

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

POLICE AND FIRE

Two New NCPD Officers

On September 26, the New Canaan Police Department will swear in two new officers. Nolan Heintz of Greenwich, a former NYPD and Greenwich officer, will complete field training before starting probationary patrol. Christopher Rodrigues of New Milford will attend the Connecticut Police Academy in October and, after graduation in March 2026, begin field training in New Canaan.

Rise in Second-Floor Burglaries

The New Canaan Police report a rise in burglaries involving entry through second-floor windows using ladders. In some cases, alarms were active but lacked upstairs sensors or glass-break detection. Residents are urged to strengthen security measures and report any suspicious activity to (203) 594-3500.

Enforcement of Speed Limits

The New Canaan Police Department is responding to a rise in speeding complaints on several town roads. Officer Rizzitelli and the department have increased patrols to enforce speed limits. These measures will remain in place as needed.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Free Swim Lessons



For the seventh year, the New Canaan YMCA partnered with Horizons at CT State Norwalk to offer free swim lessons to 73 campers, funded by the John and Ethel Kashulon Foundation. Photo credit: New Canaan YMCA.

NCCF New Team Members



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Fazio's Fast Start: \$100K Raised in 44 Days, \$250 at a Time

How Public Financing Works in CT Governor's Race

The Citizens' Election Program (CEP) allows qualifying candidates to receive public grants — up to \$19 million for the 2026 governor's race — in order to communicate with voters. To qualify, a candidate must raise \$350,000 from individuals, with each contribution capped at \$250 per person. No corporate checks, no PAC money. It is retail politics in its purest form: thousands, of small-dollar conversations.

For voters, the program is designed to level the playing field. The theory is that a candidate who can inspire 1,400 residents to write a \$250 check has demonstrated something more meaningful than a candidate who can find one to under-write \$350,000.

It is not glamorous work. It is call sheets and kitchen-table fundraisers, nights at Rotary clubs, mornings at coffee shops. But for Fazio — who has built his candidacy on the idea that government should operate in the open — the process seems to make sense.

Ryan Fazio is running for governor, and he is doing it the way he has done everything else in his political career: with the unglamorous insistence that the public has a right to know.

In Connecticut—

where so much happens behind closed doors — pension fund investments, billion-dollar healthcare deals, and, most recently, the anti-local legislation known as 5002 — Fazio has made transparency his guiding principle.

“All of us as electricity consumers have been paying hundreds of millions of dollars a year in public benefits charges,” he said in a recent interview, referring to the quietly levied fees tucked into electric bills. “Until last year, nobody knew about this until I passed a new law that requires those charges to be itemized on every person's utility bill. People were already upset that their electric bills are the third highest in the country — now they can see that about 20% of those bills are funding non-essential programs that have nothing to do with the electricity used in their homes and businesses.”

He sees this as the heart of the matter: sunlight, then reform.

His campaign reflects the same energy. Fazio started on August 13, when most of the state was at the beach. Forty-four days later, his campaign has raised around \$100,000 from small donors — almost a third of the way to



qualifying — outpacing other candidates on a per-day basis. “If we're above \$100,000 by filing day, we'll be ahead of where the others were per day at the start of their fundraising,” he said. It is not the cash alone that is notable, but the campaign's momentum from endorsements: from both the State Senate and State House Republican leaders and the most endorsements of any candidate from Eastern Connecticut—which has both the most Republican officials and is the farthest part of the state from Fazio's senate district.

The candidate

from the 36th District, sometimes criticized for being “too Fairfield County,” is drawing some of his strongest support from the other side of the state.

The timing of his message could hardly be sharper. The governor's veto of House Bill 5002 — the most significant housing bill of his tenure — came after days of private consultations and a string of revealing text messages, now public through FOI requests. The messages showed legislators voting “no” for political reasons while privately urging the governor to sign the bill.

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Duty, Downtown, and Safety



By DIONNA CARLSON

On 9/11 we hosted commemoration on the front lawn of Town Hall, pausing to remember and honor the lives lost on that fateful day in 2001. Among those lost were three cherished members of the New Canaan community: Joe Coppo, Bradley Fetchet, and Eamon McEaney. We also paid tribute to the first responders, firefighters, police officers, EMTs, and everyday citizens, who ran toward danger with courage and selflessness. Their bravery stands as a lasting example of the very best in humanity, and their memory continues to inspire us.

Downtown Parking

Even as we commemorate the past, we continue to move forward as a community. You will begin to notice changes on Elm Street and South Avenue as we prepare for the transition to paid parking on those streets and to free parking in select lots. This is all part of our strategy to reduce traffic congestion downtown. Concrete pads for the new payment kiosks are now in place. By the end of the month, all paid lots will switch from pay-by-space number to pay-by-license plate, and the numbered parking spaces will be removed.

We strongly encourage

residents and visitors to download the PayByPhone app to their mobile devices now to streamline their parking experience. If you prefer not to use the app, you may still pay with coins or a debit or credit card, just be sure to know your license plate number.

This change to “pay-by-plate” affects the Morse Court, Train Stations, Locust Avenue, Center School, Playhouse, and Park Street lots. Once the Elm Street and South Avenue kiosks are activated, the Park Street lot will become FREE parking. Also, parking will be free after 10:30 a.m. in any available spots in the Lumberyard and Richmond Hill Commuter Lots.

As part of our parking communications plan, we have a meeting scheduled with downtown merchants on September 25 to discuss the changes. More details with maps will be distributed once installation is complete.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we implement these improvements.

Paper Shredding and Hazardous Waste

We hope you were able to take advantage of Document Shred Day last weekend, and are able to utilize Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day this Saturday, September 27th, at the Transfer Station. The hours are from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We are happy to offer these two very popular services every year to help keep personal information secure and homes

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Charlie Kirk Remembrance



Rev. Stuart Knechtle looks on as Rep. Tom O'Dea speaks. Both Photos taken by Melany Hearne

More than 200 people gathered on the lawn in front of Town Hall on Saturday evening for a remembrance of Charlie Kirk and a celebration of his life.

Charles James Kirk, a conservative activist and commentator, died on September 10 from severe trauma and blood loss soon after being shot in the neck while on stage at an event at Utah Valley University. He leaves a widow, Erika, and two young children. Mr. Kirk was 31 years old at the time of his death. A suspect has been apprehended in relation to the shooting.

Mr. Kirk was a founder of nonprofit organization Turning Point USA (<https://www.tpusa.com>), whose mission, per its website, “is to identify, educate, train, and organize students to promote the principles of fiscal responsibility, free markets, and limited government.” Mr. Kirk would often visit college campuses and invite debate with students.

State Representative Tom O'Dea, who represents New Canaan, Darien and Stamford, spoke, noting Mr. Kirk's “deep love for America, his belief in open dialogue, and his commitment to making our society better — not through anger or force, but through faith, conversation, debate, and mutual respect.”



The House of Truth vs. The House of Lies

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

Most of us wander back and forth across the psychological road between the House of Truth and the House of Lies. This can happen many times during the same day. Negative messages draw us into the House of Lies without our even noticing it. There, anxiety is the wallpaper and depression is the flooring. The scent of fear permeates the house. Our reflections in the distorted mirrors tell us we're unlovable, unworthy, too much, or too little.

Wise friends and mentors help us spend more time in the House of Truth where the solid floor of honesty, the artwork of the beauty of creation, and the comfortable chair of acceptance invite us to feel at home. While there



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

may be thoughts and behaviors that you want to change in the House of Truth, situations are manageable, and change is possible.

“I overeat 24/7,” moaned Angela. Her therapist responded, “Well, at least for this hour you'll have a break. Did you over-eat this morning? Are you a middle-of-the-night eater? How hard is lunchtime?” Initially put off by her therapist's questions, Angela moved from the House of Lies to the House of Truth when she realized that she overeats only between 5 and 7 pm. Then she and her therapist were able to develop strategies for coping with one-twelfth of her day.

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The Piping Plover Diaries

By Frank Gallo

March 11th. Snow from a front the night before has left a light dusting on the beach at Milford Point. A male Piping Plover lands among the seaweed wrack. He's exhausted from his northward migration; now complete. His winter was spent roaming the sandy beaches on Cuba's north shore. Now he is on his breeding grounds, and soon it will be time to establish a nesting territory and attract a mate. He is a few days early. Tail winds aided his northward journey. Females won't arrive for several more days or even weeks; usually in mid to late March into early April. Perhaps he'll reunite with his mate from last summer. They had a successful nesting. Only time will tell. But first a meal and a little rest. Although the air is chilly, there are still invertebrates nestled within the warmth of the decaying wrack.

After a much-needed meal, he patrols the beach, assessing the best location for his territory. It looks like the area he used last year is still suitable and no rivals have yet arrived to contest his claim - an advantage of arriving early - but soon they will come.

March 16th. He has successfully driven off two interlopers to retain his prime nesting territory. His past mate has not appeared, but there are other females arriving daily and it's time to find a partner. He begins by making figure-eight flights above his territory, hoping to attract their attention.

March 19th. Dawn finds him feeding along the wrack line when he hears a familiar plaintive "peep-lo, peep-lo," from another Piping Plover. It is his past mate flying in from the south, low over the water. She lands near him on the beach and they call to one another softly. Hoping to impress her, he launches into the sky and circles over his territory performing elaborate dips and turns and tilting side to side with deep slow flaps. He then begins goosestepping before her with stiff legs and feet fanned in a ritualistic display to cement their bond.

April 5th. Courtship is in full swing. He now walks through his territory making several nest scrapes in the sand using his breast and feet while his mate accompanies him. He continues scraping depressions in the sand for nine more days, adding pebbles and shells to each site with help from his partner, until she chooses her favorite spot (often the site where they have copulated the most). Her choice made, he once again begins goosestepping



A male Piping Plover (right) courts a female (left). Photo by Jeff Meyer.

before her, further cementing their bond. They copulate and will do so many times before her final egg is laid. She will lay 4 eggs over six days, incubating them occasionally. Incubation begins in earnest once the last egg is laid.

April 21th. Her four speckled eggs resemble beach stones. They will hatch in 27-35 days. Both she and her mate incubate, often remaining still for 30 minutes or more before swapping places to go feed. Their sand-colored bodies are adorned with black bars across their chest and brow, a two-toned orange and black bill, and orange legs. This color pattern breaks up their outline, helping them blend perfectly into their surroundings. This camouflage is their first defense against the many predators which hunt on the open beach. When a predator strays too near the nest, the sitting Piping Plover, like its cousin the Killdeer, races away, calling, hoping to capture the predator's attention. If the predator doesn't follow, then more extreme measures are employed - the plover feigns injury by dragging a wing, fanning its rust-colored tail, and flopping about while calling; this usually draws the predator away. Once the predator is deemed sufficiently far from the nest, the seemingly wounded bird miraculously recovers and flies in a wide arc returning to settle back onto the nest.

This year, as with last, a crew from Connecticut Audubon has erected string fencing on the beach. This helps keep unsuspecting beach goers from entering the Piping Plover and Least Tern nesting

areas and inadvertently stepping on their eggs. Volunteers also placed a wire mesh called an enclosure around the plovers' nest with a netting top to keep avian and terrestrial predators out. The mesh spacing is wide enough for her and her mate to pass through, but not larger creatures.

May 13. Cracks have formed in the eggshell and "peeping" can be heard from within her eggs. Her babies will hatch soon.

May 15. Her eggs are hatching. One by one they emerge, looking for all the world like speckled cotton balls with feet. It's not safe to remain in a nest on an open beach. There are too many predators - such as, gulls, crows, ravens, cats, dogs, raccoons, foxes, skunks, and opossums. Within a couple of hours of emerging, they are able to run, and soon will be able to feed, hide, and fend for themselves under their parent's supervision, although they are still brooded frequently. Instinct sends them into cover when a predator nears. Often the chicks seem to disappear into a shallow depression in the sand, where their speckled body pattern helps them to blend with the stones in their surroundings. They will begin to fly in 24 days and fledge between 30-35 days after hatching.

June 15. Three of her four babies have survived to fledge. The fourth was taken by a cat as the chick left the safety of the enclosure.

Piping Plovers generally have only one brood per year, although they may reneest after a failed first attempt. Pairs able to nest in April and May

can fledge broods by the start of the hurricane season in June. In 2019 there were only 57 pairs breeding in Connecticut. Since then, there has been a slow but steady increase, and in 2024, 83 pairs nested in the state. Conservation programs are paying off. In 2025, Milford Point hosted 21 pairs, a new high, up from 16 pairs in 2024, showing conservation efforts and preserving habitat have positive effects, both for the plovers, and for other sandy-beach dependent species, such as Least Terns and American Oystercatchers.

Piping Plovers are State and Federally designated threatened species. Three of the best places to see them in Connecticut are Milford Point, Milford; Sandy Point, West Haven; and Long Beach in Stratford before it closes to non-residents on Memorial Day. Remember to visit at mid- to low tide to allow beach-room between you and the string fencing that protects the birds from disturbance. Because young plovers hide in depressions such as tire tracks and footprints, and are nearly impossible to see, Piping Plover nesting beaches are closed to vehicular traffic during the breeding season. Walk carefully and try not to disturb feeding plovers, as well as other migrant shorebirds resting and feeding to store fat for their long journeys. Several shorebird species must fly more than 5000 miles between their breeding and wintering grounds. Bar-tailed Godwits, for example, can fly 7,100 miles nonstop between Alaska and New Zealand. Studies have shown that disturbance from humans, dogs, vehicles, etc., can cause them to starve if they are prevented from feeding enroute.

Currently, the Atlantic Coast population of Piping Plovers is fewer than 2250 pairs but increasing, and there are fewer than 6000 pairs throughout the United States. Providing plovers a little space and reducing disturbance increases their chances of a successful nesting season, and their species' continued survival.

August 15. His mate left last week for parts unknown. He will head back to Cuba tomorrow. With luck, next year, March winds will aid his return to Milford Point to do it all again.

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 this state. Email: Fgallo@newcanaannature.org. For more on the New Canaan Nature Center, visit newcanaannature.org.



Adults and young instinctively hide in depressions in the sand to avoid danger. Photo by Frank Gallo.



String Fencing and Piping Plover Exclosure (right side) at Milford Point. Photo by Frank Gallo.



Piping Plover. Photo by Jeff Meyer.



Piping Plover nest. Photo by Jacquelyn Jacobson/USFWS.



Male Piping Plover making a nest scrape. Photo by Jeff Meyer.



Piping Plover chick. Photo by Sarah Fensmore/USFWS



Piping Plover mother and chicks. Photo by Kaiti Titherington/USFWS



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Classic 4x4s roll into Waveny for Caffeine & Carburetors—shot during the event's second year in New Canaan.

Register now: Caffeine & Carburetors

Show-car owners who want to roll into Waveny Park need one thing before anything else: a physical Caffeine & Carburetors registration tag. Gate crews will check every windshield. No tag means no entry—cars without tags will be redirected to spectator parking. Phone screenshots don't count.

The process is built for speed and safety. Register online to get your tag. If you register by October 10, organizers will mail it to you. After October 10, pick up your tag at Zumbach's Gourmet Coffee on Pine Street before the event. Limited morning-of pickup is available and closes

at 7:30 a.m.; after that, untagged vehicles belong in a spectator lot. Event-day timing is firm. Show cars must arrive by 7:30 a.m. and remain parked until 11:00 a.m. This is a parked event to protect pedestrians—no late arrivals, no early departures. Noise rules apply in the neighborhood: no revving, no burnouts. Commercial pitches are restricted; unauthorized solicitation will be turned away.

Expect the familiar New Canaan choreography. Police and CERT will route traffic; once main lots fill, spectators will be sent to designated satellite and walking lots. Follow the signs,

In 2024, Caffeine & Carburetors raised \$40,000 for New Canaan nonprofits and initiatives.

wave to neighbors, and build in a few extra minutes—early arrivals are part of the fun on show mornings.

Registration dollars stay in town. In 2024, Caffeine & Carburetors raised \$40,000 for New Canaan nonprofits and initiatives. In 2025, organizers launched the Caffeine & Carburetors Automotive Assistance Fund with the New Canaan Community Foundation, C&H Auto, and the Department of

Human Services to help eligible residents cover essential repairs and maintenance. Applications run through Human Services; approved work is performed locally at C&H Auto. The goal is straightforward: keep families mobile, keep safe cars on the road, and ease a financial burden that can derail work and school.

The giving extends beyond the garage. Caffeine & Carburetors supports the Waveny Park Conservancy,

which maintains 130 acres south of the main driveway and has invested more than \$3 million across restoration, infrastructure, and ecological projects. The Conservancy's work helps keep Waveny vibrant for the hundreds of thousands who use it each year. The event also backs the Chamber of Commerce's Shop New Canaan e-gift card program; a 40% bonus in 2024 helped triple card sales and drove business

to more than 45 participating merchants.

This is New Canaan's show, built around local habits: grab your tag at Zumbach's, park by the rules, and enjoy a morning where vintage roadsters share space with trucks, motorcycles, and modern specialty cars. If you plan to display, register now, secure your physical tag, review the parking map, and follow your assigned arrival window. Spectators are welcome and should use the signed lots.

Questions about tags, timing, or logistics can be sent to info@caffeineandcarburetors.com



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HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, BARBARA MULHERN!!



By Patricia Chadwick

It's not unusual these days to celebrate the birthdays of friends and relatives who are entering the decade of octogenarians. In point of fact, a baby born in this country today is fully expected to reach the age of eighty, and while it is definitely a pleasing milestone birthday, it is less of an "achievement" than it was half or even a quarter of a century ago. While the same cannot be said of nonagenarians—YET—there over two million Americans today who are in their nineties and their numbers are increasing. Each of my parents died just a few months shy of their ninetieth birthdays, and I felt they were robbed of a celebration they had nearly earned. And then there are those on the top rung of the ladder—the centenarians. Until last year, the closest I had come to engaging with a centenarian was some thirty-one years ago, when I was tickled pink to take a picture of my six-month-old daughter in the arms of Mrs. Swain, a family friend's mother who was celebrating her 101st birthday.

That changed a little over a year ago, at a picnic on the grounds of the Glimmerglass Festival campus in Cooperstown, New York, when I found myself sitting next to a fellow opera lover and picnicker. "Hello," she said, as she held a glass of white wine in one hand and a toast point spread with foie gras in the other, "I'm Barbara Mulhern." A little bird had let me in on the secret that my dinner companion was ninety-nine

years old, and I had been prepared to meet a fragile woman of small stature, with a dowager's hump and a cane, or maybe a walker. Nothing could have been further from the truth. Barbara was the picture of robust health and could have passed easily for twenty-five years younger. In short order, I learned that she drove her own car to the grocery store, was partial to a Scotch—her favorite being "Isle of Jura"—and enjoyed throwing dinner parties that she cooked herself.

When a month later, I received a thank you note from her for some books I'd sent her way, I was astonished at the beauty of her penmanship—her small print was straight and strong, and her grammar and punctuation perfect. The logo above her name was an artistic rendering of the golf cart she tools around in when hopping from one cocktail party to another over the rolling hills of Cooperstown. The six degrees of separation emerged when Barbara, after reading one of my books, sent me an email to let me know that the doctor who had been so influential in my achieving pregnancy at the age of 45 had grown up in the house next to hers in New Jersey and was her son's childhood playmate.

Barbara was gracious enough to allow me to interview her a few months ago, and what struck me most was her humility and honesty. She found nothing extraordinary about her life or her achievement of genuine longevity. Born in New York City while her father was a resident at Bellevue Hospital, she recalled, with her prodigious memory, when the family moved to Cooperstown—she was not more than four years old at the time—and her father began his medical practice at Bassett Hospital. The Lindbergh baby kidnapping in 1932, when Barbara

Smith College was Barbara's destiny, as it had been for her grandmother and her mother.

was just seven years old, is seared in her memory. Inspired by the Episcopal nuns who taught her in elementary school, Barbara became an avid reader and as she entered her teenage years in the mid to late 1930s, she devoured the Weekly Reader, a publication that allowed school-age children to learn world affairs—she followed the rise of Hitler and the social upheaval in Europe with great concern. When the U.S. entered the war, both her father and her brother were called to duty and fortunately returned home safely.

Smith College was Barbara's destiny, as it had been for her grandmother and her mother. Marriage at the age of twenty-four to an Irish Catholic lawyer, Arthur Mulhern, in the rectory of St. Patrick's Cathedral, was the start of a new and joyous life. She reveled in her large family of six children. When I asked about some of her favorite memories and adventures as a mother, Barbara had her answer in a heartbeat. "I have driven across the USA five times." She went on to explain that she and Art, with all six children (and no nanny) in tow, had driven across the country one summer in an RV. After time exploring the far western U.S., when it was time to drive back east, Art was needed back at his law practice, and it fell, and it fell to Barbara to make the 3000-mile journey as the solo driver. The experience must have been both psychically and physically rewarding, as she chose to repeat it again and again, including three times alone. After her children were out of the house and out of college, she became a licensed ski instructor, at the age of seventy, and carried on in that role into her late 80's.

In 1986, she returned to her childhood hometown of Cooperstown and threw herself into supporting the Glimmerglass Opera (now Glimmerglass Festival.) When a fire destroyed the organization's records, her monumental brain became an invaluable asset, as she re-assembled from memory the organization's donor base data.

When I asked Barbara to capsulize her life, she said simply, "I feel blessed. I am an optimist. All my children are alive and well." Did she have a secret to her longevity? "No. I don't know why I've lived so long." There was a pause and she said, "I did drink a lot of martinis and I still drink wine." Was she on medications? "Not one." What has sustained her through her long and active life? "The values I learned in childhood: a passion for reading, good manners, a love of learning and an intellectual curiosity." She has lost none of those cardinal virtues as she reaches the one hundred year mark. What does she think of the world today? "It is tragic to see the world in such turmoil."

The Summer I....



By Icy Frantz

Last week I received a letter from an old friend — snail mail, on personalized stationery. Oh, how I still love that. We had gone to grade school together, and I probably hadn't seen her since morning recess, both of us in our green-and-yellow uniforms with our hair pulled back in braids. How kind of her to reach out, and what a great reminder to connect with others not only in times of sadness, but also in times of triumph.

In her note she said something that struck me: "It's such a blow, and a reordering of the world — even if we know it's coming."

And That is where I want to begin today: the reordering of my I world.

Like many, I watched The Summer I Turned Pretty — first to steal precious time with our daughter, and then on my own because I simply had to know if Team Conrad or Team Jeremiah came out ahead. (Don't worry, no spoilers here.) I mention it not because of the love triangle but because of the title. It reminded me of my own season:

The Summer I Turned 60.

The Summer We Dropped Off Our Youngest Child at College.

The Summer My Mother Passed Away.

Yes, it has been a colossal reordering of my world. My friend's words were spot on.

In July, I turned 60. Of course, it didn't happen all at once. One day on the calendar didn't mark the shift. It unfolded slowly — as I resisted (kicking and screaming) and then, eventually, accepted that I had entered a new decade.

It felt as if I was standing over my carry-on suitcase — the fancy one with wheels — and forced to decide what to bring on this adventure and what to leave behind.

Out went the "just in case" items: the dress I hoped would one day fit, the shoes that looked good but pinched. In went the elastic waist banded pants for comfort and the sensible shoes that would let me walk without blisters towards what's next.

When the suitcase clicked shut, it felt lighter. Not filled so much with material things, but with what matters most: connection, family, laughter, love. Health, both physical and mental. A sharper sense of priorities, and a desire to slow down and enjoy.

It's not that those things weren't always there — but they were often buried beneath the miniskirts and sequined tops. (no longer needed)

When we dropped our daughter at college, I learned quickly that the process is very different for daughters than sons. With the boys, it was a few duffels and a quick goodbye. With our daughter, it was an all-day affair: building shelves, hanging lights, arranging pillows, and lining drawers in a quirky triple with very little storage. Backbreaking work in an un-air-conditioned dorm room, yes — but I loved every minute.

In that time, I began to consider the enormity of the moment. In the weeks that followed, people asked how I was doing. And though she was actually physically closer than she had been during her gap year, the start of college still signified something — a reordering of my world.

It felt as if I was unpacking an old suitcase, dusty and worn, but long forgotten beneath my bed.

For years, I had packed: muddy cleats, football pads, racquets, eye protection, mouthguards molded just so, science projects, permission

Because as corny as it may sound, love is the one thing that belongs in every bag — the carry-on, the old dusty suitcase, and the new one now resting on my shoulder.

slips, teacher appreciation notes, and textbooks.

But now, in the reordering, I was looking into my own suitcase. The one with aspirations long postponed. Courses I had wanted to take. Lectures that interested me. Skills to master. A dance class. A spontaneous late night out on a "school night." Time to prioritize my own connections, my own purpose.

The empty nest, I am learning, isn't about absence. It's about rediscovery. About unpacking what I once put away for later. And—it's later.

But the deepest reordering came with my mother's passing. Nothing prepared me for it. Nothing has impacted me quite the same.

I feel like I've been promoted to "the grown-up," and I'm not sure I like it. I want to pick up the phone and call her, but I can't. I wonder if I said all I needed to say, and I know I didn't. Very simply put, I miss her.

And yet, this is the reordering my friend spoke of. It doesn't feel like repacking a carry-on or unpacking an old suitcase. It feels like I've been handed a new bag altogether, and it will take a while to maneuver it and figure out what's inside. It's unfamiliar. Would I even recognize it at the baggage claim?

But I know I will grow accustomed to it — this new bag, stretched by grief but lined with love. I will hear her voice in it and in me when I say, "We're going to be late," or "It's okay to ask for help," or when I bring the pearled onions to the Thanksgiving dinner.

There will be moments of humor, I am sure. I'll smile at the snacks she packed for me — her beloved Fresca, her not-so-beloved mashed potatoes. Or I will grab a lipstick from my purse and apply it just so, like she did every time she left home, even in her final months.

(As an aside my mom was a collector- green glass, Majolica earthenware and wouldn't you know- BAGS.)

One day, I may even be grateful for this new bag. Because though I did not choose it, it has room to carry both her memory and the tools she gave me to navigate this new reordered world of mine. And I know it is full of all the hopes and dreams she had for her once young precious daughter who is now attempting to play "grown up".

I'm not sure when it started, but many years ago I created my own tradition. Every time our daughter packs a bag and heads out from home, I slip a note inside her clothes. Something small she'll find later in her new surroundings — maybe a bit of wisdom, maybe something funny — but always with the same words: I love you.

And with all this reordering, I keep coming back to that. Because as corny as it may sound, love is the one thing that belongs in every bag — the carry-on, the old dusty suitcase, and the new one now resting on my shoulder.

Because love is what steadies us and lightens even the heaviest load. Love is what connects us and makes it all worth carrying, no matter the season.

*Icy Frantz
the Icing on the Cake
Icyfrantz.net*

New Canaan Legal Ads

LEGAL AD

September 25, 2024

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Sale of Composted Leaf Mulch", New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at the Department of Public Works Office, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, CT, 06840, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contract documents are available for review at the Department of Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840. Copies of the contract documents for the work may be obtained in person during business hours from 7:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the following location: Department of Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840.

Bidders attention is called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment to be observed and to the requirements for commencement and completion of the work.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the bid opening. Additionally, the contract documents require the prompt commencement of the work.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all bids or any part thereof, to waive defects in the same, or to accept any proposal or any part thereof deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut.

All bidders are requested to note that the award of this Contract is subject to the following conditions and contingencies:

- 1) The approval of such governmental agencies as may be required by law.
- 2) The appropriation of adequate funds by the proper agencies.

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

Police Department Hiring Two New Officers

The New Canaan Police Department will hire two new officers on September 26, 2025. The officers will be sworn-in at 10:00 A.M. at the New Canaan Police Department Training Classroom.

Nolan Heintz is 30 years old, married, and lives in Greenwich, CT. He began his law enforcement career with the NYPD and was most recently employed as a Police Officer for the Greenwich Police Department. He graduated from Lindenhurst High School and earned his Bachelor's Degree from Farmingdale State College, where he majored in Applied Psychology.

Christopher Rodrigues is 22 years old, single, and from New Milford, CT. Prior to being selected as a new officer, he was employed by a relocation company. He graduated from New Milford High School and studied Construction Technology at Norwalk Community College.

Both candidates participated in the summer 2025 recruitment process for



Police Officer with the New Canaan Police Department. They were two of over 100 candidates that submitted eligible applications for employment. They both successfully endured an intensive testing and selection process including a written examination, physical agility testing, interview panel, polygraph, psychological evaluation, background investigation, medical testing, and Police Commission interview.

As a sworn officer with a Connecticut certification, Nolan will undergo approximately 7 weeks of field training with the New Canaan Police Department before being assigned solo patrol duties as a probationary police officer.

Christopher will begin his recruit training on October 3, 2025 at the Connecticut Police Academy's 388th training session in Meriden, CT. The tentative graduation date for that class is during the week of March 30, 2026. After completion of the academy, Christopher will undergo a minimum of 400 hours of field training with the New Canaan Police Department before being certified as a Probationary Police Officer.

Frozen can be better than fresh



By DR. KATIE TAKAYASU

I used to think frozen broccoli is one of the grossest frozen vegetables. That is until I learned how to roast it correctly.

Thank you, Real Simple magazine! One night while waiting for the kids to come home I stumbled across an article about how to make frozen vegetables taste better. I had a rogue bag of broccoli in the freezer and about 20 minutes to spare, so I gave their method a whirl. And voila! My family didn't even know

the difference.

Frozen can be better than fresh

We know frozen vegetables can actually be more nutritious than fresh vegetables because they are often flash frozen at the peak time of freshness. They're so convenient because they don't really go bad, and - even better - you don't have to chop them which makes prep a breeze. And at a few dollars per bag, they don't break the bank.

Broccoli is one of my favorite vegetables because its little branches pick up olive oil and spices so easily, and roasting brings out its intrinsic sweetness. Here's just a little about broccoli to seal the deal in case you're on the fence:

Vitamin C
Broccoli is incredibly rich in vitamin C

Supports immune function,

We know frozen vegetables can actually be more nutritious than fresh vegetables because they are often flash frozen at the peak time of freshness.

collagen production, and antioxidant defense. One cup of cooked broccoli provides ~135% of the Daily Value (DV) of Vitamin C. Vitamin K1 Crucial for blood clotting and bone health. One cup provides over 100% of the DV of Vitamin K1. Folate (Vitamin B9) Important for DNA synthesis and cell growth, especially during pregnancy. One cup offers ~15-20% of the DV of folate.	Vitamin B6 Helps in mitochondrial energy metabolism and neurotransmitter synthesis. Provides around 10% of the DV of vitamin B6 per cup. <i>Prep Time 0 minutes</i> <i>Cook Time 20 minutes</i> Ingredients <i>1 bag frozen organic broccoli florets</i> <i>1-2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil</i> <i>Garlic powder</i> <i>Coarse sea salt</i> <i>add ingredients to my cart</i>	Directions <i>Place a sheet pan in the oven and preheat to 450 F (or 425 F convection) so the pan is nice and hot. Place the frozen broccoli on the pan and put in the oven for about 10 minutes until it starts to turn golden. Remove the pan from the oven and add 1-2 tablespoons of olive oil, a healthy sprinkle of garlic powder and salt. Stir around the pan to ensure even coating. Then return to the oven for an additional 10-15 minutes more.</i> Enjoy!
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New Canaan YMCA's Annual Family Dinner Night

The busy fall season is officially underway, marking the return to school, activities, and healthy habits, including eating dinner together as a family. In kicking off Family Health Month, the New Canaan YMCA's successful annual Family Dinner Night returns on Friday, October 3, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The event is free and available to families of all ages in the community.

Dinner will be served beginning at 6:00 PM, followed by activities including family fun games and challenges, gaga, dancing, and a Bouncing Bears glow party in the Y's Kid Zone space (available for ages eight and under), plus a healthy family dessert-making station.

As part of its commitment to youth development and healthy living, the Y's event, which began in 2013, is inspired by "Family Day," a national movement that encourages parents to recognize the connection and engagement fostered during frequent family dinners as an effective tool to keep America's kids substance-free.

According to the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets, families that eat together generally eat more nutritiously, have teens who are less likely to be involved in risky behavior, have children with better language skills and academic scores, have a lower obesity rate, teach children to enjoy a variety of foods, and generally have better relationships with each other and their community. Eating with others also decreases loneliness, improves mental health, and can contribute to greater family connection, according to the Family Dinner Project.

Additionally, the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University researched the difference between teens who have frequent family dinners (five to seven per week) compared to those who have infrequent family dinners (fewer than three per week) and found that kids who have frequent family dinners are:

- At 70% lower risk for substance abuse.
- Half as likely to try cigarettes.
- Half as likely to try marijuana.
- One third less likely to try alcohol.



- Likelier to get better grades in school.
- Less likely to have friends who drink alcohol and use marijuana.
- More likely to have parents who take responsibility for teen drug use.

The event is free; however, advance registration is required. Those interested in attending Family Dinner Night must sign up at the New Canaan YMCA's Member Services Desk (203-966-4528) or online at www.newcanaanymca.org through Tuesday, September 30. For additional information and any questions, please contact Ian Puebla, School-Age & Camp Y-Ki Director, at 203-920-1635 or

ipuebla@newcanaanymca.org.

About the New Canaan YMCA

Founded in 1954 by a group of community volunteers, the New Canaan YMCA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to enrich all people in spirit, mind, and body. As an inclusive community service organization, the YMCA turns away no one for reasons of race, religion, or economic background and each year awards approximately \$250,000 in direct financial assistance. Serving the communities of New Canaan, Pound Ridge, and South Salem, the YMCA also strives to partner with a variety of outside organizations to further its role as a community service provider.



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Small Benedictions

Eight centuries ago, a man from Assisi stepped away from wealth and status and into poverty, prayer, and creation. Francis of Assisi did not write theological treatises; he lived them. He called the sun his brother, the moon his sister, and the birds his parishioners. He believed the natural world was not background but kin. His radical notion—that all creation reflects God’s goodness—reshaped Christian imagination.

The annual Blessing of the Animals derives from Francis’s conviction. It has endured because it answers something deep in us: the desire to acknowledge that the loyalty of a dog, the independence of a cat, the calm persistence of a horse are not accidents. They are gifts.

This October, New Canaan’s churches will again take up this Franciscan practice. At St. Mark’s Episcopal, the Arcade becomes a sanctuary for “critters of all shapes and sizes.” Families bring dogs, cats, sometimes horses, even stuffed animals clutched by children who refuse to be left out. The Congregational Church of New Canaan will do the same on the steps of God’s Acre, offering blessings, certificates, and photographs. Other churches—Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian—will also gather parishioners and pets. The form differs, the purpose is the same.

It would be easy to see these as sentimental ceremonies. They are not. They are acts of clarity in a distracted age. Francis saw what many of us forget: that dominion over animals does not mean license to use, but responsibility to care. To bless animals is to remind ourselves that stewardship, not exploitation, is the proper order of things.

In New Canaan, where daily life is measured in schedules and responsibilities, the blessing services offer a counterpoint. They slow us down. They ask us to recognize that the dog who greets us each morning, the cat who sits at the edge of a child’s bed, the horse who waits at the stable—all embody a trust we should not betray. These moments on church lawns are not diversions. They are public declarations that gentleness is part of civic character.

Francis believed creation was indivisible. He preached to the birds not because they needed a sermon but because people did. His actions told his neighbors: you are not at the center of the universe; you are part of it. The blessing of animals continues that lesson. It insists that our relationship to the world is not ownership but communion.

For New Canaan, this matters. Communities are measured not only by budgets and schools but by what they choose to honor. When churches gather to bless animals, they affirm that compassion is not secondary to civic life but central to it. The dog nosing a child’s hand on God’s Acre, the cat lifted from a carrier for prayer, the horse standing quietly by the Arcade—each scene is a lesson in what kind of town New Canaan is, aspires to be.

The French writer Anatole France was right: “Until one has loved an animal, a part of one’s soul remains unawakened.” These services awaken that part. They remind us that affection is not trivial, that loyalty can be unconditional, and that joy need not be purchased.

St. Francis gave the church a way of seeing creation with reverence. New Canaan carries it forward, not in grand gestures but in small benedictions. The blessing of a dog or cat is not an eccentric custom but a moral statement: that the measure of a town includes how it treats its creatures.

This October, as parish greens and church steps fill with families and their pets, New Canaan will once again affirm that truth. In blessing the animals, it blesses itself.

Editorial Page



"Now I'm going to ask you again: where are the three beans that this lab spent five years and six billion dollars to develop?!"

Pavla Levin - Prioritizing Local Zoning Control and Affordable Housing

Pavla Levin understands that Connecticut’s communities thrive when local zoning decisions are made at the local level. Pavla has been on the front lines of this fight, she is a founding member of CT 169 Strong, a CT wide volunteer organization that has been supporting efforts to stop Hartford’s attempts to restrict local control of zoning regulations, and to ensure that our communities can make the best decisions for their residents. In contrast to proposals that centralize power in Hartford, Pavla believes that our Town Council and Planning and Zoning Commission know our community best, and will fight to preserve realistic zoning regulations, and many other elements of governance that rightfully should remain right here in New Canaan.

Of course Pavla’s qualifications for representing you on Town Council go beyond zoning and affordable housing.

- Serves on the New Canaan Utilities Commission and is advocating for mobile connectivity for first responders that doesn’t involve towers.

- 30 years experience as an investment banker. Yes New Canaan’s tax rates are low compared to many other towns – let’s keep it that way. Technology and AI are current buzz words, and Pavla has an extensive background in IT and IT applications.

- Founding board member of the New Canaan Ice Rink, a local not for profit community organization which sets up a seasonal ice skating rink in Waveny Park that brings winter time recreational opportunities to New Canaan kids, seniors, and families.

Please vote for Pavla Levin for Town Council.

Gene Goodman

In Support of 5002

Dear Governor Lamont:

We listened closely when you announced a veto of HB 5002, the omnibus housing bill, in June. We heard you say that you’d like a revised version of the bill on your desk following a special session this year. We understand there was some loud opposition to HB 5002, which may have played a part in your decision. But the calls from supporters urging that the bill be signed were just as loud.

While we come from different perspectives, we are united by the shared understanding that bold, thoughtful action on housing is essential to Connecticut’s future.

There is a path forward.

To start, we are all in agreement that Connecticut faces a housing crisis, as reflected by a recent report that shows we have the most constrained housing market in the nation, with ever-rising home prices and rents.

And to get a new housing bill – one that you’ll feel comfortable signing – will require input from all parties. You made that very clear.

What you’ve asked for in a housing bill has already been vetted and subject of public debate. In fact, HB 5002 was written to address exactly the concerns you’ve voiced. There’s a viable starting point for discussions to begin, and a running start toward getting what the state needs in a special session.

We need a shared understanding of how the elements of HB 5002 meet this challenge with several common-sense solutions. These include incentives for transit-oriented communities known as Work Live Ride; a measure encouraging conversion of derelict commercial properties to residential; a flexible limit on parking regulations, which have proven elsewhere to be key to supporting new housing growth; improvements in rental assistance; help for the state’s homeless population; and the expansion of fair-rent commissions.

We also need to confront the way in which our unquestioning commitment to “local control” has been, at its best, a way for municipalities to plan and zone to reach a shared community vision and, at its worst, a tool of exclusion. It is our Achilles heel, preventing the housing market from naturally responding to housing demand and limiting where the government can invest to address the urgent needs of seniors; recent college graduates; families and individuals with less inherited wealth, especially many families of color; and people with disabilities.

Of the many elements of HB 5002 that seek to address exclusionary abuse of “local control,” the Towns Take the Lead proposal has received considerable attention and has also been targeted by disinformation campaigns. This proposal quantifies housing needs and asks each town to plan and zone for a portion of that need. And while some municipal officials find those numbers scary, what is scarier is the ongoing human suffering that those numbers represent.

As you rightly pointed out, the numbers are a guidepost. They are not a mandate or an override of local decision-making, but they do provide a bit of accountability for towns

to reflect on their priorities and update their zoning to help meet growing housing demand. Towns are not required to build housing. They simply would allow the market to work to meet the huge demand for housing across Connecticut by adjusting zoning. As you also noted, there would be points in the process for towns to justify lower numbers, and then plan and zone around those figures.

We are experiencing a Dorothy-in-Oz situation. Just as Dorothy learned she could have clicked her ruby slippers at any time and gone back to Kansas, it has always been within the power of Connecticut municipalities to allow the construction of the affordable housing we need to move the state economy forward. It’s because they haven’t that we need to push for state legislation in the first place. And HB 5002 offers a gentle solution – no sticks, just the carrot of prioritization for state discretionary funding for infrastructure expansion.

Further, it’s fair to say representatives of towns and cities have signaled their support for all of HB 5002, by virtue of successful votes in the state House of Representatives and state Senate. While an endorsement from mayors and first selectmen is welcome, it is through their elected representatives that municipalities make their preferences known in our process.

There are loud voices who deny housing is an issue at all, and want more than anything to see nothing at all pass. Those voices have consistently mischaracterized what housing reform is all about, and you are right to note the negative consequences of their actions.

We were certainly disappointed to see HB 5002 vetoed, but we sincerely believe a path forward is possible and necessary. We are ready to make that journey together, for the benefit of the entire state.

Signed:
Erin Boggs, Executive Director, Open Communities Alliance
Emily Byrne, Executive Director, Connecticut Voices for Children
Shenae Draughn, President, Elm City Communities
Karen DuBois-Walton, President and Chief Executive Officer, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Pete Harrison, Connecticut Director, Regional Plan Association
Jim Horan, Executive Director, LISC Connecticut
Nick Kantor, Program Director, DesegregateCT
Greg Kirschner, Executive Director, Connecticut Fair Housing Center
Raphael Podolsky, Housing Policy Advocate, Connecticut Legal Services
David Rich, President & CEO, The Housing Collective
Chelsea Ross, Executive Director, Partnership for Strong Communities
Giovanna Shay, Litigation & Advocacy Director, Greater Hartford Legal Aid
Anika Singh Lemar
Shelley White, Director of Litigation and Advocacy, New Haven Legal Assistance Association

Letters to the Editor may be sent to cordelia@sentineltownnews.com or submitted through the website at NewCanaanSentinel.com

YOUR NEWS BRIEF
CONTINUED From Page 1

The New Canaan Community Foundation has welcomed two new team members. Ann Rodwell-Lawton joins as Vice President with more than a decade of nonprofit management experience, while Brendan McMorrow steps in as Development Associate, bringing a background in media and entertainment. Photo credit: New Canaan Community Foundation.

Waveny Wild West Event



On September 17, Waveny hosted a Wild West-themed event at the Inn, where residents and guests enjoyed performances by the Inn Notes singers. Photo credit: Waveny LifeCare Network.

Fraud Awareness Program



Recently, Waveny hosted a Fraud Awareness Program with M&T Bank’s Amy Perry and Sandy Graf, focusing on ways to identify and prevent online and financial fraud. Photo credit: Waveny LifeCare Network.

SCHOOLS

NCCS Lemoine Receives Award



Recently, Mr. Lemoine received the 2025 Shirley and Jonathan O’Herron Faculty Award at New Canaan Country School. He has served in numerous roles over more than 40 years, including teacher, coach, and administrator. The biennial award honors faculty or staff with at least 10 years of service. Photo credit: New Canaan Country School.

SLS Club Fair



St. Luke’s School Upper School opened the 2025-26 year with its annual Club Fair. Students had the option to join more than 40 clubs. The event marked the start of extracurricular activities for the year. Photo credit: St. Luke’s.

SLS Fifth Graders Zip-



Recently, St. Luke’s School fifth graders participated in a zip-lining course as a class activity to practice teamwork. Photo credit: St. Luke’s.

Saxe Fun Run



On September 19, Saxe Middle School held its annual Fun Run, where students participated in activities such as cornhole, kan jam, volleyball, and relay races. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools.

Lyman Orchards

USA Today ranked Lyman Orchards in Middlefield, CT as

the top apple orchard in the country, noting its wide range of apple varieties, farm market, golf course, and pizza-themed corn maze.

DeVito Named NCHS Baseball Coach



Jay DeVito, 27, has been named head baseball coach at New Canaan High School, taking over from Anthony Bloss after his 18-year tenure with the program. A former Stamford High and Central Connecticut State athlete, DeVito has coached in local youth programs and spent the past three seasons as a New Canaan assistant. Photo credit: NCHS Athletics.

NC Sixth Grade Red Team Victory



This past weekend, the New Canaan field hockey 6th Grade Red Team earned a 6-0 win over Fairfield. Photo credit: New Canaan Youth Field Hockey.

ACROSS CT

New Mascot Charlie



Connecticut has introduced a new mascot, Charlie, to promote its claim as the “Pizza Capital of the U.S.” Charlie, described as a New Haven-style slice, was created as part of a recent state marketing campaign. Photo credit: State of CT.

Obituaries

Dorothy French



Dorothy Margaret French, a long-time resident of New Canaan, CT, passed away September 12, 2025, after a long illness. She was 94 years old. Born in Lochgelly, Scotland, on Christmas Day 1930, to Isabella Hadley Wilson and John Wilson, Dorothy was the youngest of three daughters. Following the death of her father in 1937, Dorothy moved with her mother and sisters to Birmingham, England. Although she grew up in Birmingham, Dorothy always considered herself Scottish and returned to her grandfather’s house in Scotland each summer to spend time with her many cousins and extended family.

Dorothy excelled at school and achieved her leaving certs at age 15. She then went to work for HP Sauce as a food chemist. With her fiercely independent spirit, Dorothy chose to immigrate to the United States of America with her sister, Elizabeth, at age 16, following her oldest sister, Isabella, who came to the USA as a GI bride. She arrived in Fall River, MA, on Christmas Eve 1947, after a memorable trip on the Queen Mary.

Finding work quickly in the medical field, Dorothy enjoyed her time in Fall River, actively engaged with the Presbyterian Church and her sisters’ extended families. Eventually, her mother joined her in the United States. After almost a decade in Fall River, Dorothy moved to Chicago as she followed her sister Elizabeth and her husband

to the area. A few years of the cold convinced her to move back to the East Coast. Finding a variety of work in the area, she eventually settled in Norwalk, CT, while working in Darien for Dr. Norrington.

Dorothy joined the United Methodist Church of New Canaan in approximately 1956 and remained an active member of the church for more than 65 years. She was part of the Children’s Family Circle, which provided lifelong friendships for her, and she and taught both Sunday school and bible study for decades. Through a friend from church, she met her future husband, James Francis French, and they married at the church in October 1960.

Dorothy and Jim purchased a house on Harrison Ave., in New Canaan, CT, in 1962, where they lived and raised their family until 2020. In 1962, Dorothy and Jim welcomed their first child, Elizabeth, followed by Margaret in 1963, Janet in 1965, Jean in 1966 and finally son, James, in 1970.

Dorothy enjoyed being a mother and was active in her children’s lives. She planned neighborhood carnivals in the summer, became a Girl Scout leader for many years, and always tried to support her children’s varied interests. At the same time, Dorothy worked hard to support her husband, Jim’s, business endeavors by doing bookkeeping for the painting contracting business. In 1973, Jim and Dorothy opened a paint and wallpaper store on Main Street in New Canaan and she worked to run the store for more than a decade, developing great skill at matching paint colors by eye. Dorothy could be described as warm sunshine by her family and those that met and loved her. She was ever so giving, kind, and humble with a keen intellect.

Following the closure of the paint store, Dorothy worked for GE Credit Union until her retirement in 1995. Dorothy found great value in working and loved to challenge herself intellectually. Her family was very proud of her ability to reinvent her skillset throughout her life.

In her later years, Dorothy became an

active member of the New Canaan Senior Center, taking classes in writing, chair aerobics, and learning to play bridge with her friends. She remained active in the Church and enjoyed leading and participating in bible study classes. She enjoyed time with her seven grandchildren, writing stories, reading mysteries, and creative crafts of all types. Dorothy will be remembered for her intelligence, independence, unwavering strength, love of nature and curiosity.

Dorothy is survived by her five children and grandchildren: Elizabeth French and Jesse Chaney (Corvallis, OR), Margaret French (Stratford, CT), Janet and Larry Allgaier(Austin, TX), Jean French-Psenicnik (Corpus Christi, TX),and James French, Jr (Norwalk, CT). James and Tristan Frownfelter, Dale and Garrett Reich, Lance Allgaier, and Isabella Chaney.

The family will host a memorial service and celebration of life for Dorothy on Tuesday, November 4, at 2:00 pm at the United Methodist Church of New Canaan. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to the New Canaan Ambulance Corps or the New Canaan Senior Center.

Mary Craig



October 3, 1959 - August 29, 2025

Mary H. Craig was educated in the New Canaan Public School System, graduating in 1978. With grace and humility, she lived a life of courage, determination, and deep faith as she faced extraordinary medical challenges.

Mary earned an Associate in Science in Criminal Justice from Norwalk Community College [NCC], the Dean’s List, and was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. The L.E.A.P. Program and Women of Promise also recognized her. She continued her educational journey at Sacred Heart University, was inducted into the Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society, received the Dean’s Leadership Award, and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice.

Mary established a millinery company, Private Collection Peau de Soie.

She was predeceased by her parents, Theodore and Hilda Craig of New Canaan and is survived by brothers: Theodore Craig, Jr. (Phyllis) of Stamford, CT, and Timothy Craig (Cecelia) of New Canaan; and sisters: Shirley Gibb of Charlotte, NC, and Jacqueline Becton of White Plains, MD, and a host of nephews, nieces, and friends.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, October 3, 2025, at Community Baptist Church, 174 Cherry Street in New Canaan. Doors open at 10:30 a.m.; Service at 11:00 a.m. There will be a brief graveside ceremony at Lakeview Cemetery in New Canaan, and a repast at the church.

The New Canaan Sentinel does not charge for obituaries. Every member of the community deserves to be remembered and honored without families facing added financial burdens. Obituaries may be sent to Carroll@GreenwichSentinel.com.

The cost of publishing obituaries is covered by The Sentinel Foundation, a nonprofit that supports the local Top 5 Things to Do Today daily email, obituaries, education and entertainment pages, worship pages, and sponsorship of charitable organizations and events.

DIONNA CARLSON COLUMN
CONTINUED From Page 1

safe. For more information you may visit Department of Public Works at newcanaan.info or call 203-594-3054.

E-Bike Safety

We are also happy to see that our Police Department command staff and officers are being recognized throughout the region for their work in spreading the word about safe operation of

electric bicycles on our streets. The Connecticut Metro Council of Governments invited New Canaan School Resource Officer Nicole Vartuli to address their Transportation Technical Advisory Committee last week to share tips on effective public safety education.

The timing coincides with new State laws going into effect October 1 about the proper use of e-bikes. For a report on the new laws and local regulations, visit the News Stories section of the Town’s website at newcanaan.info .

I join Police Chief John DiFederico in reminding parents of children who are operating e-bikes and e-scooters to make sure

their children understand the risks, the laws and the rules of the road to prevent injury to themselves, pedestrians and other motorists.

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

FAZIO FAST START
CONTINUED From Page 1

“It totally exposes for everyone to see the whole ‘vote no but hope it passes’ strategy,” Fazio said. “You can’t make it up.”

For Fazio, this is the point. “People ask questions about how state government is operating,” he said. “They deserve answers.” In his telling, the public’s trust is not just eroded by bad decisions, but by the secrecy that precedes them.

He hears the same thing in every corner of the state — Southington, Old Lyme, Glastonbury — people who bring up 5002 and the question of local control

without prompting. “Local control is important to people all across the state, more so than you would think,” he said. “The issues we emphasized in our Senate campaigns are the issues most important to people statewide.”

Governor Lamont’s office has promised a special session to revisit the bill. Fazio remains skeptical. “Nobody knows what’s going to happen — it’s very much between the administration and the majority leaders,” he said. “Everything keeps being done behind closed doors.”

This is where he draws his contrast. With such a vast majority, legislators vote NO understanding the bill will pass anyway. Then they quietly text the governor from the floor urging him to sign the bill they just voted against so that their constituents

won’t know.

Fazio says one of the jobs of a governor is to “open the windows.” He sees the public benefits charge as a case study.

“Transparency was vital to providing the public with an understanding of what was going on and why their electric bills are so high,” he said. “It’s also vital to actually passing legislation to cut those charges and make electricity more affordable — which is a top priority of mine.”

His critics call it inside baseball, the talk of policy wonks. But Fazio insists it is connecting. “I wasn’t sure one way or the other,” he admitted. “But it turns out people across Connecticut really care about these issues — and local control is a priority for them.”

What Fazio is learning is that the fight over

5002 is more than a fight over parking minimums or density unit counts. It is a referendum on how Connecticut governs itself — who listens, who explains, who decides.

Lamont’s veto, whatever its prudence, left members of his own party saying it will be hard to trust him in the next negotiation. Voters are watching — and Fazio is speaking to them in a language that sounds like the opposite of a backroom.

The official filing is not for another four days. But if his campaign continues at its current pace, and if the theme of sunlight continues to animate his travels — from Greenwich to Windham, from Ridgefield to Norwich — Fazio may find that his call for transparency and local decision making—transforms his fast start into a long haul.

Teaching the Life-Saving Skill of Swimming

As part of its commitment to strengthening the community through youth development and healthy living, the New Canaan YMCA once again welcomed the Horizons Summer Camp for swim lessons this year. This partnership expands access to the life-saving skill of swimming, provides water safety training, and gives children the chance to explore the many health benefits of swimming.

“We extend our heartfelt thanks to the New Canaan YMCA and the generous donor whose support made free swim lessons possible for our Horizons at CT State Norwalk students. These lessons provide more than just a life-saving skill, they foster confidence, resilience, and joy in our students. The New Canaan YMCA continues to be a valued partner in helping us achieve our mission through opportunity and education. We are truly grateful for your commitment to our shared goals and to the well-being of our students,” shared Renee Rosenbluh, Executive Director, Horizons at CT State Norwalk.

In this seventh year of partnership between the organizations, 73 Horizons campers in third through eighth grade attended daily lessons over five weeks, which were offered at no cost to campers thanks to a generous grant to the New Canaan YMCA by the John and Ethel Kashulon Foundation.

“The Kashulon Foundation is delighted to continue its support of New Canaan Y’s outreach program to the youth of Norwalk. The Y’s partnership with Horizons provides these children with an opportunity to learn to swim — a necessary skill for both safety and pleasure. Congratulations to the leadership and staff of the Y for their dedication to this program,” shared Chris Le Bris, President of the John and Ethel Kashulon Foundation.

According to the National Drowning Prevention Alliance, it is vital to teach all children the importance of water safety in and out of the pool, and swim lessons can significantly reduce the risk of drowning by up to 88%. The goal of this program is to provide each Horizons camper with the skills necessary to achieve strength, safety, and confidence in the water.

“We are extremely pleased and proud to offer this important program to the Horizons campers. They are not only eager learners, but they also have a ton of fun while learning! We are grateful for the support of our donors that allowed us to offer this program free of charge and hope to continue it for many years to come,” shared Margaret Riley, Executive Director at the New Canaan YMCA. Donations fund the New Canaan YMCA’s financial assistance program, allowing the Y to provide over \$200,000 in membership and program fee assistance each year, ensuring no one is ever turned away for an inability to pay.

As part of the Y’s commitment and to ensure everyone has access to the life-saving skill of swimming, the New Canaan YMCA updated its financial assistance program last year to provide swim lessons at no cost to New Canaan residents who receive SNAP, Husky A or D, or WIC benefits. For additional information about this swim lesson opportunity, contact Diana Riolo, Assistant Director of Development & Community Impact at the New Canaan YMCA, at



203-920-1685 or driolo@newcanaanymca.org.

The National Y swim lesson program is designed for ages six months and older. Swim lesson participants learn personal water safety and achieve basic swimming competency by mastering the six stages of the program, from water acclimation to stroke mechanics. For additional information about the swim lesson program at the New Canaan YMCA, contact Kristin White, Senior Director of Aquatics, at 203-920-1643 or kwhite@newcanaanymca.org.

org.

Horizons at CT State Norwalk is an award-winning, tuition-free academic and enrichment program serving under-resourced students from the Norwalk community. Through the program, each child thrives through Horizons’ learn-by-doing approach, inspiring students to explore reading, math, science, music, theater, art, swimming, and more. For additional information about Horizons at CT State Norwalk, visit www.horizonsctsn.org.

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CINEMALAB.COM
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COLUMN

REV. ROBERT M. KINNALLY

As we move into another New England autumn, I think of poet Gary Soto’s “October,” a vividly descriptive work that paints the scenes of a season of change and anticipates winter reflected in the dark eyes of a crouched coyote. Here’s the poem in its entirety:

OCTOBER

*A cold day, though only October,
and the grass has greyed
like the frost that hardened it
This morning.
And this morning
After the wind left
With its pile of clouds
The broken fence steamed,
sunlight spread
Like seed from one field
To another, out of a bare
sycamore
Sparrows lifted above the ridge.*

*In the ditch an owl shuffled into
a nest
Of old leaves and cotton
A black tassel of lizard flapping
From its beak. Mice
And ants gathered under the flat
ground
And slipped downward like*

*As growth subsides in nature, the God of Creation never stops creating,
and perhaps this autumn is a time for each of us to work with God...*

*water,
A coyote squatted behind
granite,
His ears tilting
Toward a rustle, eyes dark
With the winter to come.*

Change is a bit easier when there is a smooth transition. Every September I say that summers are getting shorter. The truth is that summers are the same length; the sense of brevity comes from the desire to hold onto the slower pace, the extended daylight, the restful afternoons at the water’s edge, and the rejuvenation that comes from time away from the fray. September rushes in and everything starts up and we say things like, “Before you know it December will be here.” Autumn carries us gently toward whatever winter will be. As leaves change, a brilliant red-orange burst reminds us that even in leafy death there is a glorious reality. And so it goes

with God who in our journey to the winters of life (illness, aging, struggle, darkness) gives us additional light each day and with that the promise of an even brighter and robust spring.

In Gary Soto’s poem, God’s creatures prepare to hunker down and settle into a time of fewer resources and a pervasive coldness, when leaves and the soon-to-be frozen earth will serve as a temporary home. In our life with God, autumn offers an opportunity to rejoice in the gift of a refreshing summer and of a good harvest of grace and blessings that can be life-giving in the dead of winter. As leaves fall and the angle of the sun shifts to provide a stronger glow, we are reminded that even in the greying of the green, the Son still shines brightly on creation. As growth subsides in nature, the God of Creation never stops creating, and perhaps this autumn is a time for each of us to work with God who desires to continue fashioning us into

who we are meant to be. Maybe this autumn as the trees let go of their dead leaves, we will “die to self that we may truly live.” (see Luke 9:23, Romans 12:2, Galatians 2:20). Maybe this autumn we will soften our own hearts so that we can warm the frost that stifles relationships. Maybe this fall we will rise to the occasion offered to us by God to use the rich harvest of gifts and talents we possess to ease others out of their winters of discontent.

The other evening, I was privileged to witness an exquisite show of color at sunset. The performers appeared in layers of rose and orange with a curious bright green cushion as the foundation. The rows of colors slowly moved about and eventually disappeared one at a time leaving the town in a dark-blue and black blanket that signaled the official sunset time. It was a God-show for sure because none of us could paint it as

brilliantly, and none of us could offer something like the light of the moon as a reflection of the sun and the assurance that the light only fades – it’s doesn’t go away. In Gary’s poem, winter is an ominous promise through the “dark eyes” of the coyote and light disappears in those dark eyes. However, in our life with God and one another, we must always remind ourselves that God doesn’t go away, and that even in the shorter days ahead, God longs to stay with us giving us light and warmth through His love.

In describing the Incarnation – God breaking into the world as the “Word made Flesh” – the Gospel of John situates that truth in terms of light and darkness:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be

through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:1-5)

God who created the day and the night has given us a daily balance of light and dark. He has also fashioned for us a remedy for personal darkness: a life in God, a life in His Son. As we revel in the sights, sounds, and smells of Fall in New England, may our journey to winter be gentle, our days be filled with all the pumpkin spice that makes us happy, and our souls be enriched by moments of peace, joy, and love that come to us from friends who brighten each day. I pray that in our autumn we will relish the opportunity to act gently, spice up the dullness, and offer peace to one another.

Rev. Msgr. Robert Kinnally is the pastor of Saint Aloysius Catholic Church in New Canaan and the Vicar General of the Diocese of Bridgeport. In addition to his theological credentials, he has a master’s degree in English and American literature with a concentration in 20th century American poetry.

Worship Directory and Services

UPDATE SERVICES AND ADD SPECIAL EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR AT
www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/worship-calendar-updates

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
682 South Avenue 203.966.5849
www.ComeUntoChrist.org
Sunday Service: 9:00 AM

Congregational Church
23 Park Street 203.966.2651
office@godsacre.org
www.godsacre.org
Sunday Services: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. The 10:00 am service is also live streamed and recorded, the video replay will be available throughout the week. Church School is available on Sundays for children ages 3 through 7th grade each Sunday from September through mid-June.

Recurring Events:
Tuesdays at 9:30 AM: Women’s Bible Study
Wednesdays at 9:30 AM: Bible Study
Fourth Thursday from 12-2:30 PM: Meet at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk to serve a meal.

Upcoming Events:
October 18 from 4-7 PM: Come Bake, Pray, and Be Fed. A Workshop with Kendall Vanderslice. \$20/person. Register online.

First Church of Christ, Scientist
49 Park Street 203.966.0293
christiansciencect.org/newcanaan
Sunday 10:30 AM, in person only. Sunday School is available during Sunday Service and is open to children and young people up to the age of 20. There is also childcare available for children too young for Sunday School.
Wednesday Testimony Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month, join by zoom or by phone 646 558 8656. Reading Room Hours: Open Mondays 11-2, Call to confirm hours 203-966-0293. All are welcome to the Sunday and Wednesday services, Sunday School, and the reading room.

First Presbyterian Church
178 Oenoke Ridge Road 203.966.0002
fpcnc.org
Sunday Service: 10am in person or via LocalLive. All are welcome. Coffee Hour after the service is also available in person or via Zoom. Dedicated childcare is available for all children via Wee Care Nanny Agency from 8:45-11:30am in the Nursery School. Transcripts of previous sermons are also available via the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan’s website. Recurring Events: Every Saturday 9:15am (closed) and 10:30am (open): Alcoholics Anonymous. Every Tuesday 8pm: Men’s A.A.
Third Wednesday from 6-7:30 PM: Wednesdays at the Well are intergenerational opportunities to learn and grow in faith together. Dinner will be served and all ages are invited.

Upcoming Events:
October 12 at 10 AM: Blessing of the Animals. Bring your furry, scaly or feathery friends for a blessing. All creatures great and small are welcome.

October 19 at 11:30 AM: Adult Forum Speaker. Kathleen Benevento, will be discussing Waveny LifeCare Network Alzheimer’s and Dementia Navigator Program

Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church
21 Cherry Street 203.966.0020
www.starcc.com
Service Schedule:
Saturday: Vigil for Sunday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The Sunday 8:30 a.m. mass is live-streamed and recorded.
Monday-Friday: 7:00 am and 5:30 pm
Saturday: 7:00 am

Recurring Events:
Last Monday of every month 7pm: Women’s Praise & Worship Holy Hour
Fridays 7:30am-6pm: Eucharistic Adoration (September-June)
Saturday 8:30am: St. As Healing Rosary Prayer Group

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
111 Oenoke Ridge 203.966.4515
churchoffice@stmarksnewcanaan.org
www.stmarksnewcanaan.org
Sunday Services: 8:00am: Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite I; 9:00am: Outdoor Holy Eucharist Rite II; 10am: Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite II (Live Stream also available on the St. Mark’s website). Coffee Hour follows the 10am service.
Church School during the 10am service: Godly Play for children in kindergarten through second grade; Holy Moly for third and fourth grades; Meet in the Middle for fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Professional childcare is offered for children ages four and under. Families with children who are not yet ready to separate for childcare are invited to use the rocking chairs at the rear of the chapel.
Weekday Services: Monday-Friday, 8:30am: Morning Prayer/Rite II by Zoom.
Wednesday at 12:05pm: Noonday Eucharist in the chapel.

Recurring Events:
First Wednesday at 1pm: Laundry Love volunteering opportunity to come alongside people who are struggling financially by assisting them with their laundry.
First & Third Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm: Youth Group

Upcoming Events:
October 4 at 6 PM: Morrill Hall will be a candle-lit and delicious venue for some of the most enduring and familiar works of the 20th century master of his genre, George Gershwin. Reserve seats by calling the St. Mark’s office.

October 5 at 5 PM: Blessing of the Animals. This annual service, in observance of the Feast of St. Francis, will take place under the Arcade.

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
1800 E. Putnam Ave, Old Greenwich 203.618.0808
info@trinitychurch.life
www.trinitychurch.life
Join us Sundays at 10 a.m. at Greenwich Hyatt Regency 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. The service is also available on livestream via Youtube, Sundays at 10:00 a.m.; learn more at www.trinitychurch.life.

United Methodist Church
165 South Avenue 203.966.2666
frontdesk@umcofnewcanaan.org
www.umcofnewcanaan.org
Join us for Sunday Worship!
Sunday Service begins at 10:00 a.m.

Come for uplifting music and a relevant, inspiring message – and stay after for coffee and conversation during Fellowship Time.

Sunday School for ages 3 through high school resumes September 7. Child care is available for children from infancy through age 5.

Communitv Baptist Church
174 Cherry Street 203.966.0711
cbcnnewcanaan@gmail.com
www.cbcnnewcanaan.org
Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZ2UNa8aHI3O_Syp_XOKDg
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CBCNewCanaan/>
Sunday School at 10:00am
Worship Service at 11:00am
Live Facebook Broadcast 11:30 am

Grace Community Church
9:30am Service @ New Canaan High School,
11 Farm Road, New Canaan
203-966-7600
info@gracecommunity.info
www.gracecommunity.info
Welcome to Grace Church, where we strive to build a church of action, founded on Biblical truth, characterized by faith, grace, community, service, authenticity, clear thinking, and cultural relevance. Grace Community Church is an exercise in knowing God, knowing truth, and building community that extends to our full lives, not just to our Sunday mornings.
Join us Sunday mornings at 9:30am or via GCC’s Facebook page or YouTube page. Nursery care and Sunday school/teen programming is available for babies through 12th grade. Coffee and bagels available in the lobby after the service, all are welcome.

Upcoming Events:
October 4 from 1-3 PM: Fall Picnic. Join for an afternoon of fun at Compo beach in Westport. For more info or to RSVP, email Bo at bo@gracecommunity.info.

October 25 at 3 PM: Trunk or Treat. Call for more information.

Talmadge Hill Community Church
870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road; Darien, CT 203.966.2314
talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com
www.talmadgehill.org
Ministers: Rev. Carter Via and Rev. Cheryl Bundy Sunday worship service at 10:00am in person. All are welcome! We encourage everyone to stay for coffee hour after the service. Sunday School is every Sunday during the service and uses the Godly Play curriculum. Please reach out with any questions utilizing information listed above!

Recurring Events:
Thursdays at 9:30am: Bible Study
First Saturday at 8am: Men’s Group
Second Saturday at 10am: Women’s Circle

Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center
137 Putnam Rd
info@chabadnewcanaan.org
www.newcanaanjewish.org
The Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center is dedicated to strengthening and building the New Canaan Jewish Community by offering local Jewish resources that bring more positivity, Jewish education, charitable activity, good deeds and blessing to our lovely town.
We are about Judaism, not affiliation. Regardless of your background, and however you choose to define your level of Jewish observance or identity, the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center can add spirituality, joy, study, community and connection for you and your family. The programs of the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center are held in various locations, all located in New Canaan.

Temple Sinai (Reform Synagogue)
458 Lakeside Drive; Stamford, CT 06903 203.322.1649
www.templesinaistamford.org
Service Schedule:
1st, 3rd & 5th Friday – 6pm in person and via zoom
2nd & 4th – 7:30pm

Recurring Events:
Fridays at 12 PM: Torah Study
Second Saturday at 10:30 AM: Mussar
First and Third Fridays at 5:30 PM: Shabbat Service for Families with Young Children
First Saturday at 8 AM: Avodat Halev Discussion Group

Temple Sholom
300 E. Putnam Ave. Greenwich, CT 06830 203-869-7191
www.templesholom.com
Services: In-person and virtual Friday night Shabbat services, 6:30pm & Saturday morning Shabbat services, 10:30am.

Recurring Events:
Saturdays at 9 AM: Shabbat Study via zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/94358392426?pwd=bFJQem9HWFcxU0EzZUM2VENEZmgYUT09#success>

The Magic of Hawk Migration & Audubon’s Hawk Watch Festival



Brian Bradley of Skyhunters in Flight with a Spectacled Owl, one of the several live raptors attendees will see at Hawk Watch Fest. Photo: Josey Gardner

By RYAN MACLEAN

When anyone thinks of where they can view the most magical spectacles in the animal kingdom, minds instantly wander to far off environs like the African plains or the shores of Antarctica. But we just so happen to have one of the most magical marvels of animal life over our heads in Greenwich every autumn: the migration of hawks, eagles & falcons. While some of our birds of prey stay with us all year, certain species must stage an annual journey of thousands of miles twice a year from the boreal forests of Canada to the rainforests of Brazil. The Broad-Winged Hawk, whose diet is mainly insects, reptiles and amphibians, makes this journey in large groups together. On the first chilly days of mid-September, one can look to the skies to see not one, but hundreds of these birds circling together at a time.

The best places to view this spectacle are Hawk Watch sites, of which there are over 200 across the continent. Greenwich residents don’t have to travel far however, as Greenwich Audubon Center’s Quaker Ridge Hawk Watch is an easily accessible public site where all are welcome to come view hawk migration. Now in its 40th year of being staffed by an official Hawk Counter who is present Monday through Friday with volunteers on weekends, the hawk watch is conducted daily from August 20th to November 30th. Hawk Watchers are on hand to spot and count the dozens of species that migrate through our region including Bald Eagles, Osprey, Sharp-Shinned Hawks and Peregrine Falcons.

In September however it is the Broad-Winged Hawks that take center stage. When winds blow from the Northwest, hawk watchers gather with the hopes of witnessing groups of hundreds of these hawks soaring in unison as they use thermals to gain altitude. We call these swirling formations of hawks ‘kettles’ as they are like boiling water in a kettle reaching the thermal’s boiling point. While in some years these birds take different routes when wind directions blow them elsewhere, when we do have Northwest

winds we easily can count thousands of these birds in a single day. In 2023, nearly 30,000 Broad-Winged Hawks were counted over the span of three days and in both 1986 and 1995 over 30,000 were counted here in a single day!

Not only is everyone welcome to join in watching these birds, but anyone can play a crucial role in helping spot them. Community Science projects such as hawk watches are the easiest and most effective way for anyone of all walks of life and backgrounds to make an active difference in conservation. As hawks are at the top of the food chain, noted problems in their populations signal far deeper problems in our entire ecosystem. By counting these birds, scientists can assess long term population trends. The decline of Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons sounded the alarm of the effects of DDT that ultimately led to its ban in the 1970s. While thankfully these birds are success stories in their recovery, we now look at declines in other species such as Northern Harriers and American

Kestrels as indicators of new threats such as Neonicotinoids, habitat loss and climate change.

Visiting a hawk watch is the perfect opportunity not only to make an active difference but to celebrate these birds. Each year, Greenwich Audubon Center hosts our annual Hawk Watch Festival, which will be held this year on Saturday September 27th. What started as a weekend to welcome the public to come view hawk migration has turned into a highly anticipated yearly event for the Greenwich Community to gather and enjoy the gifts that birds give us. In addition to being able to visit our hawk watch, attractions include Live Birds of Prey shows where attendees can view these birds up close. Raptor Rehabilitator and Falconer groups Christine’s Critters and Skyhunters in Flight will be presenting shows at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. featuring live hawks, falcons and owls. Activities for families will include a special Hawk Mini-Golf Course, the Great Migration Game, Owl Pellet Dissecting and food provided by Happiness Is Catering. Birders looking for a new pair of binoculars can try out

But we just so happen to have one of the most magical marvels of animal life over our heads in Greenwich every autumn: the migration of hawks, eagles & falcons.



Musician & Birder Bonner Black will be appearing at Greenwich Audubon’s Hawk Watch Fest. Photo: Bonner Black

and buy optics by Zeiss and Vortex in a special Optics Alley.

As a special guest this year, we’ll be welcoming Nashville musician and birder Bonner Black, who has gained 50,000 followers on Instagram through her engaging birding-related content. She will be co-leading a bird walk at 7 a.m. and performing a set of live music at 1 p.m.. This event symbolically ends each year with the

release of a rehabilitated injured hawk back to the wild by Weston’s Wildlife In Crisis.

To join the celebration tickets for Hawk Watch Fest and other events can be purchased at audubon.org/greenwich/events

Ryan MacLean is the Sr. Coordinator of Education at the Greenwich Audubon Center. He has a background in naturalist education and ornithology.

COURAGE & FAITH

A man in a dark suit and tie is sitting at an organ console. The organ has many pipes and a keyboard. The background is dark with some lights.

OLIVIER LATRY IN CONCERT

Organist of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris

Sunday, Oct. 19, 5pm

followed by a meet & greet Wine and Hors d’oeuvres reception

One of the world’s most celebrated concert organists, Olivier Latry is an organist at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris and Organist Emeritus with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. He performs in top venues across the globe, including the Berlin Philharmonie, Vienna’s Musikverein, and Royal Albert Hall, and has appeared with major orchestras. He will be performing on the Harrison & Harrison Organ.

Tickets \$20
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christchurchgreenwich.org

A square QR code with a blue and white pattern.

A logo for Saint Barnabas Church, featuring a stylized cross and the text "SAINT BARNABAS CHURCH EPISCOPAL".

Location: Christ Church Greenwich
254 East Putnam Ave., Greenwich, CT
Courage & Faith speaker series collab
Christ Church Greenwich & St. Barnabas

A circular logo for Christ Church Greenwich, featuring a cross and the text "CHRIST CHURCH GREENWICH".

SOPHIA’S

MAKING COSTUME MAGIC SINCE 1981

Two mannequins are dressed in elaborate, historical-style costumes. One is wearing a blue and gold outfit with a large hat, and the other is wearing a red and gold outfit with a large hat. They are standing in a display case.

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A circular logo for Sophia's Costumes, featuring a woman in a costume and the text "SOPHIA'S COSTUMES RENTALS - VINTAGE FASHION".

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10 am –
1:30 pm

explore

Coffee and Tea Tastings, Handcrafted Ice Cream, Artist Talks with Ibu Rahmah, James Florio, Hannah Rose Thomas, PhD

10 am - 1:30 pm Guided coffee tastings with **Ibu Rahmah**, chairwoman of Ketiara Cooperative (Sumatra, Indonesia)

10:30 - 11:30 am Outdoor classical music ensemble led by acclaimed cellist **Arlen Hlusko**

11 am Artist talk with **James Florio** as he unveils new permanent artwork for Grace Farms

12:15 pm Artist talk with **Hannah Rose Thomas, PhD.**, as she unveils her commissioned painting

\$25 ticket includes coffee tasting, iced tea, handcrafted ice cream, and access to art openings along the Grace Farms grounds. All ages.

2–4 pm

encounter

10-Year Celebration with Sharon Prince, Chelsea Thatcher, Kazuyo Sejima of SANAA, and Joshua Bell, violinist

Infuse your afternoon with inspiration and hear Grace Farms stories from architect, **Kazuyo Sejima** of SANAA, and Grace Farms CEO & Founder **Sharon Prince**, with a cello introduction by **Arlen Hlusko**, and a featured performance by GRAMMY® Award-winning violinist **Joshua Bell**

\$75 general admission to presentation of music and conversation inside glass-enclosed amphitheater

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Town of New Canaan

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Saturday, September 27th 2025 from 8:00am to 2:00 pm

What do I bring?

From the Workbench:

Oiled Based Paints
Stains & Varnishes
Wood Preservatives
Paint Strippers & Thinners
Aerosol Cans
Adhesives

From the Garage:

Engine Degreaser
Brake Fluid
Car Wax, Polishes
Driveway Sealer
Roofing Tar
Swimming Pool Chemicals
Fuels/Gasoline/Kerosene

From the House:

Rubber Cement
Fiberglass Resins
Photo Chemicals
Chemistry Sets
Furniture Polish
Floor & Metal Polish
Oven Cleaner
Drain & Toilet Cleaner
Spot Remover
Rug Upholstery Cleaner
Mercury Thermometers

From the Yard:

Insecticides
Chemical Fertilizers
Weed Killers
Moth Balls
Flea Control Products

What Not to Bring:

Empty containers
Non- Household Generated Wastes
Radioactive Wastes/Smoke
Detectors
Biological Wastes
Prescription Medicines/Syringes
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**Wastewater
Plant
Entrance on
Main Street**

New Canaan Men’s Club to Host Land Trust Director Robin Bates-Mason

The New Canaan Men’s Club will hear from Robin Bates-Mason, recently named executive director of the New Canaan Land Trust, at its meeting on Friday, Sept. 26, in Morrill Hall at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m., with Bates-Mason’s presentation scheduled for 10:40 a.m., following the business portion of the program. She will discuss the Land Trust’s work overseeing more than 400 acres of protected open space, its network of nature trails, educational programming, and partnerships

that advance local conservation. Appointed executive director in June, Bates-Mason will also outline the organization’s future plans.

Bates-Mason has been a dedicated member of the New Canaan community for more than 25 years. With her husband Carl, she raised two sons: Peter, who now works in Washington, D.C., and Gavin, currently studying at Rice University.

Her civic career began with her election to the New Canaan Town Council, followed

by her appointment as Chairman of the Conservation Commission. She went on to co-found Planet New Canaan, a nonprofit focused on sustainability and environmental education. As its president, she spearheaded initiatives such as opening the Swap Shop, pumpkin and Christmas tree recycling, Clean Your Mile, and local river cleanups.

She also served a term as co-president of the New Canaan Beautification League and led the town’s Sustainability Team, guiding New Canaan to earn Bronze certification from

Sustainable CT.

Reflecting on her new role, Bates-Mason has expressed enthusiasm for continuing her lifelong environmental work: “I’m excited to now be part of the New Canaan Land Trust, helping to protect and steward open space in New Canaan.”

The Men’s Club, open to men age 55 and older, welcomes new members. For information, email ncmens@ncmens.info

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NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
23 Mead Street	\$1,525,000	1,974	\$773		3	2
298 Greenley Road	\$2,550,000	4,021	\$634	2	4	3
339 Old Norwalk Road	\$3,295,000	4,114	\$801	1.43	5	3
184 Marvin Ridge Road	\$3,500,000	6,220	\$563	2.14	5	4
113 Skyview Lane	\$3,995,000	5,693	\$702	1.67	5	4
62 Summersweet Lane	\$6,595,000	11,211	\$588	4.77	6	7

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
216 White Oak Shade Rd.	\$1,695,000	SAT	1:00-3:00PM	Greene Realty
339 Old Norwalk Road	\$3,295,000	SAT & SUN	1:00-4:00PM	William Raveis
317 Park Street	\$3,895,000	SUN	11:00AM-1:00PM	WPSIR
31 East Avenue Unit 39-1	\$3,700	SUN	12:00-2:00 PM	Sotheby's
31 East Avenue Unit 39-2	\$4,950	SUN	12:00-2:00 PM	Sotheby's
213 Marvin Ridge Road	\$2,350,000	SUN	1:00-3:00PM	Keller Williams

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
15 Bank Street	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,300,000	11	3	2	
312 Elm Street Unit #9	\$1,299,000	\$1,299,000	\$1,425,000	41	3	2	
37 Woodridge Circle	\$1,850,000	\$1,850,000	\$1,982,000	13	4	2	2.15
105 Clearview Lane	\$3,995,000	\$3,995,000	\$4,000,800	4	4	4	3.03

Compass Buys Anywhere. What It Means on Elm Street.

Eight storefronts, no king.



BY JOHN ENGEL

Compass will acquire Anywhere Real Estate in an all-stock deal valued at \$1.6 billion, while assuming about \$2.6 billion of Anywhere's debt. The combined enterprise value is about \$10 billion. Reported targets include \$225-\$255 million in annual cost savings and a combined footprint of roughly 100,000 company agents plus 250,000 franchise agents. Nearly one in four U.S. agents will now be under the same roof. (Spoiler alert: not so in New Canaan.)

Anywhere brings the global reach. Its brands — Coldwell Banker, Sotheby's International Realty, Century 21, ERA, Corcoran, and Better Homes & Gardens — add up to nearly 18,000 offices, 100,000 agents, and another 250,000 franchised associates across 119 countries and territories. Coldwell Banker alone operates in 48 countries. This merger instantly gives Compass international scale it never had and U.S. breadth to spread technology and back-office costs.

Why pay a premium for a company with debt? The answer lies in valuation. Compass has always pitched itself as a technology company. In 2020, it generated \$3.7 billion of revenue, lost \$270 million, and was still valued at \$6.4 billion. Anywhere, by contrast, produced \$5.7 billion of revenue last year but carries \$2.6 billion of debt. In Q2 2025, it managed \$27 million of profit on \$1.7 billion of revenue — margins too thin to excite investors, who gave it a book value of only \$800 million, a relative steal. Compass reported \$2.06 billion that quarter and finally turned cash-flow positive, with \$68 million in free cash flow, even while it still posts net losses.

Compass must grow as long as investors continue to buy the growth story built on 97.5% agent retention, 24 logins a week per agent, and a tech platform sticky enough to justify a premium. That is why Compass can pay 84% above Anywhere's stock price, using shares instead of cash, and convince the Street the math works. That's why Compass bought @properties and Christie's International Real Estate earlier this year, and that's why they unsuccessfully bid \$4 per share for Douglas Elliman when the stock was trading around \$2.

For Compass, three strategic reasons stand out.

First, domestic share: With nearly 25% of U.S. transactions, Compass has less need to pay costly bonuses and high splits to poach top agents in strategic markets.

Second, international reach: Coldwell Banker's network alone plants the Compass flag in 48 countries.

Third, efficiency: Compass spends heavily on technology, and spreading those fixed costs across 350,000 agents and layering in \$225-\$255 million of cost cuts makes the financial model look sustainable.

Over the past twenty years, most New Canaan signs changed hands: Barbara Cleary's Realty Guild → Halstead (2015) → Brown Harris Stevens (2020); Brotherhood & Higley → Kelly Associates → Houlihan Lawrence (2015); HL later acquired by Berkshire Hathaway's HomeServices in 2017,

name kept); Prudential Connecticut Realty → Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices (2013); William Pitt Sotheby's shifted control when BLT bought into the franchise (2008); Mabel Lamb folded into Coldwell Banker.

Today, the market is competitive and fragmented: eight firms with storefronts in a one-square-mile core, none above 20% share. Offices: Compass (111 Cherry St.), Coldwell Banker (170 Main St.), William Pitt Sotheby's BLT-owned local franchise (26 Cherry St.), Brown Harris Stevens (93 Cherry St.), Douglas Elliman (199 Elm St.), William Raveis (4 Elm St.), and Houlihan Lawrence (161 Elm St.). The Agency maintains an office on South Avenue but didn't crack the top 25 local firms. By volume, Compass is #4 and Coldwell Banker #6, and together they'll be ~19% of market share, within two percentage points of William Pitt Sotheby's, William Raveis, and Houlihan Lawrence. Note: William Pitt Sotheby's carries the Sotheby's brand but is independent of the Compass+Anywhere deal due to BLT's ownership; Brown Harris Stevens and Raveis are family-owned; and Elliman is independent and publicly traded.

Clients have already lived through the shifts. When Cleary's sign came down, when Brotherhood & Higley sold, when Prudential became Berkshire Hathaway, the brokers remained but the names changed. Each deal promised continuity, yet the landscape tilted more toward regional flags.

Now, the biggest merger in U.S. real estate history lands on Elm Street and Main Street, where buyers and sellers see eight brands with retail storefronts competing for their listing.

Why does the national news matter locally? There are four quick effects to watch.

First, recruiting: If Compass controls both sides of the split wars, the constant churn of agents chasing the richest offer may slow.

Second, office overlaps: The companies have promised \$225-\$255 million in savings. That usually means fewer back-office roles and fewer storefronts. New Canaan, Darien, and Stamford have multiple overlapping offices, and we're starting to see the first wave of closures.

Third, international referrals: Compass now controls the Anywhere referral pipeline, which spans 119 countries. That could benefit New Canaan's relocation and luxury clients.

Fourth, branding: Anywhere owns Coldwell Banker and Sotheby's International Realty, but the local Sotheby's office is a franchise. If national strategy shifts, local marketing could follow.

Reaction in the industry was swift. Ryan Serhant, speaking from the back of a car, told agents, "If you woke up today being told you have to wear a jersey you did not choose..." His point was simple: Corporate consolidation makes agents feel like headcount. That line struck a chord because it captures the trade-off: Wall Street values size, but agents value identity and service.

Big mergers change headlines; they don't sell houses. Real estate isn't a commodity — this isn't books or diapers moving through a warehouse. It's a relationship business built on trust, timing, and judgment. In New Canaan, results come from knowing which buyer is flying in on Friday, which school streets fill first, what a south-facing kitchen is worth in February, and how to price so

you get action in week one, not excuses in week six.

What actually wins listings here is human: straight talk on value, a plan for presentation, the contractor list that shows up tomorrow, photography that fits the season, open houses that feel like an invitation, follow-through that doesn't miss a call at 9 p.m. Technology can help; scale can widen a referral path. But neither meets the appraiser, calms a nervous seller, or rescues a deal after inspection.

So yes, the logo on the sign may change again. The work won't. New platforms will come, costs will be shaved, brands will reposition. The advantage in New Canaan still goes to the people who show up, tell

the truth, solve problems, and stay with the client from first conversation to closing. That's how this story gets written — one relationship, one listing, one negotiation at a time.

John Engel is a broker on the Engel Team at Douglas Elliman, and he is working on a sale in Easton this week. Beautiful country up there, apple picking and Christmas tree farms. Unfortunately, an accident shut down the Merritt Parkway this morning and many thousands of cars could not get from there to here for hours, a stark reminder of the fragility of the Connecticut commute and the dependence of our communities on the Parkway.

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A pristine home sited on one private acre on a cul-de-sac. A bright new and well-equipped kitchen, including refrigerator, stove, and oven. Living room with fireplace, large dining area, family room and children's playroom, also a screened porch to enjoy those beautiful views. Four bedrooms and three full baths make this home right for the growing family. A great neighborhood setting priced at \$262,000
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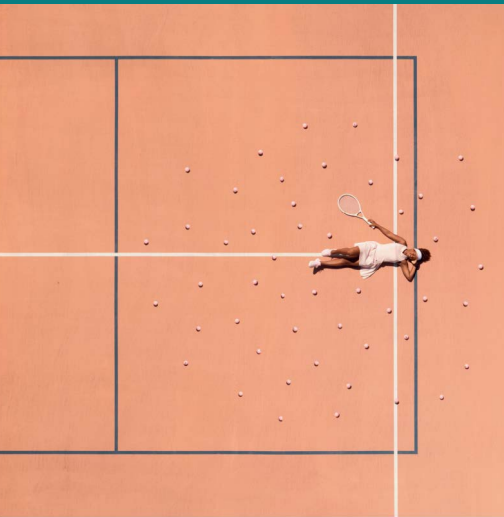
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TEL: (203) 966-2622
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Estimate representative in New Canaan of
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LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will hold a public hearing on the proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, on the 25th day of September, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office, 162 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut. The amendments are as follows:
Application of Mr. John C. Bennett for a license to sell alcoholic beverages in the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, on the 25th day of September, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office, 162 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut. The amendments are as follows:
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Application

Escape to
Paradise.

Escape to
Bermuda.

Fly Non-Stop from Westchester
County Airport to Bermuda's
many extraordinary golf
courses in just 2 Hours.

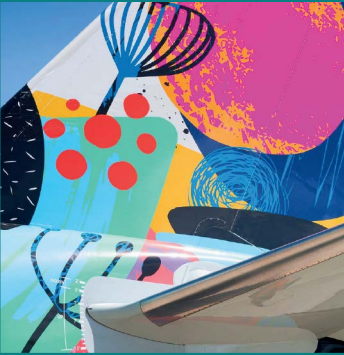


Bermuda is closer
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Enjoy free Wi-Fi, complimentary snacks and drinks, no middle
seats, and warm Bermudian hospitality from takeoff to landing.

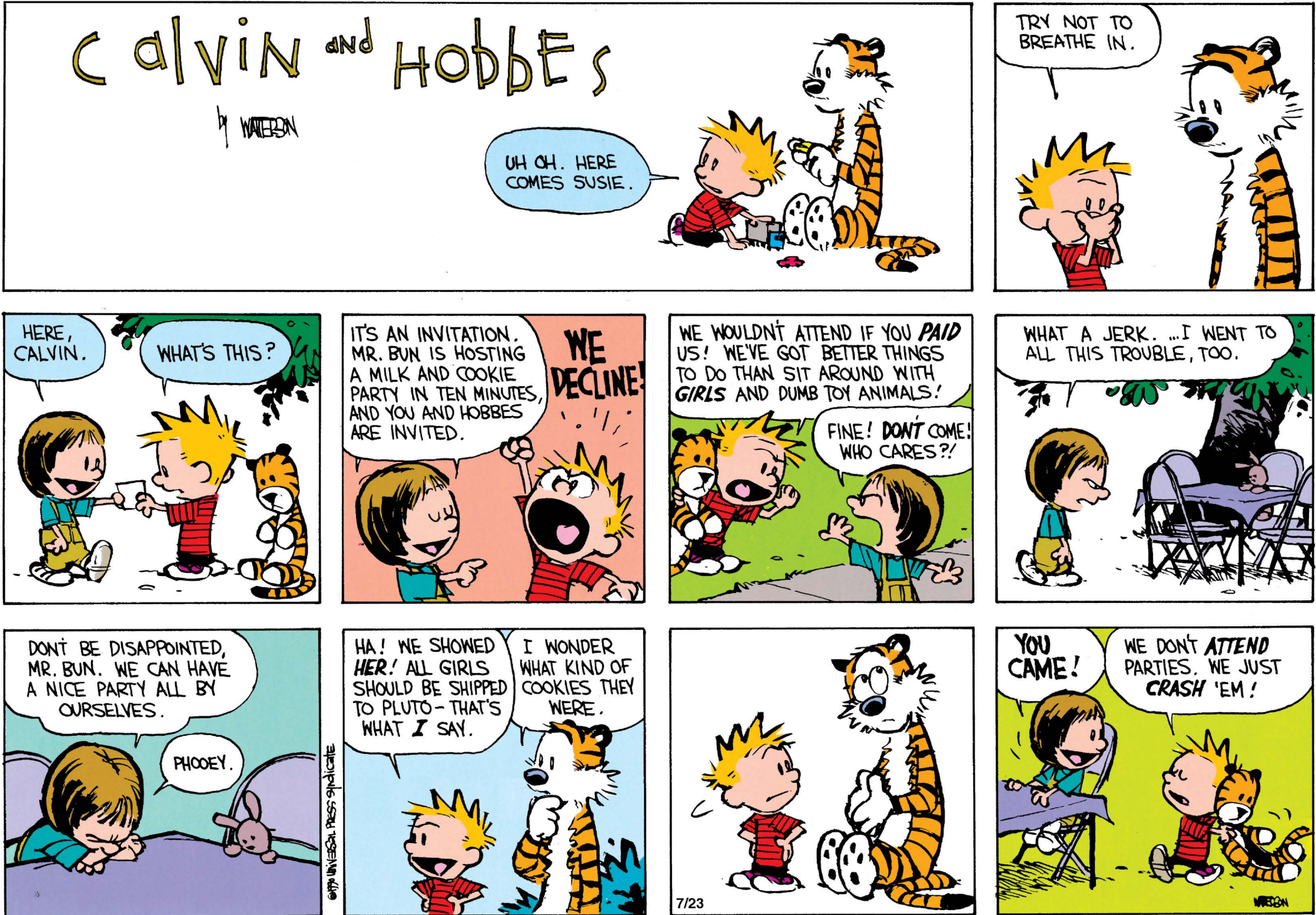


Your Island Golf Escape Awaits.

BERMUDA *AIR*

EDUCATION

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



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WILDLY SUCCESSFUL: RED PANDA

The Cutest Little "Beast"



BY JIM KNOX

Equal parts fierce and cute... the Red Panda gains both our respect and our caring. Perhaps in the panda, we see a bit of ourselves.

Nature has a habit of presenting us with conundrums. From flightless birds to duck-billed mammals, to sprinting tortoises (yes, they exist!), we are constantly astounded and rewarded when Mother Nature reveals her rule-breaking handiwork. As humans, we crave order. We want a nice, logical place for everything and everything in its place. Thank goodness nature embraces originality and innovation because it's through these rule-breaking creatures and the, can't-quite-put-a-name-to-a-face beasts, that we learn so much.

Leading the ranks of these species is *Ailurus fulgens* or the Red Panda. This medium-sized mammal is widely known by all, yet simultaneously, well understood by few. Commonly called cat-bear, Firefox and Lesser Panda (they're particularly sensitive about this one), the Red Panda is related to many, more familiar beasts. Distantly related to Giant Pandas, and closer kin to raccoons, Red Pandas are the only living member of their taxonomic family, the Ailuridae. Not surprisingly, the Red Panda

possesses familiar and highly advantageous traits from their distant cousins. From its stocky, bear-shaped body, to its foxlike ears, and ringed, raccoon-like tail, this modest beast is superbly adapted to an arboreal life among the cool mountainous forests of the Himalayan region.

Originally classified as a carnivore, the Red Panda possesses stout jaws and sharp teeth yet these omnivores prefer to eat tender bamboo shoots and leaves over meat, 98% of the time. Rounding out their diet with the occasional fruit, insect, bird egg, bird or small mammal, Red Pandas adapt well to seasonal scarcity and abundance, exploiting available food sources. Reaching 3.5 feet in length and tipping the scales at 7-14 pounds, the panda is the size of a fox. Like its distant cousin the Red Fox, this beast also sports a flaming red coat with occasional gold highlights. Rounding out its appearance, the panda possesses a pointy snout, white patches of facial fur, black fur extending to its legs and bear-like paws, and a long ringed bushy

tail, tipped with black or white. This coloration actually aids them as camouflage among the reddish-brown mosses and white lichens in the Fir canopy of their native forests.

A closer look reveals a creature boasting specialized skills. The panda's reddish-brown "tear marks" extend from its eyes to the corners of its mouth and serve to keep the sun's glare out of its eyes. The raccoon-like tail aids in providing both exceptional balance high above the forest floor, and in warming the panda's face and body when draped over to conserve warmth. Semi-retractable claws provide excellent gripping capability when climbing and the panda's extraordinarily flexible ankles enable this beast to climb headfirst down tree trunks. Like Giant Pandas, they possess a modified wrist bone known as a pseudo-thumb which enables them to grasp and manipulate bamboo and other foods, with deft, nearly hand-like ability. Though crepuscular, or active at dawn and dusk periods, Red Pandas modify their schedules and



activity to conserve energy. Colder temperatures prompt temporary dormancy, yet under such conditions, the panda remarkably raises its metabolic rate every few hours to search for food.

My work confers the privilege of working with animals such as the Red Panda. They are part of a program known as an S.S.P. or Species Survival Plan, a highly-coordinated worldwide effort — administered regionally at Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo — to breed endangered creatures, educate guests and restore species populations to the wild. Over the years, I've found that when guests can relate to an animal or species, they are far more likely to protect them. It's natural to want to protect what we have grown to understand and love... or at least care about.

The Red Panda is considered one of the world's few "Peter Pan" animals who never outgrows it's youthful appearance... and it is

precisely this fact that aids this animal who needs all the help it can muster. With a habitat under increasing threat from climate shift, illegal logging and other environmental degradation, the Red Panda needs a superpower. Enter cuteness. In nature, cute doesn't exactly yield dividends, yet in the human world, cute can engender caring, rally support, and generate conservation action. As a species, when we protect cute, we extend that protection to all of the plants and animals who live in the same habitat. For every Red Panda or Sugar Glider, there is an Atlantic Hagfish or Marabou Stork benefitting from their more photogenic neighbors.

In the panda, we see a creature who is not quite what it seems on the surface. We encounter a beast with one set of obvious characteristics and another, more discrete compliment of on-demand traits which it employs with great effect. Perhaps not the boldest

creature, but highly capable when necessary. Familiar to most but truly understood by few. It is a rule-breaking innovator when the situation calls for it and a creature whose appeal belies its capability. Equal parts fierce and cute... the Red Panda gains both our respect and our caring. Perhaps in the panda, we see a bit of ourselves. If you haven't become acquainted with these humble creatures, I encourage you to take some time out of your busy week to visit them, read about them, check out a "Panda Cam" <https://www.beardsleyzoo.org/indoor-red-panda.html> or otherwise get to know the little beast behind that adorable face.

Jim Knox serves as the Curator of Education for Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo and as a Science Adviser for The Bruce Museum. A member of The Explorers Club, Jim enjoys sharing his passion for wildlife conservation with audiences throughout Connecticut and beyond.



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

TOWN MEETINGS

Wednesday, October 1

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

Thursday, October 2

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

September 26

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.

Lunch with a Purpose | Citizens of Humanity and west-bourne
11 AM- 2 PM at Grace Farms
Join for a lunch and conversation featuring Amy Williams, CEO of Citizens of Humanity Group and Camilla Marcus, chef and founder of west-bourne. They discuss how the essential pillars of food, clothing, and shelter are driving change toward a more sustainable and ethical future in a conversation moderated by Karen Kariuki. Lunch will be a 4-course vegetarian meal. Register at <https://shorturl.at/4tpYg>.

The Rotary Club of New Canaan’s 40th Annual Lobsterfest
4-8 PM at Waveny House
How would you like to enjoy your lobster and other meals? Dine in at the Waveny House veranda or order curb-side take away. The menu will include lobster, lobster rolls, beef tenderloin, chicken, vegetarian cheese lasagna and a kid’s meal. More information and tickets are available at <https://www.newcanaanrotarylobsterfest.org>.

September 27

Cider Saturday
10 AM- 2 PM at New Canaan Nature Center
Join Cider Saturday for cider press demonstrations, apple slingshots, a pumpkin scavenger hunt, baked apples, and more! Tickets are \$15/person and available at <https://newcanaannature.org/cider-saturday/>.

Last Saturday on the Trail: Forest Bathing
10 AM at Still Pond / Fowler Reserve
Join for a gentle walk through the woods –no rush, no agenda, just the quiet joy of noticing nature right here in New Canaan. Register at <https://shorturl.at/zKyvq>.

Birdwatching Walk
11 AM at Grace Farms
Birdwatchers of all ages and experience are invited to join for guided walks led by birding expert Brian O’Toole. Through guided walks, connect with the purpose of the ecosystems we inhabit, the vibrant life that’s a part of it, and our role in maintaining and adding to it. Register at <https://shorturl.at/GRqIL>.

September 28

Waveny Park Arts Festival
10 AM- 4 PM in Waveny Park
The Waveny Park Arts Festival will feature 50 artist & artisan vendors, live music & entertainment, food trucks, and more. For more information visit <https://carriagebarn.org/2025-artsfest-application/>.

September 29

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. Register at <https://shorturl.at/ZaI5t>.

A Visit to “The Dome” | New Canaan High School’s Planetarium and Theater
3 PM at the Lapham Center
This immersive and interactive learning theater will astound you. The Dome provides an educational experience you will not want to miss. Take the short drive or walk over to the high school to witness this spectacular venue. Call now to register: 203-594-3620.

The Joy of Deep Sleep Meditation with Joy Hoffman
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

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

reinvigorated after the session. There will be no yoga poses. \$140/person. Register at <https://shorturl.at/BlvDS>.

September 30

Tech and Intergenerational Connections: WhatsApp and SnapChat
With Cooper Young and George Geist
1 PM at the Lapham Center
Cooper Young and George Geist are returning this fall to lead informative tutorials on popular apps that can help you stay connected to your children and grandchildren. This time, they’ll focus on two favorites: WhatsApp and Snapchat. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

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.

October 1

Retirement by Design: Creating a Future You Can Count On
10 AM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
In this session, learn how to build wealth, create income, and adapt to the unexpected. Build or update a retirement plan that reflects your values, priorities, and lifestyle. Whether retirement is ten years away or already underway, this session will give you the tools and confidence to shape your future—on your terms. Register at <https://shorturl.at/I6Ldl>.

Guided Fairtrade Coffee Tasting | International Coffee Day
10 AM at Grace Farms
Start the day with purpose by experiencing a premium coffee tasting guided by Adam Thatcher. Thatcher will share tastes and stories of crafting and sourcing exceptional Fairtrade coffee. Registration includes a 12 oz. bag of Grace Farms coffee. Register at <https://shorturl.at/xCBIZ>.

Movie Screening, Dinner and Conversation with Claire Ayoub
5 PM at the Lapham Center
Join for dinner, a screening of Empire Waist, and conversation with New Canaan’s own Claire Ayoub. Empire Waist is a heartfelt comedy about teens learning to love their bodies through fashion design and friendship. Claire will discuss the film after the viewing. Registration required, call 203-594-3620.

October 2

Navigating Medicare.gov: Your Guide to Medicare Options Presented by Dick Neville & Kathy Collins
11 AM at the Lapham Center
Join for a step-by-step presentation on how to use Medicare.gov to access, review and update your Medicare coverage. Learn to compare plans, check current benefits, and make changes during open enrollment using the official Medicare website. To register, call (203) 594-3620. Free event.

October 3

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.

Crafty Kids Grand Opening
4-7 PM at 91 Main Street
Join for an afternoon of creativity, fun, and hands-on activities as Crafty Kids opens their doors to the community.

October 4

Harvest Festival | Nature on Tap
7-10 PM at the New Canaan Nature Center
The Harvest Festival is an adult only evening featuring live music and local microbreweries and wine. The festival is a fundraiser for the Nature Center. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/wamgY>.

October 5

The Bard At Bristow – An Immersive Stroll
11 AM- 3 PM at Bristow Bird Sanctuary
Immerse yourself in William Shakespeare’s timeless tales on a scenic stroll through Bristow Bird Sanctuary. Professional actors and musicians bring to life beloved scenes and songs inspired by Shakespeare’s greatest works. Groups of 15–20 will depart every 15 minutes for a 45-50 minute traveling experience. Tickets available at <https://stonc.org>.

October 7

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.

Author Talk: Clare Leslie Hall, "Broken Country"
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Clare Leslie Hall talks about her New York Times bestselling novel, Broken Country with fellow author Martha Hall Kelly. A love story with the pulse of a thriller, Broken Country, is a heart-pounding novel about impossible choices and devastating consequences. Register at <https://shorturl.at/LQQW3>.

October 8

Fall Prevention Presented by Nicholas Rutigliano, DPT, ATC
10 AM at the Lapham Center
Join Nicholas Rutigliano to learn practical steps to stay safe, steady and independent. Falls are a leading cause of injury-related deaths among adults aged 65 and older. Rutigliano is a Doctor of Physical Therapy and Certified Athletic Trainers, affiliated with Yale New Haven Greenwich Hospital. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure Clinic
12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
Ellen Samai from New Canaan’s Department of Health provides in-person blood sugar and blood pressure testing. Walk-ins welcome. If you plan to have your blood sugar level tested, it is recommended you fast for four hours prior to testing. For more information, call (203) 594-3620.

Glass House Presents: Manresa Wilds and Beyond
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Kate Orff, FASLA is the founder of SCAPE, a landscape architecture and urban design practice. Kate will share SCAPE’s ethos and working method and describe some of SCAPE’s signature work including Oyster-tecture and Living Breakwaters in New York Harbor, Tom Lee Park in Memphis, TN, and the new Manresa WILDS Park in Norwalk, CT. Register at <https://shorturl.at/RfZZZ>.

October 9

Free Medicare Counseling
By appointment at the Lapham Center
Dick Neville, a CHOICES certified Medicare counselor, provides objective, person-centered assistance about Medicare options and related benefits. Available to New Canaan residents and Town employees. Call 203-594-3620 to schedule an appointment.

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

Staying Put Annual Meeting
4:30 PM at the Lapham Center
Join Staying Put for their annual meeting. Step Into Wellness: Foot Care Essentials with Dr. Tauber. To register, call (203) 966-7762.

Wine Tasting with Francos Wine Merchants
6-8 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society
Kick off October4design with wine tasting. Enjoy French, Italian and American wines and champagnes. There will be passed hors d’oeuvres to compliment the wines. Space is limited. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/IL0gZ>.

October 10

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 of Witch
7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
A charming devil arrives in the quiet village of Edmonton to bargain for the souls of its residents in exchange for their darkest wishes. Elizabeth should be his easiest target, having been labeled a "witch" and cast out by the town, but her soul is not so readily bought. More information is available at <https://tpnc.org>.

October 11

10 Year Celebration of Grace Farms
2 PM at Grace Farms
Celebrate with music commemorating the moment from world-renowned musicians, and a can't-miss discussion . More information and tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/sxkRc>.

10 Years of Grace Farms | Benefit Sunset Dinner
5-9 PM at Grace Farms
Join Grace Farms for their Benefit Dinner, curated by renowned culinary creator Peter Callahan. Acclaimed artists will guide you through a progression of discovery, transforming each course into a captivating moment that awakens your senses. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/nqAgm>.

Faster Things – Allman Brothers Tribute
7 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
If you love the music of the original Allman Brothers Band, you will love Faster Things – the Allman Brothers Tribute Band. Faster Things conjures the twin guitar harmonies and searing slide guitar sounds, hammond organ, harmony guitar and unusual time signatures of the original Allman Brothers band with passion. Advance tickets are \$25 and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/faster-things/>.

October 14

Medicare 2026: Understanding Changes and Coverage Options
1 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Lou and Jessica Pelletier will help you navigate the complexities of Medicare in 2026, including the Parts and the important new changes to Medicare drug plans rolling out in 2026. Register at <https://shorturl.at/rfIq>.

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.

October Candlelit Sound Bath
6:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
After a brief grounding meditation, you’ll be enveloped in a symphony of harmonious vibrations, produced by an assortment of crystal and Himalayan singing bowls, chimes, gongs, drums and more. \$40/person. Register at <https://shorturl.at/RLCMR>.

The Sandwich Generation, presented by Waveny
6:45 PM at the New Canaan Library
Join a presentation by Waveny LifeCare Network and New Canaan CARES, "The Sandwich Generation". More information will be available at www.newcanaancares.org.

7 Ways to Support Your Student’s Studying & Executive Functions
Online at 7 PM
In this webinar, you’ll discover proven strategies to help your child develop the study skills, organization, and focus they need to succeed, while keeping your own stress in check. Register at <https://shorturl.at/bGYg0>.

October 15

Lunch and Learn with Tiger Mann | State of the Streets and Future Public Work Projects 2025/26
12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
Tiger Mann, Director of Public Works, will present an update on the current condition of our streets and share details on upcoming infrastructure projects. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Living Well Now & Later Series: Brain Health & Mental Fitness
1 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Nurture your brain. Enhance your life. Discover science-backed tips to keep your brain healthy and engaged at every age. From memory-boosting habits to techniques for staying emotionally strong, you’ll gain tools to support lifelong mental clarity and well-being. Register at <https://shorturl.at/wZaMI>.

Fall Candle Making workshop with Oh D’Luxe Candle Company
6:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Join for a fun and interactive Fall Candle Making Workshop. In this hands-on class, you’ll create your own 9 oz pure soy wax candle—from picking the perfect wick and blending your signature scent, to swirling it

10 years grace farms

oct 11,
2025

you're invited

Spend the day with a global community committed to creating more grace and peace in the world

10am –
1:30pm

explore

Coffee and Tea Tastings, Handcrafted Ice Cream, Artist Talks with Ibu Rahmah, James Florio, Hannah Rose Thomas, PhD

10 am - 1:30 pm Guided coffee tastings with **Ibu Rahmah**, chairwoman of Ketiara Cooperative (Sumatra, Indonesia)

10:30 - 11:30 am Outdoor classical music ensemble led by acclaimed cellist **Arlen Hlusko**

11 am Artist talk with **James Florio** as he unveils new permanent artwork for Grace Farms

12:15 pm Artist talk with **Hannah Rose Thomas, PhD.**, as she unveils her commissioned painting

\$25 ticket includes coffee tasting, iced tea, handcrafted ice cream, and access to art openings along the Grace Farms grounds. All ages.

2–4pm

encounter

10-Year Celebration with Sharon Prince, Chelsea Thatcher, Kazuyo Sejima of SANAA, and Joshua Bell, violinist

Infuse your afternoon with inspiration and hear Grace Farms stories from architect, **Kazuyo Sejima** of SANAA, and Grace Farms CEO & Founder **Sharon Prince**, with a cello introduction by **Arlen Hlusko**, and a featured performance by GRAMMY® Award-winning violinist **Joshua Bell**

\$75 general admission to presentation of music and conversation inside glass-enclosed amphitheater

Purchase your tickets



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Special Recognition – Builder of Grace Farms

Sciame
WHERE BUILDING IS AN ART

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

into the wax and designing your custom label. Register at <https://shorturl.at/NwNhK>.

October 16

Sip and Paint with Clever and Crafty | Appetizers and Drinks
5-7 PM at the Lapham Center
Join for a fun evening of painting, appetizers and wine. Space limited, reserve early. \$10/person at the door. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

October 17

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.

Introduction to LinkedIn Learning
3 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
In this class, learn how to get started with LinkedIn Learning, a resource that you can use to learn new skills at your own pace, with over 16,000 professionally designed courses available for free. Register at <https://shorturl.at/wjxUA>.

The Harvard Five Documentary Film Screening
7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
New Canaan Library is delighted to share the incredible film by New Canaan's own Devon Chivvis. “The Harvard 5: a story of love, architecture, and a design revolution” documentary film tells the little-known story of five ground-breaking architects and designers who ignited a modern design revolution from the least likely place – colonial New Canaan, CT. Register at <https://shorturl.at/LPLio>.

October 18

Modern House Day Tour + Symposium
9:15 AM- 4:30 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society
This year’s tour includes homes by Philip Johnson, John Johansen, Bimel Kehm, and a newly-built residence reflecting mid-century ideals through modern innovation, open plans, and nature integration. Attendees will tour in small buses, guided by knowledgeable architects. A catered boxed lunch will be provided. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/hDVcf>.

“Exploring Your Vision In Paint” Workshop With Landscape Artist Jonathan McPhillips
10 AM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Join renowned landscape artist Jonathan McPhillips for a one-day workshop that is open to artists of all levels working in any paint medium. Spaces are limited—sign up early to reserve your spot. Tickets are \$155/members, \$180/ non-members, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/jonathanmcpPhillips/>.

October 19

Caffeine & Carburetors
7 AM at Waveny
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>.
October 20
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. Register at <https://shorturl.at/YhhGf>.

October 22

Breakfast with the New Canaan Sentinel
10:30 AM at the Lapham Center
Join for breakfast with the Sentinel! In an era where facts matter more than ever, the New Canaan Sentinel, is committed to delivering trust-worthy news, compelling stories, and diverse perspectives—more than just a publication—it's a platform built on the principles of integrity, transparency, and public service. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure Clinic
12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
Ellen Samai from New Canaan’s Department of Health provides in-person blood sugar and blood pressure testing. Walk-ins welcome. If you plan to have your blood sugar level tested, it is recommended you fast for four hours prior to testing. For more information, call (203) 594-3620.

Safe and Sound: Home Modifications for Aging in Place Presented by Kevin Finn
12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
This presentation explores practical, affordable and effective modifications and assistive devices that can make our homes safer and more comfortable as we age. Lunch sponsored by Staying Put in New Canaan. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Investing with Intention: How to Build a Smarter, More Strategic Portfolio
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
In this session, break down what asset allocation really means and how to use it to reduce risk, grow your wealth, and avoid emotional decision-making. Whether you're just getting started or refining your strategy, this session will help you invest with more confidence. Register at <https://shorturl.at/yMNF9>.

October 25

In the Heights | A staged concert
7 PM at the New Canaan Library
In the Heights tells the universal story of a vibrant community in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood – a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open, and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. Tickets are available at <https://www.connecticutstagecompany.org>.

October 26

In the Heights | A staged concert
2 PM at the New Canaan Library
In the Heights tells the universal story of a vibrant

community in New York’s Washington Heights neighborhood – a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open, and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. Tickets are available at <https://www.connecticutstagecompany.org>.

October 28

Night Driving Tips for Safety and Confidence | A Virtual AARP Driver Safety Workshop
11 AM at the Lapham Center
This AARP Driver Safety workshop offers practical tips for safe, more confident nighttime driving, along with insights on age-related vision changes, updated headlight technology and helpful driver-assist tools. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

October 29

Preserving Nature Close to Home: An Intro to the New Canaan Land Trust Presented by Robin Bates Mason, Executive Director
12 PM at the Lapham Center
Discover the New Canaan Land Trust: Past, Present, and Future. Join Executive Director Robin Bates-Mason for an insightful lunch and learn detailing the history of the NCLT and its strategic vision for the future. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Mattering in the Modern World presented by New Canaan CARES
7 PM at Saxe Middle School
Join Jennifer Wallace in conversation with Kelly Corrigan. Open to ALL Community Members. More information will be available at www.newcanaancares.org.

October 30

Halloween Bingo
12-2 PM at the Lapham Center
Join for lunch, BINGO, and prizes for the best costume! Costumes encouraged. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Halloween Graveyard Tour with Dede Bartlett
3 PM at 352 Main St., New Canaan
Join for a guided walking tour at Lakeview. Learn about the history of the cemetery, and of the fascinating individuals whose lives impacted New Canaan and beyond. Meet in the parking area near the administrative building. Treats will be served. Tickets available at <https://shorturl.at/WcW6Q>.

SAVE THE DATE

November 1

The Way of an Athlete | A Workshop with Kerri Walsh Jennings
3 PM at Grace Farms
Join for The Way of an Athlete with three-time Olympic Gold Medalist and five-time Olympian Kerri Walsh Jennings/ This three-part experience is designed for student athletes in every sport, ages 12+. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/soPc0>.

November 4

Medicare: What’s New for 2026 | Presented by Southern Connecticut Agency of Aging
11 AM at the Lapham Center
Learn more about your Medicare options, including changes and updates for

2026. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

November 6

Fraud Prevention Tips with the New Canaan Police Department Presented by Officer Adams and Officer Coughlin
11 AM at the Lapham Center
Financial scams and identity theft are constantly evolving. Staying informed helps you recognize and avoid the latest schemes. Reduce your risk of becoming a victim by attending this presentation. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

November 12

Thanksgiving Lunch at Lapham
12 PM at the Lapham Center
Enjoy traditional Thanksgiving favorites from Walter Stewarts, followed by some great music and entertainment from Tommy and Cuz. \$10/person. Call 203-594-3620 to reserve your spot.

November 22

Holiday Market
10 AM- 5 PM at the New Canaan Nature Center
The New Canaan Nature Center will kick off the holiday season by hosting their Holiday Market! There will be unique gifts items including jewelry, candles, and much more. School of Rock will also be playing some holiday cheer!

December 10

Annual Holiday Party
Waveny House
Save the date for the Lapham Center's Holiday Party. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

BLOOD DRIVES

Friday, September 26

VFW
465 Riverside Avenue
Westport, CT 06880
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Saturday, September 27

Greenwich Blood Donation Center
99 Indian Field Road
Greenwich, CT 06830
7:00 AM – 3:15 PM

Sunday, September 28

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

Monday, September 29

Masonic Lodge DARIEN
354 Post Road
Darien, CT 06820
11:15 AM – 4:15 PM

Green's Farms Church
71 Hillandale Road
Westport, CT 06880
1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Tuesday, September 30

Stamford Church of Christ
1264 High Ridge Road
Stamford, CT 06903
8:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Wednesday, October 1

Holy Spirit Church
403 Scofieldtown Rd
Stamford, CT 06903
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Greenwich Blood Donation Center
99 Indian Field Road
Greenwich, CT 06830
7:00 AM – 5:15 PM

Thursday, October 2

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

Support Services & Meetings

September 26

Suicide Prevention Training: QPR
11 AM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference 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 and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/bdc2vasm>.

September 30

NeuroSpark+ Presents: 2e Parents - Connection Circle
10 AM at the New Canaan Library, Arlene H. Grushkin Children's Program Room
This gathering is a safe, supportive space for parents to connect, share, and recharge. Whether you're just beginning to wonder if your child might be 2e, or you've been on this journey for years, you'll find resonance, understanding, and community. Register at <https://shorturl.at/CAQNy>.

October 1

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

October 12

Library Orientation with Inclusive Together
11 AM at the New Canaan Library, Kontulis Family Storytime Room
New Canaan Library is partnering with Inclusive Together to offer an exclusive Library Orientation for parents/caregivers and their children. This event is designed for those who appreciate a quieter, less crowded environment. Register at <https://shorturl.at/LNcky>.

October 14

Legal Essentials for Caregivers with Michael Nedder from Nedder and Associates
12:30 PM at the Lapham Center
This presentation will cover the key legal documents every caregiver should understand—such as powers of attorney, advance directives, guardianship, will and HIPAA authorizations. You’ll also learn how to advocate for your loved one’s rights while protecting yourself legally. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

November 4

Medicare: What’s New for 2026 | Presented by Southern Connecticut Agency of Aging
11 AM at the Lapham Center
Join if you would like to learn more about your Medicare options, including changes and updates for 2026. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Every Friday

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

Every Saturday

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

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

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

Every Monday

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

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

Every Tuesday

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

Every Wednesday

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

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

Every Thursday

AA Big Book Meeting.
Wheelchair Access
Thursdays at 7:30 AM
Congregational Church of New Canaan

New Canaan Parent Support Group
7- 8:30 PM
St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
New Canaan

Our Neighbors






September 27






Plates with Purpose
5-7 PM at Serafresca at the IC, 1620 Newfield Ave. Stamford
Join Filling in the Blanks for food, fun, and festivities. Enjoy specialty cocktails, a silent auction, and celebrate their Philanthropist of the Year, Shonda Rhimes. The evening will help raise funds to support Filling in the Blanks’ mission to fight childhood hunger in local communities. Tickets are available at <https://e.givesmart.com/events/fji0/>.






October 2






FALL in Love with Cars
5-7:30 PM at Atria Darien
50 Ledge Road
Residents, families, and neighbors are invited to stroll the grounds, admire a stunning collection of classic cars, and savor the flavors of autumn. The event blends tradition and timeless style with warmth, laughter, and plenty of reasons to celebrate the season together. To register your vehicle, contact (203) 223-9664. To RSVP (required), text your full name(s) to (475) 205-3671.






How many are they?

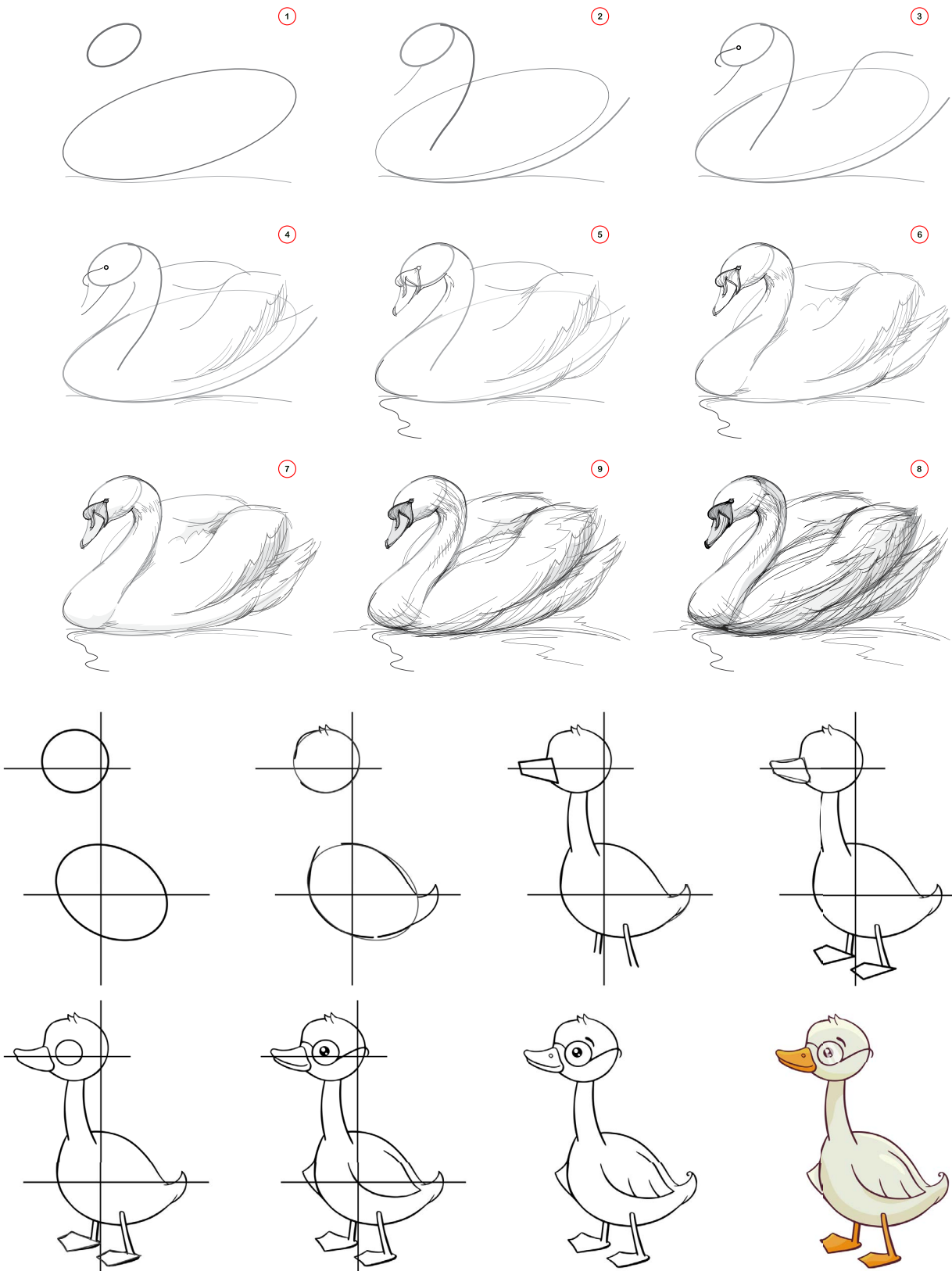
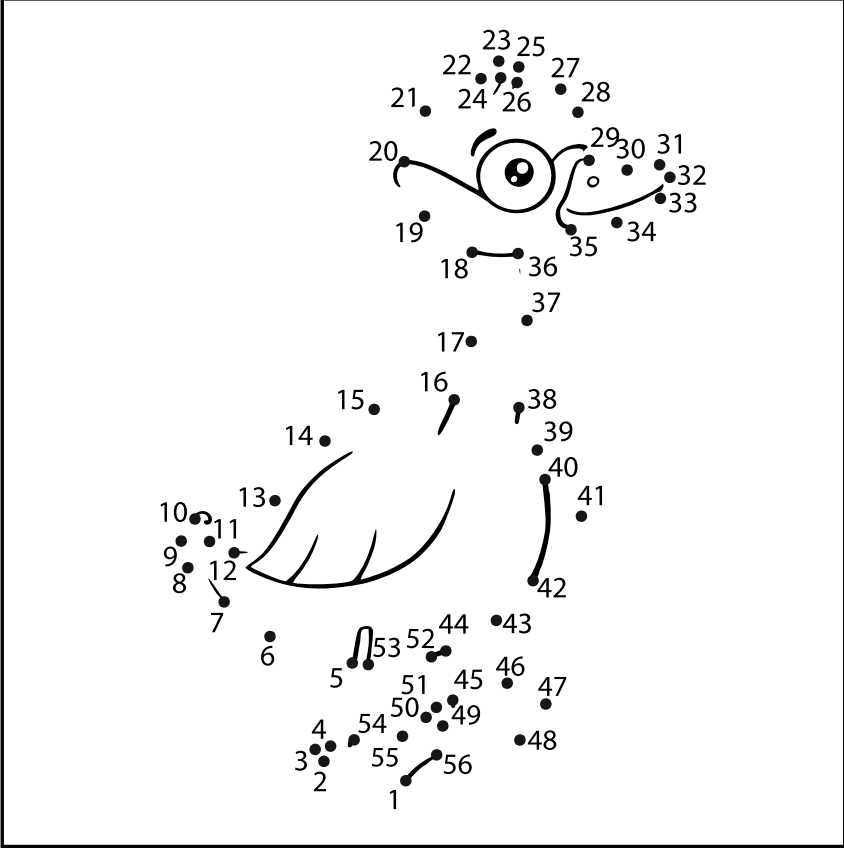












Sudoku for Kids

	2	1	
4			3
		3	
1	3	4	

2			
1		2	4
3		4	
4			1

	1		2
2		3	
4			
1		2	4

3			1
	1		3
			2
1	2	3	

SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sudoku answers

8	7	5	4	6	3	9	1	2
2	9	6	1	7	8	3	4	5
3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7	6
2	3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7
5	6	9	3	7	4	1	6	8
6	8	3	7	4	1	9	6	5
9	1	7	9	6	5	8	2	3
4	5	9	8	1	2	3	7	6
7	6	8	2	3	7	4	1	5
1	4	2	8	3	7	5	6	9
Bottom row - Very Hard								
8	7	5	4	6	3	9	1	2
2	9	6	1	7	8	3	4	5
3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7	6
2	3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7
5	6	9	3	7	4	1	6	8
6	8	3	7	4	1	9	6	5
9	1	7	9	6	5	8	2	3
4	5	9	8	1	2	3	7	6
7	6	8	2	3	7	4	1	5
Bottom row - Hard								
8	7	5	4	6	3	9	1	2
2	9	6	1	7	8	3	4	5
3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7	6
2	3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7
5	6	9	3	7	4	1	6	8
6	8	3	7	4	1	9	6	5
9	1	7	9	6	5	8	2	3
4	5	9	8	1	2	3	7	6
7	6	8	2	3	7	4	1	5
1	4	2	8	3	7	5	6	9
Bottom row - Easy								
8	7	5	4	6	3	9	1	2
2	9	6	1	7	8	3	4	5
3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7	6
2	3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7
5	6	9	3	7	4	1	6	8
6	8	3	7	4	1	9	6	5
9	1	7	9	6	5	8	2	3
4	5	9	8	1	2	3	7	6
7	6	8	2	3	7	4	1	5
1	4	2	8	3	7	5	6	9
Bottom row - Very Hard								
8	7	5	4	6	3	9	1	2
2	9	6	1	7	8	3	4	5
3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7	6
2	3	4	7	1	9	8	4	7
5	6	9	3	7	4	1	6	8
6	8	3	7	4	1	9	6	5
9	1	7	9	6	5	8	2	3
4	5	9	8	1	2	3	7	6
7	6	8	2	3	7	4	1	5
1	4	2	8	3	7	5	6	9
Top row - Very Hard								
2	9	4	8	5	7	6	1	3
5	8	1	3	2	6	4	7	9
6	7	3	4	1	9	2	8	5
4	6	2	1	3	5	8	6	7
8	1	5	7	9	2	3	6	4
3	9	6	8	4	5	2	1	7
9	8	6	9	7	3	1	5	4
1	2	7	5	4	8	9	3	6
7	6	3	8	2	1	4	5	9
5	4	9	1	6	3	7	8	2
Top row - Hard								
7	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
8	4	9	5	3	3	3	3	3
3	5	1	7	9	2	6	4	8
5	1	7	9	2	6	4	8	3
8	4	9	5	3	3	3	3	3
3	5	1	7	9	2	6	4	8
5	1	7	9	2	6	4	8	3
8	4	9	5	3	3	3	3	3
3	5	1	7	9	2	6	4	8
5	1	7	9	2	6	4	8	3
Top row - Easy								
2	6	7	9	1	3	5	8	4
3	5	1	7	9	2	6	4	8
4	1	9	8	4	7	3	6	5
1	9	8	4	7	3	6	5	2
6	3	2	5	4	1	7	9	8
9	4	8	3	7	2	6	1	5
8	6	5	2	4	1	7	9	3
7	3	4	1	7	9	2	6	5
5	2	6	3	8	4	1	7	9
1	9	8	4	7	3	6	5	2

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

1 “Tom ____” (Jay-Z song named after a designer)
5 Supply for a growing business?
9 Cancels at the last minute
14 Attracted
15 The lowdown
16 Black-and-white swimmers
17 Elba or Capri
18 “Frozen” queen
19 NAACP ____ Awards
20 Guaranteed strategy for getting excluded from the in-crowd?
23 Turkish currency
24 Gives temporarily
26 Like an actor who got the worst role?
31 Baja vacation spot
32 Aries animals
33 ____ Friday’s
34 Prayer conclusion
35 Con jobs
37 Only African country with a one-syllable name
38 LeBron James’ team, on scoreboards
39 Out of control
40 Fabled race loser

41 Silver linings of awkward situations?
46 Buck ____, MLB’s first Black coach
47 Drinks in some six-packs
48 Butt-dial culprit?
54 Indigenous New Zealander
56 Scrubbed, as a mission
57 “All right already!”
58 Bay, e.g.
59 Group aboard a spacecraft
60 Soul singer
61 Trick-or-treater’s treat
62 Helps
63 Tons of

DOWN

1 Bank acct. guarantor
2 Approx-imately
3 Move, in realty lingo
4 Obsesses over
5 Word before “Nevada” or “Madre”
6 Checked out, as a library book
7 “In that case ...”
8 Large item in a bread basket
9 Home heating sources
10 Italian fashion giant

11 “It’ll be easy!”
12 Delay
13 NNW’s opposite
21 Middle of a date?
22 Fruits eaten from the icebox, in a William Carlos Williams poem
25 Fructose and glucose
26 Chevy muscle car
27 “O Captain! My Captain!” prez
28 “Nice for What” rapper
29 Relatives, slangily
30 Entree go-with
31 Subj. in which students learn integral skills?
35 What you do after a workout?

36 Corn discard
37 Shirley ____, first Black woman in Congress
39 Asset for a ballerina or running back
42 Got closer
43 Pestered
44 Macaroni shapes
45 Application expense
49 Indigenous Peruvian
50 Sushi wrapper
51 Swedish superstore
52 When two clock hands are up
53 Big Apple fashion initials
54 Podcaster’s need
55 “Love, Victor” actress Ortiz

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

1. (K) ____-fi (film type)
4. Strikes knuckles against wood
8. (K) Coating inside a chimney
12. (K) “It’s ____ warm for multiple layers today”
13. Send out, as energy
14. (K) Fish between two pieces of bread
15. (K) Six-legged creature
16. Stadium section
17. Boric or amino
18. “Get out!” to Michael Jackson? (2 words)
20. (K) Crazy ____ (game)
22. (K) “Hi” relative
23. (K) “____ you going to eat the rest of that asparagus?”
24. A miscellaneous mixture
27. Indication of another name
28. (K) Wooden hat-holder

31. Like perfect trades (3 words)
35. (K) A U.S. crime-fighting org.
36. (K) Was just about to be the first to cross the finish line
37. (K) Like a tire that needs help
38. (K) Shady tree type
39. Dude
41. Super late-night flight
44. (K) Art stands
48. (K) Above
49. Polio vaccine developer
51. (K) Feel yucky
52. (K) Like a wee anything
53. (K) Island by another name
54. (K) Ocean relative
55. (K) “Who ____ likes mustard on their Brussels sprouts?”
56. (K) Building for a leaf blower
57. (K) Thing that can get a dirty ring

DOWN

1. (K) Stick with a toothpick
2. (K) Ice cream holder
3. Very small amount
4. (K) Fix a loose shoelace
5. “Jaws” town
6. (K) Pecan or cherry dessert
7. Hair-y highlights
8. (K) Place for acting work
9. (K) “Oh, that’s some pain right there!”
10. (K) Two words after “get,” “step” or “depend”
11. (K) Young boys
19. (K) Marvel Comics superhero with a hammer
21. Certain Arab country
24. (K) Not having to work today
25. Chem class setting
26. “Three,” in a Rocky film title

27. (K) Do sum basic math
28. (K) Buddy
29. Important period of history
30. (K) Acquire
32. (K) Any country supporting our country
33. Mortal enemy
34. (K) Spacecraft from who knows where
38. Creepy
39. (K) “Beauty and the Beast” character
40. (K) Did a fall chore
41. (K) City in Italy
42. (K) As far away from good as you can get
43. (K) Places lions lie
45. (K) Direction of the sunrise
46. In ____ of (instead of)
47. Thick piece of marble
50. (K) Remains from a fire

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

Large tool box?

Look for the answer in next week’s paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

Previous riddle answer:

Ground ocean liner? 8-A) SAND

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1/3

Temperature Conversion
by Michael Lieberman

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
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			23					24					25	
	26	27					28	29						30
31							32					33		
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	46						47							
		48				49	50					51	52	53
54	55					56					57			
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

Horoscopes

The week of September 26 to October 2 invites clarity, review, and relational balance. The eclipse season is settling into its effects, and the Sun in Libra shifts focus toward fairness, partnerships, and diplomacy. Retrogrades advise patience, reflection, and ensuring that actions align with deeper values.

your ability to balance service with self-care. Be gentle with yourself.

Libra (September 23 – October 22):

Your season continues with the Sun in your sign bringing focus to identity, relationships, and what balance looks like for you. Surprises may emerge, nudging you to act with authenticity rather than behaving just to please others. Speak your needs calmly and clearly.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21):

Introspection and transformation mark this week. You may need to let go of patterns or attachments that no longer serve your emotional or spiritual growth. Moments of clarity may surprise you—journal or meditate to catch them.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20):

Financial and material matters are likely to demand your attention. Unexpected expenses or revelations may prompt revisions to your budget or long-term financial plans. Lean into your practicality and don’t rush decisions. Seek clarity before investing.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20):

Communication and partnerships are under scrutiny. Conversations may bring up deeper issues that require openness and honesty. The Sun in Libra emphasizes fairness—listen well and aim for mutual understanding rather than a win.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22):

Home and domestic life could feel like a place of change. Whether through remodeling, family dynamics, or emotional shifts, this week asks you to nurture stability. Retreating inward to rest and recharge will serve you well.

Leo (July 23 – August 22):

Creative energies surge, but so do needs for structure. With ongoing retrogrades in outer planets, you may revisit earlier projects or past choices. Use this week to refine ideas rather than launching new ones. Let inspiration be grounded.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22):

As the solar eclipse of September 21 filters into your day-to-day, you’ll feel a strong urge to set new routines and intentions that support wellness and efficiency. Relationships may test

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 boring drone (8)
2 pillowy s’mores ingredient (11)
3 1970s TV cop Barney (6)
4 muddle (10)
5 hard at work (8)
6 measurement for leg length (6)
7 Lions, Tigers and Bears (8)

SOLUTIONS

INS

RSH

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MIL

NE

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BOR

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LOW

EAM

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Previous Answers: AVOCADO 2. POWERHOUSE 3. POOLS 4. GAMES 5. HOVERS 6. GEORGIA 7. SPENDING

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

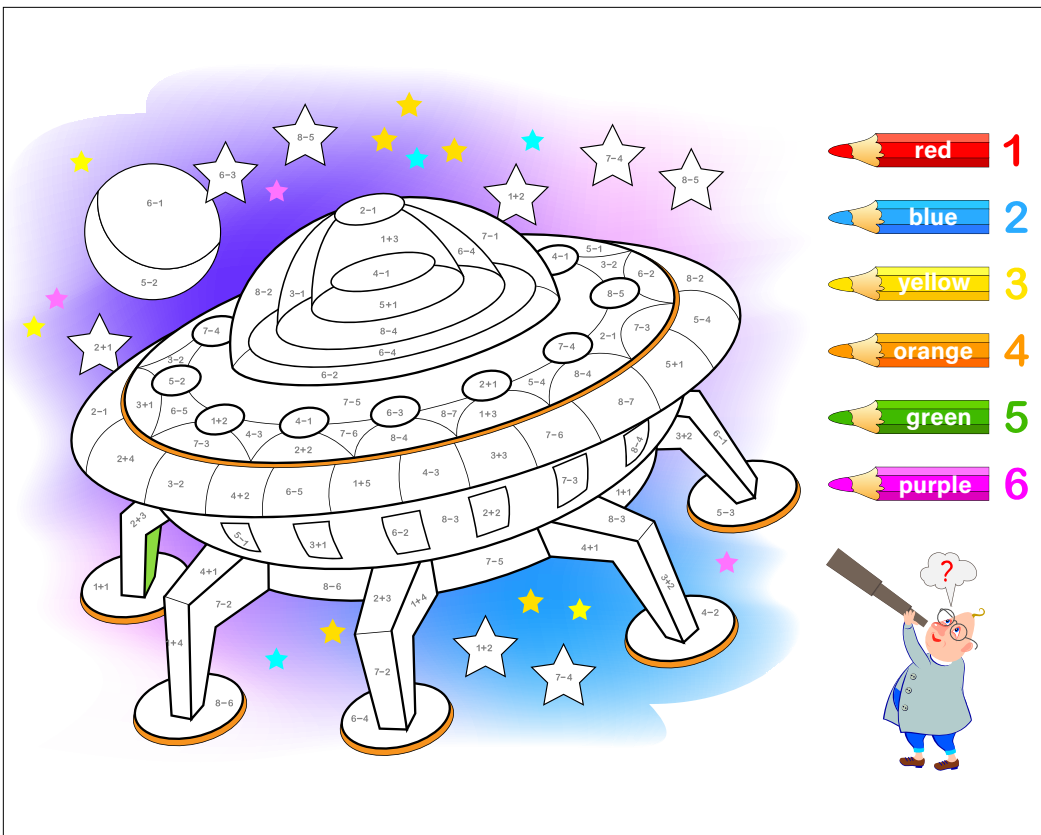
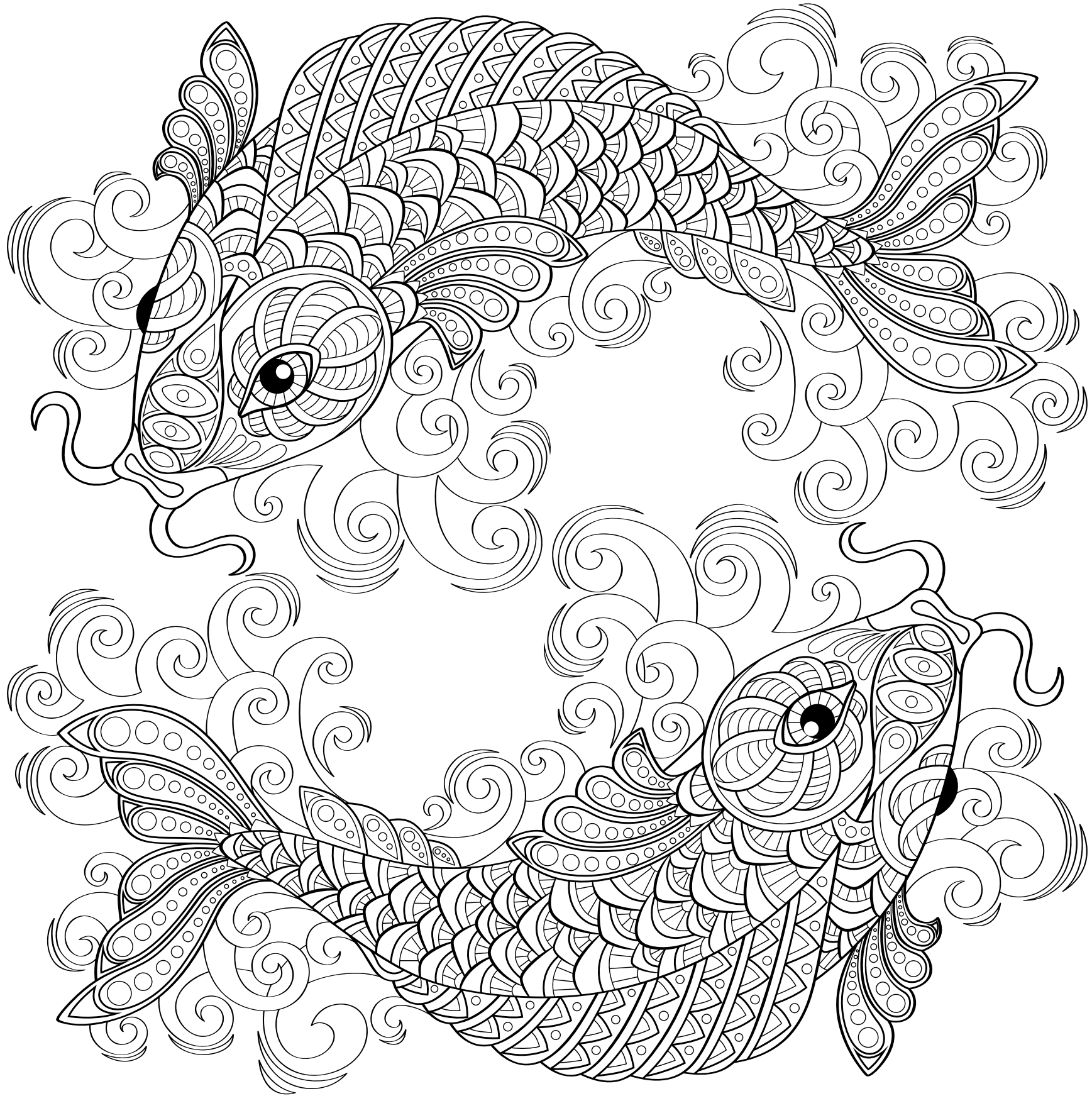
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MANDALA

Coloring mandalas is good for your brain! Send us a picture of yours completed Cordelia@SentinelHometownNews.com



How many ?

left ☐ right ☐



Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions from the box

on in near between under



The cat is sitting _____ the chair.

The books are _____ the table.

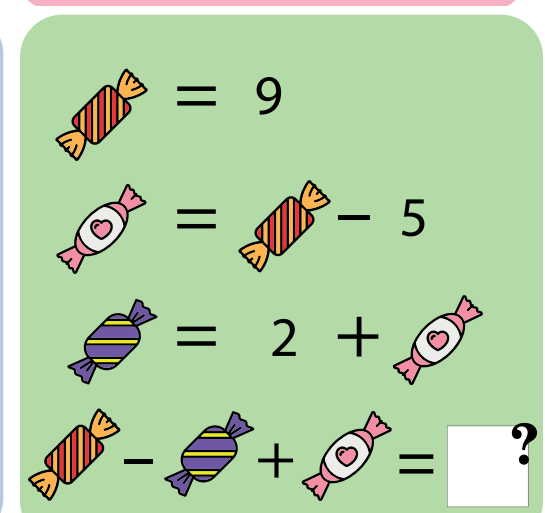
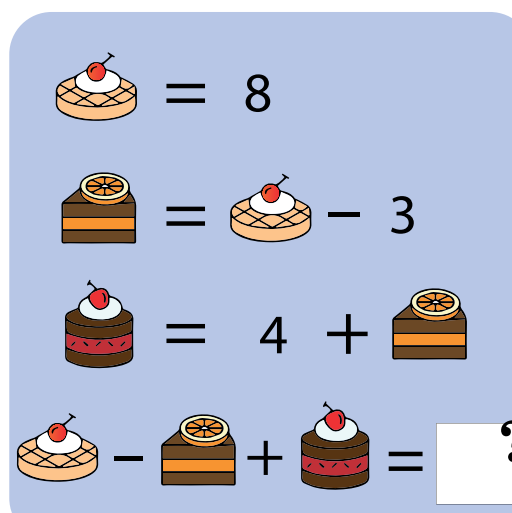
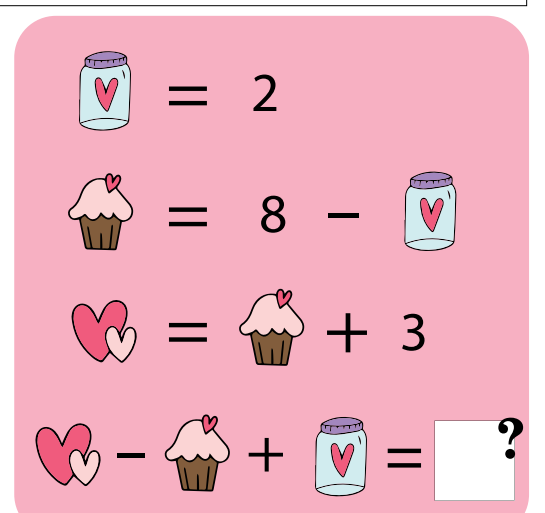
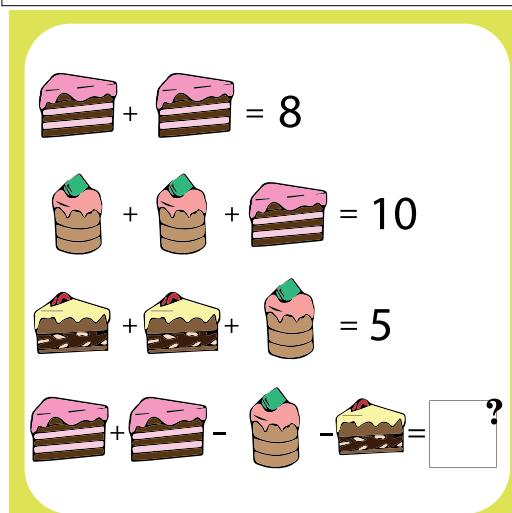
The shoes are _____ the table.

The clock is _____ the table.

The dog is sitting _____ the box.

The table is _____ the chair and the box.

The chair is _____ the table.



PUZZLES

Send us a picture of yours completed page at Cordelia@SentinelHometownNews.com

