

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

POLICE AND FIRE

NCPD at Memorial Day Parade



The New Canaan Police Department attended and supported the Memorial Day parade with officers, vehicles, and traffic control along the route. They also used a department drone for added surveillance. Public Works assisted by closing roads with trucks and barriers. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

TOWN HALL

South Avenue will close to non-local traffic between Harrison Avenue and Farm Road from June 19 to late August for water main installation. Aquarion Water Company will be installing a 36-inch main from Wilton to Greenwich. Work will occur daily from 7 am to 5 pm.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Nantucket Looms Visits Library



On May 27, Nantucket Looms held a presentation and pop-up shop at New Canaan Library. The event highlighted the company's history and products. Photo credit: the New Canaan Library.

Burns Care Foundation Visits Rotary



Dominic Mantuano, Executive Director of the Connecticut Burns Care Foundation, recently spoke to the New Canaan Rotary Club about the foundation's core programs. He outlined its focus on supporting burn units, providing education, promoting prevention, and funding research. Photo credit: New Canaan Rotary Club.

NC Garden Club Speaker



Frances Palmer spoke at the New Canaan Garden Club's May meeting, where

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VFW Chaplain and Parade Grand Marshal Brian Vanderheyden in front as VFW members and uniformed service members follow

Perfect Day for a Parade

By JOHN KRIZ

On a spectacular late Spring day, hundreds gathered in town for the annual Memorial Day parade to remember and honor those who have fallen in defense of the nation, as well as all who have served, and their families.

Kicking off from St. Mark's Church on Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan's Exchange Club was in the lead, distributing flags to one and all along the parade route.

Many groups in town marched as well, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #653, with VFW Chaplain and Grand Marshal Brian Vanderheyden in

the lead. Other groups in the parade included:

Town Officials and Clergy, the Town Band, Board of Education, Police Department, US Naval Sea Cadets Corps, Hannah Benedict Carter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Girl Scouts, Brownies, Daisies and the Service Unit, Knights of Columbus, Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts, New Canaan EMS, Mount Kisco Scottish Bagpipers, New Canaan Fire Department and Vista Fire Department, CERT - Community Emergency Response Team, New Canaan High School Band, Knights of Columbus, New Canaan Baseball, New Canaan Softball, School of Rock,

New Canaan Youth Rugby, New Canaan Beautification League, Staying Put in New Canaan, Planet New Canaan, New Canaan Mounted Troop, GetAbout, Waveny Lifecare Network, New Canaan Men's Club, Caffeine & Carburetors, New Canaan Department of Public Works (DPW) and America 250th Planning Committee.

Along the parade route were people waving, many children and more than a few front yard BBQs.

The Fire Department's aerial apparatus had its ladder extended with a large American Flag hanging from it.

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Fiscal Guardrails Breached as Session Nears Close

By ELIZABETH BARHYDT

With few days remaining in the 2025 legislative session, State Senator Ryan Fazio is warning constituents in New Canaan that critical decisions affecting taxes, housing, and energy remain in flux. "There is more to be determined in the next 10 days than in the last 10 weeks," he wrote on May 27, emphasizing the implications of final votes on the state budget.

At the center of Senator Fazio's concerns is the potential dismantling of the state's long-standing fiscal discipline measures, known as the fiscal guardrails. "The legislature has already passed two bills that the governor signed which spend money above the spending cap," Fazio stated, noting that lawmakers were invoking a "questionable 'state of emergency'" to increase spending by nearly \$300 million beyond the statutory limit.

The guardrails, including the volatility cap, debt cap, and spending cap, were instituted during the 2017 session when party control in the Senate was evenly split. According to Fazio, "the volatility cap alone has paid down \$8 billion of our roughly \$90 billion in unfunded liabilities and

avoided over \$700 million in higher taxes annually." Since their adoption, the state has not enacted a major income tax increase and has retired billions in debt.

Now, Fazio warned, those principles are being set aside. "The budget proposals that passed the Finance Committee and Appropriations Committee along party-line votes included: Increases taxes by over \$850 million, including a 1.75% capital gains tax surcharge and business tax surcharge." He added that the new proposals "pay down \$1.8 billion less debt by increasing the Volatility Cap threshold by that amount, allowing that money to be spent instead."

He also pointed to additional violations of the spending cap, writing that the proposal "increases spending by over \$450 million above the Spending Cap, which already allows spending increases at 5.1% and 5.4% over the next two years." A new \$300 million off-budget education fund "allows even more spending above the Spending Cap," Fazio said, calling the developments indicative of a "final package [that] will borrow more... spend more... and raise taxes at least moderately."

Fazio's critique extends beyond fiscal issues to what he described as an unprecedented challenge to local zoning autonomy and extremely high energy costs.

On energy reform, Fazio reiterated his long-standing effort to lower electricity rates, highlighting a public campaign to reduce the Public Benefits charge through legislation. "Recently I kicked off a broader state town hall tour on electric rates to inform the public of the roots of the problem and our proposal, S.B. 647," he wrote, stating that the bill could "cut rates by around 20%." The tour's first forum was held in New Canaan and "attended by over 100 people."

Though negotiations continue, Fazio said compromise legislation was in development. "It's long overdue and it won't be enough," he wrote, "but I am hoping we can force passage of some positive reforms that both sides agree on."

As the session nears its close, Fazio invited constituents to contact him or his office with questions. "I greatly appreciate the honor of representing our wonderful district and hope I can do whatever I can to make our community and state a better place in the closing days of this session."

Senate to Take Up Controversial Housing Bill After Narrow House Passage

By ANNE WHITE

Connecticut's State Senate is expected to take up House Bill 5002 in the coming days, following the legislation's narrow passage in the House of Representatives on May 27 by a vote of 84-67. The bill, an omnibus measure spanning more than 100 pages and nearly 50 separate sections, aims to take over local housing and zoning policy, and has quickly become one of the most divisive pieces of legislation in the 2025 session.

House Bill 5002 includes major reforms that would impact how every city and town in Connecticut zones for housing. Provisions include mandating as-of-right development near transit hubs, prohibiting minimum off-street parking requirements for residential developments, expanding fair rent commissions, and implementing a statewide "Fair Share" housing allocation system.

Voting Split in the House

Representative Lucy Dathan voted in favor of the bill. Dathan has not yet issued a public statement explaining her vote and was in meetings yesterday so could not be contacted for comment. However a recent exchange between a constituent and Representative Lucy Dathan, shown in messages reviewed by the *Sentinel*, reveals ongoing confusion about the bill's impact. A resident raised concerns about how affordable units would be funded, how "reasonable opportunity" standards for developers would be calculated, and the feasibility of meeting high affordable housing targets (469 new units for New Canaan alone) without massive increases in overall density.

Dathan responded that she asked clarifying questions on the House floor to better understand legislative intent. She described the plan as "opt-in" but offered few specifics about enforcement mechanisms, deadlines, or penalties.

Representative Savet Constantine voted against the bill. In a direct message to local autonomy advocate Maria Weingarten, Constantine explained her position:

"I will be a no on this bill," Constantine wrote. "For the past several weeks, I have been having ongoing discussions with the bill proponents and colleagues to clarify many points. As part of the Moderate Caucus, many of us have been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

COLUMN

Renting Brain Space

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

We own all the storage capacity in our brains. What stories do we want to store there by telling them again and again? Are we the hero, the survivor, the observer, or the victim of these stories? Do we really want to give difficult people a central room in our brain? This is our choice.

We have the power to rewire our brains: we can either feed or starve our thoughts as they arise. Thoughts that we feed reconsolidate our memories and our emotional experiences every

time we dwell on them. Thoughts that we starve lose their power.

There is no point in being hard on ourselves when negative thoughts arise. They will come. Imagine them like a cold fog: annoying, but not life-changing. The fog will pass. Even after years of thinking and feeling a certain way, we can choose to let thoughts go and set ourselves free.

Maria was angry at the way a school official had mistreated her daughter. Her point was valid, but after two years, she evicted the official from space in her



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

brain when she realized that her anger was only affecting her. He was oblivious to her concern and might as well be "dancing through a field of daisies." Her daughter had moved on. Once Maria did too, she no longer suffered an unwelcome tenant in her brain.



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NCHS Shines with Halo Nominations



Les Mis - Group Picture

“A year of unforgettable theater” earns New Canaan High students top statewide recognition. In a standing ovation-worthy achievement, the New Canaan High School Theater Department has received 13 nominations in the prestigious 2025 Halo Awards, hosted by Seven Angels Theatre. The nominations—spanning both Les Misérables and Jack the

recognize student excellence in acting, design, and ensemble performance.

The annual awards, often dubbed the “Tonys for Connecticut high schools,” celebrate achievements in high school theater across the state. This year’s accolades not only underscore the individual talent of NCHS students but also affirm the

caliber, ambitious productions. “Our students and staff poured their hearts into these shows,” said Theater Director Lorah Haskins. “To see their work recognized on this level is incredibly meaningful. These nominations are a tribute to their talent and tireless effort.” Les Misérables was a standout in the musical categories, garnering eight nominations, including Best Classical Musical, Best Chorus, and Best Scenic Design and/or Execution, the latter honoring Henry Tate, Bennett Gropper, and Andrew Meli. Individual recognition includes:

- Henry Tate for Best Leading Male Role in a Classical Musical as Jean Valjean,
- Serena Peterson for Best Leading Female Role in a Classical Musical as Cosette,
- Thomas Pisant for Best Featured Male Role in a Musical as Marius,
- Isa Temple for Best Featured Female Role in a Musical as Éponine,

Nicholas Mohamad for Best Supporting Male Role in a Musical as Javert, Andrew Meli and Radea Raleva for Best Performance by a Couple or Dynamic Duo as Thénardier and Madame Thénardier. Meanwhile, Jack the Ripper: Monster of Whitechapel earned five nominations, including Best Classical Play. Jack Dooley’s double nomination—for Best Comic Male Role and Best Standout Performance in an Ensemble Production—acknowledges his memorable portrayal of Sir Charles Warren. Design nods continue with Radea Raleva’s Best Costume Design and/or Execution nomination, and the trio of Tate, Gropper, and Meli also being honored again for scenic execution in Jack the Ripper.

“Being part of these productions has been a transformative experience,” said Henry Tate. “We pushed ourselves, and to be recognized for it just feels amazing.” The awards will be presented at the Palace Theater in Waterbury from May 27–30, with nominees from across Connecticut gathering to celebrate student theater. As the stage lights dim on this school year, New Canaan’s theater department can take a well-earned bow, knowing that their dedication has not only brought stories to life—but raised the curtain on a bright future for young performers and artists.



Serena Peterson - Leading Actress



Henry Tate - Leading Actor (r)



Les Mis - Dynamic Duo (l)



Thomas Pisant - Featured Actor



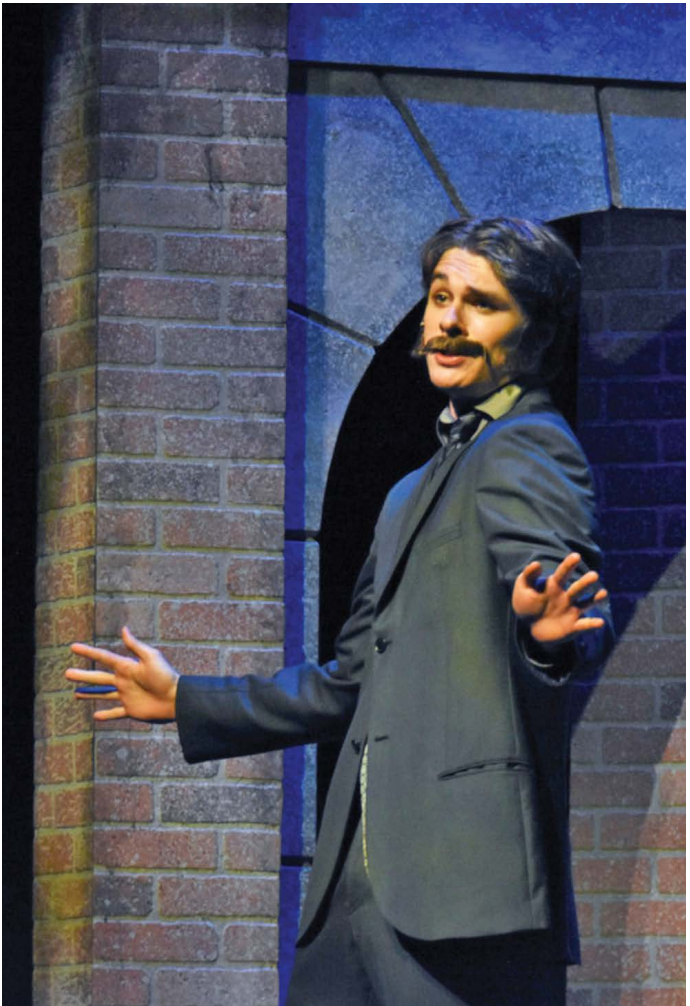
Nicholas Mohamad - Supporting Actor



Isa Temple - Featured Actress



Jack The Ripper_ Monster of Whitechapel



Jack Dooley - Comic and Standout Performance

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BERMUDAIR



(New) Police Station Opens



By PETER BARHYDT AND JOHN KRIZ

After many years of discussion, planning and construction, New Canaan’s police station on South Avenue is about to re-open. What was once old has becomes new again.

How We Got Here

New Canaan’s police station is in the century-old former high school building. Last refurbished in the 1980s, it had water leakage issues and functionality challenges. Something needed to be done. So in late 2020 the Board of Selectmen decided to create a Police Department Building Committee to take the lead and determine the best course of action, and follow through with it. Former Town Council Chairman Bill Walbert was appointed as chairman.

The first issues included ‘Where to put it?’, ‘What sort of design?’ and ‘If we build a new police station elsewhere, what do we do with the old building?’

In the end, it was decided to keep the police station where it is, and to refurbish it from top to bottom – no small task.

Design and historic preservation issues were important to the Building Committee, stresses Mr. Walbert. (This is, after all, New Canaan.) As examples, the parts of the building most visible from South Avenue were to keep their classic appearance, just better. Thus new, insulated, water-tight windows were installed, with a long-lasting faux slate roof that, from a distance, looks like the real thing. For the public areas of the building, efforts to retain a classic feel were continued, but with functionality and cost (again, this is New Canaan) both in mind.

Says Mr. Walbert, “We worked very hard to maintain the 1920s architectural feel of the original building. So you’ll notice the light fixtures, the millwork, the bathrooms sort of recreate the 1920s look and feel of that kind of facility. And so that’s exciting and I think people will find it looks very good and they’ll be proud of that.”

Noting that “we don’t want the gold plate anything,” Mr. Walbert however emphasized that the communications, training and safety aspects of the building needed to be “top notch.” As well, the Building Committee wanted a facility that would stand the test of time.

The back third of the old building included the sally port (entry/exit for prisoners), cells and prisoner processing. Mr. Walbert said it was decided to “tear down the back third of the building” and construct a new, state-of-the-art facility to help ensure officer safety and that prisoners are treated properly. It was also decided to make this new section as architecturally sympathetic as possible to the old, original building.

As to sustainability features, the building’s improved insulation and water-tightness are substantial improvements. As well, should the town decide to invest in solar panels for the building, the infrastructure to support that has been put in place.

One feature that the refurbished police station does not have is a shooting range. It was decided

that space for a proper facility just was not there. Cost was also a consideration, as were noise issues for neighbors. Mr. Walbert notes, however, that the State is considering building a shooting range in Newtown that would be available to local police departments.

The Cost

Municipal building projects like this are not cheap, and all totaled the refurbished, rebuilt police station cost the taxpayers of New Canaan around \$30 million. Of this, around \$20 million was for construction, and around \$7 million was for ‘soft costs.’ This includes architectural and design work, as well as moving the police station to its temporary location on Locust Avenue and rental costs for that space. Other costs included items such as computers and office furniture.

Part of that \$30 million was a \$2 million ‘contingency fund’ to deal with unforeseen issues. Especially when dealing with an old building you can be surprised with what you find – and not in a good way. As well, vital equipment can be delayed, causing cost overruns.

In the case of the refurbished police station, half of the contingency fund – around \$1 million – is being returned. Furthermore, the planned completion date of around Thanksgiving 2025 has been beat by five months. In sum: Ahead of schedule and under budget.

AHEAD OF SCHEDULE AND UNDER BUDGET

Reflecting on this substantial project, Mr. Walbert says “we foresaw those challenges and dealt with them,” going on to praise the joint work among the Building Committee, Police Department, Selectmen, Town Council, Board of Finance, Building Department in Town Hall and project manager.

Touring the ‘New’ Police HQ

The New Canaan Sentinel toured the refurbished facility to see firsthand what has been accomplished. Police Chief John DiFederico called it a “great job.” Speaking of the lobby, he noted “if anybody’s familiar with what our lobby used to look like, this is a dramatic improvement,” referring to it as better lit and much updated, going on to declare that “the rest of the building is likewise the same way.”

New Canaan’s all-volunteer Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will have an office in the refurbished police station, with space to store their equipment. They had been housed in Irwin House.

The 24/7 dispatch center is like the command center for the police department. New Canaan’s dispatcher is a sworn officer, whereas some towns have a civilian in the role. There are many screens there, with live video feeds from various locations around town, including parks and school exteriors.

The property room, where lost and found items, and evidence, are kept has been upgraded,



Exterior view of the updated New Canaan Police Department following recent renovations.

with better shelving and plenty of room. There is also a firearms locker there to store use firearms turned in by residents who don’t want them anymore. Such firearms are then turned over to the State Police and destroyed.

The processing room is “like a mini forensic laboratory” with “some cool equipment” and new “state-of-the-art stuff.”

There are several locker rooms, serving different teams or genders, as well as a gym that’s “far better than what had.” The six cells are in the basement and are covered by cameras so officers can always know what’s going on.

The twelve marked and five unmarked police cars are kept behind the station when not in use.

Police Chief

During an exclusive New Canaan Sentinel interview regarding the refurbished station, Chief DiFederico summed it up this way: “It means everything. I’ve worked in this town for over 32 years and this building is finally a true, purpose-built police building. It was renovated back in 1981 and it was severely dated, but now it is a premier police facility.” Says Chief DiFederico, “it’s going to be great for us.”

The forensic lab and equipment “will be a great asset to the town and to the region. We will certainly open up to other departments if they want to help come in here and utilize some of our equipment,” which, according to Chief DiFederico, “is going to definitely help our investigators.”

“The community response has been great,” notes Chief DiFederico. “Working with the building committee has been wonderful.”

But beyond that, Chief DiFederico stresses that “none of this has been behind the curtains

and behind the scenes. This has all been out in the public and the community support has been overwhelming from day one, which is greatly appreciated. And now we can finally show the public what their money has gone to, and I think everybody’s going to be proud to see what the budget has gone to.”

And the officers’ reactions? “It’s been great. They can’t wait to get in here. They’re looking forward, like I said, to use the gym and get into the locker rooms and get moved in. We kind of had to hold them back a little bit today and say ‘Give us one more day.’ But they’re very excited to get back here, and I think once they get in here and start working out of here, they’ll be very appreciative and very overwhelmed with how great a facility it is.”

Chief DiFederico concluded by expressing “our sincere gratitude to the town and everybody that was involved in this process. It was very overwhelming to see the support and very appreciated, because this is something that our men and women really needed to have an updated, clean and healthy working environment. And for the services that they provide to the town, they absolutely deserve it. So I’m very glad to get our officers into this new state-of-the-art building, and very, very much appreciate all of the town support for that.”

Police personnel and equipment are now in process of moving back, with the ‘new’ police station fully operational on June 3. The official ribbon cutting is on June 4.

Peter Barhydt is the Editor in Chief of the New Canaan Sentinel. John J Kriz is 30+ year resident of New Canaan. Opinions expressed are their own.

COLUMN



The usual suspects. L to R: Northern Cardinal, Carolina Wren, Black-capped Chickadee.

Tips for Beginning Birders

By FRANK GALLO

You were given a bird feeder for your birthday, and you have started feeding the birds. Now, after enjoying observing their antics at your feeders, you wonder which birds are visiting, and you want to know more about them. Now what?

Here are my suggestions for anyone getting started watching birds.

1. Buy a bird book. To help eliminate confusion, I recommend a guide to just Eastern birds, such as the Peterson Field Guide to Eastern Birds which uses arrows to point out important identifying field marks, or the Sibley Birds East which has wonderful illustrations. Both allow for direct comparisons of similar species. Note: Both are available as apps for your phone, providing convenient access to a wealth of information, and offering songs and calls to listen to in the field. Remember, however, the apps cover all North America, which can add confusion for beginners as there are more choices. It is also harder to compare birds directly on your phone.
2. Read Sibley's Birding Basics. This companion guide from a leading expert is a crash course in how to approach learning bird identification.
3. Get a Reference Guide such as, The Birder's Handbook (most detailed) or National Geographic's, Complete Birds of North America for background natural history information.
4. Take birding classes. It's always best to learn from others.
 - a. Periodically, I offer Beginning Birding and Birding by Ear classes and free bird walks. Visit <https://newcanaannature.org/adult-birding/>.
 5. Join a Bird Club, the CT Ornithological

“...after enjoying observing their antics at your feeders, you wonder which birds are visiting, and you want to know more about them. Now what?”

- Association (COA), and your local Nature Center that offers walks/talks.
- a. My NCNC free local bird walks will resume in April and continue through the spring.
 - b. New Haven Bird Club offers free monthly walks farther afield, and evening talks. <https://www.newhavenbirdclub.org/>.
 - c. COA produces a user-friendly quarterly journal, offers free workshops, and an annual Conference each March. Visit <https://www.ctbirding.org>.
6. Get the Merlin App for your phone. The app provides a handy reference in your pocket, and there is a quiz feature, so you can quiz yourself. It has AI identification features to help you identify birds by sight and sound. The sound recording feature listens for you. It is roughly 75% accurate but provides a valuable tool for learning birds, their songs, and calls. It shows a picture of the birds it's picking up, highlights each species as it is singing. It should not be used as a substitute for identifying the birds on your own. eBird does not accept Merlin-only generated lists.
 7. Get the eBird app. This Cornell University database helps you keep track of your bird sighting, aids with locating birds in your area, and is also linked to Merlin. eBird is also available online [https://](https://ebird.org/explore)

- ebird.org/explore, and provides a great deal of birding information.
8. Buy a bird-finding guide. If you are ready to branch out and start looking for birds away from home, a good bird-finding guide is essential. My Birding in Connecticut is available at most bookstores and online.
 9. Subscribe to Cornell's Birds of the World at <https://birdsoftheworld.org/bow/subscribe>. This online resource has a wealth of current information about birds of the world. Subscriptions start at \$49/year.
 10. Binoculars: Binoculars are a useful tool for getting the maximum enjoyment from watching birds. They allow better views, bring out color, and enable the inspection of minute details critical for the identification of similar species.
- Choosing binoculars is very personal. It's always best to handle them before buying. Binoculars come in two types, porro prism (offset tubes) and roof prism (straight tubes). Although optically similar, roof prism binoculars' internal focus makes them easier to waterproof and are the recommended style for birding.
- In the next month's issue, I'll discuss binoculars in more depth.



Frank Gallo is the Senior Naturalist at the New Canaan Nature Center, 144 Oenoke Ridge, and the author of Birding in Connecticut – a comprehensive site guide on where when and how to find birds in the State. Email: Fgallo@newcanaannature.org. For more on the New Canaan Nature Center, visit Newcanaannature.org. All photos on this page are courtesy of Frank.

Placing Flags, Honoring Veterans

By JOHN KRIZ

The day started blustery as approximately 200 people – moms and dads, children, boy scouts and girl scouts, firefighters, police, town officials, members of the New Canaan's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #653 (VFW) and so many others – gathered by the veterans' section of Lakeview Cemetery to begin the solemn yet inspiring task of placing flags on the graves of our military service members who are buried there.

This event, led by the VFW and funded by community donations, demonstrates again the civic-mindedness and volunteer spirit that is New Canaan.

How It Began

Around fifteen years ago local couple Frances and Chris Wilson's oldest son, John, was a scout with Troop 70 and considering an Eagle scout project. Frances' father was a Navy veteran, and she encouraged her son to consider a project supporting veterans. While at a scout ceremony they met Peter Langenus, who was at the time the town's VFW Post Commander. They got to talking and Mr. Langenus said that the VFW had been laying wreaths and flags at veterans' graves in Lakeview Cemetery, but that the list of veterans could be more accurate. So John, with the help of his father and Troop 70, canvassed the entirety of Lakeview Cemetery, eventually producing a database of 700 veterans' graves, which has since grown. The list now includes veterans' graves at the many other cemeteries that dot New Canaan, those names having been produced by a local girl scout as part of her Gold Award project.

Today, the Wilsons continue to work closely with the VFW on the Memorial Day weekend flag placements – eschewing personal publicity and instead focusing on honoring those who have fought, and sometimes died, defending our nation.

Placing the Flags

The ceremony at Lakeview Cemetery began with a Pledge of Allegiance, led by a cub scout. VFW Chaplain Brian Vanderheyden, who is also Grand Marshal of this year's Memorial Day Parade, led the assemblage in a brief prayer, saying, "We do this with pride, respect and honor. Bless all our veterans,

living and deceased, and their families, and bless all of you here today." A moment of silence for the war dead followed.

VFW Post Commander Mike McGlinn offered thanks to the many groups that contribute money and muscle to the flag project, including the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), New Canaan Girl Scouts, Boy Scout Troops 70, 45 and 31, Cub Scout Packs 70, 45 and 7, the Service League of Boys (SLOBs), the Hannah Benedict Carter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the National Charity League/New Canaan Chapter, as well as the New Canaan firefighters, the New Canaan Exchange Club, and the Republican and Democrat Town Committees.

Commander McGlinn then presented a plaque to the Wilsons as thanks for their many years of support for the flag project.

Concludes Commander McGlinn in an exclusive New Canaan Sentinel interview, "It's just a great community event, putting these flags down. You can see from the list that I read off that we get great support from all the citizens of New Canaan and we couldn't do it without them," noting further that "it is an honor to serve in the VFW and to take care of the veterans in this cemetery that have nobody looking out for them."

New Canaan's volunteer firefighters take the flag-placement lead at the dozen or so smaller cemeteries around town that have veterans' graves. They visit each cemetery, placing flags at graves, and in front of the cemeteries in honor of those veterans buried there but whose gravemarkers have been lost, worn beyond recognition or damaged.

"Every year we will come out and support the town of New Canaan by putting either flags on graves or wreaths on graves. And it's a great way to not only support those who have served and our fallen veterans, but it's a great way to also do more for the community. We already, as volunteers, do a lot by volunteering with the New Canaan Fire Company, but this is just another way to support those that we can," said volunteer firefighter Silvana Cardona.

New Canaan Fire Company is always seeking



VFW member Russ Kimes and VFW Post Commander Mike McGlinn speak to the large assemblage of townspeople as they kick off the flag placement on veterans' graves in Lakeview Cemetery. Photo by John Kriz.

new volunteers. If interested, contact recruit@newcanaanfire.com

The VFW and volunteers collect the flags in a few weeks, reusing them on the next Memorial Day. In addition to flags on veterans' graves on Memorial Day, the VFW also leads the effort to place wreaths on veterans' graves at Christmas.

These efforts in support of veterans cost money, and the VFW always welcomes donations. To donate, use this QR code.

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



Volunteer firefighters L-R Colin Daniels, Jeff Rzasa and Silvana Cardona place a flag on the grave of Revolutionary War veteran Capt. John Carter at the Carter Street Cemetery. New Canaan's Hannah Benedict Carter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is named after Capt. Carter's wife, who is interred next to him. New Canaan's volunteer firefighters place flags on veterans' graves at around a dozen of the smaller cemeteries in town in support of the VFW's flag placement project in recognition of Memorial Day.

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Representative	District	Party	Area Represented	Vote on HB 5002
Tom O’Dea	125th	Republican	Most of New Canaan, Darien, Stamford	NO
Lucy Dathan	142nd	Democrat	Part of New Canaan, Norwalk	YES
Savet Constantine	42nd	Democrat	Wilton, parts of New Canaan, Ridgefield	NO

HOUSING BILL
CONTINUED From Page 1

working very hard to make this a better bill, and while we have been able to mitigate many of the issues constituents have emailed about, at this point the bill is not there for me.”

Constantine emphasized that while she supported certain goals of the bill—such as creating senior-friendly housing and more downsizing opportunities for longtime residents—she believed the legislation moved too far, too fast. She added that she would continue engaging with residents in upcoming forums, including June 7 in Wilton and June 25 at the New Canaan Library.

Senate Opposition Builds

The bill now advances to the Senate, where Senator Ryan Fazio has pledged to lead opposition. Fazio condemned the legislation both for its content and for the rushed process that brought it to the House floor with little public scrutiny:

“As warned for months in our newsletter, there is a late-breaking omnibus housing bill being brought for a vote before the House of Representatives late in the session,” Fazio wrote. “H.B. 5002 is over 100 pages and nearly 50 sections of complex and varying changes to state housing and zoning policies that will significantly undermine the rights of towns and cities to make their own decisions.”

Fazio criticized the absence of a government summary of the final language before the House vote, calling the process “bad policymaking.”

He has previously introduced legislation that would require bills exceeding 50 pages to be available to the public for at least 24 hours prior to a vote. That proposal was not enacted.

Fazio has committed to mounting a filibuster and offering extensive amendments on the Senate floor in an attempt to slow or stop the bill’s passage. “Unfortunately,” he noted, “with a roughly 2-to-1 majority in both houses, there is not much we can do in the minority to stop it.”

Key Provisions of H.B. 5002

The bill combines major initiatives from earlier sessions and some brand new provisions, including:

Work Live Ride: Requires towns with transit access to adopt as-of-right zoning for higher-density housing near bus and train stations. Non-compliant towns could be deprioritized for hundreds of millions in state infrastructure funding.

Fair Share Housing Allocation: Modeled after legislation in New Jersey, the bill would require municipalities to zone for a percentage of the state’s estimated housing need. Preliminary estimates suggest towns like Greenwich, Stamford, and New Canaan would need to plan for 900, 600, and 400 affordable units respectively, and more market-rate units to meet economic feasibility.

Parking Requirements: Prohibits towns from imposing minimum off-street parking requirements for residential

construction, a move supporters say will reduce development costs but critics argue will strain already limited infrastructure in suburban and rural towns.

Hostile Architecture Ban: Prevents municipalities from installing public structures—like sloped benches or benches with arm rests—that deter people from sleeping in public places.

Expanded Developer Rights: In certain 8-30g affordable housing lawsuits, the bill would require municipalities to cover developers’ attorney fees under specific conditions.

Local Reaction

The bill’s breadth and the compressed timeline have drawn intense criticism from local officials and advocacy groups. CT169Strong, a coalition advocating for local zoning control, has called the bill “an unprecedented state takeover of municipal planning.” They and other critics argue the law will erode local input, overburden infrastructure, and incentivize high-density development in communities unprepared to absorb it.

What Comes Next

The Senate has until June 5 to vote on the bill before the session adjourns. If passed, H.B. 5002 would be sent to Governor Ned Lamont, who has previously signaled support for housing reform and endorsed several of the bill’s provisions, including those on transit-oriented development.

A floor vote in the Senate has not yet been scheduled as of this writing. Advocacy groups on both sides are urging residents to contact their senators before the final vote.


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C A L L

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How to Remember

New Canaan did something this Memorial Day that not every town does anymore. It remembered. It remembered with care, with intention, and with the kind of understated dignity that defines small towns that take their responsibilities seriously. There were no gimmicks. Just a group of people—neighbors, mostly—who showed up. That’s how it starts every year at Lakeview Cemetery, and that’s how it happened again this year.

About 200 people gathered early Saturday morning to place flags on the graves of veterans. The crowd included families with children, scouts in uniform, firefighters, members of the local VFW, and plenty of longtime residents. No one was there for attention. They were there because they understood something basic and right: that the people who served this country, especially those who never made it home, deserve to be remembered—not with speeches alone, but with effort.

“While this day is an opportunity to gather with family and friends, it is above all a time of reverent remembrance...”
— Dionna Carlson

The flags don’t place themselves. The project, now a fixture of Memorial Day in New Canaan, began about 15 years ago when John Wilson, a local scout, took it on as an Eagle project. He created a database of veterans’ graves with the help of his family and Troop 70. The list has grown, covering not just Lakeview but other cemeteries in town. The Wilsons are still involved, still helping, still avoiding the spotlight.

The parade on Monday was no less respectful. It was traditional in the best sense—local, organized, and meaningful. It began at St. Mark’s Church, with the Exchange Club handing out flags along the route. You saw scout troops, sports teams, the town band, the fire department, church groups, veterans marching with the VFW. People waved, children smiled, and in the front yards along the parade route, a few families hosted quiet cookouts. It wasn’t loud patriotism—it was warm, local patriotism. The kind that doesn’t try to impress. The kind that knows exactly what it’s doing.

At the end of the parade, everyone gathered again at Lakeview Cemetery for the Memorial Day ceremony. First Selectman Dionna Carlson put it clearly: this is a day to “honor and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation,” and that it is “above all a time of reverent remembrance”.

Major Charles Paksi, a Marine veteran and guest speaker, reminded the crowd what Memorial Day is. He spoke plainly, directly: “They raised their hand. They took the oath. They’re going to defend your country—our country—and they died while doing it.” Then he told the story of a fellow Marine, Domingo Real, who was killed in Somalia at age 21. He took the toughest job, kept fighting even after he was wounded, and saved others. “Domingo did his job because he loved the Marines he fought with,” Paksi said.

In his remarks, VFW Commander Mike McGlinn reminded everyone that over 1,300 flags had been placed by volunteers just two days earlier. “Nothing should stand in the way of remembering,” he said.

And that’s really the point. New Canaan knows how to remember. It remembers its veterans not just with words, but with action—with a scout’s project, a child’s small hand planting a flag, a firefighter showing up at an old cemetery, a community gathering to stand together.

It’s not complicated. But it’s not automatic, either. It takes people showing up. It takes people caring.

And New Canaan still does.

Editorial Page

COLUMN

The Surprising Truth About America’s Most Common & Preventable Cancer



By Russell R. Barksdale, Jr.

When we think of cancer, our minds often gravitate toward those that dominate public discourse—breast, lung, prostate, and colorectal. These cancers receive widespread media attention, funding, and advocacy. Yet quietly, persistently, and with alarming frequency, skin cancer claims the title of the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the United States. Skin isn’t surprisingly your largest organ.

This reality is both surprising and sobering. Surprising, because skin cancer receives relatively little of the public spotlight; sobering, because it is also among the most preventable forms of the disease.

According to the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), more than 9,500 Americans are diagnosed with skin cancer every day. Over a lifetime, one in five individuals in the U.S. will develop some form of skin cancer, making it more prevalent than all other cancers combined. Most of these cases are basal cell carcinoma (BCC) and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC)—non-melanoma skin cancers that, while often less aggressive than other types, can cause substantial tissue damage and require surgical intervention.

The deadliest form, melanoma, accounts for the majority of skin cancer-related deaths. Though it constitutes only about 1% of skin cancer diagnoses, melanoma is responsible for over 8,000 deaths annually. The American Cancer Society estimates that more

than 100,000 new melanoma cases will be diagnosed in the U.S. in 2025 alone.

Part of the surprise surrounding skin cancer’s prevalence stems from its underrepresentation in public dialogue. Unlike other cancers, which are often marked by organized awareness months, ribbons, and public fundraising campaigns, skin cancer remains in the shadows. This invisibility contributes to a general underestimation of its seriousness and scope.

Furthermore, the causes of skin cancer are insidiously mundane. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation—from the sun and artificial sources like tanning beds—is the primary culprit. But sun exposure is often equated with health, vitality, and leisure. Cultural ideals that prize tanned skin persist, despite decades of evidence linking tanning—both outdoor and indoor—to increased cancer risk.

This disconnect between perception and reality fosters a dangerous complacency. The very behaviors most associated with recreation—sunbathing, beachgoing, outdoor sports—are also those most likely to increase UV exposure.

The silver lining, however, is this: the vast majority of skin cancers are preventable. Unlike many other cancers, where genetics and internal risk factors may play a significant role, the steps to reduce your risk of skin cancer are straightforward, actionable, and effective.

1. Sunscreen Is Essential

Daily use of a broad-spectrum sunscreen with

an SPF of 30 or higher can dramatically reduce your lifetime risk of developing skin cancer. Apply it to all exposed areas—face, ears, neck, hands—and reapply every two hours when outdoors, or immediately after swimming or sweating.

2. Evaluate the Safety of Tanning Beds

Indoor tanning remains popular, particularly among young adults. Studies show that using a tanning bed before age 35 can substantially increase melanoma risk. No tan is a safe tan; both sunlight and artificial UV rays may cause cumulative damage.

3. Protective Clothing Matters

Long-sleeved shirts, wide-brimmed hats, and UV-blocking sunglasses serve as physical barriers against harmful rays. Many companies now offer stylish, lightweight clothing with built-in ultraviolet protection factor (UPF) for those who spend extended time outdoors.

4. Know the Sun’s Peak Hours

UV rays are most intense between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Seek shade when possible, and be mindful of reflection—water, sand, and even snow can amplify UV exposure.

5. Practice Vigilant Skin Surveillance

M o n t h l y s e l f - e x a m i n a t i o n s can help identify new or changing

moles, spots, or lesions. Having a trusted partner check you backside can also be helpful. Use the “ABCDE” rule—Asymmetry, Border irregularity, Color variation, Diameter greater than 6mm, and Evolving appearance—to assess concerning areas. Annual skin checks with a board-certified dermatologist are recommended, especially for those with fair skin, numerous moles, or a family history of skin cancer.

As we enter the hot, sunny days of summer, the risks of skin cancer need to come to light. While its non-lethal variants may seem inconsequential compared to more aggressive cancers, the cumulative burden—measured in medical costs, surgical scars, and, in the case of melanoma, lives lost—is substantial.

Just as seatbelts and smoking cessation campaigns reshaped public behavior, so too can sun safety practices become a normalized part of everyday life.

Russell R. Barksdale, Jr., PhD, MPA/MHA, FACHE, serves as President and CEO of Waveny LifeCare Network, a not-for-profit organization based in New Canaan, Connecticut. Waveny provides a comprehensive continuum of senior care services, including independent and assisted living, memory care, short-term rehabilitation, home health, hospice, skilled nursing, and community outreach programs.

LEGAL AD

The New Canaan Republican Town Committee
Republican Caucus 2025

The New Canaan Republican Town Committee is reaching out to all registered Republican residents interested in serving in an elective office.

The Republican Caucus for contested seats is scheduled for July 22, 2025, at 7:30 PM at Saxe Middle School. We encourage anyone interested in serving our town to contact us and let us know which position they are interested in. We welcome all who wish to serve.

The following Republican positions are up for election:

- First Selectman, (1 R- Seat) 2-year term
- Board of Selectmen, (1 R- Seat) 2-year term
- Board of Assessments & Appeals, (2 R- Seats) 2-year term
- Board of Education, (3 R- Seats) 4-year term
 - Constable, (4 R- Seats) 2-year term
 - Town Clerk, (1 R- Seat) 2-year term
 - Town Council, (4 R- Seats) 4-year term
 - Town Treasurer, (1 R- Seat) 2-year term

All interested parties can obtain a petition from the RTC Secretary by emailing www.RepublicanParty.06840@aol.com

Petitions will be available starting June 13th, 2025. Candidate speeches to the RTC are set for June 19, 2025, at 7:00 PM. All completed petitions must be submitted by 5:00 PM on June 23rd, 2025. More information is available at www.newcanaanrepublicans.org.

The Republican Caucus for the above positions will be held on July 22, 2025.

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission at a regular meeting held via hybrid and in person on May 27, 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, 8-24 Review – from Tiger Mann, Director of Public Works, demolition of Irwin House, 848 Weed Street, Map 32, Block 201, Lot 1. The Commission found the demolition of the structure to be consistent with the 2024 POCD.

2. RESOLVED, 1135 Ponus Ridge – that application of Christopher Moran, Brooks & Falotico, Authorized Agent for Claire Salvatore owner(s) for a Special Permit approval pursuant to Section(s) 3.4.1.a, 3.4.1.b and 3.4.C.7 to allow construction of an accessory structure over 1,000 sq. ft. in building coverage and to permit more than 5 garage bays on one property in the 2 Acre Zone at 1135 Ponus Ridge (Map 26, Block 23, Lot 59) is approved.

Krista Neilson, Secretary
Dated May 29, 2025



Rams Fall Just Short in Tight Battle Against St. Joseph

New Canaan's softball team came within a run of halting St. Joseph's eight-game win streak on Tuesday but ultimately fell 2-1 in a hard-fought road loss. Despite facing one of the state's most dominant pitchers in Katie Dzialo, the Rams stayed competitive throughout, with strong defensive play and timely pitching keeping the game within reach.

New Canaan managed just two hits off Dzialo, who struck out eight and allowed only one earned run over seven innings. The Rams' lone run showcased their resilience against a St. Joseph squad that had been allowing just half a run per game at home.

FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athletes from New Canaan

Two standout seniors from New Canaan High School have been named FCIAC Exemplary Scholar-Athletes for the 2024-25 spring season. The Fairfield County Interscholastic Athletic Conference recognized Lauren Smith and Robert Frangione for their combined excellence in academics, athletics, and community service.

The honor, awarded weekly to student-athletes across the conference's 16 member schools, highlights young leaders who exemplify integrity, high achievement, and impact in and beyond the arena of sport. This week's selections from New Canaan reflect a broader movement in youth athletics—where academic commitment and civic engagement increasingly sit alongside performance metrics like state records and All-American titles.

Lauren Smith: Champion Thrower, Community Advocate

A four-year member of the New Canaan girls track and field team, senior Lauren Smith has become one of the most decorated athletes in the program's history. Serving as team captain this season, Smith holds FCIAC and state titles in both the shot put and javelin and achieved All-American status by placing sixth in the javelin at New Balance Nationals last year with a throw of 133 feet, one inch.

But her influence extends far beyond the runway and throwing circle.

Smith maintains a 3.9 GPA, serves as Secretary of the Red Cross Club (with over 100 hours of community service), and leads multiple school organizations including the Irish Cultural Club, Buddies Club, and National Honor Society. She is also an active Peer Mentor, helping younger students navigate academic and social challenges.

Notably, Smith serves as a youth leader in Youth Navigate, a nonprofit dedicated to suicide prevention and equitable mental health access for children. This summer, she'll take that mission even further as an intern at the Yale Child Study Center, continuing her work to shape policy and support systems that center vulnerable young people.

"She's not just throwing far—she's reaching across communities to lift others along the way," said a New Canaan High School staff member.

Smith will attend Cornell University this fall,

where she is expected to continue her athletic career while pursuing studies aligned with her public service work.

Robert Frangione: Vaulting Records, Elevating School Spirit

On the boys' side, Robert Frangione has spent four years vaulting, jumping, and leading his teammates as a consistent contributor across indoor and outdoor seasons.

Frangione, also a senior captain, has twice earned All-FCIAC Second Team honors in the pole vault and set the New Canaan indoor school record at 12 feet, seven inches at the 2025 CIAC Class L Indoor Championships, where he placed third. He has consistently placed in the top three in Class L State Championship meets and qualified for the CIAC State Open twice.

What sets Frangione apart, however, is his versatility. In addition to pole vault, he competes in the triple jump, long jump, and javelin, helping the Rams close in on an undefeated dual meet season this spring.

His accomplishments stretch beyond the track. Frangione is a driving force behind the school's TV Broadcasting Club, earning two first-place Access Awards in the News Category. His peers and faculty recognize him not only as an athlete but as a communicator and community voice. He has also taken a full academic load of Honors and AP classes, maintaining consistent Honor and High Honor roll status.

Frangione will continue his studies in Sports Media at Indiana University this fall, bringing both his on-the-field experience and off-the-field storytelling into a field that increasingly values firsthand athletic insight.

While both athletes boast records, rankings, and championship titles, the FCIAC's recognition affirms something broader: the increasing value of young people who lead not just through competition but through character. As school sports programs evolve in response to rising mental health needs and calls for community involvement, Smith and Frangione offer compelling models of what well-rounded excellence looks like.

Their stories illustrate how scholar-athletes from Fairfield County are reframing what it means to lead—and why track and field isn't just about finish lines, but the paths that come after.

Rams Over Darien in Double OT, Advances to Title Game

The top-seeded New Canaan Rams are heading back to the FCIAC boys lacrosse championship game for the first time since 2019 after defeating rival Darien, 7-6, in a double-overtime thriller on Tuesday night at Wilton High School.

The winning goal came from an unlikely source—freshman attackman Grey Wildman, whose game-winner 45 seconds into the second overtime frame sealed the win and sent the Rams into Thursday's final against Ridgefield. His decisive performance on the field made a statement well beyond his years.

The semifinal matchup between New Canaan and Darien—two perennial FCIAC powerhouses—was tightly contested from start to finish. Darien jumped out to an early 3-0 lead, but New Canaan showed the resilience and tactical discipline that have defined its 17-1 season. The Rams clawed back to even the score before halftime and exchanged one-goal leads with the Blue Wave

throughout the second half.

Tied 6-6 at the end of regulation, both teams entered overtime with urgency and composure. It wasn't until the second four-minute extra period that Wildman found space, worked methodically around the perimeter, and fired a low-angle shot past the Darien keeper to end the contest.

The win marked New Canaan's 11th straight victory and came on the heels of a dominant quarterfinal showing against St. Joseph, where the Rams cruised to a 16-4 victory. Tuesday's semifinal, however, was a different test entirely—defined by defensive pressure, elite goalkeeping, and playoff-caliber intensity. Junior goalie Cameron Lyden and sophomore Jack Crowell combined for a string of clutch saves that held Darien scoreless in both overtime periods.

New Canaan's defensive unit remained disciplined in the face of Darien's persistent attempts to control tempo. The Rams' ability to win key ground balls and limit second-

chance opportunities proved essential down the stretch. Faceoff specialist J.T. O'Neil was tested throughout the game but helped give the Rams the edge they needed in possession and momentum.

With the win, New Canaan sets up a rematch with Ridgefield, who defeated defending champion Staples 11-9 in the night's earlier semifinal. The Rams had beaten the Tigers just last week at home, 15-9, in a physical contest that featured surges from both offenses and showcased New Canaan's depth across midfield and attack.

Ridgefield enters Thursday's final with a 15-3 record and momentum of its own, having won a triple-overtime battle over Wilton in the quarterfinals and showing poise in closing out the Wreckers. The Tigers will appear in their first FCIAC championship game since 2017 and are seeking their first title since 2009.

New Canaan, meanwhile, is chasing its

first conference title since 2019 and enters the championship with the most wins in the league this season. The Rams' only loss came in early April, and they've responded with consistency on both ends of the field, including during late-season tests against playoff-caliber opponents.

As the postseason narrative continues, Wildman's emergence adds another layer to an already dynamic New Canaan roster—one led by seniors but strengthened by underclassmen who have stepped into high-pressure moments without hesitation.

The FCIAC final is scheduled for Thursday, May 29, 6:30 PM at Wilton High School, where the Rams and Tigers will meet with a conference championship on the line. With their semifinal victory over longtime rival Darien now in the rearview, New Canaan's focus shifts forward—toward a title that has eluded them for the past five seasons, but now sits just one game away.

Girls Lacrosse FCIAC Repeat Bid Ends

The New Canaan girls' lacrosse team saw its bid for a second straight FCIAC championship come to a dramatic end on Tuesday, falling 9-8 to Wilton in the semifinal round at Brien McMahon High School.

The loss was close, emotional, and loaded with historical symmetry. Wilton is the alma mater of New Canaan head coach Kristin Woods, a former All-FCIAC First Team midfielder who starred for the Warriors in the late 1990s. Nearly three decades later, it was Woods' current team—the defending FCIAC and Class LL state champions—on the losing end of a playoff matchup with her past.

Woods, a fierce competitor during her own playing days,

has transformed the Rams into one of the premier programs in Connecticut. Under her leadership, New Canaan captured last year's FCIAC title by defeating Darien 7-2, then followed it up with a commanding 10-5 victory over the same rival in the state championship game. The Rams entered this year's tournament looking to defend both crowns and had all the pieces to make another deep run.

The 2025 regular season was a test of endurance. New Canaan finished 10-6 overall, securing the No. 3 seed in the FCIAC bracket thanks in part to a dominant 17-6 win at Ridgefield to close the season. While they fell to both Darien and Wilton during divisional play, the Rams found

their rhythm late in the season, riding a four-game winning streak into the playoffs.

Their quarterfinal matchup against No. 6 Greenwich showcased their postseason potential. Sydney Patten, Ashton Pinkernell, and Emma Row each recorded four goals, and Allie Cicia added a goal with five assists in an 18-4 rout. The Rams looked primed to defend their title.

Then came the semifinal rematch with Wilton. It was the kind of matchup that makes the FCIAC tournament one of the most competitive in the state: two top-five ranked teams in the state poll, meeting for the second time in just three weeks. In their regular-season clash, Wilton had edged New Canaan 8-7—

a win that helped the Warriors leapfrog the Rams into the No. 2 state ranking and lock in the No. 2 FCIAC seed.

Tuesday's game played out with similar tension. Tight defense, measured possessions, and playoff-level physicality defined the night. Ultimately, Wilton found one more answer in the closing minutes, sealing the 9-8 victory and advancing to the FCIAC final for the first time since 2016.

For New Canaan, the loss is a gut punch—but not a collapse. The Rams were part of a brutal bracket where the top four FCIAC seeds were also the top four teams in the state, and they proved they could play with any of them.

Boys Volleyball

The 2025 season was a defining chapter for the New Canaan High School boys volleyball program, marked by resilience, consistency, and elite-level performance. Finishing with an outstanding 17-2 overall record, the Rams navigated a grueling regular-season schedule with a perfect conference mark and a commanding 12-game win streak that cemented their place among the state's best.

Signature victories over Darien (3-1) and St. Joseph (3-0) underscored the team's ability to rise in key moments, while a hard-fought 3-1 loss to top-ranked Staples added motivation heading into the playoffs. The Rams rebounded impressively, defeating Ridgefield in straight sets and surviving a five-set battle with Trumbull to punch their ticket to the championship match.

Led by a senior core and supported by a tactically versatile lineup, New Canaan showcased modern volleyball excellence—blending powerful offense, scrappy defense, and adaptive match play. Their postseason poise confirmed their maturity, mental toughness, and program depth.

From their March 22 season opener through late May, the Rams delivered a campaign built on preparation, leadership, and belief. The result: a team that not only won but elevated the standard for what New Canaan volleyball can achieve.

The 2024-25 FCIAC boys' volleyball championship match is scheduled for Thursday, May 29 at Stamford High School, with the first serve at 6:00 p.m. The Rams will take the court as underdogs—but not unknowns.

Weekly Sports Round Up

School	Sport	Date	Opponent	Result	Score For	Score Against
New Canaan Boys	Baseball	5/21	Danbury	Loss	8	9
New Canaan Boys	Lacrosse	5/21	Don Bosco Prep	Win	8	7
New Canaan Boys	Lacrosse	5/24	St. Joseph	Win	16	4
New Canaan Boys	Tennis	5/24	Staples	Loss	2	4
New Canaan Boys	Volleyball	5/21	Staples	Loss	1	3
New Canaan Boys	Volleyball	5/27	Trumbull	Win	3	2
New Canaan Girls	Lacrosse	5/23	Greenwich	Win	18	4
New Canaan Girls	Softball	5/21	Trumbull	Win	11	4
New Canaan Girls	Softball	5/24	Fairfield Warde	Win	4	0



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Keith Richey

Keith Stanton Richey of New Canaan, community leader and beloved husband, father, and friend, died suddenly on May 20, 2025. He was seventy-one years old.

Born on February 10, 1954, in Los Angeles, California, Keith was the son of Jack Claude Richey and Merle Harriet Falkin. He attended Fairfax High School in Los Angeles and University of Southern California, graduating cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1976. Following his graduation, Keith, always allured by Europe, went on a tour through the continent and received news while abroad that he had been admitted to the University of Texas Law School at Austin with a full scholarship. He went on to receive his Juris Doctorate in 1979.

After passing the Bar, Keith began his career at the law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Houston, TX and later became an international tax attorney at Exxon. For two years, Keith lived in Brussels, Belgium, where he met his wife, Marina. They married after just two months of knowing each other, honeymooned together for a year, and settled in East Chester, New York when Keith started work at Mobil.

In 1991, Keith and his family moved to New Canaan, a town that he loved, where he spent the rest of his life. Keith continued his work as international tax counsel for firms including Citibank, Xerox, ITT, and Xylem, continually rising in seniority, and traveling widely to Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. He was actively engaged in his professional community, serving as president of the Stamford Tax Association and vice president of the International Fiscal Association’s Connecticut Region.

A self-described “joiner,” Keith was an active participant and leader of many community organizations and in town government. During his years in New Canaan, he served as president of the New Canaan Exchange Club, the New Canaan Dance Club, and the Poinsettia Club. He wrote and performed for the Grid Iron Club. For more than twenty years, he served as chairman of the Parking Commission. For twenty-five years, Keith and his friend Tim Michno organized the annual Rich-Mich Softball Game, a cherished event for many in New Canaan’s community.

After retiring in 2018, Keith quickly became involved in the New Canaan Men’s club and led the organization as president through the Covid pandemic in 2020-21, creating

virtual club meetings and events. After the pandemic, Keith organized groups and events for playing tennis, biking, going to Yankee games, his Wednesday “Lunch Bunch,” cinema club, book club, and more.

In 2021, Keith stepped down from the Parking Commission and began serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission. He was actively engaged in the project of revitalizing Kiwanis Park at the time of his unexpected death.

Always ready to crack a joke or lend a hand, Keith had a vivacious demeanor, considerable wit, and a palpable love of life. He had an almost frenetic level of energy which he deployed in the service of his community and in the love of his family, his wife, two children, and his cantankerous dogs.

He is survived by his wife Marina, son Alexander, daughter Veronica, his brother Rick, and his nephews Kevin and Brian.

Burial to be held privately. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to New Canaan Land Trust.

The Richey family is being compassionately cared for by the staff at Hoyt Funeral Home, 199 Main Street New Canaan CT 06840.



Tina Kinol

December 7, 1979 – May 16, 2025

The brilliant flame of Tina Marie (Mazzola) Kinol left us too soon on Friday, May 16, 2025. Tina possessed a fire and spirit that may never be matched. She lit up every room with her beauty and vibrant personality. She excelled at anything she set her mind to, but her true gift was her ability to connect with people. She built strong emotional and personal relationships with family, friends, coworkers, and clients. Her knack for making everyone around her feel valued was a rare and precious gift. Perhaps it is fitting that she passed due to an enlarged heart.

Tina was a graduate of New Canaan High School, where she became captain of the cheerleading squad as a sophomore. After graduation, she joined the family business, where her ability to connect with people, combined with her tenacity and fearless personality, helped grow the company to a peak of 220 employees.

In 2016, Tina welcomed her son, Austin Daniel Kinol, into the world and left the business world behind to focus on motherhood. She showed the same fire and tenacity when she stayed by Austin’s side 24/7 for his first 10 days in the NICU, compelling nurses to allow her to nurture him herself. Seventeen months later, Tina welcomed her daughter and best friend, Riley Parker Kinol, and largely withdrew from public life to focus on raising her family. Tina was an exceptionally devoted mother, deeply attuned to her children’s physical and emotional needs. Last year, she

displayed the same grit and passion when Austin required open-heart surgery, remaining by his side 24/7 from diagnosis through his full recovery.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Tina was falsely accused of childcare-related claims, which were later proven to be a hoax. The Department of Children and Families withdrew all claims following their investigation, and the district attorney’s office dismissed the case after Tina agreed not to pursue legal action for their mishandling of the situation. This ordeal led Tina and her family to further withdraw from public life over the past five years.

In addition to her two young children, Tina is survived by her husband, Paxton B. Kinol, and her stepdaughter, Mackenzie L. Kinol. She is also survived by a large family anchored in New Canaan, Connecticut, including her grandmother Antoinette Lanni, her father Guido Mazzola, her mother Marie Mazzola, and her brother Guy Mazzola. Tina leaves behind dozens of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews, she was especially close to Connie and Gino Lanni, Elena (Lanni) Donohue, and Maria (Lanni) Burton. Tina will be laid to rest near her aunt Linda Buzzeeo and her great-grandmother Assunta Buzzeeo in Lakeview Cemetery.

Public church services were held on Friday, May 23 at St. Aloysius Church, New Canaan, CT. Burial services were private.

The Kinol family is being compassionately cared for by the staff at Hoyt Funeral Home, 199 Main Street New Canaan CT 06840.

Mary Kopal

Mary Jane Kopal (nee Schmidt), 86, a longtime resident of New Canaan, CT, died on May 7, after a long illness. She was a loving wife, caring mother and grandmother, avid traveler and cook, and lover of games of all kinds.

Originally from Ocean Springs, Mississippi, Jane moved to New York City in 1960 to become a flight attendant for Pan Am. It was a post she loved and was compelled to give up once she met and married her devoted husband of 63 years, Don, who survives her.

Jane and Don first settled in New Jersey and then in New Canaan and spent many happy years sailing, traveling and perfecting recipes. In addition to her husband, Jane leaves behind daughters, Helene (Hans) and Lauren, son, William (Laura), and beloved grandchildren Erin (Jeff), Emily, Colin and Evan. She is also survived by her brother, Frank, as well as many cousins, nephews, nieces and friends.

She is interred at Lakeview Cemetery, New Canaan.

Jane Steen

Jane Steen, born Alice Jane Queenan, resident of Stamford, CT and formerly of New Canaan, CT, passed away peacefully, after a long illness, on April 18, 2025, with her loving family by her side. Born on September 16, 1931, to the late John William and Alice Queenan of Greenwich, CT, Jane grew up in Wilmette, IL and Greenwich, CT. She graduated from Mount Holyoke in 1953 and received her M.S. in Family Therapy from the University of Bridgeport in 1977.

Mrs. Steen raised two children, Stephen Coenen and Alison Coenen Abrams, with her former husband, Dale Coenen, in New Canaan, CT. Jane founded the Family Recovery Center in Wilton, CT, in 1988 and served families and individuals as a psychotherapist. In 2001, she married Tom Steen, her classmate from Greenwich High School. They enjoyed 23 years of marriage, traveling and spending time with their children and grandchildren.

Jane was predeceased by her husband, Thomas A. Steen, her son, Stephen T. Coenen, her first husband, Dale Coenen, and her second husband, Robert Gallagher. She is survived by her daughter, Alison Coenen Abrams and her husband Dale Abrams, stepchildren, Jessica Pfalzgraf (Michael Pfalzgraf), Clint Steen, Maria Stadler, and her grandchildren, Quinn Abrams, Eliza Abrams and Melissa Merva.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Jane’s memory to the Alzheimer Foundation of America, www.alzfdn.org

COLUMN

By The Rev. John Kennedy

At St. Mark’s here in town, the Gospel reading we chose (there were two options) for the Sixth Sunday of Easter was John 5:1–9, the story of the cure of a sick man at the Pool of Bethesda. The passage sits awkwardly alongside the other Gospel texts of the Easter season, with their classic themes of resurrection, eternal life, Jesus the Good Shepherd, the mystical union of Jesus, the Father, and the Church, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Instead, this text gives us something very different: a story of Jesus healing a man who doesn’t seem to want healing, and who, as far as we know, receives the grace of God in vain. It’s almost as if this Gospel gives us a little bit of Lent in the midst of Easter—just as Laetare Sunday (the fourth Sunday in Lent) offers us a bit of Easter in Lent.

Perhaps the message is something like this: God’s goodness and mercy may pursue us all the days of our life (as Psalm 23 says), but we must want it if we are to receive it in its fullness. If

the Easter season is about the new life we’re offered in Christ, then this passage reminds us—warns us—that we can miss it, turn away from it, reject it... even when it’s right in front of us.

Speaking of missing things: this Gospel has a missing verse.

Verse 4 is omitted from most contemporary translations because it’s not found in the best manuscripts of John’s Gospel. Its wording in Greek is also unlike the rest of John, leading scholars to conclude that it was probably added later.

That may be. But the missing verse helps explain the story. It reads: “They were waiting for the stirring of the water, for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and stirred up the water; whoever stepped in first after the stirring of the water was made well from whatever disease they had.”

Without that verse, it’s unclear why people are lying around the pool in the first place. Were they just resting? Receiving some kind of spa therapy? No. They were waiting—watching for the moment

Shaken and Stirred

“God’s goodness and mercy may pursue us, but we must want it if we are to receive it in its fullness.”

the water was stirred, whether by underground geological activity or divine intervention. And they believed that the first person into the pool would be healed.

Jesus enters this scene and singles out one particular man. We’re told he has been ill for thirty-eight years. He has likely spent much of that time at the pool. Jesus asks him a deceptively simple question: “Do you want to be made well?”In Greek, this word for “want” implies volition, intention. Jesus isn’t just asking whether he’d prefer to be made well. He’s asking whether he truly wills it.

It’s a question full of possibility—an invitation to self-reflection. Had the man paused to consider it honestly, he might have uncovered something important about himself. But he doesn’t reflect. He doesn’t even answer. He deflects, offering an excuse for why he’s been unable to get into

the water first.

Why the evasion? Why the passivity?

Now, I want to be clear: many of us, when faced with illness—whether physical or psychological—want nothing more than healing. We long for it in the way Jesus seems to ask of the man by the pool: sincerely, deeply, with all our being. Whether it’s for ourselves or someone we love, we seek healing however we can. We pray, we research, we undergo treatments, we do whatever it takes.

And I also know that some of us, when healing does not appear to be in the cards—at least not physical healing—come to accept our condition with extraordinary grace and courage. I have witnessed that nobility many times.

But it seems there are also cases where a person seems to cling to a chronic condition.

Sometimes the illness, physical or psychological, becomes so entwined with our identity that we are no longer sure who we are without it. This is often unconscious, but it is real. So perhaps it’s not so strange, after all, that the man in today’s Gospel doesn’t leap at the offer of healing.

Whatever is going on with him, Jesus heals him. But what’s striking is that the man expresses no gratitude, no joy, no acknowledgment. This is a dramatic contrast to almost every other healing story in the Gospels. Jesus heals him physically—but spiritually, he remains misaligned. He receives a miracle, yet misses the meaning.

And how easy it is for us to do the same.

We proclaim that Christ is risen. But do we perceive it? Do we receive it? Or do we carry on as though nothing truly happened?

The question Jesus asked that

man at the pool is still addressed to us: “Do you want to be made well?” Or, in the King James Version: “Wilt thou be made whole?”

This Collect (opening prayer) for the Sixth Sunday of Easter spoke of the “good things” prepared for those who love God—things that surpass our understanding. C.S. Lewis once described God’s love as “a burden of glory, not only beyond [what we deserve] but also, except in rare moments of grace, beyond our desiring.”

So even after the Easter flowers have faded and the alleluias have quieted, the Risen Christ still comes to us—sometimes gently, sometimes disruptively—asking: Do you want to be made whole? May he come to each of us, shake us out of our complacency, and stir in us the desire for the life only he can give. Yes—may Jesus leave us shaken... and stirred.

The Rev. John Kennedy serves as Associate Rector at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in New Canaan.

Worship Directory and Services

UPDATE SERVICES AND ADD SPECIAL EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR AT

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
christiansciencect.org/newcanaan

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

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

First Presbyterian Church

178 Oenoke Ridge Road 203.966.0002
fpcnc.org

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

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

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

www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/worship-calendar-updates

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 30 at 7 PM: Choir Cabaret Benefit. Join in Morrill Hall for some of the most enduring and familiar works of the 20th century master of his genre, George Gershwin.

St. Michael’s Lutheran Church

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

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

Recurring Events:

Thursday 12 PM: Alcoholics Anonymous

Trinity Church

New Canaan | Darien

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

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

United Methodist Church

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

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

Community Baptist Church

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

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZ2UNa8aHI3O_Syp_X0KDG

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

Sunday School at 10:00am

Worship Service at 11:00am

Live Facebook Broadcast 11:30 am

Upcoming Events:

May 31 from 3-5 PM: Join an afternoon of line dancing. Tickets are \$10 and available on the CBC website.

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.

Talmadge Hill Community Church

870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road; Darien, CT
203.966.2314
talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com
www.talmadgehill.org

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

Recurring Events:

Thursdays at 9:30am: Bible Study

First Saturday at 8am: Men’s Group

Second Saturday at 10am: Women’s Circle

Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center

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

The Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center is dedicated to strengthening and building the New Canaan Jewish Community by offering local Jewish resources that bring more positivity, Jewish education, charitable activity, good deeds and blessing to our lovely town.

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

Upcoming Events:

June 2 at 5 PM: Join a Shavuot Party. There will be children’s activities, a reading of the ten commandments, and more.

RSVP at
https://shorturl.at/0Lqzj.

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=bFJQem9HWFcXU0EzZUM-2VENEZmgYUT09nsuccess

YOUR NEWS BRIEF
CONTINUED From Page 1

she gave a presentation and signed copies of her new book, *Life with Flowers: Inspiration and Lessons from the Garden*. She also discussed her work as a ceramicist, photographer, and gardener. Photo credit: the New Canaan Garden Club

NC Softball Weekend Tournaments



New Canaan Softball's 12U, 10U, and 9U teams competed in tournaments over the weekend. The 12U team reached the semifinals, while the 9U team advanced to the finals. Photo credit: New Canaan Softball.

SCHOOLS

NCHS Earns 13 Halo Nominations



New Canaan High School earned 13 nominations for the 2025 Halo Awards for its productions of *Les Misérables* and *Jack the Ripper: Monster of Whitechapel*. The nominations cover acting, design, and overall production categories. Winners are being announced this week at the ongoing ceremony in Waterbury, running through May 30. Photo credit: New Canaan High School.

SLS Earns 10 Halo Nominations



St. Luke's School earned 10 Halo Award nominations in categories including performance, lighting, scenic design, and stage management. The awards recognize high school theater work across various disciplines. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

West School Visits Library



Recently, West School students visited the New Canaan Library for a scavenger hunt and MakerLab tour. During the visit, they were introduced to a variety of tools and resources. Photo credit: the New Canaan Library.

OUR NEIGHBORS

Norwalk Hospital Project

Norwalk Hospital's delayed \$220 million expansion is moving ahead under new ownership by Northwell Health, which plans to invest \$1 billion across several regional hospitals. The project will replace outdated facilities with a new patient tower and upgraded care spaces to support modern medical needs. While construction is moving forward, the timeline remains uncertain.

Lockwood-Mathews Museum Upgrades

The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum in Norwalk will reopen June 4 after an \$18 million renovation that modernized infrastructure and restored historic features. Upgrades include HVAC, fire suppression, ADA access, and lighting. The improvements enable year-round public access and expanded use of the building.

SLS Alumni Artistic Achievement Award



Recently, St. Luke's School awarded Emily Bergmann '12 the 2025 Alumni Artistic Achievement Award. As part of the event, she performed and spoke about how her time at the school influenced her career as a mezzo-soprano. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

Weisberger Spoke at SLS



St. Luke's School recently hosted a Family & Friends Breakfast, featuring a conversation between author Lauren Weisberger and Head of School Dr. Mary Halpin Carter. Weisberger spoke about her writing career and professional experiences. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

NCCS Create Chalk Murals

During New Canaan Country Schools Memorial Day assembly, students paired across grade levels to draw chalk murals on the Grace House driveway. The Art Department coordinated the activity, while the ninth-grade Rock Band provided live music.

SPORTS

Division III Football Signing Day



Recently, two New Canaan High School football players, Simon and Tucker, signed to Bowdoin and UChicago with Division III college programs. Photo credit: New Canaan Football.

NCHS Girls Golf



New Canaan's Lauren Livesay (left) won the FCIAC girls golf title in a playoff with Greenwich's Ellery Talbot (center). Trumbull's Erica Laurentino was third. New Canaan's Lauren Livesay won the FCIAC girls golf individual title yesterday on the first playoff hole with Greenwich's Ellery Talbot. Both shot 79s on the par-70 course at the Country Club of New Canaan. Trumbull's Erica Laurentino, who shot an 82, was third.

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

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NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
101 Heritage Hill Road #101	\$649,000	1,620	\$400.62		2	1
63 Fitch Lane	\$2,595,000	6,225	\$416.87	2.00	5	4
49 Dogwood Lane	\$2,895,000	4,937	\$586.39	1.41	4	3

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
63 Fitch Lane	\$2,595,000	SAT	1:00-4:00PM	William Pitt Sothebys
90 Beech Road	\$1,875,000	SAT & SUN	1:00-3:00PM	William Raveis
148 W Hills Road	\$3,195,000	SAT & SUN	2:00-4:00PM	William Raveis
24 Oak Grove Place	\$1,599,000	SUN	12:00-2:00PM	William Raveis
49 Dogwood Lane	\$2,895,000	SUN	1:00-3:00PM	Houlihan Lawrence
565 Oenoke Ridge	\$4,500,000	SUN	2:30-4:30PM	William Raveis
26 Pequot Lane	\$5,585,000	SUN	1:00-3:00PM	Coldwell Banker

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
11 Strawberry Hill Road	\$780,000	\$780,000	\$750,000	146	3	1	0.17
60 Lakeview Avenue #1	\$835,000	\$835,000	\$855,000	8	3	2	
58 Greenley Road	\$6,895,000	\$6,895,000	\$6,750,000	159	6	8	4.00



BY JOHN
ENGEL

The phrase “a game of inches” has its roots in sports, particularly football, and has evolved into a metaphor for high-stakes situations where small differences determine success or failure, whether in sports, real estate, leadership, or life.

The phrase was immortalized by Al Pacino’s electrifying locker room monologue in *Any Given Sunday*: “You find out that life is just a game of inches... Because in either game — life or football — the margin for error is so small. I mean, one half step too late or too early, and you don’t quite make it... The inches we need are everywhere around us. They’re in every break in the game, every minute, every second. On this team, we fight for that inch.”

Knicks fans know a game of inches. Tyrese Haliburton tied Game 1 at 125 with a jumper at the buzzer, though his foot was on the line, making it a two-pointer and sending the game to overtime.

While not a sport, real estate is most certainly a game of inches. Precision in pricing, presentation, and positioning can create or destroy millions in value.

Pricing inches: While a home priced \$25,000 too high might sit on the market for months, that same home priced right might generate multiple offers and exceed asking. That margin, a few percentage points, is often the difference between success and failure.

Staging and presentation inches: I’ve said it before and say it again: A poorly lit room, an untrimmed hedge, dirty windows, or the wrong paint color can shift perception from dream home to project. Buyers are emotional. First impressions hinge on tiny details that create or kill desire.

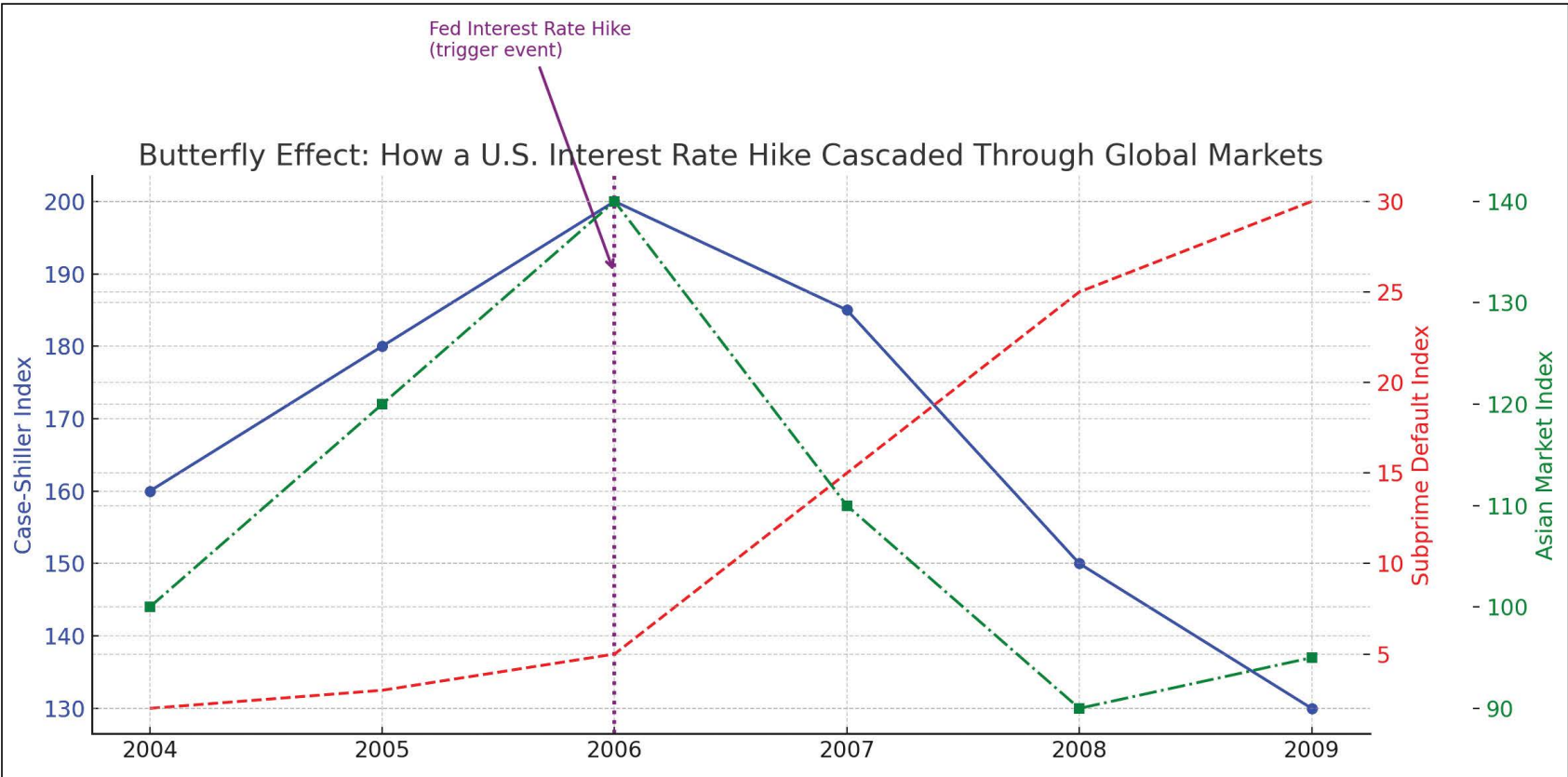
Negotiation inches: Deals hinge on small concessions: a closing date, service contract, a minor repair, or what’s included. I am working on a multi-million-dollar deal now in which the wheelbarrow has been specifically named in the contract as one of the things that stays. These inches move the deal forward or blow it up.

Timing inches: Listing a week earlier might avoid competition, while accepting an offer a day too late is a day too late. Never cut and dry, these are subjective inches of judgment gained from experience doing many deals over a career.

Legal inches: Failure to close out permits, identify a legal pool site or easement, or meet a deadline have scuttled deals. The contract is full of them. These are the literal inches, objective, and demand attention to detail.

In the early ’90s, I completed a large assignment for a client, but I was late and he wouldn’t pay me, saying, “It’s binary.” I didn’t understand. He meant close doesn’t count; you succeeded or didn’t. It was an expensive lesson I haven’t forgotten.

The second phenomenon, much less obvious, is the butterfly effect. This is the idea that tiny causes lead to large, unpredictable outcomes. (Like if you didn’t go to that party, you wouldn’t have met your wife.) While a game of inches is usually linear and cumulative, the butterfly effect is usually non-linear and exponential, where a small change leads to a massive shift. While real estate as a



The Butterfly Effect in real estate using real-world dynamics from the 2007-2009 financial crisis highlights how a minor interest rate change led to resulting mortgage defaults in the U.S. that cascaded into a global economic downturn — a classic butterfly effect.

While not a sport, real estate is most certainly a game of inches. Precision in pricing, presentation, and positioning can create or destroy millions in value.

game of inches is about precision, control, and detail, real estate can also be a journey of unpredictability and sensitivity to initial conditions. Small things matter, but for very different reasons.

Where does this idea come from? Meteorologist and mathematician Edward Lorenz first asked, “Does the flap of a butterfly’s wings in Brazil set off a tornado in Texas?” in the early 1960s. He discovered that changing one tiny input value led to wildly different weather forecasts. Small causes can have massive, unpredictable effects in complex systems. But it was in Ray Bradbury’s 1952 short story “A Sound of Thunder” where a time traveler’s inadvertent killing of a butterfly in the past drastically alters the future, emphasizing the weight of seemingly minor actions. Ben Franklin anticipated the butterfly effect when he wrote in 1758 a variation of the 13th-century proverb, “For want of a nail.”

Are there modern-day examples of this principle, particularly in our real estate market?

The “IKEA Effect” is a variant of the theme describing what happens when a new building changes traffic patterns and spikes property values in the surrounding area. GE’s departure from Fairfield devastated Connecticut, while a potential Amazon move to Long Island City briefly buoyed the entire tri-state area.

In New Canaan, the decision by the Waze algorithm to re-route Merritt Parkway traffic through residential neighborhoods affects real estate values, not to mention has a profound effect on local families. To reverse the trend, we modify the inputs to the algorithm, adding a “no right turn” sign, slowing the neighborhood traffic and disincentivizing the detour.

The tree that blocked the view is

another example. If a landscaper doesn’t trim the hedge before photos are taken, then the view is blocked, the buyer passes, the house sits, the next buyer offers \$100,000 less, and that changes the comp set for the neighborhood. “There goes the neighborhood,” a phrase that dates to the ’40s, is now an idiom to mark any disruptive change, real or perceived, that can trace its roots to a particular event — maybe even that untrimmed hedge.

Covid Zoom towns are an example of unanticipated knock-on effects. In 2019, nobody thought remote work would shift demand, but the virus led to zoom policies, and that led to suburban and rural booms while crashing some urban cores. Despite corporate back-to-work mandates, we may never get that genie back in the bottle.

Focusing in, we see that every small decision — staging a room, choosing a buyer, fighting over the washer and dryer, delaying a listing — has the potential to trigger outsized consequences. Zooming out, we know that policy changes (we are about to rewrite New Canaan Zoning Regulations) and 8-30g legislation, pandemics, and buyer psychology (which can be altered by a single headline) can ripple across the region in massive ways that nobody could have predicted.

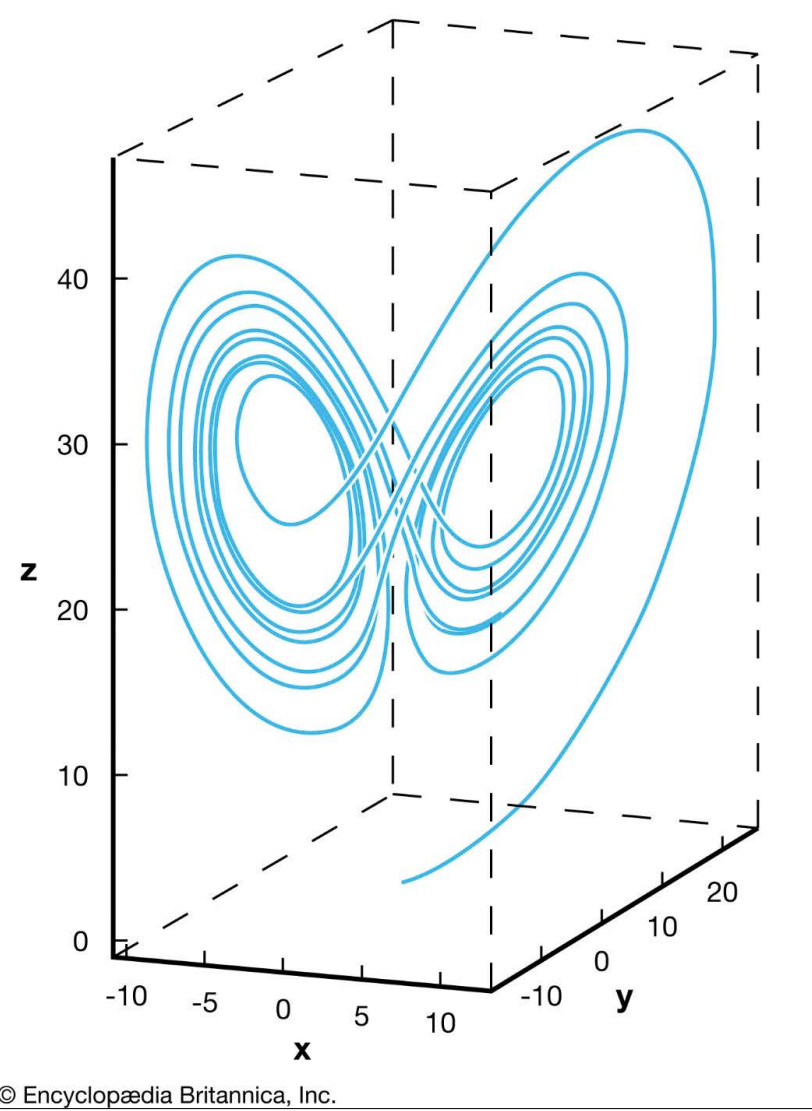
Notes from the Monday meeting

A multi-million-dollar sale is falling apart over the exclusion of four rugs. Another sale fell apart over the exclusion of the furniture last week, but a new buyer stepped up and scooped it up, unfurnished. We have a third example where the buyer wants the furniture and the seller has provided a spreadsheet with prices and sources. While Covid’s challenging supply chains provided an exception during which furniture had a moment, the sale of furniture is a complication most agents avoid for good reason.

make sense when they are furnished in a similar style. Frank Lloyd Wright believed “form and function are one” and created custom pieces for his houses, as did Marcel Breuer and Allan Gelbin. In contrast, New Canaan’s legendary furniture designer Jens Risom believed “Good design means anything good will go well with other equally good things.” Mix and match away, but keep in mind that Le Corbusier famously said, “Chairs are architecture, sofas are bourgeois.”

John Engel is a broker with The Engel Team at Douglas Elliman, and he understands why furniture matters. Each piece tells a story. And some houses only

Lorenz attractor graph



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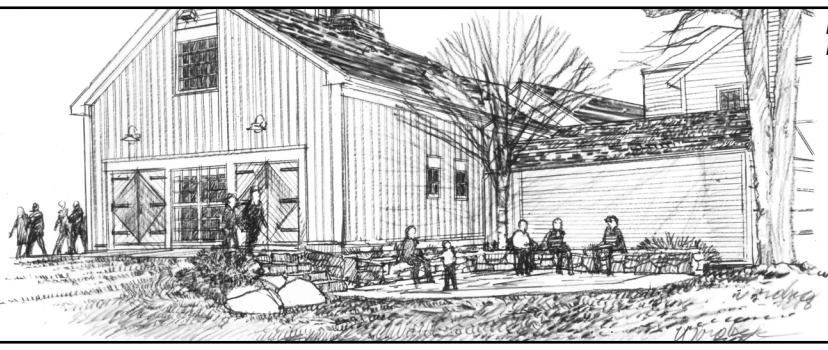
The Lorenz attractor shows how small changes in a complex system — like real estate — can trigger unpredictable, far-reaching outcomes. Just as this pattern never repeats yet isn’t random, a minor Fed hike or local zoning tweak can ripple through prices, behavior, and global markets.

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



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A Grateful Town Remembers: Memorial Day in New Canaan as we Document the Beauty, Dignity, and Unity of this remarkable Community



VFW Chaplain and Parade Grand Marshal Brian Vanderheyden in front as VFW members and uniformed service members follow



World War II combat veteran Frank Gallo, with VFW Chaplain and Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshal Brian Vanderheyden and Selectman Steve Karl preparing to start the Parade. Frank Gallo was eighteen years old when he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and was then among the first troops to cross the Rhine River at the Battle for Remagen Bridge.



State Rep. Tom O'Dea, representing New Canaan, Darien and Stamford, at the Memorial Day Parade as Girl Scouts pass by.



New Canaan Exchange Club members prepare to march in the Memorial Day Parade, where they distribute flags to onlookers.

PERFECT DAY FOR A PARADE CONTINUED From Page 1

The parade ended at Lakeview Cemetery, where various speeches were delivered and prayers offered.

First Selectman Dionna Carlson noted in her opening remarks that “today we come together to honor and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation -- brave individuals who gave their lives to protect the freedoms we hold dear, both at home and around the world,” and that “residents of New Canaan have served and sacrificed in nearly every conflict our nation has faced.” She concluded by saying “while this day is an opportunity to gather with family and friends, it is above all a time of reverent remembrance for those who laid down their lives in defense of our country.”

Msgr. Robert Kinnally of St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church in his prayer exhorted God to “give us hearts of gratitude for all that we have received. Because of the selfless gift of these heroes, inspire us to raise them to the dignity of the bravest of the brave.”

VFW Post Commander Mike McGlinn thanked all the people and groups who helped place 1300 flags on the graves of veterans buried in Lakeview Cemetery on Saturday, concluding with saying “the VFW believes nothing should stand in the way of remembering and paying honor to all veterans who have died in the service to our country. Their ultimate sacrifice must never be forgotten. We pledge to remember them every day, but especially on Memorial Day.”

All then joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Town Band played the National Anthem.

VFW Chaplain Brian Vanderheyden, in his prayer, continued Commander McGlinn’s theme, saying “we remember and give thanks to both men and women of the United States military who have guarded this country with their lives. We especially honor those who lost their lives while defending this nation. Sacrifice is meaningless without remembrance.”

The guest speaker was Major Charles Paksi, who works in the investments business and is a professor of military science at Yale University for ROTC cadets. A US Marine, he earned his airborne wings in 1992 and deployed to Somalia for Operation Restore Hope, transitioning to the Marine Corps Reserves and later to the New York Air National Guard. Following the September 11th attacks, he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, conducting missions across the Middle East and Central Asia. He was commissioned in 2008 as an officer in the Connecticut Army National Guard, and was deployed again in 2010 in eastern Afghanistan, leading combat patrols. He is a Bronze Star recipient and lives in north Stamford with his wife Alexis and their four children.

“What is Memorial Day?” he asked the hundreds assembled. “Memorial Day is a holiday honoring those who have died while serving our country’s armed services. Very simple, very straightforward. They raised their hand. They took the oath. They’re going to defend your country -- our country -- and they died while doing it.” He cited the names of those from New Canaan who died in combat, as well as Gold Star families in the audience.

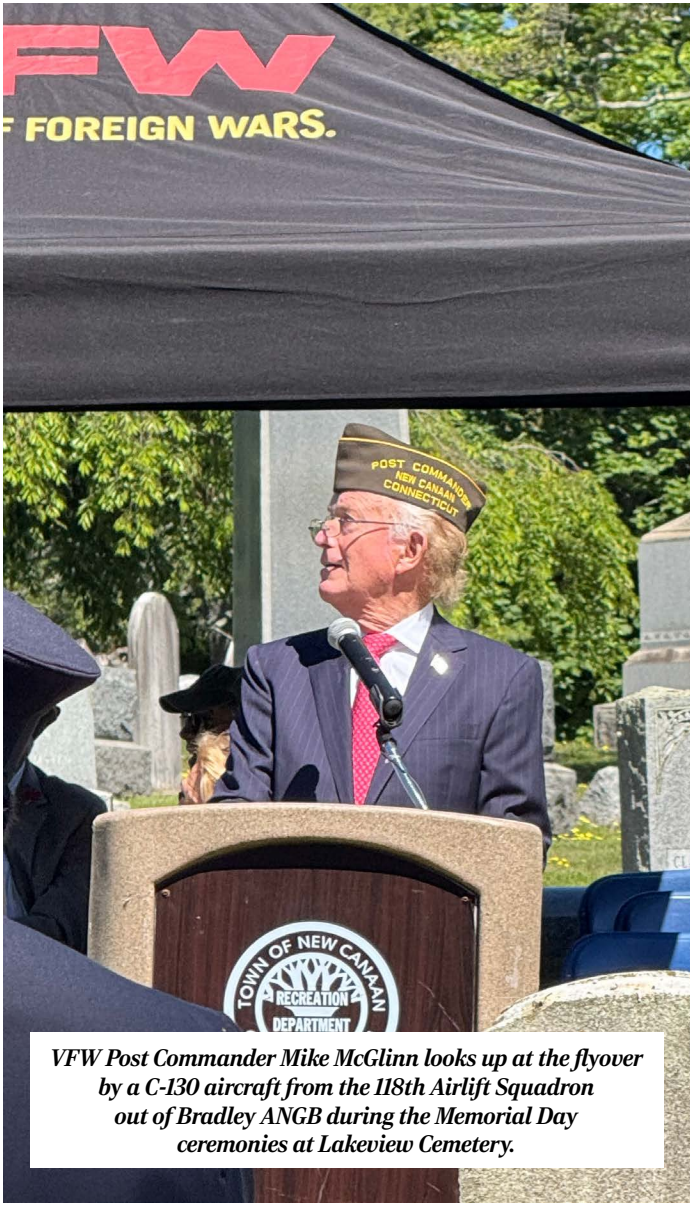
In particular, he spoke movingly of a friend and fellow Marine, Domingo Real, who died in combat in Somalia in 1993 at age 21. His friend took the toughest assignment, was wounded, but fought on, laying down cover fire for his comrades. “Thanks to Domingo’s actions,” his fellow Marines were able to locate enemy positions and neutralize them. “Domingo did his job because he loved the Marines he fought with” and that we need to “keep these warriors’ names alive.”

There then was a gun salute from the Sea Cadets, and Taps was sounded. The Town Band played the hymn ‘Abide With Me’.

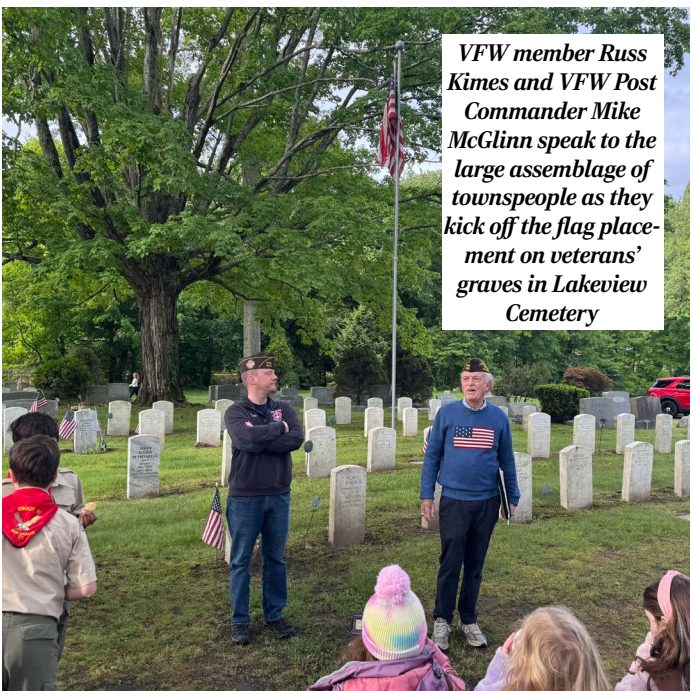
After another prayer from Msgr. Kinnally, VFW Post Commander McGlinn cited the hundreds of thousands of men and women who have died defending freedom in our nation’s wars, solemnly concluding that “We can never forget any American service man or woman that was lost defending freedom around the world.”

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

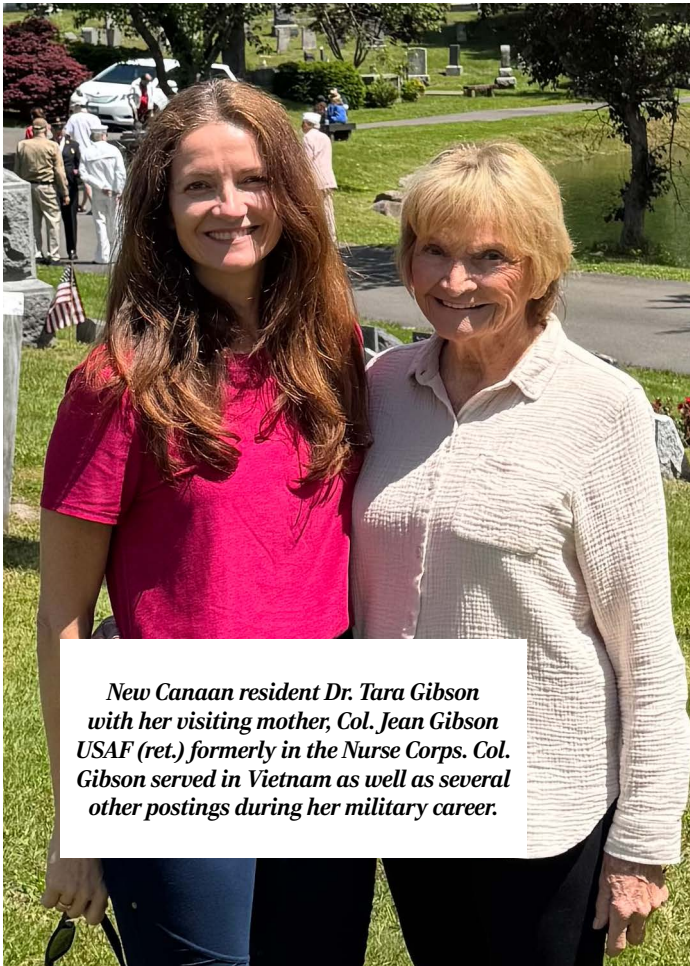




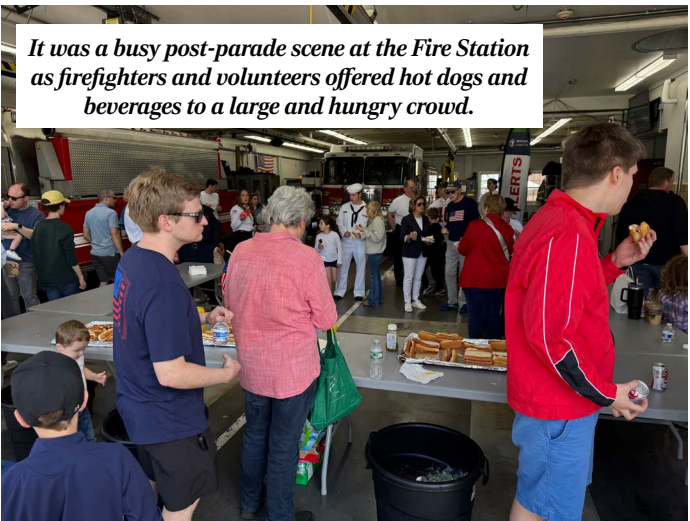
VFW Post Commander Mike McGlinn looks up at the flyover by a C-130 aircraft from the 118th Airlift Squadron out of Bradley ANGB during the Memorial Day ceremonies at Lakeview Cemetery.



VFW member Russ Kimes and VFW Post Commander Mike McGlinn speak to the large assemblage of townspeople as they kick off the flag placement on veterans' graves in Lakeview Cemetery



New Canaan resident Dr. Tara Gibson with her visiting mother, Col. Jean Gibson USAF (ret.) formerly in the Nurse Corps. Col. Gibson served in Vietnam as well as several other postings during her military career.



It was a busy post-parade scene at the Fire Station as firefighters and volunteers offered hot dogs and beverages to a large and hungry crowd.



State Senator Ryan Fazio chats with a constituent at the parade.



It was 'all hands on deck' on Memorial Day at Harmony Masonic Lodge as they again hosted their popular community pancake breakfast. Among the people helping were L-R Steve Prostor, a young volunteer, Lodge Senior Warden Ted Thomas, Lodge Junior Warden Madi Abadi and Rebecca Shubert. Many of the generous volunteers were students at the New England Academy of Dance, which also uses Harmony Lodge's facilities on Main Street. <http://www.newcanaanfreemasons.com> <http://www.neadance.com>



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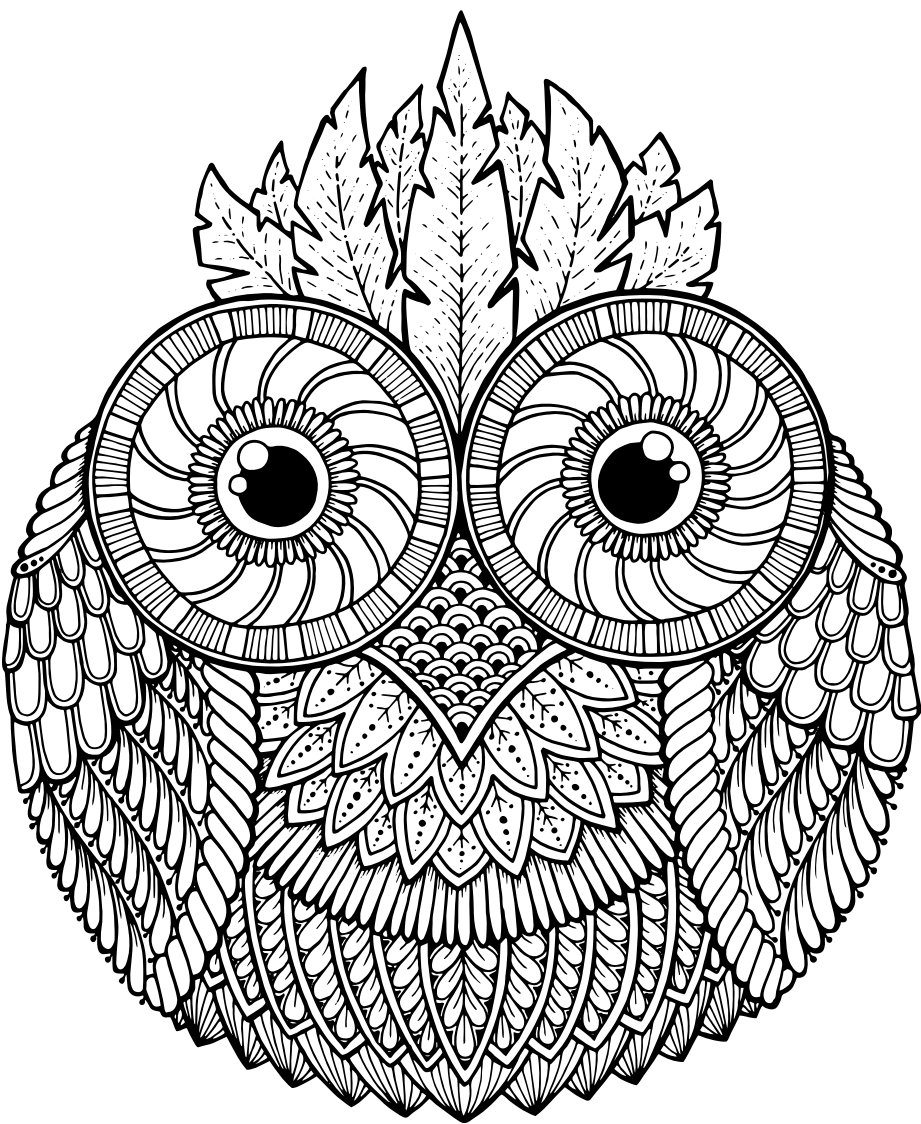
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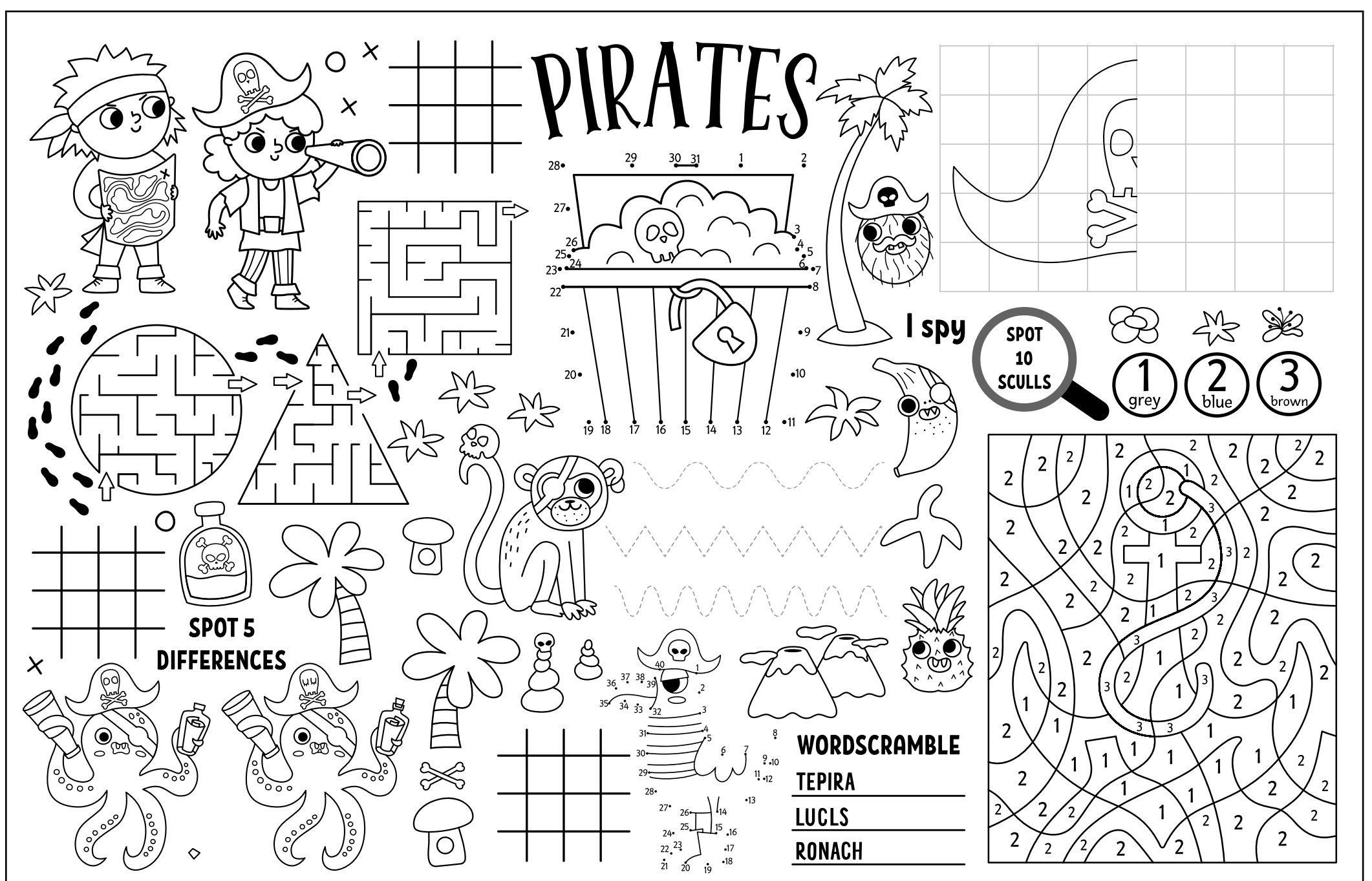
Your Island Escape Awaits.

BERMUDA  AIR

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



Regardless of age, the act of coloring a mandala provides a rare intersection of structure and freedom.



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

TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 3

Board of Selectmen

8:30-10 a.m., Town Hall Meeting Room & via Zoom

Wednesday, June 4

Audit Committee

8:30-9:30 a.m., Location not posted at time of publication.

Thursday, June 5

Health & Human Services Commission

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

May 29

Publisher’s Book Buzz Wine & Cheese Reception
6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Anderson Terrace
Join for an evening of wine & cheese, prizes and exciting book talk from the representatives of the big 5 - Simon & Schuster, Penguin Random House, McMillan, Hachette and Norton and more. A great night of fun for book groups, book lovers, family & friends. Get your TBR pile ready for more juicy summer (and some fall) reads. RSVP at <https://shorturl.at/oEVv2>.

May 30

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.

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/>.

Being Seen: What Our Kids Need Most from Us Today
12 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Join Dr. Selena Bartlett, world-renowned neuroscientist and bestselling author of Being Seen: Master Parenting in the Digital Age, for a powerful community conversation on how brain science can reshape the way we parent. Register at <https://shorturl.at/zrh0G>.

Downtown Celebration of Creativity
4-6 PM in Downtown New Canaan
The Carriage Barn and New Canaan Chamber of Commerce, along with other community organizations and business partners, are hosting a downtown celebration of creativity. Art-inspired window displays, wine tastings, artist receptions and refreshments in stores.

NCHS Theatre Presents: The Wedding Singer
7 PM at New Canaan High School
The Wedding Singer takes us back to a time when hair was big, greed was good, collars were up and a wedding singer might just be the coolest guy in the room. This hilarious musical comedy is filled with dancing and a ton of heart! Tickets are available at <http://www.newcanaanhighschooltheatre.com>.

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 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.

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

Open Morning for Writers
10:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
Bring your pens and your notebooks, or computers (with power cords) to write for one and a half hours without distractions. New and emerging writers are welcome; prompts will be on hand in the room for anyone needing inspiration on a new project. Register at <https://shorturl.at/jCSsX>.

NCHS Theatre Presents: The Wedding Singer
2 & 7 PM at New Canaan High School
The Wedding Singer takes us back to a time when hair was big, greed was good, collars were up and a wedding singer might just be the coolest guy in the room. This hilarious musical comedy is filled with dancing and a ton of heart! Tickets are available at <http://www.newcanaanhighschooltheatre.com>.

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/llnG4>.

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/BC4lC>.

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. This is a free event.

Chef’s Palate | The Science of Flavor: Bread & Honey
3 PM at Grace Farms
Taste notable bread and honey pairings with Pastry Chef and Educator Leah Jones, who discusses the subtle differences in flavor profiles based on how flowers and grain plants are pollinated. Tickets are \$20/ members, \$25/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/RzJUN>.

June 2

Chair Yoga
11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
With the support of a chair, this gentle Chair Yoga class will help you improve postural alignment, maintain pelvic mobility, reduce muscle tension and gain strength through flowing movements and focused breathing. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-chair-yoga-117465>.

June 3

NCCF 2025 Grant Awards Coffee
10 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Join the New Canaan Community Foundation for their 2025 Grant Awards Coffee. Please RSVP by May 28 at <https://shorturl.at/xCQNl>.

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.

June 4

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for New NCPD Building
10 AM at 174 South Avenue
Join the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly renovated New Canaan Police Department.

Billiards for Everyone with Mike Bacon
2-4 PM at the Lapham Center
If you’re looking to have some fun, learn to play pool, or just play a game, join Mike.

Sewn Stuffed Animals: An Adaptive MakerLab Workshop
6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Anderson MakerLab
In this adaptive sewing class led by Carrie Werning, participants will create their own unique stuffed animal or monster out of felt. Skills used will include cutting, simple hand sewing, and stuffing. Register at <https://shorturl.at/G6xGT>.

College Safety and Tips: Know Before You Go
7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
This presentation is geared toward students preparing to graduate and is designed to help them navigate life on a college campus. This conversation will cover the prevalence of sexual violence in college settings, how to find support resources when researching schools, and how to report incidents if they occur. Register at <https://shorturl.at/7aznS>.

The Attwood Lecture: Ari Fleischer and the Daily Briefing
7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
The 2025 Attwood Lecture speaker, Fleischer will discuss the famed daily briefing and the state of our politics today. As former White House press secretary, Ari Fleischer was the primary spokesperson for President George W. Bush and delivered the daily White House briefings from 2001 to 2003. He served as spokesman during the historic presidential recount, September 11th, two wars, and the anthrax attack. Register at <https://shorturl.at/uooEH>.

SAVE THE DATE

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 6

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.

Opening Night: The Shawshank Redemption
7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
Based on the novella by Stephen King, The Shawshank Redemption brings the story of resilience made famous by the acclaimed film to the stage. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

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.

Yoga and Movement with Pilin Anice
10:30 AM at Grace Farms
Step outside for a breath-centered yoga practice in the fresh air led by renowned mindfulness and wellness expert, Pilin Anice. Participants may bring their own mats, towels, props, and water. Tickets are \$20/members, \$25/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/ZEI9E>.

The Shawshank Redemption
7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
Based on the novella by Stephen King, The Shawshank Redemption brings the story of resilience made famous by the acclaimed film to the stage. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

June 8

Draw Until You Drop
10 AM at the Silvermine Arts Center
Join for a day of non-stop drawing, open to the public. This is an opportunity for continuous, intensive figure drawing with a model(s) in sustained poses and still life set-ups. This is open to adults 16+ and will take place in the school building as well as various locations outside on campus. All skill levels are welcome. Register at <https://shorturl.at/stmLF>.

The Shawshank Redemption
2 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
Based on the novella by Stephen King, The Shawshank Redemption brings the story of resilience made famous by the acclaimed film to the stage. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

Pops in the Park

6-8 PM at the Waveny Great Lawn
Join the 4th annual Pops in the Park concert featuring the Norwalk Symphony Orchestra. This year, the theme is “Rule Britannia!”, with an emphasis on music linked to the British Isles. Join with your blankets and picnic baskets for a summer evening of lively Broadway music.

June 9

Chair Yoga
11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
With the support of a chair, this gentle Chair Yoga class will help you improve postural alignment, maintain pelvic mobility, reduce muscle tension and gain strength through flowing movements and focused breathing. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-chair-yoga-117466>.

Finding Olmsted: A Search for a Practice of Landscape Architecture in Cotton’s Kingdom
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Frederick Law Olmsted and the Olmsted Brothers firm were some of the most influential and prolific landscape architects of the 19th and 20th centuries and were responsible for many of our local treasured parks and landmarks, such as Waveny Park. After an introduction, Zewde will discuss selected projects from her firm of Studio Zewde, including the recent project to re-imagine the south gardens at Dia Beacon. Register at <https://shorturl.at/vJu4y>.

Evening Deep Sleep Meditation
6:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Listen to the tranquil visual and guided imagery as you gently relax and restore. One hour equals 3-4 hours of deep sleep and you will feel genuinely refreshed and reinvigorated after the session. There will be no yoga poses. Tickets are \$40 per person and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/evening-deep-sleep-meditation/>.

June 10

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.

Weir Farm: Inspiring an Artistic Legacy
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Kristin Lessard will highlight Weir Farm National Historical Park's history, why it became part of the National Park Service, and how contemporary artists like Dmitri Wright use the park as a source of inspiration and creativity. Register at <https://shorturl.at/Eh0fp>.

June 12

Classic Desserts Demo
11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Kend Kitchen & Community Room
Chef Catherine will demonstrate how to prepare a creamy and decadent chocolate mousse, a classic New York cheesecake and free form tart. Registration will be available at <https://shorturl.at/2r6xT>.

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

<p>June 13</p> <p>COFFEE AND CONVERSATION 8:30 – 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center Sponsored by the New Canaan Sentinel for a weekly community coffee and conversation.</p> <p>June 14</p> <p>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? UCONN Master Gardeners of Lower Fairfield are standing by to solve your garden issue in this weekly plant clinic.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Glass House 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/.</p> <p>Everyday AI 2 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room Explore commonly used AI programs like Siri and Alexa, smart home fixtures, and enhanced word-processing features. Participants will also learn more about what AI is and how to responsibly use it. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/everyday-ai-147635.</p> <p>June 16</p> <p>Chair Yoga 11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium With the support of a chair, this gentle Chair Yoga class will help you improve postural alignment, maintain pelvic mobility, reduce muscle tension and gain strength through flowing movements and focused breathing. Register at https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-chair-yoga-117467.</p> <p>Author James Frey in Conversation with Gina Gershon 7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium James Frey takes readers on a satirical thrill ride through the dark heart of privilege in his latest novel, <i>Next to Heaven</i>. Fans of <i>The White Lotus</i> and <i>Big Little Lies</i> will be captivated by the twists and turns of a narrative that exposes the treachery behind the American Dream. Register at https://shorturl.at/u6L6u.</p>	<p>June 17</p> <p>Lunch & Learn: Jake Gorst, on his grandfather, Andrew Geller 12 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society Bring your brown bag lunch and learn from film maker Jake Gorst, who will talk about his grandfather, Andrew Geller. Geller was an American architect, painter and graphic designer and was credited for bringing modernism to the masses. Register at https://nchistory.org.</p> <p>The Light Eaters with Best-Selling Author Zoë Schlanger: Pollinator Pathway Lecture 7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium <i>Atlantic</i> staff writer Zoë Schlanger speaks about her groundbreaking work of popular science that probes the hidden world of the plant kingdom, called “a masterpiece of science writing”. Register at https://shorturl.at/ezGhI.</p> <p>June 19</p> <p>S.T.A.R.’s 4th Annual Juneteenth Community Celebration 3 PM on the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society Lawn Prepare to be entertained by the incredible local band, The Misfits, and enjoy a vibrant celebration of culture and community. More information and registration is available at https://shorturl.at/lvU29.</p> <p>June 20</p> <p>Afternoon Tea 3 PM at Grace Farms Gather with friends in the glass-enclosed Pavilion to enjoy a pot of warm tea with an eye-catching assortment of delightful bites that fuse traditional English and Japanese flavors. Tickets are \$38/members, \$48/non-members, and available at https://shorturl.at/jYE4v.</p> <p>June 22</p> <p>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.</p> <p>June 27</p> <p>Summer Picnic 5:30-7:30 PM at Grace Farms Enjoy a picnic dinner crafted by the Grace Farms culinary team, extended hours in the garden, and activities designed by the education team that share the wonders of ladybugs, dragonflies, and butterflies. This summer picnic also offer lawn games, trail access, and activities for the whole family. Tickets are \$24/members, \$30/non-members, \$15/children, and are available at https://gracefarms.org/event/june-2025-picnic.</p> <p>June 28</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Last Saturday on the Trail: Magic of the Fireflies 10 AM at the Firefly Preserve, 33 Sleepy Hollow Road Join a special guided walk with Chris Schipper who will share expert conservation practices used to protect and enhance this unique habitat and allow these special creatures to thrive. It’s a great opportunity to learn all about fireflies – why their preservation matters, and how you can help support firefly populations in your own backyard. Register at https://shorturl.at/IThm7.</p> <p>Art in Nature Botanical Illustrations 2 PM at Grace Farms Join Grayson Kennedy for a brief tutorial on botanical illustrations and learn about how this art form has historically been used to document and educate about the stunning natural world. Walk through the landscape to seek inspiration for the subject of your final drawing, then find the perfect vantage point where you can draw freely. Tickets are \$40/members, \$50/non-members, and available at https://shorturl.at/YFejt.</p> <p>The Great American Campout 2025 3:30 PM at the New Canaan Nature Center Join for an evening full of camp tunes, animal show, a night hike, and s’mores. Take part in the Great American Campout – NCNC’s 16th year participating in the National Wildlife Federation’s Great American Campout, a nation-wide celebration of camping as a way to connect to nature & wildlife. The event will run through June 29th at 9:30 am. Tickets are \$110 per family. Register at https://newcanaannature.org/the-great-american-campout/.</p> <p>July 21</p> <p>Golf Tournament & Touchdown Dinner 3:30 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan Join the New Canaan Football Team at their Golf Tournament and Touchdown Dinner. At a later date, more information will be available.</p> <p>BLOOD DRIVES</p> <p>Thursday, May 29</p> <p>Norwalk Hospital 34 Maple Street Norwalk, CT 06856 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM</p> <p>Friday, May 30</p> <p>VFW 465 Riverside Avenue Westport, CT 06880 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM</p>	<p>Saturday, May 31</p> <p>The Stamford Hotel 700 E Main St Stamford, CT 06901 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM</p> <p>Monday, June 2</p> <p>Greenwich Reform Synagogue 92 Orchard St Cos Cob, CT 06807 1:30 PM – 6:30 PM</p> <p>Greenwich Blood Donation Center 99 Indian Field Road Greenwich, CT 06830 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM</p> <p>Tuesday, June 3</p> <p>Greenwich Blood Donation Center 99 Indian Field Road Greenwich, CT 06830 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM</p> <p>Wednesday, June 4</p> <p>Norwalk Inn 99 East Ave Norwalk, CT 06851 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM</p> <p>Thursday, June 5</p> <p>Norfield Church 64 Norfield Road Weston, CT 06883 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM</p> <p>Greenwich Blood Donation Center 99 Indian Field Road Greenwich, CT 06830 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM</p> <p>Saturday, June 7</p> <p>New Canaan Community YMCA 564 South Ave New Canaan, CT 06840 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM</p> <p>Support Services & Meetings</p> <p>May 30</p> <p>Suicide Prevention Training: Question, Persuade and Refer 11 AM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer - the 3 simple steps anyone can use to help prevent suicide. Those trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis This training will certify you as a QPR gatekeeper. Register at https://shorturl.at/VXzMv.</p> <p>June 3</p> <p>New Canaan CARES and New Canaan Coalition Present Narcan Training 9:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Tate Room This narcan training will teach you how to recognize an overdose and use Narcan. Learn about the Opioid epidemic to keep your family safe. Register at https://shorturl.at/IN4A9.</p> <p>June 4</p> <p>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</p>	<p>supportive group sessions to help navigate changes related to memory loss and cognitive decline. Register at https://shorturl.at/VQQS2.</p> <p>June 12</p> <p>Parent Connection Circle - Walking the Journey Together 12:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Arlene H. Grushkin Children's Program Room Join The Twice-Exceptional Network each month for a supportive gathering where parents of twice-exceptional children can connect, share, and find community. Twice-exceptional (2e) children are those who are both intellectually gifted and face learning, developmental, or behavioral challenges – they experience the world with unique intensity and complexity. Register at https://shorturl.at/Knqmy.</p> <p>June 18</p> <p>Dementia Diagnosis, Progression and Treatment 7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room Join for an informative discussion about dementia diagnosis, its progression, and treatments. Together Waveny LifeCare Network and the New Canaan Library welcome Dr. Peter Hasapis to present valuable and practical guidance about dementia.</p> <p>June 26</p> <p>Tips for Dementia Caregivers 12:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room Florissa Zinghini presents tips for dementia caregivers from the Positive Approach to Care Method developed by world renowned dementia expert Teepa Snow. The tips will help care partners when those they care for are overwhelmed, anxious, nervous or scared. More information and registration is available at https://shorturl.at/XbvLv.</p> <p>Every Friday</p> <p>AA Speaker Meeting Wheelchair Access Fridays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan</p> <p>Every Saturday</p> <p>AA Meeting-Sober Citizens Group Saturdays at 9:15 AM First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan</p> <p>AA Meeting-Laundry and Dry Cleaning Group Saturdays at 10:30 AM First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan</p> <p>Lost Then Found NA Meeting Wheelchair Accessible Saturdays at 7 PM United Methodist Church (back entrance)</p> <p>Every Monday</p> <p>AA Meeting Wheelchair Access Mondays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan</p>	<p>Adult Child Al-Anon Meeting Mondays at 12 PM St. Mark’s Church, Youth Room</p> <p>Every Tuesday</p> <p>Adult Child Alanon Meeting Tuesdays at 12 PM St. Mark’s Parish House, Conf. Room</p> <p>Every Wednesday</p> <p>AA Step Meeting Wheelchair Access Wednesdays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan</p> <p>Al-Anon Parent’s & Newcomer’s Mtg. Wednesdays at 7:30 PM Silver Hill, Jorgenson House 208 Valley Rd., New Canaan</p> <p>Every Thursday</p> <p>AA Big Book Meeting Wheelchair Access Thursdays at 7:30 AM Congregational Church of New Canaan</p> <p>New Canaan Parent Support Group 7- 8:30 PM St. Mark’s Episcopal Church New Canaan</p> <p>Our Neighbors</p> <p>May 31</p> <p>Julie Benko: Standby, Me 7:30 PM at the Norwalk Concert Hall Join Curtain Call's Annual Fundraiser with Julie Benko. Standby, Me offers an evening of spectacular vocals, theatrical lore, and inspiration for all the greatest stars-to-be. Tickets are available at https://www.curtaincallinc.com/tickets/special-events/.</p> <p>June 14</p> <p>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.</p> <p>June 23</p> <p>Digging Deeper: Ecological Gardening for Beauty and Biodiversity with Joe Lamp’l 7 PM at the Westport Library, 20 Jesup Rd Sustainable Westport is thrilled to partner with The Westport Library to welcome Joe Lamp’l (a.k.a. Joe Gardener), one of the most trusted and sought-after voices in the gardening world, to share his expertise with the community. Free event. Register at https://shorturl.at/qSlsg.</p>
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Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1
Desert haven
- 6
“Door number 1, 2 or 3?”
- 11
Conducted
- 14
Moan and groan
- 15
Main artery
- 16
A third of tri-
- 17
Throw to the side, say? (see the last 4 letters in this answer ...)
- 19
Time in history (... + all 3 in this one)
- 20
Formal deal
- 21
Forearm bones
- 23
Ran into (all 3 letters in this answer ...)
- 25
Mishmash (... + the first 3 in this one)
- 29
Plum’s center
- 30
Highest peak in Alaska
- 31
Highlander (rhymes with “Braille”)
- 32
Hacienda brick
- 34
___ box (Japanese lunch)
- 36
Certain football player (the last 3 letters in this answer ...)
- 39
Clash with foam ammo (... + the first 3 in this one)
- 43
Orange, but not apple
- 45
Submit taxes online
- 46
2012 film that won Best Picture
- 49
Drop in
- 52
Hack (off)
- 53
Overnight sensation’s trajectory (the last 2 letters in this answer ...)
- 55
Salt Lake City student (... + all 3 in this one)
- 56
St. Teresa’s Spanish birthplace
- 57
Humorist Lebowitz
- 59
Rapper ___ Nas X
- 60
Ending a relationship, or a theme hint
- 67
Snaky fish
- 68
Fire remnant
- 69
Fix, as a hair bow
- 70
Blow away
- 71
Honey Smacks frog
- 72
Very proficient

DOWN

- 1
Hogwarts messenger
- 2
“I get it now!”
- 3
Take a load off
- 4
Not at all proficient
- 5
Vaccine fluids
- 6
Sam of Sam’s Club
- 7
Short flight
- 8
Spousal ___
- 9
Pennies: Abbr.

- 10
Invites to the penthouse
- 11
Angola’s capital
- 12
Hold the attention of
- 13
Semi fuel
- 18
Massage target
- 22
Sign out
- 23
Calf-length skirt
- 24
English prep school
- 26
Apply gently
- 27
Secluded valley
- 28
“___ kleine Nachtmusik”
- 29
Buddy
- 30
Floor model
- 33
“Keep your shirt on!”
- 35
Card that beats a deuce
- 37
Not to mention
- 38
Chris of “The Good Wife”
- 40
Become limp

- 41
Lotion additive
- 42
Single exercise
- 44
Sushi eggs
- 46
Flowering shrub
- 47
Critic’s write-up
- 48
Front piece on a car
- 50
Image-building group
- 51
Brought into being
- 54
Wrapped, as an ankle
- 55
Like a groom-to-be
- 58
Taj Mahal’s city
- 61
French friend
- 62
Late SCOTUS great
- 63
Casual shirt
- 64
Absorbed, as a loss
- 65
Toy’s sound?
- 66
Group of exercises

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	C	A	R	F		S	H	E	D		O	B	E	Y
C	A	M	E	O		P	E	R	U		M	O	L	E
A	D	M	I	N		I	A	M	S		E	D	I	T
B	R	A	N	D	S	T	R	A	T	E	G	Y		
S	E	N		U	A	E		U	S	A	B	L	E	
			L	E	G		O	O	P	S		L	E	D
	T	B	A		S	E	N	D	S	A	L	O	N	G
P	E	R	C	H		L	E	I		Y	O	W	I	E
S	T	A	Y	E	D	S	A	N	E		S	S	N	
S	R	I		N	O	E	L		C	O	T			
T	A	N	T	R	A			G	I	N		S	A	P
		S	H	I	F	T	I	N	G	S	A	N	D	S
R	I	T	E		L	A	N	A		P	R	A	D	A
A	P	E	S		I	R	I	S		E	G	R	E	T
N	A	M	E		P	A	T	H		C	O	L	D	S

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Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1
(K) Where a pig belly-flops
- 4
(K) Parts of many breakfasts
- 8
(K) Strike hard, as a watermelon with a mallet
- 12
“Is that it over there? YES!”
- 13
(K) Jog like a horse
- 14
Hit the thumbs-up button
- 15
December drink with 4-Across
- 16
(K) 23 X 7 - 101 minutes
- 17
Between, a bit old-school
- 18
Experimental creatures (2 words)
- 21
Coffee holder for a wedding reception
- 22
(K) Delay or postpone (2 words)
- 26
Say it a few times and shake your head to shame
- 28
Part of RPM
- 29
(K) The Halloween ghost said what?

- 30
Objective of big factories (2 words)
- 34
(K) Prefix you read already
- 35
University of Louisville’s color
- 36
(K) “___ be my honor”
- 37
(K) Globetrotter’s home
- 39
(K) Creature that’s almost purr-fect
- 41
In a sorry state?
- 46
Major musical composition
- 49
(K) Like an 1821 first-edition book
- 50
(K) Words said before a big reception
- 51
(K) Things you can flap
- 52
Endorse with your John Hancock
- 53
(K) Marvel Comics icon Stan
- 54
(K) It puts a character in the wrong place
- 55
(K) Cut an actor’s lines
- 56
Young fellow

DOWN

- 1
(K) You can beat the drums to it
- 2
(K) You, 500 years before you were you
- 3
(K) “Pic-a-nic basket” bear
- 4
Anesthetic for Shakespeare
- 5
(K) Let everyone know you’re in pain
- 6
(K) Rise, like prices (2 words)
- 7
(K) Like your basic zebra
- 8
Use dynamite
- 9
(K) Point an arrow at a bull’s-eye
- 10
Do Vail
- 11
(K) “I told him ___ get stronger lifting weights”
- 19
(K) Pistachios and relatives
- 20
Super-wise adviser
- 23
Something written in 1865 for Abe Lincoln
- 24
Like warm memories
- 25
(K) Cloud you can walk through

- 26
Mansion in “Gone With the Wind”
- 27
Word with “friendly”
- 28
Container aboard a sci-fi UFO
- 30
(K) Stat that interests a lstate trooper
- 31
(K) Start to get ready
- 32
Guilt and sorrow
- 33
Provide quotations for
- 38
(K) Tossed ranch rope
- 39
Welsh dog with short legs
- 40
(K) Employee of professional athletes
- 42
Placed, as one tile beside another
- 43
(K) It separates cash
- 44
(K) Brilliant, creative thought
- 45
Like colleges for girls and boys
- 46
Certain type of grain
- 47
Use a crowbar
- 48
(K) Person calling you out?

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

Start to mature?

Look for the answer in next week’s paper.

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18			19					20				
			21				22			23	24	25
	26	27				28			29			
30				31	32			33				
34				35				36				
37			38				39	40				
			41			42				43	44	45
46	47	48			49				50			
51					52				53			
54					55				56			

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

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5/5

Gotta Split! by Roland Hugel

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15						16		
17					18							19		
				20						21	22			
	23	24			25		26	27	28					
29				30							31			
32			33				34			35				
36					37	38		39				40	41	42
				43			44			45				
46	47	48			49			50	51			52		
53				54							55			
56								57		58				
59					60	61	62	63				64	65	66
67					68					69				
70					71					72				

Horoscopes for Next Week

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

The Mercury-Sun conjunction on May 29 enhances clarity in communication. Use this energy to articulate your ideas and address any misunderstandings. As the week progresses, focus on aligning your actions with long-term goals.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

Financial matters come into focus. Review your budget and consider long-term investments. Avoid impulsive spending and seek advice before making significant financial decisions.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)

With the Sun in your sign, personal projects gain momentum. The Mercury-Sun conjunction on May 29 offers a fresh perspective. Embrace new ideas and be open to constructive feedback.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

This week encourages introspection. Take time to reflect on past experiences and consider how they shape your current path. Prioritize rest and self-care to recharge your energy.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)

Collaborative efforts are highlighted. Engage with your community and consider how collective goals align with your personal ambitions. Networking can lead to promising opportunities.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

Professional responsibilities demand attention. Stay organized and address tasks methodically. Your attention to detail will be appreciated by colleagues and superiors alike.

Libra (September 23 – October 22)

Expand your horizons through learning or travel. Seek experiences that challenge your perspectives and contribute to personal growth. Stay open to new philosophies and ideas.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

Deep emotional insights surface. Use this time to address underlying issues in personal relationships. Honest conversations can lead to healing and strengthened bonds.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)

Partnerships take center stage. Collaborate with others to achieve common goals. Balance is key; ensure that both parties' needs are acknowledged and met.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

Focus on health and daily routines. Implement habits that support your well-being and productivity. Small, consistent changes can lead to significant improvements.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

Creative pursuits flourish. Engage in activities that bring joy and allow self-expression. Share your ideas with others; collaboration can enhance your projects.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

Home and family matters come into focus. Create a nurturing environment that supports emotional well-being. Address any domestic issues with compassion and understanding.

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
concern for plane passenger (7)
- 2
western Pennsylvania school (4)
- 3
“Home Alone” mom O’Hara (9)
- 4
a “Four Corners” state (7)
- 5
like a cheesy pizza crust (7)
- 6
soup-and-sandwich chain (6)
- 7
cozy quality (10)



SOLUTIONS

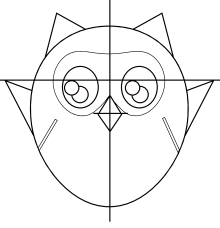
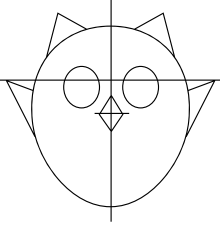
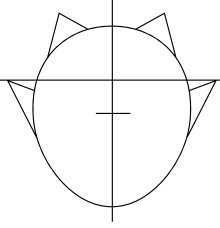
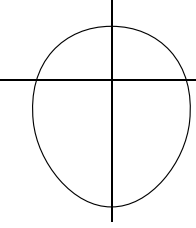

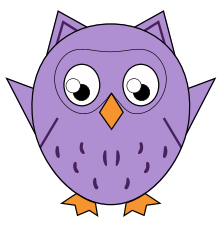
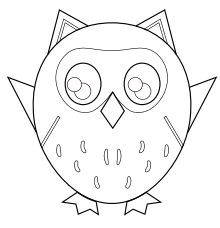
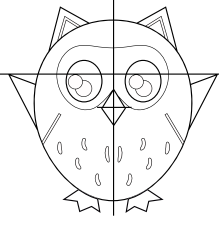





GR	LE	PI	INE	CAT
TT	AR	PAN	TO	ST
INE	AST	OOM	IZ	UF
SS	FED	ERA	ONA	HER

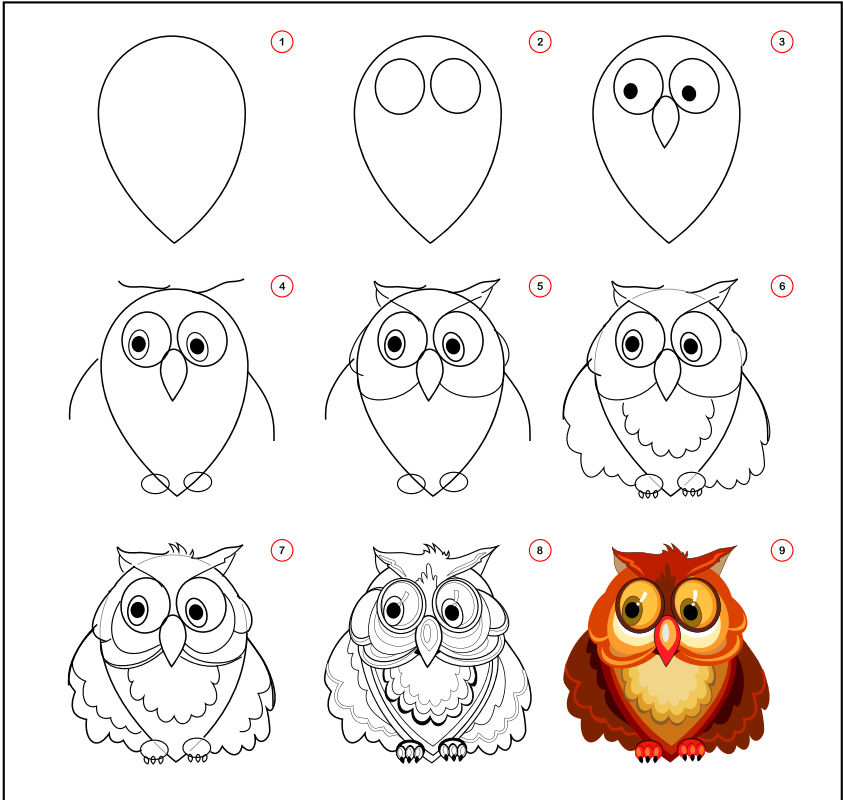
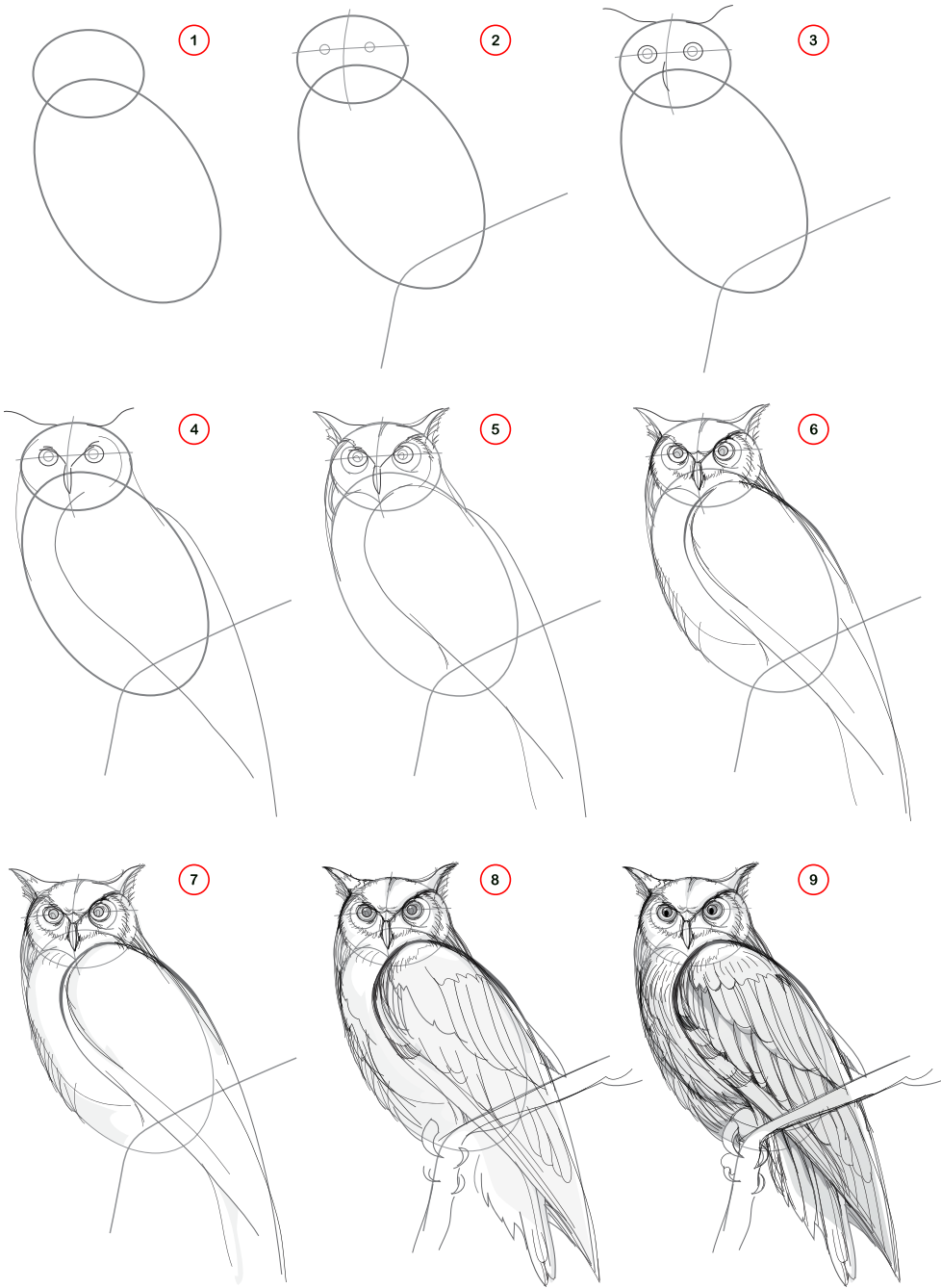
Previous Answers: 1. INCOLNS 2. REARRANGE 3. STOKED
 4. POTSTICKERS 5. EGRETS 6. BELIZE 7. SONS

7/24

How To Draw Many Ways: step by step

 Drawing lesson 




How to Draw a Owl 



Sudoku for Kids

	1	2	
2			1
	2		4
3		1	

		3	4
3		1	
	1	4	3
4			

	1	4	
4			1
	2		4
1		3	

3		1	2
1			
	1	4	3
4			1

SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sudoku answers

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

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

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

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

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

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



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