



## LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

### TOWN HALL

#### NC Earns Financial Reporting Awards



The Government Finance Officers Association has awarded New Canaan two honors for its financial reporting and budgeting. Chief Financial Officer Anne Kelly-Lenz and Comptroller Diane Wilson were recognized for the town's annual financial report, while Budget Manager Ryan Stacy was honored for the Fiscal Year 2026 budget book. Pictured L-R: Anne Kelly-Lenz and Diane Wilson. Photo credit: Town of New Canaan.

### AROUND TOWN

#### Town Charter Survey

New Canaan residents have until March 15 to complete a public survey as part of the Charter Revision Commission's review of the Town Charter. Any revisions approved by the Town Council will appear on the November 2026 ballot. The survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8QXBNNK>. The New Canaan Town Charter is available at <https://ecode360.com/9043515#9043515>.

### POLICE AND FIRE

#### Increase in Phishing Emails

New Canaan Police are reporting an increase in phishing emails that appear to come from town departments. The messages attempt to obtain money, personal information or install malware. Police advise residents to verify senders, avoid suspicious links or attachments, use strong security measures and report suspected scams to headquarters.

#### LShome Photoelectric Smoke Detector Recall



New Canaan officials are alerting residents to a federal recall of LShome photoelectric

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

## Your Charter Your Survey

The Charter Commission has opened a public questionnaire, and residents should take the time to complete it.

The survey is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8QXBNNK>

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

NewCanaanSentinel.com

## Judge Rules for 751 Weed Street Developer in Easement Dispute

By SENTINEL STAFF

A Superior Court judge has ruled in favor of 751 Weed Street LLC in a legal dispute with neighboring homeowners over sewer and drainage easements tied to the developer's proposed 102-unit apartment project on Weed Street.

In a Feb. 11 decision issued in Stamford Superior Court, Judge Edward Krumeich denied the homeowners' request for a permanent injunction that would have blocked excavation and pipe replacement work within shared easement areas crossing their properties.

The plaintiffs, the single-family home owners, argued that the developer's plans to excavate portions of the easement area, inspect and potentially repair or replace sewer pipes, and upgrade a 310-foot stormwater drainage pipe from six inches to eight inches exceeded the scope of the recorded easements. They also claimed the work would constitute a nuisance and was never intended to serve a multifamily development.

The court rejected those arguments, finding that both the sanitary sewer and drainage easements grant a permanent right to enter the easement area to "use, maintain, repair or replace" the pipes. Judge Krumeich ruled that nothing in the easement language limits 751 Weed St. to single-family use. The judge further concluded that the homeowners failed to prove irreparable harm or show that the proposed work would substantially interfere with their rights. The temporary disturbance associated with trenching and pipe replacement, the court found, was a reasonable exercise of the developer's easement rights.

In addition to denying the injunction, the court issued a declaratory judgment affirming that the developer has the right under both easements to perform the proposed sewer inspection and drainage pipe replacement in accordance with engineering plans.

The ruling addresses only private easement rights among property owners. Separate zoning proceedings related to the proposed 102-unit development remain pending.

## Court Overturns P&Z Denial of 93-Unit Affordable Housing Project on Hill Street

A Superior Court judge has overturned the New Canaan Planning and Zoning Commission's denial of a proposed 93-unit affordable housing development at 17 and 23 Hill Street, ruling that the town failed to meet its burden under Connecticut's affordable housing law. In a Feb. 6 decision issued in Hartford Land Use Court, Judge Stephen Frazza sustained the appeal filed by Hill Street-72, LLC under General Statutes § 8-30g. The court reversed the commission's April 2023 denial of the developer's applications for a zoning text amendment, a zone change and site plan approval.

The proposed development includes 93 apartments – 44 one-bedroom, 40 two-bedroom and nine three-bedroom units – with 28 units deed-restricted as affordable for at least 40 years.

The commission had denied the application citing concerns over fire and life safety, traffic and pedestrian safety, and environmental impacts to wetlands on the 4.76-acre site. A key issue was the project's single 20-foot-wide access driveway and the lack of a second emergency access road.

The court noted that the development complies with the Connecticut State Building Code and Fire Safety Code. The State Fire Marshal had previously ruled that a second access road was not required. Judge Frazza found that the commission's concerns about emergency vehicle access and residents fleeing during a fire were speculative and did not establish a "quantifiable probability" of specific harm, as required under § 8-30g.

On traffic, the court determined that projected delays at nearby intersections did not amount to a demonstrated safety hazard. Regarding wetlands, the judge ruled that the commission improperly relied on the Inland Wetlands Commission's separate denial without independently weighing the evidence. He concluded that environmental concerns could be addressed through reasonable conditions.

## New Canaan 250th Committee Plans Yearlong Celebration, Invites Community Participation



Seated L-R - Aggie Aspinwall, Tucker Murphy, Dionna Carlson, Tracey Karl, Jennifer Zonis  
Standing L-R - Whitney Williams, Elizabeth Crehan, Bob Doran, Laura Budd, Eric Wiechman, Ellen Crovatto, Shiva Saram, John Howe, Anette Terry, Zach Philippas, Laura Newell. Missing from Photo - Lisa Melland, Patricia Spugani. (New Canaan Sentinel Photo)

By PETER BARHYDT

The New Canaan 250th Planning Committee is gearing up for a town-wide celebration of America's semi-quincentennial, with a series of local events planned from June 14 through Nov. 11, 2026.

Established by First Selectman Dionna Carlson and chaired by Administrative Officer Tucker Murphy, the 18-member committee brings together representatives from organizations across town. The group's mission is to honor New

Canaan's history, community spirit and contributions to the nation's story as the United States marks 250 years since its founding.

Local organizations are invited to take part by hosting activities that showcase New Canaan's rich heritage, civic pride and patriotic spirit. Suggested events include exhibits, historical reenactments, lectures, walking tours of local landmarks, participation in the Fourth of July Parade, art inspired by American history and other town-wide

celebrations. Additional information on statewide themes and opportunities is available at [ct250.org](http://ct250.org).

All approved events will be featured on a dedicated New Canaan 250th calendar at [newcanaan.info](http://newcanaan.info). Participating groups will also have access to the official New Canaan 250th logo for use in promotional materials.

Organizations interested in getting involved are encouraged to contact Murphy by May 1, 2025, at [Tucker.Murphy@newcanaanct.gov](mailto:Tucker.Murphy@newcanaanct.gov) or 203-594-3002 to discuss their ideas.

## New Bill Seeks More State-Control of Zoning



State Sen. Ryan Fazio testified Feb. 17 before the General Assembly's Housing Committee in opposition to S.B. 151, arguing the proposal would further erode local zoning authority and fail to address the underlying drivers of housing costs.

S.B. 151 would impose statewide zoning standards, including capping residential lot sizes at 5,000 square feet – approximately one-tenth of an acre – limiting setbacks to as little as five feet, and prohibiting municipalities from enforcing certain local size and height restrictions. Fazio said the measure would "effectively outlaw light-density neighborhoods" and transfer zoning authority from towns to the state.

"The ink is barely dry on a sweeping housing law passed in November that fundamentally altered the relationship between the state and our municipalities," Fazio told lawmakers. "That law imposed more than 50 new mandates on towns and was released just an hour before debate, without a public hearing. Towns are still trying to understand their obligations – and now we are being asked to go even further."

Fazio has opposed prior housing measures that expanded state oversight of local land-use decisions, including H.B. 5001 and H.B. 8002. He characterized those bills as broad mandates that limited municipal discretion.

"Why even pretend to negotiate with towns through prior legislation if we are simply going to override them again?" Fazio said. "Communities deserve transparency and respect, not a moving target."

The senator framed his opposition as a defense of Connecticut's long-standing home rule tradition, under which municipalities retain primary authority over zoning and land-use planning. He warned that centralizing decisions in Hartford would disrupt community planning efforts and undermine local accountability.

While criticizing S.B. 151, Fazio said he supports housing expansion when pursued through what he described as targeted, locally responsive policies.

"We need more housing and greater affordability. Zoning is not sacrosanct," he said. "I support accessory dwelling units, mixed-use residential development, and sensible workforce housing. But centralizing power in Hartford is not the solution."

Fazio argued that housing affordability cannot be addressed solely through zoning changes. He pointed to broader cost drivers, including state mandates imposed on municipalities, labor regulations affecting skilled trades, and energy prices.

"If we are serious about affordability, we must eliminate costly mandates, reduce artificial barriers for workers and apprentices, and bring down energy costs," he said.

Supporters of statewide zoning reforms have argued such measures are necessary to increase housing supply and reduce barriers that limit development in high-cost communities. Fazio contended that S.B. 151 would override local planning processes without resolving systemic cost pressures.

He concluded his testimony by urging the committee to reject the proposal.

"The government that governs closest to the people governs best," Fazio said. "We can create a more affordable Connecticut while defending local democracy, but this bill is not the way forward."

The Housing Committee has not yet voted on S.B. 151.

## Renting Brain Space

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

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

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

There is no point in being hard on ourselves when negative thoughts arise. They will come. Imagine them like a cold fog: annoying, but not life-changing. The fog

will pass. Even after years of thinking and feeling a certain way, we can choose to let thoughts go and set ourselves free.

*Maria was angry at the way a school official had mistreated her daughter. Her point was valid, but after two years, she evicted the official from space in her brain when she realized that her anger was only affecting her. He was oblivious to her concern and might as well be "dancing through a field of daisies." Her daughter had moved on. Once Maria did too, she no longer suffered an unwelcome tenant in her brain.*



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

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# PRESERVING THE FUTURE

*A campaign  
for land conservation  
in New Canaan*



Credit: Connor de Mayo

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newly acquired 1124 Valley Road property  
will transform the organization.**

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**Pursuing** historical renovation through adaptive reuse  
**Inspiring** youth conservation leadership  
**Invigorating** the protection of additional open space  
**Preserving** the future of the New Canaan that we love

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of land conservation  
in New Canaan.**



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the support of  
our community.**

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## Broadway Stars Kara Lindsay & Dan Micciche Headline CT Stage Co's 'Broadway Concert Series' at the Carriage Barn

Connecticut Stage Company is adding additional programming to their season with the launch of the Broadway Concert Series. Known for their up-close and personal performances with Broadway favorites, this series will continue the intimate experience CSC provides.

On March 7th, 2026 they will launch their Broadway Concert Series at the Carriage Barn Arts Center in New Canaan, CT. Broadway star Kara Lindsay (Wicked, Newsies, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, Once Upon a Mattress, Romy & Michelle the Musical) will headline the inaugural concert. The concert will also feature Dan Micciche, currently serving as the musical director, supervisor, and conductor of Wicked.

The performance begins at 7pm. Doors will open at 6pm for pre-show wine and beer, which is included with the purchase of a ticket. Stay after the performance for an exclusive talkback and Q&A with Lindsay & Micciche about life on Broadway.

Connecticut Stage Company, a non-profit theatre company based in New Canaan, currently in its third season, will be producing Next to Normal on May 2 & 3, 2026 and What the Constitution Means to Me on June 14th, 2026 which will star two-time Tony nominee, Kate Baldwin.

Tickets for Broadway

Concert Series starring Kara Lindsay are available on CSC's website [www.connecticutstagecompany.org](http://www.connecticutstagecompany.org). Seating is limited.

To learn more about the Company and reserve your tickets for Broadway Concert Series starring Kara Lindsay visit: [www.connecticutstagecompany.org/](http://www.connecticutstagecompany.org/)

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*Kara Lindsay*

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CARRIAGE BARN ARTS CENTER, NEW CANAAN, CT



MUSIC DIRECTION BY DAN MICCICHE

## Joseph Polisi to Trace Lincoln Center's History at New Canaan Men's Club

Joseph Polisi, president emeritus of The Juilliard School, will recount the history of Lincoln Center at Friday's meeting of the New Canaan Men's Club, with remarks focusing on the performing arts complex's role in New York cultural life and Juilliard's standing as an incubator of talent across the disciplines.

The Men's Club will meet at 10 a.m. in Morrill Hall at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge. Dr. Polisi's presentation will begin around 10:40 a.m., following the business portion of the meeting. He will share perspectives drawn from his leadership of Juilliard and from his work examining Lincoln Center's origins and development.

President Emeritus Joseph W. Polisi led The Juilliard School for thirty-four years, from 1984 to 2018, the longest presidential term in the school's history. Upon stepping down in June 2018, he became Juilliard's Chief China Officer, supervising the development of The Tianjin Juilliard School, a new campus in Tianjin, China. The Tianjin school offers selective, audition-based programs at the pre-college and graduate levels. The graduate program is taught in English and confers a U.S.-accredited master's degree from The Juilliard School in New York. The campus also includes public programs for adult learning and instrumental training, along with Juilliard Imagination, an interactive exhibition environment curated for adults and children.

Dr. Polisi is the author of "Beacon to the World: A History of Lincoln Center," which describes how the project was conceived in the belief that "Americans would benefit from bringing together a diverse array of performing organizations." The book notes that John D. Rockefeller 3rd

*Americans would benefit from bringing together a diverse array of performing organizations.*

University, a degree in political science from the University of Connecticut, and a degree in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

Aside from hosting guest speakers on a variety of topics, Men's Club members participate in regularly scheduled activities including hiking, yoga, and squash, and join discussions through its book and cinema clubs. Many members are also involved in New Canaan civic activities. The Men's Club has openings for new members, men age 55 and above. For information about joining, email [ncmens@ncmens.org](mailto:ncmens@ncmens.org)

and orchestral player throughout the United States and in major New York City venues. He has written scholarly and educational articles for professional journals, produced sound recordings with an emphasis on contemporary American music, and recorded a solo album of twentieth-century bassoon works for Crystal Records.

He is the author of two

additional books published by Amadeus Press: "The Artist as Citizen" (2005), a collection of speeches and articles on the role of performing artists as leaders and communicators of human values, and "American Muse: The Life and Times of William Schuman" (2008), a full-length biography of the composer and arts administrator. A revised edition of "The Artist as Citizen" was published in 2016, and

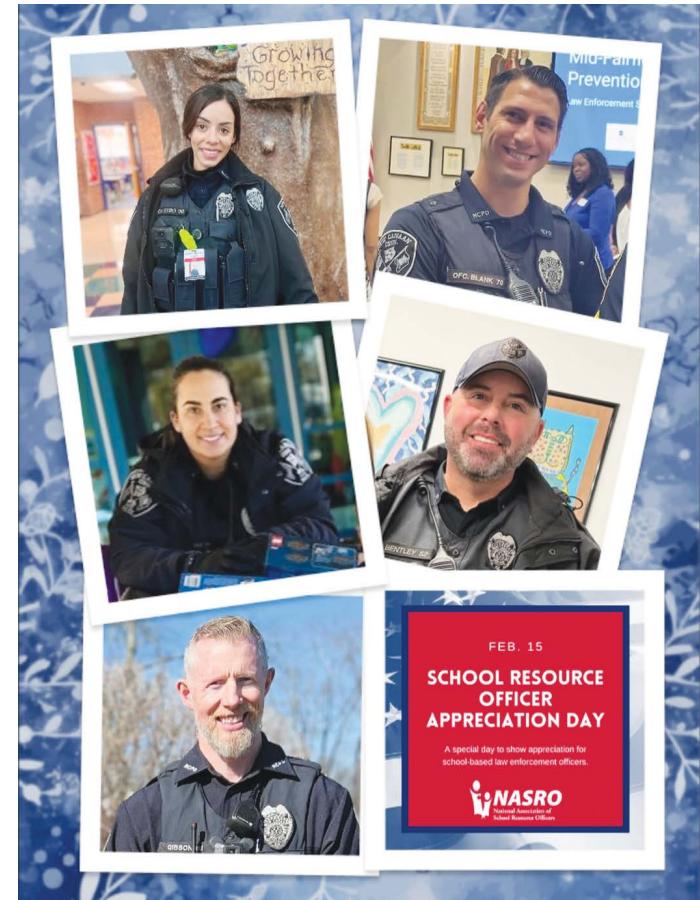
Beijing Normal University Press released a Chinese-language edition, titled "The Artist as Leader," in China.

Before coming to Juilliard, Dr. Polisi served as dean of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, dean of faculty at the Manhattan School of Music, and executive officer of the Yale University School of Music. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale



**NEWS BRIEFS****CONTINUED From Page 1**

smoke detectors sold on Amazon between February 2024 and December 2025. The recalled three-pack alarms may fail to sound during a fire. Residents should stop using the alarms and dispose of them. Photo credit: Town of New Canaan.

**National SRO Appreciation Day**

February 15 was National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day. In New Canaan, five police officers serve in the town's public schools. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

**Wear Orange Day**

February 11 was Wear Orange Day, observed as part of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Officers and the Domestic Violence Crisis Center advocates spoke with students at New Canaan High School during lunch periods. Photo credit: New Canaan Police Department.

**LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS****Flower Arranging Class**

Recently, Staying Put and the New Canaan YMCA held a Valentine's Day flower arranging class where participants created bouquets to take home. Photo credit: Staying Put in New Canaan.

**SCHOOLS****NCHS Collaborative Concert**

On February 10, the New Canaan High School Music Department held its annual Collaborative Concert, featuring the band, orchestra and choir. The program, titled "The American Dream," recognized the upcoming 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The concert included works by American composers such as Sousa, Gershwin and Berlin, along with selections from West Side Story and Rocky. Photo credit: New Canaan High School.

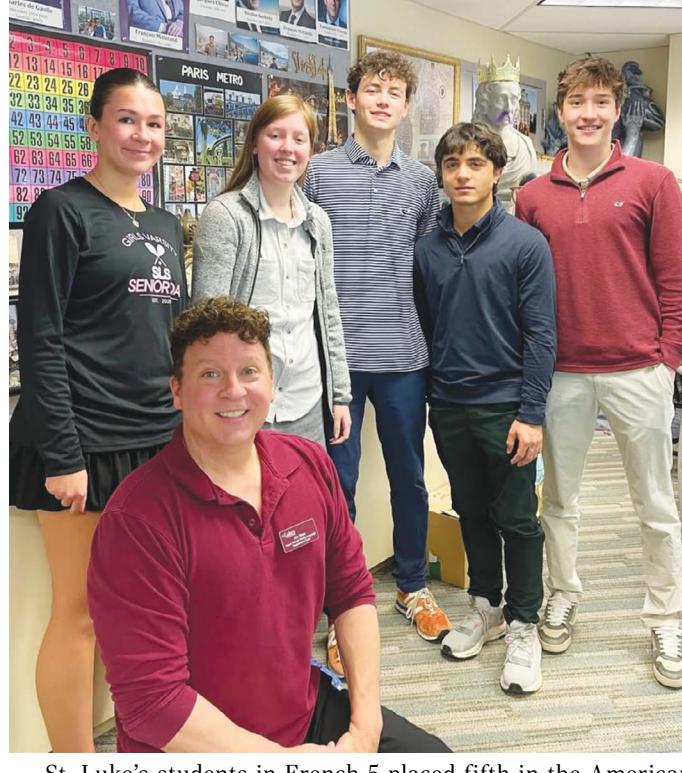
**West School Valentine Cards**

Last week, West School students in the K.I.N.D. Kids Care group made Valentine's Day cards for residents of Waveny LifeCare Network. They also learned about Waveny's services and discussed ways to

support the community. Photo credit: New Canaan High School.

**SLS Alumni Besgen****Congratulations  
Nicholas Besgen '22****2026 Men's Swimming & Diving  
All-Academic Team**

Saint Luke's School alumni Nicholas Besgen '22 was named to the 2026 MAAC Men's Swimming & Diving All-Academic Team. Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

**SLS AATF Contest**

St. Luke's students in French 5 placed fifth in the American Association of Teachers of French National Media/Video Contest. The competition drew more than 100 submissions, with students creating videos in French based on the theme "Design Your Future with French." Photo credit: St. Luke's School.

**ACROSS CT****Level 2 Travel Health Notice**

The CDC has issued Level 2 travel health notices for Bolivia, Seychelles and Suriname due to chikungunya outbreaks, advising travelers to take extra precautions. Chikungunya is spread by mosquito bites and can cause fever and joint pain. The CDC recommends mosquito bite prevention measures, vaccination for travelers to outbreak areas, and says those who are pregnant should reconsider travel.

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# New Canaan Sentinel

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## A New Year, A Fresh Start

Lent arrived this week. So did the Lunar New Year, which began February 17 with the Year of the Fire Horse. Two calendars, two traditions, both pointing in the same direction: pause, take stock, consider what matters, and begin again with clearer intentions.

New Canaan is not a town that lacks energy. It is full of capable people, strong institutions, and an unusual level of civic participation. Residents show up. They care deeply. They argue their points. They volunteer. They serve. That is part of what makes this community what it is.

Weeks like this one invite a certain kind of reflection about how that energy is used.

The Year of the Fire Horse is often associated with drive and independence. Those can be virtues in a town that values initiative. But civic life, like family life, is rarely improved by sheer force of will. Progress tends to come through steadiness, patience, and the ability to work with people who do not always see things the same way.

Lent offers a similar lesson. It is not a season of grand declarations. It is quieter than that. It asks for self-examination, restraint, and seriousness about the long term. It reminds us that renewal is usually less about dramatic gestures and more about daily choices.

New Canaan has a great deal in front of it this year. The town continues to grapple with the practical work of maintaining excellence—schools, public spaces, infrastructure, safety, planning. These are not glamorous responsibilities, but they are the work of a remarkably joyful and serious community.

And New Canaan is, at its best, a joyful and serious community.

One of the more striking things about local government is how much depends on people simply doing their jobs well—committee members reading the materials, professionals bringing expertise, elected officials listening carefully, residents offering criticism that is constructive. That happens here more often than not, projects move forward, costs are managed, and trust grows.

Everyone in town has seen moments when disagreements become less about substance and more about posture. When the goal shifts from improving a plan to stopping it. That is not the norm however.

The good news is that New Canaan has always been its combination of high standards and deep roots. People here expect things to be done well. They also understand, even when frustrated, that the work belongs to all of us.

This week, with Lent beginning and the Lunar New Year arriving, is a useful reminder that renewal is built into the rhythm of life. There is always another chance to reset—to approach civic debates with a little more humility, to disagree without derailing, to bring the temperature down and the joy up.

New Canaan is a wonderful place, not because it is perfect, but because people keep investing in it: raising families, supporting schools, protecting traditions, and planning carefully for what comes next.

The Year of the Fire Horse will bring its own momentum. Lent will bring its own quiet discipline. Together, they offer a timely invitation: to move into the months ahead with steady purpose, even more grace, and a shared commitment to the town we all love.

Happy Lunar New Year.

# Editorial Page

## Melodies and Madrigals: from the Renaissance to Broadway

The Friends of Music at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, New Canaan, CT, present Melodies and Madrigals: from the Renaissance to Broadway; Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 6:00 PM, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT.

The Choir of St. Mark's, New Canaan, includes professional singers who are among the finest soloists in our corner of New England. They are heard regularly during services and concerts of sacred music at St. Mark's, and they also excel in many other types of solo singing. This recital is a collection of vocal solos, many of which you will not hear in church!

The recital features Mary Petro Noonan, soprano; Lydia Cseh Dahling, mezzo-soprano; Trevor Scott & Jonathon Moon, tenors; and Matthew Dexter, bass; accompanied

by Ned Tipton (Director of Music Ministries at St. Mark's) at the piano, and Dylan Sauerwald on the harpsichord.

They will present a FUN array of music ranging from the Italian and English Renaissance to recent Broadway shows, passing through Bach, Handel, Offenbach, Tchaikovsky, Rogers & Hammerstein, Lerner & Lowe, John Musto, Samuel Barber - with a side trip across to popular French cabaret tunes of the early 20th century - Leonard Bernstein and ... Sting!

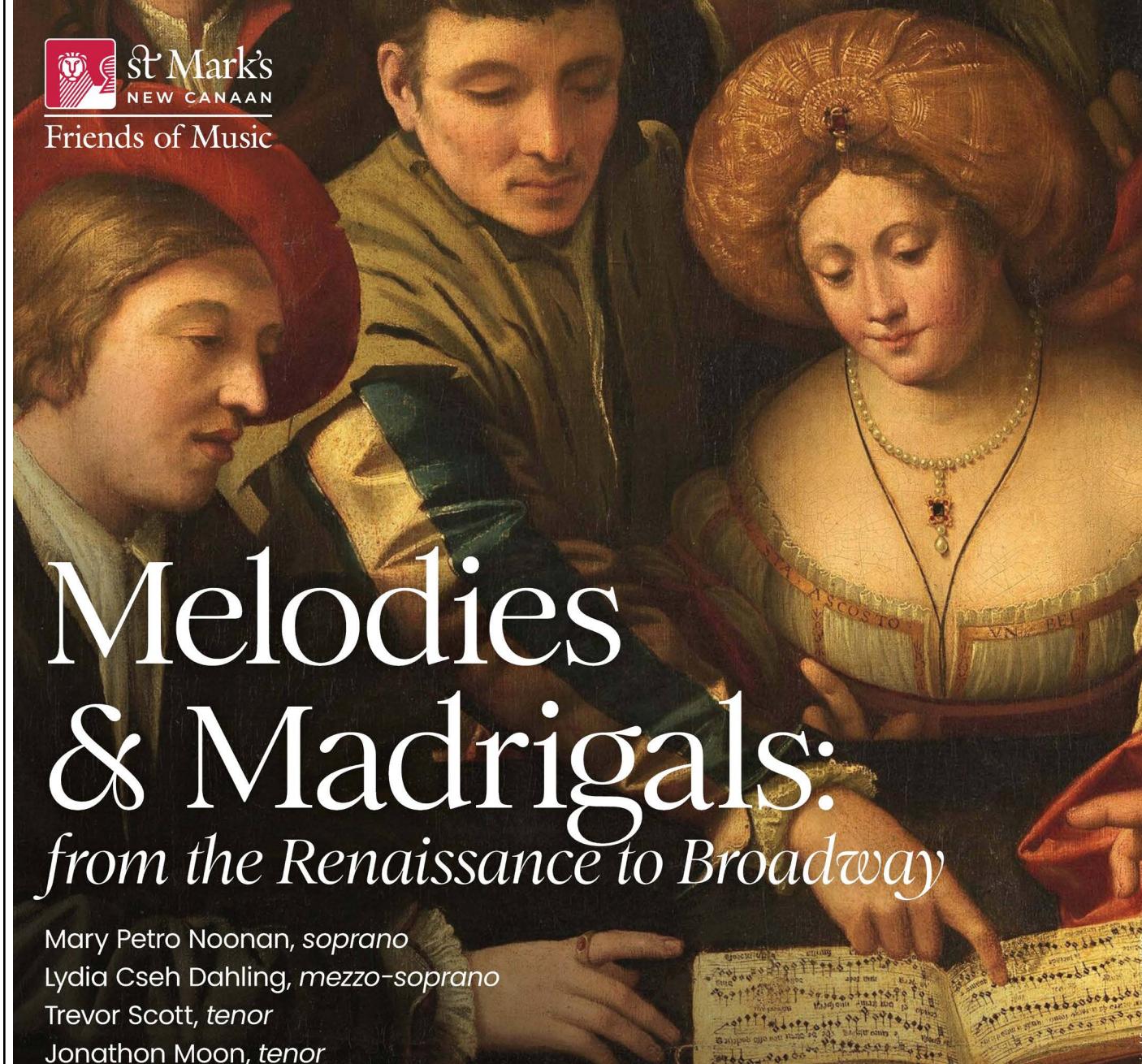
The event is followed by a light reception.

General tickets \$30 online/\$35.00 day of concert. Students \$10 - available here,

the St. Mark's website, or St. Mark's Facebook page.

If you enjoy singing – and even if you've never sung in a choir before – we also invite you to audition for the Choir of St. Mark's. We are a committed, friendly, and enthusiastic choir of both volunteers and professionals that welcomes all voice types and experience levels, focusing on making beautiful music together, both for Sunday Services and our Seasonal Concert Series, while having fun and supporting one another in a caring and giving community. We hope you'll consider adding your voice to the Choir of St. Mark's New Canaan!

If you're interested or have questions, please phone or email Ned Tipton, Director of Music Ministries, St. Mark's Episcopal Church. (203) 966-4515, x 113 ntipton@stmarksnewcanaan.org



## Melodies & Madrigals: from the Renaissance to Broadway

Mary Petro Noonan, soprano

Lydia Cseh Dahling, mezzo-soprano

Trevor Scott, tenor

Jonathon Moon, tenor

Matthew Dexter, bass-baritone

Dylan Sauerwald, harpsichord

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026, 6PM

General Tickets \$30 (\$35 day of event) / Students \$10 available by scanning the QR code or at the door.

A light reception will follow.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
111 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT 06840



## Town of New Canaan Announces Change to Kiwanis Pond Water Treatment

The Town of New Canaan announces that beginning this summer, Kiwanis Pond will no longer be treated with chlorine. While chlorination will cease, the Town remains fully committed to protecting public health and ensuring the safety of bathing water for all residents.

To that end, the Town will continue to conduct weekly water quality testing throughout the swimming season. These test results are used to assess water quality and, when necessary, have resulted in temporary closures of Kiwanis Pond. In addition, the Town will implement a supplemental water quality study this summer to further evaluate pond conditions following significant rainfall events.

Water samples will be collected whenever more than one-half inch (½") of rainfall occurs within a 24-hour period, with testing conducted Monday through Friday. If test results exceed the safe bathing criteria established by

the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Kiwanis Pond will be closed until satisfactory results are obtained. Any closures will be communicated to the public through the Town's website and social media channels.

"At every step, our priority is public health and safety," said Amy Lehane, Director of Health for the Town of New Canaan. "By continuing routine testing and expanding monitoring after significant rain events, we are ensuring that decisions about pond use are guided by data and sound public health practices."

"Kiwanis Pond has long been a cherished summer destination for families in New Canaan," said John Howe, Director of Parks and Recreation. "These changes allow us to continue offering a clean, natural, and enjoyable swimming experience while maintaining the high standards of safety and care our residents expect."

At the conclusion of the summer season, the Town will evaluate the data collected to establish clear, rainfall-based criteria that may be used in the future to temporarily close the pond following heavy rain events, if necessary, to protect public health.

Kiwanis Pond has been in use for many years and is continuously replenished by an onsite well. Each spring, the pond is drained, the bottom is cleaned, and the sand is replenished. In addition, the Town utilizes a geese management company to help reduce potential water contamination. The constant inflow of fresh water promotes circulation, while these combined measures help prevent stagnation and support overall water quality.

The Town of New Canaan remains committed to providing safe and enjoyable recreational amenities while thoughtfully using data-driven practices to guide operational decisions.

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## Legal Ads

### LEGAL AD

#### TOWN OF NEW CANAAN

#### INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands Agent has approved the following application: Permit Number (IW-26-4) issued to New Canaan Country School – 635 Frogtown Road, Map 25 Block 12 Lot 160. Prepare site for construction activities and install all soil and erosion controls. Renovate three existing grass athletic fields located at the northeast corner of the NCCS campus. Convert two fields to synthetic turf. Reconfigure third field and sod. Re-grade area and install underground infrastructure to support the construction. Install boulder stacked wall as indicated on plans. Install stormwater management system, underground utilities and other infrastructure improvements.

### LEGAL AD

#### TOWN OF NEW CANAAN

#### INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands Agent has approved the following application: Permit Number (IW-25-55) issued to 995 South Ave, LLC, 995 South Avenue, Map 30 Block 52 Lot 4. Prepare site for construction of a new single-family home and a two-family, both with attached patios. Install all soil and erosion controls. Demolish existing structures, remove existing septic systems, driveways and retaining walls. Install temporary sediment basins and diversion swales. Construct foundations, retaining walls and boulder walls. Install underground utilities and make all connections. Install drainage systems and septic systems. Fine grade, topsoil, seed/sod and landscape all disturbed areas upon completion.

### LEGAL AD

#### TOWN OF NEW CANAAN

#### PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Inspector has approved the following applications: Zoning permit for BP 26-2 issued to 995 South Ave, LLC, 995 South Avenue, Map 30 Block 52 Lot 4. New construction of a single-family dwelling. Zoning permit for BP 26-3 issued to 995 South Ave, LLC, 995 South Avenue, Map 30 Block 52 Lot 4. New construction of a two-family dwelling. An aggrieved person may appeal the issuance of the(s) permit(s) to the Zoning Board of Appeals in accordance with the provisions of section 8-7 of the CT General Statutes and Section 8.3B of the New Canaan Zoning Regulations, within 15 days of the date of this notice.

### LEGAL AD

#### TOWN OF NEW CANAAN

#### INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON and ON-LINE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION of the Town of New Canaan will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Monday, February 23, 2026 - Town Meeting Room, 77 Main Street, starting at 7pm to hear the following application:

1. Application Number 25-53- 677 South Avenue-Town of New Canaan-Waveny Park. Map 30 Block 51 Lot 121. Waveny Park Conservancy is requesting to remove approximately 50, 10" in diameter or larger, Norway Maple trees and selective shrubbery in the adjoining areas to the north, east and south of the existing Anderson pond and re-plant with native species in the Spring 2026. Stone steps and additional sections of foot paths will also be added to provide better viewing access to the pond. Agent: Tiger Mann, Director Public Works & Michelle Crookenden, Waveny Conservancy, Executive Director.

**Sandy Reddin, Secretary**

### LEGAL AD

#### TOWN OF NEW CANAAN

#### PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

#### REGULAR MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 this hearing is scheduled as a hybrid meeting to be held in the Board Room at Town Hall, 77 Main Street at 7:00 p.m. with access available in person or via an on-line system to hear and decide the application(s) as follows:

1. 635 Frogtown Road – Upon application of Stephen A. Finn, Wofsey, Rosen, Kuriansky, LLP, Authorized Agent for New Canaan Country School, owner(s) for a Special Permit approval pursuant to Section 6.4.G and 6.5.B.4 to permit soil disturbance in excess of 10,000 square feet and the construction of a retaining wall, portions of which will exceed four feet in height, in connection with the alteration of three existing athletic fields, two of which will be converted to artificial turf on property in the 2 Acre Zone at 635 Frogtown Road (Map 25, Block 12, Lot 160).

**Dated: February 12, 2026**

**New Canaan, Connecticut**

**Daniel Radman, Chairman**



# Obituaries

## BARBARA MCLEOD



Barbara D. McLeod, the youngest of nine children and the loving mother of seven, grandmother of twenty and great-grandmother of twenty-one, died on February 15, 2026, in New Canaan, at the age of 96.

Barbara was born on April 28, 1929, in her home in Fairfield. She was the youngest of nine children born to Jozef and Maria Pekar, who had emigrated to the U.S. from eastern Slovakia. Barbara was raised by her mother, as her father died three weeks before she was born. She was editor-in-chief of the student newspaper and the top student in the academic group of Roger Ludlowe High School class of 1947. She was one of the first University Scholars at the University of Connecticut, where she graduated in 1952.

Barbara married Robert L. McLeod of Shelton on August 28, 1954. They shared over 35 years of happiness in Shelton until Bob's death on November 8, 1989. They had five sons and two daughters, with six of the children born during an eight-year period. Barbara took enormous pride in her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She loved to attend their sporting events, and she also was a crossword enthusiast, a world traveler, a voracious reader, and an avid fan of the New York Mets, meticulously scoring each of their games for over ten seasons.

Barbara was predeceased by her parents; and by her eight older siblings: Joseph, Mary,

Family and friends are invited to a visitation on Friday, February 20, from 5 pm to 7 pm at Hoyt Funeral Home, 199 Main Street, New Canaan. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Aloysius Church, in New Canaan, at 11 am on Saturday, February 21. Burial will immediately follow at Mount St. Peter Cemetery in Derby. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the McLeod Family Scholarship Fund at Fairfield College Preparatory School.

Ann, Joseph, John, Nicholas, Stephen and George. She is survived by seven children and their spouses: Chris McLeod (Elaine) of Branford, Megan Hernandez (Rick) of Pasadena, California, Scott McLeod (Katya) of Orange, Dr. Gavin McLeod (Susy Gilgore) of Norwalk, Kerry Ross (Mitch) of Westport, Cormac McLeod (Lisa Leithauser) of Portland, Oregon, and Marc McLeod (Lety Camacho) of Seattle, Washington. She is also survived by 20 grandchildren: Erin McLeod of New York City, Colin McLeod (Andrea Baritz) of Chicago, Henry Hernandez (Christina) of San Marino, California, Patrick Hernandez (Kara) of Manhattan Beach, Michael Hernandez (Kristien) of Manhattan Beach, Kevin Hernandez (Kira) of Manhattan Beach, Mireya Hernandez of Pasadena, Matthew McLeod of Orange, Brendan McLeod (Hanah) of Nashville, Clare McLeod of Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, Maeve McLeod of Nashville, Bronwyn Guerlain (Andre) of Concord, Massachusetts, Brendan Ross of New York City, Cameron Ross (Lisa) of Darien, Rhiannon Austin (Stuart) of Darien, Griffin Ross (Lillian Gregory) of New Canaan, Conall McLeod of Portland, Oregon, Aidan McLeod of Chicago, Emily McLeod of Weiser, Idaho, and Clare McLeod of Portland.

She is also survived by 21 great-grandchildren: Charlie and Margot McLeod, Jack, Thomas, Ellie, Lucy, Madeline, Hank, Caroline, Harrison, Bo, Charlotte, Mila, Sam and Bobby Hernandez, Mabel McLeod, Eloise, Genevieve and Quentin Guerlain, and Bennett and Callum Ross. The family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Waveny Care Center, in New Canaan, for the loving care they provided to Barbara for the past two-and-a-half years.

Her dedication to St. Aloysius Church in New Canaan was one of great love and commitment to the parish. She was deeply involved in parish life from her youth to her adulthood. She served as the volunteer bookkeeper for decades. She served on the financial committee and various boards (too numerous to mention) and was a room mother for each of her five children at the St. A's School. She was the first woman to serve on the Parish Council Board. She was a member of the Catholic Daughters of America since 1953. Her faith included daily worship at the 7am Mass and her life was centered around St. Aloysius and its ministries.

Beyond the church, Fiz's commitment to the New Canaan community was extraordinary. In 1972, she "adopted" the New Canaan High School Hockey Team, hosting lasagna and pizza dinners for years for the players, coaches and managers. Along with her husband, Larry, she founded the annual New Canaan High School Alumni Ice Hockey Game, which became a major fundraiser for JV Hockey Program. She also served on the Parent Faculty Board of NCHS and the Sports Council Board, as well as the Hall of Fame Committee. She was inducted into the NCHS Hall of Fame in 2000. She volunteered in the Guidance Department and the Athletic Department.

Her other volunteering included serving on the New Canaan Library Board, the New Canaan Historical Society, and the Schoolhouse Apartment Board. From its inception, Fiz also volunteered at the Waveny Care Center every Tuesday morning, taking on a variety of responsibilities.

Fiz had a love for reading and vacationing at her beloved Cape Cod and watching sports with a particular interest in ice hockey and the New York Yankees.

Her name carried a story close to her heart. Her mother, Antonia, wished to name her Norina, while her father, Dominic, wanted to honor his mother, Crocifissa. By combining "Fis" from Crocifissa and "Ina" from Norina, they created the name Fisina.

Family meant everything to Fiz. She worked hand in hand with her husband, Larry, in running their successful accounting business. She delighted in being surrounded by loved ones and especially cherished hosting holiday celebrations and family reunions.

Fisina was predeceased by her husband, Lawrence Tomaselli, and her eldest son, Lawrence Anthony Tomaselli. She was also predeceased by her sister, Marie DiBarnaba, and her brother, Tony Malizia. Her surviving siblings are Violet Ruscoe and Josephine Krone (Al). She is survived by her children: Laura (Kent) Siladi, James (Sandra) Tomaselli, Maria Tomaselli, Matt Tomaselli and daughter-in-law Anne Tomaselli. She is also survived by six grandchildren: Susan, Laura and Michelle, MaryAnn and Katrina and James. She is also survived by 8 great-grandchildren.

Calling hours will be held at Hoyt Funeral Home, 199 Main St., New Canaan, on March 6, 2026, from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. A Memorial Mass will be held on March 7, 11:00 am at St. Aloysius Church, 21 Cherry Street, New Canaan. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in her name can be made to St. Aloysius Church for its youth ministry and Waveny Care Center.

## FISINA TOMASELLI



Fisina Malizia Tomaselli  
(June 18, 1931 - Feb. 8, 2026)

Fisina Tomaselli, a devoted daughter of the Roman Catholic faith and unwavering pillar of her family, peacefully entered eternal life on Feb. 8, 2026, her heart filled with the love of Christ and cherished memories of those she held dear.

Fiz, as she was known, was born in New Canaan, attended New Canaan schools and was a 1949 graduate of New Canaan High School. While at New Canaan High School she played varsity sports and was captain of the girls' basketball team (she was not the center).

Her dedication to St. Aloysius Church in New Canaan was one of great love and commitment to the parish. She was deeply involved in parish life from her youth to her adulthood. She served as the volunteer bookkeeper for decades. She served on the financial committee and various boards (too numerous to mention) and was a room mother for each of her five children at the St. A's School. She was the first woman to serve on the Parish Council Board. She was a member of the Catholic Daughters of America since 1953. Her faith included daily worship at the 7am Mass and her life was centered around St. Aloysius and its ministries.

Beyond the church, Fiz's commitment to the New Canaan community was extraordinary. In 1972, she "adopted" the New Canaan High School Hockey Team, hosting lasagna and pizza dinners for years for the players, coaches and managers. Along with her husband, Larry, she founded the annual New Canaan High School Alumni Ice Hockey Game, which became a major fundraiser for JV Hockey Program. She also served on the Parent Faculty Board of NCHS and the Sports Council Board, as well as the Hall of Fame Committee. She was inducted into the NCHS Hall of Fame in 2000. She volunteered in the Guidance Department and the Athletic Department.

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## GLORIA MURPHY



Gloria Patricia Murphy, nee Bard, age 94, passed away at her home in Seminole, Florida, on February 5, 2026. Gloria was born on June 30th, 1931, in Brooklyn, New York, to Charles Edward Bard and Irene Pauline Charette. She lived her early life in Norwalk, CT, attended school there, and was a member of the National Honor Society at Norwalk High School.

Gloria married Paul James Murphy on October 14, 1950. They celebrated 70 years of marriage together before Paul's death in 2021. Gloria raised eight children at their home in New Canaan. She is survived by her daughters, Mary McNeil, Paula Kilkenny, Frances Argay and Margaret Murphy; by her sons, Kevin, Christopher and Timothy Murphy; as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son, Patrick.

Gloria was a loving wife, mother and grandmother, and will be missed dearly. She and Paul traveled extensively throughout their life together and some of their favorite places were New Zealand, Hawaii, Turkey, Croatia and Ireland. They attended church at St. Aloysius in New Canaan, and later at St. Jerome in Largo, Florida.

She was an avid swimmer and loved the ocean. Gloria and Paul spent many happy days at their beach cottage in Charlestown, Rhode Island and, later, in Florida, where they retired to. Her passions included antiquing, oil and watercolor painting, quilting, needlepoint and hooked rugs. She was quite creative and very skilled in all of these hobbies, as well as being a keen tennis player. She also had a love of gardening and was particularly interested in orchid growing.

A Funeral Mass will be held in late Spring to early summer. More details to follow.

## JAMES CORSON



James C. Corson "Jimbo" On December 13, 2025 the world lost a good one. James Charles Corson Sr. (Jimbo) of Easton passed.

He loved his two kids, Jimmy and Jenny, his grandchildren Parker and Caroline Corson and Carson and Cooper Scairato, they loved spending time with "Desi" and they were one of his favorite things in life. He cherished Nandy his wife of nearly 52 years. She was the light of his life.

Jimbo is survived by his Wife, Nancy Corson, two children, James Corson Jr. of Easton, Jennifer Corson of Trappe, grandchildren Parker, Caroline, Carson and Cooper, two sisters Lynn Corson of New Cannan, CT, Nancy NanCarrow and brother-in-law Jim NanCarrow of Norwalk, CT, and his faithful black lab Casino.

A celebration of life is planned for a later date.

*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 Caroll@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.*

## Banish the Winter Blues with FPCNC



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
NEW CANAAN

1 FEB	11:30 AM	Adult Forum Georgette Bennett
5 FEB	3:00 PM	New Canaan Chamber Music Concert
6 FEB	7:00 PM	New Canaan Chamber Music
8 FEB	11:30 AM	Souper Bowl of Caring
22 FEB	4:00 PM	NC High School Choirs Concert
28 FEB	4:00 PM	New England Chamber Orchestra
7 MAR	2:00 PM	New Covenant Center
8 MAR	11:30 AM	New Member Orientation Class
8 MAR	4:00 PM	Charis Chamber Voices
22 MAR	10:00 AM	New Member Reception

Please Plan to Join Us for Some or All of These Events!

178 Oenoke Ridge  
Sunday Worship/Sunday School – 10am  
Visit [fpcnc.org](http://fpcnc.org) or call us at 203-966-0002 ext 1

# Worship Directory and Services

UPDATE SERVICES AND ADD SPECIAL EVENTS TO THIS CALENDAR AT

[www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/worship-calendar-updates](http://www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/worship-calendar-updates)

## Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

682 South Avenue 203.966.5849  
[www.ComeUntoChrist.org](http://www.ComeUntoChrist.org)  
 Sunday Service: 12 PM

## Congregational Church

23 Park Street 203.966.2651  
[office@godsacre.org](mailto:office@godsacre.org)  
[www.godsacre.org](http://www.godsacre.org)

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

### Recurring Events:

**Tuesdays at 9:30 AM:** Women's Bible Study  
**Wednesdays at 9:30 AM:** Bible Study

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

## First Church of Christ, Scientist

49 Park Street 203.966.0293

[christiansciencect.org/newcanaan](http://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 Oeno Ridge Road 203.966.0002

[fpcnc.org](http://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:

**Now through March 29:** Lenten Food Drive. You can pick up a brown grocery bag with a list of items from the back of the church. All items will be donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry.

**February 22 at 3 PM:** Orchestra Lumos presents The Best of All Possible Winds. A special program to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America. Tickets available at <https://orchestralumos.org/the-best-of-all-possible-winds/>.

**February 26 at 7 PM:** Open Mic Night with a featured performance by Glenn Roth. Walk-

ins welcome.

## Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church

21 Cherry Street 203.966.0020

[www.starcc.com](http://www.starcc.com)

### Service Schedule:

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

### Recurring Events:

**Last Monday of every month 7pm:** Women's Praise & Worship Holy Hour  
**Fridays 7:30am-6pm:** Eucharistic Adoration (September-June)

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

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church

111 Oeno Ridge 203.966.4515

[churchoffice@stmarksnewcanaan.org](mailto:churchoffice@stmarksnewcanaan.org)

[www.stmarksnewcanaan.org](http://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org)

**Sunday Services:** 8:00am: Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite I; 9:00am: Outdoor Holy Eucharist Rite II; 10am: Indoor Holy Eucharist Rite II (Live Stream also available on the St. Mark's website). Coffee Hour follows the 10am service.

Church School during the 10am service: Godly Play for children in kindergarten through second grade; Holy Moly for third and fourth grades; Meet in the Middle for fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Professional childcare is offered for children ages four and under. Families with children who are not yet ready to separate for childcare are invited to use the rocking chairs at the rear of the chapel.

**Weekday Services: Monday-Friday, 8:30am:** Morning PrayerRite II by Zoom.

**Wednesday at 12:05pm:** Noonday Eucharist in the chapel.

### Recurring Events:

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

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

### Upcoming Events:

**February 28 at 6 PM:** The professional members of the St. Mark's Choir will delight everyone with their talents in a program of solos from operas, oratorios, and musicals, as well as entertaining works for vocal ensemble. A festive reception will follow.

**March 15 at 5 PM:** A Service of Evensong for Lent featuring works for the penitential season of Lent. All are welcome and no registration is required.

## St. Michael's Lutheran Church

5 Oeno Ridge 203.966.3913

[office@stmichaelslutheran.org](mailto:office@stmichaelslutheran.org)

[www.stmichaelslutheran.org](http://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

## Women's Conference

**Whether you come seeking renewal, clarity, rest, or inspiration, this day promises meaningful conversations, beautiful spaces.**



Last Year's Women's Conference gathered 300 women for a remarkably empowering event at Christ Church.

Other Lies I've Loved), written after her Stage IV cancer diagnosis. The book examined popular Christian narratives about success and suffering through the lens of her own illness.

She now hosts the podcast "Everything Happens," where she speaks with guests about navigating difficult questions of faith and meaning. Organizers describe her work as exploring "faith, suffering, joy, and the truths of human life with intelligence, honesty, and humor." Bowler has more than 400,000 followers across her platforms in the faith and spirituality space.

At the April conference, Bowler will speak about Joyful Anyway, her latest book. The day will begin with breakfast followed by her keynote address. The Rt. Rev. Laura

Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, will offer the opening prayer and remarks.

The conference is organized by the Women of Christ Church Greenwich and is structured to allow flexibility. After the

keynote, attendees will select

When Dealing with Fragile Narcissists," led by psychologist Dr. Betsy Holmberg. Elizabeth Schrader Polczer, Ph.D., will present "Mary Magdalene in the Gospel of John: A Case of Textual Suppression? & Who was Mary Magdalene?"

Financial independence will

be addressed in "Awakening to Your Financial Independence: Taking Control of Your Financial Future," led by Julie Jason, JD, LLM. Iris Eplan, LMSW,

will guide "Resonance: A Sound Bath Journey to Inner Stillness." Additional sessions include "Unplugged & Present: Reclaiming Your Attention in a Distracted World," led by Julianne Furniss-Green, LCSW;

"Bloom Where You're Planted: Creating Beauty from What's Before You," with Eugenie Pavlic and Pam Reimers;

"Awakened Living: Strengthening the Heart & Renewing Our Strength," led by Melissa Murphy, MA, CMHC,

LPC; and "Finding Your Center: Techniques in Meditation and Prayer," led by Elizabeth Fitts,

Ph.D.

Workshop topics include

"The God Circuit: What the Brain Reveals About Prayer,

Presence & Walking on

Eggshells: How to Stay Sane

and bagels available in the lobby after the service, all are welcome.

and bagels available in the lobby after the service, all are welcome.

## Talmadge Hill Community Church

870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road; Darien, CT

203.966.2314

[talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com](mailto:talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com)

[www.talmadgehill.org](http://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](mailto:info@chabadnewcanaan.org)

[www.newcanaanjewish.org](http://www.newcanaanjewish.org)

The Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center is dedicated to strengthening and building the New Canaan Jewish Community by offering local Jewish resources that bring more positivity, Jewish education, charitable activity, good deeds and blessing to our lovely town. We are about Judaism, not affiliation.

Regardless of your background, and however you choose to define your level of Jewish observance or identity, the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center can add spirituality, joy, study, community and connection for you and your family. The programs of the Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center are held in various locations, all located in New Canaan.

### Upcoming Events:

**March 3 at 5 PM:** Purim Carnival. More information is available on Chabad's website.

## Temple Sinai (Reform Synagogue)

458 Lakeside Drive; Stamford, CT 06903

203.322.1649

[www.templesinainstamford.org](http://www.templesinainstamford.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](http://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=bFJQem9HWFcxU0EzZUM2VNEZmgzUT09#success>

gathering as "an immersive learning experience with women, by women, and for women." Promotional materials add: "Whether you come seeking renewal, clarity, rest, or inspiration, this day promises meaningful conversations, beautiful spaces, and the freedom to explore faith and life with honesty and hope." The event reflects a broader pattern of women's conferences within mainline Protestant congregations that blend theological reflection with practical concerns about mental health, financial literacy and spiritual formation. By combining academic scholarship, pastoral leadership and applied workshops, the conference aims to address both personal faith and daily life. Questions about the event may be directed to [womensconference@christchurchgreenwich.org](mailto:womensconference@christchurchgreenwich.org)

Tickets are available while supplies last. Organizers say they anticipate strong demand again this year.

# A Festive, Healthy Feast for the Season

Lent and the Lunar New Year rarely arrive in the same week, but when they do, they offer New Canaan a quietly appealing invitation: celebrate, yes, but do so with restraint, gratitude, and intention.

The Lunar New Year, which began February 17 with the Year of the Fire Horse, is traditionally a time for family meals, symbolic dishes, and a spirit of renewal. Lent, by contrast, asks for simplicity, reflection, and a focus on what lasts beyond the immediate moment. Together, they create an unusual but fitting pairing — a reminder that festivity does not require excess, and that some of the best celebrations are the ones that feel grounded.

For households observing Lent, the question often becomes practical: can you host a meaningful Lunar New Year meal without abandoning the season's disciplines? The answer is yes. A table can be festive without being heavy. It can honor tradition without indulgence. It can feel special while still remaining healthy, simple, and appropriate for a meatless Friday or a Lenten week.

The culinary traditions of the Lunar New Year lend themselves naturally to this balance. Fish, for example, is one of the most common New Year's dishes, served as a symbol of abundance. Steamed preparations are light, elegant, and well suited to Lent. Greens such as spinach

and bok choy represent vitality and renewal, and tofu provides a satisfying centerpiece without breaking dietary rules.

The goal is not to recreate a banquet, but to create a meal that feels thoughtful: clean flavors, bright ingredients, and dishes meant to be shared. A Lunar New Year table, after all, is about togetherness as much as taste.

Below is a simple, healthy, Lenten-friendly menu that works beautifully for a New Canaan home celebration — a meal that respects both the season of reflection and the joy of a new year.

## Simple Steamed Fish Fillets with Ginger and Scallions

Fish is one of the most traditional Lunar New Year dishes, symbolizing abundance.

Serves: 4

Time: 20 minutes

### Ingredients

1½ pounds white fish fillets (cod, halibut, or tilapia)  
2 tablespoons low-sodium soy sauce  
1 tablespoon rice vinegar  
1 teaspoon sesame oil  
1 tablespoon fresh ginger, thinly sliced  
3 scallions, thinly sliced

Optional: sesame seeds or cilantro for garnish

### Instructions

Place fish fillets on a heatproof plate.

Scatter ginger and scallions over the top.

Set the plate in a steamer basket over simmering water.

Cover and steam 8–10 minutes, until fish flakes easily.

Mix soy sauce, vinegar, and sesame oil.

Pour sauce over the fish just before serving.

Garnish lightly and serve with rice or greens.

## Quick Garlic Bok Choy

Greens represent renewal and health.

Time: 10 minutes

### Ingredients

1 pound bok choy (or spinach)  
1 tablespoon sesame oil or olive oil  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 tablespoon soy sauce

### Instructions

Heat oil in a skillet.

Add garlic and cook 30 seconds.

Add bok choy and stir until wilted and tender-crisp.

Splash with soy sauce and serve immediately.

## Longevity Noodles (Simple Version)

Noodles are served for long life and continuity.

Time: 15 minutes

### Ingredients

8 ounces rice noodles or spaghetti  
1 tablespoon sesame oil  
1 cup shredded carrots  
1 cup snow peas or broccoli  
2 tablespoons soy sauce

### Instructions

Cook noodles according to package directions.

Heat sesame oil in a pan.

Add vegetables and stir-fry 3–4 minutes.

Toss in noodles and soy sauce.

Serve warm.

## Dessert: Mandarin Oranges and Honey

The simplest Lunar New Year sweet is often fruit. Mandarin oranges symbolize good fortune.

### Ingredients

Mandarin oranges, peeled  
1 teaspoon honey (optional)

Sprinkle of sesame seeds (optional)

### Instructions

Arrange oranges on a plate.

Drizzle lightly with honey if desired.

Serve fresh.

## A Meal That Fits the Week

This is the kind of dinner that honors both seasons: the joy of a new year and the restraint of Lent. Simple fish, bright greens, warm noodles, and fruit for sweetness — a table that feels celebratory without excess.

Happy Lunar New Year, and a peaceful Lenten season.



## COLUMN



BY SCOTT HERR

This coming Sunday, February 22nd, is the first Sunday of Lent, the season which began on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday before Easter. It's a forty-day season patterned on the "temptations of Christ" recorded in both Matthew 4 and Luke 4 where Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil for forty days. Traditionally, Lent is a penitential period and many sanctuaries are adorned with the color purple. Thankfully, Sundays even in Lent, are considered "mini-Easters" and so not "fast" days!

Lent is the "Holy Spring" of the Church. It's a time for renewal and refreshment. It's a time for new life. The English word Lent comes from the Old English word "lenten," which means "lengthening" and reminds us of the lengthening of days that is part of nature's Spring. Lent is fundamentally a time not only to prepare for, but to experience Easter new life. Many Christians have inherited the tradition that Lent is a time to "give up something." The early monastic communities would take this time to fast and "give up" their food so they could be more generous in giving alms to the poor.

Lent is not a time to simply deprive yourself of something so that you feel miserable, as though that has anything to do with healthy

spirituality. No, if we give up something, it is to create space for God; for God to do something new in and/or through us. In other words, when we "give up" something for Lent, it should be accompanied with eager anticipation for God to give us something new and even more precious or fulfilling! Typical spiritual disciplines of Lent are increased prayer, scripture reading, fasting and serving the poor. We do this not merely out of a sense of duty, but to rediscover our First Love, and the gift of creating space for God in our crowded lives to cultivate deeper relationship and collaboration with our Creator and Friend.

For Lent this year, I will be inviting our congregation to reflect on, in addition to the lectionary

texts, a different question for each of the five Sundays leading up to Holy Week. The questions come from my journey along "The Camino Santiago," the 500-mile pilgrimage in Northern Spain I enjoyed back in 2017. They are questions which I find helpful in rediscovering the Way of Jesus, and to finding our way to new life which I believe is the point of the Lenten season. The five questions are:

- 1) "Does it give life, or take life away?"
- 2) "Does it expand your world, or shrink it?"
- 3) "Does it lead you more deeply into mystery and paradox, or black and white reality?"
- 4) "Does it set you free to give yourself away to something bigger than yourself, or enslave

you to the fear of 'not enough'?"

5) "Does it bring you and others joy, or despair?"

Perhaps you might find these questions helpful in discerning the way forward on your life journey? It's interesting to me that the temptations of Jesus helped clarify who he was in relation to God, and prepared him for his public ministry to others. I pray you will find Lent to be not just a time to give something up, but a time to receive something new from the God who loves you, and calls you forward to Easter new life!

*The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr is one of the pastors serving the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan (fpcnc.org)*

## How Did He Get the Shot? The Photography of Neil Vigdor

BY ARNOLD GORDON

Neil Vigdor has built a career at the intersection of speed and precision, covering some of the most consequential political and breaking news events of the past decade while sustaining a parallel life behind the camera.

A reporter for The New York Times, Vigdor focuses on breaking news with an emphasis on politics. He was part of the Times political team covering the 2024 presidential election and the 2022 midterms, reporting from every battleground state during the last election cycle, as well as from Iowa and New Hampshire. His work included tracking voting legislation and monitoring threats against election officials, assignments that required constant travel and rapid response.

Before joining the political team, Vigdor covered a wide range of national breaking news stories. His reporting has included the police killing of George Floyd, the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, several mass shootings, pandemic-related developments and four national conventions and two presidential inaugurations. The scope of his assignments has also extended to crime, business and pop culture.

A graduate of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, Vigdor began his journalism career in Connecticut. He covered state and national politics for The Hartford Courant and for Hearst Connecticut Media publications, including Greenwich Time. He has described his early days at Greenwich Time as formative, recalling a feature story about residents born on Leap Day that reflected his interest in local reporting before he moved to the national stage.

Vigdor's professional life is closely linked to photography. In addition to reporting, he maintains an extensive portfolio of celestial and street photography, with more than 90,000 images taken over several years. His work is available through his website, neilvigdor.photoshelter.com. He has exhibited his photography locally, including a show at the Perrot Memorial Library.

His photographic practice spans urban landscapes and night skies. He has described the patience required to capture a Fourth of July fireworks display in Brooklyn's DUMBO neighborhood, where photographers stood in a single spot for hours to frame the Manhattan Bridge. Because tripods were not permitted, they used fence posts to steady their cameras for long exposures.

In Connecticut, Vigdor photographed a private firefly sanctuary in New Canaan maintained by Bill and Mary Ellen McDonald. To capture the density of fireflies against a night sky centered on Polaris, he used stacking software originally designed for star trails, layering 160 images into a single composite.

His work also brings him into proximity with prominent figures in journalism. During the 2024 campaign cycle, he often worked alongside Doug Mills, chief White House photographer for The New York Times and a multiple Pulitzer Prize winner. Vigdor has cited Mills's technical precision in Butler, Pennsylvania, during the assassination attempt on Donald J. Trump, where Mills used a Sony Alpha 1 camera with a shutter speed of 1/8,000th of a second.

Vigdor's reporting assignments have at times required immediate mobilization. On one occasion, he



Neil Vigdor spoke of his work as a New York Times political news reporter and expert photographer.

*Whether it is tracking a snowy owl at Long Beach in Stratford or using a neutral density filter to take a long daytime exposure that blurs the waves at Greenwich Point, his work is driven by a desire to express visually what words sometimes cannot.*



was dispatched to a protest at the Manhattan courthouse during Trump's trial with 27 minutes' notice to identify a campaign surrogate for President Biden. The guest was actor Robert De Niro, who addressed the crowd before being heckled by Trump supporters.

He has also reflected on the changing economics of journalism. Vigdor worked for 18 months at The Hartford Courant, which dates to 1764 and is recognized as the oldest continuously published newspaper in the United States. He has noted the impact of its acquisition by Alden Global Capital, a hedge fund known for cost-cutting, as part of a broader decline in regional journalism. In contrast, he has observed that The

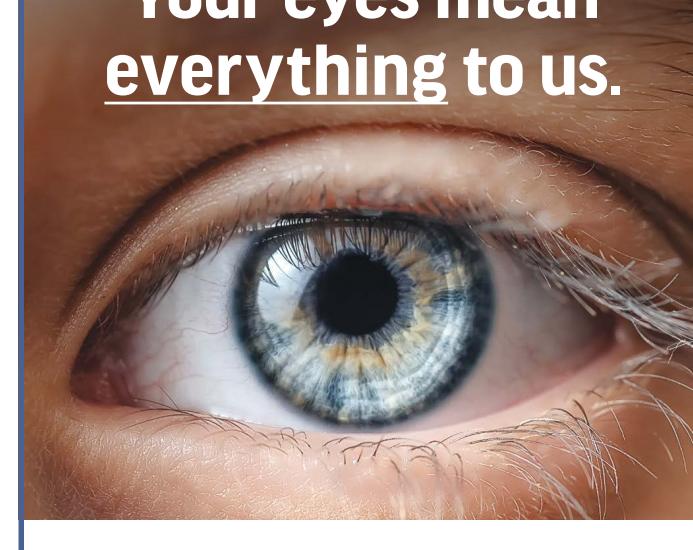
New York Times has expanded its digital offerings, including games and a cooking app.

Even as his reporting places him at the center of national political events, Vigdor continues to pursue quieter subjects. He has photographed a snowy owl at Long Beach in Stratford and used a neutral density filter to create long daytime exposures of waves at Greenwich Point. He has also traveled to Bruges, Belgium, to photograph Gothic architecture and Christmas markets.

For Vigdor, journalism and photography operate in parallel.

One documents events as they unfold; the other seeks a different vantage point. Both demand

preparation, technical fluency and a tolerance for uncertainty.



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## REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD EDITOR

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## FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
95 Heritage Hill Road	\$675,000	SAT	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Raveis
101 Parade Hill Road	\$1,199,900	SAT	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Serhant
1038 West Road	\$2,595,000	SAT & SUN	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Raveis
6 Down River Road	\$2,495,000	SUN	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Raveis
1343 Smith Ridge Road	\$3,995,000	SUN	2:30 - 4:30 pm	Raveis

## NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
95 Heritage Hill Road	\$675,000	1,120			2	1
164 Summer Street, Apt. A	\$1,095,000	2,232			3	2
196 Mariomi Road	\$1,295,000	2,235		2.07	3	2
94 Glen Drive	\$1,995,000	2,486		1.10	4	2
15 Burts Avenue, E Plaza #206	\$1,995,000	1,292			2	2
792 N Wilton Road	\$2,895,000	5,038		2.33	5	4
48 Green Meadow Lane	\$2,995,000	4,454		1.35	5	4
15 Burts Avenue, W Plaza #203	\$3,295,000	2,171			3	2
15 Burts Avenue, PH D	\$5,795,000	3,159			3	3
15 Burts Avenue, Townhome C	\$6,095,000	3,333			3	3

## Top 10 Reasons New Canaan Is Unique, 2026 Edition



By JOHN ENGEL

Fourteen years ago, I wrote "Top 10 Reasons New Canaan Is Unique" in the *New Canaan Advertiser*. The article was reprinted in the *Patch*, where you can still find it. It's time to update that list and note what has changed.

### 1. Schools

In 2012, we had the top school system in Connecticut, and we still do. According to Niche, we're currently #2, behind Westport, ahead of Darien and Wilton. *USNews* ranks South School #3 in the state, behind schools in Greenwich and Fairfield, but SchoolDigger still has New Canaan as #1, two years in a row.

Schools are the top reason young families move to New Canaan, and the knock-on effect is that seniors often move here to be near their grandchildren. No other district has this consistent pattern of excellence district-wide over the span of several decades.

### 2. Taxes

We had, and have, the third-lowest tax rate in Connecticut (ignoring Washington and Salisbury). New Canaan (16.61) is still behind Greenwich (12.04) and Darien (15.48), but over the past eight years (2018-2025), the average increase in the total amount raised by taxation has been only 2.3% per year. New Canaan has exhibited extraordinary fiscal discipline while investing in major infrastructure projects during a decade where inflation averaged 3.05%.

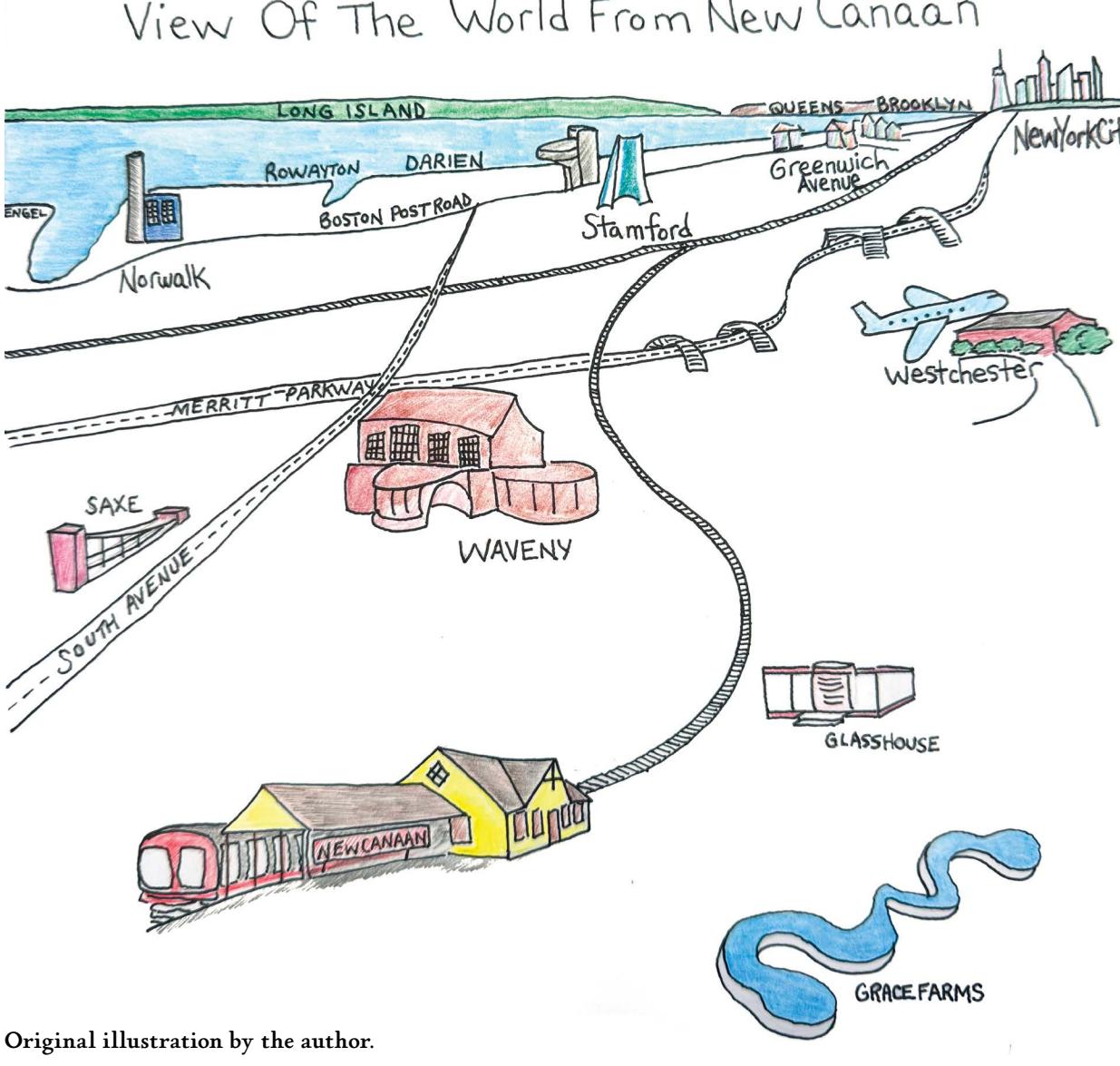
### 3. Village

The charm of a walkable village sets New Canaan apart from her rivals and remains a major asset, defended fiercely. In a dozen years, we've renovated the Playhouse, town hall, and fire and police stations, and preserved our historic library. We're not stuck in the past: St. Aloysius school, the Millport apartments, Canaan Parish, Burts Avenue, and The Vue are examples of major projects in a downtown soon to get its first hotel.

### 4. Restaurants

New Canaan has become the de-facto destination for food in Fairfield County, with over 30 first-class restaurants packed into the walkable downtown, each spilling out onto the expanded sidewalks during warm weather.

The effect has been profound. Watch as drivers, walkers, and shoppers connect with diners as they thread their way past the tables, calling out greetings,



Original illustration by the author.

### Most towns change. Few towns change without losing themselves. What strikes me isn't what's different; it's what has held.

waving hello, and just generally connecting. It's really quite remarkable and unique in a town of this size in 2026.

### 5. Clubs

While town life doesn't revolve around membership to a club, there are over a hundred clubs here, bringing people together and serving every possible interest, including the Winter Club, the Field Club, the Racquet Club, the Rotary Club and the Garden Club, to name a few. The newly renovated New Canaan Country Club is limited to New Canaan residents, a fact that makes it uniquely locally oriented in Fairfield County. The YMCA, New Canaan Library, Lapham Center, and Men's Club are very active, hosting many specialty clubs.

### 6. Waveny Park

Unchanging, and yet so changed these dozen years. The town pool was new. We added new paddle courts, and baseball and softball fields. We expanded and renovated the Carriage Barn, Powerhouse Theater, and playground. We added the Boucher Rink and, at the mansion, we fixed the roof and installed new ramps, bathrooms, and an elevator.

The Family Fourth is still the biggest party, but Caffeine & Carburetors is now a fixture in Waveny twice a year, and nearly as large. This 130-acre park gets a quarter-million visitors per year — not hard to imagine if you've seen 800 children playing soccer there on a Saturday morning in season.

### 7. Recreation

A dozen years ago, Irwin Park's rubber jogging paths were relatively new, and Mead Park was freshly dredged for the first time in decades. Once COVID hit, the world took a greater interest in parks and open space, for a while there, elbowing our neighbors out of the way as we took to hiking the trails with a vengeance.

The New Canaan Land Trust created the Green Link connecting Irwin Park to the Nature Center, acquired the Silvermine-Fowler preserve, and restored dozens of new trails on 60 properties they own around town. Grace Farms opened in 2015 and has been a major draw (worldwide) for its architecture, its programming, and recreation of all sorts.

Organized recreation? Probably too many to name: Parks & Rec runs the town pool,

tennis, pickleball, and dog parks. Add the renovated YMCA, New Canaan Chamber Music, Carriage Barn and Silvermine Arts, the Powerhouse, Summer Theater, Academy of Dance, Racquet Club, youth football and lacrosse under the lights at Dunning, paddle at Waveny, platform tennis tournaments in January snow, and adult leagues that fill before the email confirmation hits your inbox.

It isn't one field, court, or stage. Recreation here is layered: passive and organized, competitive and contemplative.

### 8. Community Spirit

I wrote, "From Christmas Caroling on God's Acre to our Memorial Day Parade down Main Street, to the Ice Cream Social at the Historical Society and our spectacular 4th of July celebration complete with fireworks at Waveny Park, we above all share the guiding belief that all are welcome. While young families move in, our baby boomers and seniors seem to be staying on, making our community rich in its diversity."

That was true in 2012. All of that is still true, and we've added or improved so many more community events since. Ballet

on the Library Green, Restaurant Week, Caffeine & Carburators, Christmas Stroll, Menorah lighting, the Halloween parade, and Veterans Day on God's Acre are just some of the fixtures of community life. The New Canaan Community Foundation helps anchor that effort, supporting the nonprofits and volunteers who quietly do the work between the events. Community spirit here isn't just tradition. It's participation — structured, supported, and passed from one generation to the next.

### 9. 44 Miles to New York City

This is one thing that has not changed, although how we think about commuting has. Cars are faster and safer, and the Merritt Parkway that we rely on is more beautiful, having been repaved and thousands of hazardous trees cleared away. The biggest change since 2012 is our ability to work from home, or the park, in a wireless world, making our dependence on New York City just a bit different.

### 10. Next Station to Heaven

I'm speaking about New Canaan's train station, where train routes have started and ended since 1868, ensuring New Canaanites always get a seat. If you've missed the New Canaan train and had to board in Darien, you know the difference. It's truly a unique arrangement that we have here.

Fourteen years ago, these 10 distinctions were advantages. Today, they are moats.

Schools that stayed excellent. Taxes that stayed disciplined. A village that modernized without losing scale. Parks expanded. Restaurants improved. Community rituals multiplied. Even commuting evolved without diminishing proximity.

Most towns change. Few towns change without losing themselves. What strikes me isn't what's different; it's what has held.

New Canaan hasn't chased trends. It has layered strength on top of strength. And that, more than any individual item on this list, may be what truly makes it unique.

*John Engel is a broker on the Engel Team at Douglas Elliman, and his earliest memories of New Canaan are of getting lost in the woods behind St. Luke's School, circa 1973. Change is hard. Every improvement listed above followed real community debate and compromise. That process can be uncomfortable, but it is also the reason the town evolves without losing itself. When residents participate, the results tend to endure.*

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



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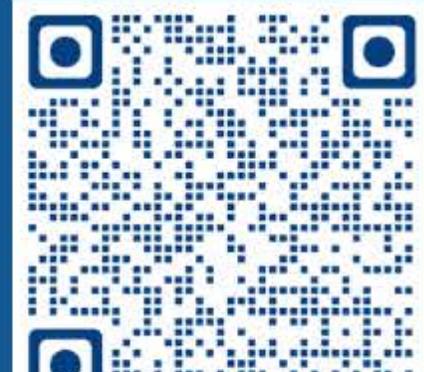
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FPCNC Open Mic: Diverse Expressions  
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**Open Mic, 7-8:30 pm  
Featured Performance,  
8:30-9 pm**

**178 Oenoke Ridge,  
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Signups required, please  
email Nick Depuy at  
**nickdepuysite@gmail.com**  
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information





Thursday, February 19, 2025

## SPOTLIGHT on FAMILIES

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GAMES AND PUZZLES



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WHAT TO DO: COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Win the Literary Challenge

## Once Upon a Valentine

February is the month of love—but not all love stories are the same. This month, we challenge you to put your literary wit to the test with two bite-sized contests inspired by classic literature. Join in our cross-over contest for both New Canaan and Greenwich.

**For younger creatives: "Love Letters to and from Storybook Characters"**

**The winner receives \$50 and publication in the Sentinel!**

Ever wonder what Cinderella's glass slipper might

write to her foot? Or what the Big Bad Wolf's love note to Little Red Riding Hood would say? In 50 words or fewer, write a Valentine's message from one famous storybook character to another—whether romantic, funny, or just plain weird!

**"Shakespeare in Six or Twelve Words"**

**The winner receives \$50 and publication!**

The Bard was a master of love, tragedy, and mischief—now it's your turn. Summarize any Shakespearean love story in just six or twelve words—your choice. Whether it's "Much Ado: Enemies,

rumors, wedding, still single"; Hamlet: "Dad's ghost returns. Bad idea, everyone dies.;" or Macbeth: "Witches whisper fate, daggers gleam, guilt stains his hands— All is lost." Make it clever, poetic, or laugh-out-loud funny!

**Deadline: Friday, February 28, 2025. Winners announced in the March 5, 2025 issue.**

**How to Enter:** Craft your clever response to this month's contest, then email [Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com](mailto:Publisher@NewCanaanSentinel.com) to submit it. Multiple entries are welcome (up to three), and pseudonyms are accepted—giving you the freedom to be as inventive as you like.



## Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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

**TOWN MEETINGS****Tuesday, February 24**

Board of Selectmen

8:30-9:30 a.m., Town Hall Meeting Room

Board of Finance

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

**Wednesday, February 25**

Town Council

7-8 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room

**Thursday, February 26**

Board of Finance

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

**Friday, February 20****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.

**Winter Drop in Movie | Wicked**

11 AM at the Lapham Center

Elphaba, a young woman ridiculed for her green skin, and Galinda, a popular girl, become friends at Shiz University in the Land of Oz. After an encounter with the Wonderful Wizard of Oz, their friendship reaches a crossroads. Free.

**Polar Bear Picnic**

5:30 PM at Grace Farms

Join the Polar Bear Picnic, and have breakfast for dinner. After enjoying a meal, take part in winter-inspired crafts and games. Tickets are \$24/members, \$30/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org/event/polar-bear-picnic-2026>.

**Saturday, February 21**

Encaustic Photography Workshop with Rebecca Dunn

10:30 AM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center

In this 2-hour exploratory class, artist Rebecca Dunn guides participants through the fundamentals of encaustic techniques and the many creative possibilities of this rich, tactile medium. Tickets are \$75/members, \$90/non-members, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/encaustic-photography/>.

**Move with Grace Farms x lululemon | Strength for Runners with Brittany Battis**

10:30 AM at Grace Farms

Join Lululemon Running Ambassador and Coach Brittany Battis for a full body strength class for runners. This class is open to all levels of fitness as well as beginner or advanced runners. Tickets are \$20/members, \$25/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org/event/move-with-grace-farms-x-lululemon>

with-grace-farms-x-lululemon-2-6-2.

**Music at Grace Farms | Arlen Hlusko, cello**

4:30 PM at Grace Farms

Internationally acclaimed Canadian cellist Arlen Hlusko is a dynamic, versatile artist who has performed extensively as soloist and chamber musician across the Americas, Asia, and Europe. Tickets are \$40/members, \$50/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/ZwWtQ>.

**Sunday, February 22****Celebrate Lunar New Year**

2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim &amp; Dede Bartlett Auditorium

Usher in the Year of the Horse with dance and choir performances, food, and crafts from a number of Asian traditions. Local organizations and New Canaan community members will give insight into New Year's customs. This drop-in program is ideal for the whole family. Register at <https://shorturl.at/rYNPQ>.

**Monday, February 23****VITA Free Tax Preparation**

11 AM- 5 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room

Get your 2025 taxes filed for free through SimplifyCT who uses VITA, a secure, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) certified program. Register at <https://simplifyct-portal.communityappointments.com/schedule-an-appointment>.

**Comparing Music Streaming Services**

2 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room

Join reference librarian Flannery to explore the pros and cons of popular music streaming services such as Apple Music, Spotify, Amazon Music, and TIDAL. Register at <https://shorturl.at/oNM69>.

**Tuesday, February 24****How to Use My Rec with Kathy Collins**

11 AM at the Lapham Center

If you've used MyRec to register for a program at Lapham only to find out when you come to the program that you were not registered, this talk is for you. Join Kathy to learn how to use this system to register for all your Lapham programs and activities. Review step-by-step how to create an account, browse programs, add choices to your account, register and receive confirmation. 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 our digital library, stop by for one-on-one support from a tech librarian. Tech assistance is limited to 20 minutes per

session and is provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Wednesday, February 25****Blood Sugar & Blood Pressure Clinics**

12:30 PM at the Lapham Center

Ellen Samai from New Canaan's Department of Health provides in-person blood sugar and blood pressure testing. If you plan to have your blood sugar level tested, it is recommended you fast for four hours prior to testing. To register, call (203) 594-3620. Walk-ins welcome.

**Journey into the World of Tea | White and Green Teas**

3 PM at Grace Farms

This tranquil and in-depth exploration of tea offers guests a taste of notable varietals from cultures around the world, with demonstrations and more. Register at <https://shorturl.at/LxtyV>.

**Flashes of Brilliance Photography****Book Talk**

6 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center

Anika Burgess, New York Times freelance photo editor will talk about her new book which tells the story of the wildest experiments in early photography and the wild people who undertook them. She will be in conversation with photographer Jane Beiles. Register at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/flashes-of-brilliance-photography-book-talk/>.

**An Evening with Michele Filgate and Cynthia Weiner**

6 PM at Elm Street Books

Join for an evening with Michele Filgate and Cynthia Weiner, to chat about their recent books, *What My Father and I Don't Talk About* and *A Gorgeous Excitement*. To register for the event, visit <https://elmstreetbooks.com>.

**American Contradiction with Pulitzer Prize-Winner Paul Starr**

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim &amp; Dede Bartlett Auditorium

The whole truth about America, Starr argues in this new history of the United States since the 1950s, has never been contained in one consistent set of values or interests. Register at <https://shorturl.at/QuSDv>.

**Thursday, February 26****From Bloom to Canvas: The Flowered Press Workshop**

10 AM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center

Discover the art of pressing flowers and transforming them into one-of-a-kind works of art. In this two-part workshop led by artist Marguerite Alpert, participants will learn both traditional and contemporary techniques for preserving botanicals and using them creatively. Tickets are \$195/members, \$205/non-members, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/from-bloom-to-canvas-the-flowered-press-workshop>.

and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/flowered-press/>.

**Tech Workshop with Cooper Young and George Geist of Good Kid Tech**

2 PM at the Lapham Center

The program will begin with a fifteen-minute presentation on a tech-related topic, followed by time to answer your personal tech questions. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

**Robert Schumann and Virginia Woolf Performance & Conversation with Narrative Resonance**

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim &amp; Dede Bartlett Auditorium

The Narrative Resonance series pairs works of classical chamber music and literature to explore artistic parallels and their relevance for contemporary audiences. Join to learn how the emotional force of Robert Schumann's Third String Quartet mirrors that of Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*. Register at <https://shorturl.at/NCZ8E>.

**Free Medicare Counseling**

By appointment at the Lapham Center. Dick Neville is a CHOICES certified Medicare counselor providing free, objective, person centered assistance about Medicare options and related benefits. Sessions are offered free of charge to New Canaan residents and Town employees. Call (203) 594-3620 to schedule an appointment, no drop-ins.

**Friday, February 27****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.

**Pages & Putts: Mini Golf Fundraiser at the Library**

6-9 PM at the New Canaan Library

Bring your whole family during the tee times to play Mini Golf. The 18-hole course will take you all around the library with fun prizes for you to win. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/mvBhJ>.

**Opening Night of One Man, Two Guvnors**

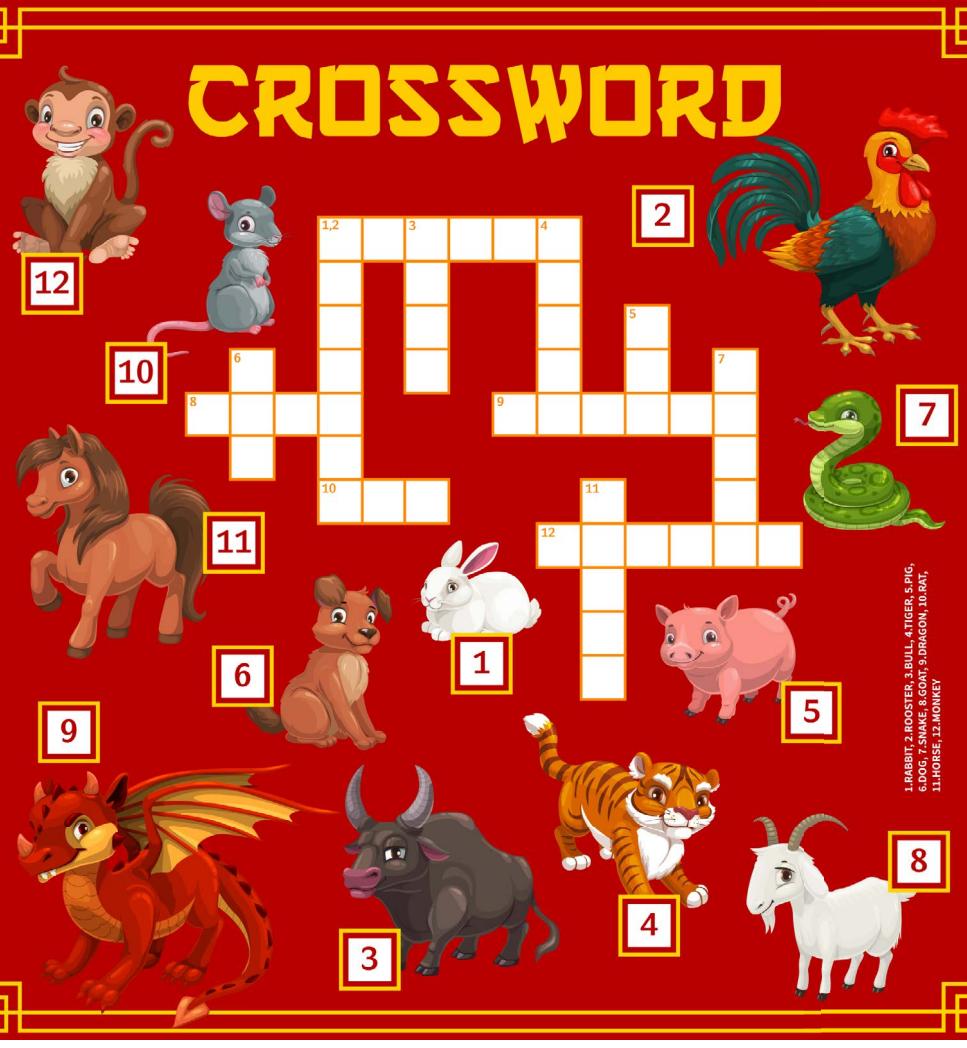
7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theater

A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. The Tony Award winning *ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS* follows Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Packed with physical comedy, pratfalls, and quick wit, this modern take based on Goldoni's masterpiece *Servant of Two Masters* is a wildly fun night at the theatre. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

## CALENDAR CONTINUES ON PAGE 7

Submit new items to <https://www.greenwichsentinel.com/events/community/add/>

## CROSSWORD



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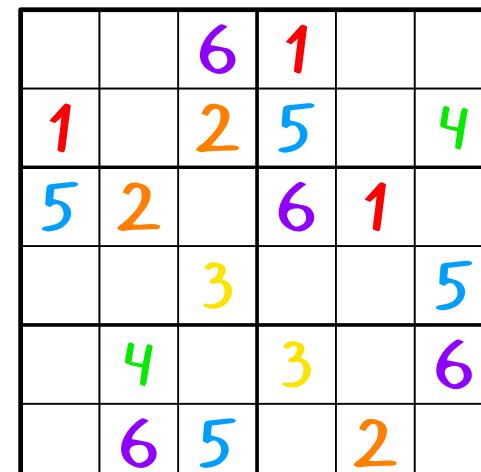
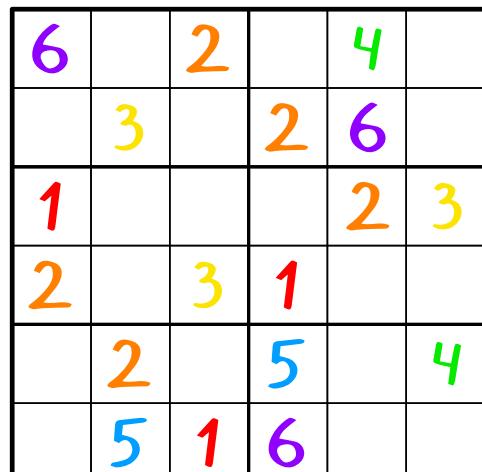
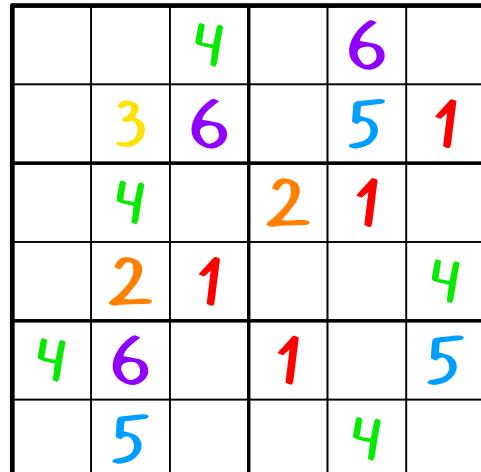
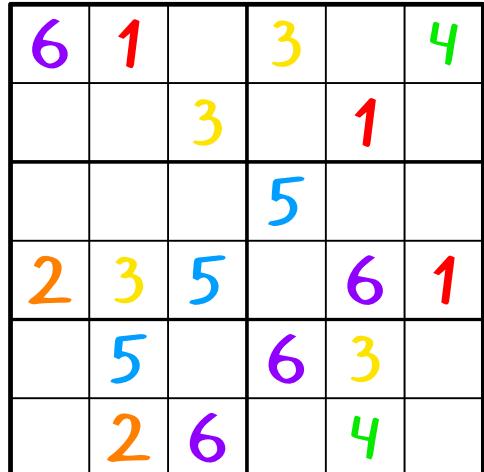
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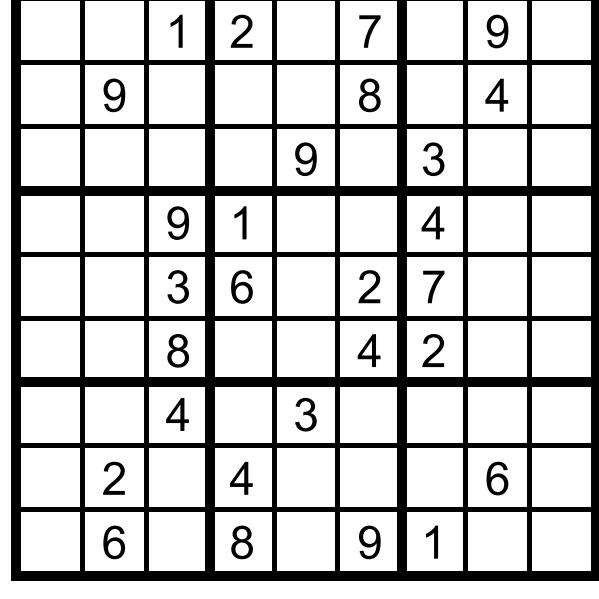
# Sudoku for Kids



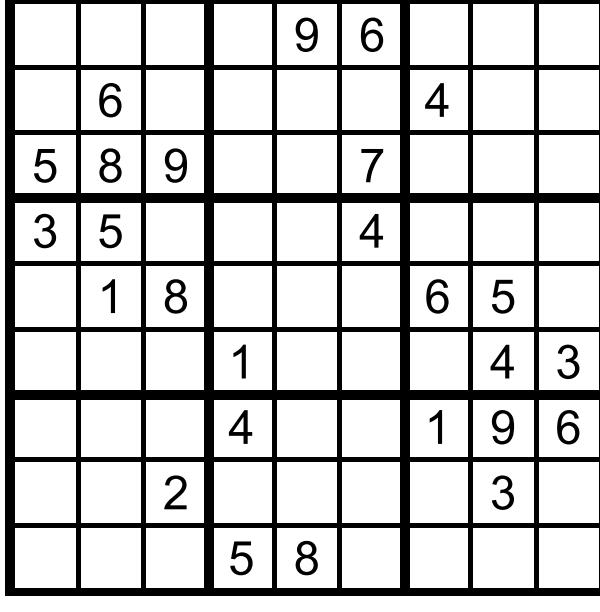
## SUDOKU

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

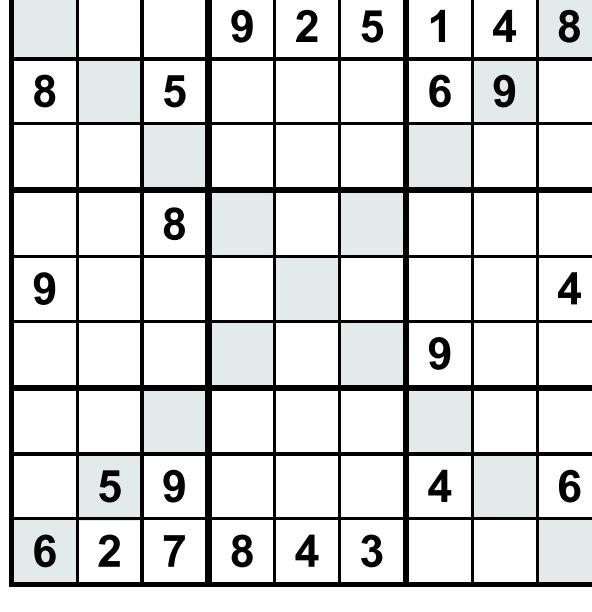
### Easy



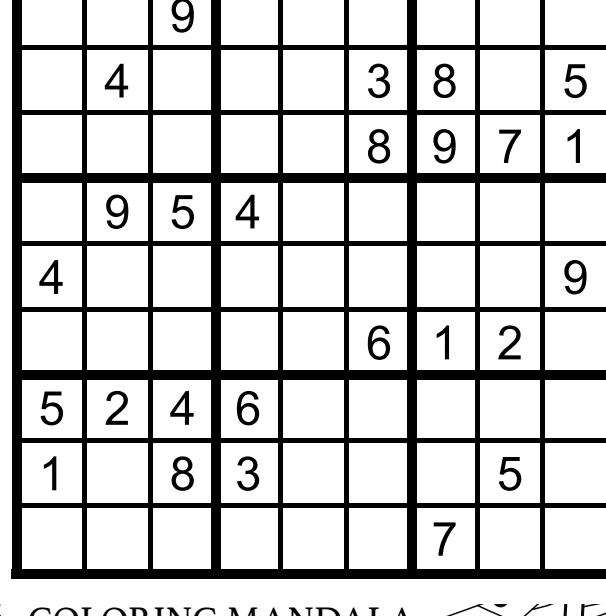
### Hard



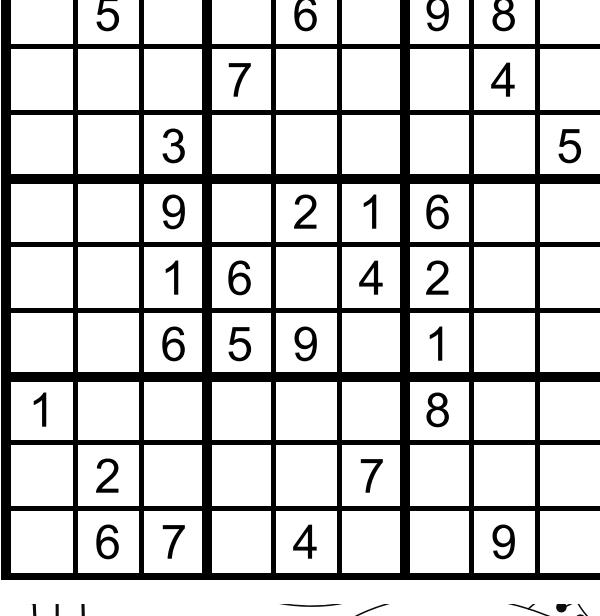
### Very Hard



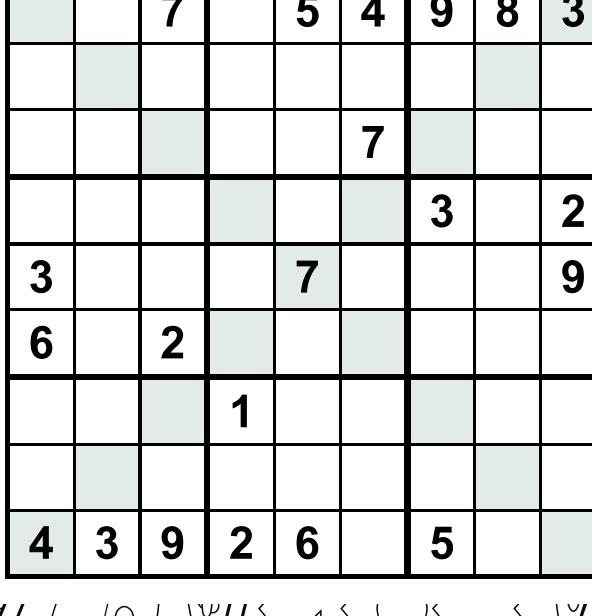
### Easy



### Hard



### Very Hard



### COLORING MANDALA



### Sudoku answers

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

**Universal Crossword**

Edited by David Steinberg

**ACROSS**

1 Dish before an entree, informally  
 4 Avails oneself of  
 8 Furnishes with a grant  
 14 Mess hall queue  
 16 Response to a good point  
 17 Thoroughly enjoying  
 19 Family car  
 20 "Looky here!"  
 21 FedEx competitor  
 22 Note to the staff  
 23 Golden State sch. that Mayim Bialik attended  
 25 Lhasa \_\_\_ (dog breed)  
 26 Getting up there in age  
 29 Fuzzy memory  
 30 AOL alternative  
 31 Painter Vincent van \_\_\_  
 32 Smoke detector noises  
 33 Listing in the classifieds  
 36 Motorcyclist  
 39 Physics Nobelist Niels  
 40 Transcript no.  
 43 Not odd  
 44 Abut  
 47 Item for a TSA agent  
 48 Cereal grains  
 49 Courageous  
 50 Rustic lodging  
 51 Tags on Twitter

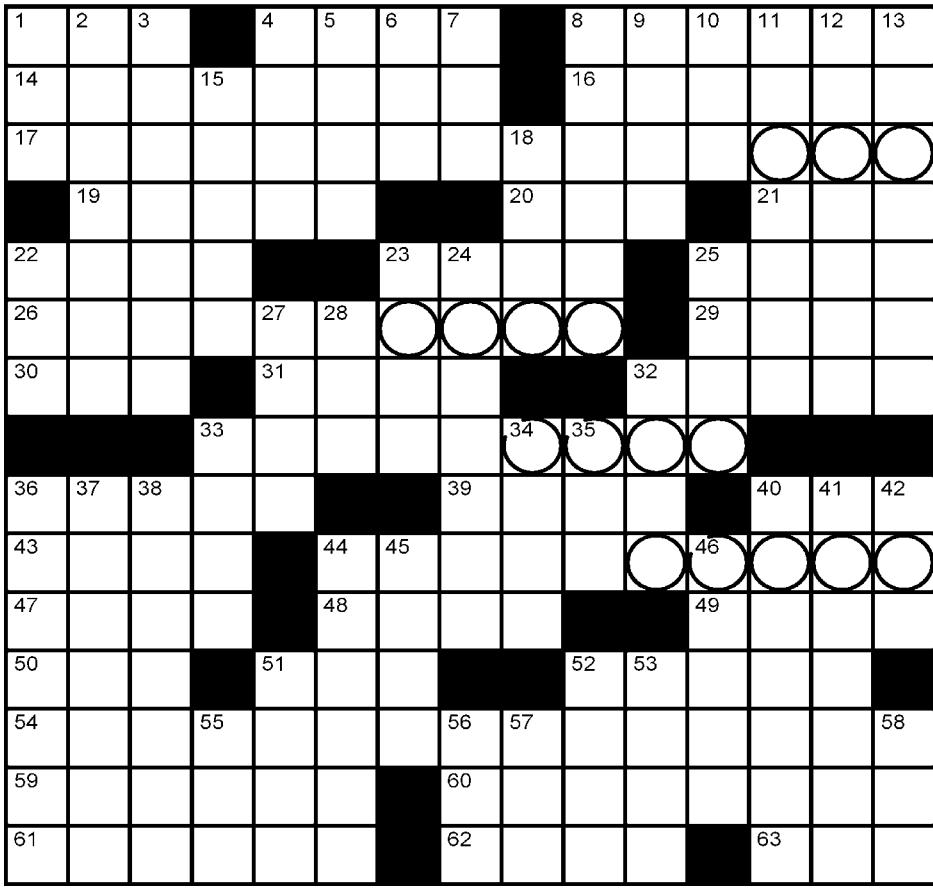
52 "The final frontier"  
 54 1997 Bruce Willis sci-fi film ... or what you'd expect to find at the end of this answer, given the last few letters of 17-, 26-, 33- and 44-Across  
 59 Pina \_\_\_  
 60 Priced separately, at a restaurant  
 61 "The Scarlet Letter" protagonist Prynne  
 62 Pieces of info for detectives  
 63 Vegetable that may be candied  
**DOWN**  
 1 Perform in a play  
 2 "Star Trek" weapons  
 3 Pikachu's franchise  
 4 Forearm bone  
 5 Fingerspell, say  
 6 Finale  
 7 "Didn't I tell you?!"  
 8 One of the UAE's national airlines  
 9 Canceled, at NASA  
 10 "Obviously!"  
 11 Increase eightfold  
 12 Throws together quickly

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER**

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

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7/18

**Chemical Bond** by Dylan Schiff**Horoscopes****Horoscope: February 19-25, 2026**

This week marks a seasonal shift as the Sun moves into Pisces, ushering in a more reflective, intuitive, and emotionally attuned atmosphere.

After the clarity and innovation of Aquarius season, the cosmic tone softens. Compassion, creativity, and spiritual awareness take center stage. With Mercury and Venus also traveling through Pisces, communication becomes more nuanced and heartfelt. This is a week for listening closely, speaking gently, and allowing intuition to guide practical decisions. As the Moon waxes, momentum builds toward new emotional beginnings.

**Weekly Forecast by Sign****Aries (March 21 - April 19)**

The pace slows, inviting introspection. Rather than charging ahead, focus on emotional alignment. Practical advice: carve out quiet time to assess what truly motivates you before committing to new plans. Reflection now prevents missteps later.

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)**

Friendships and long-term goals gain emotional depth. You may find yourself drawn to meaningful conversations with trusted allies. Practical advice: strengthen connections by being honest about your hopes for the months ahead. Collaboration benefits from sincerity.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 20)**

Career and reputation are highlighted, but through a softer lens. Communication matters more than visibility. Practical advice: clarify expectations with supervisors or partners and avoid assumptions. Thoughtful wording strengthens professional standing.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 22)**

Pisces season supports your natural emotional intelligence. Travel, study, or philosophical reflection may call to you. Practical advice: explore ideas that expand your worldview, but anchor inspiration in realistic next steps.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22)**

Shared resources and deeper emotional bonds are in focus. Conversations around trust and mutual support may surface. Practical advice: approach sensitive topics calmly and with patience; transparency builds lasting security.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22)**

Relationships take center stage as Pisces energy activates your partnership zone. Practical

advice: listen fully before responding. Mutual understanding strengthens commitments, especially in close personal or business relationships.

**Libra (September 23 - October 22)**

Daily routines and wellness require gentle attention. Practical advice: adjust your schedule to allow rest and reflection alongside productivity. Balanced habits support both mental and physical health.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)**

Creativity and romance deepen. Emotional authenticity draws others toward you. Practical advice: express affection openly and invest time in pursuits that restore joy. Vulnerability becomes strength this week.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)**

Home and family life benefit from patience and empathy. Practical advice: address lingering tensions calmly and create space for shared understanding. Small gestures of reassurance go a long way.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)**

Communication flows intuitively. You may find it easier to articulate complex thoughts. Practical advice: write, plan, or initiate discussions that require emotional intelligence. Clear dialogue now prevents confusion later.

**Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)**

Financial clarity becomes important as the emotional tone of the week shifts. Practical advice: review budgets carefully and make decisions that reflect both logic and long-term values. Stability grows through measured choices.

**Pisces (February 19 - March 20)**

This is your season. Energy builds around personal renewal and self-expression. Practical advice: set intentions that align with who you are becoming, not who you were. Confidence grows when you honor your intuition only with others, but with the future version of yourself you're becoming.

**Summary:**

February 19-25 invites a move from intellect to intuition. With the Sun, Mercury, and Venus in Pisces, this week favors empathy, creative expression, and meaningful conversation. Slow down, listen carefully, and let emotional clarity guide practical action.

**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 walks laboriously (7)

2 Habitat 67 architect Moshe (6)

3 foreboding (10)

4 wary (8)

5 rouged spots (10)

6 maintain order (6)

7 bright light in one's field (8)

**SOLUTIONS**

NT	TRU	TTI	DIE	EKB
ONES	SH	ES	RY	OUS
DG	LUM	POL	SKI	POR
ICE	SAF	CHE	TE	INA

Previous Answers: 1. IGORATE 2. WADDLE 3. CONTRIBUTES

4. AMARYLLIS 5. ALIBIS 6. FENNEL 7. MORDANTLY

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

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# THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER BY A.A. MILNE

## CHAPTER VII IN WHICH Tigger Is Unbounced

One day Rabbit and Piglet were sitting outside Pooh's front door listening to Rabbit, and Pooh was sitting with them. It was a drowsy summer afternoon, and the Forest was full of gentle sounds, which all seemed to be saying to Pooh, "Don't listen to Rabbit, listen to me." So he got into a comfortable position for not listening to Rabbit, and from time to time he opened his eyes to say "Ah!" and then closed them again to say "True," and from time to time Rabbit said, "You see what I mean, Piglet" very earnestly, and Piglet nodded earnestly to show that he did.

"In fact," said Rabbit, coming to the end of it at last, "Tigger's getting so Bouncy nowadays that it's time we taught him a lesson. Don't you think so, Piglet?"

Piglet said that Tigger was very Bouncy, and that if they could think of a way of unbouncing him, it would be a Very Good Idea.

"Just what I feel," said Rabbit. "What do you say, Pooh?"

Pooh opened his eyes with a jerk and said, "Extremely."



"Extremely what?" asked Rabbit.

"What you were saying," said Pooh.

"Undoubtedly."

Piglet gave Pooh a stiffening sort of nudge, and Pooh, who felt more and more that he was somewhere else, got up slowly and began to look for himself.

"But how shall we do it?" asked Piglet. "What sort of a lesson, Rabbit?"

"That's the point," said Rabbit.

The word "lesson" came back to Pooh as one he had heard before somewhere.

"There's a thing called Twy-stymes," he said. "Christopher Robin tried to teach it to me once, but it didn't."

"What didn't?" said Rabbit.

"Didn't what?" said Piglet.

Pooh shook his head.

"I don't know," he said. "It just didn't. What are we talking about?"

"Pooh," said Piglet reproachfully, "haven't you been listening to what Rabbit was saying?"

"I listened, but I had a small piece of fluff in my ear. Could you say it again, please, Rabbit?"

Rabbit never minded saying things again, so he asked where he should begin from; and when Pooh had said from the moment when the fluff got in his ear, and Rabbit had asked when that was, and Pooh had said he didn't know because he hadn't heard properly, Piglet settled it all by saying that what they were trying to do was, they were just trying to think of a way to get the bounces out of Tigger, because however much you liked him, you couldn't deny it, he did bounce.

"Oh, I see," said Pooh.

"There's too much of him," said Rabbit, "that's what it comes to."

Pooh tried to think, and all he could think of was something which didn't help at all. So he hummed it very quietly to himself.

If Rabbit  
Was bigger  
And fatter  
And stronger,  
Or bigger  
Than Tigger,  
If Tigger was smaller,  
Then Tigger's bad habit  
Of bouncing at Rabbit  
Would matter

No longer,  
If Rabbit  
Was taller.

"What was Pooh saying?" asked Rabbit. "Any good?"

"No," said Pooh sadly. "No good."

"Well, I've got an idea," said Rabbit, "and here it is. We take Tigger for a long explore, somewhere where he's never been, and we lose him there, and next morning we find him again, and—mark my words—he'll be a different Tigger altogether."

"Why?" said Pooh.

"Because he'll be a Humble Tigger. Because he'll be a Sad Tigger, a Melancholy Tigger, a Small and Sorry Tigger, an Oh-Rabbit-I-am-glad-to-see-you Tigger. That's why."

"Will he be glad to see me and Piglet, too?"

"Of course."

"That's good," said Pooh.

"I should hate him to go on being Sad," said Piglet doubtfully.

"Tiggers never go on being Sad," explained Rabbit. "They get over it with Astonishing Rapidity. I asked Owl, just to make sure, and he said that that's what they always get over it with. But if we can make Tigger feel Small and Sad just for five minutes, we shall have done a good deed."

"Would Christopher Robin think so?" asked Piglet.

"Yes," said Rabbit. "He'd say 'You've done a good deed, Piglet. I would have done it myself, only I happened to be doing something else. Thank you, Piglet.' And Pooh, of course."

Piglet felt very glad about this, and he saw at once that what they were going to do to Tigger was a good thing to do, and as Pooh and Rabbit were doing it with him, it was a thing which even a Very Small Animal could wake up in the morning and be comfortable about doing. So the only question was, where should they lose Tigger?

"We'll take him to the North Pole," said Rabbit, "because it was a very long explore finding it, so it will be a very long explore for Tigger unfinding it again."

It was now Pooh's turn to feel very glad, because it was he who had first found the North Pole, and when they got there, Tigger would see a notice which said, "Discovered by Pooh, Pooh found it," and then Tigger would know, which perhaps he didn't know, the sort of Bear Pooh was. That sort of Bear. So it was arranged that they should start next morning, and that Rabbit, who lived near Kanga and Roo and Tigger, should now go home and ask Tigger what he was doing tomorrow, because if he wasn't doing anything, what about coming for an explore and getting Pooh and Piglet to come too? And if Tigger said "Yes" that would be all right, and if he said "No"—

"He won't," said Rabbit. "Leave it to me." And he went off busily.

The next day was quite a different day. Instead of being hot and sunny, it was cold and misty. Pooh didn't mind for himself, but when he thought of all the honey the bees wouldn't be making, a cold and misty day always made him feel sorry for them. He said so to Piglet when Piglet came to fetch him, and Piglet said that he wasn't thinking of that so much, but of how cold and miserable it would be being lost all day and night on the top of the Forest. But when he and Pooh had got to Rabbit's house, Rabbit said it was just the day for them, because Tigger always bounced on ahead of everybody, and as soon as he got out of sight, they would hurry away in the other direction, and he would never see them again.

"Not never?" said Piglet.

"Well, not until we find him again, Piglet. Tomorrow, or whenever it is. Come on. He's waiting for us."

When they got to Kanga's house, they found that Roo was waiting too, being a great friend

of Tigger's, which made it Awkward; but Rabbit whispered "Leave this to me" behind his paw to Pooh, and went up to Kanga.

"I don't think Roo had better come," he said. "Not today."

"Why not?" said Roo, who wasn't supposed to be listening.

"Nasty cold day," said Rabbit, shaking his head. "And you were coughing this morning."

"How do you know?" asked Roo indignantly.

"Oh, Roo, you never told me," said Kanga reproachfully.

"It was a Biscuit Cough," said Roo, "not one you tell about."

"I think not today, dear. Another day."

"Tomorrow?" said Roo hopefully.

"We'll see," said Kanga.

"You're always seeing, and nothing ever happens," said Roo sadly.

"Nobody could see on a day like this, Roo," said Rabbit. "I don't expect we shall get very far, and then this afternoon we'll all—we'll all—we'll—ah, Tigger, there you are. Come on. Good-bye, Roo! This afternoon we'll—come on, Pooh! All ready? That's right. Come on."



So they went. At first Pooh and Rabbit and Piglet walked together, and Tigger ran round them in circles, and then, when the path got narrower, Rabbit, Piglet and Pooh walked one after another, and Tigger ran round them in oblongs, and by-and-by, when the gorse got very prickly on each side of the path, Tigger ran up and down in front of them, and sometimes he bounced into Rabbit and sometimes he didn't. And as they got higher, the mist got thicker, so that Tigger kept disappearing, and then when you thought he wasn't there, there he was again, saying "I say, come on," and before you could say anything, there he wasn't.

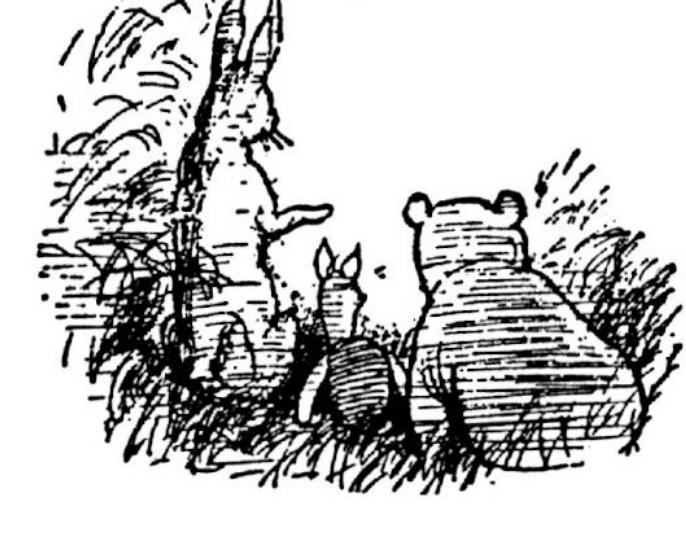
Rabbit turned round and nudged Piglet.

"The next time," he said. "Tell Pooh."

"The next time," said Piglet to Pooh.

"The next what?" said Pooh to Piglet.

Tigger appeared suddenly, bounced into Rabbit, and disappeared again. "Now!" said Rabbit. He jumped into a hollow by the side of the path, and Pooh and Piglet jumped after him. They crouched in the bracken, listening. The Forest was very silent when you stopped and listened to it. They could see nothing and hear nothing.



"Hsh!" said Rabbit.

"I am," said Pooh.

There was a pattering noise ... then silence again.

"Hallo!" said Tigger, and he sounded so close suddenly that Piglet would have jumped if Pooh hadn't accidentally been sitting on most of him.

"Where are you?" called Tigger.

Rabbit nudged Pooh, and Pooh looked about for Piglet to nudge, but couldn't find him, and Piglet went on breathing wet bracken as

quietly as he could, and felt very brave and excited.

"That's funny," said Tigger.



There was a moment's silence, and then they heard him pattering off again. For a little longer they waited, until the Forest had become so still that it almost frightened them, and then Rabbit got up and stretched himself. "Well?" he whispered proudly. "There we are! Just as I said."

"I've been thinking," said Pooh, "and I think—"

"No," said Rabbit. "Don't. Run. Come on." And they all hurried off, Rabbit leading the way.

"Now," said Rabbit, after they had gone a little way, "we can talk. What were you going to say, Pooh?"

"Nothing much. Why are we going along here?"

"Because it's the way home."

"Oh!" said Pooh.

"I think it's more to the right," said Piglet nervously. "What do you think, Pooh?"



Pooh looked at his two paws. He knew that one of them was the right, and he knew that when you had decided which one of them was the right, then the other one was the left, but he never could remember how to begin.

"Well," he said slowly—

"Come on," said Rabbit. "I know it's this way." They went on. Ten minutes later they stopped again.

"It's very silly," said Rabbit, "but just for the moment I—Ah, of course. Come on...."

"Here we are," said Rabbit ten minutes later. "No, we're not...."

"Now," said Rabbit ten minutes later, "I think we ought to be getting—or are we a little bit more to the right than I thought?..."

"It's a funny thing," said Rabbit ten minutes later, "how everything looks the same in a mist. Have you noticed it, Pooh?"

Pooh said that he had.

"Lucky we know the Forest so well, or we might get lost," said Rabbit half an hour later, and he gave the careless laugh which you give when you know the Forest so well that you can't get lost.



Piglet sidled up to Pooh from behind.

"Pooh!" he whispered.

"Yes, Piglet?"

"Nothing," said Piglet, taking Pooh's paw. "I just wanted to be sure of you."

When Tigger had finished waiting for the others to catch him up, and they hadn't, and

when he had got tired of having nobody to say, "I say, come on" to, he thought he would go home. So he trotted back; and the first thing Kanga said when she saw him was "There's a good Tigger. You're just in time for your Strengthening Medicine," and she poured it out for him. Roo said proudly, "I've had mine," and Tigger swallowed his and said, "So have I," and then he and Roo pushed each other about in a friendly way, and Tigger accidentally knocked over one or two chairs by accident, and Roo accidentally knocked over one on purpose, and Kanga said, "Now then, run along."

"Where shall we run along to?" asked Roo.

"You can go and collect some fir-cones for me," said Kanga, giving them a basket.



So they went to the Six Pine Trees, and threw fir-cones at each other until they had forgotten what they came for, and they left the basket under the trees and went back to dinner. And it was just as they were finishing dinner that Christopher Robin put his head in at the door.

"Where's Pooh?" he asked.

"Tigger dear, where's Pooh?" said Kanga. Tigger explained what had happened at the same time that Roo was explaining about his Biscuit Cough and Kanga was telling them not both to talk at once, so it was some time before Christopher Robin guessed that Pooh and Piglet and Rabbit were all lost in the mist on the top of the Forest.

"It's a funny thing about Tiggers," whispered Tigger to Roo, "how Tiggers never get lost."

"Why don't they, Tigger?"

"They just don't," explained Tigger. "That's how it is."

"Well," said Christopher Robin, "we shall have to go and find them, that's all. Come on, Tigger."

"I shall have to go and find them," explained Tigger to Roo.

"May I find them too?" asked Roo eagerly.

"I think not today, dear," said Kanga.

"Another day."

"Well, if they're lost tomorrow, may I find them?"

"We'll see," said Kanga, and Roo, who knew what that meant, went into a corner, and practised jumping out at himself, partly because he wanted to practise this, and partly because he didn't want Christopher Robin and Tigger to think that he minded when they went off without him.



"The fact is," said Rabbit, "we've missed our way somehow."

They were having a rest in a small sand-pit on the top of the Forest. Pooh was getting rather tired of that sand-pit, and suspected it of following them about, because whichever direction they started in, they always ended up at it, and each time, as it came through the mist at them, Rabbit said triumphantly, "Now I know where we are!" and Pooh said sadly, "So do I," and Piglet said nothing. He had tried to think of something to say, but the only thing he could think of was, "Help, help!" and it seemed silly to say that, when he had Pooh and Rabbit with him.

"Well," said Rabbit, after a long silence in which nobody thanked him for the nice walk they were having, "we'd better get on, I suppose. Which way shall we try?"

"How would it be," said Pooh slowly, "if, as soon as we're out of sight of this Pit, we try to find it again?"

"What's the good of that?" said Rabbit.

"Well," said Pooh, "we keep looking for Home and not finding it, so I thought that if we looked for this Pit, we'd be sure not to find it, which would be a Good Thing, because then we might find something that we weren't looking for, which might be just what we were looking for, really."

"I don't see much sense in that," said Rabbit.

"No," said Pooh humbly, "there isn't. But there was going to be when I began it. It's just that something happened to it on the way."

"If I walked away from this Pit, and then walked back to it, of course I should find it."

"Well, I thought perhaps you wouldn't," said Pooh. "I just thought."

"Try," said Piglet suddenly. "We'll wait here for you."

Rabbit gave a laugh to show how silly Piglet was, and walked into the mist. After he had gone a hundred yards, he turned and walked back again ... and after Pooh and Piglet had waited twenty minutes for him, Pooh got up.

"I just thought," said Pooh. "Now then, Piglet, let's go home."

"But, Pooh," cried Piglet, all excited, "do you know the way?"

"No," said Pooh. "But there are twelve pots of honey in my cupboard, and they've been calling to me for hours. I couldn't hear them properly before, because Rabbit would talk, but if nobody says anything except those twelve pots, I think, Piglet, I shall know where they're calling from. Come on."

They walked off together; and for a long time Piglet said nothing, so as not to interrupt the pots; and then suddenly he made a squeaky noise ... and an oo-noise ... because now he began to know where he was; but he still didn't dare to say so out loud, in case he wasn't. And just when he was getting so sure of himself that it didn't matter whether the pots went on calling or not, there was a shout from in front of them, and out of the mist came Christopher Robin.



"Oh, there you are," said Christopher Robin carelessly, trying to pretend that he hadn't been anxious.

"Here we are," said Pooh.

"Where's Rabbit?"

"I don't know," said Pooh.

"Oh—well, I expect Tigger will find him. He's sort of looking for you all."

"Well," said Pooh, "I've got to go home for something, and so has Piglet, because we haven't had it yet, and—"

"I'll come and watch you," said Christopher Robin.



So he went home with Pooh, and watched him for quite a long time ... and all the time he was watching, Tigger was tearing round the Forest making loud yapping noises for Rabbit. And at last a very Small and Sorry Rabbit heard him. And the Small and Sorry Rabbit rushed through the mist at the noise, and it suddenly turned into Tigger; a Friendly Tigger, a Grand Tigger, a Large and Helpful Tigger, a Tigger who bounced, if he bounced at all, in just the beautiful way a Tigger ought to bounce.

"Oh, Tigger, I am glad to see you," cried Rabbit.

# One of the Most Successful Marine Mammals



By JIM KNOX

I remember them squinting--blinking back the silvery glare of Long Island Sound's ice and waves magnified through the Swarovski spotting scope. Bundled up in layers upon layers against the January gusts on the jutting promontory of Stamford's Cove Island Park, my daughters and I were finally rewarded with a glimpse of our quarry. There, fully half a mile out onto the freezing Sound, 14 Harbor Seals lay hauled out on the rocks exposed at low tide. Dozing atop the rocky islet in apparent bliss just inches from the frigid waters, they basked as if lounging on tropical sands. Flexing our gloved fingers to keep them limber for note taking, we scribbled our observations while the frenzied wind whipped strands of hair across our eyes. Along with several dozen fellow volunteers, we were piloting a citizen science seal observation study with colleagues at The Maritime Aquarium. Our goal--to document the presence, diversity and basic behaviors of these magnificent marine mammals making an historic return to their native waters.

The Harbor Seal (*Phoca vitulina*), is one of the world's most successful and widespread marine mammals. Boasting a range which includes: the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts of North America, Greenland, Iceland, Atlantic and Arctic Coastal Europe as well as the Kamchatka Peninsula and the Bering Sea, these small seals command a big presence. These beautiful creatures possess a rounded, dog-like snout, large dark eyes, clawed flippers, a plump body and a sleek coat ranging from light tan to silver or blue-gray with spots or speckling. Reaching lengths of no more than 6



**Hunted to extirpation or regional extinction from U.S. waters during the 20th century, they have staged a bold comeback in Connecticut's coastal waters.**

feet and weights of just 285 pounds, they are denizens of coastal waters where they hunt for fish, crustaceans and shellfish. Historically, it was the Harbor Seal's specialty as a coastal species hunting near shore waters that placed it within easy range of sealers' harpoons, hunters' rifles and fishermen's nets. This proximity amplified human threats including: net and gear entanglement, illegal feeding, vessel traffic and collisions, chemical contamination such as oil spills, and habitat degradation. With implementation of The Marine Mammal Protection Act in 1972, came a gradual reversal in population trends and health for the Harbor Seals. With protection came greater awareness of their needs and fragility.

Hunted to extirpation or regional extinction from U.S. waters during the 20th century, they have

staged a bold comeback in Connecticut's coastal waters. In fact, due to their status as a marine mammal which affords them full federal protection, including a mandatory minimum approach distance of 150 feet, they have made an occasional "nuisance" of themselves. In recent years, Harbor Seals have been spotted: hauling out on Fairfield County harbor police docks, 37 miles up the Connecticut River on Wesleyan University's Crew boat ramp, and even lounging on the hulls of nuclear submarines at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base in Groton!...I did say bold.

From an ecological standpoint, the Harbor Seal's role is extremely complex and only partially understood. What's certain is its status as a mid level predator, providing benefits including balance of predatory fish stocks which in turn produce more

robust, stable populations of harvested fish and shellfish species.

While its ecological role is paramount, there is another aspect to these endearing marine mammals which is inestimable. Though classified as a meso (mid-level) aquatic carnivore, the Harbor Seal, by any terrestrial measure, is a large carnivore which inhabits the same waterways and beaches as humans. Other than responding to episodes of illegal feeding or harassment, it does so peacefully--with no aggression.

This is quite remarkable. We have a 6-foot-long, 200+ pound torpedo of a carnivore possessing jaws resembling a Mountain Lion's. It can power through the water at speeds of 20 miles per hour, reverse direction in a fraction of a second, launch its entire body airborne and it does not attack us clumsy, nosy humans splashing in its midst.

face which catches our eyes and opens our hearts. That's okay, because we ultimately conserve those wild creatures which touch us. Thankfully, the Harbor Seal is just as resilient as it is adorable. It's robust recovery not only provides evidence of its status as an indicator species, confirming the vastly improved health of our coasts and the rivers which flow to them. It also provides us with well-founded hope that we can indeed protect what we love.

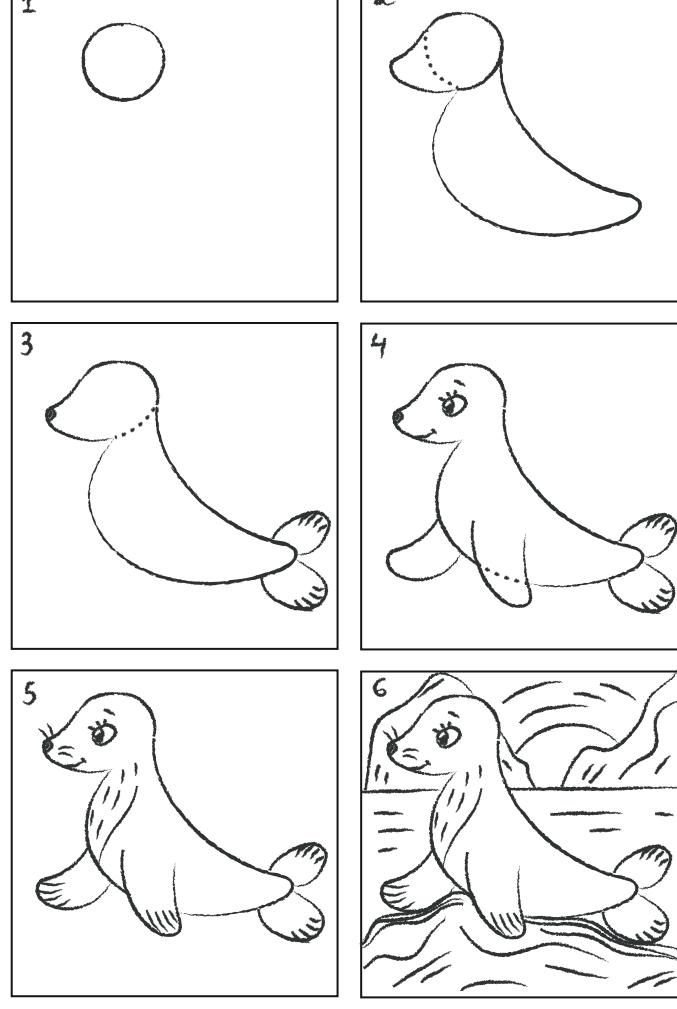
As a zoologist, I suspected the seal study held great promise to impart knowledge, understanding and caring toward the protection of this key species. As a father witnessing his children's smiling faces and looks of wonder each time they spotted the seals safe and sound...I got all the proof I ever needed.

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

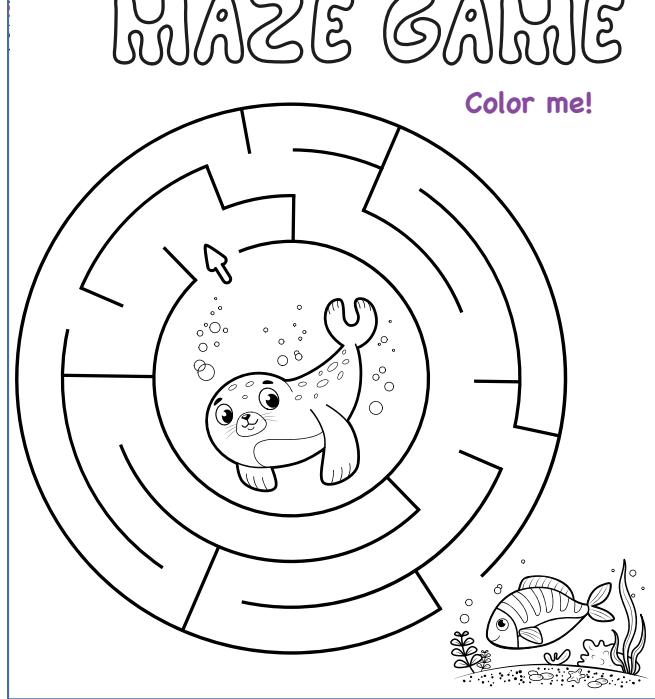
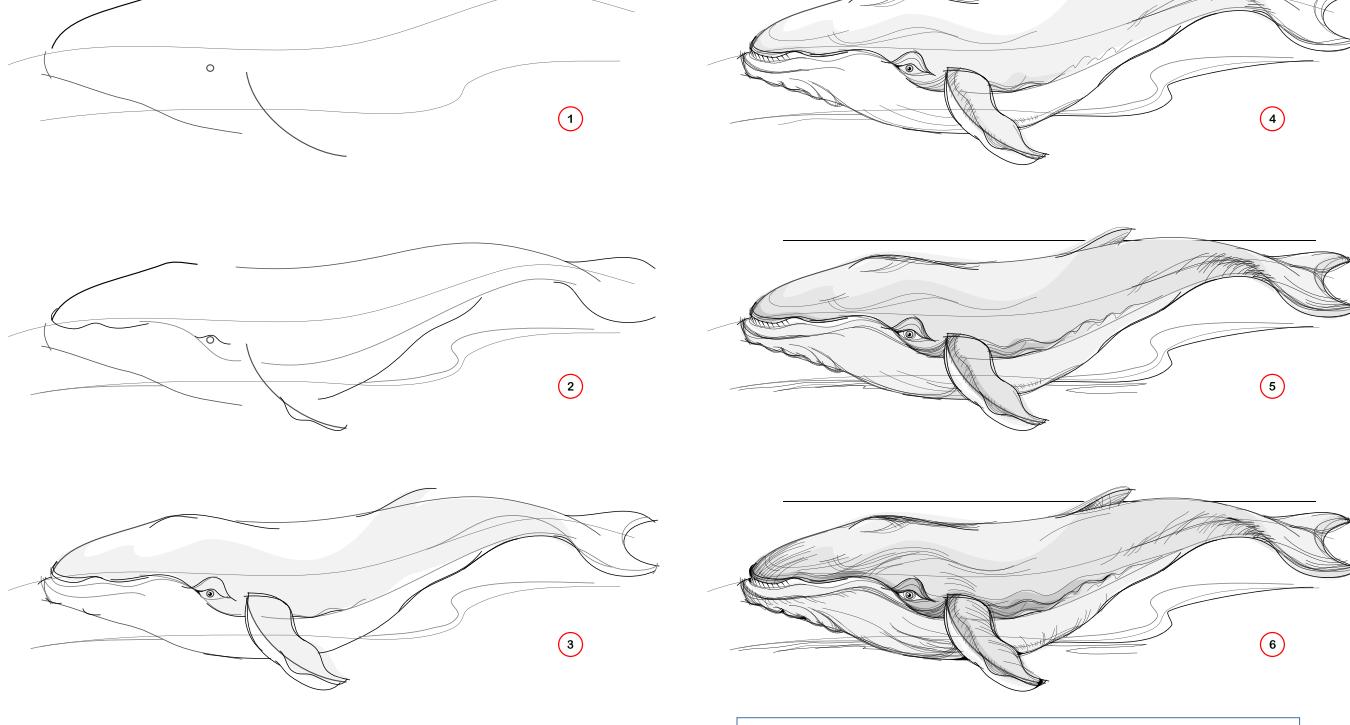
The Harbor Seal

While we focus on the cute, we must not lose sight of the fact that these mammals are superb hunters.

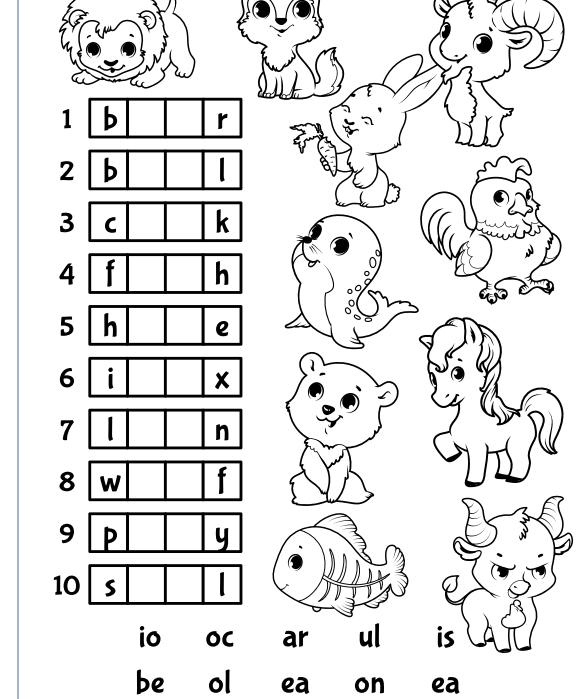
Yet it is the seal's adorable, big-eyed, whiskered, puppyish



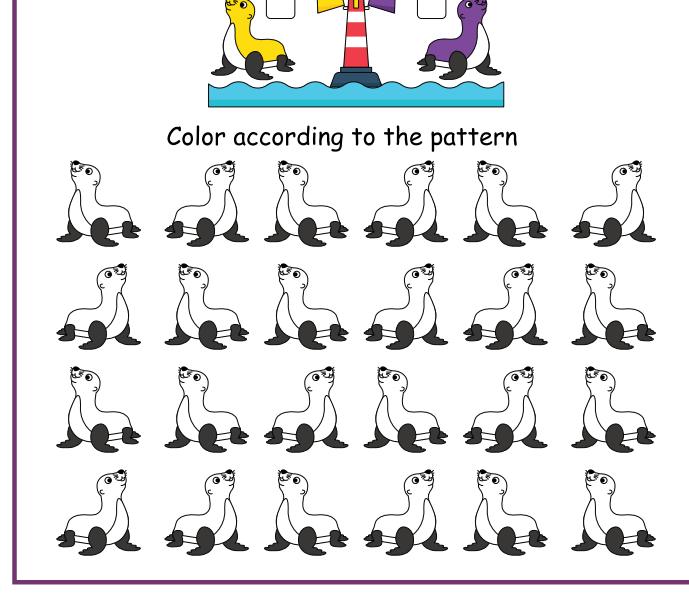
## GRAB YOUR SKETCH BOOK step by step



Color me!



### LEFT or RIGHT



### How Many?



# Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

## **Saturday, February 28**

**Pages & Putts: Mini Golf Fundraiser at the Library**  
10 AM- 3 PM at the New Canaan Library  
Bring your whole family during the tee times to play Mini Golf. The 18-hole course will take you all around the library with fun prizes for you to win. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/4eSrA>.

## **Wellness Tea Retreat**

10 AM- 5 PM at Grace Farms  
Relax and savor a flight of three Grace Farms wellness teas: Rest, Breathe, and Settle. The teas are paired with prompts for self-reflection, adapted from Grace Farms' River Retreat publication. Register at <https://gracefarms.org/event/wellness-tea-retreat/2026-02-28>.

## **Color Theory: Exploring Color Through Paint**

10 AM- 12:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center  
In this workshop, led by artist and instructor Evelyn Harvey, you will analyze and determine the properties of color, explore their relationships, and learn to utilize the color wheel. This class is perfect for both beginners and for artists wanting a brush-up or refresher of color theory. Registration is \$75/members, \$95/non-members, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/colortheory/>.

## **One Man, Two Guvnors**

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theater  
A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. Follow Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Packed with physical comedy, pratfalls, and quick wit, this modern take based on Goldoni's masterpiece Servant of Two Masters is a wildly fun night at the theatre. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

### **Sunday, March 1**

**One Man, Two Guvnors**  
2 PM at the Powerhouse Theater  
A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. Follow Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

### **Play Ukulele with Michael-Louis Smith**

5:45 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center  
In this workshop, you'll learn chords and strumming techniques for the ukulele. Led by Michael-Louis Smith, this series will be held on March 1, 8, 15, and 22. Some ukuleles will be available, or bring your own. Registration for this series is \$185/members, \$200/non-members, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/lets-play-ukulele/>.

### **Wednesday, March 4**

**Cricket Hill History of Peonies**  
9:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Take a dive into the diverse world of peonies! Daniel Furman of Cricket Hill Garden in Thomaston, CT, will weave together the rich history of this storied plant with practical advice on growing great peonies in New England. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/peonies>.

### **Fostering a Positive Relationship with Food & Body**

12 PM via Zoom  
Dr. Melissa Coffin will discuss, fueling your best self, promoting positive body image, fostering mindfulness around food & exercise, and what to do if you're concerned about someone's relationship with food or body. Register at <https://newcanaancares.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/newcanaancares/eventRegistration.jsp?event=I632&>.

### **Thursday, March 5**

**The Art Of Investing In Your Home**  
5:30 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center

Join a special closing event for the 46th Annual Photograph Show, in partnership with Connecticut Cottages & Gardens. Hear from leading local experts on how smart design and construction decisions can enhance both the beauty and long-term value of your home. Light bites and cocktails will be served. RSVP to [ctgevents@candg.com](mailto:ctgevents@candg.com).

### **Author Candice Morrow, RN: Book Talk & Signing Event**

6 PM at Elm Street Books  
Author, Registered nurse and survivor advocate, Candice Morrow will appear for an author book talk and signing. Morrow will discuss her memoir, *Not One More Day*, a deeply personal

account of surviving domestic violence and reclaiming her life after years of abuse. Representatives from DVCC will be present to share information and available services and community resources. For more information, call Elm Street Books at (203) 966-4545.

### **Highlighting Medical Databases**

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room  
Join Reference Librarian Flannery to learn how to access and use New Canaan Library's medical databases. Register at <https://shorturl.at/jU1tC>.

### **Conversations with Business Leaders**

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Malcolm deMayo will share his deep experience in technology to help us understand how we can harness artificial intelligence in a dynamic landscape. With clear definition and concrete use cases, DeMayo will explain what AI is, address concerns and confusion, and show how we can use it to dramatically improve business outcomes. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/business-leaders-demayo-ai>.

### **Friday, March 6**

#### **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

#### **8:30 - 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center**

**The New Canaan Sentinel's weekly coffee and conversation.**

### **William Shakespeare's Macbeth**

7 PM at New Canaan High School  
Experience the dark allure of ambition and fate in New Canaan High School's production of William Shakespeare's Macbeth. Tickets will be available on the NCHS Theatre website.

### **One Man, Two Guvnors**

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theater  
A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. Follow Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

### **Saturday, March 7**

### **William Shakespeare's Macbeth**

2 & 7 PM at New Canaan High School  
Experience the dark allure of ambition and fate in New Canaan High School's production of William Shakespeare's Macbeth. Tickets will be available on the NCHS Theatre website.

### **Grace Farms Lectures with Concert | Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer**

3-5 PM at New Canaan High School  
Join Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer, a writer of "rare grace," for powerful and poetic explorations of connection. Kimmerer weaves together indigenous wisdom, science, and profound spiritual insight to reimagine our connection to the living world. The talk will be followed by a chamber music concert. Tickets are \$45/members, \$60/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org/event/grace-farms-lectures-robin-wall-kimmerer>.

### **Broadway Concert Series featuring Kara Lindsay**

7 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center  
Go hear Kara perform some of her hits and crowd favorites. Join at 6pm for a pre-show cocktail hour included in your ticket purchase. Stay after the performance for a Q&A with Kara and Dan. Tickets are available at <https://www.connecticutstagecompany.org/tickets>.

### **One Man, Two Guvnors**

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theater  
A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. Follow Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

### **Sunday, March 8**

### **One Man, Two Guvnors**

2 PM at the Powerhouse Theater  
A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. Follow Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

### **Former Intelligence Officer Dr. Anthony Vinci Presents "The Fourth Intelligence Revolution"**

2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Dr. Anthony Vinci discusses his new book, *The Fourth Intelligence Revolution: The Future of Espionage and the Battle to Save America*, with celebrated scientist Nicholas Donofrio. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/anthony%20vinci-I77185>.

### **Tuesday, March 10**

#### **Legislative Priorities in CT: Session Kickoff with our Legislators**

6:45 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Attend Raising Curious Kids with Rebecca Winthrop. Rebecca is the author of *The Disengaged Teen: Helping Kids Learn Better, Feel Better, and Live Better*, a widely discussed book examining why many students today feel disconnected from school and

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Local legislators will share their priorities for the current legislative session in Hartford, hear your concerns, and answer questions regarding the issues facing our state. Register at <https://shorturl.at/sk6Yu>.

### **Wednesday, March 11**

#### **Wicked Strange New England with Jeff Belanger**

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Wicked Strange New England offers a tour of haunts, monsters, aliens, and weird history from our region, and Jeff's engaging storytelling will show you that the bizarre is closer than you think. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/wicked-strange-new-england>.

### **College Bound & Ready to Thrive**

7 PM at New Canaan High School, Wagner Room  
Help your child build a strong foundation for your wellness before starting college. You will learn how families can proactively support emotional wellbeing before and after graduation, Tools & strategies to help students thrive, and more. Register at <https://newcanaancares.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/newcanaancares/eventRegistration.jsp?event=I632&>.

### **Thursday, March 12**

#### **Mocktails**

6:30 PM at Grace Farms  
Follow Chef Leah's recipes to create three seasonal mocktails. Tickets are \$22/members, \$28/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org/event/mocktails-2/2026-03-12>.

### **Authors Allison Pataki and Deborah Goodrich Royce In Conversation**

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Join for a conversation between bestselling authors Allison Pataki and Deborah Goodrich Royce. They will discuss their new books, *It Girl* and *Best Boy*, respectively. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-allison-pataki-I75314>.

### **Friday, March 13**

#### **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

#### **8:30 - 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center**

**The New Canaan Sentinel's weekly coffee and conversation.**

### **Saturday, March 14**

### **Organized Chaos, Coffee & Cares**

9-11 AM at New Canaan Country School  
Join New Canaan CARES for a relaxed and fun-filled

Saturday morning. There will be coffee, donuts, supervised crafts, indoor sports (for ages 3-11), and more. Register at <https://forms.gle/TLCaiBvIIIZMVAm88>.

### **Wednesday, March 18**

#### **Journey into the World of Tea | Oolong and Pu-erhs**

3 PM at Grace Farms  
Explore the fascinating world of oolongs and pu-erh, tasting samples of green oolongs, dark oolongs, and compare the stark differences between a raw and a cooked pu-erh. Tickets are \$20/members, \$25/non-members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org/event/olong-and-pu-erhs>.

### **Monday, March 23**

#### **NC Focus: Paths to Affordable Housing**

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
This presentation by Town officials will explore the paths New Canaan has taken to meet its Affordable housing needs and State requirements by focusing on three specific projects. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/nc-focus-affordable-housing>.

### **One Man, Two Guvnors**

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theater  
A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. Follow Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

### **Sunday, March 28**

### **One Man, Two Guvnors**

2 PM at the Powerhouse Theater  
A fast-paced, laugh-out-loud farce set in 1960s Brighton, England. Follow Francis Henshall, a down-on-his-luck man who finds himself working for two bosses at the same time – without either of them knowing. Tickets are available at <https://tpnc.org>.

### **Monday, March 29**

#### **The Art of American Independence: Beyond the Declaration**

12 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society  
Bring your sandwich, soup or snack and learn from Robin Hoffman, of Artscapades. Artscapades has developed a special lecture which ties in with the 2026 celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Tickets are available at <https://shorturl.at/tHR43>.

### **CARES Spring Community Program: Raising Curious Kids**

6:45 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium  
Attend Raising Curious Kids with Rebecca Winthrop. Rebecca is the author of *The Disengaged Teen: Helping Kids Learn Better, Feel Better, and Live Better*, a widely discussed book examining why many students today feel disconnected from school and

learning. Ideal for parents of children pre-K through high school. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/raising-curious-kids-198366>.

### **Thursday, March 26**

#### **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://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-medicare-200593>.

### **Wednesday, March 11**

#### **Tech Workshop with Cooper Young and George Geist of Good Kid Tech**

2 PM at the Lapham Center  
The program will begin with a fifteen-minute presentation on a tech-related topic, followed by time to answer your personal tech questions. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

### **Thursday, March 12**

#### **College Bound & Ready to Thr**

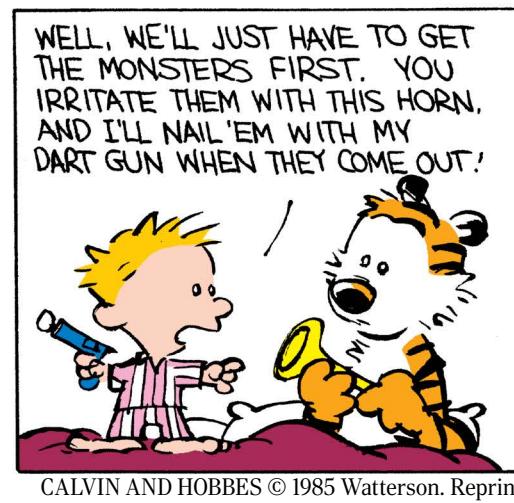
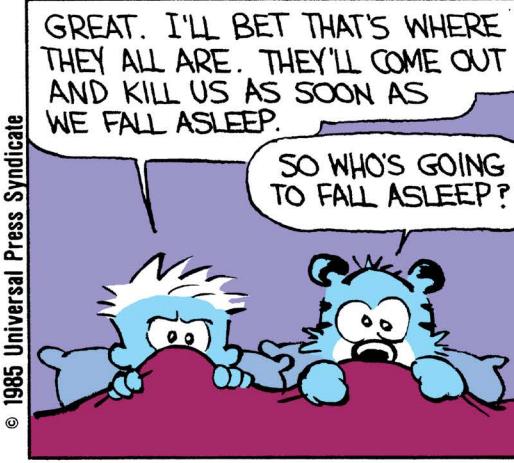
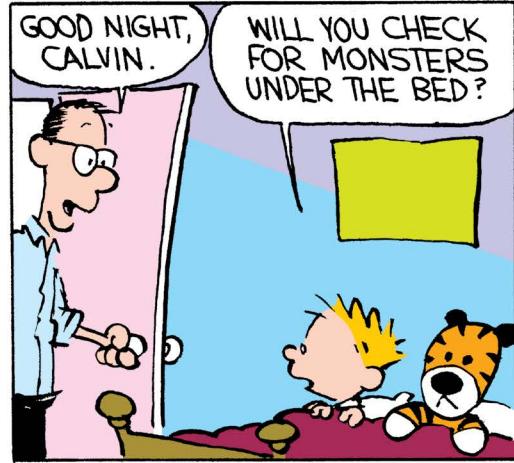
## EDUCATION

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

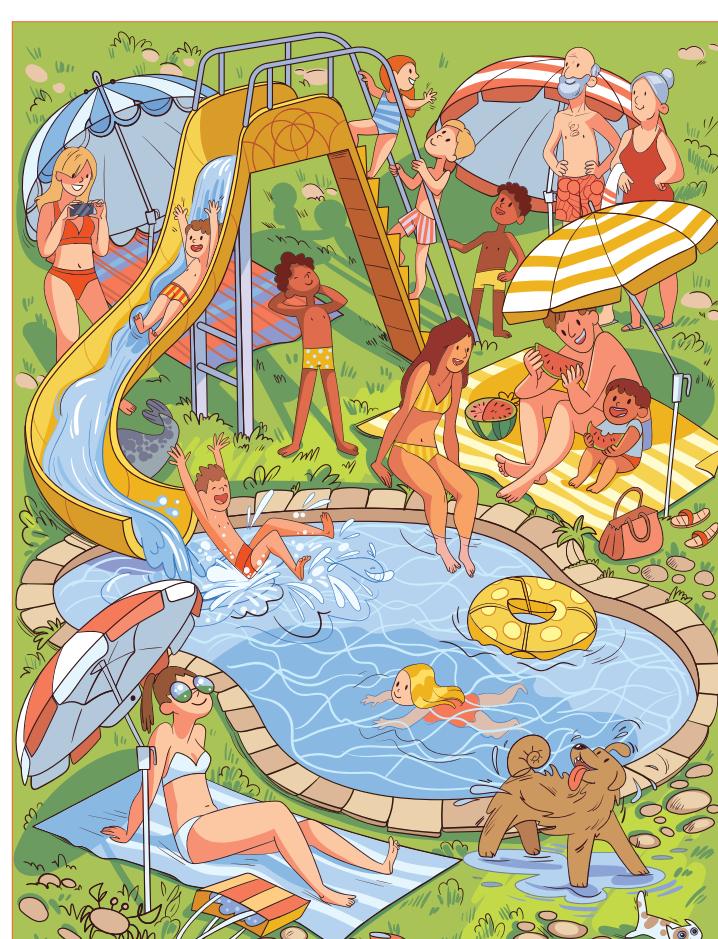
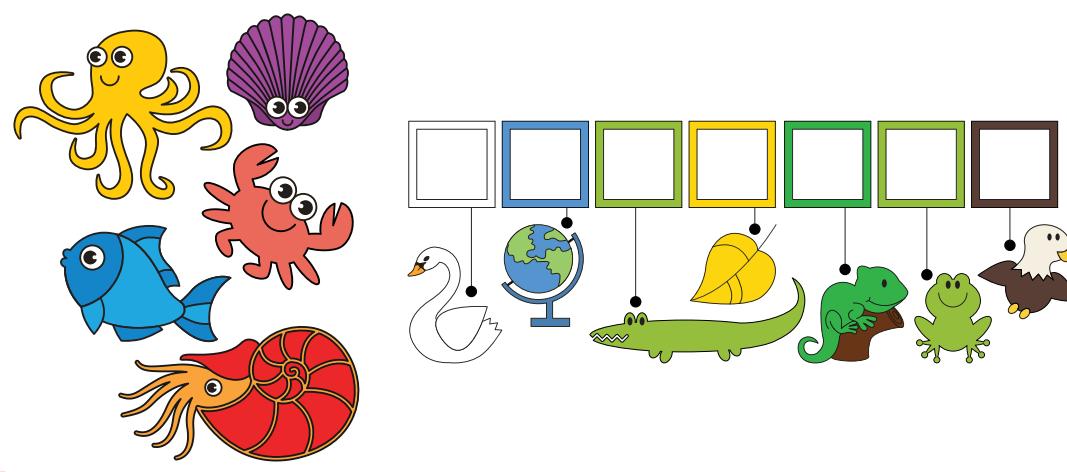
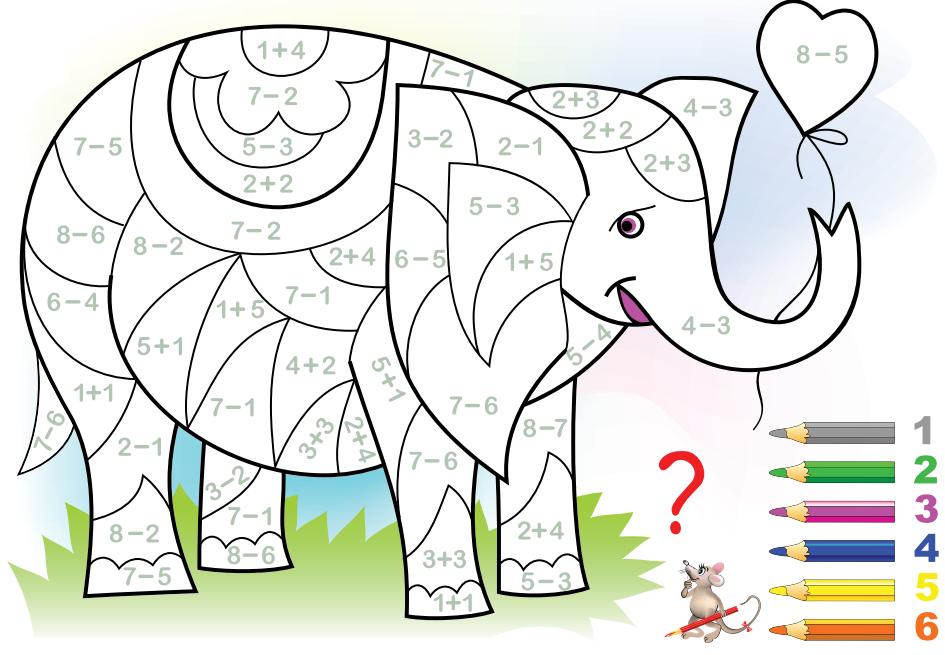
**Calvin and Hobbes**

by WATTERSON

OUTRAGE! WHY SHOULD I GO TO BED? I'M NOT TIRED! IT'S ONLY 7:30! THIS IS TYRANNY! I'M!



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**WORD SEARCH PUZZLE****FIND 10 HIDDEN OBJECTS IN THE PICTURE**