

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFING

Playhouse/Park Street Lots Paving Info

DATE	WHAT	ALTERNATE PARKING LOCATIONS
THURSDAY April 23	Playhouse Lot closed for new paving project	Park Street Lot
FRIDAY April 24	Playhouse Lot closed for new paving project	Park Street Lot
MONDAY April 27	Park Street Lot closed for new paving project	Elm St South Avc Main St, Cherry St, Playhouse Lot, Richmond Hill Lot
TUESDAY April 28	Park Street Lot closed for new paving project	Elm St South Avc Main St, Cherry St, Playhouse Lot, Richmond Hill Lot

*All dates are subject to change. For the most current information, please contact the Office of Public Works at 860-253-2200. All parking spaces will be closed during the time. All parking spaces will be closed during the time. All parking spaces will be closed during the time.

SEE PAVING CHART ON PAGE 13

POLICE & FIRE

Police Confirm No Threat At School

Police are investigating TikTok posts targeting New Canaan High School that contained derogatory content and urged students to stay home. Authorities determined the posts originated out of state and do not pose a credible threat, though extra police were present at the school as a precaution. The investigation is ongoing with assistance from the Connecticut Intelligence Center and the FBI, and officials are working to identify those responsible.

New Canaan Supports Special Olympics Run

The New Canaan Police Department is raising funds for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Connecticut. Residents can support by becoming sponsors or purchasing Torch Run T-shirts. The department will host part of the run on the morning of Friday, June 5, and is accepting inquiries through Officer Coughlin or direct message.

New Canaan Hosts Safe Medication Disposal

The New Canaan Police Department will collect unused or expired prescription medications on April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at its headquarters on South Avenue. The event is part of the DEA's National Take Back Day. It provides a safe way to dispose of medications.

FROM TOWN HALL

Town Approves Balanced Budget Plan

The town council approved a \$184.5 million budget for 2026-27, a 1.9% increase, raising the mill rate to about 17.12 from 16.69. The education budget was reduced by about \$758,000 due to updated healthcare cost projections, bringing it to \$116.4 million.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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>

Fishing on a picture-perfect spring day.



Above: Measuring the catch. At left: Emily, who received the prize for the first girl to catch a fish at this year's derby, with fellow fisherman Daniel.

"We appreciate the help from everyone," said Mr. Boice, adding that "we're glad that there's a good turnout."

On a picture-perfect Spring day, barely a shore spot was empty as several hundred young fisher-girls and -boys, parents and friends gathered at Mill Pond, part of the Fivemile River, for the 35th Annual Officer George Cogswell Fishing Derby.

Freshly stocked with 400 young brook and rainbow trout –

plus a few larger, 'lunker' trout – the first fish were caught only a few minutes after the 'Lines in the water' call.

The stocked trout were paid for by the New Canaan Police Benevolent Association.

The fishing derby, first led by the New Canaan Police Department (namesake Officer Cogswell was a police officer), is now led by New Canaan's Highway Department, said its superintendent Louie Boice.

Many volunteer hands worked together to make this beloved community event a reality,

including not only personnel from the Highway Department, but also the Fire Department, Police Department, and Parks & Recreation.

"We just appreciate the help from everyone," said Mr. Boice, adding that "we're glad that there's a good turnout."

In addition to the stocked trout, bass, perch and catfish naturally live in Mill Pond, and some were caught.

A cormorant, a large aquatic bird, also joined in, apparently well-versed in where the fish are. It regularly dove underwater and

swam for extended periods, also hoping to catch a fish.

The fishing derby is very much a 'full service' event, with caught fish being measured and weighed, as well as filleted for dinner if desired. Rods and tackle were available on loan. Bait was donated by Fishermen's World.

Prizes were awarded for largest fish caught, as well as first fish caught by a boy and by a girl. There was also a post-event raffle, with gifts cards, tackle boxes, fishing rods and other prizes – all donated by local merchants.

Town Budget Approved as New Canaan Advances Spring Projects and Community Initiatives

By DIONNA CARLSON

There is a renewed energy across New Canaan as we move further into spring, and I'd like to share several important updates and upcoming events with the community.



The Town Council on April 14th approved a Town Expenditure Budget of \$184.5 million for fiscal year 2026-27, representing an increase of 1.9% over the current fiscal year. Currently the amount to be raised by taxation increased by 3%. This increase is subject to change at the Board of Finance's June 9th meeting, when they will set the annual mill rate. More details may be found in the Budget Documents icon at newcanaan.info.

PARKING LOT REPAVING

The Park Street and Playhouse parking lots repaving project is underway. This initiative will not only improve the condition and traffic flow of both lots, it will also widen parking spaces to better accommodate today's vehicles. The initial phase of the project will see sections of the lots taken out of service for drainage, conduit and curbing installation, etc. During this phase, the lots will remain open. (see chart on page 13)

Once paving operations begin, one lot will be taken out of service at a time. When the Park Street lot is being paved, parking will be free on Elm Street and South Avenue to help offset the temporary loss of parking. To stay informed on construction and parking updates, I strongly encourage residents to "Sign Up for Alerts" at the red tab at newcanaan.info.

Please turn to page 8

Fishing Derby Huge Hit

Backyard Ticks with Pathogens are Surging Here, Right Now



TICK RISK IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY 2026 UPDATE

- Tick populations ~25% higher than in 2025
- ~68% of adult ticks in Fairfield County carry Lyme disease
- >40% of ticks submitted in early 2026 already test positive for Lyme

Tick activity in Fairfield County is already running ahead of schedule in 2026, with early-season data signaling a heightened risk for homeowners. According to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, April tick submissions are tracking at levels typically seen in peak months like May and June. Population estimates suggest tick numbers are roughly 25% higher than last year, while infection rates remain among the highest in the state. Data shows approximately 68% of adult ticks in Fairfield County carry Lyme disease, according to state surveillance, and early 2026 testing indicates more than 40% of ticks submitted this season are already positive. With nymph-stage ticks—responsible for most human infections—emerging in the coming weeks, public health officials are warning that the conditions are in place for a particularly active season, underscoring the need for preventive measures at home. See our story on page 2 and Teresa Alasio MD's column on page 5.

Marriage Coaching

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

Marriage counseling often has a negative connotation: something is broken and needs fixing. Let's call it marriage coaching instead. Coaching is something everyone welcomes, often for skills we are already good at, such as playing a sport or leading a team at work. Just as we wouldn't give a car to a 16-year-old without driving instructions, we shouldn't set out in marriage confident that our intelligence and our love for each other will conquer all differences. We are not the exception.

Our wedding day is the first day of our most challenging relationship, one that we hope will last a lifetime. Most of us haven't seen it well modeled. Weddings are an industry. We spend a lot of money getting married, but there is little support for staying married, and many



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry

worthy but time-consuming factors, such as work and children, to pull us apart. If we're smart, we'll get coaching. After all, divorce is an industry, too.

Liz and Jordan, both with advanced degrees, were certain that they didn't need marriage coaching. For the first ten years of their relationship, they focused on their careers and on their children, not on each other. Their "marriage tank" slowly emptied. When they finally met with a marriage counselor, they wished they had started coaching years before.

Silent Treasures

*I have spent years acquiring skills no one names.
Skills that earn no applause.
Skills that don't join data analysis
and marketing onto a résumé*

By ICY FRANTZ

The most essential parts of a life are often the hardest to name—the quiet ones—and the easiest to overlook, to underestimate.

Like an evening out, finally booked into the gap of busy schedules—nothing fancy, just burgers and fries and time to connect.

I had dinner with two old friends the other night—and by old, I mean we've known each other for over 40 years, which feels impressive until you

do the math.

Somewhere between ordering and dessert, we started to play a game.

Provocative questions. Nothing planned—just something that unfolded. If you could eat only one food for the rest of your life? Bread. Steak. Avocados. We are, it turns out, entirely predictable.

If you could acquire one talent? We all said the same thing: we wished we could sing.

Please turn to page 8

CRC

By PETER BARHYDT

Charter Commission Grapples With Term Limits, Finance Board Eligibility

The Charter Revision Commission (CRC) pressed forward this week with a series of consequential – and at times contentious – decisions, narrowing in on term limits, eligibility requirements for the Board of Finance, and structural questions that could shape town governance for years to come.

Meeting under a tight timeline to finalize its report, the

Please turn to page 9

Honoring Veterans at America's 250th

"When My Last Breath Escapes Me": A Soldier's Letter Opens The Sentinel's Reflection of our Nation's 250th Anniversary

By ELIZABETH BARHYDT

The United States will mark its 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026, a milestone that invites reflection not only on founding ideals but on the generations who sustained them through service and sacrifice. This newspaper begins a series on veterans with a document that predates the nation's greatest internal trial: the Civil War letter of Major Sullivan Ballou.



Ballou wrote from Camp Clark in Washington, D.C., on July 14, 1861, as Union forces prepared to move into Virginia. He was 32, a Providence attorney, a former Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, and a husband and father of two young boys. One week later, he was killed at the First Battle of Manassas.

His letter endures. We share it with you with limited

Please turn to page 8

The Art of Rejuvenation

Injectables • Body Sculpting • IV Therapy
Advanced Skin Rejuvenation • Medical Weight Loss
Hair Restoration • Hydrafacial • Mental Wellness

Intentional Self Aesthetics MED SPA IN NEW CANAAN
Physician owned and operated — the only one in New Canaan
23 Vitti Street, New Canaan, CT 06840
203.594.1890 intentionalselfaesthetics.com
@intentionalselfaesthetics intentionalselfaesthetics



An Aggressive Tick Season Looms Ahead

By ANNE WHITE

Ticks do not arrive in Connecticut as a distant woodland problem. They arrive at the back door.

For many families, the season announces itself not on a hiking trail but in the yard, on the dog, on the cuff of a pant leg, in the uneasy ritual of combing through fur after an ordinary walk across the grass. That is the fact at the center of the state's tick problem, and it is the one most likely to unsettle homeowners. According to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's tick brochure, about 75 percent of Lyme disease cases are associated with activities around the home, including play, yard work and gardening.

That statistic helps explain both the fear and the urgency this spring. Connecticut researchers reported in March that their 2025 statewide surveillance effort collected more than 10,000 ticks from 40 public sites across all eight counties and tested them for five human disease-causing pathogens. Fairfield County recorded the highest infection rate in adult female blacklegged ticks for Lyme disease in that report, at 68 percent. Recent reporting has also described unusually early tick activity in 2026, with April submissions to the state lab already reaching levels normally seen later in the season.

Talking with the Experts

To understand what that looks like on the ground, we spoke with Jeff Bonaventura and Darren Bonaventura, the brothers behind [Tick Control, LLC](#), a family-run company that grew out of a private family crisis. Their father became seriously ill after a tick bite, they said in a long interview, suffering complications and requiring intensive treatment. The experience changed the way they thought about the problem. It was no longer an environmental nuisance or a seasonal business opportunity. It was a threat that had already entered their own family, and they decided to build a company around trying to do something about it.

That origin story is important because it helps explain the way they run their business. Jeff and Darren do not speak about tick control like landscapers adding another service line. They speak about it as a discipline learned over years of repetition, property by property, season by season. In the interview, Jeff said they have been at it for about a decade. Darren described their work less as spraying than as managing conditions: reading a yard, understanding where ticks are, explaining to homeowners what is really putting them at risk and then applying treatment with care.

Backyard Cleanups a Must

Their account tracked closely with what the state's public-health guidance says. Ticks do not jump or fly. The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station says they grasp passing hosts from leaf litter, the tips of grass and similar vegetation, and that most are probably picked up on the lower legs before crawling upward. That means the danger is often rooted in the ordinary features of residential life: a brushy property line, a damp pile of leaves, an unmown back corner, clutter that shelters rodents, the narrow strip where landscaping yields to the woods.

The brothers say the real battleground is usually closer than that. A family lets the dog out. A child chases a ball into sea grass or low brush. Someone cleans out a shed, gardens along a stone wall or walks the back edge of the property. The house can look tidy, even beautiful, and still contain ideal tick habitat at the margins.

The company's method begins with that premise. Tick control, Jeff said, "is not an event. It's a process." In practice, that means they do not present the problem as solvable by one quick spring visit. They described it as a season-long discipline built on timing, cleanup, observation and repeat attention.

Tick Control, LLC brings care to each property and expects discipline from the people who work for them. A new yard is not handed to a crew with little more than an address and a hose. Darren walks the property first with the technicians, studies the layout, points out where ticks are likely to gather, identifies the areas that require treatment, flags the places that must be avoided and explains what they are seeing and why. Jeff said that after thousands of applications, we can read a yard quickly and recognize where the real trouble is likely to be.

They also keep the same

technicians assigned to the same properties so that each yard is known, remembered and understood over time. The aim is familiarity, not speed. The crew returns knowing the contours of the property, the trouble spots, the sensitive areas and the expectations of the family that lives there. The principle they stress to their technicians is simple: the most important house they are working on is the one in front of them at that moment. Not the largest property. Not the most expensive account. The small yard matters just as much to the family who lives there as the sprawling estate matters to its owners.

It is the sort of statement that can sound like salesmanship until it is backed by specifics. The interview supplied those specifics. The brothers described yards near the water where homeowners were stunned to find ticks concentrated in shoreline grass. They described brushy, moist areas near the woods that remain dangerous even on otherwise manicured properties. They described how untreated leaf cover can blunt the effect of an application because ticks remain protected underneath until a pet or person disturbs them.

But What About the Bees?

One of the clearest moments in the interview came when the conversation turned to bees. At one property, dandelions were still standing in parts of the perimeter of the property. The crew treated the perimeter and areas without flowering growth, but held back where bees were active. They told the homeowner they would return after the grass was cut so they could finish the job. The scene says a great deal about the company's self-conception. Their expertise, as they describe it, is not simply about killing ticks. It is about timing, trade-offs and the careful reading of a living property. They want to protect families from ticks without acting carelessly toward pollinators or the broader yard environment.

Finding a Balance

That tension runs through nearly every serious conversation about tick control in Connecticut. Residents worry, reasonably, about Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses. They also worry about pesticides, runoff, pets, children and the cumulative effects of treatment. The brothers of Tick Control, LLC did not dismiss those concerns in the interview. They said experience matters precisely because it allows them to use only what is needed and no more. "Everything is a balance," Darren said, describing that calibration as one of the differences between careful, experienced application and blunt overuse.

The Problem is Getting Worse

Their work is shaped by a state problem that has become more complex, not less. Connecticut's

Ticks do not arrive in Connecticut as a distant woodland problem. They arrive at the back door.

2025 surveillance found not only abundant blacklegged ticks but also lone star ticks, American dog ticks and longhorned ticks. The state reported its first established population of the invasive Asian longhorned tick in Fairfield County in 2020, warning that the species raises human and animal health concerns. Recent reporting on Pleasure Beach in Bridgeport has illustrated how serious that spread can become: the beach was closed for the 2025 summer season because of tick concerns, including the invasive Asian longhorned tick, after years of treatment and consultation with state experts.

The brothers brought up Pleasure Beach in the interview because, for them, it encapsulated how the tick map has changed. Ticks are not only a back-country problem now. State scientists and local operators alike are finding them in coastal areas and in places where residents once assumed salt air or open shoreline would offer some protection. That change has practical consequences for homeowners in towns up and down Fairfield County. A yard near the water is not necessarily a safer yard.

Their work, however, does not end with diagnosis. Much of the interview was about relationships. The brothers emphasized that Tick Control, LLC, is a family company, not a franchise. Customers speak with the owners. New properties are reviewed by the owners. Jeff said that matters because homeowners want to know who is on the property, what is being done and why. In a business built on managing risk that most people cannot see, trust becomes part of the service.

Several stories from the interview underscored that point. Darren described keeping on customers who had fallen on hard times because he knew they had children and dogs in the yard and did not want to leave them exposed. Jeff told a similar story about helping a family dealing with serious illness. These were not offered as boasts so much as glimpses into the company's ethic: loyalty is expected to run in both directions. Whether every company would frame such decisions that way is another question. The Bonaventuras clearly do.

They also spoke with unusual directness about what customers get wrong. Many people, they said, assume one treatment at the beginning of spring will solve the season.

The state's data support their concern. The Connecticut Agricultural



A Tick Control LLC technician preparing his equipment.



Jeff, Darren, and Owen. Jeff Bonaventura and Darren Bonaventura are the brothers behind Tick Control LLC, a family-run company that grew out of a private family crisis.

Experiment Station's brochure notes that nymphal blacklegged ticks are tiny, active in late spring and summer and associated with most human Lyme disease cases. Adult ticks are active in fall, on warm winter days and in spring. The effect is to stretch the season beyond what many homeowners assume. The danger is not confined to a narrow window.

That helps explain the tone of the Tick Control, LLC operation. They are not panic merchants. They are experienced experts trying to impose order on a problem that is now embedded in daily residential life across Connecticut. Together, they present Tick Control, LLC, as a company built on repetition, supervision and memory: knowing what happened on a yard last month, last season and several years ago; knowing where a customer's dog runs; knowing where the bees are active; knowing which edge of the property becomes dangerous after rain.

The feature of their business that stands out most is not force but attention. They have built their company around looking closely. They read the yard before they treat it. They adjust when conditions are not right. They return when mowing changes the property. They explain what homeowners can do to make treatment more effective. They describe tick control not as a miracle but as a





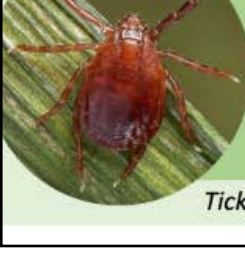
practiced and careful response to a worsening public-health problem.

Worsening is the Right Word

And worsening is the right word, even if it must be used with precision. This spring's reporting points to unusually early activity, and the state's surveillance makes clear that Connecticut remains a place with heavy tick presence and significant pathogen prevalence. What makes the problem frightening is not only the disease risk but the intimacy of the exposure. This is not a distant hazard. It is domestic. It lives in the familiar spaces just outside the house.

For Jeff and Darren Bonaventura of [Tick Control, LLC](#), that reality has defined both their work and their mission for years. Their father got sick. They saw what a tick-borne illness could do. They started a company. About a decade later, they are still walking yards, watching for bees, talking homeowners through cleanup and trying to make a dangerous season a little more manageable for the families who call them.

You can find more information from the State of Connecticut at <https://portal.ct.gov/caes/tick-office>. You can reach Jeff Bonaventura and Darren Bonaventura, the brothers behind Tick Control, LLC, at (888) 910-8425 or by email at CustomerService@TickControlLLC.com.

Species	Known Diseases
 <p>Blacklegged (deer) tick <i>Ixodes scapularis</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyme disease Anaplasmosis Babesiosis Relapsing fever Ehrlichiosis Powassan virus
 <p>American dog tick <i>Dermacentor variabilis</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rocky Mountain spotted fever Tularemia
 <p>Lone star tick <i>Amblyomma americanum</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ehrlichiosis Tularemia Heartland virus Bourbon virus Southern tick-associated rash illness (STARI) Red meat allergy
 <p>Gulf Coast tick <i>Amblyomma maculatum</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Rickettsia parkeri</i> rickettsiosis
 <p>Longhorned tick <i>Haemaphysalis longicornis</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe fever with thrombocytopenia virus* Japanese spotted fever* Several other diseases*

Tick images courtesy of CDC

* associated diseases in the tick's native range

Pre-Prom Picture Perfect at the Roger Sherman Inn



New Canaan High School students and their families gathered at the Roger Sherman Inn for a revived pre-prom event that turned the historic property into a central meeting point for portraits, family photos and a large class picture before the prom. Jayne Benton of Elm Street Events said the gathering drew about 500 people and marked the return of a local tradition that had lapsed in recent years. In an email, Benton wrote, "It was a stunning event with 500 people," and said Elm Street Events "brought it back this year after the new owners took over the Roger Sherman." The event was presented by the Roger Sherman Inn in collaboration with Elm Street Events who created and executed the concept with the generous support of Andersen Benedetti. Submitted photos.

POWERHOUSE THEATRE

IN WAVENY PARK

THE TOWN PLAYERS OF NEW CANAAN PRESENTS

A PSYCHOLOGICALLY IMMERSIVE PLAY THAT QUESTIONS WHAT'S REAL - AND HOW THAT MAKES YOU FEEL

SENTINEL READERS - EXCLUSIVE OFFER!

PROMO CODE: **SENTINEL.2FOR1**

THE FATHER

a tragic farce



★★★★★
MOLIÈRE AWARD WINNER
BEST PLAY 2014

APRIL 24 - MAY 10

TPNC.ORG



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

Great Scot!

Celebrate With Us On Sunday,
May 3rd @ 10 AM

Scottish Heritage Sunday
at FPCNC

Mark your calendar and invite family and friends to this year's big event. Come share the pageantry of the Mount Kisco Scottish Pipes & Drums, the grace and joy of the Highland Dancers, the tartans and the kilts, the shortbread and haggis, and all the fun for young and old. Great Scot!



All Are Welcome

Visit fpcnc.org or call us at 203-966-0002 ext. 1



‘The Father’ Brings Dementia Into Focus — and Spotlights Waveny’s Free Navigator Program Offering 24/7 Support

At the Powerhouse Theatre in Waveny Park this spring, the Town Players of New Canaan are presenting *The Father*, a play that offers a clear, often unsettling look at memory loss and its effect on both individuals and their families.

Written by Florian Zeller, the 2014 play won the Molière Award and has been widely recognized for how it portrays cognitive decline from the inside. Rather than telling the story from a caregiver’s point of view, *The Father* places the audience directly in the perspective of a man whose memory and sense of reality are slipping. Scenes

repeat, details change, and characters seem to shift—mirroring the confusion that comes with dementia. Director Deborah Burke describes it as a “psychologically immersive” experience where the audience never quite knows what is real.

That approach connects closely with the work being done just steps away from the theater at Waveny LifeCare Network. Waveny has long been a central resource in New Canaan for senior services, including memory care and support for families dealing with dementia.

Kathleen Benevento, executive director of Waveny’s

Navigator Program, sees the play as an accurate reflection of what many clients experience. The Navigator Program is a free, grant-based service that provides 24/7 support and guidance to the community, helping families navigate the challenges of diagnosis, care planning, and ongoing support. It often serves as a first point of contact when memory loss begins to affect daily life, offering both immediate assistance and long-term direction.

The connection between the play and real-world care will be highlighted during talkbacks following the Sunday

matinees on April 26 and May 3. After those performances, audience members are invited to stay for discussions with the cast, Burke, Benevento, and two specialists in geriatric psychiatry: Dr. Marco Christian Michael of Stamford Health Medical Group and Dr. Elaina DellaCava of Weill Cornell Medicine.

The panel will focus on recognizing memory loss, understanding the patient experience, and supporting caregivers—issues that are becoming increasingly relevant as the population ages.

For Waveny, the collaboration is an opportunity

to raise awareness about dementia and the services available locally. Memory care, as Benevento and her team emphasize, is not only about managing symptoms but also about maintaining dignity and quality of life. Through programs like the Navigator initiative, families can access resources, make informed decisions, and feel less isolated as they adjust to changing circumstances.

The production itself features a cast of local actors, led by Will Jeffries in the role of the father, alongside Kitty Robertson, Eric Schuster, Jaimie Wallace, Cathy Cordaro,

and Phil Lorenzo. Adding a unique element, original music is composed and performed by 12-year-old pianist Dylan Conuel, whose work underscores the emotional shifts of the play.

The Father runs approximately 90 minutes with no intermission. Performances are held weekends from April 24 through May 10 at the Powerhouse Theatre in Waveny Park.

Tickets and additional information are available at tpnc.org, or by emailing tickets@tpnc.org.

Eat This, Drink That: Time to Change Recipes, Wines, and a Few Thoughts in Between

By CARL FRANCO

So this is goodbye. No, not to me — it would be easier to get an aging relative plagued with rickets out of your house than it would be to get rid of me. This goodbye is for the winter comfort foods of the season. Spring is (finally) here, and it’s time for stews, ragouts, and casseroles to take a back seat until fall. I’m fine with all that, because after a long winter of heavy meals I do look forward to lighter spring and summer menus. But there’s one dish I have trouble saying goodbye to: meatloaf.

Meatloaf doesn’t get much respect. I’ve heard kids slam it by calling it “Depression Dinner,” “Square State Supper,” or “Budget Brick.” I’m also well aware that meatloaf has an image problem. You don’t see it served at a state dinner, a cotillion, or a debutante ball, yet I still hold out hope that one day I’ll see it listed as a menu option on a wedding invite, right next to “Chicken, Beef or Fish.” Alas, meatloaf has been exiled to roadside diners, school cafeterias, and the occasional state penitentiary. In spite of this unshakable image problem, meatloaf endures as it remains the ultimate comfort food.

So let’s give meatloaf a proper send-off for the season, a Viking funeral of sorts (and by that I don’t mean to burn it). What I love about meatloaf is how wine-friendly it is. It pairs with almost any bottle, regardless of country, region, or grape, it’s like one of those friends who will talk to anyone. As with most meals, you could climb as high up the quality ladder as you like when it comes to wine, but since meatloaf is such a comforting, friendly dish, let’s stick with comfortable, friendly wines.

Carnivorous Cabernet

You don’t get more meat-friendly than Cabernet Sauvignon. Whether it be from California, Washington, Europe or South America, Cabernet is fairly universal when it comes to pairing with red meat. Cabernet is a full-bodied wine rich with tannins that generally compliment the fat content found in meat. The grapes bold flavors generally enhance the overall experience when pairing with red meat and our friendly meatloaf is no exception. But if I were looking for some casual American Cabernets to go with my meal, I would consider the following:

2023 The Verge Cabernet Sauvignon

This wine from Goldschmidt Vineyards hails from California’s Alexander Valley and the wine’s firm, round tannins make this wine an easy pairing.

2021 Seventy-Five Cabernet Sauvignon

This Cabernet from the Feliz Creek Vineyard in Mendocino County, CA is a plush, expressive wine due to the climates warm days and quickly cooling nights. The final result is a wine formidable enough to compliments a variety of casual foods.

2023 Altruria Cabernet Sauvignon

This wine from California’s Sonoma County brings about softer tannins and its flavors blackberry and cassis bring about a more gentle approach to Cabernet.

Continental Comforts

If we make our way over to Europe, we also have plenty of options where we may end up in Italy, France or Spain. In these Old World regions, we will find some that are structured, and balanced, some rustic and simple, and some earthy and savory. While I am not sure what Europeans think of meatloaf, these are all wines that feel right at home at the dinner table. What may I consider? Let’s take a look:

2019 Château Haut-Plaisance

Located in the northern Montagne subregion of Saint-Émilion, Château Haut-Plaisance is a blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Cabernet Sauvignon. Despite its modest background, it delivers impressive structure, with a complex mouthfeel that leads to a pleasant herbal and tobacco finish.

2023 San Marzano Primitivo

This wine from Puglia is a lively southern Italian red. 100% Primitivo, is deep ruby in color while offering a fruit-driven bouquet of plums and cherries with spicy notes and hints of rosemary. The full-bodied palate is balanced, soft, approachable, and full of vibrant Mediterranean character.

2019 El Goru Gold “Mad Hairy Fella”

One look at this label with its depiction of a hirsute fellow and you know this chap would happily share a meatloaf meal with you. This Spanish red blend is a bold, expressive wine made from a blend of Monastrell (Mourvèdre), Syrah, and Cabernet Sauvignon. Aromas of ripe fig, blackberry, black cherry are first to greet you while layered flavors of well-balanced spice and fruit tantalize the palate. Both the character of the wine and the Mad Hairy Fella are two companions you’d enjoy having at your table.

Positively Pinot

So now we come to our finicky/delicate friend Pinot Noir. Why finicky/delicate? Pinot Noir is like one of those seemingly confident friends who is all set to go to a party and then notices a run in their stocking and goes into a total meltdown. Pinot noir is one of the hardest grapes to grow. It is fickle and if not picked at the right time can seem too acidic, easily rot or produce over-ripe fruit. Anyone can make a Pinot Noir, but only a talented winemaker can make it well. But if I were to pick three different Pinot Noir from three different regions, these would be some to consider:

2024 Three Otters

This Pinot Noir from Oregon’s Willamette Valley is a classic example of wines showcasing both the marine and volcanic soils of the region. The gentle tannins and layers of bright, red fruit and vibrant acidity make this wine very approachable and food friendly. Aged mostly in neutral French oak, it offers balanced energy and an approachable, terroir-driven style with a lingering finish.

2022 Eden Rift Valliant

Hailing from California’s Central Coast, this



“What I love about meatloaf is how wine-friendly it is.”

west coast pinot reflects the estate’s heritage and minimal-intervention style. It offers aromas of fresh cherry, raspberry, and plum with subtle savory and spice notes. The palate is soft and silky, showing bright acidity, balanced structure, and layered red and dark fruit flavors. Approachable yet refined, it finishes smooth and lifted, capturing a classic Central Coast expression with both vibrancy and elegance.

2023 Louis Jadot Beaune

I will be the first to admit that I would probably hesitate opening a Premier Cru Burgundy with my Tuesday night meatloaf, but the bottom line is that you absolutely could. This classically styled Burgundian red delivers bold, dramatic aromas of black fruit, earth and mocha. The palate is broad with ripe tannins and represents a full-bodied, bold style from Beaune. An excellent example of what the Pinot Noir

grape can be when handled correctly.

That’s it in a nutshell, folks. As I said, there are plenty of other wines that would make an excellent pairing for our friendly meatloaf. As for a recipe, that’s a hard one as there are as many versions as there are wines to go with it. But at least armed with this information should a friend ever utter the unlikely phrase, “Hey, come by Saturday night, I’m making meatloaf,” you’ll be ready with the wine. As for me, I’ll quietly enjoy my last meatloaf of the season by myself at home and as I think of all the ragouts, casseroles, and stews soon to be put to rest until fall, I will whisper to my meatloaf “I think I’ll miss you most of all.”

Carl Franco is the proprietor of Francos Wine Merchant, a local wine store in New Canaan.



Cabernet Sauvignon choices



A selection of European reds



Pinot Noir options

Why We Are Talking About Lyme Right Now



By TERESA ALASIO MD

Over the past few weeks, ticks carrying Lyme disease have been identified here in New Canaan. That is not unusual for our area, but it serves as a reminder of something many of us tend to underestimate: Lyme disease is not rare, and it does not just happen to people hiking deep in the woods. It can happen in your own backyard, after a walk through tall grass, or even while gardening on a warm afternoon.

It Starts with a Tick Bite

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium called *Borrelia burgdorferi*, transmitted through the bite of an infected blacklegged tick, often called a deer tick. These ticks are remarkably small—in their immature form, many are no larger than a poppy seed. This means they can attach to your skin and go unnoticed. Unlike mosquitoes, ticks do not bite

and leave. They attach and feed, often for a day or more.

Here is the critical timing: in most cases, a tick must remain attached for at least 24 hours—and more reliably, 36 hours—before the bacteria can be transmitted. That window gives us an opportunity for prevention, but only if we are paying attention.

The Symptoms That Are Easy to Miss

One of the earliest signs of Lyme disease is a skin rash called erythema migrans. It is often described as a bullseye rash, but that is actually uncommon. More often, it appears as a simple, expanding area of redness that may feel warm to the touch but is neither particularly painful nor itchy. This rash can appear anywhere on the body and may gradually enlarge over several days.

Along with the rash, people often experience flu-like symptoms: fatigue, headache, low-grade fever, and muscle or joint aches. It is easy to dismiss these symptoms, especially during a busy week. But this is precisely the stage where early treatment is most effective.

When Something Feels Off

If Lyme disease is not

Lyme disease is not rare, and it does not just happen to people hiking deep in the woods. It can happen in your own backyard, after a walk through tall grass, or even while gardening on a warm afternoon.

recognized and treated early, it can progress. Weeks to months later, patients may develop more concerning symptoms. Joint swelling, particularly in the knees, is common. Some people experience facial drooping, a condition called Bell's palsy. Others develop nerve pain, tingling sensations, or significant fatigue that interferes with daily life. In rarer cases, Lyme disease can affect the heart, causing rhythm disturbances.

Diagnosing Lyme disease is not always straightforward. While blood tests are available, they can be unreliable in the early stages of infection, and a negative test does not necessarily rule it out, especially in the first few weeks. For that reason, we often rely heavily on the clinical picture:

a known tick bite, a suspicious rash, or the combination of seasonal exposure and flu-like symptoms may be enough to begin treatment.

Why Early Treatment Matters

The good news is that early Lyme disease is usually very treatable. Most patients respond well to a course of oral antibiotics such as doxycycline, particularly when started promptly. Symptoms often resolve over a few weeks.

When treatment is delayed, longer courses of antibiotics or even intravenous therapy may be required, and recovery can take longer. Some patients report lingering symptoms such as fatigue or joint discomfort after treatment. This can be frustrating, but it does not

necessarily mean the infection is still active. In most cases, people do improve—especially when the disease is addressed early.

What to Expect After Treatment

For most individuals, recovery is complete, particularly when Lyme disease is caught early. Others may find that it takes time to feel fully like themselves again. Energy levels may lag, or joints may feel stiff longer than expected. This can be unsettling, but gradual improvement is the norm.

The important takeaway: early recognition and treatment significantly reduce the likelihood of long-term complications.

Simple Habits That Make a Difference

Prevention is not complicated, but it does require consistency. Checking your skin after spending time outdoors is one of the most important steps—pay special attention to areas where ticks tend to hide: behind the knees, along the scalp, and under the arms. Showering after coming inside can help remove ticks before they attach. Wearing light-colored clothing makes ticks

easier to spot, and using insect repellent provides an added layer of protection.

Keeping grass trimmed and outdoor areas well maintained can also reduce exposure. These are small habits, but they are effective.

Paying Attention Can Protect You

If you do find a tick, there is no need to panic. Remove it carefully with tweezers, grasping close to the skin, and make a note of the date. Over the following weeks, pay attention to how you feel and watch for any changes in your skin. That awareness alone can make a significant difference in catching Lyme disease early, if it develops at all.

A Small Problem, If You Catch It Early

Lyme disease is something we are likely to continue seeing in our community, but it is not something to fear. It is something to respect. With a bit of vigilance and a willingness to act when something does not feel right, most people can avoid serious complications.

In this case, a small amount of attention early on can prevent a much larger problem later.

A Powerful Night of Theatre

A moving story of love that endures, even as everything else slips away

By CHRIS CLUETT

The Town Players of New Canaan is pleased to announce its spring production: *The Father*. This critically acclaimed 2014 play by Florian Zeller won the prestigious Molière Award. This is a deeply moving and compassionate portrait of a father and daughter navigating the shifting realities of memory, told with warmth, insight, and unexpected moments of humor. Per director Deborah Burke, "*The Father* is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own.

We never know what's true or real."

Since its debut, *The Father* received widespread acclaim for its emotional depth and originality. Best Actor awards were won by Frank Langella, for the play, and by Anthony Hopkins for the film adaptation. Town Players' production features accomplished local actors Will Jeffries as "the father" (previously seen at the Powerhouse Theatre as the psychiatrist in *Ordinary People*) and is joined by Kitty Robertson, Eric Schuster, Jaimie Wallace, Cathy Cordaro and Phil Lorenzo. Original music is composed and

performed by 12-year-old musical prodigy Dylan Conuel from Pittsfield, MA, also featured in *Terra Nova* (2025, Powerhouse Theatre). Dylan was discovered by Burke at the Red Lion Inn for his virtuosic piano playing.

As this play will certainly touch individuals and families dealing with the memory loss of loved ones, audience members are invited to stay for talkbacks immediately following two Sunday matinees (April 26th and May 3rd). The talkbacks will include the cast, director Deborah Burke, and will be joined by professionals specializing

in geriatric psychiatry and support: Dr. Marco Christian Michael, a board-certified psychiatrist with fellowship training in geriatric psychiatry, of Stamford Health Medical Group; Dr. Elaina DellaCava, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine; and Kathleen Benevento, Executive Director of the Navigator Program at Waveny LifeCare Network in New Canaan.

This distinguished panel shares their perspectives on why it's important for the community to come together, and the power of live theatre to heal:

Dr. Michael, "The cast, director, and crew bring together a captivating glimpse to the challenges of the affected person in discerning reality, while their family members face a new reality of caregiving. The theme on preserving dignity and prevailing love cannot be overstated. Memory loss does not discriminate gender, race, or socioeconomic background. We hope that this play improves the recognition of memory loss, increases compassion and provides support towards those with this condition and their caregivers. I am honored to participate and look forward to joining the cast and director to discuss this excellent play."

Dr. DellaCava, "Memory



A loving relationship explored between *The Father* (Will Jeffries) and daughter (Kitty Robertson)

loss can be a very painful topic, one that is close to home as people live longer. The play can be a source of support - a place to come together and acknowledge a profoundly human experience together - while appreciating more of what our loved ones may experience. The experience can be cathartic."

Ms. Benevento, "Having worked with dementia clients, caregivers, and families for over five years, I'm impressed with how *The Father* portrays dementia from the patient's point of view. Waveny LifeCare Network is pleased to partner with the Town Players to raise awareness of dementia and the

support services available in our community."

Performances of *The Father* run weekends from Friday, April 24th - Sunday May 10th at New Canaan's community theatre, at The Powerhouse Theatre in Waveny Park. The show runs 90 minutes, with no intermission.

2 for 1 tickets for Sentinel Readers only, all performances! PROMO CODE: sentinel.2for1

For more information about this production, for tickets, or to learn about the Town Players of New Canaan, go to tpnc.org or email TICKETS@TPNC.org.

The Father is proudly sponsored by Waveny LifeCare Network.



Dr. Marco Michael of Stamford Health Medical Group; Will Jeffries (*The Father*); Kathleen Benevento, Executive Director of the Navigator Program at Waveny LifeCare Network in New Canaan

First Selectman to report on town's progress at Men's Club

First Selectman Dionna Carlson is scheduled to address the New Canaan Men's Club on Friday with an update on major developments in town government, including the recently approved 2027 town budget, infrastructure work and parking matters that continue to affect daily life in New Canaan.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 111 Oenoke Ridge, in Morrill Hall. Carlson is expected to begin her report at about 10:40 a.m., following the club's business meeting. Her appearance will give members an opportunity to hear directly from the town's chief elected official at a time when New Canaan is moving through a busy spring season marked by budget decisions, public works activity and preparations for warmer-weather amenities in the downtown.

Among the subjects likely to draw attention is the approved 2027 budget of \$184.5 million. That total includes \$116.4 million for the town's school system, one of the most significant components of the annual spending plan. Carlson's report is also expected to touch on various planned town projects and the status of metered parking, an issue that

has generated public interest as officials continue to weigh convenience, turnover and access in the center of town.

Carlson, as first selectman, has used her regular public communications to keep residents informed about upcoming changes and municipal work. In her recent column in the Sentinel, she pointed to paving projects at the Park Street and Playhouse parking lots, scheduled from mid-April into early May. According to Carlson, the work is intended to improve parking at both locations and create wider spaces that reflect the increased width of many modern vehicles. During the anticipated two-week period when those lots are closed for paving, parking on Elm Street and South Avenue will be free, according to her newsletter.

She also noted that outdoor dining is set to return officially on May 1, describing it as a popular feature of downtown life. That seasonal shift, along with the parking and paving work, reflects the broader set of operational issues that often shape residents' day-to-day experience of town government more directly than formal policy debates.

The Scots are Coming to Town!

It's Tartan Season Lads and Lassies and the Scotsman Coming to Town!!

Come see a preview of the main event on Saturday, April 18th, between 5:30 and 6:30 on Elm and Forest Streets!

Led by Pipe Major Jonathan Henken, The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr, Randy Ferguson, Linda Ferguson, and Patty von Jena, giving a little taste of what is to come on Scottish Heritage Sunday!

Slainte mhath!

THE MAIN EVENT: ALL ARE WELCOME

WHERE: Come get your Scottish On at the 52nd Annual Scottish Heritage Service, a service and event highlighting Scottish heritage and culture will take place at the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan, 178 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT, featuring a timely and relevant sermon by The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr

WHEN: Sunday, May 3rd: Service begins at 10:00 a.m., followed by a fellowship coffee hour and celebratory Ceilidh, where all attendees can celebrate their connection or simple appreciation of the spirit of Scotland!

WHAT: A special day of worship and pageantry that includes the Mount Kisco Scottish Pipes and Drums playing stirring traditional hymns and the children processing in the Kirkin o the Tartans - a traditional blessing of tartan cloths representing a blessing of the clans. This will be immediately followed by a festive reception featuring Highland Dancing, Shortbread, a Fellowship buffet, Scottish Country Dancing, and the infamous presentation of the Haggis!

We invite you to come and be our guest and ideally cover the event! It is truly a day to remember!

The council also removed a \$90,774 plan for new downtown parking kiosks after business opposition, and the budget passed 10–2 despite concerns about the school funding reduction.

AROUND TOWN

Downtown Improvements Advance With Paving Work

Paving work is underway at the Playhouse and Park Street parking lots to improve downtown traffic flow. The Playhouse lot will be closed Thursday, April 23 and Friday, April 24, with alternate parking available at the Park Street lot; the Park Street lot will be closed Monday, April 27 and Tuesday, April 28, with alternate parking at Elm Street, South Avenue, Main Street, Cherry Street, the Playhouse lot, and the Richmond Hill lot. Drivers can sign up for updates on the town website.

New Canaan Promotes Work Zone Safety

New Canaan is urging drivers to use caution in work zones during National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 20–24. The town notes that nearly 900 people die each year in work zone crashes, highlighting the importance of driver attention. Activities include Wear Orange Day on Wednesday and social media awareness efforts on Thursday.

LOCAL BUSINESSES & NON PROFITS

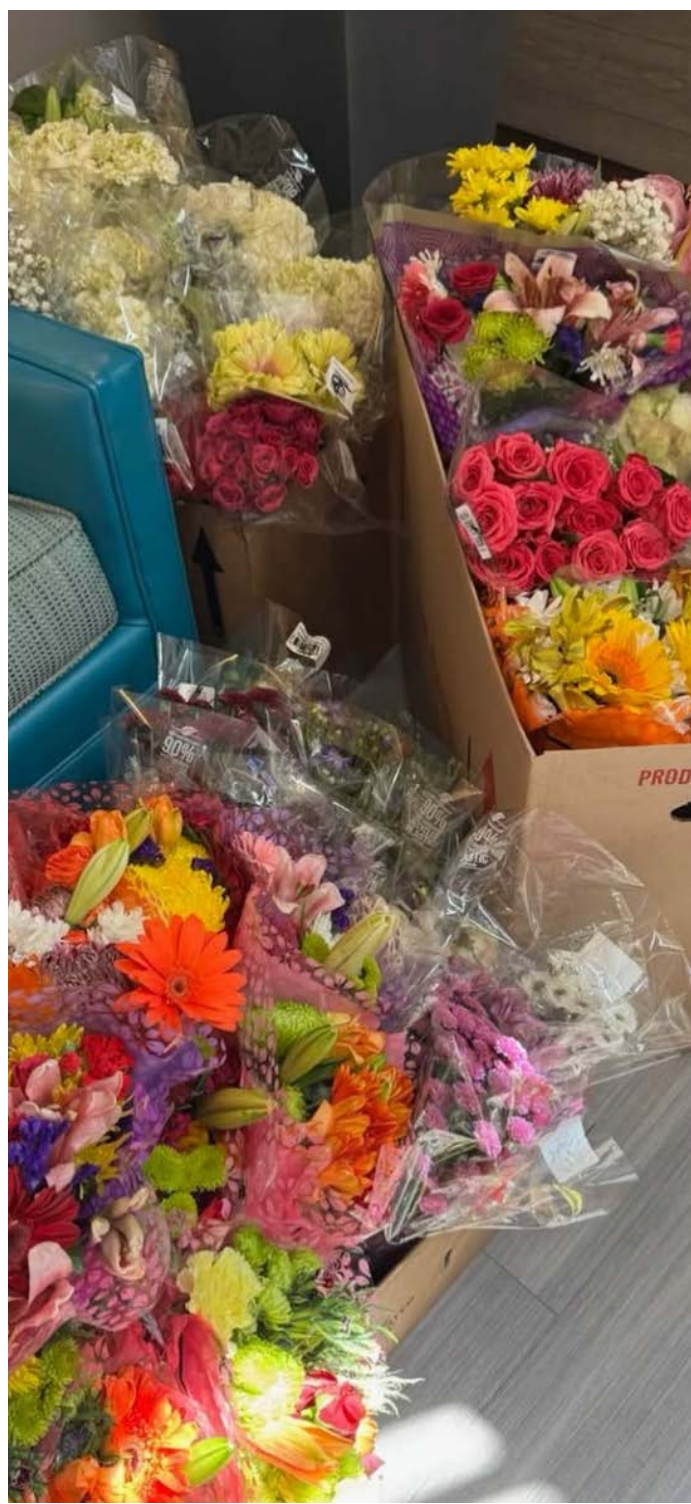
Silvermine Market Owners Plan Return

Six months after closing due to the sale of their longtime location at 1032 Silvermine Road, former owners Lou Aloupis and Scott Kaluczky are seeking an affordable new space in New Canaan, Norwalk, or Wilton. The property has been purchased for about \$1 million and will become a French bistro. The pair, who ran the market for two decades, are continuing limited catering work while prioritizing a new lease with reasonable rent and adequate parking.

New Canaan Library Hosts Sorkin Event

On Wednesday, April 22, New Canaan Library hosted an event featuring Andrew Ross Sorkin focused on the events of 1929. The program examined the historical impact of the financial crisis. The library will continue offering similar events, with details available on its calendar.

Garden Club Delivers Weekly Floral Joy



Each Sunday, members of the New Canaan Garden Club collect donated flowers from Trader Joe's and deliver them to the New Canaan Inn. On Mondays, residents use the flowers to make arrangements. The program is called Flowers on Wheels. Photo credit: New Canaan Garden Club

THE ENVIRONMENT

Earth Day Inspires Community Action

Earth Day 2026 in New Canaan reflects both ongoing environmental challenges and steady local efforts to address them. Observable changes in weather patterns and land use are paired with continued investment in conservation, open space, and community stewardship. The day underscores the practical role towns like New Canaan play in maintaining and improving environmental conditions over time.

New Canaan Unites For Clean Up

New Canaan's "Clean Your Mile" program will run from April 20 to April 26, involving residents, community groups, and local businesses in picking up litter in neighborhoods, public spaces, and the downtown district. Volunteers can leave collected trash on grassy shoulders for Highway Department pickup if they cannot bring it to the Transfer

Station, and supplies are available at Town Hall with dumpsters at the Elm Street train lot Friday through Sunday. The program is sponsored by the Town of New Canaan, the Chamber of Commerce, and Planet New Canaan.

SCHOOLS

St. Luke's Students Lead Climate Solutions



St. Luke's School Upper School students held an Environmental Science Biomimicry Symposium to present projects based on nature-inspired solutions. The work followed biomimicry principles and aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Many projects focused on climate change-related challenges. Photo credit: St. Luke's School

NCCS Prepares For Girls Run



New Canaan Country School faculty and staff created encouragement signs for participants in the Girls on the Run race on April 28 at 3:20 p.m. The race will take place on campus along the Cougar Run Course, and spectators may attend to support runners. For more information, contact Kelly Siegrist or Marc Keneally. Photo credit: New Canaan Country School

NCCS Community Unites For Service

New Canaan Country School held its 2026 Day of Service over two days, with students across all grades participating in projects tied to real community needs. The effort continued on Saturday as families worked together on campus and at partner sites. The event honored Kyle A. Markes and was organized with support from the Parents' Association and its leadership.

Sixth Graders Bring Books to Life



St. Luke's sixth graders ended their Book Club unit by creating "Literary Food Trucks" that represented key elements of their novels. They designed and built models and posters in the designLab to show themes, characters, and settings. The projects demonstrated their understanding by translating written content into visual form. Photo credit: St. Luke's School

Students Present Collaborative Earth Dance Performance

New Canaan Country School second graders performed student-created choreography as part of the Arts Assembly, Earth Dance. The program, led by arts faculty in collaboration with teachers, featured segments based on

natural elements such as water, fire, ice, and air. Students contributed to the choreography and performed movements using their bodies, voices, and props.

Seventh Graders Explore Anatomy Through Dissection



St. Luke's seventh graders completed their human body unit with a fish dissection. The activity gave students hands-on experience comparing fish and human anatomy and observing how body systems function across species. For many, it was their first dissection. Photo credit: St. Luke's School

South School Marks 75 Years



South School marked its 75th anniversary by having all students and staff form the number 75. The event reflects the school's long history and continued operation across generations. A series of "then and now" photos will be shared to highlight its development over time. Photo credit: South School

District Students Unite for StringsFest



Earlier this month, the district held StringsFest, bringing together student musicians from elementary through high school for a joint performance. Fourth graders from East, South, and West schools performed alongside students from Saxe Middle School and New Canaan High School. The concert concluded with a combined finale highlighting the district's music program. Photo credit: New Canaan Public Schools

SPORTS

Eleven Seniors Advance to College Athletics



Last Friday, St. Luke's School recognized 11 seniors who will continue as NCAA Division III student-athletes. Their achievement reflects sustained effort in academics, athletics, and school involvement. The school supports students in pursuing both academic and athletic goals at the next level. Photo credit: New Canaan Country School

New Canaan Athlete Earns National Selection

Bridgy Nussbaum of New Canaan was selected as one of 90 girls from the United States, Canada, and Panama to participate in MLB's Trailblazers Series this April. The selection reflects her performance and commitment to baseball. She will compete at a high-level development event organized by Major League Baseball.

Citizenship Without Title

A town that conditions public service on property ownership is not merely drawing a line; it is drawing it in the wrong place.

Since 1935, service on the Board of Finance has been restricted to those who own property. No other municipal body carries this requirement. The CRC just voted not to change this requirement. The rule seemingly persists not because it is logical or well-defended, but because it is familiar. Its defenders offer arguments that, when stated plainly, feel discriminatory.

One Commissioner at a recent charter review commission meeting argued that *we are likely to be on the verge of having hundreds of renters coming into the town and that introduces an entirely new voting bloc and that we want to be a little stingy on this point rather than a little wide-minded.* That is not an argument about fiscal prudence. It is an argument about who should count, and who should be excluded.

“Equality of rights is the first condition of liberty.” – Alexander Hamilton

Another voice insisted that only real ownership constitutes investment arguing that *if you own real property you’ve actually made an investment in the community.* The statement confuses a legal form with a civic fact. Renters pay the taxes embedded in their leases. They absorb increases. They fund the same schools, roads, and services. Their stake is real, even if their names are not inscribed on a deed.

The logic tightens further: a grand list measured in billions, it was argued, should not be influenced by those “not invested.” Yet the category of the “not invested” proves weak upon inspection. Consider a household where property is held in one spouse’s name. The other spouse works, pays, votes and lives the consequences of fiscal policy—yet is excluded. Consider an adult child in a multigenerational home, contributing to expenses and rooted in the community—excluded. Consider a longtime resident who sells a home to downsize into a rental—decades of experience, erased by a transaction. The rule is not a scalpel; it is a crude, blunt instrument.

There was, too, an appeal to the precedent because removing the requirement of ownership was presented to voters ten years ago and failed. Therefore, it is said now, that it need not be raised again. This is a doctrine of civic inertia, and acceptance of continued discrimination. This kind of thinking would have preserved many other exclusions now regarded as indefensible. Our Constitution itself is a record of revisions—amendments that corrected earlier tolerances for inequality. Time should not sanctify a rule; it should test it.

A free society depends on confidence—confidence in citizens to deliberate, to disagree, to decide. The anxiety expressed in recent deliberations points in the opposite direction. *There is going to be a shift, and we don’t know how that shift is going to go,* argued one member. Precisely the point. That is the condition of democratic life. The answer is not to narrow participation in anticipation of outcomes one might not prefer. It is to trust the process that accommodates them.

The Board of Finance exercises authority over all residents. Its decisions reach every household. Yet eligibility to serve is confined to one category of those residents. This asymmetry is difficult to justify on practical grounds and far more difficult still on constitutional ones. The Equal Protection Clause does not forbid distinctions, but it requires that they be grounded in reason. Ownership is, at best, a poor proxy for the qualities required: judgment, restraint, a sense of obligation to the whole.

A town charter is, at its best, an instrument of governance that reflects the community as it is, not as it was.

There is a simpler principle available, and it is sturdier. Citizenship, not title, is the predicate for public service. The question before the community is not whether renters will serve, nor how many might seek to do so. It is whether they **may**. That is not a question of economics. It is a question of equality. And equality, unlike property, is not something that can be selectively owned.

Editorial Page

UConn Faculty Contract Raises Questions About Union Bargaining Balance



The University of Connecticut chapter of the American Association of University Professors (UConn-AAUP) has secured a new contract that includes raises, expanded benefits, and strengthened job protections, and the union is highlighting that these gains came “without significant givebacks.”

In its own contract summary, the union acknowledges that collective bargaining typically involves “give” and “get,” even as it emphasizes that this agreement largely moved in one direction.

It’s a striking admission in what would otherwise be a routine contract negotiation — and it points to a larger problem with how Connecticut’s government union deals are structured.

The agreement delivers exactly what the union highlights — and more.

UConn faculty secured approximately 4.5% annual compensation growth over three years, including retroactive pay and a wage reopener in the fourth year. It also increases funding for professional development by \$1 million annually, expands paid leave provisions, and provides new \$10,000 administrative stipends for department heads.

Beyond compensation, the contract strengthens job protections for non-tenure-track faculty, and includes additional provisions related to workplace conditions, benefits, and safety.

Each of these elements can be justified on its own merits. Taken together, however, they represent a consistent expansion of compensation and benefits without corresponding cost-saving measures.

A review of the union’s own contract highlights suggests that a significant share of the provisions are characterized as gains for faculty, with relatively

few identified as compromises. Of roughly 50 provisions analyzed, about 20 are clear wins for UConn-AAUP, while only a handful are labeled as compromises, many of which still tilt in the union’s favor. Just two issues were significant enough to be sent to arbitration.

What’s notably absent are any meaningful administration wins.

The governor’s office reached no meaningful healthcare concessions, did not prioritize growing pension liabilities, and failed to secure structural changes to long-term benefit costs. The union gave up nothing, and taxpayers are left covering the cost.

The Broader Structure Behind the Outcome

To understand how these agreements take shape, it is important to look at the broader bargaining framework.

In Connecticut, many public-sector contracts are influenced by negotiations conducted through the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC), an umbrella organization representing roughly 15 unions covering about 45,000 state workers across multiple bargaining units. These negotiations often establish a wage pattern that serves as a reference point for subsequent agreements.

Once that pattern is set, it becomes a baseline expectation in other negotiations. Contracts that align with it are more likely to be approved through the state’s review process. This year, SEBAC secured 2.5% annual raises for three years, plus step increases totaling around 4.5% annually.

Timing also plays a role. Agreements are often finalized in election cycles, when there is an incentive to avoid prolonged labor disputes and to bring negotiations to a close.

After ratification by union members, contracts move through a formal approval process that includes review by UConn’s Board of Trustees and the General Assembly.

While legislators have the authority to reject agreements, in practice contracts that follow established patterns are rarely overturned. This dynamic can

limit the extent to which negotiated agreements are revisited once they reach the legislative stage.

That creates a clear incentive: stick close to what was already negotiated, and approval is almost guaranteed. As a result, many of the key decisions affecting long-term costs are effectively settled before lawmakers vote.

A System Built Without Tradeoffs

Collective bargaining is intended to balance the interests of employees, institutions, and taxpayers. In public-sector agreements, that balance also includes long-term fiscal considerations.

The UConn-AAUP contract highlights a recurring challenge: how to ensure that compensation increases and expanded benefits are aligned with the financial realities of the institutions that must sustain them.

UConn, like many public universities, continues to face enrollment pressures, rising costs, and broader budget constraints. Agreements that add to long-term obligations without corresponding flexibility can make it more difficult to respond to those challenges over time.

The contract will now move through the remaining stages of review and approval. Historically, these steps have been largely procedural.

That’s the real story: not that the union negotiated well, but that it didn’t have to. The agreement reflects the current structure of Connecticut’s public-sector bargaining system — one in which compensation trends, negotiation timing, and approval processes all shape the final outcome.

The larger question is whether that structure consistently produces agreements that balance immediate gains with long-term sustainability.

That question is not unique to this contract. But this agreement brings it into sharper focus.

Meghan Portfolio is Manager of Research and Analysis at Yankee Institute, a Connecticut-based public policy organization advancing practical solutions to keep our state affordable, livable, and workable. Learn more at YankeeInstitute.org.

 **BLADE**

Put the “Connect” back in Connecticut

Fly between
**Westchester County
Airport and Manhattan**
in **12 minutes from \$125.**



Learn more at
blade.com/westchester



Send Us Your Thoughts

www.newcanaasentinel.com/

[letter-to-the-editor/](#)

DIONNA CARLSON COLUMN From Page 1

Outdoor Dining

Looking ahead, outdoor dining will officially return on May 1st and run through November 1st. This seasonal program has become a highlight of our downtown and we look forward to another vibrant season.

Updating Zoning Regulations

Our Planning and Zoning Commission continues its comprehensive review of zoning regulations. Some topics under consideration include: Parking requirements for business and residential uses; expanding the types of housing allowed in commercial zones, as required by new state housing law HB 8002; streamlining the permit process for new businesses in existing commercial spaces; building height and footprint limitations in commercial zones, and setbacks from property lines

in commercial zones.

The Zoning Regulation Update Subcommittee is collecting public input now and will soon launch an online Q&A platform before making final revisions to the draft regulations. A public hearing is scheduled for June 2nd to gather additional feedback before any decisions are made. Relevant documents may be found at the Planning and Zoning Department section of newcanaan.info.

Shred Day and Hazardous Waste Day

Shred Day, a service of the Town where people can bring their sensitive documents to be securely shredded to prevent identity theft and fraud, is scheduled for April 25th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Transfer Station.

The next Hazardous Waste Collection date in New Canaan will be September 12th. In the meantime, New Canaan residents are permitted to drop off hazardous materials in Greenwich May 2nd, Darien June 6th, Stamford July 11th and Norwalk August 15th. Contact those respective Town Halls for details.

Spring / Summer Recreation Programs

Registration and seasonal memberships are open for all spring / summer Recreation programs – Mead Park Pickleball and Tennis, Kiwanis Beach, Youth Soccer, Adult Softball, and the wide variety of programs as Steve Benko Pool. We invite you get involved and enjoy these popular activities and facilities. Discover all of the offerings at newcanaanct.myrec.com.

Affordable Housing Committee Community Meeting May 19th

Our Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) is continuing its work to provide paths to keep New Canaan in moratoria under the State's 8-30g law, so that the Town can maintain maximum control of its affordable housing development. The core of the AHC's work is to develop specific options for new Town-controlled affordable housing developments and to gauge public support for each option. The Committee is planning to present possible development options to the public on May 19 and solicit feedback on the pros and cons of each. You

can learn more about the AHC's work and watch past and future meetings on https://www.newcanaan.info/government/committees/affordable_housing.php.

Buses to Replace New Canaan Weekend Trains April 10 – June 7

Finally, our train riders should all be aware that Metro-North is replacing weekend train service with buses between New Canaan and Stamford now through June 7th, except for Memorial Day weekend.

I look forward to seeing you around town this spring.

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

HONORING VETERANS for AMERICA'S 250 From Page 1

commentary as it was originally written.

Over the course of the next ten weeks, this series will publish ten letters, accounts, reflections, or features about veterans across eras, connecting the country's founding principles to the lived experience of those who defended them. As the nation approaches its semiquincentennial, the aim is to recognize a part of the American story that has been carried forward by our nation's citizens in uniform.

*Headquarters, Camp Clark
Washington, D.C., July 14, 1861*

My Very Dear Wife:

Indications are very strong that we shall move in a few days, perhaps tomorrow. Lest I should not be able to write you again, I feel impelled to write a few lines, that may fall under your eye when I shall be no more.

Our movement may be one of a few days duration and full of pleasure and it may be one of severe conflict and death to me. Not my will, but thine, O God be done. If it is necessary that I should fall on the battle-field for any country, I am ready. I have no misgivings about, or lack of confidence in, the cause in which I am engaged, and my courage does not halt or falter. I know how strongly American civilization now leans upon the triumph of government, and how great a debt we owe to those who went before us through the blood and suffering of the Revolution, and I am willing, perfectly willing to lay down all my joys in this life to help maintain this government, and to pay that debt.

But, my dear wife, when I know, that with my own joys, I lay down nearly all of yours, and replace them in this life with care and sorrows, when, after having eaten for long years the bitter fruit of orphanage myself, I must offer it, as their only sustenance, to my dear

little children, is it weak or dishonorable, while the banner of my purpose floats calmly and proudly in the breeze, that my unbounded love for you, my darling wife and children, should struggle in fierce, though useless, contest with my love of country.

I cannot describe to you my feelings on this calm summer night, when two thousand men are sleeping around me, many of them enjoying the last, perhaps, before that of death, and I, suspicious that Death is creeping behind me with his fatal dart, am communing with God, my country and thee.

I have sought most closely and diligently, and often in my breast, for a wrong motive in this hazarding the happiness of those I loved, and I could not find one. A pure love of my country, and of the principles I have often advocated before the people, and "the name of honor, that I love more than I fear death," have called upon me, and I have obeyed.

Sarah, my love for you is deathless. It seems to bind me with mighty cables, that nothing but Omnipotence can break; and yet, my love of country comes over me like a strong wind, and bears me irresistibly on with all those chains, to the battlefield. The memories of all the blissful moments I have spent with you come crowding over me, and I feel most deeply grateful to God and you, that I have enjoyed them so long. And how hard it is for me to give them up, and burn to ashes the hopes of future years, when, God willing, we might still have lived and loved together, and seen our boys grow up to honorable manhood around us.

I know I have but few claims upon Divine Providence, but something whispers to me, perhaps it is the wafted prayer of my little Edgar, that I shall return to my loved ones unharmed. If I do not, my dear Sarah, never forget how much I love you, nor that, when my last breath escapes me on the battle-field, it will whisper your name.

Forgive my many faults, and the many pains I have caused you. How thoughtless, how foolish I have oftentimes been! How gladly would I wash out with my tears, every little spot upon your happiness, and struggle with all the misfortune of this world, to shield you and my children from harm. But I cannot, I must watch you from the

spirit land and hover near you, while you buffet the storms with your precious little freight, and wait with sad patience till we meet to part no more.

But, O Sarah, if the dead can come back to this earth, and flit unseen around those they loved, I shall always be near you in the garish day, and the darkest night amidst your happiest scenes and gloomiest hours always, always, and, if the soft breeze fans your cheek, it shall be my breath; or the cool air cools your throbbing temples, it shall be my spirit passing by.

Sarah, do not mourn me dear; think I am gone, and wait for me, for we shall meet again.

As for my little boys, they will grow as I have done, and never know a father's love and care. Little Willie is too young to remember me long, and my blue-eyed Edgar will keep my frolics with him among the dimmest memories of his childhood. Sarah, I have unlimited confidence in your maternal care, and your development of their characters. Tell my two mothers, I call God's blessing upon them. O Sarah, I wait for you there! Come to me, and lead thither my children.
- Sullivan

Major Sullivan Ballou was mortally wounded on July 21, 1861, during the Union advance from Matthews Hill at the First Battle of Manassas. In the months that followed, his remains were disinterred during Confederate occupation of the battlefield and later identified by Rhode Island officials, who returned him to Providence for burial at Swan Point Cemetery.

His letter survived him. It has been preserved in historical archives and remains among the most cited personal documents of the Civil War era. Its language is direct, its purpose clear: to prepare a family for loss while affirming a commitment to country.

As this series continues, the record will broaden—across conflicts, generations, and communities. The letters and accounts that follow will differ in voice and circumstance. What they share is the same underlying fact: we are grateful. Ballou's letter stands at the beginning of that record for this series.

ICY FRANTZ COLUMN From Page 1

Which, if you think about it, isn't about music—it's about the hope that someone is actually listening.

And then the question that changed the room—at least for me:

What are the talents you have that no one recognizes?

It sounds simple. It isn't.

We didn't really answer—though we tried to answer for each other, unsuccessfully.

But the question stayed with me.

Because suddenly, we weren't reaching for something impressive or amusing or even admirable.

We were reaching for something softer. Something true.

Later, when I tried to answer it myself, I knew it wouldn't be about leadership or time management or writing—or any of the things I've spent decades intentionally becoming.

Instead, what surfaced were the skills that don't announce themselves—the ones that rarely get named.

I can sense when something is off before a word is spoken.

I can stay steady through a storm—waiting for

the sun to come out—or, when I can't, I know where to go to find steadiness.

I can open the refrigerator, see nothing, close it, open it again—and somehow find dinner the second time.

This is talent.

I can write a note, watch TV, and rub my dog's ears with my foot all at once.

I can decipher a text that says, "On my way," and understand it really means somewhere between five minutes and half an hour.

I know when to push—and when to let something go.

I know which battles are worth having and which will cost more than they're worth... and I act accordingly. Most of the time.

I anticipate needs—tissues tucked into every purse, every pocket, always ready for the call of duty.

I know what time to go to the Avenue to find a parking spot, when to avoid it altogether, and whether to take I-95, the Post Road, or an alternate route on a Friday afternoon in the middle of the summer.

I have learned how to hold joy and worry in the same hand, sometimes loosely, and sometimes firmly.

I have learned how to stay quiet when every part of me wants to ask one more question.

I can tell who is at the door by the sound of the steps and the way the dogs react.

I can keep a conversation going with someone I barely know while also planning my day in my head (I hate to admit this).

I can eat a whole bag of jellybeans and convincingly argue—and believe—that the ones made with real juice are practically a fruit.

I can cry publicly and laugh out loud—even snort—at the most immature jokes and not care how I might be perceived.

I can own up to my mistakes, sometimes too many to count.

And I can love fiercely, even when it is hard.

I have spent years acquiring skills no one names. Skills that earn no applause.

Skills that don't join data analysis and marketing onto a résumé.

But I would argue they are the true essence of a life—well, maybe not the jellybeans.

No one stops you at this age and says, Wow. Look at what you've learned to do.

And yet—there it is.

A quiet expertise. Hard-earned. Unspoken. Constant.

Not remarkable in the traditional sense.

Not measurable. Not even noticed, if you're doing them well.

But essential.

Because these are the skills that keep a life running—the ones that steady, support, anticipate, and carry.

Back at the restaurant, we moved on to other questions—some ridiculous, some revealing, some better left at the table.

But it's that third one that stayed with me.

Sure, our answers might differ.

But I'm beginning to think it was never about promotions or diplomas or achievements, as nice as those are.

It was always about something quieter—the quiet, accumulated knowing of how to show up, how to carry what matters, and how to love people right in the middle of it all.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL AD

Notice of Republican Town Committee Caucus

The New Canaan Republican Town Committee (RTC) hereby gives notice that New Canaan Republicans will hold a caucus on Friday, May 22nd, 2026 at 6.30p.m. at New Canaan Town Hall for the purpose of endorsing candidates for Republican Registrar of Voters.

Beginning on Sunday, April 26th, 2026, registered New Canaan Republicans interested in being candidates for Republican Registrar of Voters may obtain their petition forms by sending an email request to chairman@newcanaanrepublicans.org. All completed petitions must be submitted no later than 12 p.m. on Monday, May 4th, 2026. Please refer to www.newcanaanrepublicans.org for more information and the RTC by-laws.

REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE

LEGAL AD

April 23, 2026 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Selectmen for the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed bids for "Sidewalks, 2026: Southwood Drive", New Canaan, Connecticut, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at the Department of Public Works Office, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, CT, 06840, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contract documents are available for review at the Department of Public Works Office, TOWN OF NEW CANAAN, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840. Copies of the contract documents for the work may be obtained in person during business hours from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the following location: Department of Public Works Office, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840.

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

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the bid opening.

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

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

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

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

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN

ACTION TAKEN BY THE INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION Monday, April 20, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands Commission of the Town of New Canaan, at its meeting on 04/20/26 made the following decision:

1. Application Number (IW-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.

APPROVED with Special Conditions.

Small Changes, Big Impact

By ELIZABETH BARHYDT

John Kriz brought a small wooden box with paper tubes to a gathering at Staying Put, www.stayingputnc.org a not-for-profit which supports independent living by seniors in town. Within minutes, he was explaining the fate of pumpkins, the chemistry of landfills, and why a honeybee might travel three miles for lunch.

It was not a typical presentation, though it covered familiar territory: trash, recycling and the arithmetic of what happens after something is thrown away.

Kriz, a board member of local sustainability not-for-profit Planet New Canaan www.planetnewcanaan.org, described a volunteer-driven organization focused on reducing waste across town. “The focus is on reducing waste broadly,” he said, outlining projects that range from composting subsidies to seasonal collections.

One initiative begins just after Hallowe'en, when discarded pumpkins accumulate across town. “Last year I think it was 15,000 pounds of pumpkins,” that were collected, Kriz said.

Some are repurposed as animal feed, others composted. Left alone, he noted, they would likely end up buried in a landfill.

That distinction is important. Modern landfills, he explained, operate with limited oxygen, slowing decomposition and producing methane, a greenhouse gas he described as “way worse than carbon.”

Organic waste, when buried, does not break down efficiently. Composting, by contrast, allows natural decomposition while limiting methane release.

To encourage that shift, Planet New Canaan subsidizes composting costs at the transfer station. “The difference between dumping it and composting it is paid for by Planet New Canaan,”

Kriz said, describing a system designed to remove financial barriers for the town and encourage composting.

The organization also supports a composting program in a local school, and operates the Swap Shop at the transfer station, where residents can bring still-useful, but no longer needed, items for others to reuse, rather than discard them.

Christmas trees, once seasonal decorations, are collected and chipped for trail use. “Returned to the earth,” Kriz said, describing a process that reduces waste while improving trail conditions.

Much of the work is incremental. Kriz emphasized that small changes—separating and composting food waste, recycling aluminum, avoiding single-use plastics—can have cumulative impact. Aluminum recycling, he noted, requires a fraction of the energy used to produce new material. “You really, really, really want to recycle aluminum,” he said.

The conversation shifted from waste to pollination, and the wooden box on the table became relevant. Inside were paper tubes designed as breeding chambers for mason bees, a native species distinct from the more familiar honeybee.

“Mason bees are native bees and mason bees are really good at pollination, way better than honeybees,” Kriz said.

Unlike honeybees, which live in large colonies, mason bees are solitary and travel shorter distances. Providing nesting space—simple wooden structures with replaceable tubes in which eggs are laid and young bees grow — can support local populations.

“Build it and they will come,” Kriz said.

The appeal of the system lies in its simplicity. A homeowner can install a small structure, replace the tubes annually, and leave the rest to the bees. Kriz described it as a low-effort way to contribute to

Kriz emphasized that small changes—separating and composting food waste, recycling aluminum, avoiding single-use plastics—can have cumulative impact.

LESSONS IN SUSTAINABILITY

Small choices. Big impact. A healthier New Canaan.

Planet New Canaan is a volunteer-driven, community-powered organization working to reduce waste, protect pollinators, and build a more sustainable town—one action at a time.

PUMPKINS: FROM PORCH TO PURPOSE

Each year, thousands of pounds of pumpkins are collected after Halloween. Some are repurposed as animal feed, others composted.

Repurposed as animal feed | Composted

Either way, pumpkins are returned to the earth—instead of ending up in a landfill.

LANDFILL vs. COMPOST WHY IT MATTERS

LANDFILL
Limited oxygen slows decomposition and produces methane—a greenhouse gas way worse than carbon. Methane = potent greenhouse gas.

COMPOST
Natural decomposition with oxygen limits methane release and returns nutrients to the soil. Better for the planet.

MAKING COMPOSTING EASY & AFFORDABLE

- Planet New Canaan subsidizes composting costs at the transfer station.
- Supports a composting program in a local school.
- Operates the Swap Shop at the transfer station—where usable items find a new home instead of becoming trash.

SEASONAL COLLECTIONS

- Christmas Trees**: Collected and chipped for trail use. Returned to the earth and repurposed.
- Pumpkins & More**: Seasonal collections keep organic waste out of landfills.

SMALL CHOICES, BIG IMPACT

- Compost food waste**
- Recycle aluminum**: Uses a fraction of the energy to make new aluminum. Recycling aluminum saves energy and natural resources.
- Avoid single-use plastics**
- Buy less. Reuse more. Waste less.**

Small steps together create lasting change.

THE POWER OF MASON BEES

Mason bees are native, solitary bees and exceptional pollinators—even more efficient than honeybees. Provide nesting space with simple wooden structures and paper tubes. Easy to install, easy to maintain, and highly effective.

DID YOU KNOW?

About a third, maybe more, of the food we eat is pollinated by bees. Apples • Pumpkins • Almonds & more

WHY POLLINATORS MATTER

Pollinator declines are linked to:

- Habitat loss
- Pesticides
- Disease
- Non-native plantings

POLLINATOR CORRIDORS: CONNECTIONS THAT COUNT

Networks of properties with native plants provide consistent food and habitat across the landscape. Small patches of habitat act as vital waypoints for pollinators and other wildlife.

EVERYDAY ACTIONS. LASTING IMPACT.

- COMPOST FOOD WASTE
- RECYCLE RIGHT
- PLANT NATIVE
- AVOID PESTICIDES
- REUSE & RETHINK

Small choices today build a stronger, healthier New Canaan tomorrow.

local ecosystems.

The broader concern is not theoretical. Pollinators play a central role in food production. “About a third, maybe more, is pollinated by bees,” he said, referencing crops such as apples, pumpkins and almonds.

Declines in pollinator populations have been linked to habitat loss, pesticide use and disease. Kriz pointed to common landscaping practices—chemical sprays, non-native plantings—as contributing factors. Native plants, he said, offer more reliable food and habitat for local species.

He also described the concept of pollinator corridors: networks of properties that provide consistent resources across a landscape. Without them, insects and birds face gaps that limit survival. “They don’t want to fly somewhere and have to say... ‘Hey, I can’t find a gas station,’” he said.

The analogy, delivered with a measure of humor, underscored a practical point. Small patches of habitat, even in residential settings, can serve as vital pollinator waystations.

By the end of the session, the discussion had returned to ordinary routines: separating waste, planting native species, reconsidering what is discarded. The solutions described were not large-scale infrastructure projects but adjustments to daily habits.

Planet New Canaan, Kriz noted, operates without a formal office. Its work depends on volunteers and community participation. “It’s all volunteer driven,” he said.

The approach is cumulative rather than immediate. A compost bin here, a bee house there, a decision to recycle rather than discard. None is transformative on its own.

Together, however, they form a system that, like the bees Kriz described, depends on many small actions carried out consistently over time.

SPORTS

Upcoming Schedule

APR, FRI	4 – 5:45pm	Boys Freshman Baseball vs Fairfield Warde	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	4 – 5:45pm	Boys JV Baseball @ Fairfield Warde	245 Melville Ave, Fairfield CT 06825
	4 – 5:45pm	Boys Varsity Baseball @ Fairfield Warde	755 Melville Ave, Fairfield Connecticut 06825-2000
	4 – 5:30pm	Girls JV Softball vs Fairfield Warde	Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840
	4 – 5:15pm	Girls Freshman Lacrosse - Girls vs Trumbull	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	6 – 7pm	Girls Varsity Softball vs Fairfield Warde	Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840
APR, SAT	11am – 1pm	Boys JV Lacrosse - Boys @ Iona Preparatory School	255 Wilnot Road, New Rochelle New York 10804
	1 – 3pm	Boys Varsity Lacrosse - Boys @ Iona Preparatory School	255 Wilnot Road, New Rochelle New York 10804
	6 – 7:30pm	Girls Varsity Lacrosse - Girls @ Massapequa High School	82 Turkey Lane, Cold Spring Harbor New York
APR, MON	3:15 – 6:15pm	Girls Varsity Golf @ Trumbull	40 Tashua Knolls Lane, Trumbull CT 06611
	4 – 6pm	Girls JV Tennis @ Darien High School	Nearwater Ln, Darien CT 06820
	4 – 6pm	Girls Varsity Tennis @ Darien High School	80 High School Lane, Darien CT 06820
	4 – 5:30pm	Boys Freshman Lacrosse - Boys vs Fairfield Ludlowe	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	4 – 5:30pm	Girls JV Softball vs Greenwich High School	Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840
	4 – 5pm	Boys Varsity Tennis vs Darien High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	4 – 5pm	Girls Varsity Softball vs Greenwich High School	Waveny Park, New Canaan CT 06840
	4 – 4:30pm	Boys JV Tennis vs Darien High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	4:15 – 6:15pm	Boys Varsity Baseball @ Greenwich High School	10 Hillside Road, Greenwich CT 06830
	4:15 – 5:45pm	Boys JV Baseball @ Greenwich High School	180 East Elm St, Greenwich CT 06830
APR, TUE	4 – 7pm	Boys Varsity Track & Field - Outdoor vs Ridgefield High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut
	4 – 7pm	Girls Varsity Track & Field - Outdoor vs Ridgefield High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut
	4 – 5:45pm	Boys Varsity Tennis @ Bridgeport Central High School	1 Lincoln Boulevard, Bridgeport CT 06606
	4 – 5pm	Girls Varsity Tennis vs Bridgeport Central High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	4 – 4:30pm	Boys JV Tennis @ Fairfield Ludlowe	200 Unquowa Road, Fairfield CT 06824
	4 – 4:30pm	Girls JV Tennis @ Fairfield Ludlowe	1600 Redding Road, Fairfield CT 06430
	4:15 – 6pm	Boys Varsity Volleyball vs Wilton High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840
	4:30 – 5:45pm	Girls Varsity Lacrosse - Girls @ Danbury High School	43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811
	6 – 7:15pm	Girls JV Lacrosse - Girls @ Danbury High School	43 Clapboard Ridge Rd, Danbury CT 06811
	6 – 7pm	Boys JV Volleyball vs Wilton High School	11 Farm Rd, New Canaan Connecticut 06840

Weekly Scores

Date	Team (School – Gender – Sport)	Opponent	Score
4/16	New Canaan – Boys – Baseball	Bristol Eastern	New Canaan 3 – Bristol Eastern 2
4/17	New Canaan – Boys – Baseball	Staples	New Canaan 0 – Staples 7
4/20	New Canaan – Boys – Baseball	Norwalk	New Canaan 6 – Norwalk 9
4/16	New Canaan – Boys – Lacrosse	Staples	New Canaan 8 – Staples 11
4/21	New Canaan – Boys – Lacrosse	Chaminade High	New Canaan 5 – Chaminade High 8
4/13	New Canaan – Boys – Tennis	Fairfield Warde	New Canaan 7 – Fairfield Warde 0
4/14	New Canaan – Boys – Tennis	Greenwich	New Canaan 4 – Greenwich 3
4/16	New Canaan – Boys – Tennis	Wilton	New Canaan 7 – Wilton 0
4/20	New Canaan – Boys – Tennis	Stamford	New Canaan 5 – Stamford 2
4/15	New Canaan – Boys – Volleyball	Norwalk	New Canaan 3 – Norwalk 0
4/16	New Canaan – Boys – Volleyball	Fairfield Ludlowe	New Canaan 3 – Fairfield Ludlowe 0
4/20	New Canaan – Boys – Volleyball	Fairfield Warde	New Canaan 3 – Fairfield Warde 0
4/14	New Canaan – Girls – Lacrosse	St. Joseph	New Canaan 17 – St. Joseph 0
4/16	New Canaan – Girls – Lacrosse	Staples	New Canaan 16 – Staples 6
4/21	New Canaan – Girls – Lacrosse	Nyack	New Canaan 13 – Nyack 11
4/15	New Canaan – Girls – Softball	Staples	New Canaan 15 – Staples 4
4/20	New Canaan – Girls – Softball	Norwalk	New Canaan 7 – Norwalk 6
4/16	New Canaan – Girls – Tennis	Wilton	New Canaan 5 – Wilton 2
4/20	New Canaan – Girls – Tennis	Stamford	New Canaan 7 – Stamford 0
4/14	St. Lukes – Boys – Baseball	Rye Country Day	St. Lukes 1 – Rye Country Day 12
4/16	St. Lukes – Boys – Baseball	Rye Country Day	St. Lukes 8 – Rye Country Day 7
4/21	St. Lukes – Boys – Baseball	King	St. Lukes 0 – King 3
4/13	St. Lukes – Boys – Lacrosse	Harvey School	St. Lukes 10 – Harvey School 6
4/15	St. Lukes – Boys – Lacrosse	Rye Country Day	St. Lukes 10 – Rye Country Day 16
4/16	St. Lukes – Boys – Lacrosse	Fairfield Country Day	St. Lukes 10 – Fairfield Country Day 8
4/14	St. Lukes – Boys – Tennis	Rye Country Day	St. Lukes 1 – Rye Country Day 6
4/15	St. Lukes – Boys – Tennis	Greens Farms Academy	St. Lukes 1 – Greens Farms Academy 6
4/15	St. Lukes – Girls – Softball	Holy Child	St. Lukes 8 – Holy Child 1

CRC From Page 1

CRC approved some changes, rejected others, and left several complex issues unresolved.

At the center of debate was a proposal to remove the requirement that Board of Finance members be property owners in New Canaan. The change would have aligned this board with other elected and appointed bodies, which require only that members be electors.

Supporters of eliminating the property ownership requirement argued that the rule is outdated and fundamentally exclusionary.

“I believe that it’s discriminatory,” said Angela Jameson, who supported removing the requirement. “We have two classes of residents here — property owners and renters.”

Those wanting to retain the exclusion countered that voters had already weighed in on the issue a decade ago, and that property ownership reflects a direct financial stake in tax decisions.

“I think the voters have spoken,” said Chairman Kathleen Corbet, noting the issue had been rejected previously at the ballot box.

The proposal ultimately failed by a wide margin, with only three members in favor and seven opposed. Among those voting to retain the exclusion of non-property owners were Kathleen Corbet and former First Selectman Judy Neville.

Term Limits Advance – With Conditions
The CRC also continued refining a newly adopted policy imposing term limits on appointed boards and commissions.

Members previously agreed to cap service at 12 consecutive years. This week, they approved additional language clarifying how that limit would work in practice.

Under the proposal, members who reach the 12-year limit mid-term may finish their current term. Afterward, they must step away for a full term before being eligible for reappointment.

The measure passed, though not unanimously, reflecting lingering disagreement about how long former members should remain off boards before returning.

Debate Over “Beneficial Ownership”
After rejecting the broader change to Board of Finance eligibility, commissioners briefly explored a narrower alternative — redefining “property ownership” to include beneficial ownership through trusts or LLCs.

But the idea quickly ran into complications, with members warning that legal definitions could be unclear and potentially create unintended loopholes.

“I think we need more work in order to define that,” one commissioner said, urging caution before revising the language.

No formal action was taken on that concept.

Parking Policy Sparks Broader Questions
While much of the meeting focused on technical charter language, discussion of the Parking Commission revealed broader tensions about decision-making authority in town government.

Commissioners ultimately voted to keep existing charter language governing parking largely unchanged, despite recent controversy over downtown parking policies.

Still, the conversation exposed deeper concerns about land use, authority and process — particularly when it comes to major projects like potential redevelopment of town-owned parking lots.

“We cannot legislate in the charter that appointed bodies do what they’re supposed to do,” Jameson said, cautioning against overcomplicating governance structures.

Audit Oversight and Governance Structure Still Unsettled

Another unresolved issue is whether the Audit Committee — potentially renamed the “Audit Board” — should be appointed solely by the Town Council rather than jointly with the Board of Selectmen.

Some commissioners argued that greater independence is essential, particularly given the committee’s role in reviewing financial operations. Others pushed back, noting that the current “checks and balances” system already involves both elected bodies.

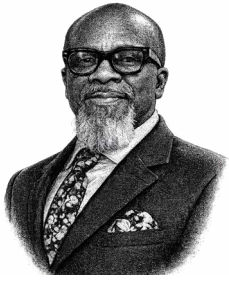
The CRC tabled the issue for further discussion.

Next Steps
With multiple sections still under review — including police, fire, ethics, and planning and zoning — the CRC faces a compressed schedule to finalize recommendations.

Chair Corbet emphasized this urgency at the outset of the meeting. “This is the first of four meetings we have to finish this report,” she said.

The CRC is expected to continue deliberations in upcoming sessions, with several key votes still ahead.

“Where Do We Go From Here”? Micah 6:6-8 NLT



BY REV. GILBERT BURGESS

6 What can we bring to the Lord? Should we bring him burnt offerings? Should we bow before God Most High with offerings of yearling calves? 7 Should we offer him thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Should we sacrifice our firstborn children to pay for our sins? 8 No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

With all that is going on in the world, particularly within our nation, many of us are asking the questions why does it appear, things are going from bad to worse? Why are so many people wrestling with uncertainties of a brighter tomorrow, for some of us just trying to make the ends-meet, with the cost of living rising, while others are afraid to come out of their homes for fear of persecution, and others ponder

silently, why this seemingly needless war, at the cost of so many innocent lives.

With the news reporting crimes in Chicago like “smash and grab” of Pokémon cards. In Mexico at tourist site a gunman opens fire. Husbands and wives taking the lives of the spouse they made vowels to love and cherish. A father in Shreveport Louisiana takes the lives of eight of his children, senseless mask shootings are attempting to become common in our society. Even threats from TikTok with conversations of harming our children at school, right here in New Canaan.

While across the nation, we’re witnessing a level of despair, and fear in the atmosphere covered with a blanket of hopelessness, how is it so that such a brilliant unique distinguished creatures breed so much peril on themselves, with so little compassion, should we deprive ourselves the basic essentials of life such as “Safety, Security, Protection and Shelter”. This inquiry brings into question heavy on the hearts of many, “Where Do We Go From Here”?

In Micah 6:6-8 during a time of severe social injustice, economic exploitation of the poor by the wealthy, and superficial religious observance under Assyrian threat.

The atmosphere here in the text depicts the setting of a court room scene, where God is the plaintiff and Israel is the defendant. It is here God brings a lawsuit against Israel, accusing them of breaking their binding agreement, God instructed the prophet Micah to initiate a legal case presenting an “indictment” to Israel the defendant before a jury of mountains and hills, representing the “enduring foundations of the earth,” they are seen as timeless, having witnessed the entire history of Israel’s relationship with God from the beginning.

God summoning the mountains and hills, elevates His dispute above a mere human disagreement, this move by God makes all of creation a witness to Israel’s violation of their covenant with God.

The mountains and hills, representing the unshakeable truth, of God and the strength of the mountains is their unwavering, enduring nature, which serves as a firm, unimpeachable witness in the Lord’s controversy with His people, in this Covenant Lawsuit.

The mountains and hills give testament that God has been faithful in providing and leading, whereas the people have been ungrateful and unfaithful, and in response to the charges, the people of Israel are

wondering how to appease God by asking in versus 6-7 of the text; What can we bring to the Lord? Should we bring Him burnt offerings? Should we bow before God Most High with offerings of yearling calves? Should we offer Him thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Should we sacrifice our firstborn children to pay for our sins?

And Micah the prophet speaks on behalf of God, reminding the people, of their covenant requirements with, No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and Micah said this is what He requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:6-8 stands as a reminder for us today the reality that if we would repent, humble ourselves and turn from our wicked ways, Gods faithful mercies would plot out His displeasure of our unjust, corrupt sinful, behaviors, because we know God has a history of redeeming His people from their sins.

Israel was charged with Covenant Unfaithfulness by failing to act with justice and to love mercy, a failing to do what was right, and their feeling to walk humbly with God. and here now in the year 2026 standing in contempt of failing to do right, failing to love mercy and justice and to walk humbly

with God.

God as He did then, still demands repentance of our sins with heart-felt obedience over inadequate ceremonial sacrifices and rituals.

And so the answer to the question, “Where Do We Go From Here”? Is we must first remember God’s faithfulness and the call for Israel’s repentance, to Gods displeasure with their unjust, corrupt behavior despite Gods history of redeeming them, we must learn from their mistakes, for God has done the same for us therefore we must not continue walking the darkness path of unjust, corrupt behaviors, but rather live our lives with sincere acts of devoted service and self denial aimed at honoring God, with spiritual sacrifices that demonstrate true religion, “doing justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God”.

In closing, I leave with you the mandate of Jesus who said, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34-35

Rev. Gilbert Burgess pastor
Community Baptist Church New Canaan

Worship Directory and Services

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

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

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

Congregational Church

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

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

Recurring Events:

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

Wednesdays at 9:30 AM: Bible Study

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

Upcoming Events:

May 16 from 9 AM- 12 PM at the Lapham Center: The New Canaan Clergy Association will host a unique community conversation designed to bridge divides and strengthen our town. Guided by Rev. Dr. Allen Hilton, participants from across political perspectives will engage in a respectful Life Swap practice—listening deeply to one another’s stories and convictions. Register at godsacre.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist

49 Park Street 203.966.0293
christiansciencet.org/newcanaa

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

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

First Presbyterian Church

178 Oenoke Ridge Road 203.966.0002
fpnc.org

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

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

Upcoming Events:

April 24 at 7:30 PM: Charis Chamber Voices Concert. “Songs of Democracy” marks the approaching 250th anniversary of the United States through music that reflects the American spirit and the many voices that shape it. Tickets are available at charisvocals.com.

May 3 at 10 AM: share the pageantry of the Mount Kisco Scottish Pipes & Drums, the grace and joy of the Highland Dancers, the tartans and the kilts, and more. All are welcome.

Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church

21 Cherry Street 203.966.0020
www.starcc.com
Service Schedule:

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

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

Saturday: 7:00 am

Recurring Events:

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

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

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

Upcoming Events:

April 30 at 6:30 PM in Stapleton Hall: **Savor an Italian dinner while listening to beloved Italian music, performed by featured vocalists from the St. Aloysius Music Ministry.** Tickets are available at starcc.com.

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church

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

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

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

Weekday Services: Monday-Friday, 8:30am: Morning Prayer Rite II by Zoom.

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

Recurring Events:

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

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

Upcoming Events:

May 7 from 5-7:30 PM: White Elephant Preview Party. Tickets required and available on the St. Mark’s website.

May 8 from 5-10 PM: May Fair Friday Night Lights. Wristbands will be available at the fair grounds.

May 9 from 9 AM- 6 PM: May Fair. There will be rides, face painting, Old Faithful Antique Fire Engine rides, and more.

St. Michael’s Lutheran Church

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

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

Trinity Church

New Canaan | Darien

1800 E. Putnam Ave, Old Greenwich
203.618.0808
info@trinitychurch.life
www.trinitychurch.life

Join us **Sundays at 10 a.m.** at Greenwich Hyatt Regency for lively worship, thoughtful and applicable teaching, weekly Communion, and an opportunity to make friends and grow in community. Trinity Kids (infants through fifth grade) and Trinity Youth (middle and high schoolers) take place during the service, and coffee and refreshments are served following worship. The service is also available on livestream via Youtube, Sundays at 10:00 a.m.; learn more at www.trinitychurch.life.

United Methodist Church

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

Come for uplifting music and a relevant, inspiring message – and stay after for coffee and conversation during Fellowship Time. Sunday School for ages 3 through high school. Child care is available for children from infancy through age 5.

Recurring Events:

First Sunday at 8:45 AM: All men are invited to our monthly Men’s Breakfast – a time of warm fellowship, good food, and meaningful conversation as we grow together in faith and friendship.

March 17, 24, and 31 at 7 PM: Lenten Study. “Finding Jesus in the Psalms: A Lenten Journey”. Dinner served at 6:15 PM. Please contact Pastor Martha.

Community Baptist Church

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

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZZUNa8aHI30_Syp_XOKDg

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

Sunday School at 10:00am

Worship Service at 11:00am

Live Facebook Broadcast 11:30 am

Grace Community Church

9:30am Service @ New Canaan High School,
11 Farm Road, New Canaan

203-966-7600

info@gracecommunity.info

www.gracecommunity.info

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

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

Talmadge Hill Community Church

870 Hollow Tree Ridge Road; Darien, CT

203.966.2314

talmadgehillchurch@gmail.com

www.talmadgehill.org

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

Recurring Events:

Thursdays at 9:30am: Bible Study

First Saturday at 8am: Men’s Group

Second Saturday at 10am: Women’s Circle

Chabad New Canaan Jewish Center

137 Putnam Rd

info@chabadnewcanaan.org

www.newcanaanjewish.org

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

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

Temple Sinai (Reform Synagogue)

458 Lakeside Drive; Stamford, CT 06903

203.322.1649

www.templeainaistamford.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 Shalom

300 E. Putnam Ave. Greenwich, CT 06830

203-869-7191

www.templeholom.com

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

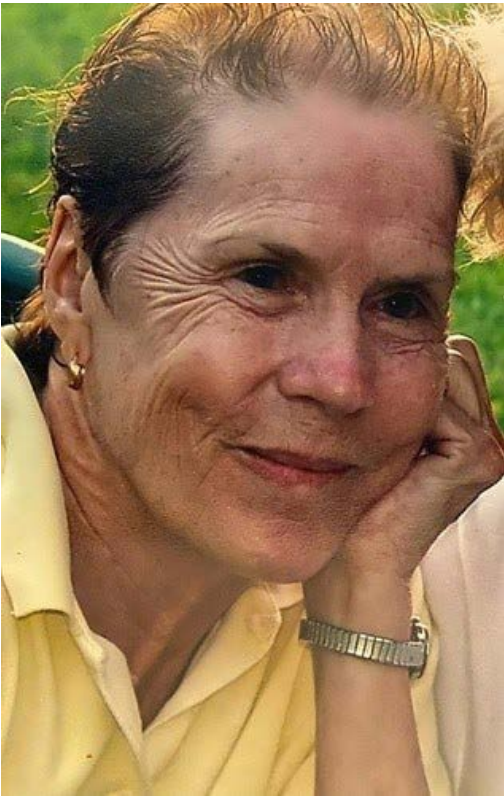
Recurring Events:

Saturdays at 9 AM: Shabbat Study via zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/94358392426?pwd=bFJQem9HWFcUOEzZUM2VENEZmgYUT09#su> ccess



Obituaries

DOLORES HANCE



Dolores “Do” Ann Kennedy Hance, 95, of New Canaan, CT, passed away peacefully at her home on April 17. She was the daughter of predeceased Maurice and Ruth Kennedy of Riverside, Illinois, where Dolores was raised. She was the middle of three sisters, with the oldest, Beverly, and the youngest, Maureen. She graduated from Riverside-Brookfield High School, where she met her high school sweetheart, James Clifford Hance, who served as a Lieutenant in the United States Army. He would become her husband on June 27th, 1953.

Dolores is survived by her four children: Jeanne Catherine Hance-Jagoe (husband Clifford), James Edward Hance, Thomas Clifford Hance (wife Anita Ann), and Elizabeth (Betty) Hance Brown (fiancé Owen Yost). She leaves five grandchildren: Catherine, Alexandra, Cash, Giselle, and Audrina.

Dolores attended the University of Chicago’s Nursing Program, where she graduated Valedictorian. She was named Connecticut Red Cross Woman of the Year and was integral in establishing CPR administration standards in the state. She worked as a nurse for many physicians and became a CALA (Connecticut Association for Assisted Living) Supervisory Registered Nurse at Waveny Care Center in New Canaan. All of which she was most proud. Dolores was very loved by her husband, children, grandchildren, and all her many friends. We will miss her very much.

Calling hours for Dolores are 10:00 a.m. at Hoyt Funeral Home, 199 Main Street, New Canaan, followed by a Catholic Mass at St. Aloysius Church, Cherry Street, New Canaan. All are welcome at the interment at Lakeview Cemetery, 352 Main Street, New Canaan, immediately thereafter on April 27.

In Do’s memory, donations may be made to the American Red Cross. The Family is being compassionately cared for by the staff at Hoyt Funeral Home, 199 Main Street, New Canaan, CT 06840.

LAWRENCE MITCHELL



Lawrence “Larry” Raymond Mitchell, 91, of Shelton Connecticut passed away April 12. He was born July 7, 1934 in Des Moines, Iowa the fourth of five children to Julia May (King) and James Eugene Mitchell. Larry’s Catholic upbringing during World War II and mid-western values ingrained a duty to serve God and community.

His family moved to Chicago where Larry met Eileen Venza, the love of his life, at a high school dance. In 1956 he graduated from St. Mary’s College in Winona, Minnesota. Later that year he married Eileen and together they raised four children.

Trained as a salesman at IBM, Larry sold computers to major corporations throughout the mid-west. In 1967 he was promoted to a position in the New York headquarters and moved his family to New Canaan, Connecticut. He later joined Wang Labs and covered various Wall Street firms.

In New Canaan, Larry established himself in the parish ministry, and the town’s Family Fourth Committee. Once retired, Larry and Eileen moved to Williamsburg, Virginia re-connecting with numerous high school and college friends. They enjoyed volunteer work at St. Bede Parish, the Virginia Symphony Orchestra and Colonial Williamsburg. In 2012, Larry and Eileen moved to Shelton, CT to be closer to their children.

Larry and Eileen were together 62 years before she preceded him in death on April 8, 2019. At that time Larry moved to the independent living community at Masonicare at Wesley Heights in Shelton, CT where he was elected to run the residence council and established the “Welcome Committee” for new residents.

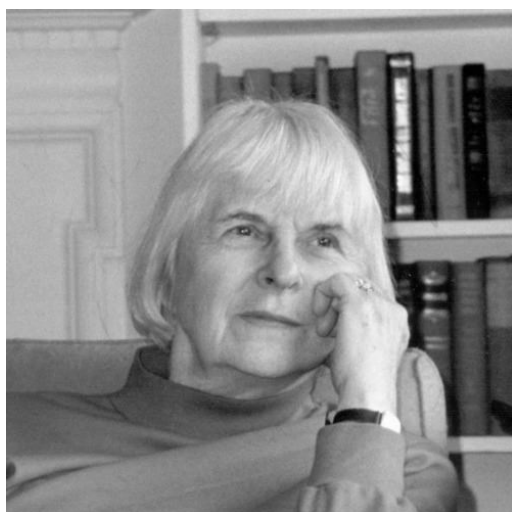
With a gregarious nature and warm handshake, Larry treasured time with his friends and family.

Larry is survived by his four children: Larry (Jill) Mitchell Jr., Lynn (Rod Van Deusen), Beth (Chuck Lee), and Karen Levesque. He is also survived by six grandchildren, Charlie (Juli) Lee, Tom (Claire) Mitchell, RJ (Devon) Van Deusen, Emily Mitchell, Caitlyn Van Deusen, Eddie Lee; his great-grandson, Charlie; as well as his nieces, nephews, and goddaughters. Larry was preceded in death by his parents; his beloved wife Eileen; his siblings and their spouses, Jean (Francis) St. John, James (Mary Alice) Mitchell Jr., Margaret (Bud) Jackson, and Julia (Robert) Roels; his brother-in-law, Jac Venza, and son-in-law, Patrick Levesque.

Larry will be dearly missed by all. Visitation will be held on Thursday, May 7, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Riverview Funeral Home, 390 River Rd. Shelton. On Friday everyone is invited to go directly to St. Mary Margaret Church, 50 Donovan Ln. Shelton, at 11:00 a.m. for his Mass of Christian Burial. Private interment will take place at Mount St. Peter’s in Derby.

The Mitchell Family would like to thank the entire staff and residents at Wesley Heights for their caring community. His children are humbled and grateful for the affection and friendship their father received over the years. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to benefit the residents and staff of the wonderful community where he lived. Memorial Contributions can be made to: Wesley Heights, Crosby Commons Resident Council (ATTN: Donna Brice) 580 Long Hill Ave. Shelton CT 06484 (please reference Larry Mitchell in the memo). Online condolences can be offered to the family at www.riverviewfh.com

MARY JENKINS



Mary Hope Mecklin Jenkins, the first woman moderator of Westport’s Representative Town Meeting, died April 7, in Hanover, New Hampshire-the town where she was born on November 8, 1921.

The daughter of Dartmouth professor, John M. Mecklin and Hope Davis Mecklin, Mary attended Hanover schools before graduating from the Stoneleigh-Prospect Hill School (now Stoneleigh Burnham) in Greenfield, MA, and in December 1943, Skidmore College, (class of 1944).

Two months later, Mary married John M. Jenkins, whom she met in the summer of 1942 when he, like most of his Dartmouth College classmates, was accelerating his studies, so he could graduate before the WWII draft caught up with him. For the first two years of her marriage, Mary accompanied John as he served in the U.S. Army Air Force on bases in Kansas, Colorado and Louisiana.

After the war, Mary and John lived in Glendale and Kirkwood, Missouri, (St. Louis suburbs), for eight happy years, and Mary had her first political experience when she left a League of Women Voters board position to go door-to-door for Adlai Stevenson.

Back east to New Canaan, Connecticut, 1955, Mary was president of the local League of Women Voters and co-chaired a committee organized to turn back a petition attempting to remove fluoridation from the town water (petition denied). In the summer 1961, Mary received a two-and-a-half-week grant from the West German government to visit seven West German cities, interviewing German women in politics.

In 1964, after two years in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, the Jenkins family returned to New England, this time to Westport, Connecticut, where they remained until 1999. Mary served seven years as Secretary and Vice Chairman, on Westport’s Planning and Zoning Commission. During that time, she co-authored a study of the Boston Post Road, which brought new site plan regulations to Westport’s P & Z.

Elected to the RTM in 1975, Mary chaired the Finance Committee and, in 1977, was elected the RTM’s first woman moderator, a position she held for nine years. During that period, Mary taped a discussion of early New England town meetings for Voice of America, volunteered with Save the Children and worked as an editor at the Famous Artists School. In 1987, Mary was elected to the Westport Board of Finance, she served one term before retiring from town government in 1991.

Along the way, Mary co-chaired Democratic Headquarters during two presidential elections, received the Silver Donkey awarded annually to the “outstanding Democratic woman of the year,” and co-founded the short-lived Westport-Weston Nuclear Forum (speakers and discussion groups). Mary and John traveled world-wide and Mary wrote travel stories for regional magazines. In the early 1990s, she made two citizen-exchange trips to the Soviet Union with Bridges for Peace, an organization based in Norwich, VT.

In 1999, John and Mary moved to Kendal at Hanover, a retirement community in New Hampshire. She always cherished the memory of the short “goodbye to the Jenkins” story that appeared in the Westport News. At Kendal, Mary served on many committees, brought the idea of Employee Scholarships to Kendal’s Residents Council and chaired the committee that brought wine and beer to Kendal dining rooms. She was the editor of the weekly newsletter, an editor of the quarterly literary magazine and one of the seven editors of the book, “WWII Remembered,” a collection of Kendal residents’ war memories that sold over 10,000 copies. She also wrote nearly a dozen stories for the local regional newspaper, the Valley News, about growing up in Hanover.

John died in 2020. Mary is survived by her children, Patricia J. Brenner, Shelly (David Kirk), John Jr. (Nancy Stiles) and Robert (Sharon Gleason); six grandsons; two granddaughters; and eight great-grandchildren.

Gifts, in Mary’s name, may be made

to Planned Parenthood, 784 Hercules Dr., Colchester, VT 05446.

DOROTHY ZEHNER



Dorothy Jane Zehner, most recently from New Canaan, CT, passed away peacefully on April 6, one day shy of her 95th birthday.

Dorothy was born on April 7, 1931, in Flushing, Queens, NY, to Emma J. and John E. Hatossy. She attained her BA from St. John’s University and was in her second year of law school when her father passed, so she had to leave the pursuit of her degree to work and care for her mother. She married Howard H. Zehner in 1957, and they were married for 61 years until Howard’s passing in 2018.

She is survived by her five children: Lauren E. Zehner (Shawn Sobkowski); Nancy D. Zehner; Deborah J. Cross and her children, Rachel and Connor; Gregory H. Zehner (Jacki H. Zehner) and their children, Matthew and Allie; and Carolyn A. Woodberry (Sturgis P. Woodberry) and their children, Paul, C.J., and Elizabeth.

Dorothy lived a life grounded in deep faith, unwavering love for her family, and a genuine joy for the everyday moments of life. A devoted student of the Bible, she participated in many Bible studies over the years and found particular comfort and inspiration in Romans 8, which she was working on memorizing in her last days.

She and her husband Howard began their life together in Port Washington, Long Island, before moving to Greenport, Long Island, where they purchased and operated a marina for almost thirty years. Together, they and the kids worked tirelessly—doing whatever was needed—to build a successful business and support their large family. Those years were marked by hard work and perseverance. Amid the demands of daily life, Dorothy found joy on the water—whether sailing, windsurfing, rowing or swimming in Peconic Bay, often accompanied by the family’s beloved Labrador retriever, Tanna.

Dorothy embraced an active lifestyle well into her later years, with a special love for tennis, biking and swimming. Remarkably, she continued swimming almost daily through the summer of 2025. She also had a lifelong love of reading and often said she was never bored as long as she had something to read.

Dorothy had an easy laugh and a gracious spirit, never taking offense and always extending kindness and understanding to others. She was a constant source of support and encouragement, always available for a conversation, and was cherished by many who considered her their closest friend. Her presence brought comfort, wisdom, and joy to all who knew her.

She deeply valued education and often reminded her family that “a good education never goes to waste,” a belief reflected in the lives of those she raised.

Dorothy’s legacy is one of faith, resilience, love, and enduring connection. She will be profoundly missed and forever remembered by her family and all who were blessed to know her.

“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” – Romans 8:38-39

A private memorial service will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD EDITOR

John Engel | John.Engel@Elliman.com

REAL ESTATE DASHBOARD CONTRIBUTOR

Robyn Bonder | Robyn.Bonder@Elliman.com

NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
60 Heritage Hill Apt#A	\$469,000	798	\$588		1	1
788 South Avenue	\$1,375,000	3,143	\$437	1	3	2
41 Lake Wind	\$2,395,000	5,213	\$459	2.35	5	5
7 Kimberly Place	\$3,495,000	4,025	\$868	.20	5	4
30 Elm Place	\$3,895,000	4,516	\$862	.31	5	4
259 Frogtown	\$8,997,000	9,323	\$965	2.25	8	9

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
60 East Avenue	\$1,199,000	\$1,000,000	\$975,000	5	3	3	
377 Main Street Apt #17	\$1,395,000	\$1,395,000	\$1,700,000	124	6	5	2.01
53 Bank Street	\$1,499,000	\$1,499,000	\$1,565,000	42	6	6	2.2
258 Dans Highway	\$2,600,000	\$2,600,000	\$2,800,000	526	6	6	4.19
113 Brushy Ridge Road	\$2,849,000	\$2,849,000	\$2,900,875	8	4	6	1.26
58 Lambert Road	\$3,095,000	\$3,095,000	\$3,045,000	64	1	2	2.13
928 West Road	\$8,595,000	\$7,695,000	\$8,000,000	406	7	7	6.49

FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
788 South Avenue	\$1,375,000	SAT & SUN	1-3 pm & 2-4 pm	WPSIR
760 Smith Ridge Road	\$4,150,000	SUN	12:30 - 2:30 pm	Douglas Elliman

The market is not broken. Your assumptions might be.

18 takeaways from this week's 'Boroughs and Burbs' show, with Jonathan Miller and Scott Hobbs joining Roberto Cabrera and John Engel.



BY JOHN ENGEL

Low interest rates do not automatically make housing more affordable.

This is probably the strongest idea in the whole conversation. Jonathan's point is contrarian and memorable: When rates are pushed too low, they can wipe out inventory, create instant demand and making housing less affordable.

Inventory is still the most important housing metric.

Not rates, not headlines, not politics. Inventory tells you how distorted a market is five years after the pandemic.

Today's market keeps breaking the old rules.

In a normal cycle, sales slow, inventory builds, and prices fall. In this cycle, sales slowed and prices often held or rose anyway.

Consumers are not disappearing. They are taking longer to decide.

Uncertainty is not always demand destruction. Sometimes it is just delayed decision-making.

The Northeast still has an inventory problem, while parts of the Sun Belt are normalizing.

This point pushes back against lazy national narratives.

If you haven't been able to sell a house in three and a half to four years, your pricing is wrong. You're not on the market.

Sellers delude themselves, saying, "It only takes one offer" and "Maybe a rich person will show up who really wants it" and "We should leave room for negotiation" and "I hear people are leaving the city because they don't like the new (fill in the blank)."

There is still enough demand to absorb limited inventory and keep prices buoyant.

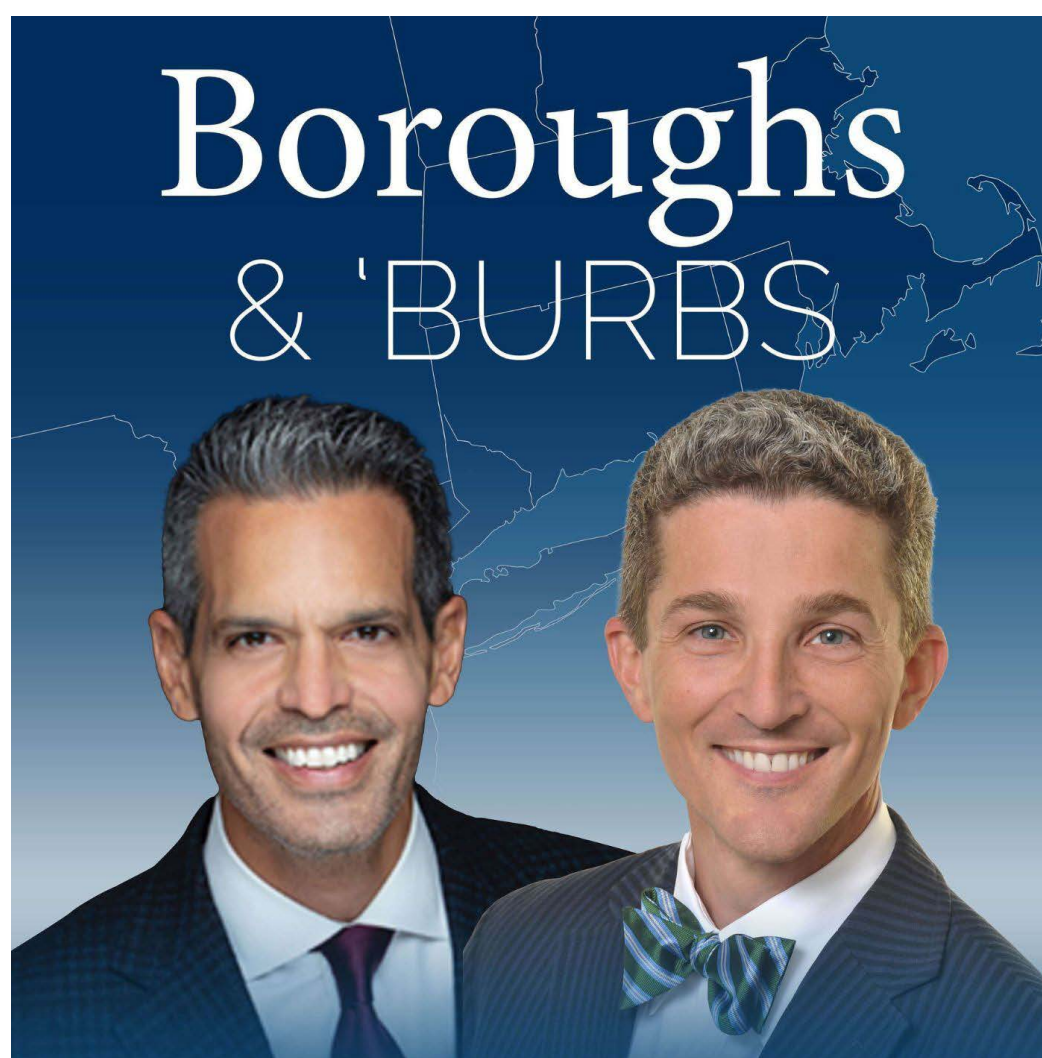
The market is constrained, not collapsing.

The market is healthier than the mood around the market.

This idea runs throughout the whole episode. Headlines feel worse than the underlying transaction data. Roberto listed the Spring crises for 10 years, illustrating that every year, something tries to spoil the party.

Real estate professionals remember the red lights and forget the green lights.

Jonathan's "red light theory" is a very usable metaphor. Agents and consumers tend to fixate and remember the latest obstacle — and miss the broader forward



"Spring is the Super Bowl of housing, which is why everyone is hypersensitive to anything that interrupts it."

movement.

Spring is the Super Bowl of housing, which is why everyone is hypersensitive to anything that interrupts it.

This is a good line for framing seasonal psychology. Each open house weekend is analyzed as intensely as instant replay, as we pick it apart.

The value proposition of property has been recalibrated upward.

This statement of Roberto's is strong. It opens the door to a broader argument that homes are now valued differently as shelter, status, utility, and asset class.

More people now treat housing as an asset class, not just a place to live.

We're not just talking about a handful of people who have second homes. This is why second-home ownership, wealth transfer, and constrained supply matter.

Generational wealth transfer is helping support high-end prices.

This is a useful supporting point, especially for luxury markets.

Where do you live while you renovate the house? There's no rental anyplace. You can't do it. That gums up the construction market, too.

This is a keen insight. Tight inventory is not just about buying. It also jams up

the renovation chain because rentals are scarce.

Construction inflation is not just about materials. It is also about expectations.

Scott made this strong point: Some cost increases are real inflation, and some are buyers wanting better finishes, better systems, and more complexity.

People eventually adjust to higher prices, even if they hate them.

That applies to houses, renovations, rentals, and daily life. Everyone's had to adjust to the pricing.

The housing market is being slowed more by uncertainty than by lack of desire.

Consumers just take longer to make decisions.

THE HOTNESS METER

Palm Beach: 9 or 10

And that's inventory... That's characteristic of that market.

Miami/Miami Beach: 5 or 6

Inventory is above pre-pandemic levels. The proper word is probably "normalizing." And it's not that it's cold; it's just not like Palm Beach.

Naples/Sarasota: 3

The hurricanes went up the Gulf side a couple years ago, and they still haven't fully recovered.

Manhattan: 8 or 9

Prices are rising. Sales are rising. Listings are falling. Rentals... are near record or, depending on the month, at record levels, and leasing activity is up.

Los Angeles: 3

It's not bouncing back. This market is tied to the aftermath of the Palisades fire and pressure on Hollywood and tech.

Austin: 5

Austin is, right now, a good five. It had been a 2, and the Sun Belt responded with a lot of supply. It overbuilt.

Hamptons: 9 or 10

The sales activity could be double what it is — the market share of \$5 million or higher houses is the highest in the history of the Hamptons.

Long Island: hot

Inventory levels on Long Island are about 4,000 units. During its height, 20 years ago, it was at 26,000 units. Even if inventory's rising today, it's still half of what the normal levels should be. Prices are going straight up.

North Fork, LI: hot

One of the places money is being spent is on the East End, and when there's limited inventory, what happens to housing prices? They go up.

Greenwich: hot

It's not that wealthy people fleeing the city. It's that Wall Street in 2024 and 2025 had the highest compensation and the highest profits in history. So that's why the phones in Greenwich are ringing off the hook.

Montclair: hot

If you have four people bidding on a house in Montclair, is that any different than eight people bidding on a house? It's still out of balance.

Fairfield County: hot

We're also seeing the high-end shift in Westchester and Connecticut. In the real estate market that we have today, with 50 houses on the market, you have four buyers show up, and it's a boom."

Visit boroughsandburbs.com to listen to this episode and more.

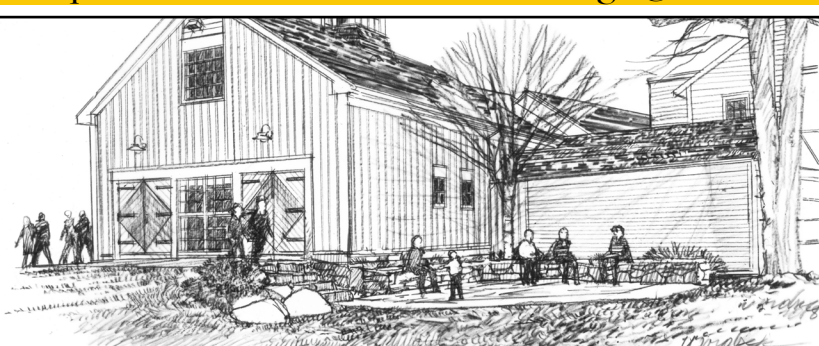
John Engel is a broker on the Engel Team at Douglas Elliman and in addition to writing this column, he hosts an hour-long interview show every Thursday. Writing and talking are very different skills. Good writing is about coming up with an original thought and then shaping that thought by cutting and more cutting. Like sculpting. In contrast, a live show requires editing in-the-moment and pacing. More like music. Sometimes we slow down the question to get a better, louder answer.

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



Keith E. Simpson Associates

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
RESIDENTIAL DESIGN
PROJECT COORDINATION
LAND PLANNING



New Canaan Historical Society



203.966.7071

40+ Years of Civic, Residential, and Commercial Landscape Architecture in Fairfield County

Selectmen Appoint Interim Fire Chief, Narrow Food Truck Plan and Press for Answers on Waveny Elevator

The board moved briskly through much of its agenda, approving a series of routine items – infrastructure work, contracts and seasonal planning – but the meeting’s character emerged in three areas: leadership at the fire department, the boundaries of commercial activity in public parks and a growing frustration over delays to the long-running Waveny elevator project.

The most unifying moment came with the unanimous appointment of William Perritt as interim fire chief. Human Resources Director Cheryl Jones outlined a year of internal improvements – from training revisions to stronger communication within the department – and pointed to visible support in the room from firefighters themselves.

Selectmen responded less as policymakers and more as stewards of institutional continuity. Amy Murphy Carroll praised Perritt’s “confidence”

and adaptability during what several described as a difficult period, while First Selectman Dionna Carlson called him “a consistent presence.” The appointment, expected to last three to six months, was approved without hesitation.

If that vote reflected consensus, the discussion over food trucks in Waveny Park revealed something closer to philosophical tension. A request tied to youth lacrosse events sought approval for food trucks on four Friday evenings. By the end of the conversation, the board approved just one date – May 29 – effectively transforming a recurring proposal into a pilot.

The debate was not about logistics so much as identity. Carlson voiced concern about drawing revenue away from local businesses, noting that outside vendors could “take away sales from local merchants and restaurants.” Murphy Carroll warned of incremental change, saying she would not want

Waveny to resemble a place with “truck after truck.”

Steve Karl, for his part, framed the issue as one of precedent. A single approval, he suggested, could quickly expand across sports programs and age groups. What emerged was a familiar New Canaan compromise – cautious experimentation paired with a reluctance to set a broader precedent.

The board also approved several capital and maintenance items, including \$12,000 for graffiti removal at Talmadge Hill Train Station, \$16,200 for platform repairs, and \$80,689.50 for an accessible ramp and stairs at the Nature Center’s education building.

Yet the meeting’s emotional center came during an extended update on the Waveny House elevator project – a project that has stretched across years, budgets and expectations. What began as a technical update quickly became something else: a conversation about trust.

Selectman Karl articulated the concern most directly.

“We can all handle bad news... it’s just way better to get the bad news ahead of time,” he said, expressing frustration that earlier assurances about the project timeline had proven overly optimistic.

The current timeline has slipped significantly, with completion now projected toward early summer after earlier expectations pointed to spring. Board members pressed for clarity not only on schedule, but on financial exposure, noting that only a limited contingency remained.

Carlson questioned whether the remaining funds would be sufficient and suggested that earlier transparency might have led to different decisions, including how the building’s use was scheduled during construction. The concern was not simply delay, but the pattern of reassurance followed by revision – a rhythm that, over time,

erodes confidence.

In response, town officials cited a range of complications, from manufacturing issues to installation errors that required rework. They emphasized that many risks had now been resolved, but stopped short of guaranteeing that no additional funds would be needed.

The board ultimately called for more frequent and detailed updates – a procedural step, but also a signal. In a town where governance often runs on trust and familiarity, the expectation is not perfection, but candor.

And so the meeting closed much as it had unfolded – with decisions made, but also with something less tangible hanging in the air. Not disagreement, exactly, but a reminder that even in a place defined by order, the hardest work is often not building things, but maintaining confidence in how they are built.

Downtown Parking Lot Paving Brings Temporary Closures

Town officials announced that paving work at the Park Street and Playhouse parking lots is underway as part of an effort to improve downtown traffic flow. According to the Town of New Canaan, the Playhouse Lot, directly behind the Playhouse Theater, is closed Thursday, April 23, and Friday, April 24, while the upper Park Street Lot is scheduled to close Monday, April 27, and Tuesday, April 28. The town’s parking notice directs drivers to alternate lots on Elm Street, South Avenue, Main Street, Cherry Street, the Playhouse Lot and Richmond Hill Lot, depending on the day of the closure, and notes that paid parking is suspended at certain locations during the work, though existing time limits remain in effect. Town officials said weather-related extensions or other schedule changes will be posted through the red alert box on the town website.

Playhouse/Park Street Lots Paving Info

DATE	WHAT	ALTERNATE PARKING LOCATIONS
THURSDAY April 23	Playhouse Lot closed for new paving project	Park Street Lot
FRIDAY April 24	Playhouse Lot closed for new paving project	Park Street Lot
MONDAY April 27	Park Street Lot closed for new paving project	Elm St*, South Ave*, Main St, Cherry St, Playhouse Lot, Richmond Hill Lot
TUESDAY April 28	Park Street Lot closed for new paving project	Elm St*, South Ave*, Main St, Cherry St, Playhouse Lot, Richmond Hill Lot

- If weather or other factors extend the project, all updates will be communicated via the red alert box on the homepage: www.newcanaan.info
- Pedestrian access may be limited during this time. Please find an alternate route.
- *Paid parking suspended during this time. All existing time limits will be enforced.



Western Red Cedar Approx 120' in height

Our thanks to Robert W. Cook for sending in this striking photograph of the towering Western red cedar beside his South Avenue home, a tree he says he has been told rises to about 120 feet and may well be among the tallest in New Canaan. Mr. Cook’s note to the Sentinel did more than identify a remarkable specimen. It offered the seed of a fine community idea: inviting readers to share the great trees of town and the stories attached to them. We are grateful to him for both the image and the prompt. A tree like this does not merely occupy a yard; it gives shape, scale and memory to a place, and Mr. Cook was right to suggest that New Canaan’s most impressive trees deserve their own notice. Thank you, Mr. Cook, for helping us look up.

See us online at www.NewCanaanSentinel.com

HOYT'S HERE®
Hoyt Livery
(203) 966-LIMO (5466)

Book our world class limosines, car services, and airport transportation.

Reserve online at HoytLivery.com
Or call our client management team 24/7
(800) 342-0343

Inside New Canaan's Wastewater System

By JOHN KRIZ

What happens after you flush?

Whether you're on the town's sewer line or have a septic system, it all ends up at New Canaan's Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Situated on the Fivemile River by the Transfer Station, the plant was built in the 1960s, with a major upgrade in 1999. Prior to that there were sand filters on the site. According to plant superintendent Nick Colabella, the waste water "went on a big open field full of sand, and the water would sink through and the paper and debris would stay on the top." That debris would later be scraped off and burned in the incinerators that used to operate at the Transfer Station.

Today it's all different, with a modern facility capable of processing several hundred thousand gallons of waste water a day – every day.

Why is this important? Because waste water never stops. Toilets, dishwashers, sinks, washing machines, tubs, showers all pour into the system 24/7/365. And all that influent needs to be processed, the water cleansed, and the solids disposed of.

(Those with septic systems periodically have their tanks pumped out, and the 'honey wagon' dumps the contents at the plant for processing.)

Sewer Types

According to town engineer Maria Coplit P.E., New Canaan has two types of sewer: 1) Sanitary Sewer (which is where things go when you flush, the first pipes having been installed in 1907) and 2) Storm Sewer, which handles run-off from rain and snowmelt. In total, there are 900+ manholes in the sanitary sewer system, and 30+ miles of pipes, this system covering only the more central sections of New Canaan.

New Canaan has both systems, and they are distinct systems. In some older cities, the two are tied together, which creates volume challenges for processing the water – assuming it gets processed.

You generally find storm sewer openings along the curbs in streets, whereas sanitary sewers tend to run under the center of streets, with houses and businesses ('laterals' in sewer-speak) tapping into those sewer lines.

The water from storm sewers flows into streams, ponds and wetlands, much of it eventually reaching Long Island Sound. Water in storm sewers is not treated, even though it does contain some pollutants, such as animal feces, fertilizers, pesticides, and dripped oils from vehicles.

The idea, says Ms. Coplit, whose office is responsible for storm water

management, is to try to mimic natural, pre-development conditions. Rain still fell and snow still melted hundreds of years ago, and went somewhere: ponds, streams, swales and wetlands. New Canaan has six watersheds, the Fivemile River being the most important. Though much earth has been moved around in New Canaan since then, the town's stormwater management system still utilizes all those endpoints (plus some more modern tools) to absorb or manage runoff, with the goal that properties should be designed so as to absorb water on site, and avoid the storm sewer system.

Intense Storms

One of the challenges the town faces in managing water runoff is more intense storms, with the volume of water sometimes infiltrating the sanitary sewer system. This creates problems.

Faced with this challenge, a few years ago the town began an analysis of the best ways to manage it.

One tool is replacing sanitary sewer system perforated manhole covers (of which there are many) with ones without perforations to help keep all that heavy rain runoff from infiltrating the sanitary system. This challenge is exacerbated when the storm sewer gets overwhelmed, and there is 'ponding' in streets.

Ms. Coplit notes that some venting is needed in the sanitary sewer system, with methane being one of the gases the sanitary sewer system produces. However, that venting is concentrated at high points in the system, where gasses accumulate, so perforated manhole covers will still be found there.

Not all manholes are part of the sanitary sewer system. Some are part of the stormwater sewer system and some are for utilities, such as electricity.

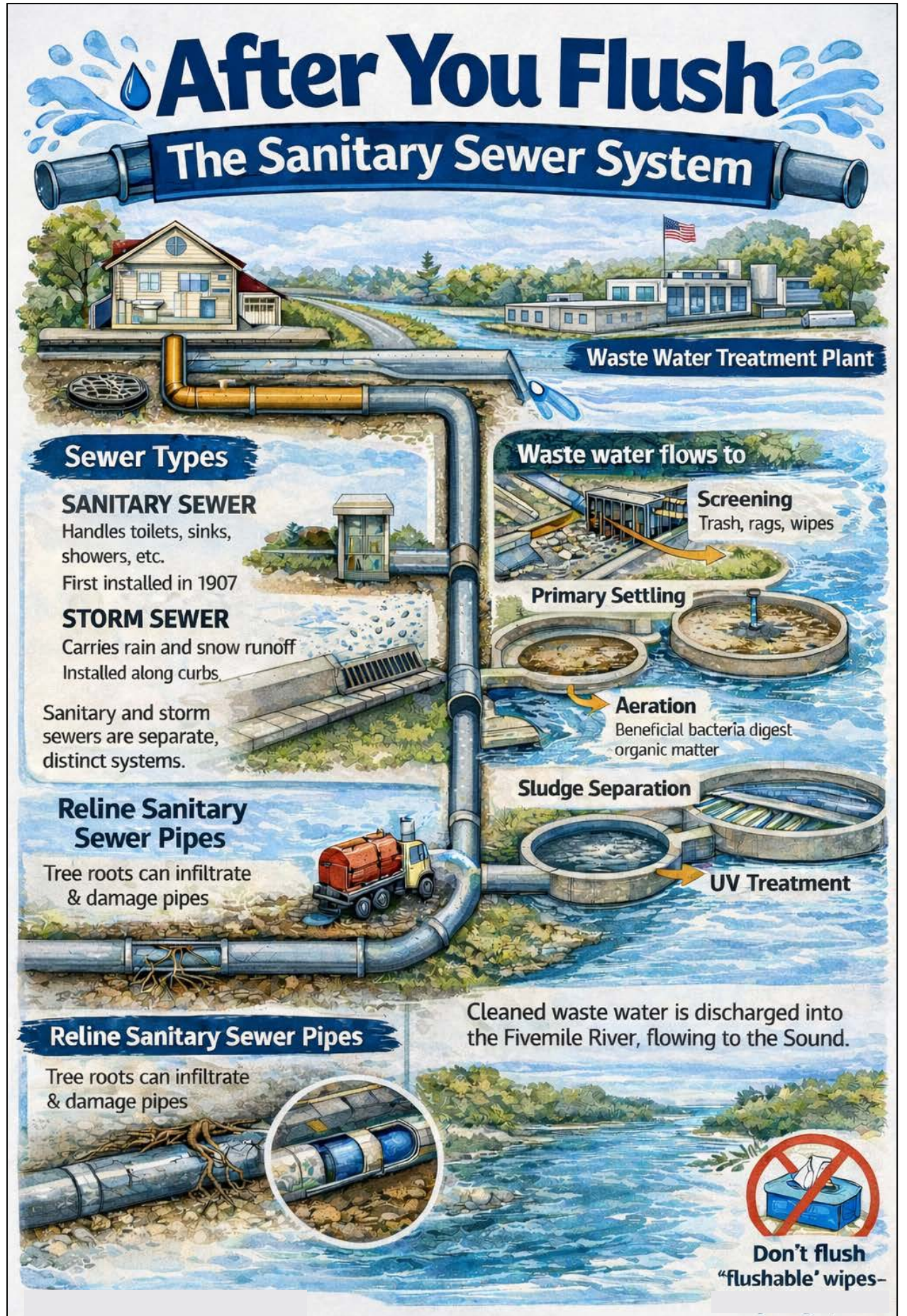
Relining Sanitary Sewer Pipes

The joints connecting lengths of sanitary sewer pipe can attract tree roots, which slowly infiltrate the pipes, causing cracks, leakage, groundwater infiltration and obstructions – obstructions that get exacerbated by sticks, paper and those 'flushable wipes' that get caught by the roots.

"The sanitary system is food for trees," notes Tiger Mann, Director of Public Works.

Furthermore, it's much more likely that tree roots will be a problem for homeowners because the town's pipes run under streets, far from trees, observes Ms. Coplit. The sewer pipe from a house to the street coupling is the homeowner's responsibility, and those pipes tend to be near, if not under, trees.

Homeowners might consider



It takes about 16-20 days for the plant to process influent, with the treated water flowing into the Fivemile River.

periodic inspections, and cleaning, of their sewer connections to reduce the possibility of clogs. Once a clog takes hold, it tends to get worse and worse. No one wants toilet back-ups.

For the town, a solution to roots, age and heavy storms is to reline the sewer pipes.

"The relining gives better integrity

to the interior of the pipe," notes Ms. Coplit, extending its lifetime. Any roots that found their way in get eliminated. Fluid flows more easily, which helps prevent solids from settling and causing obstructions, and the relining strengthens the pipe and seals those root-attracting joints.

But even with relined pipes,

'flushable' wipes and other debris can still get caught in manhole shoulders and pump stations, impairing system efficiency and boosting costs to clean the debris out. Best not to flush them. The same goes for feminine products.

Water Types

Think potable (drinkable) water,

**SWAPPING
OUT YOUR
WINTER
WARDROBE?**

**CLEAN & PROTECT
CLOTHING PRIOR
TO STORING.**

**PICK UP & DELIVERY
CALL 203-229-0001**

FABRICARE
-MORE THAN JUST A DRY CLEANER-

203-229-0001 | fabricarecleaners.net

**Town of New Canaan
Shred Day
394 Main St.**



April 25, 2026

8am to 1pm

**No 3 ring Binders No metal clips
No computer media No plastic
covers**

grey water and black water.

Potable water is straightforward enough. It's either naturally clean – such as much water from wells or reservoirs -- or has been sanitized. Grey water is waste water from, say, a shower. It can be used for washing a car or flushing a toilet. Black water is what comes from a flushed toilet, and it needs to be processed. Some green buildings have grey water systems that route water from showers and roofs into toilet flushing and other uses to reduce water waste and pressure on waste water treatment plants.

Water from sump pumps should not flow into the sanitary or storm sewer systems. Ms. Coplit recommends flows be directed to landscaped areas. Water from swimming pools can be discharged into the storm sewer at the end of the season, provided that chlorine levels are below a specific minimum.

WPCA

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is the town body that, per its website, “may establish and revise rules and regulations as allowed by §7-247 of the Connecticut General Statutes, including without limitation rules and regulations for the supervision, management, control, operation and use of sewerage systems in the Town of New Canaan.”

The town's Board of Finance has been designated as the WPCA. In effect, the two are comprised of the same people, but they have different powers depending on whether they are seated as the Board of Finance or the WPCA. The WPCA also sets sewer use fees for those houses and businesses connected to the sanitary sewer, as well as septic dump fees.

The fees received are kept in a distinct fund, and used to finance the sanitary sewer system and waste water treatment plant to make them self-sustaining.

Processing Waste Water

The Waste Water Treatment Plant's intake is from a big pipe that runs under Main Street – the final collector. Most of the sanitary (and storm) sewer system is gravity-driven, though there are three pump stations for the sanitary sewer. Why gravity? It's proven technology, works 24/7/365 and is free.

It takes about 16-20 days for the plant to process influent, with the treated water flowing into the Fivemile River. Its source is near the New York State line, and it empties into Long Island Sound in Rowayton.

As noted in New Canaan's Plan of Conservation & Development, “Fivemile River is the only impaired waterbody within the Town. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) first classified the Fivemile River as impaired in 2010, and it remains so today due to its inability to support aquatic life and recreational uses. According to DEEP, the water quality impairment is most likely due to stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution sources, such as farms, golf courses, and residential yards (fertilizers).”

Processing influent takes longer in the winter because the microscopic bugs that naturally flock to the influent and help breakdown and eat the organic matter and chemicals are less active when it's cold. In addition, very high temperatures reduce dissolved oxygen in the waste water, which also impairs the bugs.

Testing of water discharged into the Fivemile River is continuous. “We have to test for these things every day: Nitrogen, ammonia, phosphorus, zinc -- they're all tested on a daily basis,” says Mr. Colabella. Any violation of state or federal standards results in a fine, with the fines continuing until the problem has been fixed. He further notes that “we've never been fined by the state.” Some fines can run to \$25,000/day, and even include jail time. In addition, the plant has received several awards from the Environmental Protection Agency over the years.

Mr. Colabella also remarks that, “four times a year we do toxicity testing where we test the metals and basically everything in the waste water.” The plant has its own on-site lab.

A waste water treatment plant's health record affects the likelihood of obtaining state or federal grants for new equipment and upgrades. Says Ms. Coplit, “we're proud of our clean record, and want to maintain our clean record in order to be able to make ourselves available” for funding opportunities.

The plant's operating permit



Waste Water Plant Superintendent Nick Colabella at the board in the facility where everything is constantly tracked.



Waste Water Plant Superintendent Nick Colabella at the carousel tanks, one of the steps where waste water is processed and cleaned.



Waste Water Plant Superintendent Nick Colabella at the end of the line: The pipe from which cleansed water is discharged into the Fivemile River.

from the state lasts only five years, and the current permit expires in June. The renewal application has been submitted, and awaits state approval. The renewal could result in new mandates regarding mitigation of additional elements in the water, or tighter standards for mitigation of elements currently required.

All plant workers must be trained and certified to work there. Mr. Colabella has the highest level of certification.

As well, all of the plant's systems have back-ups. It's a bit like NASA: Failure is not an option.

Once the influent enters the plant, the first step is to screen out things like sticks, rocks and hair, which are mixed with municipal waste and shipped out. This leaves small particles, waterborne chemicals such as soap residue, and human waste in the influent.

A chemical is added to the influent to control its pH so that it maintains a proper acidic/alkaline level.

In the next step the influent flows into carousel tanks – shaped like a winding river – which aerate the liquid “like an egg beater,” says Mr. Colabella. This helps keep the bugs alive and active. Round and round

the influent flows, letting the bugs do their thing: consuming and breaking down the organic matter. This process maintains a proper oxygen level in the influent, and helps convert ammonia into nitrogen.

The influent then goes into an air-free chamber, where the bugs consume the oxygen in the influent, converting it to nitrogen gas, which is vented into the atmosphere. Ammonia, which is generated by the organic waste, is also converted into nitrogen gas here, and vented. Another chemical is added to take the phosphorus out. (Ammonia in water kills fish. Nitrogen and phosphorus create algae blooms. When the algae dies it sucks the oxygen out of the water, killing fish.)

The influent then goes into round clarifier tanks that are gently stirred. Each clarifier tank is really two tanks, with a smaller, round one in the center, the coagulated solid matter – sludge – falls to the bottom and is pumped out, thickened, separated and shipped out for processing into such things as Milorganite fertilizer. With the constant addition of more influent, the clearer water on top spills over the edge of the smaller, central tank into the bigger tank in which it sits, and the process repeats, with the even clearer

water, in turn, spilling over the edge of the larger tank. It is then transferred to the last step.

That last step is ultra-violet (UV) treatment as a final polishing. The clear, cleansed water is then discharged into the Fivemile River.

“That [UV treatment] is done to such a high level because of the Fivemile, because we are the receiving waters so that we don't impact any of the ecosystems that are immediately downstream of us, or furthermore into the Sound,” says Ms. Coplit. “So at that point, while I'm not going to put a cup out there and drink it, it is safe for the environment. It's safe for the ecosystem.” Mr. Mann says, “we don't consider [processed water from the water treatment plant discharged into the Fivemile River] potable, but it's beyond grey.”

The UV system, while fully functional, is 20+ years old, and is in process of being replaced and modernized.

And that's it!

Concludes Mr. Mann, “I think it's a good thing that nobody knows -- in essence that everyone just kind of flushes the toilet and it goes away and no one hears about it. It almost means that we're doing our job.”

What Can't Be Removed

Despite best efforts, some things in waste water cannot be removed, given current technology. What are they?

One such example is PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) – so-called ‘Forever Chemicals.’ According to the EPA:

- PFAS are widely used, long lasting chemicals, components of which break down very slowly over time.
- Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world and are present at low levels in a variety of food products and in the environment.
- Scientific studies have shown that exposure to some PFAS in the environment may be linked to harmful health effects in humans and animals.

But PFAS are not the only waste water health challenge. Pharmaceuticals – excreted by humans, or pills flushed down a toilet or put into the trash and then landfills, later leaching into ground water – are an EPA concern, too.

The EPA says that “while POTWs [publicly owned treatment works] may remove some pharmaceuticals incidentally, many pass through and enter the environment because POTWs are not designed to remove pharmaceuticals. While some POTWs may have implemented advanced treatment technologies, even these technologies are not specifically designed to remove pharmaceuticals.”

In early April Health & Human Services Secretary Kennedy issued a draft rule to include pharmaceuticals, PFAS, microplastics and several other items on its Contaminant Candidate List, which “drives research, funding, and future decisions on regulating emerging threats in public water systems.”

Mr. Colabella says that “I've reached out to a few different plants and nobody is testing for pharmaceuticals at the moment, but it can always be an up and coming thing. They're changing limits all the time.” Mr. Mann adds, “there are certain things that we cannot remove,” citing pharmaceuticals and PFAS. Ms. Coplit comments that, “if there is some technology in the future that comes out that can help remove some of these forever chemicals, it can't be at a zero. We're never going to be at a zero, but so what is the acceptable threshold? And that will have to be guidance that's given to us.”

Safety Tips

- Don't put ‘flushable’ wipes or feminine products down the toilet. They can clog sewer pipes, including leach fields in septic systems. And pipes include the sewer pipe from your house to the main sewer line. Maintaining that is the homeowner's responsibility, and repairing or replacing it is an expensive hassle. As well, two words you never want to hear in the same sentence are ‘Septic Problem.’ Be sure to use toilet paper marked ‘Septic Safe’ if you have a septic system.
- Do not dispose of pharmaceuticals down the toilet, or put them in the trash, as they can cause environmental damage. As noted, pharmaceuticals are difficult, if not impossible, to remove from waste water given current technology, and pharmaceuticals in landfills eventually leach into ground water. There is a free, no questions asked, 24/7/365 drug disposal box at the police station.
- Do not dump waste into storm sewers. That water is not treated, and goes into streams, wetlands and Long Island Sound.
- Take caution on the fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and fungicides you use on your property, because they will run off and enter water systems.
- If you live near a storm sewer, be a good citizen and keep it clear of debris. Clogged intakes result in flooding.
- Most all of the influent at the treatment plant is water. So running your water needlessly – wasting water – not only costs you, but puts more pressure on the plant. Conserve. Don't assume the aquifer feeding your well is infinite.

CONNECTICUT'S AUTHORITY IN TICK CONTROL.



Serving New Canaan for nearly a decade.



(888) 910-8425

www.TickControlllc.com

A Shared Legacy of Beauty in New Canaan

How the Beautification League and New Canaan Garden Club shape the town—together

The town of New Canaan is home to a remarkable tradition of civic beauty and horticultural excellence, thanks in large part to the dedicated efforts of two organizations: the New Canaan Beautification League and the New Canaan Garden Club. While both groups share a commitment to enhancing the town's natural and visual appeal, they do so in distinct and complementary ways—and both work closely with the Town of New Canaan, whose partnership is essential to bringing many of these projects to life. If you've ever wondered which group is responsible for what—or assumed they're the same—you're not alone.

The New Canaan Beautification League (NCBL) is a nonprofit community service and educational organization. Founded in 1939 to beautify the community and give its members opportunities to deepen their knowledge of gardening, conservation, and horticulture, the League has remained dedicated for decades to enhancing the town's beauty. Although the New Canaan Garden Club had already been established decades earlier, NCBL was created to serve a different purpose—bringing together a broader group of volunteers to take on hands-on civic projects and make a visible impact across public spaces. Membership is open to everyone, regardless of gardening experience, making it an accessible way to get involved. Members enjoy fun, educational programs—from flower arranging to garden history and practical gardening tips.

Today, NCBL focuses on the places everyone sees every day. From the train station to Town Hall planters, and Lee Garden to the Gold Star Walk at Mead Park, their work is woven into daily life. They've also taken on major projects, including South Avenue tree plantings, school landscaping, improvements at the Lapham Community Center, the new police station, the Schoolhouse Apartments, and so much more. Their "Traveling Trowels" team jumps in wherever help is needed—planting, weeding, and refreshing spaces across town—with a focus on planting natives that attract bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

Some of the Beautification League's most visible work happens right downtown. Each summer, more than 225 hanging baskets line Elm, Main, and Forest Streets—a project that started small in 2009 and has become a signature of New Canaan. This year, the baskets feature a selection of red, white, and blue flowers to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary. Members also adopt and care for more than 30 traffic triangles, keeping them colorful through every season. Some of the triangles are lovely

little gems, and others, like the newly redesigned garden at North Wilton and Bald Hill Roads, are larger gardens that feature a variety of native plantings. The League, entirely volunteer- and donation-driven, has contributed more than \$500,000 over the past decade toward beautification projects across New Canaan.

The New Canaan Garden Club (NCGC) was founded in 1909 with the mission "to stimulate the love of gardening among its members and the members of the community, to promote conservation and to encourage civic planning and beautification". It is a private, non-profit organization with 150 members and a strong emphasis on civic projects, horticulture, conservation, floral design, garden and landscape design, education, natural photography, and more. It is a member of the Garden Club of America, under whose umbrella it has access to and collaborates with approximately 200 clubs across the country. While membership is limited to 150, NCGC's impact is seen throughout New Canaan in the gardens and parks it beautifies and nurtures, the work it does with Waveny Care Center through the Horticulture Therapy Program, Flowers on Wheels deliveries to the Inn and with the delivery of Tray Touches, small arrangements that go to Meals on Wheels clients and residents of the Inn four times each year.

To view the New Canaan Garden Club members at work, drop by Waveny Park from April to October and take a stroll along the Peony Walk, view the Parterre Garden, and relax in the stunning Walled Garden. Each spring, enjoy the gorgeous daffodil display at Irwin Park, with over 50,000 daffodils planted to date; walk the Flexipave path; visit the newly renovated Mushroom Garden; and stop by the Native Meadow being created to inhibit invasives. When you visit the NC Museum & Historical Society, be sure to stop by the Colonial Herb Garden, a living classroom of herbs and plants grown by New Canaan's first settlers, which is maintained by NCGC members.

For the past 20 years, the New Canaan Garden Club has developed, led, and implemented beautification projects at Irwin Park in collaboration with the Town. In 2025, NCGC created the Friends of Irwin Park fundraising initiative to lead the Irwin Restoration Project. Funds raised go directly to removing invasive species, planting natives, and ensuring that Irwin Park remains a place of natural beauty and community pride for generations to come.

What makes the impact of these two groups even greater is the work they share. Each year, members of both entities join together to create the holiday



Waveny Walled Garden

"Together, these two organizations shape both the beauty and the spirit of New Canaan. Each promotes horticultural knowledge, environmental awareness, and meaningful community connection, while contributing in distinct ways to the care of the town's landscapes."

greens seen throughout town—wreaths on public buildings and the whimsical gnomes that have become a seasonal favorite. These decorations are made at a shared workshop, bringing together creativity, craftsmanship, and community spirit.

They also share a quieter but equally meaningful tradition: creating and delivering floral arrangements to residents at Waveny Care Center. Month after month, those flowers bring beauty, comfort, and connection to people who truly appreciate them.

Together, these two organizations shape both the beauty and the spirit of New Canaan. Each promotes horticultural knowledge, environmental awareness, and meaningful community connection, while contributing in distinct ways to the care of the town's landscapes. Together, the Beautification League and the Garden Club combine hands-on action and gardening expertise, united by a shared commitment to volunteerism and collaboration with the Town. In combination, they create a legacy that is not only seen in gardens and public spaces but also felt in the shared pride and community connection.

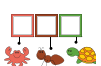
To learn more about each group or to become a member, visit www.newcanaanbeautification.org and <https://www.ncgardenclub.org/>



227 hanging baskets are brought to you each May by NCBL



SENTINEL FOUNDATION



GAMES AND PUZZLES



CROSSWORD PUZZLES



YOUR HOROSCOPE



WHAT TO DO: COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPOTLIGHT on FAMILIES

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Brought to you by the Sentinel Foundation and its generous donors.

POWERHOUSE THEATRE

IN WAVENY PARK

THE TOWN PLAYERS OF NEW CANAAN PRESENTS

A PSYCHOLOGICALLY IMMERSIVE PLAY THAT QUESTIONS WHAT'S REAL - AND HOW THAT MAKES YOU FEEL

SENTINEL READERS - EXCLUSIVE OFFER!
PROMO CODE: SENTINEL.2FOR1

THE FATHER

a tragic farce



MOLIÈRE AWARD WINNER BEST PLAY 2014

APRIL 24 - MAY 10

TPNC.ORG



Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

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

TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, April 27

[Charter Revision Commission Special Meeting](#)
4-6 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday, April 28

[Charter Revision Commission Meeting](#)
5-7 p.m., Town Hall

Friday, April 24

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.

Dink for Daffodils | A Pickleball

Fundraiser for Friends of Irwin Park
9:30 AM - 5:30 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan

Join for a lively day of pickleball in support of Friends of Irwin Park. Two hours of play are included for \$100/player. Spectators are welcome for \$50/person. Attendees will enjoy light refreshments and receive a commemorative cap. You are encouraged to wear bright, spring colors. There are three time slots available and the signup is at <https://www.ncgardenclub.org/dink-for-daffodils/>.

64th Annual Gridiron Dinner

6 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan
The Gridiron Club of New Canaan will honor Robert (Bob) Doran for his many years of service to the community. The event is open to the public, with tickets available at <https://gridironclubofnc.org/registration/>.

Opening Night of The Father

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. We never know what's true or real. Told with humor and empathy, and by shrewd manipulation, audiences are treated to a heart-wrenching glimpse of the despair of memory loss. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Saturday, April 25

Shred Day

8 AM- 1 PM at the Transfer Station, 394 Main Street

Shred Day is a service of the Town of New Canaan where people can bring their sensitive documents to be securely shredded to prevent identity theft and fraud by ensuring confidential information is destroyed. Prohibited Items: 3-ring binders, metal clips, computer media, and plastic covers.

Last Saturdays on the Trail: Wings & Wonders

9 AM at Bristow Bird Sanctuary
BYO Binoculars to spot peak migration activity! Look for bright breeding plumage and listen for high levels of birdsong, notice early blooming flora. Register at <https://shorturl.at/F4Lek>.

Prescription Drug Takeback Day

10 AM- 2 PM at the New Canaan Police Department
Cleanup your medicine cabinet of unneeded RX meds and dispose of them at the police department during Takeback Day.

Jazz Night with Michael Louis-Smith & Friends

7 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Attend Jazz night featuring Saxophonist Martin Kelley, Keys TW Sample, Bassist Diallo House, Guitarist Michael-Louis Smith, and Drummer Ismail Lawal. Tickets are \$35/advance tickets, \$40 at door, and available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/jazz-night/>.

The Father

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Sunday, April 26

The Father

2 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
The Father is a psychologically immersive

play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Immediately following the show, there will be a TALKBACK with cast, director, and special guests: Dr. Marco Michaels, psychiatrist with fellowship training in geriatric psychiatry, and Kathleen Benevento, Executive Director of Waveny's Navigator program. Arrive by 3:30pm. All are welcome. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Tang Elegance and Delight: Chinese Dance and Calligraphy

2:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Join for an immersive cultural experience that celebrates tradition, mentorship, and the next generation of artists. Step into the vibrant world of the Tang Dynasty (618–907), a golden age of cultural brilliance and artistic exchange. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/tang%20elegance-193498>.

Treetops Chamber Music Concert: Cassatt String Quartet with Oskar Espina Ruiz

4 PM at the Carriage Barn Arts Center
Attend the Treetops Chamber Music Concert featuring Cassatt String Quartet with Oskar Espina Ruiz. Tickets are available at <https://carriagebarn.org/event/treetops-cassatt-string-quartet/>.

Monday, April 27

Proactive College Admissions Planning: Better Outcomes, Greater Peace of Mind

6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Arlene H. Grushkin Children's Program Room
In this talk, Lindsay Tanne Howe, Founder & CEO of LogicPrep and a featured expert in Town & Country's list of top college admissions counselors, shares how early, intentional decision-making shapes a powerful and authentic application narrative. This program will include ample time for Q&A and is ideal for parents of middle and high school age children. Register at <https://shorturl.at/x29yC>.

An Evening with Author Colm Tóibín

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
The Library is pleased to present author Colm Tóibín for a special evening celebrating his latest work. Tóibín's new work, *The News from Dublin*, is a collection of nine short stories, many never-before-published. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-colm-toibin-183810/>.

Tuesday, April 28

Passive Cooling Revisited: Window Awnings as a Climate Strategy for Historic Buildings

5-7 PM at the Onera Foundation
Join for a presentation by preservation research fellow Anne Maxwell Foster. More information and tickets are available at <https://www.onerafoundation.org/events>.

Nonna Gracie Presents Her Cookbook

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Grace Geramita and her grandson Matt Gresia present *Sunday Dinner with Nonna Gracie: Traditional Italian Recipes for Gathering and Sharing*. They will demonstrate one of their cherished family recipes. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/nonna%20gracie-200505>.

Wednesday, April 29

Journey into the World of Tea | Black Teas

3 PM at Grace Farms
Explore the distinctions between major black teas and taste notable varietals, including examples of Darjeeling, Assam, Ceylon, Keemun, and Yunnan teas. Tickets are \$20/members, \$25/non-members, and available at gracefarms.org.

Yale Redhot & Blue Sing A Cappella

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Celebrate America 250 with the sounds of classic American jazz, together with newer sounds that chase the bounds of musical possibility. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/yale-red-hot-blue-singers>.

Thursday, April 30

Chess, Chats and Tech an Afternoon with Saint Luke's Students

2-4 PM at the Lapham Center
Join students from Saint Luke's for an

afternoon of fun, sharing and learning. Students will be on-hand to play chess, chat and provide tech support. Beverages and treats will be served. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

The Merritt: Masterpiece of Design and Planning Opening Reception and Lecture

6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
The Executive Director of the Merritt Parkway Conservancy will discuss the history of the Merritt Parkway's complex design and the Conservancy's role in preserving Connecticut's iconic landmark for the enjoyment of future generations. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/merritt-opening-lecture>.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, May 1

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.

Study Tour | Glass House + Marcel Breuer House

1 PM at the Glass House
Visit two important examples of mid-century residential architecture on a half-day study tour of the Glass House and the Marcel Breuer House. Tickets are \$100 and available at <https://theglasshouse.org/whats-on/glass-house-marcel-breuer-house/>.

Tacos & Tequila featuring Matthew Maynard, LMFT

6-8 PM at Rosie
Gather for tacos, tequila, and easy conversation featuring clinical expert and author Matthew Maynard, LMFT. Tickets available at <https://cfgc.salsalabs.org/rosietacosantequila/index.html>.

The Father

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Saturday, May 2

Planet New Canaan's Fix-It Café

By appointment at the Lapham Center
Planet New Canaan is hosting a "Fix-It Café" to repair, rather than discard, household items. Featuring repair stations for lamps, small appliances, electronics, small furniture, bikes, and clothing; providing free, expert, volunteer-led repairs. Free. You may register at: www.Planetnewcanaan.org/events.

Kentucky Derby Party

5:30 PM at the Inn at Waveny
Celebrate Derby-style with an evening of entertainment, prizes, and fun. All proceeds support The Inn at Waveny, New Canaan's Independent Living Community. Reserve your seat at <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/zob42i/event/2026kentuckyderby/>.

Next to Normal

7 PM at the New Canaan Library
With an electrifying pop/rock score and an honest, gut-wrenching script, Next to Normal explores how one suburban household copes with crisis and mental illness. Tickets are available at <https://www.connecticutstagecompany.org/tickets>.

The Father

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Sunday, May 3

Family Field Day

1-3 PM at the New Canaan YMCA, back field
Join Family Field Day featuring fun activities for the whole family including a relay race, water balloon toss, and more. Free and open to all ages in the community. Register at https://newcanaanymca.org/#start_date=2026-04-20.

Next to Normal

2 PM at the New Canaan Library
With an electrifying pop/rock score and an honest, gut-wrenching script, Next to Normal explores how one suburban household copes with crisis and mental illness. Tickets are available at <https://www>.

connecticutstagecompany.org/tickets.

The Father

2 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre
The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Immediately following the show, there will be a TALKBACK with cast, director, and special guests: Dr. Marco Michaels, psychiatrist with fellowship training in geriatric psychiatry, and Kathleen Benevento, Executive Director of Waveny's Navigator program. Arrive by 3:30pm. All are welcome. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Monday, May 4

Revolutionary Connecticut presented by the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History

11 AM at the Lapham Center
This presentation will draw from the Museum's rich collection of artifacts and documents to tell the story of the struggle for American independence through the eyes of ordinary citizens, and discuss the various ways Connecticut residents have commemorated our independence over the past 250 years. Coffee and treats will be served. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Tuesday, May 5

Dance On The Green: Classic Variations by NEAD Students

4:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Merrill Event Lawn
The students of New England Academy of Dance have been working diligently to prepare for the Youth American Grand Prix competition. Bring your own chair or blanket. Register at <https://shorturl.at/DKQDp>.

Wednesday, May 6

Let's Take a Trip to Spain with Marc Wollin

1 PM at the Lapham Center
Join for a tour of Spain and experience its culture and history with breathtaking photos of Moorish, Gothic and Gaudi architecture and stunning natural landscapes. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Trivia Night with Host Mike Bacon

5-7 PM at the Lapham Center
Test your knowledge and have some fun, you might even win a prize. Categories: Geography, History, Entertainment, People and Sports. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Thursday, May 7

NCNC Annual Lecture & Luncheon

11:30 AM- 2 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan
Join for the 9th Annual Lecture & Luncheon to benefit the New Canaan Nature Center. Kathryn Herman will be the featured speaker. Register at <https://newcanaannature.org/lecture-luncheon/>.

Lunch with a Purpose | Julie Wainwright

11:30 AM- 1 PM at Grace Farms
Join for an inspiring conversation and thoughtfully curated dining experience as Wainwright shares the story behind her groundbreaking success as Founder of The RealReal. Tickets include a copy of *Time to Get Real: How I Built a Billion-Dollar Business that Rocked the Fashion Industry* and are available at gracefarms.org.

May Fair | White Elephant Preview Party

5-7:30 PM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Sip, Shop, and Socialize with first pick of May Fair White Elephant Treasures: furniture, fine goods, rugs, housewares, lighting, jewelry, art, outdoor, toys, sporting goods and more. Silent auction items and experiences too. Tickets are available at <https://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/may-fair/>.

Free Medicare Counseling

By appointment at the Lapham Center
A CHOICES certified Medicare counselor, provides free information about Medicare options and related benefits. Available to New Canaan residents and Town employees. Call (203) 594-3620 to schedule an appointment.

Friday, May 8

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.

Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

Health Talks with Shannon and Ellen

11 AM at the Lapham Center Join Shannon and Ellen from the Health Department for conversation on various health topics. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

May Fair | Friday Night Lights

5-10 PM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Attend May Fair for midway rides, face painting, strawberry shortcake, and more. Friday Night wristbands are \$35 per bracelet. Bracelets are valid for Friday only with access to all Midway Rides. More information is available at <https://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/may-fair/>.

The Summer Theatre of New Canaan's 2026 Gala

6:30 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan Join for an evening celebrating 23 seasons of professional theatre, artistic excellence, and community impact. Featuring stars of Broadway's Jersey Boys, selections from this summer's Tony Award-winning Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical, and honoring Jeff and Nancy Serkes. Tickets are available at <https://stonc.org/gala/>.

The Father

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Saturday, May 9

May Fair
9 AM- 3 PM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Attend May Fair for midway rides, face painting, white elephant, Old Faithful Antique Fire Engine rides, and more. More information is available at <https://www.stmarksnewcanaan.org/may-fair/>.

The Father

7:30 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Sunday, May 10

The Father
2 PM at the Powerhouse Theatre The Father is a psychologically immersive play that uniquely puts the audience in the position of the main character, allowing us to experience his confusion as if it were our own. Tickets are available at tpnc.org with a two for one promo code for Sentinel Readers only, all performances: sentinel.2for1.

Tuesday, May 12

Rhyme and Recitation with Ned
10 AM at the Lapham Center Our resident orator and raconteur, Ned Monaghan, will regale us with some of the finest poetry and

prose from our country's two hundred and fifty year history. Commemorate the birth of the United States with this engaging recitation. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Wednesday, May 13

Spring Early Morning Walks with Frank Gallo
8:30-10 AM at the New Canaan Nature Center Meet Senior Naturalist Frank Gallo for bird walks. You'll be keeping track of and learning about the birds you see as the NCNC generates a database and new bird lists for Bristow Sanctuary and NCNC. Binoculars are available if needed. Free. Register at <https://newcanaannature.org/adult-birding/>.

Watch Hamilton, the Movie

4 PM at the Lapham Center Lin-Manuel Miranda's award-winning show blends hip-hop, R&B, pop, and traditional show tunes to tell the story of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton and his experiences. Pizza, salad and cookies will be served. Run time: 2 h 59 m. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Friday, May 15

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.

33rd Annual New Canaan CARES Home Tour

10 AM, location disclosed once you register Tour five exquisite homes in New Canaan with an exclusive Post Tour Party after. Tickets are available at <https://newcanaancares.org/hometour-3/>.

Saturday, May 16

ABC's Yacht Rock Bash
6:30-10:30 PM at the Country Club of New Canaan The event will feature cocktails, a seated dinner, live auction, and more. Table and sponsorships are now available at <https://e.givesmart.com/events/Nev/>.

Tuesday, May 19

Lunch & Learn with Tom Davies: 60 Years in the Art World. Stories, Lessons, Tips & Suggestions
12 PM at the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society Take a look into a 60 year pursuit navigating the sometimes bewildering but always fascinating world of American Art. This presentation will appeal where you are a collector, thinking about starting a collection or just love a good story grounded in real life experiences. Register at <https://shorturl.at/gTCGy>.

Wednesday, May 20

Spring Early Morning Walks with Frank Gallo
8:30-10 AM at the New Canaan Nature Center Meet Senior Naturalist Frank Gallo for bird walks. You'll be keeping track of and learning about the birds you see as the NCNC generates a database and new bird lists for Bristow Sanctuary and NCNC. Binoculars are available if needed. Free. Register at <https://newcanaannature.org/adult-birding/>.

Thursday, May 21

Sip and Paint
5-7 PM at the Lapham Center Unleash your inner artist and have some fun! Space is limited. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Bestselling Author Douglas Brunt Presents The Lost Empire of Emanuel Nobel

7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium *New York Times* bestselling author Douglas Brunt's new work of narrative nonfiction uncovers the riveting, little-known story of Nobel's towering achievements. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/douglas-brunt-199486>.

Free Medicare Counseling

By appointment at the Lapham Center A CHOICES certified Medicare counselor, provides free information about Medicare options and related benefits. Available to New Canaan residents and Town employees. Call (203) 594-3620 to schedule an appointment.

Friday, May 22

Breakfast BINGO
10 AM at the Lapham Center Join Aggie, Kathy and Steph for breakfast goodies, beverages, Bingo and spring themed prizes. \$10/person. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Wednesday, May 27

Learning From Columbus
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium Columbus, Indiana is one of the most architecturally significant small cities in the world, and a model for other modernist communities like New Canaan to consider. Learn how for seventy years, Columbus has proved that design excellence is not a matter of taste, but a civic discipline. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-glass-house-presents-196972>.

Saturday, May 30

Historic Grainger House + Peony Garden Tour
1 & 2:30 PM with parking at West School, 769 Ponus

Ridge Road The Glass House will, for the first time, open the 1783 Grainger House and its celebrated peony and iris garden for public tours. The house sits on one of New Canaan's earliest registered land parcels and was originally known as the Finch House, named for the early New Canaan family who farmed the land. Tickets are \$20 and available at <https://theglasshouse.org/whats-on/historic-grainger-house-peony-garden-tour/>.

Thursday, June 4

Staying Put in New Canaan's Summer Soirée
6-8:30 PM at Waveny House Every dollar raised directly supports Staying Put's mission to help older New Canaan residents live confidently at home while staying active, connected, and engaged in the community. Tickets are \$100/person and available at <https://stayingputnc.org/summer-soiree/>.

Saturday, June 6

The Summer Party
12-4 PM at the Glass House The Glass House Summer Party is a gathering for individuals across art, architecture, design, fashion, philanthropy, and more. Guests explore the iconic grounds while enjoying curated food and drink, live performance, and a silent auction. Proceeds support the preservation and programming of this Modernist landmark. Tickets are available at <https://theglasshouse.org/whats-on/the-summer-party-2026/>.

Summer Kickoff Concert with Marcus Miller and IWM

5 PM at Grace Farms Join for a summer concert featuring Marcus Garrick Miller, a celebrated composer, saxophonist, and curator whose work spans jazz, performance, and creative collaboration. Tickets are \$32/members, \$40/non-members, and available at <https://shorturl.at/FxQ8u>.

Groove on the Green Disco

6-9 PM at the New Canaan Library, Merrill Event Lawn Join for a free music and

dance party under the stars featuring DJ Lucas Walters. A food truck will be on-site. Register at <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/groove-green-disco>.

Sunday, June 7

Pops In the Park
6-8 PM in Waveny Park Bring your blanket, chair and picnic and come enjoy an evening of patriotic songs featuring The Norwalk Symphony Orchestra.

Saturday, June 27

NC250 Parade
9:30 AM from South Avenue to NCHS The parade is part of the town's 250th Independence Day celebration.

BLOOD DRIVE Tuesday, April 28

Saint Mark's Church 111 Oenoke Ridge Road New Canaan, CT 06840 1:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Support Services & Meetings

Friday, May 15

Suicide Prevention Training: Question, Persuade and Refer
11 AM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room Those trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. This training will certify you as a QPR gatekeeper which will position you to recognize and refer someone at risk of suicide. Register at <https://shorturl.at/EuNig>.

Every Friday

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

Every Saturday

AA Meeting-Sober Citizens Group
Saturdays at 9:15 AM First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan
AA Meeting-Laundry and Dry Cleaning Group
Saturdays at 10:30 AM First Presbyterian Church of

New Canaan

Lost Then Found NA Meeting

Wheelchair Accessible Saturdays at 7 PM United Methodist Church (back entrance)

Every Monday

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

Adult Child Al-Anon Meeting

Mondays at 12 PM St. Mark's Church, Youth Room

Every Tuesday

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

Every Wednesday

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

Al-Anon Parent's & Newcomer's Mtg.

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM Silver Hill, Jorgenson House 208 Valley Rd., New Canaan

Every Thursday

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

New Canaan Parent Support Group

7- 8:30 PM St. Mark's Episcopal Church New Canaan

OUR NEIGHBORS

Saturday, May 16

Brad Mehldau Trio with: Felix Moseholm & Jorge Rossy
8 PM at the Ridgefield Playhouse One of the most lyrical and intimate voices of contemporary jazz piano, Brad Mehldau has forged a unique path, which embodies the essence of jazz exploration, classical romanticism and pop allure. Tickets are available at ridgefieldplayhouse.org.

Free Local Delivery
Knowledgeable Staff
In-Store Wine Tasting

FRANCOS

130 Elm Street, New Canaan CT 203 966 9571 FrancosWine.com Since 1933



**TANKS
of GAS**

**Because behind
every daily commute
is a working parent
struggling with the
cost of living.**

**What would
\$600/child
mean for
YOUR
family?**



Sudoku for Kids

3		1	
2		4	
	2		1
1		2	

	2	4	
1		3	
	3		4
	1	2	

	3	1	
	4		2
	2	4	1
4			

	3	4	
1			3
	2	1	
4		3	

SUDOKU

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

Easy

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

Hard

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

Very Hard

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

Easy

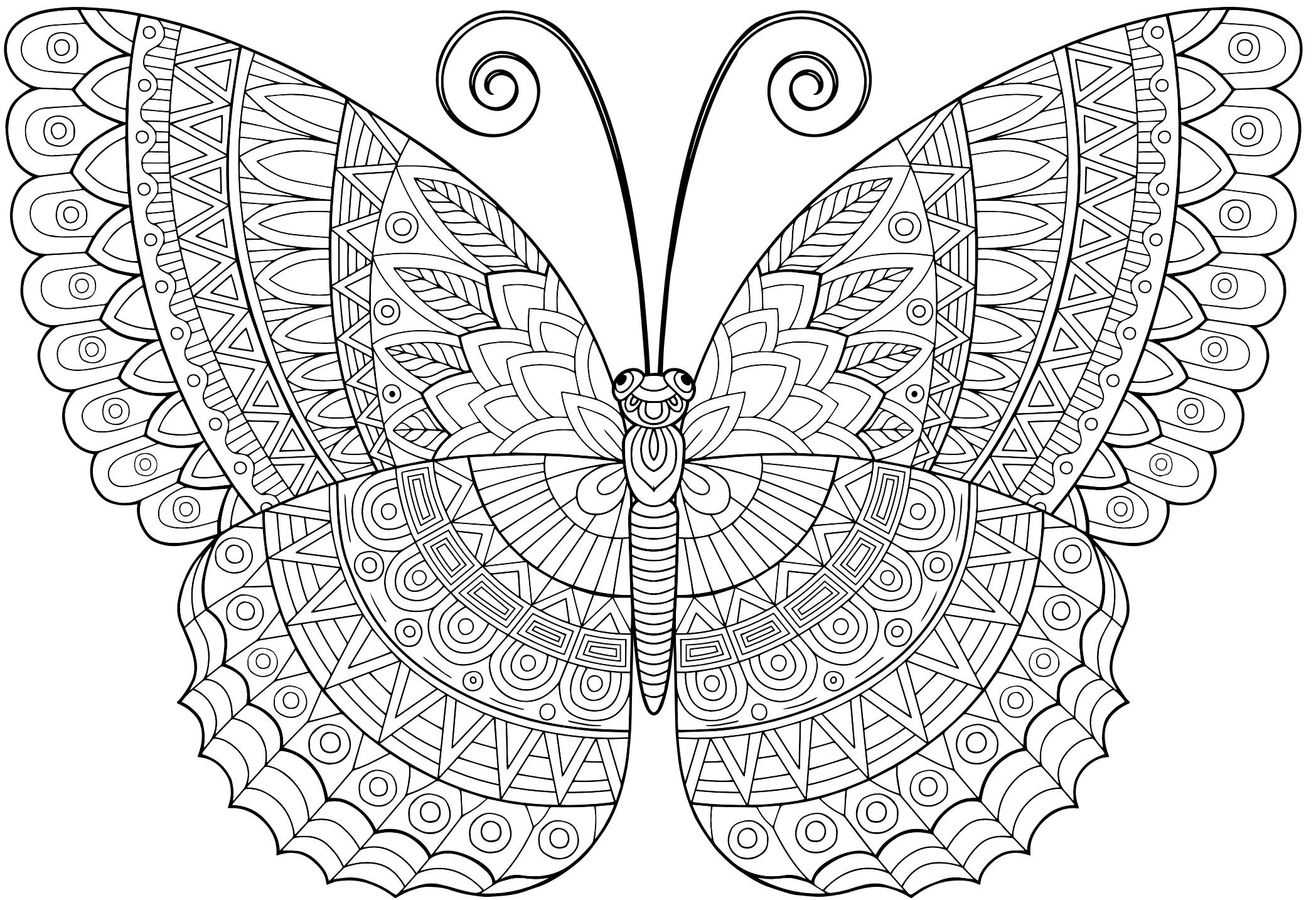
8	3				4			
		6		1				
	1	2			5		9	
6			3	8				
			9		4			
				7	6			5
	9		2			5	8	
			4		6			
		3				1	2	

Hard

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

Very Hard

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



Sudoku answers

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

Bottom row - Very Hard

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

Bottom row - Hard

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

Bottom row - Easy

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

Top row - Very Hard

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

Top row - Hard

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

Top row - Easy

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 Island near Java
- 5 Study frantically
- 9 Exchange
- 13 Big biblical baddie
- 14 Dance at a luau
- 15 Biblical pronoun
- 16 *Career in locomotives?
- 18 Site with lists of top restaurants
- 19 Smoke or fog, e.g.
- 20 "Come to my office"
- 22 Pinot ___ (white wine grape)
- 23 "___ Miz"
- 25 Isolates, in business speak
- 28 Smidgen
- 30 Appreciating the humor of
- 33 Older partner?
- 36 Crow
- 37 University leader
- 38 Mathematician Lovelace
- 39 *Land on the starting space in Monopoly?
- 42 Theater chain with a Nicole Kidman campaign
- 43 "Cast Away" vessel
- 45 Berry that's a superfood
- 46 Book of maps
- 48 Everything, in a pizza order

- 50 Slide down the bunny hill, say
- 51 "How tragic"
- 52 ___ tai
- 54 Cologne aroma
- 58 Sports analyst Shaquille
- 61 Biblical Doesn't end soon enough
- 63 It can be shameless
- 65 *Gathering spot at a carnival?
- 67 RADIUS or ulna, e.g.
- 68 Measure of land
- 69 Join forces
- 70 Country singer Wynonna
- 71 You ___ what you sow
- 72 Hannah's middle name?

DOWN

- 1 More naked
- 2 Frogger console
- 3 Fashion brand with a crocodile logo
- 4 Tattoo parlor supplies
- 5 Santiago's country
- 6 McClanahan of "The Golden Girls"
- 7 "___ Well That Ends Well"
- 8 Cooked up
- 9 Thwarted
- 10 *Good price on a tire?
- 11 "You've got mail" co.

- 12 Baby otter
- 13 Without a date
- 17 Step when making a paper airplane
- 21 Snaky curve
- 24 Roasts are filled with it
- 26 "The Light We Carry" author Michelle
- 27 Coordinates, as tech devices
- 29 Gallery contents
- 31 When repeated, a tropical fish
- 32 Comfy boot brand
- 33 Facial features for a witch costume
- 34 The Gem State
- 35 *Faint click while turning a dial?

- 36 Dollar
- 40 What a rower holds
- 41 "Mighty" tree
- 44 Sounded like a doorstop spring
- 47 Fashion guru of "Project Runway" fame
- 49 Uplifting poem
- 50 Knighted fellows
- 53 Madison Ave. salesperson
- 55 Sprinter Bolt
- 56 Ish
- 57 Joint above a shin
- 59 At a distance
- 60 Frilly fabric
- 62 Oceanic hue
- 63 Sandwich with two spreads, in brief
- 64 Classic comedian Costello
- 66 Roth ___

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

7/26 © 2023 Andrews McMeel Universal www.upuzzles.com

7/27

And ... It's Gone by Adam Simpson

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

Horoscopes

Horoscope: April 23 - April 30, 2026

Taurus season settles in this week, shifting the emphasis from action to stability, patience, and tangible results. The urgency of Aries fades, replaced by a need to build something lasting. This is not a week for rushing decisions but for strengthening foundations—financial, emotional, and practical. Progress may feel slower, but it is more reliable. What you commit to now has the potential to endure.

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

You may feel the pace slowing, but that works in your favor. Focus on practical matters, especially finances. A careful approach now leads to greater security in the weeks ahead.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

With the Sun in your sign, your confidence grows. Others notice your steadiness and may look to you for guidance. Trust your instincts and move forward at your own pace.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

You may prefer to keep a lower profile this week. Use the time to think through plans before sharing them. A quiet decision now can have long-term impact.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Friendships and group connections bring support. Someone may offer advice or assistance when you least expect it. Be open, but remain selective about commitments.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

Career matters require patience. You may want quicker results, but steady effort will serve you better. Focus on consistency rather than recognition.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

A broader perspective helps you

move forward. Consider new ideas or opportunities that expand your thinking. Keep your approach practical while remaining open-minded.

Libra (September 23 - October 22)

Shared resources or financial matters come into focus. Take time to review details carefully. A measured decision now prevents complications later.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

Relationships remain central. Someone close may seek clarity or reassurance. Honest, calm communication strengthens trust and moves things forward.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

Daily routines benefit from structure. You may feel the need to get organized or improve efficiency. Small adjustments now lead to greater balance.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

Creative or personal pursuits gain momentum. You may find satisfaction in something simple but meaningful. Focus on what brings genuine enjoyment rather than outside approval.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)

Home and personal life require attention. A practical decision may be needed. Keep your approach grounded and focused on long-term stability.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20)

Communication is steady and productive. This is a good time for planning or resolving lingering discussions. Keep your message clear and direct.

Thought for the Week:

Progress is not always fast, but it is lasting when built on steady ground.

Family Time Crossword

The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1. (K) Sir's opposite
- 5. (K) Minus? No, no, no
- 9. (K) Aardvark's favorite insect
- 12. Securer of wheels
- 13. (K) Rough file
- 14. (K) Bear's coat
- 15. Brook
- 16. (K) Thought
- 17. (K) Munched on cherries with mustard
- 18. Regard favorably
- 20. (K) Better? Oh, no, no, no
- 22. (K) Him? No, think again
- 23. (K) River border
- 25. (K) "We ___ almost done"
- 27. (K) Basic building block
- 29. (K) It's fit to be tied
- 33. Distinctive clothing
- 35. Rock dug for money

- 36. Over again from the start
- 37. Decorative fancy pitcher
- 38. Become a lessee
- 40. (K) Opposite of WSW
- 41. (K) Word before "tea" or "coffee"
- 43. (K) Museum highlight
- 45. (K) "Jingle Bells" is one
- 48. (K) Girl Scout units
- 51. (K) Tint or shade
- 52. Off the beaten track
- 55. (K) Cruise vessel
- 56. Great fury
- 57. (K) Showerer's need
- 58. Previously
- 59. Scoundrel
- 60. (K) Plate to swing over
- 61. Swarm

DOWN

- 1. (K) Foal's mama

- 2. (K) On which the Earth turns
- 3. With no pieces missing (2 words)
- 4. Brouhaha
- 5. Formally proper
- 6. (K) Tad or boy
- 7. (K) Utilize
- 8. Breed, like salmon
- 9. (K) At a distance
- 10. (K) Things attached to bolts
- 11. (K) Apple or cherry
- 19. Stat for starting pitchers
- 21. Cajun cooking ingredient
- 23. (K) Uninterested
- 24. Answer to prayers?
- 25. (K) Biography stat
- 26. (K) Like uncooked steak
- 28. Came apart at the seams?

- 30. (K) Low tie score (3 words)
- 31. (K) Signer's need
- 32. (K) Mama sheep
- 34. Con ___ (with vigor, musically)
- 39. (K) Road covering substance
- 42. Wear colors that don't match
- 44. (K) Wall-E or Baymax, e.g.
- 45. "Blondie" creator Young
- 46. You may have one of invincibility
- 47. Bit of thatch
- 48. (K) Interact with your keyboard
- 49. Walk the floor back and forth
- 50. (K) Cherry handle
- 53. Be a gentleman caller
- 54. Butter?

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

Place of interest?

Look for the answer in next week's paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

Previous riddle answer:

When to do light work?
51-A) DAY

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
12					13					14			
15					16					17			
18					19			20	21				
					22			23	24				
25	26				27	28				29	30	31	32
33					34					36			
37						38				39		40	
										43	44		
45	46	47								49	50		
51					52	53	54			55			
56					57					58			
59					60					61			

© 2024 Timothy Parker Crosswords/Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication syndication.andrewsmcmeel.com

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

www.GreenwichSentinel.com/subscribe

www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/subscribe

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 bumpy-skinned Mexican fruit (7)
- 2 force of nature (10)
- 3 where swimmers compete (5)
- 4 Uno and Jenga (5)
- 5 pauses in flight (6)
- 6 Atlanta is its largest city (7)
- 7 handing over cash (8)

SOLUTIONS

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

OC	AV	POW	POO	OU
ERH	LS	ORG	SP	HOV
DI	EN	ADO	GAM	ERS
NG	GE	IA	ES	SE

Previous Answers: 1. INHATCHED 2. SYNTHESIZE 3. IRONING 4. FEMORAL 5. GUISE 6. ROCHESTER 7. GARBLED 8/14

Keeping Bears and Humans Safe

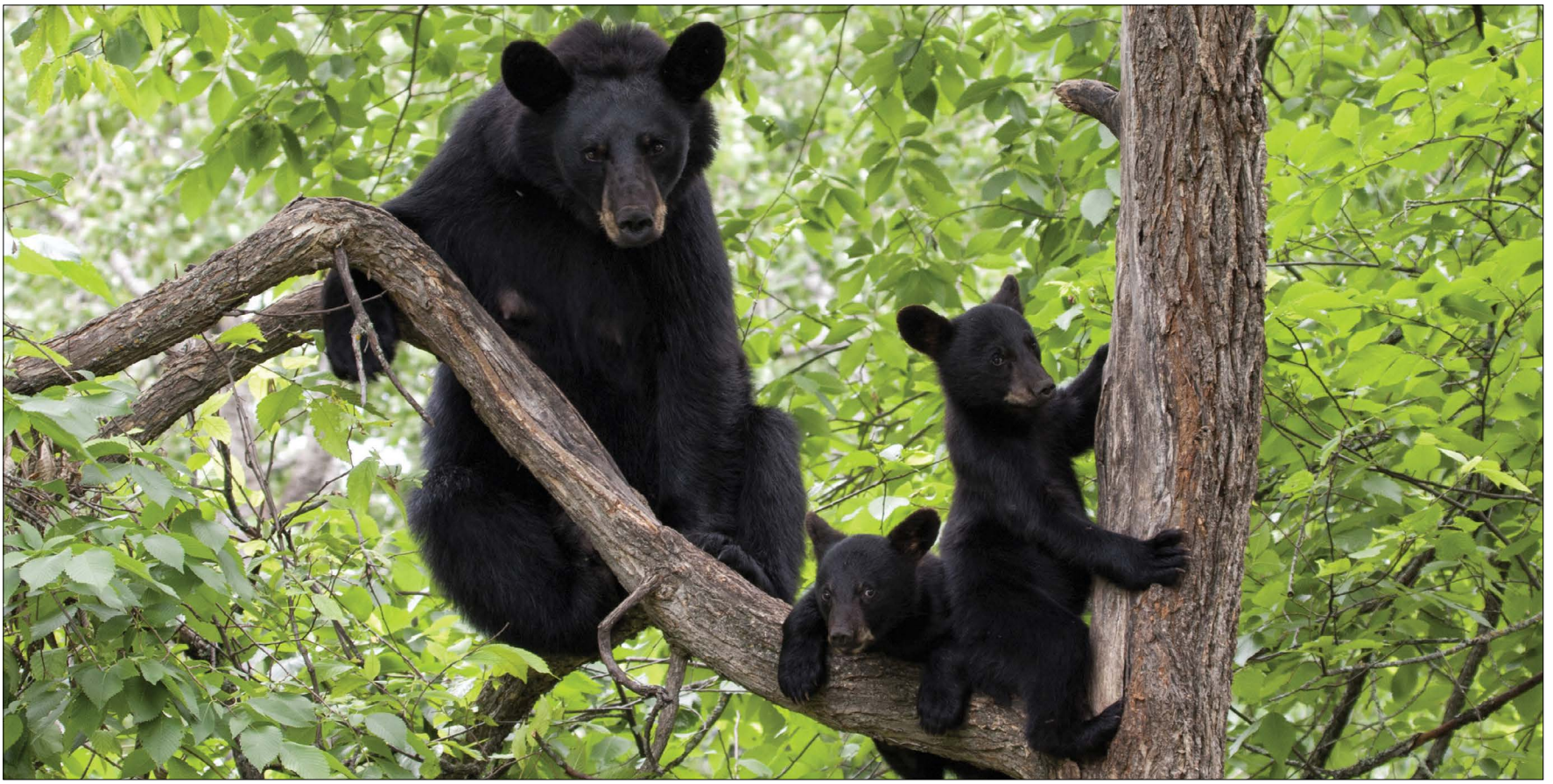


By JIM KNOX

Every April we begin to hear them—the accounts from our fellow Fairfield County residents. Whether overheard in line at the post office, grocery shopping, or speaking with a neighbor, invariably our paths cross with someone who has had a sighting. One neighbor saw one eating her cat food on the back deck. Another had one demolish her brand-new squirrel-proof bird feeder. Yet another saw a mom with cubs crossing the street near the end of the cul-de-sac.

If you live in Fairfield County, you have a neighbor you may have yet to meet. Spring is when our wild neighbor is on the move. The American Black bear, *Ursus americanus*, also known as the American bear, is no lightweight. Reaching between 6-8 feet in length and averaging weights of between 200-500 pounds, Black bears are New England's largest terrestrial carnivore. Displaying sexual dimorphism in which males attain greater sizes than females, large males entering hibernation may reach 600 pounds in weight, with exceptionally large individuals tipping the scales at weights up to 900 pounds!

Though classified as carnivores, behaviorally, Black bears are classic omnivores, consuming everything from Prickly Pear cactus, to ants, to Moose calves! What's more, a Black bear selects from the menu not with its eyes...but with its nose. Following their legendary sense of smell to a meal, Black bears can detect apples ripening in orchards five miles away! With the ability to outrun a Cottontail rabbit, swim as fast as a beaver, and climb as well as any raccoon, these bruins are the decathletes of the bear tribe. Found throughout our home state of Connecticut, all of New England, and most of the United States, the Black bear is one of the planet's most adaptable



and successful mammals.

Though built like other members of the world's eight bear species, possessing a massive, fur-covered body with immensely powerful muscular limbs, sharp claws and a short tail, Black bears exhibit greater color variation than their kin. Ranging in color from solid black to black with a white chest blaze, to brown (aka Cinnamon) these bears are highly varied in appearance. With small populations such as "Blue" phase Black Bears in Southeastern Alaska, and white-furred "Spirit Bears" inhabiting South Coastal British Columbia, the Black bear is a species exhibiting great diversity. Similarly, Black bears are masters of adaptation, surviving and thriving in virtually every habitat type in North America. Even their bodies reflect their status as one of nature's great generalists. Whereas bears of the Sonoran Desert generally possess smaller body size and less bulk to dissipate body heat, bears of the Northern Hardwood forests of New Hampshire, attain much greater size and bulk.

While their physical adaptations serve them well from

the Alaskan Panhandle to the Florida Keys, it is the behavioral bear which earns my full respect. Intelligent, resourceful, and responsive to opportunity, Black bears can live in close proximity to humans. In fact, they are so adaptable, this might be even closer than you think. After clawing their way back from local extinction (known as extirpation) in the Nutmeg State, Black bears have made a huge comeback. From an estimated 10-12 bears in the state's Northwest corner in the 1980's, to an estimated 1,000 to 1,200 bears today, these bruins have increased their population 100-fold! Where do 1,200 animals live in a state the size of Connecticut? The answer is, pretty much wherever they want. Although historically utilizing earthen dens, hollowed out root dens at the base of mature hardwoods, and caves, Black bears have settled into excellent, new accommodations quite nicely. Commonly utilizing dense brush piles, enlarged woodchuck burrows under sheds and barns, and even crawl spaces under home decks in which to hibernate for the winter, these creatures of

“Whether overheard in line at the post office, grocery shopping, or speaking with a neighbor, invariably our paths cross with someone who has had a sighting.”

wilderness have become creatures of suburbia!

With the maturation of Connecticut forests now exceeding 60% tree cover throughout the state, the increased nut production aids the bears and the other species such as White-tailed deer, Wild turkeys and Gray squirrels that eat the acorns, Hickory nuts, and other abundant foods of the forests. As we get reacquainted with our large neighbors, it is incumbent upon us to be good neighbors. A little knowledge goes a long way toward keeping both bears and humans safe, happy, and healthy. This knowledge

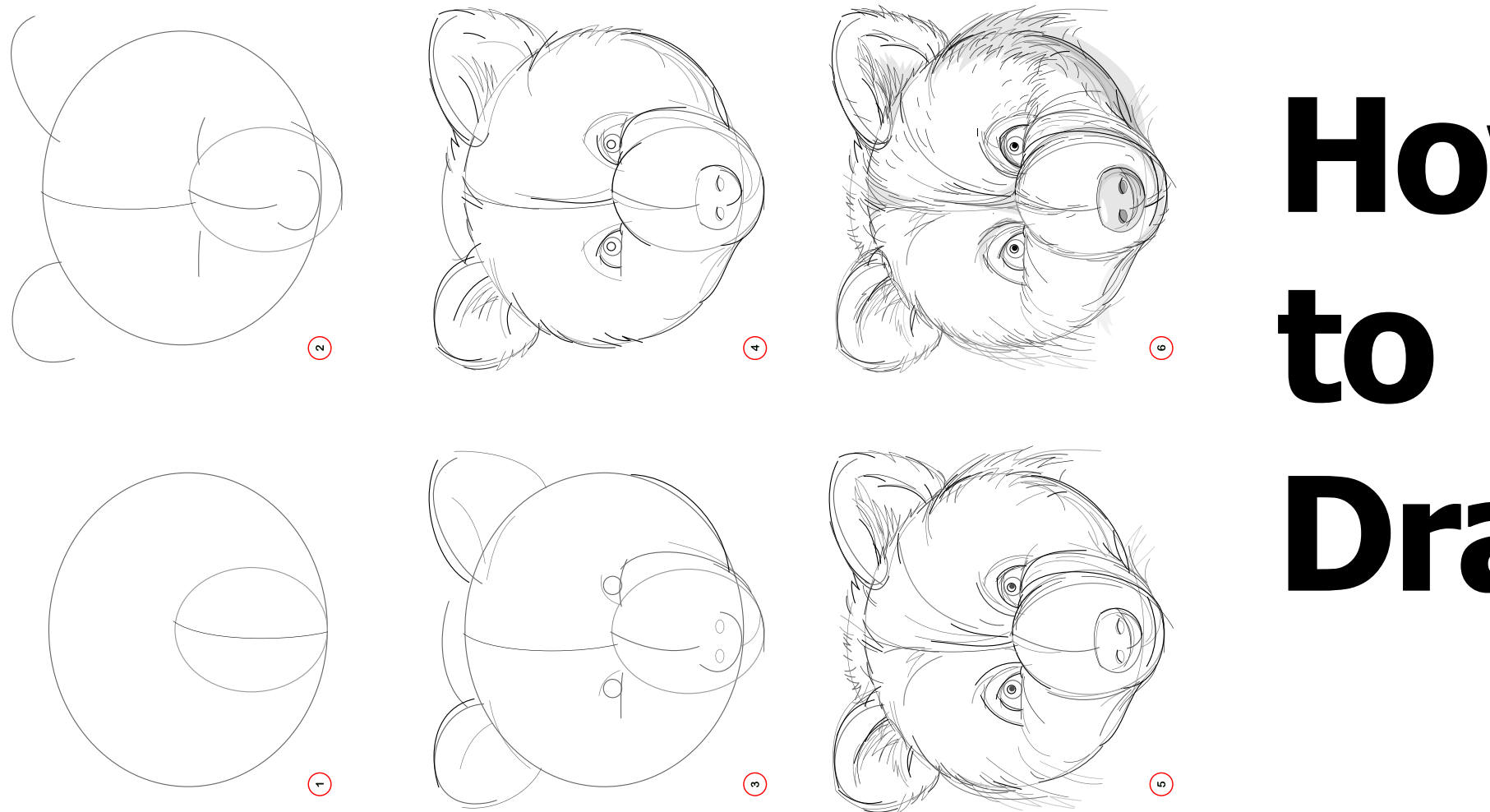
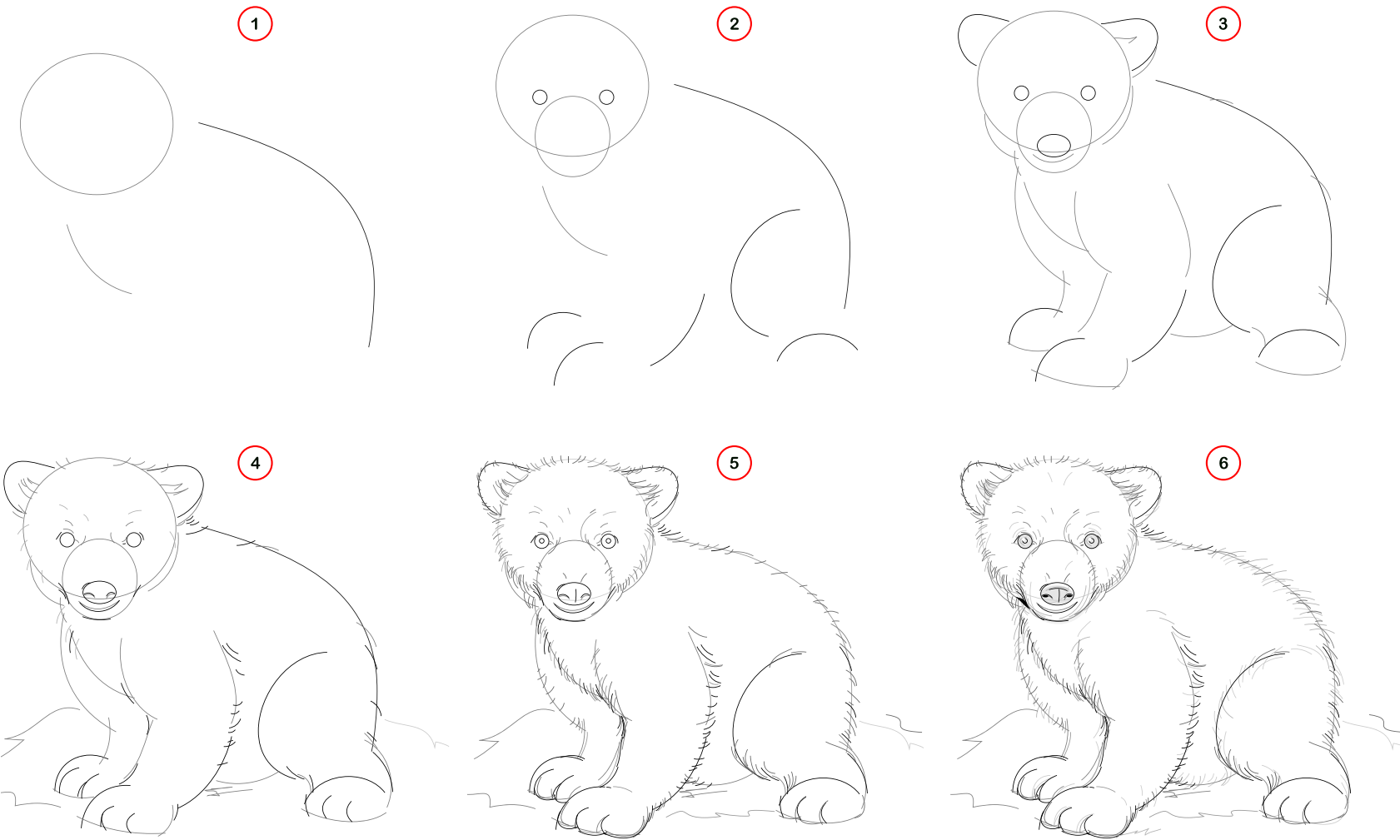
comes in the form of bear awareness.

From keeping your dogs leashed when hiking, to taking down bird feeders seasonally, to knowing how to react to surprise encounters with bruins, bear awareness takes many forms, and they are all wise measures to keep people, pets, and bears safe and healthy. For more information on bear awareness, please visit Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo's website (www.beardsleyzoo.org) for upcoming bear lectures and other programs this spring.

In the American Black bear, we have a neighbor who can

shape their habits to survive in wilderness, suburbia, or even at the edges of cities. If we can employ even a fraction of the bruin's resourcefulness, persistence, and hallmark adaptability, we too can enjoy the kind of success that is "bearly" matched.

Jim Knox serves as the Curator of Education for Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo and as a Science Advisor for The Bruce Museum. A proud Member of The Explorers Club, Jim loves sharing his passion for the world's wildlife with audiences near and far.



How to Draw

Calvin and Hobbes

by WATTERSON



HA HA! YOUR CLEVER LITTLE STRATEGY HAS TRAGICALLY BACKFIRED! LOOK AT THIS JUMP! WATCH AND WEEP, FUZZ FACE!

THAT'S YOUR MOVE, RIGHT? I GET TO GO NOW, RIGHT? IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO CHANGE YOUR MIND, RIGHT?

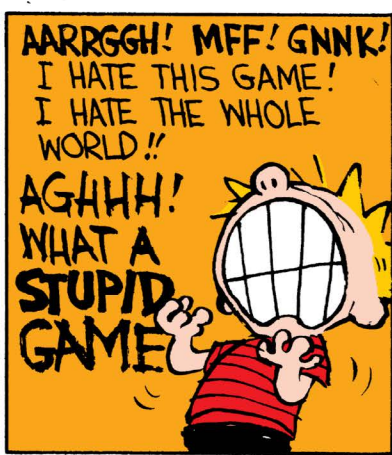
NOT SO FAST... MY HAND'S STILL ON IT.



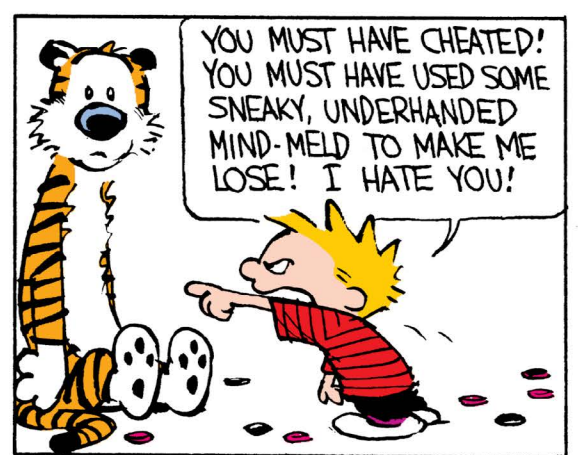
JUMP, JUMP, JUMP! I WIN!



YOU WIN?? AAUGHH! YOU WON LAST TIME! I HATE IT WHEN YOU WIN!



AARRGGH! MFF! GNNK! I HATE THIS GAME! I HATE THE WHOLE WORLD!! AGHHH! WHAT A STUPID GAME!



YOU MUST HAVE CHEATED! YOU MUST HAVE USED SOME SNEAKY, UNDERHANDED MIND-MELD TO MAKE ME LOSE! I HATE YOU!



I DIDN'T WANT TO PLAY THIS IDIOTIC GAME IN THE FIRST PLACE!

I KNEW YOU'D CHEAT! I KNEW YOU'D WIN!

OH! OOH! AARG!

© 1987 Universal Press Syndicate



AAAAAAAAAAAAA



HACK PANT PANT

12-29 WATTERSON



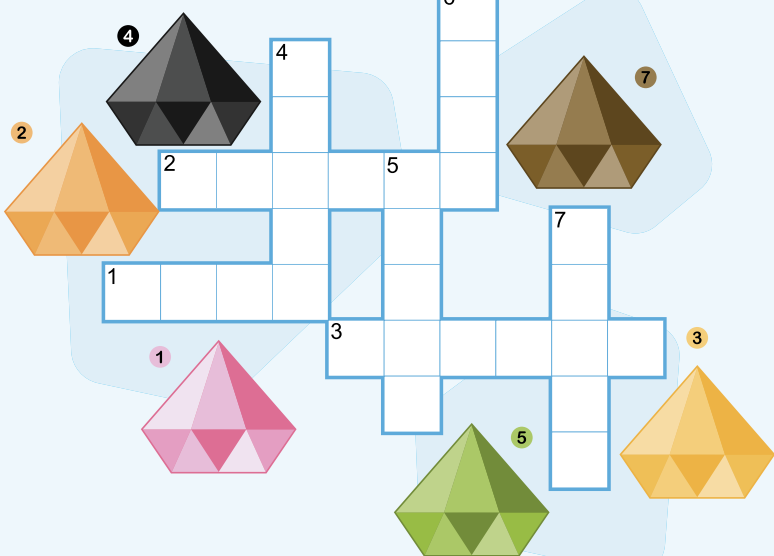
LOOK, IT'S JUST A GAME.

I KNOW, YOU SHOULD SEE ME WHEN I LOSE IN REAL LIFE!

CALVIN AND HOBBS © 1987 Watterson. Reprinted with permission of ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION. All rights reserved.

KIDS crossword

"Name that color"



$\text{Cat face} = 7$
 $\text{Smiling cat face} = \text{Cat face} - 2$
 $\text{Sad cat face} = \text{Smiling cat face} + 4$
 $\text{Sad cat face} - \text{Cat face} + \text{Smiling cat face} = \square ?$

HOW MANY?

First Letter Puzzles

HOW MANY TO THE LEFT, HOW MANY TO THE RIGHT?



COOKIE

FIND ALL THE INGREDIENTS IN THE PICTURE