technique. He has delighted audiences worldwide, performing at Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, London’s Wigmore Hall, the Grand Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, and Warsaw’s National Philharmonic.

In just four years, New Canaan Chamber Music has become a thriving new addition to the concert scene. It also provides growing and inclusive programs of outreach with the Children’s Concerts and programs during the year that bring great music to seniors, youth orchestras, and local schools in New Canaan, Stamford, and Norwalk. NCCM is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

### May 15th and 16th 2025 Program

Amy Schwartz Moretti, violin  
Edward Arron, cello  
Andrew Armstrong, piano  
Sonata in D Major, arr. for violin and cello by Paul Bazelaire. Luigi Boccherini (1743-1805)  
Allegretto spiritoso  
Vivace  
Grave  
Allegro assai  
Piano Trio in F-sharp minor (1952) Arno Babajanian (1921-1983)  
Largo – Allegro espressivo

Andante  
Allegro vivace  
\*\*\*\* Intermission \*\*\*\*  
Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major, Opus 8  
(1854/1889). Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)  
Allegro con brio  
Scherzo. Allegro molto  
Adagio  
Finale. Allegro



New Canaan Chamber Music  
Andrew Armstrong, Artistic Director

Roll Over, Three B's



Amy Schwartz Moretti, violin  
Edward Arron, cello  
Andrew Armstrong, piano

May 15 at 3:00 pm | May 16 at 7:30 pm  
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

CLICK TO PURCHASE TICKETS

Andrew Armstrong, pianist, Amy Schwartz Moretti, violinist and Edward Arron, cellist



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# REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

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Robyn Bonder | Robyn.Bonder@Elliman.com

NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
45 Sunrise Avenue	\$1,190,000	928	\$1,282.33	0.21	2	2
205 Main Street #9	\$1,295,000	2795	\$463.33		3	3
238 Weed Street	\$1,850,000	4180	\$442.58	1.12	4	3
286 Indian Rock Road	\$2,200,000	4139	\$531.53	2.28	4	4
99 Woodland Road	\$2,860,000	4174	\$685.19	0.51	4	3
57 Richards Lane	\$2,795,000	4699	\$594.81	2.68	4	4
123 Talmadge Hill Road	\$2,795,000	6904	\$404.84	2.07	6	6
92 Oak Street	\$2,900,000	5712	\$507.70	0.46	5	4
1187 Smith Ridge Road	\$3,295,000	6905	\$477.19	4.04	5	5
931 Ponus Ridge	\$3,995,000	4580	\$872.27	2.00	5	4
1580 Ponus Ridge	\$4,295,000	6388	\$672.35	2.54	5	4
17 Wardwell Drive	\$5,495,000	9620	\$571.21	2.52	6	7
183 Hemlock Hill Road	\$7,200,000	9161	\$786.03	2.07	6	6

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
34 Anthony Lane	\$1,299,900	FRI	5:30PM-7:00PM	Huntsman Meade
45 Sunrise Avenue	\$1,190,000	SAT	12:00PM - 2:00PM	Serhant
24 Oak Grove Place	\$1,599,000	SAT	12:00PM - 2:00PM	William Raveis
123 Talmadge Hill Road	\$2,795,000	SAT	12:00PM - 3:00PM	William Raveis
931 Ponus Ridge	\$3,995,000	SAT	1:00PM - 4:00PM	Houlihan Lawrence
238 Weed Street	\$1,850,000	SAT & SUN	1:30-4PM & 2-4PM	Berkshire Hathaway
279 Old Stamford Road	\$3,750,000	SAT & SUN	1-3PM & 2-4PM	William Pitt Sotheby's
1580 Ponus Ridge	\$4,295,000	SAT & SUN	1:00PM - 4:00PM	William Raveis
148 W. Hills Road	\$3,195,000	SUN	2:30PM - 4:30PM	William Raveis

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
132 Lone Tree Farm Road	\$3,500,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,775,000	183	5	2	2.06
1052 Oenoke Ridge	\$2,495,000	\$2,495,000	\$2,825,000	4	4	3	3.15
83 Lone Tree Farm Road	\$3,195,000	\$3,195,000	\$3,435,000	8	6	4	4.67
627 Laurel Road	\$4,299,000	\$3,495,000	\$3,500,000	250	5	5	4.34
12 Father Peters Lane	\$3,495,000	\$3,495,000	\$3,750,000	11	4	4	4.25
22 Charter Oak Drive	\$5,875,000	\$5,875,000	\$5,600,000	21	6	7	1.08

## Helping Your Kids



BY JOHN ENGEL

“How can we help our children buy their first home?”

It’s a question people my age are asking. Generation X and Baby Boomers are long real estate, with second and even third homes, and we have (multiple) children of child-bearing years who now need help with the down payment to buy a first home.

What’s changed in the run-up of the last 5 years is that “getting into the game” now means a starter home of around \$1.25 million in most major cities and their commutable neighborhoods. Conventional wisdom suggests a quarter million-dollar downpayment is required on that loan, and usually you can’t borrow the downpayment.

As a father of four, how can I make even that first quarter million-dollar gift efficiently over time? What if I need that money before I die? This is a case study in liquidity, borrowing limits, tax-efficient giving, and flexibility.

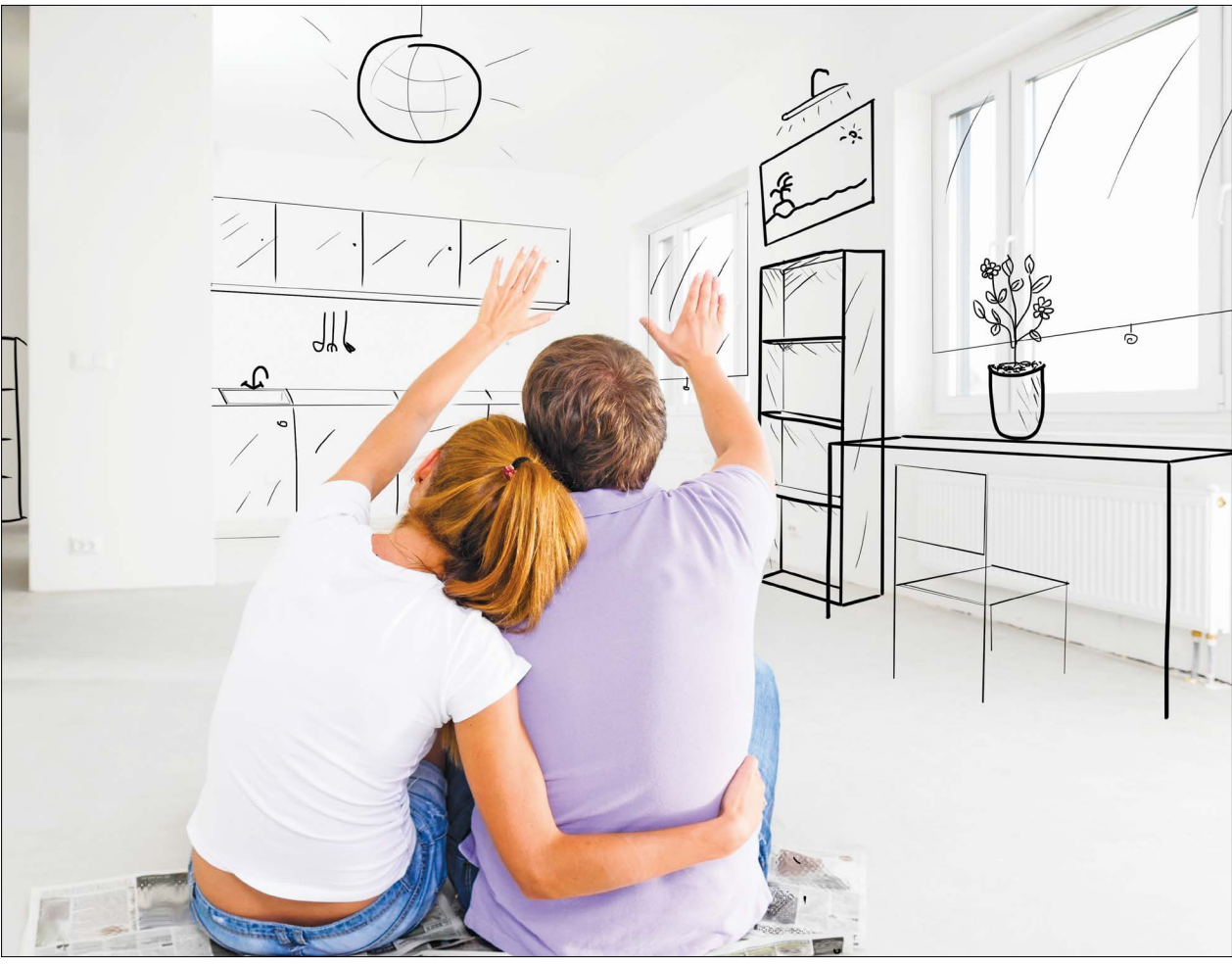
The New Strategy

It is possible to buy a home with 3% down. Fannie Mae’s “Conventional 97” and Freddie Mac’s “HomeOne” are available to first-time homebuyers with no income limits and a credit score of 620+, and are limited to \$806,500 in “standard areas.” The run up in prices means that in a lot of areas, we need to super-size the loan, now \$1,209,750 in high-cost areas (but oddly not Fairfield County). This presents challenges for both down-payment and monthly payment.

Consider Hell’s Kitchen, where a 1-bedroom rents for \$5,000 per month. There’s a 2-bedroom, 1 bath condo asking \$1.2 million at 505 West 47th Street, a newer luxury condo with amenities. I say Manhattan, but it’s true in Georgetown and New Canaan, Boston and Brickell (Miami).

Rates and Ratios, Failing to Qualify

I found a 7/6 ARM quoted at 6.25% but if this is a forever home, we can “buy-down” a jumbo 30-year fixed mortgage to 6.125% and \$7,070 per month. HOA + taxes are \$2,500,



“Getting into the game” now means a starter home of around \$1.25 million in most major cities and their commutable neighborhoods.

and we’ll estimate primary mortgage insurance is \$500. Monthly total comes to \$10,000. Will we qualify?

No. Debt payments can’t exceed 43% of income (45% for some jumbo loans). Housing costs (mortgage + taxes + HOA + insurance) can’t be more than 30% of gross monthly income. To afford that apartment, we’d need \$32,000 a month in gross income – \$385,000 per year. Few jobs pay that kind of salary. How can we make it work with an annual household income of \$250,000, 20% of the total cost?

Should we start looking at smaller apartments without a doorman or elevator? Perhaps. But if the purpose of the exercise is the tax-efficient transfer of wealth to our children over time to support home ownership and give our children more options (and to deplete our estate more gradually) then let’s tweak the model.

New Assumptions, Eliminating PMI by Gifting the Down Payment

If \$250,000 is my child’s combined annual household income, this translates to \$20,833 per month. Under the 43% DTI ratio, their maximum allowable monthly debt payment would be \$8,958. This is the amount that can be spent on all debt obligations, including the mortgage, property taxes, HOA, and insurance.

With a mortgage of \$960,000, my child would be looking at a monthly mortgage payment of about \$5,800. Adding \$2,500 for taxes and HOA, her total housing cost would come to about \$8,300 – below the \$8,958 DTI limit.

Now, here’s where we come back to a crucial point. By covering the 20% down payment with gifts and a forgivable family loan, the loan-to-value ratio (LTV) drops to 80%, which means PMI is no longer necessary. Private Mortgage Insurance is typically required if the borrower puts down less than 20%, but in this case, the forgivable family loan covers enough of the down payment to eliminate PMI, further reducing monthly costs. Down payments typically can’t be borrowed

but this is the great exception: family loans, properly documented, in writing, with a repayment plan and interest rate that meets IRS AFR standards.

If the loan is intended to be forgiven over time, it’s treated as a gift for tax purposes. You can forgive up to \$18,000 per year per parent under the annual gift exclusion without triggering gift taxes.

In this case, we can provide our child with a gift of \$36,000 (tax-free, within the annual gift exclusion) for the first part of the down payment. The remaining \$240,000 can be structured as a “forgivable family loan” at an interest rate of 4.6% (matching the IRS’s Applicable Federal Rate, or AFR). This keeps the payments manageable and allows the parent to gradually forgive the loan as part of estate planning.

Why a Trust Works for Flexibility and Control for Gifting and Loaning

To protect my assets and maintain control over the funds, I used a

revocable living trust. This structure ensures I retain flexibility, but I can still gift the down payment or make a family loan, and the money will not be taxed at the time it’s transferred.

This structure also ensures that I maintain control while still helping my child make the purchase. The trust allows me to loan money at an interest rate that’s low enough to qualify for the mortgage, while still making the loan forgiving over time (as long as it stays within the annual gift exclusion limits). One day I might need the money to live, and my daughter might need it less. The trust gives the two of us some flexibility.

The Bottom Line

What we’re really doing here is leveraging the 43% DTI and using a forgivable family loan to help cover the down payment so as not to trigger PMI. Banks won’t allow down payments to be loaned, but they classify forgivable family loans as a gift. This makes it possible for a child to buy the \$1.2 million condo under Fannie Mae’s guidelines.

Challenges

Not all jumbo programs allow for <20% down. Some FTHB programs have income limits. Gift sooner rather than later. Assets must be “seasoned” in the child’s account for at least two months. The forgivable family loan must really be a gift not to be considered a liability and count against DTI.

Conclusion

In this case study, we’ve made assumptions to reflect today’s market and loan conditions. With gifting and the right structure, our children can buy their first home in a way that helps them build equity without sacrificing our financial security. It’s all about tax-efficient strategies, careful loan structuring, and leveraging gifts and loans in the right amounts.

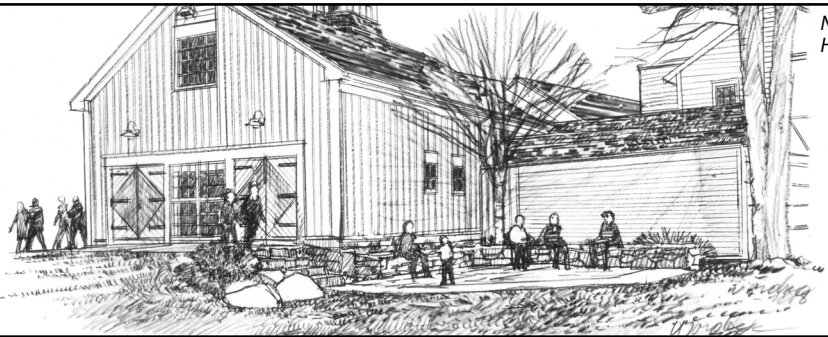
John Engel is a father and a real estate broker with The Engel Team at Douglas Elliman, but he’s not a banker or lawyer. This article is not intended as tax or mortgage advice. For guidance on your specific situation, you should consult a tax pro, an estate attorney, and a banker. Call Chuck Threshie, Sr Mortgage Banker with Total Mortgage 203-984-3892. John did.

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



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# Preeminent surgeons caring for you, their neighbors

## Maureen P. McEvoy, MD

*Breast Surgeon; Breast Surgery Fellowship Director, Montefiore Einstein and Assistant Professor, Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

Raised in Connecticut and a resident of New Canaan, Maureen P. McEvoy, MD, provides comprehensive breast surgery care using minimally invasive and oncoplastic techniques to achieve cosmetically optimal outcomes. She focuses on minimizing surgery and maximizing patient care, offering surveillance for those with a high risk of breast cancer, performing lumpectomies, mastectomies and nipple-sparing mastectomies, and practicing de-escalation of axillary surgery.

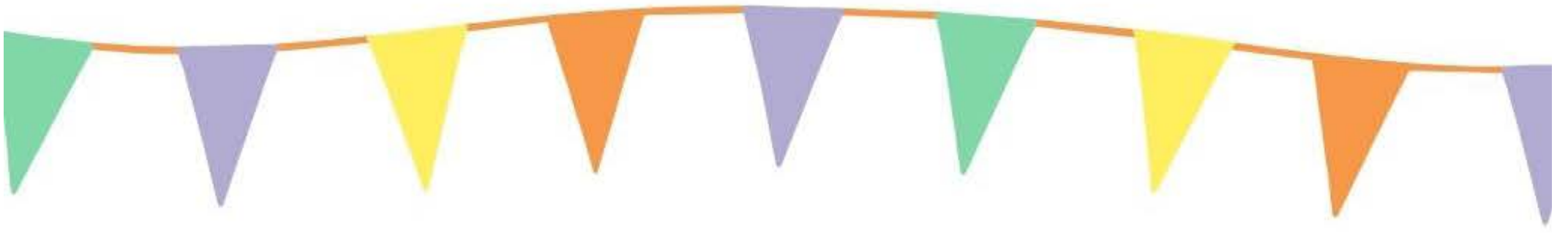
A graduate of Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Dr. McEvoy completed a two-year clinical

research fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center followed by a breast surgical oncology fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard’s teaching hospital.

Dr. McEvoy has served on national committees and written national guidelines on ways to decrease lymphedema through smarter axillary surgery. She has presented her work on breast cancer nationally and has received awards at national conferences.







# MAY 9 & 10



## May Fair

### MAY 9 – FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

**Wristband Sales: 4PM**

**Midway Rides: 5–10PM**

**Food Court: 5–8PM**

### MAY 10 – SATURDAY

**Midway Rides: 9AM–6PM**

**White Elephant Tag Sale &**

**Other Venues: 9AM–3PM**

**Food Court: 10:30AM–3PM**

### WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

- 20+ Midway Amusement Rides
- White Elephant Tag Sale
- Book Sale
- Outdoor & Sporting Goods Tent, Toy Tent
- Food Court with Holy Smoker BBQ
- Strawberry Shortcake & Ice Cream
- Face Painting, Rides on Old Faithful
- Live Performances & Dog Show and much more!

**Scan Here  
for May Fair Info**



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Shuttle Service**

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**ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH -- 111 OENOKE RIDGE IN NEW CANAAN**





# New Canaan Chamber Music

Andrew Armstrong, Artistic Director

– ANTICIPATE THE UNEXPECTED –

## Roll Over, Three B's



Amy Schwartz Moretti, violin  
Edward Arron, cello  
Andrew Armstrong, piano



May 15 at 3:00 pm | May 16 at 7:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan



Tickets at  
[newcanaanchambermusic.org](http://newcanaanchambermusic.org)



# Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

**Submit your events at:**  
[newcanaansentinel.com/submit-an-event/](http://newcanaansentinel.com/submit-an-event/)

TOWN MEETINGS
<b>Monday, May 12</b>
<u>Affordable Housing Committee</u> 7-8 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom
<b>Tuesday, May 13</b>
<u>Pension Committee</u> 11 a.m.- 12:00 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom
<u>RPAC Meeting</u> 5-6 p.m., Location not posted at time of publication
<u>Fire Commission</u> 5-8 p.m., Fire Headquarters at 60 Main Street
<u>WPCA Meeting</u> 6-7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom
<u>Board of Finance</u> 7-8 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom
<b>Wednesday, May 14</b>
<u>Parks and Recreation Commission</u> 7-8 p.m., Lapham Community Center
<u>Special Remote Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee TEDAC</u> 7-8 p.m., via Zoom

**May 8**

**Eighth Annual Lecture & Luncheon**  
11:30 AM- 2 PM at the New Canaan Country Club  
The Eighth Annual Lecture & Luncheonevent will help support the Nature Center and its mission to inspire people of all ages to respect, protect and enjoy the world of nature. This year, the guest speaker will be Amanda Lindroth. The event is sold out, but the silent auction is still available at <https://newcanaannature.org/lecture-luncheon/>.

**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.

**Quilling Art Class**  
6-8 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 & bubbly while creating your own piece of art. Tickets are available at <https://tinyurl.com/2vj7my24>.

**Mocktails**  
6:30 PM at Grace Farms  
Join Pastry Chef and Educator Leah Jones for an evening crafting and sipping delicious mocktails. Follow Leah's recipes to make three seasonal beverages, and broaden your understanding of the complex ways in which food intersects with many aspects of our lives. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/NHDQK>.

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

**May Fair 2025: White Elephant Preview Party**  
5-7 PM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Campus Grounds  
Rain or shine, St. Mark's kicks off the weekend events on its campus grounds with the second Annual White Elephant Preview Party. 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. More information is available at <https://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/may-fair/>.

**May 9**

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

**Monica Rich Kosann Trunk Show**  
10 AM- 4 PM at Manfredi, 72 Elm Street  
Explore a curated selection of Monica's signature lockets, charms, and fine jewelry—timeless pieces designed to mark life's most meaningful moments.

**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.

**The Importance of Being Earnest**  
7:30 PM at the 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>.

**May Fair 2025: Friday Night Lights**  
5-10 PM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Campus Grounds  
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. There will be 20+ amusement midway rides, live entertainment, and much more! More information is available at <https://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/may-fair/>.

**May 10**

**May Fair 2025**  
9 AM- 3 PM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Campus Grounds  
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. There will be 20+ amusement midway rides, live entertainment, and much more! Rides will be available until 6 PM. More information is available at <https://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/may-fair/>.

**Town Farmers Market**  
10AM- 2PM at the Lumber Yard Lot  
There are many vendors with various local items available including specialty food, fresh meat, produce, soap, eggs, and honey!

**Learning with Nature: Design an Ecological Landscape**  
11 AM at Grace Farms  
Learn the basics of ecological landscape design and how you can apply these principles.Explore how to work with your home or community landscape, and increase biodiversity all the while creating a more resilient, low maintenance landscape. A short classroom portion will be followed by a walk of the ecological landscape of Grace Farms. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/clo0j>.

**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/>.

**The Importance of Being Earnest**  
7:30 PM at the 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>.

**May 11**

**Chess Tournament: A Blitz Chess Event**  
12-3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
T This tournament, organized by the 32 Pieces Chess Club, is open to all ages 6+. More information is available at <https://www.32pieces.com/friendly-checks>. To register for this event, visit <https://shorturl.at/3305o>.

**The Importance of Being Earnest**  
2 PM at the 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>.

**May 12**

**Carrie Seim Author Visit and Barn Tour**  
5-6:30 PM at New Canaan Mounted Troop  
Carrie will share an excerpt of her brand-new book, Horse Camp, and offer a glimpse of her journey as a writer and rider. Instructors from New Canaan Mounted Troop will take everyone on a barn tour and give a horse-grooming demo. Register at <https://shorturl.at/muzfF>.

**Home Energy Solutions**  
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim and Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Learn about potential money-saving home energy solutions that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reliance on fossil fuels. Register at <https://shorturl.at/EmvGt>.

**May 13**

**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.

**May 14**

**Spring Edition Author Talk & Lunch**  
11 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Join the annual spring edition author talk and lunch featuring Eric Puchner, author of *Dream State*. An Oprah Book Club pick, Dream State was an instant *New York Times* Bestseller. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/R9xVU>.

**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. For blood sugar level testing, it is recommend you fast for four hours prior. Free. Call (203) 594-3620 to register.

## SAVE THE DATE

**May 15**

**New Canaan Chamber Music Concert “Roll Over Three B's!”**  
3 PM at the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan  
Andrew Armstrong, pianist, Amy Schwartz Moretti, violinist and Edward Arron, cellist will perform works by Brahms, Babajanian and Boccherini. Tickets are available at <https://newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets/>.

**Dinner with a Purpose featuring Indré Rockefeller**  
6:30 PM at Grace Farms  
Join an inspiring spring evening dinner featuring Indré Rockefeller, Founder of The Circularity Project and Co-Founder of Paravel. The evening will feature a locally sourced, sustainable meal in the Commons, refreshing cocktails, and a conversation on sustainability, entrepreneurship, and the future of circularity. Tickets are \$200/members, \$250/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/vgBXh>.

**Roses, Rosé & Peonies Too!**  
6:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center  
Join for a creative and lively evening as you explore the art of floral arrangement, taste exquisite wines, and immerse ourselves in the beauty of the Spring season. Sample and learn about the best new rosé wines for spring and summer with Justin Miller of Craftbottlz. Learn the art of creating a stunning floral arrangement. Tickets are \$130/members, \$145/non-members, and available at <https://tinyurl.com/y43xy8x6>.

**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/OXaFE>.

**May 16**

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

**New Canaan CARES Home Tour**  
10 AM at the Lapham Center  
Tour elegant New Canaan homes while supporting the community work of New Canaan CARES. A private Post Tour “Patron Party” will be held from 2–4 PM at a sixth “bonus” home. Enjoy lite bites, live music, and cocktails. Tickets are available at <https://newcanaancares.org/new-canaan-cares-home-tour/>.

**Afternoon Tea**  
3 PM at Grace Farms  
Gather in the glass-enclosed Pavilion to enjoy a pot of warm tea and an assortment of bites that fuse traditional English and Japanese flavors. Tickets are \$38/members, \$48/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/d2NXu>.

**New Canaan Chamber Music Concert “Roll Over Three B's”**  
7:30 PM at the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan  
Andrew Armstrong, pianist, Amy Schwartz Moretti, violinist and Edward Arron, cellist will perform works by Brahms, Babajanian and Boccherini. Tickets are available at <https://newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets/>.

**May 17**

**Town Farmers Market**  
10AM- 2PM at the Lumber Yard Lot  
There are many vendors with various local items available including specialty food, fresh meat, produce, soap, eggs, and honey!

**Art as Identity: Exploring Personal Experiences, Dreams, and Memories**  
12 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center  
In this immersive workshop, participants will delve into the intricate relationship between art and identity. Through engaging activities and discussions, explore how art is a powerful metaphor for encapsulating who we are. Register at <https://shorturl.at/bPKae>.

**Groove on the Green**  
6 PM at the Merrill Event Lawn  
New Canaan Library invites the community to a free music and dance party under the stars. Join an evening of country music featuring Shot Down band, performing their upbeat and energetic playlist of modern and standard country favorites. More information is available at <https://shorturl.at/6gxhq>.

**May 18**

**Spring Fever Reception with Susan Eley**  
1-3 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center  
Join for a reception and talk with Spring Fever exhibition juror Susan Eisner Eley. Susan is the owner and director of Susan Eley Fine Art. Register at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/spring-fever-reception/>.

**Family Field Day**  
1-3 PM at the YMCA back field  
Join the Y at Family Field Day featuring fun, family activities. Free and open to all ages in the community. Bring white apparel to tie dye at the event. Register at <https://shorturl.at/9bkuj>.

**New Canaan Chamber Music Children's Concert**  
3-4 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
A special listen and learn children's concert. Andy Armstrong will lead talented music conservatory students in a performance of excerpts from Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" and share his insights into the sights and sounds of each season from murmuring streams and birdsong to thunderstorms and hunting horns. Tickets are available at <https://newcanaanchambermusic.org/concert/may-18th-2025/>.

**New Canaan Preservation Alliance: Preservation Awards**  
4-6 PM at St. Mark's Church, Morrill Hall  
All are welcome to the reception and awards event as The New Canaan Preservation Alliance presents its annual Preservation Awards. This year, the awards will honor two residences and the rehabilitation of an industrial structure as well as a special award for a Lifetime of Preservation Leadership. Register at <https://shorturl.at/dScyZ>.



# Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

**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/>.

**Hands-Only CPR and AED Training**  
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Community Room  
Learn Hands-Only CPR from New Canaan EMS and save a life. Hands-Only CPR has been proven to double or even triple the chance of survival for victims of sudden cardiac arrest outside of the hospital setting. To register, visit <https://shorturl.at/DGhtZ>.

**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.

**Guided Tour & Lunch at MANITOGA, The Russell Wright Design Center**  
10:45 AM- 2 PM at Manitoga, 584 NY-9D in Garrison, NY  
Join the Carriage Barn for a group guided tour of MANITOGA, the House, Studio and Woodland Garden of pioneer industrial designer, Russel Wright (1904-1976). Cost including tour and lunch is \$75/members and \$90/ non-members. Register at <https://shorturl.at/UZYnU>.

**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.

**May 21**

**Lifestyle Medicine: Nature, Exercise and Lifestyle**  
11 AM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room  
Join Dr. Raquel Harrison for a discussion of the impact of nature on our physical and mental health and how exercising outside can augment that impact in a positive way. Register at <https://shorturl.at/el9jY>.

**Ann Leary Discusses "I’ve Tried Being Nice"**  
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Join an evening with New York Times bestselling author and humorist Ann Leary in conversation with Ellen Sullivan Crovatto. They discuss the literary feast of wisdom in her book

I’ve Tried Being Nice, told from the perspective of a recovering people pleaser. Register at <https://shorturl.at/Hdwiu>.

**Creating a Compelling College Application this Summer**  
7-8 PM via Zoom  
This Zoom presentation is offered to help high school juniors and their parents understand how to use the upcoming summer productively to create a compelling college application. For more information and to register, visit <https://shorturl.at/R2uW9>.

**May 24**

**VFW Seeks Volunteers and Donations for Flag Placing**  
8 AM at Lakeview Cemetery, lower Veterans’ section M  
Volunteers are wanted to assist VFW Post 653 to place flags at the graves of fallen soldiers in their honor for Memorial Day. All are welcome to participate. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact [NewCanaanVFW@gmail.com](mailto:NewCanaanVFW@gmail.com).

**Plant Clinic with UCONN Master Gardeners**  
10 AM- 12:30 PM at Outside the front of the New Canaan Library  
Do you need help with plant identification? Insect Damage and disease diagnosis? Plant suggestions? Vegetable growing advice? Invasives management? UCONN Master Gardeners of Lower Fairfield are standing by to solve your garden issue in this weekly plant clinic.

**May 27**

**Nantucket Looms: A Legacy of Style, Author Talk & Pop-up Shop**  
11 AM- 3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
The library will host a conversation with Nantucket Looms Owner, Liz Winship and her daughter Bess Clarke the current CEO/President and book author Linda Jane Holden to discuss their legacy of stunning artistry. For more information and to register, visit <https://shorturl.at/6jErQ>.

**May 28**

**Yale Science: Exploring Scientific Innovation in Art and Music**  
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Community Room  
Join three Yale scientists will discuss what we know about the hidden beauty (and potential consequences) of science and its contributions to the world of art and music. You’ll learn about the golden ratio, the sorcery of the theremin, and the new age of AI art. Register at <https://shorturl.at/6L8FH>.

**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/>.

**May 31**

**Last Saturday on the Trail: Bird Walking Event**  
8 AM at the Apple Cart Concession Stand in Mead Park  
Join for a guided Bird Walk through Bristow Park Bird Sanctuary, led by New Canaan Land Trust board member Newell Cotton. Whether you’re an experienced birder or just starting out, this is a great opportunity to explore the beauty and diversity of local bird species in their natural habitat. Please bring binoculars. Register at <https://shorturl.at/0sHni>.

**Plant Clinic with UCONN Master Gardeners**  
10 AM- 12:30 PM at Outside the front of the New Canaan Library  
Do you need help with plant identification? Insect Damage and disease diagnosis? Plant suggestions? Vegetable growing advice? Invasives management? UCONN Master Gardeners of Lower Fairfield are standing by to solve your garden issue in this weekly plant clinic.

**Art in Nature | Bookmaking**  
2 PM at Grace Farms  
Join for a creative workshop where you’ll learn how to craft your own nature journal. Spend an afternoon making a unique hand-bound nature journal. Adults of all levels are welcome. Materials will be provided. Tickets are \$40/members, \$50/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/lInG4>.

**New Canaan’s Got Talent**  
3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
New Canaan's got talent--and this is your chance to see it. From magic tricks to playing an instrument, children in grades 1 to 12 will show off their special talents. Register at <https://shorturl.at/BC4iC>.

**200 Anniversary of New Canaan Masonic Lodge**  
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society  
The Masonic Lodge of New Canaan, Harmony Lodge #67 will be host its 200 Anniversary Dinner. Entertainment by local Band “Not my Problem” and the New Canaan Town Brass. Tickets are open to the public and are \$25. More information is available at <https://shorturl.at/EQ9na>.

**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.

**June 5**

**Gardens in Bloom Garden Tour hosted by the New Canaan Garden Club**  
10 AM at Irwin Park  
This year, the tour features an exclusive, self-guided tour of four of New Canaan's finest private gardens. Each one provides a different vision of beauty, sustainability, and design. Spend a delightful day exploring these beautiful gardens and learn from knowledgeable experts at each location. This year's tour supports the NCGC's Irwin Park initiatives, which help to preserve and enhance this beloved community space. More information and tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/bV4Gc>.

**Staying Put in New Canaan’s Summer Soiree**  
5-7:30 PM at Waveny House  
Enjoy appetizers, a catered bbq buffet from Chef Jeff and refreshments. To benefit Staying Put in New Canaan, helping seniors live confidently at home and stay engaged in the community. Tickets are \$75 and available at <https://stayingputnc.org/summer-soiree/>.

**June 7**

**Plant Clinic with UCONN Master Gardeners**  
10 AM- 12:30 PM at Outside the front of the New Canaan Library  
Do you need help with plant identification? Insect Damage and disease diagnosis? Plant suggestions? Vegetable growing advice? Invasives management? UCONN Master Gardeners of Lower Fairfield are standing by to solve your garden issue in this weekly plant clinic.

**June 14**

**Plant Clinic with UCONN Master Gardeners**  
10 AM- 12:30 PM at Outside the front of the New Canaan Library  
Do you need help with plant identification? Insect Damage and disease diagnosis? Plant suggestions? Vegetable growing advice? Invasives management? UCONN Master Gardeners of Lower Fairfield are standing by to solve your garden issue in this weekly plant clinic.

**Learning with Nature: Start a Beehive**  
11 AM at Grace Farms  
Learn everything you need to know about starting a beehive in your backyard. This lecture and workshop, which highlights community agriculture, will cover the basics of beginner beekeeping, from the essential equipment, hive location, tools, methods and sourcing your bees. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/clo0j>.

**The Summer Party**  
12-4 PM at the Glass House  
Join the Glass House for their annual Summer Party, presented by Max Mara. Tickets will be available at <https://theglasshouse.org/whats-on/the-summer-party-2025/>.

**June 22**

**Caffeine & Carburetors**  
7-11 AM in Downtown, New Canaan  
Caffeine & Carburetors is a gathering of automotive enthusiasts, meeting four times a year to enjoy our rides and share them with like-minded gear heads. More information is available at <https://cbo.io/bidapp/index.php?slug=ccjune2025>.

## BLOOD DRIVES

**Friday, May 2**

First Presbyterian Church Stamford  
1101 Bedford St  
Stamford, CT 06905  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Saturday, May 3**

Archangels Greek Orthodox Church  
1527 Bedford Street  
Stamford, CT 06905  
8:00 AM – 1:30 PM

**Monday, May 5**

Greenwich Blood Donation Center  
99 Indian Field Road  
Greenwich, CT 06830  
11:00 AM – 7:00 PM

**Tuesday, May 6**

First Congregational Church of Darien  
14 Brookside Road  
Darien, CT 06820  
1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Shippan Landing  
232 Harbor Dr  
Stamford, CT 06902  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Greenwich Blood Donation Center  
99 Indian Field Road  
Greenwich, CT 06830  
11:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Belle Haven Club  
100 Harbor Drive  
Greenwich, CT 06836  
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**Thursday, May 8**

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

## Support Services & Meetings

**May 13**

**Unfiltered: Teens, Screens, and Mental Health**  
5:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
This event tackles the reality behind social media. A teen from SHE CARES CIRCLE created this event to address how social media distorts body image and often doesn't reflect real life. There will be a Q&A panel, parent training, and teen discussions. Register at <https://shorturl.at/HWgsf>.

**May 30**

**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/VXzMv>.

**June 4**

**Alzheimer’s Support Group with the Waveny LifeCare Network**  
2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room  
Family members, caregivers, and friends are invited to meet for informative and supportive group sessions to help navigate changes related to memory loss and cognitive decline. Register at <https://shorturl.at/VQQS2>.

**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

**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>.

**June 14**

**The Serenity Project Annual Fundraiser**  
6 PM at Marchant Farm  
55 Chestnut Woods Road, Redding  
The Serenity Project, a 501c3, is hosting their annual fundraiser, a Night at the Farm. The evening will feature a catered dinner, live music by New Canaan resident and artist, Griffin House and a silent auction, all in support of their equine therapy programs for people recovering from trauma. More information is available at <https://www.theserenityprojectct.org/annual-fundraiser>.

Would you like your events included in our calendar of events?

Its easy at

**NewCanaanSentinel.com/submit-an-event/**



Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 Site with film ratings  
5 Informal attempt  
9 “Nanny” or “kiss” follower  
12 Concert hall section  
13 Brit’s “See ya!”  
14 Draped Indian garment  
15 Swedish furniture chain  
16 It’s often hard to tell  
17 Turkey \_\_\_\_ (November race)  
18 Part-time athlete  
20 Comfortable chair feature  
22 Patricia of “Hud”  
23 Banded stones  
24 Application for the very young  
27 “Bosch” actress Rogers  
28 Womack of country music  
29 Ceiling fixture  
30 Catches a few Z’s  
34 Country by the Caspian Sea  
35 Planet in the Pale Blue Dot photograph  
37 Natural skin soother  
38 Tadpole habitat

- 39 Not sweet, to a wine lover  
40 In utero  
42 With 50-Down, body of water by the Ontario Peninsula  
44 Processed, as iron ore  
45 When many parks open  
48 High wind instrument  
49 \_\_\_\_ Brown (Snoopy’s owner)  
51 Dresses for cold weather, with “up”  
55 Triangle sound  
56 Composer of two “Peer Gynt” suites  
58 Tiny amount  
59 What Zapzyt treats  
60 Classic sound system, for short  
61 Vigorous spirit  
62 Zodiac’s setting  
63 Check for quality, maybe  
64 Say something  
DOWN  
1 Words before and after “what”  
2 Apt name for an audio technician?  
3 Consider  
4 Like Mensa?  
5 Enjoy a wooded path  
6 It precedes upsilon

- 7 “\_\_\_\_ girl!”  
8 Nonsense in a Persian Gulf country?  
9 “Insert this” indicator  
10 Came up  
11 Oven gloves  
14 Food intake for the very young?  
16 One in a medieval joust, presumably?  
19 Low-level worker  
21 Film studio Amazon acquired in 2021  
24 Radar screen spot  
25 British plane attachment?  
26 One of many in a chili  
27 Rug relative  
29 Prepare, as empanadas  
31 Very much

- 32 Sponge opening  
33 Mail out  
36 “\_\_\_\_ we there yet?”  
41 Glowing gas  
43 Leather-worker’s tool  
44 “I accept that”  
45 Play the role of  
46 Like a good shake  
47 “\_\_\_\_ Boy” (beloved Irish tune)  
50 See 42-Across  
52 Title woman in a Kinks song  
53 List-shortening abbr.  
54 Certainly wasn’t seaworthy  
57 Uncertainties

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

J	U	M	P		D	O	M	E	D		S	T	E	M
E	S	A	U		A	B	O	V	E		V	A	P	E
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9/12

Strong Chance of Showers by Jeffrey Wechsler

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62					63						64			

Horoscopes for Next Week

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

The Full Moon on May 12 brings clarity to your relationships. With Mercury now in your sign, express your needs openly. Focus on letting go of old patterns and reaffirming your sense of self. Trust your instincts and lean into personal growth.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)

Mercury retrograde urges reflection and healing. The Full Moon reveals emotional undercurrents you've avoided. Clear away lingering doubts and connect with those who truly understand you. Make space for deeper connections to form.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

Career matters gain momentum. The Full Moon highlights creative pursuits and personal goals. Maintain balance between your ambitions and your personal life. Focus on structure that supports your long-term vision.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)

Group dynamics bring both opportunities and tension. The Full Moon brings family or home issues to the surface. Express yourself clearly, and seek alignment between your public and private self.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

Important conversations surface this week. The Full Moon urges honest dialogue and careful review of shared finances or emotional bonds. Build clarity through direct communication. Strengthen what matters most.

Libra (Sept 23 – Oct 22)

The Full Moon highlights issues around

intimacy and shared resources. Focus on balance in relationships. Speak your truth with care and release what no longer supports mutual growth.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

The Full Moon in your sign brings powerful insight and emotional clarity. Prioritize balance in partnerships. Make room for vulnerability without sacrificing personal needs.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Daily habits and wellness come into focus. The Full Moon encourages you to examine your routines and refine your priorities. Ground your passions in discipline.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Let creativity and joy guide you this week. The Full Moon stirs feelings around self-expression and personal fulfillment. Reconnect with what brings you pleasure and communicate clearly.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

Home and emotional roots are illuminated. Tensions may arise, but they can lead to deeper clarity. Rebuild foundations with care and protect your peace.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

This week asks you to speak honestly. The Full Moon highlights communication and learning. Let go of outdated thinking and embrace new ways to connect.

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

Strong emotions around money or self-worth may arise. The Full Moon encourages financial clarity and intentional action. Let your values guide your next steps.

Family Time Crossword  
The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

1. (K) Type of fishing, or the prey  
5. (K) Bone in a limb  
9. (K) It can put a hole in a mountain  
12. “I’ll get right \_\_\_\_!” (2 words)  
13. (K) Authentic  
14. Brazilian resort city  
15. The state of being achievable  
18. (K) Things going around in circles on docks  
19. (K) It makes lips shine  
20. (K) Delicious Italian dish  
24. (K) Be chatty  
27. (K) The tippy-top of a mountain  
28. (K) What a buffet can provide  
32. Free from responsibility  
35. (K) They have plenty in a deli  
36. (K) Anyone on a mobile phone or laptop

37. Deli request that usually includes 35-Across  
38. Elects, as a politician (2 words)  
41. (K) More like a cloudless sky  
44. (K) Bone in a limb  
48. Music genre for elevator riders (2 words)  
52. Lifesaving German River?  
53. (K) Smell  
54. (K) “Well, what \_\_\_\_ can I say?”  
55. (K) Miles \_\_\_\_ hour  
56. (K) Like you trying to hear a stranger’s conversation  
57. (K) Collections of Pokemon cards  
DOWN  
1. (K) Wild pig  
2. Chip in for poker hands  
3. (K) Where the contractors are building your mansion

4. (K) Keep saying “ummm” to buy time  
5. Coffee maker for many mugs  
6. (K) Huge feeding field  
7. Apprehend, right in the act  
8. Make the front tires as straight as the back ones  
9. (K) You, me and our buddy in harmony  
10. (K) Louse-y little bugs  
11. If they had feelings, they’d love to get played with  
16. (K) Scientific Sir \_\_\_\_ Newton  
17. Camel’s cousin  
21. (K) Child in a tent overnight  
22. (K) Tell funny jokes  
23. Chromosomal material  
24. (K) It’s often chewed but rarely swallowed  
25. Santa \_\_\_\_ winds

26. (K) Aircraft compartment  
29. Move like a nonaggressive tide  
30. (K) These and every one of those  
31. (K) Give a permit to  
33. Flock of quail  
34. Like a remark of little importance  
39. DuPont fabric  
40. (K) 45’s 5  
41. (K) Quick blast from a car horn  
42. Like the stupidest joke you ever heard  
43. Cold War group’s letters  
45. Fluid in the liver  
46. Smithsonian, e.g., (Abbr.)  
47. (K) Grows season after season  
49. Nuptial phrase (2 words)  
50. (K) “Help, please,” to those in a sinking boat  
51. (K) Actually make an attempt

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

Riot with no end?

Look for the answer in next week’s paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

12	P	A	S	S		6	A	R	M		11	B	B	S					
2	L	I	E	N		12	L	I	E		14	A	L	I	T				
3	E	N	T	E		13	R	I	N	G		15	S	O	D	A			
4	A	T	S	E	A		16	G	A	T	E	W	A	Y					
5						17	Z	I	P		18	S	I	L	O				
24	D		19	S	E	L	E		20	C	T	S		21	U	P			
31	O	W	E	S		22	D	U	O		23	B	T	U	S				
8	T	E	A		24	P	O	T	R	O	A	S	T	S					
9					25	F	A	R	M		26	E	M	S					
10	S		27	A	W	E	E		28	I	S		L	E		29	T		
40	S	E	A	W	E	E	D		43	I	S		L	E		44	U	P	
47	P	A	R	A		48	T	A	T	T	O	O	E	R		49			
13	U	S	E	R		50	R	E	P		52	N	E	S	T				
14	N	E	R	D		51	R	E	P		53	N	E	S	T				

Previous riddle answer:

Part of a key chain?  
43-A) ISLET

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

www.GreenwichSentinel.com/subscribe

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

- 1 oven in which naan is baked (7)  
2 joist (9)  
3 fourth-down plays, often (5)  
4 musical toy (5)  
5 fashion designer Westwood (8)  
6 bruiser (7)  
7 personal burdens (9)

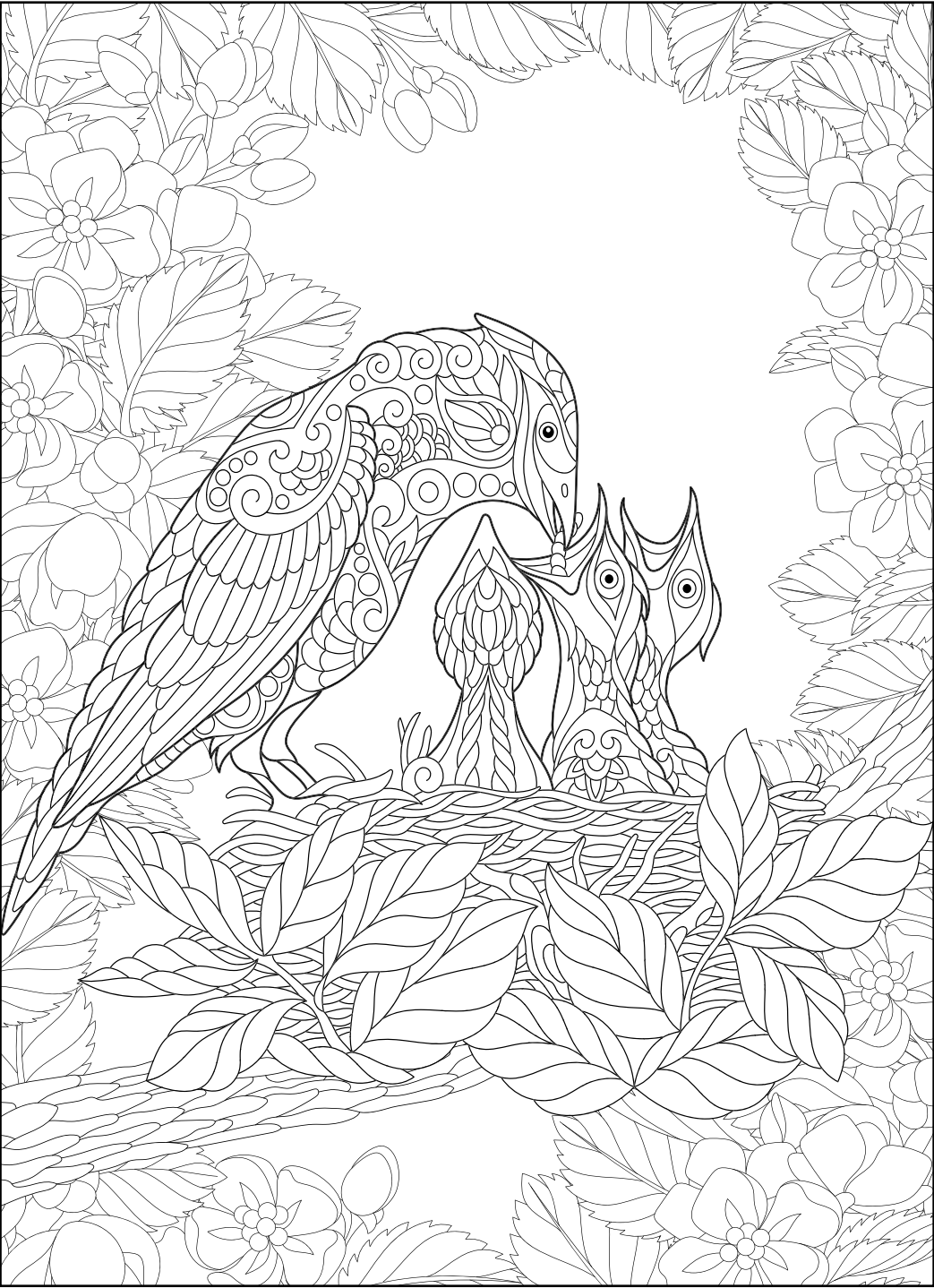
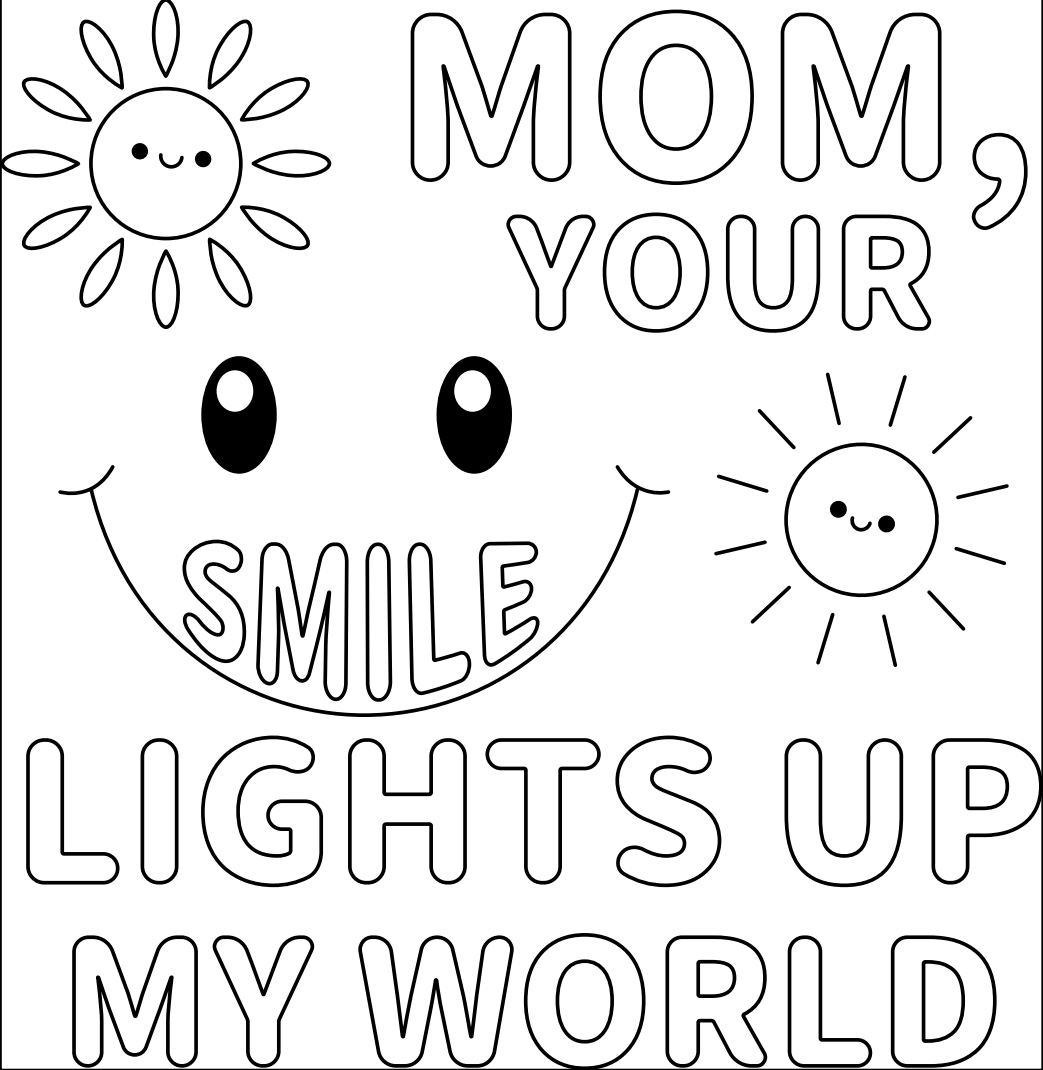
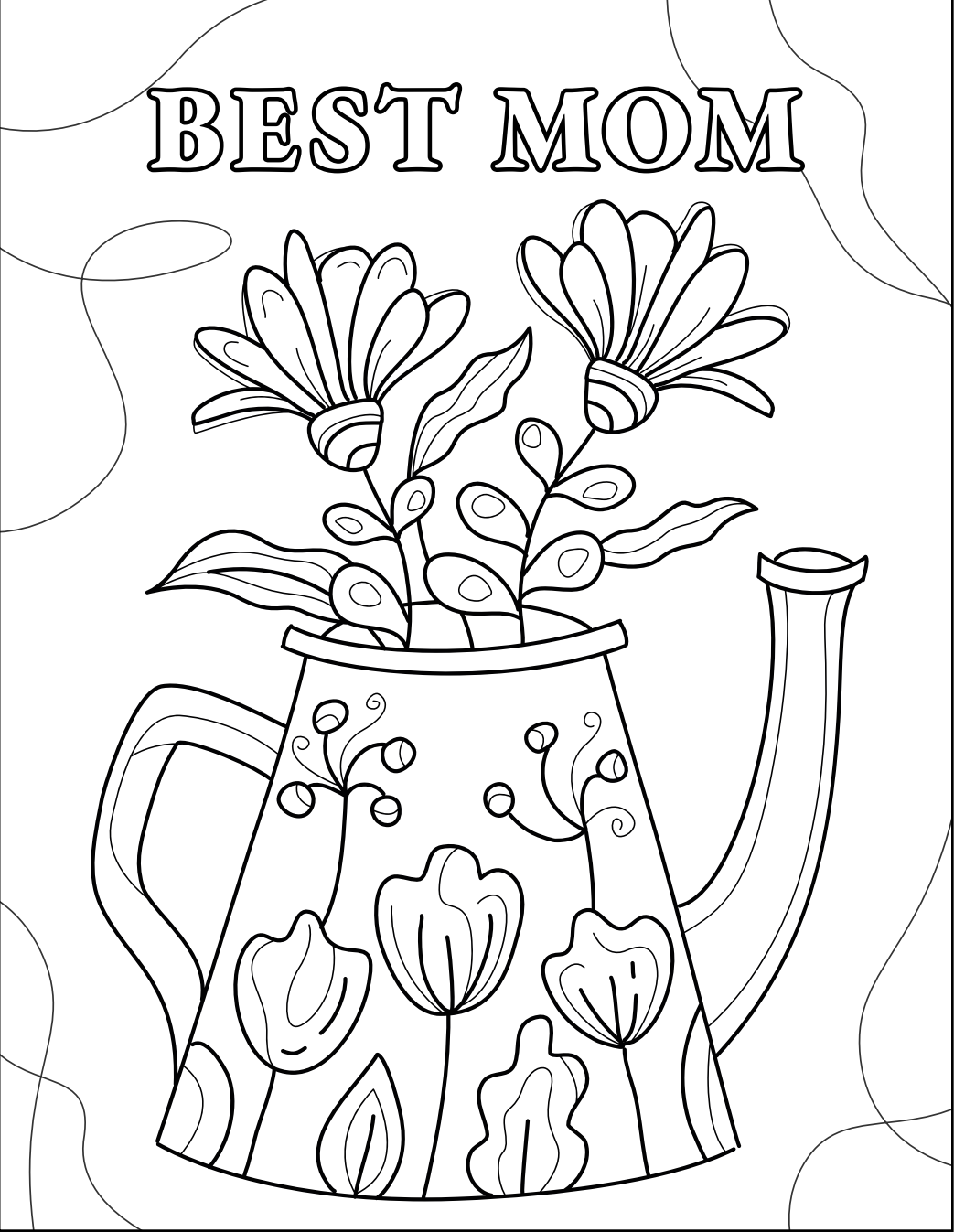
SOLUTIONS

TS	TA	VI	SSB	TO
UGH	VIE	OR	PS	KA
NDO	DS	IE	ZOO	EAM
HAR	CRO	NNE	PUN	HI

Previous Answers: CABINETRY 2. TINTING 3. BENTO  
4. ASTERISK 5. PERSNICKETY 6. KANGA 7. REPEATABLE 9/18



Color and Create a Mother's Day Card  
Pick Your Favorite, or Color Them All!



**PUZZLE TIME** WHOSE BABY?

**COLOR by NUMBER**

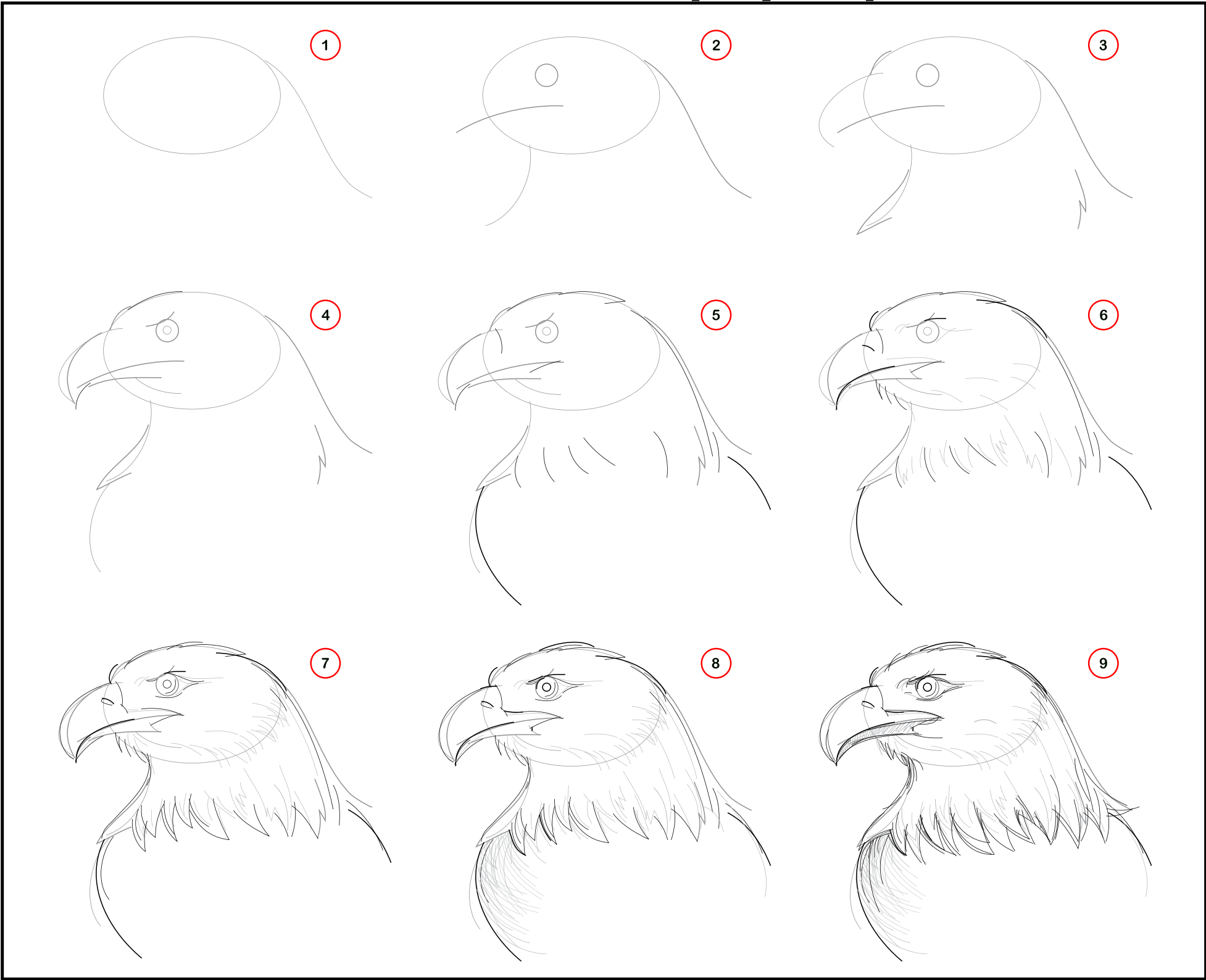
1 - pink  
2 - brown  
3 - dark pink  
4 - green  
5 - dark green  
6 - dark blue  
7 - red  
8 - yellow  
9 - light blue

**PUZZLE TIME** I SPY

	—	?		—	?		—	?
	—	?		—	?		—	?
	—	?		—	?		—	?



How To Draw: step by step



Sudoku for Kids

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

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

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

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

SUDOKU

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Sudoku answers

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



PUZZLES

Find hidden objects.



COOKIE



FIND ALL THE INGREDIENTS IN THE PICTURE

- 

BUTTER
- 

EGG
- 

HONEY
- 

BAKING POWDER
- 

SUGAR
- 

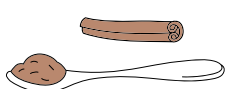
CLOVE
- 

FLOUR
- 

GINGER
- 

CHOCOLATE
- 


CARDAMON
- 


WALNUTS
- 


CINNAMON


PUZZLE TIME


HOW MANY FLOWERS?




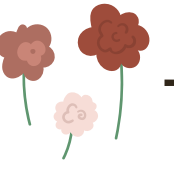


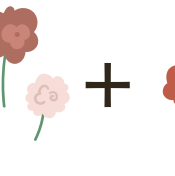


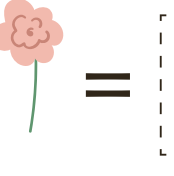











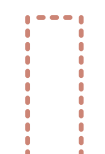


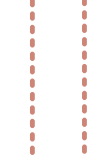


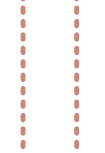























































































































PUZZLE TIME

SEND THE FLOWERS TO MAMA BEAR







for kids

FIND 5 DIFFERENCES







word search puzzle

Mother's Day

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

BOUQUET

MAY

CAKE

MOMMY

CARD

SUNDAY

CELEBRATE

TRADITION

COOKIES

LOVE

FLOWERS

HUG

GRATEFUL

FAMILY

HEART

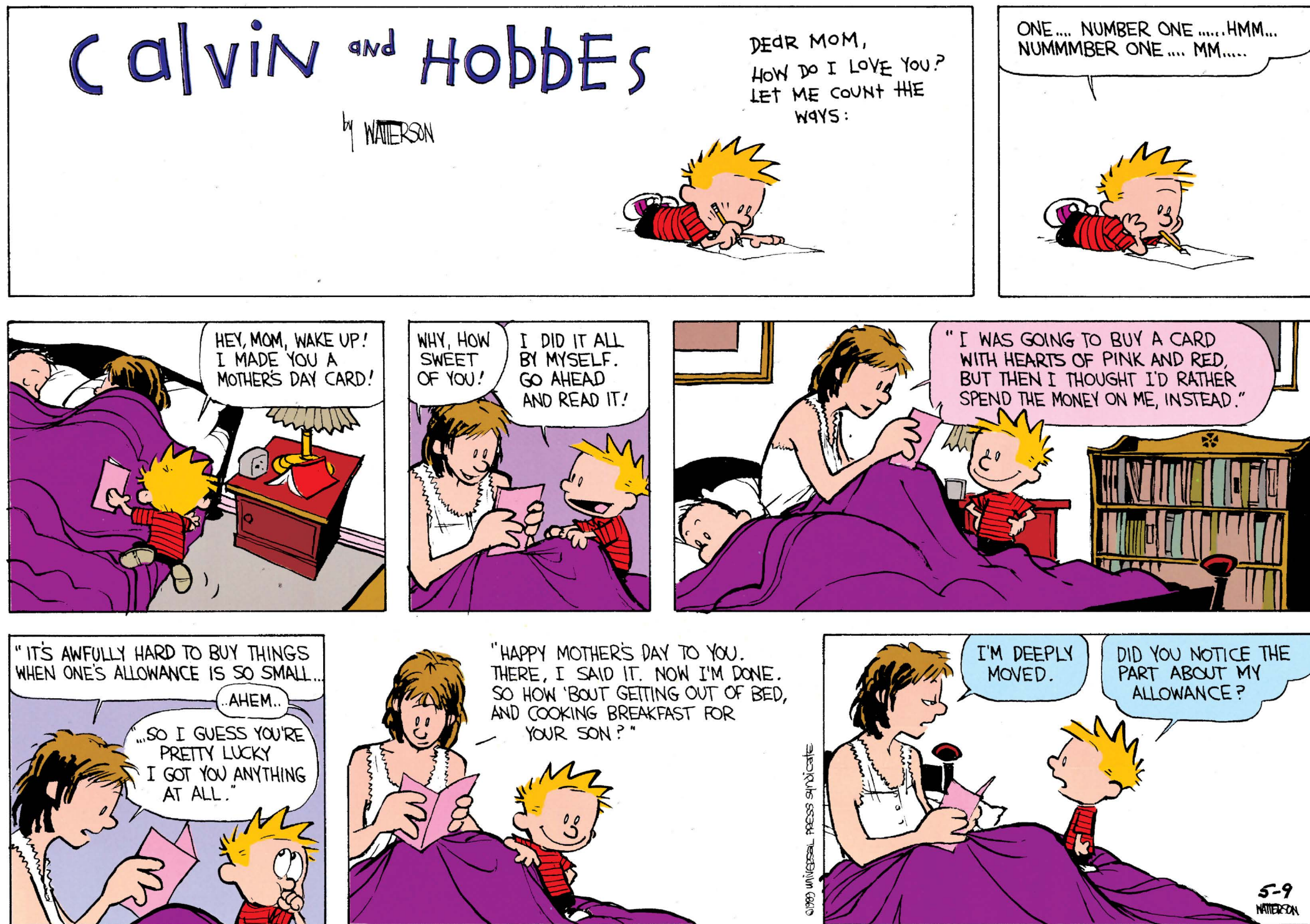
KISS





## EDUCATION

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



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**COLUMN | WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: THE GOLDEN EAGLE**

# *An Unopposed Apex Predator*

“Is that an eagle, dad?” my son excitedly asked one Thanksgiving morning, in between passes of the football in our backyard.

"Maybe. Let's take a closer look," I responded, walking over to him so we could look together.

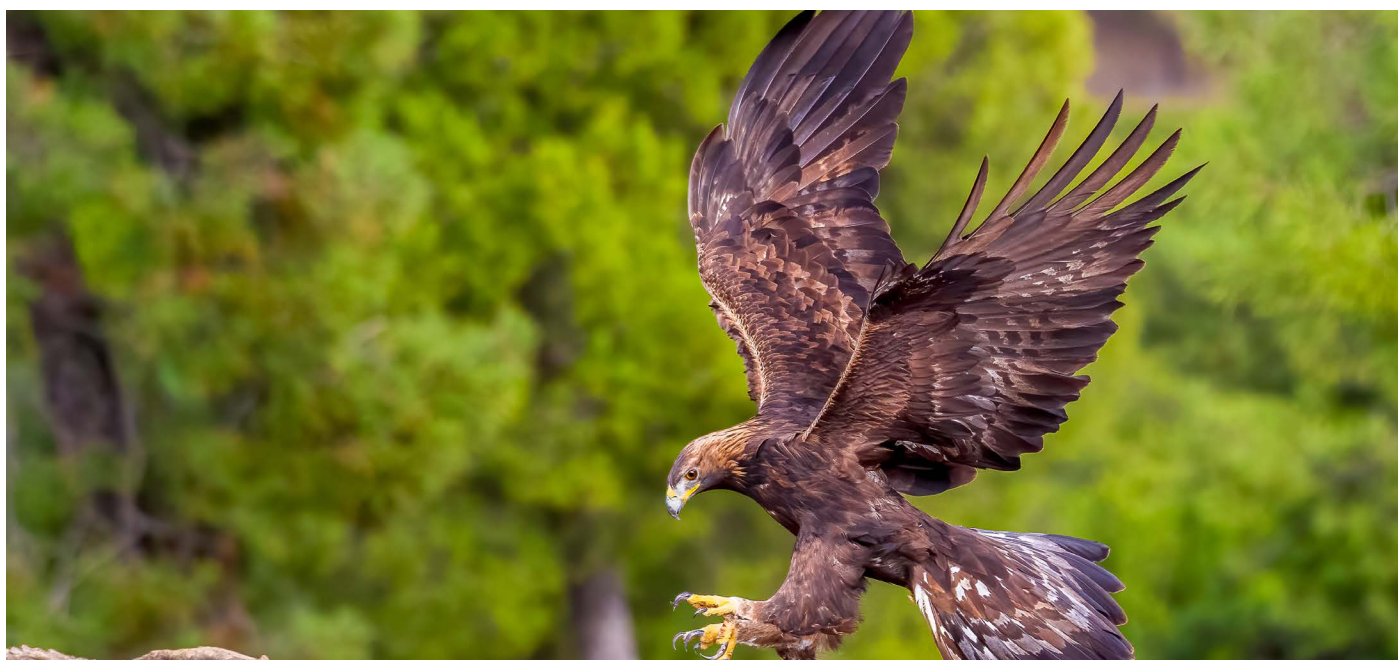
“Do you think it’s a Golden Eagle?” he asked.

“Well, eagle sightings are always really cool, but a Golden would be amazing,” I answered, thinking it was so cute that my 6-year-old thought he saw an especially rare raptor in the sky above.

We looked together at the large brownish raptor riding thermals hundreds of feet above. The sky was clear and blue giving us great contrast. When the young bird angled overhead the white patches on the underside of its wings and tail flashed in the bright sunlight, confirming its identity. My son had indeed spotted a rare Golden Eagle in the skies above Fairfield County!

The Golden Eagle, *Aquila chrysaetos*, is a bird unlike any other. Despite its status as the world's most widely distributed eagle, the great bird is only found sparsely throughout much of the Northern Hemisphere. With a maximum wingspan of 8'4" and a maximum weight of 17 pounds, the Golden possesses a commanding presence and is among the world's largest eagles. Sporting overall chocolate brown plumage with a black-tipped yellow beak, bare yellow feet and a striking golden head and nape, the bird is unmistakable at close range.

Yet, even if we don't glimpse this magnificent bird of prey, we can not escape its inspiration which spans the globe. Featured on royal crests and coats of arms, as well as currency for millennia, the Golden Eagle is both ubiquitous and seemingly eternal. Adorning flags of nations from Egypt



*Modern scientific data generated by The Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group has revealed a population of up to 5,000 birds spread throughout the northern barren regions of eastern Canada and the cloaking forests of the Appalachians.*



to Moldova to Mexico, and serving as the national bird of Austria, Germany and Kazakhstan, the bird has been long been admired for its undeniable power and majesty.

With no predators at adulthood, the Golden

Eagle fulfills its role as an unopposed apex predator throughout its vast range. Utilizing its legendary “eagle-eye” vision, the Golden can spot a hare from a mile aloft and a mile away. But the eagle doesn’t limit its menu to just hares and rodents.

Combining nearly unmatched gripping strength in its formidable feet, the eagle can close its 2-inch-long recurved talons on its prey with an astounding 440 pounds per square inch of bone-crushing pressure (15 times the power of a human's grip)! What's

more, the Golden Eagle is one of the fastest flying birds on the planet, capable of diving speeds well in excess of 150 miles per hour. Such speed packs a deadly punch, imbuing the huge birds with the ability to take down larger prey including waterfowl, foxes, coyotes and—in rare cases—bear cubs, grown deer, antelope, mountain goats, and even wolves!

While the Golden Eagle is a bird known to people the world over for millennia, this almost mythic creature is still shrouded in mystery in the 21st century. Long regarded as bird of vast, remote mountain and desert wilderness, in North America, the bird was considered a rare visitor east of the Mississippi. Although scientists have known for decades that a small population of the raptors inhabited Eastern North America, they didn't know the life history or unique genetics of these phantom raptors. With advances in tracking technologies, a picture is emerging that offers to connect the dots

and usher in enhanced conservation initiatives for these magnificent birds. Known as Eastern Golden Eagles, these birds largely breed in eastern Canada and migrate south to overwinter in the forested Appalachians, from New York to Tennessee.

Collaboration on both sides of the border is bringing Canadian and American researchers and conservationists from federal, provincial, state, and private agencies together to unravel the eagle's secrets and enact necessary conservation measures to safeguard the eastern population. With population estimates ranging between one dozen and one hundred birds as late as the mid 1990s, the curtain of mystery has been pulled back. Modern scientific data generated by The Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group has revealed a population of up to 5,000 birds spread throughout the northern barren regions of eastern Canada and the cloaking forests of the Appalachians. The combination of remoteness and dense cover habitat preference has enabled the birds to remain not just hidden—but virtually unknown—until the last few years. With discovery comes greater promise for these regal creatures.

While I have always listened to the wisdom of those with sharper eyes and fewer years than I, when I think back on that special moment my son and I shared gazing up at the Golden Eagle soaring southward in an azure sky, I am eternally thankful for those who question and for those who look up.

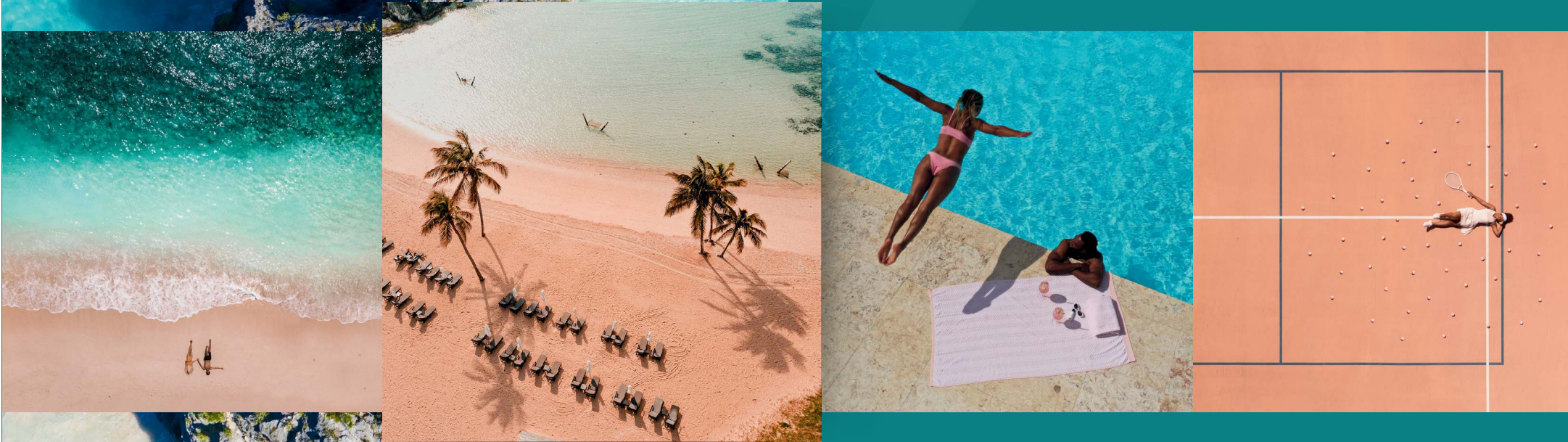
*Jim Knox is Curator of Education at Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo where he directs education and conservation initiatives to advance the protection of wildlife in Connecticut and beyond.*



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