

NEW CANAAN FORECAST

JULY 24–JULY 28, 2026

FRIDAY, JULY 24
Scattered Thunderstorms
Humid with periods of sun;
scattered storms possible
in the afternoon and evening.
High: 82°F | Low: 69°F

SATURDAY, JULY 25
Partly Sunny
Turning less humid with
a mix of sun and clouds.
High: 80°F | Low: 64°F

SUNDAY, JULY 26
Mostly Sunny
Plenty of sunshine and
comfortable.
High: 78°F | Low: 60°F

MONDAY, JULY 27
Partly Sunny
A warm day with some
clouds at times.
High: 81°F | Low: 63°F

TUESDAY, JULY 28
Chance of Showers
Clouds increase with a chance
of showers late.
High: 79°F | Low: 64°F

Weather Detail

Friday, July 24 – International Self-Care Day
High near 82°F, low around 63°F. Friday will be mostly sunny and pleasant.

Saturday, July 25 – World Drowning Prevention Day
High near 81°F, low around 63°F. Saturday will be mostly sunny, offering a beautiful start to the weekend.

Sunday, July 26 – Americans with Disabilities Act Anniversary
High near 83°F, low around 66°F. Sunday will be mostly sunny, warm and bright.

Monday, July 27 – National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
High near 85°F, low around 70°F. Monday will be partly sunny, with a thunderstorm possible during the afternoon.

Tuesday, July 28 – World Hepatitis Day
High near 84°F, low around 64°F. Tuesday will bring a mix of sun and clouds, with widely separated thunderstorms possible.

POLICE & FIRE
Police Counter Gold Coin Scams
New Canaan police have investigated multiple scams in which callers posing as government officials told residents to purchase gold coins to resolve alleged criminal charges or arrest warrants. The department said legitimate law enforcement agencies do not accept gold coins or wire transfers and advised residents to report suspicious calls or messages.

New Canaan Responds To Flooding
A flash flood warning was issued for the New Canaan area, with heavy flooding reported on Forest Street. Residents were advised to avoid travel, move to higher ground if water rises, and call or text 911 during an emergency. Town and Everbridge alerts provided additional updates. See page 12 for photos from the storm.

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Another Storm



Julie Stein sent in a photo saying that this tree fell on a River Wind Rd cul-de-sac at 6:30 PM Tuesday night trapping 4 houses who were unable to get out. She said that New Canaan police, fire, Eversource and tree cutters were AWESOME and addressed situation within a few hours. See more photos on page 12.

Vote on Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance is This Saturday

A townwide referendum this Saturday will decide whether New Canaan keeps or repeals the new Town Council ordinance on leaf blowers.

New Canaan voters will decide Saturday, July 25, whether to uphold or repeal the Town Council's ordinance restricting gas-powered leaf blowers. The referendum will be held at New Canaan High School from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. All registered New Canaan voters may participate. There is no early voting. Absentee ballots are available in person only through the Town Clerk's

Office. Questions about absentee voting or the referendum may be directed to the office at 203-594-3070. The vote follows several years of public debate over noise, emissions, property maintenance, enforcement and the cost of changing landscaping equipment. The Town Council approved the ordinance, 8-4, on May 20. It prohibits most uses of gas-powered leaf blowers between Memorial Day and Labor Day, while allowing their use during the fall cleanup season. The ordinance includes exceptions, including storm cleanup, emergencies, municipal use and specified residential uses. Supporters describe the measure as a seasonal compromise intended to reduce noise and air pollution during the

months when residents spend more time outdoors. Opponents contend that battery-powered equipment cannot yet meet commercial needs and that the ordinance would increase costs, complicate enforcement and burden landscaping businesses and homeowners. The *Sentinel's* editorial pages this week present detailed arguments from both sides. The ordinance did not take effect after opponents used the referendum procedure in the Town Charter. Petitioners needed valid signatures from 5 percent of New Canaan's registered voters, or 701 people. They submitted more than 900 signatures, and Town Clerk Claudia Weber verified that the petition had met the required threshold. The ballot will ask: "Shall

the May 20, 2026 action of the Town Council approving an ordinance entitled 'Gas Powered Leaf Blowers,' which sets certain restrictions on their usage, be upheld? YES or NO." A "yes" vote preserves the ordinance. A "no" vote supports repeal. For repeal to succeed, "no" must receive a majority of all votes cast and at least 15 percent of the town's registered electorate. Based on the July 2 registry of 14,526 voters, repeal would require at least 2,178 "no" votes, although the official threshold will be set using the completed registry list for the referendum. The full ordinance appears on Page 8 of this week's *New Canaan Sentinel* so that voters may review it before casting an informed ballot on Saturday.

Waveny's Labor Day Bash Promises Music, Food and One Last Summer Night

By SENTINEL STAFF

Summer in New Canaan will get one final evening in the spotlight when New Canaan Recreation hosts its inaugural Labor Day Weekend Bash on Friday, Sept. 4, on the back lawn of Waveny House. The adults-only event will bring live music, food trucks, lawn games and open-air gathering space to one of town's most familiar places. Gates open at 6 p.m., and The Zoo will perform from 7 to 9 p.m. The registration schedule lists the event through 9:45 p.m. The idea is simple: bring a chair or blanket, pack favorite beverages and refreshments, and spend an evening outdoors

before summer gives way to school schedules, shorter days and the brisker rhythm of fall. Waveny has long served as New Canaan's communal backyard, hosting picnics, concerts, sports, fireworks, walks and countless informal reunions. The Labor Day Weekend Bash adds a new tradition to that calendar, one designed less around a formal program than the pleasure of gathering in a beautiful place. The Zoo, one of the region's busiest live bands, will provide the evening's soundtrack. Known for high-energy performances at festivals, community celebrations, private parties and crowded venues,

the group is expected to keep the dancing active and the back lawn lively. Its two-hour set will anchor the night, but the event's appeal extends beyond the stage. Three food trucks have signed up so far and will offer a range of dinner and dessert choices. Taco Tequila will prepare Mexican street food to order, including tacos, burritos, loaded nachos and quesadillas. Simply Smashed will serve Angus beef smash burgers with crisp edges and juicy centers, along with loaded fries, chicken tenders, wraps, and other familiar favorites. Ice Cream Emergency will

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Conservation Commission chairman Tom Cronin is practicing what he preaches -- collecting food scraps at home, and taking them to the transfer station for processing.

Save the Planet - and Taxes!

By JOHN KRIZ

One of the best ways you can both help the planet and keep taxes down is to compost.

"Not only is [composting] good for the environment, but it actually saves the town

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Alpha-gal Syndrome

By TERESA ALASIO

Most people know that ticks can spread Lyme disease. Fewer people realize that ticks can cause another condition, one that is showing up more and more across the country, including here in Connecticut. It is called alpha-gal syndrome, and unlike Lyme disease, it does not cause an infection. Instead, it can trigger a serious allergy to red meat. In my experience, many people have never heard of alpha-gal syndrome until

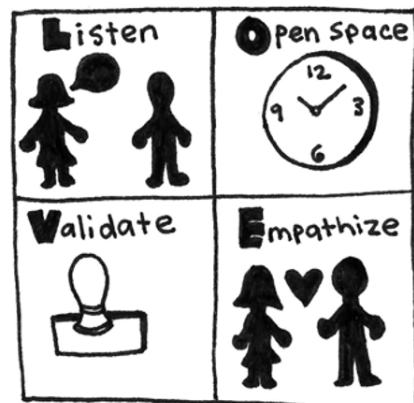
they or someone close to them develops it. That is unfortunate, because the symptoms can be confusing and are easy to mistake for other conditions. Alpha-gal syndrome develops after the bite of certain ticks, most often the Lone Star tick. This tick was once considered a problem mainly in the southeastern United States, but its range has moved steadily northward. Cases now appear throughout Connecticut and neighboring

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Cell Phones Can't Charge Each Other

By JILL S. WOOLWORTH, LMFT

We have been trained to solve relationship problems the way we'd solve any other problem. This is what got us good grades in school and promotions at work. However, our ability to fix the problem is not what our partner wants when he or she is upset. Rather, he or she wants to be seen and heard. An easy way to know what to do is remember the acronym L.O.V.E. Listen twice as much as you want to listen. Open space for your partner to talk more by asking what else happened. Validate that what upset your partner really happened and is worthy of concern. ("That was a rough morning!") And Empathize by sharing how you would have felt in that situation. ("I would have been angry, too.") Initially, practicing L.O.V.E. may be counterintuitive. When we treat others with L.O.V.E, it calms their distress and often enables them to discover their own solutions.



Illustrated by Wajih Chaudhry
Ian and Amanda are both doctors. Professionally, they have impressive toolkits. It wasn't easy for them to learn to keep their toolkits closed—until they began practicing L.O.V.E. with each other. "I'm ready for your suggestions" is their way of signaling to each other that they feel sufficiently heard to engage in problem-solving.

Keith E. Simpson Associates

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Sidewalk Sale Draws Crowds Before Saturday Rain Ends Festivities Early

New Canaan's Village Fair and Sidewalk Sale filled downtown with shoppers, families and community groups Friday and Saturday before rain brought the second day to an early close.

The annual event began Friday, July 17, when local stores moved merchandise outside their doors and offered once-a-year discounts. Saturday's larger fair transformed Elm, Main and Forest streets into a pedestrian shopping district, with merchants, nonprofit organizations, food ven-

dors, musicians and children's activities spread through the center of town.

Hundreds arrived early Saturday, giving the fair a strong morning before the weather shifted. The streets filled with shoppers carrying bags, children stopping for activities and residents moving from booth to booth to visit familiar organizations. The New Canaan Aquinas displayed team trophies. Friends of Irwin Park shared its plans to restore, replant and reimagine the park. New Canaan Library welcomed

young visitors with crafts, while Inclusive Together promoted programs built around the message that every mind belongs.

The Connecticut Society of Santas collected donations for a local food pantry while serving shaved ice, adding a little Christmas-in-July spirit to the morning. The New Canaan Sentinel's Subscriber Hospitality Tent offered water, snacks, gifts and a flower-arrangement drawing as readers stopped to meet the newspaper team.

The fair was scheduled to include shopping, food, live music and a YMCA Family Fun Area, with free parking available throughout downtown. By about 12:15 p.m. Saturday, however, rain forced vendors to begin closing their booths.

New Canaan firefighters moved through the fair to help exhibitors lower and dismantle tents before heavier rain and stormy weather arrived. Their assistance allowed most vendors to clear the streets quickly and avoid the worst condi-

tions.

The shortened afternoon did not erase the morning's success. Merchants had several busy hours, organizations met residents face to face, and downtown again became the kind of shared public space that makes the fair one of New Canaan's largest summer traditions, and a dependable meeting place for neighbors of every age, year after year in July.



Waveny LifeCare was busy informing the community of its many services.



New Canaan's all-volunteer EMS handed out toy stethoscopes to children, and stood ready to assist



Local charity Inclusive Together was informing the public about ways to support neurodiverse members of the community.



New Canaan Aquinas Artistic Swim Team was telling its story



Christmas came early, with Santa handing out flavored ice, and collecting donations for the Food Pantry.



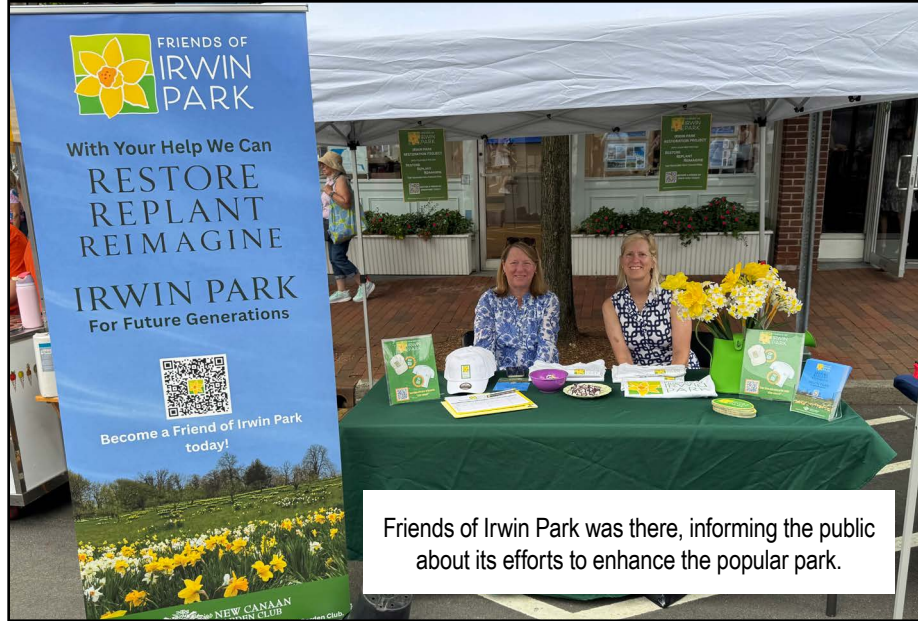
Town Players at the Powerhouse Theatre in Waveny Park was promoting local plays.



The New Canaan Fire Department jumped in to help get everyone's tents down quickly before the storm arrived.



The New Canaan Sentinel Hospitality Tent's most popular item? Clementine's for the kids!



Friends of Irwin Park was there, informing the public about its efforts to enhance the popular park.



New Canaan Library supporting a young reader.

Your Doctor Didn’t Get a Vote – But Your Representative Did



By Russ Barksdale Jr.

With local Charter Revision discussions underway, we are reminded of a fundamental civic truth: our Founders designed a republic, not a democracy. As we approach our nation’s 250th anniversary, it is worth remembering why they made that choice.

A republic operates on a distinct principle: citizens elect representatives—whether a first selectman, a town council member, or a federal senator—who are entrusted with responsibilities that often require substantial expertise and careful deliberation. Their role is not merely to mirror public opinion in real time, but to evaluate policy choices through the lens of evidence, long-term consequences, and the public interest.

Take healthcare coverage as a prime example. Ask the average American whether they support cutting Medicaid, and the answer will depend almost entirely on how the question is framed. Present it as “reducing wasteful government spending,” and a majority will nod in agreement. Rephrase it as

“taking healthcare away from working families,” and that same majority recoils. This is not hypocrisy; understanding the difference between a federal matching rate and a per-capita cap requires a significant investment of time.

This is precisely why the United States was established as a constitutional republic. The Founders believed that citizens should elect representatives to study complex issues, weigh competing interests, and make informed decisions on behalf of the public. James Madison, writing in Federalist No. 10, argued that pure democracies had historically been prone to instability and factional conflict, observing that they had often been “spectacles of turbulence and contention” and incompatible with the long-term protection of individual rights and property.

John Adams expressed a similar concern about the challenges of direct democracy, writing in 1814: “Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself.” While we may debate the extent of Adams’ warning, his broader point was that durable self-government requires institutions capable of balancing public sentiment with thoughtful deliberation.

The distinction matters enormously. As more people rotate off of Medicaid, too many of our neighbors and seniors are failing to enroll in other cost-effective alternatives. This dynamic is putting extreme, negative financial pressure squarely on non-profit healthcare providers, with uncompensated and charity care levels growing exponentially.

Consider the budget bill passed by the Senate in a narrow 51-50 vote, which proposed cutting Medicaid funding by nearly \$800 billion over the next decade and imposing sweeping work requirements on millions of enrollees. Projections from the RAND Corporation suggest that state Medicaid funds will be reduced by \$665 billion over the 2025–2034 period, with an estimated 5.3 million people losing coverage due to work requirements alone. These are not abstract numbers. They represent local healthcare providers that will shutter, seniors who will ration medications, and children who will lose access to preventive care all while waste and fraud continue.

Now imagine placing a highly technical healthcare funding question directly before the public in a national referendum—the purest expression of direct democracy. Most citizens do not have the time or opportunity to become experts in Medicaid state-directed payments, federal matching formulas, reimbursement methodologies, or the financial realities facing healthcare providers. Yet these issues carry significant consequences for patients, taxpayers, and local healthcare systems.

This simple concept reflects the reality that modern public policy is extraordinarily complex. Representative government exists, in part, to bridge that gap by allowing elected officials to devote the necessary time and attention to understanding these issues before making decisions on behalf of their constituents.

To avoid this fate, our Founders ruled against a democracy and for a republic that relies on informed intermediaries. We elect representatives to sit on committees, hear expert testimony from physicians, economists, and healthcare administrators, and absorb the complexity of the policy landscape. They should be held accountable at the ballot box for the outcomes of their votes, but while in office, their sworn responsibility is to look past the rhetoric and study the reality.

The current Medicaid debate is a textbook case of why that intermediary role is critical. The work requirement provision may sound straightforward to the casual voter: if you can work, you should. But a representative who has done their homework knows that the vast majority of Medicaid recipients who can work already do. They know that the administrative burden of proving compliance—submitting monthly paperwork, navigating state portals—will cause eligible people to lose coverage not because they failed to work, but because they failed to file. They know that the Commonwealth Fund projects 229,000 healthcare job losses as a direct consequence of these cuts. They know there are nefarious players gaming the system who go unpenalized. A voter casting a ballot on a referendum may not know of these specifics. A well-briefed senator, in principle, should.

This is not an argument that our elected representatives always get it right—they manifestly do not. It is an argument that the republican

form of government at least creates the conditions that shield policy from immediate, polarized impulses. When the system works, the committee hearing and the floor debate translate complexity into sound governance. When it fails, the unintended consequences of ill-informed representation can be catastrophic.

Healthcare is perhaps the single policy domain where the gap between public perception and policy reality is widest. Escalating premiums, deductibles, provider networks, Medicare Advantage, dual eligibility, drug formularies, and reimbursement structures do not lend themselves to a yes-or-no ballot question. They require sustained, expert attention—precisely the kind that a republic is designed to provide.

When people say that “the public should decide,” it is worth remembering that, in a representative republic, they already do. Citizens exercise that authority when they choose the individuals who will study these issues, deliberate carefully, and cast votes on their behalf.

The expectation—and the obligation—is that elected officials honor that trust by doing the difficult work of understanding the policies before them, evaluating competing perspectives, and considering the real-world impact of their decisions. Our communities, our institutions, and the people who depend on them deserve nothing less.

BOS MEETING From Page 1

for fire apparatus. Interim Fire Chief Bill Perritt said the equipment will improve communication with Stamford, Norwalk and other mutual-aid agencies, particularly during incidents on the Merritt Parkway. Vehicle radios provide more power than portable units and allow firefighters to stay on New Canaan channels while communicating with neighboring departments.

A three-year Everbridge contract was approved at \$8,465.98 annually. Kimes said New Canaan Alerts has nearly 2,600 subscribers and is used for emergency messages, town newsletters and departmental notices.

“The fact that it works when you need it to work” was central to his recommendation, Kimes said. Messages, calls and texts are covered by a flat annual fee.

The Police Department received approval for a \$23,125 email and Active Directory migration through VANDIS and \$16,109.55 in Microsoft licensing through SHI. Police Chief John DiFederico said the work is required under Criminal Justice Information Services Security Policy Version 6.1 and will separate police users from the town’s general information-technology environment while remaining under town IT oversight.

Age-Friendly Designation

The board authorized the Health and Human Services Commission’s senior behavioral health subcommittee to apply for membership in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities.

Commission Chair Barb Ackerman urged approval during public

comment, describing the application as an extension of the work of Jim Lisher, a longtime commission member and former chairman who died last fall.

“Jim was committed to making sure that people who helped build our town could stay here,” Ackerman said.

Jennifer Hladick, a commission member, said the application grew from a review of senior responses to the New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance’s community health and well-being survey and focus groups involving residents age 60 and older. The program evaluates communities in areas including housing, transportation, outdoor spaces, civic engagement, communication and health services.

There is no application or membership fee. Participation would provide access to planning resources, other member communities and AARP grant opportunities. Any future grant application would still require approval from the first selectman’s office.

“That was one of the best things about looking into this application, seeing how much we already do and what a great community we already are,” Hladick said.

The board also approved fiscal year 2027 purchase orders of \$10,000 for the Domestic Violence Crisis Center, \$5,000 for Meals on Wheels, \$50,000 for GetAbout, \$18,000 for New Canaan Cares and \$40,000 for an assessment program.

Pool, Playground and Parking

The selectmen approved \$73,500 for Mermaid Pool Water to drain, haul away and replace water at the Steve Benko Pool after a motor-vehicle accident required emergency work before the facility could reopen. The town expects to submit the cost through its insurance claim.

Parks Superintendent Ryan Restivo said five trucks were used during the draining process. The board also increased a Heritage Pool Supply purchase order by \$2,300 for chemicals needed after the pool was refilled and added \$4,625 to a J&J Pool and Concrete purchase

order for seasonal opening work.

First Selectman Dionna Carlson said the town’s systems could not have drained or refilled the pool quickly enough without outside help.

“It could have been weeks at the beginning of summer to get everything up and going if we hadn’t done that,” Carlson said.

The board approved \$15,945, including contingency, for Pat Corsetti Inc. to repair two spinning play components at Mead Park. Restivo said the equipment was unstable and had been taped off after residents submitted calls and videos.

Nonresident commuters at Talmadge Hill will pay \$554.51 annually beginning Sept. 1, a 10 percent increase from \$504.10. Parking Manager Kevin O’Connor said 56 nonresident permits are issued at the lot, the town’s only commuter facility open to nonresidents.

Buildings, Trees and Other Approvals

The board authorized a \$158,482 Carriage Barn Arts Center courtyard renovation, including a new bluestone courtyard, drainage, lighting and landscaping work. The project includes state grant funding and matching contributions from the town and Carriage Barn.

Other approvals included \$30,408 for fire-protection inspections, \$50,000 for Precise Traffic Control flagging services, \$17,264 for roadside tree work and blanket purchase orders of up to \$70,000 for each of six emergency tree contractors.

The selectmen approved \$76,205.76 in property-tax abatements for 42 volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel, including 33 residents and nine nonresidents. They also approved health-service and transportation purchase orders for New Canaan Country School and St. Luke’s, hired Judith Sigmond as an assessment and taxation clerk, and appointed Ian Rasmussen as a Zoning Board of Appeals member through Dec. 1, 2027.

The board approved legal bills after members noted that charter-revision legal expenses had reached about \$46,000 and would be paid from contingency because they were not included in the prior budget.

LEGAL & CLASSIFIED ADS

LEGAL AD

**The Town of New Canaan, Connecticut
Department of Public Works
Request for BIDS**

The Public Works Department of the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut, will receive sealed BIDS for “WAVENY HOUSE EXTERIOR DOOR PROJECT” until 10:00AM Local Time on Tuesday August 18, 2026 at the Department of Public Works Office, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, CT, 06840, at which time and place all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Specification documents are available at the Department of Public Works Office, Town of New Canaan, Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840, or by calling William Oestmann, Facilities Superintendent at 203-594-3710. Specifications may also be obtained by e-mailing to william.oestmann@newcanaanct.gov.

There will be a mandatory site visit required for this project. Please contact Bill Oestmann at 203-594-3710 to make an appointment.

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

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals 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 contractors 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
PARKING COMMISSION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, the Board of Selectmen, at its regular meeting on July 21, 2026 approved the following Schedule of Fees to become effective SEPTEMBER 1, 2026:

FEE SCHEDULE

Talmadge Hill Lot Non-Resident Commuter Parking Permit Fees
Approval of a recommendation from the Parking Commission to increase the annual non-resident commuter parking fee at the Talmadge Hill lot to \$554.51 (inclusive of CT Sales tax)

LEGAL AD

**TOWN OF NEW CANAAN
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 this hearing is scheduled as a hybrid meeting to be held in the Board Room, Town Hall, 77 Main Street at 7:00 p.m. with access available in person or via an on-line system to hear and decide the application(s) as follows:

1. 93 Old Stamford Road – Upon application of David J. Rucci, Lampert, Toohey and Rucci, Authorized Agent for Granger Jewett Trustee and Alyssa Jewett Trustee, owner(s) for a Special Permit pursuant to Section(s) 3.6.D.1 to allow the relocation of a driveway to access a 16’ existing right-of-way on a neighboring property. Driveway cut will result in a driveway to be sited within 3’ of a side yard property line in the A Residence Zone at 93 Old Stamford Road (Map K, Block 10, Lot H22).
2. 180 Forest Street – Upon application of Nicola Caruso, Authorized Agent for 180 Forest Street, LLC, owner(s), for a Special Permit pursuant to Section(s) 3.4.c.7 to allow an accessory structure over 1,000sq ft. in building coverage in the B Residence Zone at 180 Forest Street (Map P, Block 211, Lot 881).
3. 11 Farm Road – Upon application of Tiger Mann, Director of Public Works, Authorized Agent for Town of New Canaan, owner(s) for modification of an existing Special Permit pursuant to Section(s) 5.1.C.2 to allow new permanent buildings and facilities to install a 24’ x 48’ four bay shed for storage of sports equipment in lieu of the previously approved storage and bathroom structure at Dunning Stadium in the Waveny Zone at 11 Farm Road (Map 31, Block 51, Lot 113).
4. Zoning Map Amendment – Alteration of the existing “Conservation and Traffic Mitigation District” previously adopted July 1, 2026 and establishment of a second district, pursuant to Section 5.11 of the New Canaan Zoning Regulations and Public Act 25-1. The districts will overlay the majority of the sewer district and as further described on a map titled “Town of New Canaan Traffic Mitigation Zones” dated July 2026, available in the Town Clerk’s Office and on the Town’s website at newcanaan.info.

**Dated: July 16, 2026
New Canaan, Connecticut
Daniel Radman, Chairman**

NOTICE

Notice of 14 th day before the Primary Enrollment session
The New Canaan Registrars will be holding a session for the purpose of enrollment and/or registration of electors entitled to vote in the primary and to hear requests for adding names to the registry list by persons removed. The session will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 from 5-7 PM.

New Canaan Sentinel

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The People We Drive Away

A leaf blower ordinance should not be a test of moral worth. A resident who supports a seasonal restriction is not necessarily an enemy of working people. A resident who opposes it is not necessarily indifferent to children, clean air or peace. Yet New Canaan’s debate has too often acquired the vocabulary of damnation: one side virtuous, the other corrupt; one side enlightened, the other cruel.

Let us be precise about this. Most people engaged in this debate, on both sides, are decent, thoughtful and sincere. They care about New Canaan and have reached different conclusions. Passion is not the problem. The problem is those who turns every disagreement into an occasion for cruelty.

This is how communities become smaller without losing a single resident. They reduce every disagreement to a character indictment, then wonder why sensible people stop speaking.

It should not make service unbearable because a handful of people have confused fury with citizenship.

A year ago, this page offered a simple civic correction: “That’s not how we speak to one another in New Canaan.” It remains necessary. The leaf blower argument did not create the problem. It merely gave it a machine loud enough for everyone to hear.

We see the same reflex in debates over schools, zoning, parking, budgets and the town charter. Policy differences are recast as evidence of wicked motives. A procedural disagreement becomes a personal betrayal. A vote becomes proof that someone is stupid, bought, cowardly or dangerous. Social media makes the accusation easy, public and permanent.

The old partisan labels now explain less than they once did. The more useful division is between people who can live with disagreement and people who require an enemy. There are Democrats and Republicans in both groups. There are conservatives who listen and progressives who bully, and the reverse. Temperament has become more consequential than party.

That should concern anyone who wants competent local government. New Canaan depends on people willing to read the documents, attend the meetings, answer the emails, absorb criticism and make decisions that will disappoint someone. These are often people with jobs, families and other places to give their time. They are not conscripts.

Good people will tolerate disagreement. They expect it. They may even welcome it. What they will not tolerate forever is contempt: the insinuation that every imperfect decision proves corruption, that every compromise proves cowardice, that every official who reaches a different conclusion deserves ridicule.

Able people have choices. They can leave the board, decline the appointment, refuse to run, stop volunteering and go home. Eventually, they will. The town will then be left to those who enjoy conflict more than service and attention more than responsibility.

This is how civic life is captured—not by a conspiracy, but by exhaustion. Recently, a council member left a meeting in tears after members of her own party berated her for voting her judgment rather than their command. Others serving are considering not running again because the attacks follow them everywhere. Citizens should notice who behaves this way—and hold them accountable.

Lincoln, facing a division infinitely graver than ours, said: “We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies.” That was not a plea for agreement. It was a demand that disagreement remain bounded by a recognition of shared citizenship.

New Canaan needs to recover that boundary. Vote yes or vote no. Make the health argument. Make the cost argument. Question the ordinance, the referendum, the timing, enforcement or technology. Then stop before assigning depravity to the neighbor who reaches another conclusion.

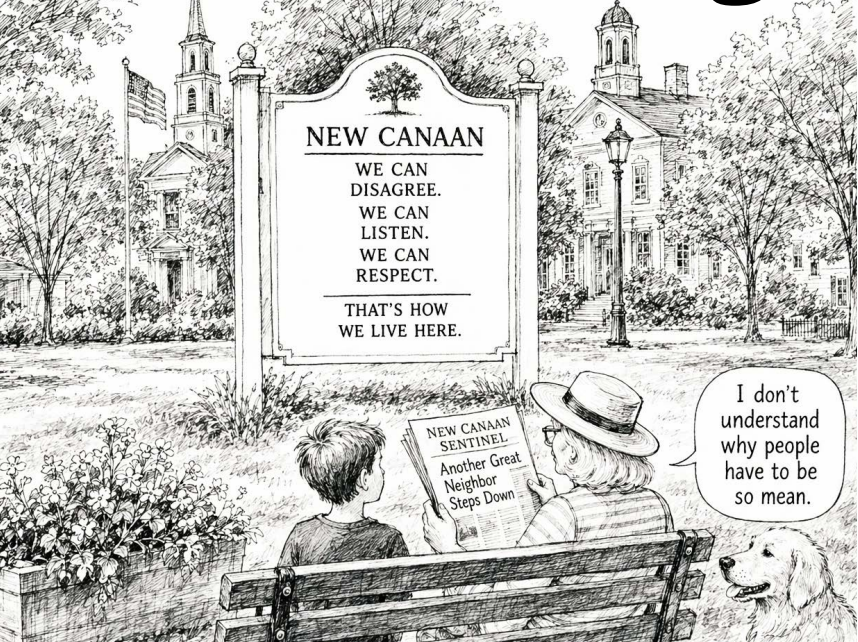
Civility is not surrender. It is the discipline that permits self-government to continue after the vote.

The town’s decent majority has responsibilities, too. It cannot remain silent while a few habitual antagonists set the tone. It must interrupt the personal attack, reject the ugly insinuation and decline to reward theatrical cruelty with influence. The proper response remains plain: That’s not how we speak to one another in New Canaan.

You may have noticed in our *Top 5 Things To Do in New Canaan Today* emails a focus on kindness in the quotes. This is not an accident. And we want to call out Jill Oberlander and Joe Kelly who are running for state sentate and have each said publicly there are no bad choices in their race—how refreshing!

A town gets the government its civic culture can sustain. If New Canaan wants wise, steady and generous people to keep serving, it must make public service difficult for the right reasons: complex choices, limited resources, competing needs. It should not make service unbearable because a handful of people have confused fury with citizenship.

Editorial Page



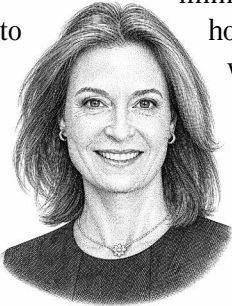
Eversource wants more money. It wants to hide the receipts.

Dear Editor,
Eversource wants more money. It wants to hide the receipts.

This week Eversource asked PURA, the state regulator, to raise its rates, roughly 11% for a typical household and as much as 18% once storm costs are added in. For families already stretched by the cost of groceries, housing and everything else, that hits hard.

I oppose this increase and the reason goes beyond the rate hike. Eversource just asked PURA to keep roughly 300,000 pages of its own filing confidential. These are the records that would show whether the increase is justified. To its credit, PURA rejected that request and ruled that “sheer volume is not a sufficient basis” for hiding documents from the public.

Eversource has done this before. In a recent case over storm costs, the company kept about 152,000 pages secret, and Attorney General Tong has shown it filed dozens of motions just to delay answering basic questions. If a company wants hundreds of



millions of dollars more from Connecticut households, it needs to be willing to show why.

So before PURA decides on anything, I am asking it to do two things. First, force Eversource to put the full filing where the public can see it and keep redactions to a minimum. Second, hold a public hearing here in the 36th district. If the company’s case is really as strong as they say it is, their executives can explain it to us in person.

And you have a say in this. PURA accepts comments from residents by email at PURA.ExecutiveSecretary@ct.gov. Put Docket No. 26-05-10 in the subject line and tell them what this increase would mean for your family or business. Every comment that’s sent in becomes part of the public record, which the regulators will weigh.

Jill Oberlander
Candidate for Connecticut State Senate,
36th District

Leaf Blower Referendum: The Devil’s in the Details

Dear Editor,

As New Canaan prepares to vote on the upcoming referendum, it is important that we approach the debate with respect for the legitimate concern on both sides. Too often, the issue has been framed in absolute terms: a yes vote supports health and the environment, while a no vote does not. That framing oversimplifies the issue and leaves little room for understanding or collaboration.

Most residents share the same goal: quieter neighborhoods, cleaner air, and better technology. If battery-powered equipment cost the same and performed equally well in every setting, most people would choose it voluntarily. The disagreement exists because the transition still involves real trade-offs involving affordability, property size, landscaping needs, business costs, and the readiness of the technology.

Reasonable people can disagree about how those trade-offs should be weighed. Supporters believe the health, noise, and environmental benefits justify requiring the transition now. Opponents may share those goals but believe this ordinance goes too far, too quickly, and without adequately addressing cost, enforcement, privacy, property rights, or implementation.

The ordinance requires residents and landscaping businesses to change equipment and operating practices without financial assistance and with only five days between approval and its intended effective date. Larger companies and wealthier households may be able to adjust quickly; retirees, families on tighter budgets, homeowners with larger properties, and small landscaping businesses may not.

The ordinance also raises questions about enforcement and community relations. Compliance would likely depend on neighbor complaints, photographs, videos, and police or Town personnel determining whether equipment was gas-powered, whether an exception applied, and who was responsible. That risks turning routine property-maintenance disagreements into law-enforcement matters and encouraging neighbors to monitor one another.

This conversation is therefore about more than noise

or emissions. It is also about private property, personal responsibility, limited government, and the freedom to make lawful decisions about how we use the fruits of our labor. Government may reasonably regulate genuine nuisances (with equal enforcement on itself), but restrictions should be necessary, proportionate, and no broader than required—especially when an existing noise ordinance already seeks to protect neighborhood peace and quiet.

The broader question is how much authority government should exercise over lawful activity on private property and whether less restrictive alternatives—such as enforcing existing noise rules, limiting operating hours, offering incentives, or allowing a gradual transition—could achieve the same goal.

Supporters of the ordinance deserve respect. But so do residents and businesses (many are residents as well) who believe the costs, enforcement issues, and intrusion into private decision-making remain unresolved.

The concern is legitimate, but the solution needs more work either at the town level or, better yet, at the State level. Residents should be aware that there was a proposed bill 319, “an act concerning battery powered lawn equipment funding for municipalities, regional schools and commercial landscapers.” The initial version was a sales ban, use ban, mandates, and public-benefit-charge mechanism. After bi-partisan and public feedback, it was amended to a voluntary financing and equipment exchange proposal. Residents could reach out to their state legislators to have the last version of the bill reintroduced in the next session.

That approach does not settle the local debate, but it suggests that incentives, financing, and gradual adoption deserve thoughtful consideration. A statewide framework could also provide businesses with consistent rules that apply to all equipment rather than different requirements in every municipality.

For all these reasons, and with utmost respect and appreciation for all points of view and the work done to date, I will vote “NO” this Saturday.

—Melany Hearne

The Gas Powered Leaf Blower Referendum Shouldn’t Be a Political Issue

While feelings run deep on both sides of the debate about gas powered leaf blowers, one thing that has been encouraging to see is the support that two town bodies, one elected, one appointed, have given to the referendum. The Conservation Commission, a 5-member appointed body on which I sit, has on 3 occasions over the last 4 years, unanimously endorsed restrictions on gas powered leaf blowers. Most recently this occurred in March of 2026 and on all three occasions the support has been by unanimous vote of the Commission. This has happened under both Republican and Democratic chairs and with a different mix of members and parties on the commission each time. How does any commission in New Canaan repeatedly vote unanimously on a topic? As an engineer and a member of the commission, I can tell you the reasons are simple: because the data is unmistakable.

Gas powered leaf blowers are, by their very design, extremely loud and polluting machines. The Conservation Commission reviewed myriad well documented studies on the issue. I can tell you that the noise pollution, particulate matter, volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides and other pollutants that are generated by these machines are unhealthy for town residents and landscapers alike. The compromise, summertime only restriction, that was crafted by the Ordinance Committee seeks to strike a reasonable balance between making our town a little quieter and healthier and not imposing onerous restrictions on

landscapers. Fortunately, there are simple alternatives that exist for summertime lawn care that are both available and economically viable. This is not a statement made without me and the other members of the Conservation Commission having spent significant time understanding the various sides of the issue. Mulching lawn clippings during the summer and using an electric blower on hard surfaces is but one simple and easy solution to the escalating use of the gas-powered machines. It is important to note that nobody is suggesting that landscapers and homeowners abandon their GPLBs. Immediately after Labor Day restrictions under the ordinance disappear and GPLBs will be fully available to use for fall leaf clean up. While some see summertime only restrictions as an inconsistency, I view this as a reasonable compromise on this issue. For these reasons, and many others, the Conservation Commission has, on several occasions over the last 4 years, unanimously endorsed summertime restrictions on gas powered leaf blowers.

There is also the action of the Town Council, our elected body, to consider. The Town Council voted 8-4 to pass the ordinance with 2 Republicans and 6 Democrats voting in support. I find it encouraging to see multiple individuals from both parties, and after much debate, coalesce around the limited and common-sense restrictions in the ordinance.

I urge everyone to vote YES on the referendum on July 25th or by absentee ballot at Town Hall by this Friday.

—John Fusek

Electric Shock: Joe Kelly’s Plan for CT’s Electricity Rate Crisis

Another proposed Eversource rate increase is unacceptable, but this problem didn't start with one utility filing, and it won't be solved with one regulatory hearing.

Connecticut's electricity crisis is the result of years of failed policy choices by the Democratic supermajority in Hartford. Meanwhile, Gov. Lamont has had nearly eight years to address rising electricity bills. Instead, his administration and Democratic legislators have piled more mandates, subsidies, fees, and above-market contracts onto the cost of electricity.

The result? You are not just paying for the power you use — you are being forced to

subsidize state programs and policies through your monthly utility bills.

Hartford Democrats have spent years shifting the cost of their policies and mandates onto your electricity bills through the Public Benefits Charge and other gimmicks. These charges are a hidden tax, tucked into your utility bills instead of being openly debated and properly funded through the state budget. That makes electricity less affordable and government less accountable.

At the same time, Democrats and Gov. Lamont restrict access to lower-cost and more reliable energy supplies, including natural gas, nuclear power, and hydropower. That approach

must change.

I've worked in energy and commodity markets for decades. I began on Wall Street and spent the last 20 years as the founder and CEO of a global brokerage I built from scratch, to bring transparency and liquidity to the fuel that helps keep our electric grid running. I've spent much of my career inside the power business, negotiating supply contracts, reading utility filings — and seeing how decisions made far from any kitchen table end up on a monthly bill.

First, we'll hold Eversource



accountable for every dollar it seeks to recover. Its storm-related expenses, infrastructure costs, executive compensation, and management decisions all deserve rigorous public scrutiny. The company should be required to place its full filing on the public record, with only narrowly justified redactions. And the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) should hold public hearings in the communities that will be affected.

My plan would also

remove state policy costs from electric bills and eliminate or restructure the Public Benefits Charge. Any public program worth preserving should compete openly for funding through the regular state budget.

Furthermore, my plan would reject above-market energy contracts that burden ratepayers. It would expand access to reliable and affordable energy, and make lower electricity costs a central test of every major energy decision.

We can change the policies and politicians that created this problem.

Yes, PURA should conduct a transparent and independent review of Eversource's filing.

But politicians shouldn't pretend that tougher regulation of one utility is a substitute for fixing the policies that made your bills so expensive in the first place.

We cannot continue forcing families and businesses to absorb higher costs while Hartford politicians endlessly study, regulate, and pass along the consequences.

As State Senator, I'll hold the utilities accountable, end hidden charges on electric bills, expand access to affordable energy, and put ratepayers first.

Joe Kelly, Candidate for the Connecticut State Senate

My View: Claims vs. Reality

Proponents of the Gas-powered Leaf Blower Ban distributed a list of rapid-fire “FACTS.” But listing half-truths on a flyer doesn't make them a sound policy.

Here is the full picture before you vote on July 25th:

CLAIM: “Commercial battery tech is ready & profitable.”

REALITY: CT State Agencies (CTDOT, DEEP, DAS) officially testified that commercial battery tech is not ready for heavy daily use due to short battery

life and long charging cycles. They also noted that gas leaf blowers account for approximately 0.01% of Connecticut's NOx emissions inventory. CTDOT, DEEP, DAS Testimony

CLAIM: “Children are most at risk from GLB noise and toxins.”

REALITY: Under this ordinance, gas leaf blowers will still be running at full force in town parks and school grounds where kids actually play because Town Council exempted its own municipal

workers from the ban

CLAIM: “The Town Council passed a balanced law with public input.”

REALITY: Checking the “public hearing” box isn't the same as actually listening. Extensive testimony and valid concerns from resident landscapers, and local opponents were completely ignored during the drafting process.

CLAIM: “30 other towns did this without issue.”

REALITY: Those towns have a much different density than New Canaan. Sprawling towns like Westport scrapped financial penalties altogether; Greenwich

gave a 1-year warning period—New Canaan gave 12 days, with penalties following a single warning.

CLAIM: “No evidence of job losses or cost increases.”

REALITY: Official state testimony proves the exact opposite. Chris Goodwin of the CT Nursery & Landscape Association (CNLA) testified on SB 319 that these mandates force massive equipment investments, reduce worker productivity, and create severe financial strain, putting local businesses and jobs at risk. CT Assembly Testimony

CLAIM: “Gas leaf blowers are much

noisier than other equipment.”

REALITY: Banning one specific tool creates mass confusion and wastes public safety resources. In Greenwich, Police Chief James Heavey reported that residents were confused and actually calling police on completely legal lawnmowers and weed whackers. Greenwich Free Press

A NO vote on July 25th isn't anti-environment, it's a mandate to replace a shortsighted, double-standard ordinance with a fair, workable plan for everyone.

See more at <https://commongroundnewcanaan.com>

Maria Weingarten

Good Intentions Don’t Always Make Good Policy

A recent flurry of local op-eds has framed New Canaan's upcoming summer gas leaf blower ban as a simple battle between public health and those clinging to “cheap, destructive” habits. These pieces employ a familiar rhetorical device: painting opponents as selfish, short-sighted, or anti-science instead of debating the actual mechanics of the law. But that misses the mark. It assumes bad faith where there is none. We can freely concede that the proponents' hearts are in the right place. Wanting a quieter, cleaner summer in New Canaan is a perfectly reasonable, well-intentioned goal we all share.

However, a policy can have the best intentions and still fail in practice. This debate isn't about whether gas-powered engines are ideal. It is a question of costs and benefits, a constructive look at the unintended consequences, economic realities, and administrative failure points of

this ordinance.

New Canaan's summer ban imposes higher costs on homeowners and small businesses without delivering tangible environmental benefits. We do not have to speculate about these outcomes; we need only look next door. As reported by the Greenwich Free Press, Greenwich's seasonal ban delivered administrative chaos. On July 18, Greenwich Police Public Information Officer Timothy Kelly noted that between May 23 and July 15 of 2025, there had already been 347 calls for service regarding leaf blower complaints: “There have been many instances where the reported leaf blower has turned out to be some other piece of equipment that is not banned, and many times there have been no leaf blowers active upon police arrival.”

By the end of its first summer, Greenwich police were flooded with a total of 479 complaints.

According to Greenwich Police Chief James Heavey, responding to these calls became a “considerable task,” wasting 15 to 20 minutes of crucial officer time per call, often only to find the landscapers had already left, or that the noise was actually originating from completely legal lawnmowers or weed whackers.

A Quiet Noise Greenwich gas leaf blower impact survey administered July 3-July 12, 2025 revealed ongoing community frustration: over a third of respondents saw virtually zero reduction in gas blower use, while many others expressed deep discomfort with “policing” their own neighbors, yet remained resentful of the lack of actual enforcement. The neighbor-on-neighbor reporting model is the most socially toxic element of the policy. By relying on this system, the ban is effectively encouraging residents to report each other to the police, putting our already

stretched local law enforcement in the uncomfortable position of refereeing lawn care disputes.

The human toll of this policy extends to the workforce as well, in ways proponents often overlook. Critics of gas blowers accuse us of outsourcing “our picture-perfect yards to interchangeable crews... whose cardiac and respiratory health we've apparently priced well below our own,” claiming the workers are paying the ultimate price for “cheap” landscaping solutions. But this argument ignores the downstream reality for these very workers. By forcing a transition to heavier, less efficient battery-powered equipment, the ban actually results in longer working hours in the summer heat, heavier physical loads, and potential job losses as local landscaping businesses face financial strain.

When a policy negatively impacts local police, creates neighborhood division, and puts

economic strain on vulnerable local workers, we have to admit the policy itself is flawed.

A Path Forward: Compromise

One of the frustrations with the ordinance is that instead of a sweeping seasonal ban, the Town could have explored less disruptive, cooperative solutions:

- * Tighter Operating Hours: We could have restricted commercial blowers during peak weekend or evening hours, preserving quiet personal time for families.
- * Lot-Size Zoning: We could have divided the town by lot sizes, ensuring high-density neighborhoods get noise relief while sparing larger, multi-acre properties where electric alternatives simply cannot get the job done.
- * Rotating Quiet Zones: The town could have divided neighborhoods into designated “quiet zones” with a rotating weekly schedule posted clearly on the town website. This would let residents have peaceful outdoor days while still giving landscapers a predictable, workable window to

complete their jobs.

To enforce the above, instead of police officers writing tickets on our lawns, New Canaan should look to the Westport Model.

When Westport passed its seasonal leaf blower restrictions, town leaders deliberately stripped all monetary fines and police involvement from the final ordinance:

- * Administered by the Conservation Department: The administrative task of monitoring compliance falls under a civil department (like our own Conservation Commission).
- * Education-First Compliance: When a complaint is submitted, the town does not dispatch an officer. Instead, they mail a friendly “Notice of Violation” and an educational packet directly to the property owner.

When you look past the intentions and analyze the policy itself, New Canaan's seasonal leaf blower ban fails. I urge all New Canaanites to vote NO on the July 25th referendum.

Paula Levin

Beyond the sloganeering

Dear Editor,

As the July 25 referendum approaches, many voters are still deciding how to vote. If you're one of them, it's worth looking past the campaign slogans and focusing on what the ordinance actually does.

First, this is a summer-only restriction on commercial gas-powered leaf blowers.

There are very few leaves to blow during the summer months. From Labor Day through Memorial Day, commercial landscapers may continue using gas-powered leaf blowers just as they always have.

Why summer? Because that's when people spend the most time outdoors.

Families are eating on patios, children are playing outside, windows are open, and neighbors are enjoying their yards. It's also when reducing unnecessary noise and air pollution has the greatest benefit to residents.

Gas-powered leaf blowers create two well-documented problems: excessive noise and exhaust pollution. The ordinance addresses both by limiting their use during the months when they have

the greatest impact on the community.

Some opponents point out that the ordinance does not apply to Town-owned properties. That's true—but every new policy has to begin somewhere. Applying the ordinance first to commercial use on residential properties is a practical starting point. If future changes are needed, the Town can consider them.

If you're still undecided, I encourage you to read information from both sides

before voting. Then ask yourself a simple question: Is a summer-only restriction on commercial gas-powered leaf blowers a reasonable way to give residents quieter neighborhoods and cleaner air during the months they use their outdoor spaces the most?

I believe the answer is yes, and I hope you'll vote to keep the ordinance in place.

Jill LaGattuta

What the Leaf Blower Ordinance Really Means

When I first started bringing attention to the constant and recurring noise created by commercial gas-powered leaf blowers, I honestly did not know what kind of response I would get.

What surprised me was how consistent the response was.

Almost everyone I spoke with was very candid. They talked about how much they disliked the constant noise, how it interrupted conversations, outdoor activities, and simply enjoying their own property. Many people said the same thing: they were tired of having their summer days interrupted by the sound of commercial leaf blowers running throughout their neighborhoods.

These were not people from one neighborhood or one group. They were residents from all over town, living in different areas and on different size properties. I heard from people in smaller neighborhoods as well as residents on larger lots, including those in four-acre zones. They came from different backgrounds and had different perspectives, but the common theme was simple: people wanted to enjoy their homes during the summer months without the

constant disruption of commercial gas-powered leaf blower noise.

As I learned more about the issue, I also discovered that this was not just about noise. Gas-powered leaf blowers create pollution, and there are legitimate concerns about air quality, worker exposure, and the impact these machines have when they operate for hours at a time.

What started as a conversation about noise became a much bigger discussion about quality of life and finding the right balance.

So what does this ordinance actually do?

It is pretty simple.

For only three months of the year—from Memorial Day through Labor Day—it limits the use of commercial gas-powered leaf blowers in residential neighborhoods.

That is it — One resident I spoke with asked – whats all the fuss about ? There are NO Leaves to clear in the summer.

It does not ban landscaping. It does not ban leaf blowers. It does not prevent homeowners from using gas-powered blowers on hard surfaces like driveways, patios, walkways, pool areas, or tennis

courts. Battery-powered equipment is still allowed.

This is a summer-only restriction designed to give residents some relief during the time of year when they are most likely to be outside.

And that is an important point.

Summer is when people open their windows, spend time outside, have friends over, sit on their decks, and enjoy their yards. It is also the time of year when there are very few leaves to blow.

One argument we continue to hear is, “What about chainsaws? What about hedge trimmers? What about lawn mowers?”

The difference is the amount of time and the way they affect neighborhoods.

A chainsaw might run for a few minutes to remove a fallen tree limb. A hedge trimmer is used for a specific job and then shut off. A mower comes through, cuts the lawn, and leaves.

Commercial gas-powered leaf blowers are different. They often run continuously for hours, moving from property to property throughout the day. The noise does not stay in one place—it travels throughout the neighborhood.

That is why this ordinance focuses on commercial gas-powered leaf blowers. It is not about banning every noisy tool. It is about addressing one specific source of ongoing noise and pollution.

Some of the arguments against this ordinance have also wandered into unrelated topics—COVID, Obamacare, national politics, and other issues that have nothing to do with this decision.

Those things have no bearing on whether New Canaan residents should have three quieter months during the summer.

This is a local issue.

Another argument we hear is about the impact on small landscaping businesses. I understand that concern. Small businesses are important, and nobody wants to make things unnecessarily difficult for them.

But there is another side of this discussion that often gets overlooked.

What about the residents who live here?

New Canaan taxpayers support this town. They pay significant property taxes because they value this community, the services it

provides, and the quality of life it offers. Those residents also deserve consideration.

Businesses adapt to changing rules all the time. This ordinance did not come out of nowhere. It was discussed for more than five years through committee meetings, public hearings, and Town Council discussions.

Residents had many opportunities to participate. Hundreds attended meetings, submitted comments, wrote emails, and spoke publicly. The Conservation Commission also supported the ordinance because of the environmental and quality-of-life benefits.

Opponents are absolutely entitled to disagree with the decision. That is part of any public debate.

But what cannot fairly be said is that they were not given a chance to participate.

This process was open. It was lengthy. It included discussion, debate, and opportunities for input. The final ordinance was not a rushed decision—it was a compromise.

The Town Council did not pass a year-round ban. It did not eliminate landscaping. It did not take away homeowner

use. It created a limited summer restriction that addresses the time when residents are most affected.

The question is not whether landscaping businesses matter. They do.

The question is whether we can find a reasonable balance between those businesses and the residents who live here.

After more than five years of discussion, public input, and consideration, this ordinance does exactly that.

It gives residents three months of quieter neighborhoods, less pollution, and the ability to enjoy their own property during the summer, while still allowing businesses and homeowners flexibility.

This is not about politics. It is not about attacking landscapers. It is not about banning equipment.

It is about quality of life.

On July 25, voters have a choice: return to the way things have always been, or keep a carefully considered ordinance that reflects years of public discussion and resident input.

For me, the choice is clear. This ordinance represents a reasonable balance, and it deserves to stay.

Lars Andersson

Laws Need to Have Teeth

Opponents of New Canaan's leaf blower ordinance have recently pivoted to argue against enforcement. They argue that violation of the ordinance should have no consequence other than receiving an information packet. Here's why that doesn't work.

During one of the many public hearings leading up to New Canaan's leaf blower ordinance, Town Council member Hilary Ormond observed that most town

residents will act in good faith to comply with a new rule once they know it exists. That is why the first enforcement step of New Canaan's ordinance has always been education. But sadly, every community has a minority who couldn't care less about their neighbors and are not interested in learning to adjust their behavior. As a result, laws need to have teeth if they are to have meaning.

It is nice to think that everyone will

respond to an education packet and live together like one big happy family, but Westport's experience shows that isn't true. Westport's leaf blower ordinance originally had enforcement procedures similar to New Canaan's, but they were stripped out at the last minute after intense lobbying from landscapers and their supporters — the same interest group that wants you to vote No in New Canaan. With no consequences for violation, tensions have increased between the majority who make the effort to comply

and the minority who deliberately and repeatedly ignore the ordinance, and frustration has grown with the town government for failing to protect the health and well-being of its citizens.

New Canaan should not follow Westport's mistake. For any new rule, enforcement calls go up in the short term as people learn. If the rule is enforced, calls go down after that because behavior changes. New Canaan police probably receive very few enforcement calls for the ban on smoking in restaurants, for

example. That's why it is misleading to focus on the number of police calls right after a rule goes into effect -- the burden on the police will be short-lived once people understand that the rule will be enforced. But an ordinance that is not enforced or is unenforceable, as the No group advocates, is a recipe for ongoing tensions between neighbors and a more angry, frustrated community.

Don't let New Canaan go down that road. Vote Yes on Saturday or at Town Hall before 1:30 on Friday.

John Seel



By THE REV. DR. SCOTT HERR

The World Cup is over, but the roar of the crowds will still be echoing in my head for some time. My first experience with the World Cup took place 40 years ago. I was a summer intern serving at the Union Church in Mexico City, and the senior pastor scored some tickets for the “Mundial” championship game. On June 29, 1986, at the Estadio Azteca, we watched Argentina defeat West Germany 3–2 in front of 114,600 spectators. It was unforgettable, as it was the first time I experienced “the wave” with a stadium crowd, and tens of thousands of fans yelling, “Olé, olé, olé, olé!” The match featured goals from José Luis Brown and Jorge Valdano for Argentina, and a late West German comeback before Jorge Burruchaga scored the winning goal.

I played American “football” growing up and love to watch NFL games, but there’s something special about the World Cup games that I hope will continue to catch on in our

country. In these days of wearying warfare and political vitriol, the World Cup has shown us that even in trying times, people from different nations and cultures can come together and celebrate. There were a number of moments that give me hope for our world.

The first was the David and Goliath story of Cape Verde, a little island country off the west coast of Africa, which became the surprise team of the 2026 World Cup. Representing a nation of just over 500,000 people, the newcomers shocked fans by holding Spain to a 0-0 draw, tying two-time champion Uruguay 2-2, and reaching the Round of 32 before losing a hard-fought 3-2 match to Argentina in extra time. They became the fairy tale of this year’s World Cup, and their legendary run made them one of the tournament’s most unforgettable teams. The 40-year-old Cape Verdean soccer goalkeeper Vozinha became a global internet sensation overnight after blocking Spain from scoring with seven crucial saves. At the final whistle, Vozinha collapsed to his knees in tears. His incredible play and the dramatic story of his mother, whose visa was fast-tracked so she could watch him play, warmed the hearts of fans everywhere. She was there to see Cape Verde’s 2-2 draw with Uruguay.

Secondly, most people have heard about how the kilt-wearing Scottish

Soccer is a sport that, even for a few weeks, brings the world together.

team and fans won the hearts of Boston... after drinking the city dry! “No Scotland, no party!” became the new Scottish anthem. And then there’s the city of Lawrence, Kansas which rolled out the red carpet for the Algerian team, throwing big block parties and adding Algerian-inspired dishes to local restaurant menus. The University of Kansas marching band even learned the Algerian national anthem to welcome the team.

Finally, the World Cup gave proof that even war takes a back seat to soccer! Despite burdensome FIFA-imposed lodging and travel restrictions, the Iranian team was allowed into the US to play their matches. After their draw against Belgium which sent them packing home, they left this note in their locker room: “We came to Los Angeles with pride, competed with honor, and left with dignity... Thank you, Los Angeles, for your hospitality. And thank you every Iranian who gave their heart, voice and soul for Iran through these 180 minutes. May peace, respect, and friendship prevail among all nations!”

About three-quarters of the

matches have been played in the United States, and the remainder played in Canadian and Mexican stadiums. Many international fans have been pleasantly surprised by the warm hospitality of the United States, and impressed with how big everything is here, from food servings to national parks. I think US citizens also have been impressed with how big soccer really is in the world. Even though our U.S team got knocked out by Belgium in the Round of 16, 33 million viewers tuned in, double that of the 16.5 viewers of the 2022 Round of 16 US loss to the Netherlands. That pales in comparison to the 125.6 million 2026 NFL Super Bowl viewers, but the trend is certainly on the upswing.

Soccer is a sport which, even for a few weeks, brings the world together. As I write this before the July 19th Final featuring Argentina and Spain, it is estimated there will be more viewers than the 537 million who watched the 2022 World Cup Final. Whatever the final number is, to see the sportsmanship of men who in another context would be enemies - shaking hands, embracing, patting one another on the shoulder to show honor and

respect - is heartening to me. George Weah (Liberia’s President and former World Player of the Year) put it this way: “Football is a universal language. It brings people together, irrespective of their nationalities, cultures or beliefs.” And the French football legend Zinedine Zidane said, “Football is the only thing that can bring together an entire country, regardless of political or religious differences.”

Now that the World Cup is over, my wife and I have decided to rewatch Apple TV’s “Ted Lasso” series. The first season opens with Ted’s philosophy, a philosophy with which I can get on board. Ted, the winsome American taking over his new role as an English Soccer head coach of the team AFC Richmond, places a yellow, handwritten “BELIEVE” sign above his office door on his very first day. When the players mock it as cheesy American optimism, Ted tells them that belief isn’t about the scoreboard; it is about believing in themselves and each other.

As a pastor, I daily pray for peace and friendship in our world. Perhaps I should pray for more people simply to BELIEVE... and play more soccer?

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.

First Church of Christ, Scientist

49 Park Street 203.966.0293

christiansciencet.org/newcanaan

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

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

First Presbyterian Church

178 Oenoke Ridge Road 203.966.0002

fpcnc.org

Sunday Service: 10am in person or via LocalLive. All are welcome. Coffee Hour after the service is also available in person or via Zoom. Dedicated childcare is available for all children via Wee Care Nanny Agency from 8:45-11:30am in the Nursery School. Transcripts of previous sermons are also available via the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan’s website.

Recurring Events:

Every Saturday 9:15am (closed) and **10:30am** (open): Alcoholics Anonymous. Every Tuesday 8pm: Men’s A.A.

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

Upcoming Events:

July 30 at 7:30 PM: Music on the Hill presents Felix Mendelssohn Elijah- the Summer Chorus with two-piano orchestration. Tickets are available at musiconthehillct.org.

September 13 at 11:30 AM: Rally Day Picnic. Join for food, fellowship, and fun.

Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church

21 Cherry Street 203.966.0020

www.starcc.com

Service Schedule:

Saturday: Vigil for Sunday at 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:

Fridays 7:30am-5:15pm: Eucharistic Adoration (September-June)

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

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church

111 Oenoke Ridge 203.966.4515

churchoffice@stmarksnewcanaan.org

www.stmarksnewcanaan.org

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

Church School during the 10am service: Godly Play for children in kindergarten through second grade; Holy Moly for

third and fourth grades; Meet in the Middle for fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Professional childcare is offered for children ages four and under. Families with children who are not yet ready to separate for childcare are invited to use the rocking chairs at the rear of the chapel.

Weekday Services: Monday-Friday, 8:30am: Morning 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

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

Praising God Since 1797

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.

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.

Community Baptist Church

174 Cherry Street 203.966.0711

cbcnewcanaan@gmail.com

www.cbcnewcanaan.org

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoZ2UNa8aHI30_Syp_X0KDg

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 @ Saxe Middle School

468 South Avenue, 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.templesinaistamford.org

Service Schedule:

1st, 3rd & 5th Friday – 6pm in person and via zoom

2nd & 4th – 7:30pm

Recurring Events:

Fridays at 12 PM: Torah Study

Second Saturday at 10:30 AM: Mussar

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

First Saturday at 8 AM: Avodat Halev Discussion Group

Temple Sholom

300 E. Putnam Ave. Greenwich, CT 06830

203-869-7191

www.templesholom.com

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

Recurring Events:

Saturdays at 9 AM: Shabbat Study via zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/94358392426?pwd=bFJQem9HWFcXU0EzZUM2VENEZmgYUT09#success>

Leaf Blower Ordinance as Passed May 20, 2026

The original document can be found on the Town website [NewCanaan.info](https://newcanaantownct.documents-on-demand.com/document/8ced5573-6b6e-f111-a4a0-000c29a59557/TC%20Revised%20Draft%20Minutes%20%2005-20-26.PDF) here:
<https://newcanaantownct.documents-on-demand.com/document/8ced5573-6b6e-f111-a4a0-000c29a59557/TC%20Revised%20Draft%20Minutes%20%2005-20-26.PDF>

EXHIBIT A

[DRAFT] ORDINANCE NO. [XX-XXXX] – GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY

Consistent with the municipal powers granted under C.G.S. §§ 7-148(c)(7), (8) and (10), including the protection and promotion of the public health, safety, convenience, general welfare, peace, quality of life, and property values for the residents of New Canaan, and to facilitate the enjoyment of the natural attractions and tranquility of the Town, it is the intent of this ordinance to set specific controls on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

“Gas-Powered Leaf Blower” means any powered device used to blow leaves, debris, grass clippings, or dust, whether handheld, backpack, mounted, or wheeled, that is powered by an internal combustion engine utilizing gasoline, diesel, or any other similar fuel.

"Summer Season" is defined as the period from the Saturday immediately prior to Memorial Day through Labor Day each year.

"Noise Ordinance" refers to the Town’s existing regulations on noise levels, specifically those addressing decibel levels during different times of day (New Canaan Town Code § 36A).

SECTION 3: RESTRICTIONS ON GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWER USE

1. Restriction on the Use of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers
 - a. The use of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers shall be prohibited within the Town of New Canaan during the Summer Season, as defined in Section 2, unless exempt under subsection (2).
 - b. The provisions of this ordinance are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other restrictions set forth in the Connecticut General Statutes and other sections of the Town Code, including but not limited to the Noise Ordinance.
2. Exceptions The following uses are exempt from the restrictions of this ordinance:
 - a. Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers used for emergency or safety purposes;
 - b. Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers used for storm clean up;
 - c. Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers used by the Town of New Canaan’s Department of Public Works (the “DPW”);
 - d. Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers used by public utility companies to clear debris affecting essential services; and
 - e. Single Gas-Powered Leaf Blower use by residents on hard or man-made surfaces.

SECTION 4: PENALTIES

1. Violation of Ordinance
 - a. Violations of the provisions of this ordinance shall be assessed against property owners, who shall be subject to the following penalties:
 - i. First Offense: A written warning and a notice of violation
 - ii. Second Offense: A fine of \$100
 - iii. Third or Subsequent Offenses: A fine of the greater of \$250, or the maximum amount allowed by § 7-148(c)(10)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as the same may be amended from time to time.
 - b. The fine for each municipal citation shall be payable to the Treasurer of the Town of New Canaan. The issuance, payment, and procedure to contest a municipal citation shall be in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 7-152C and the citation hearing procedure in Chapter 11 of the Code of the Town of New Canaan.
2. Enforcement
 - a. This ordinance may be enforced by the New Canaan Police Department (the “NCPD”) and/or any municipal officer or Town employee designated by the First Selectman (the “Designated Officer”).
 - b. The NCPD and/or the Designated Officer are hereby authorized to issue infraction tickets to any resident on whose property occurs a violation of any provision of this ordinance. Each violation shall constitute a separate offense.
 - c. The provisions of this ordinance are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies available to the Town of New Canaan under the Connecticut General Statutes and other sections of the Town Code, including but not limited to the Noise Ordinance. The issuance of infraction tickets or municipal citations under this ordinance shall not preclude the exercise of such other remedies. In addition, the Town of New Canaan may seek injunctive relief and monetary penalties for continued and repeated violations

SECTION 7: EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect on June 1, 2026

TICK BITES

From Page 1

states. Researchers are also studying whether other ticks common in our area, including the blacklegged or deer tick, may play a role. That evidence is still early, but it is worth watching in a state like ours where deer ticks are widespread.

When the tick bites, it introduces a sugar molecule called alpha-gal into the body. In some people, the immune system starts producing antibodies against this molecule. Because alpha-gal occurs naturally in most mammals, a person who develops the syndrome can suddenly become allergic to beef, pork, lamb, venison, and other mammalian meats.

One of the most unusual features of alpha-gal syndrome is that the reaction does not happen right away. Unlike most food allergies, symptoms often appear three to six hours after eating. This delay makes it hard to connect the reaction to a meal eaten earlier in the day.

The symptoms vary from person to person. Some people develop hives, itching, or swelling. Others have stomach pain,

nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. In more severe cases, a person can experience difficulty breathing, dizziness, or anaphylaxis, a life-threatening reaction that requires emergency care.

Because the symptoms can arrive hours after dinner, many people assume they have food poisoning, a stomach virus, or simple indigestion. Some go months before receiving the correct diagnosis.

Diagnosis starts with a careful medical history. I often ask about recent tick bites, time spent outdoors, and whether symptoms follow meals that include red meat. A blood test can measure antibodies to alpha-gal and help confirm the diagnosis.

At this time, no medication cures alpha-gal syndrome. The main treatment is avoiding foods and products that contain mammalian meat. Some people also need to avoid certain dairy products or medications made from mammalian ingredients, while others tolerate them without trouble. Every case is a little different, which is why individual medical guidance matters.

The encouraging news is that some people improve over time, especially when they avoid further tick bites. In certain cases, antibody levels fall and food restrictions can ease under medical supervision. Others live with the allergy for years.

The best protection is avoiding tick bites in the first place. When you spend time outdoors, use an EPA-approved insect

repellent, wear long sleeves and pants in wooded or grassy areas, check yourself thoroughly for ticks when you come inside, and remove any attached tick promptly with fine-tipped tweezers.

As tick populations grow in our region, conditions beyond Lyme disease deserve our attention. Alpha-gal syndrome was once considered rare, but doctors now recognize it far more often. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that up to 450,000 Americans may have been affected. For those who have it, the effects reach into everyday life, from grocery shopping to dining out.

If you have repeated allergic reactions, hives, or unexplained stomach symptoms several hours after eating red meat, especially after a recent tick bite, talk with your healthcare provider. Recognizing alpha-gal syndrome early can prevent more serious reactions and help you make informed choices about your health.

The information in the article is for educational purposes only and not meant as a substitute for medical advice. If you have a specific medical concern please consult your medical provider.

Teresa Alasio, MD, is a board-certified physician and Medical Director of Intentional Self Aesthetics in New Canaan. She writes about medical topics that help readers better understand their health and the science behind emerging conditions.

LABOR DAY PARTY

From Page 1

handle dessert with a build-your-own sundae experience. Guests can choose their ice cream, add toppings, and assemble a personalized treat without leaving the lawn. Together, the trucks create the sort of menu that suits an evening built around casual movement: dinner at one table, music near the dance floor and ice cream before the final song.

Lawn games will give guests another reason to circulate, compete and meet people beyond the group they arrived with. The gathering is intended for residents and nonresidents age 21 and older, making it a date-night option, a group outing or a chance to reconnect with neighbors after a summer of travel and shifting schedules.

Individual tickets are \$40. Couple tickets are \$75, with the couple discount applied at the final checkout screen. The same prices apply to residents and nonresidents.

Groups looking for a more private setting may reserve one of six exclusive viewing areas

for \$900. Each area accommodates 12 guests and includes reserved seating near the dance floor and live entertainment, a dedicated event attendant, light refreshments, ice service and a separate gathering space. The limited areas give larger groups a way to attend together without losing the ease of a backyard-style evening.

The evening begins at 6 p.m., giving guests an hour to order food, arrange chairs and blankets, explore the grounds and claim a place before the music starts. The Zoo takes the stage at 7 p.m. and performs through 9 p.m.

The event also offers something increasingly welcome in a busy town: a plan that requires little planning. There is no formal dinner reservation, assigned itinerary or complicated dress code. Guests can arrive with a few friends, find a patch of lawn and let the evening unfold around the music.

Labor Day weekend often carries two messages at once. It is a holiday celebration and a marker that summer is nearly over firmly settling in the new school year. For this Friday night, summer earns an encore.

For more information, please visit <https://www.newcanaanmusicfestival.com/>

NEW CANAAN NATURE CENTER

144 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH

12PM TO 10PM

FOOD SCRAPS

From Page 1

money,” says Tom Cronin, chairman of the Conservation Commission. “It’s cheaper to haul compost than it is to haul waste.” He notes that “we could save the town a fair amount of money, and do the right thing in the process” by separating compostables, and not disposing them with the rest of the trash.

Food scraps and other compostables comprise as much as 25% of municipal waste, he says.

This cost differential reflects the fact that compostables such as food scraps are easier to process and result in something of value – compost to nourish our farms and gardens. Regular municipal waste is trucked to distant landfills. Thus, waste haulage costs (called tipping fees) are lower for compostables.

“The Conservation Commission looks forward to working with our town Transfer Station and [local charity] Planet New Canaan in setting future volume goals for our town composting efforts,” says Chairman Cronin.

Planet New Canaan has had a successful composting project with South School, and is working on expanding it to include other schools.

To support home composting efforts, Planet New Canaan is selling buckets with tight seals and

COMPOST GUIDE

for residents of the New Canaan Transfer Station



- Meat*** (including bones)
- Fruits & Vegetables** (including trimmings)
- Dairy**
- Certified compostable bags/liners**
- Coffee grounds** (no K-cups)
- Pasta**
- Tea bags**
- Eggshells**
- Vegetable oil**
- Shellfish**



NOT ACCEPTED:

- Produce bags
- Plastic bags
- Pet waste
- Produce stickers
- Any compostable utensils
- Any non-compostable containers
- No beverage containers
- No disposable tableware
- No paper towels
- No plastic straws
- No plastic clamshells
- No plastic drink lids





NEW CANAAN

FOOD SCRAP RECYCLING

ACCEPTED
ALL FOOD, INCLUDING

- MEAT (INCLUDING BONES)
- FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
- DAIRY
- COFFEE GRINDS (NO K CUPS)
- TEA BAGS
- EGGSHELLS
- VEGETABLE OILS
- SHELLFISH SHELLS
- CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE PAIL LINERS

NOT ACCEPTED
DO NOT ADD NON FOOD ITEMS, INCLUDING

- NO PRODUCE BAGS
- NO PLASTIC BAGS
- NO PRODUCE STICKERS
- NO PET WASTE
- NO BEVERAGE CONTAINERS
- NO COMPOSTABLE CONTAINERS
- NO DISPOSABLE SILVERWARE
- NO PAPER TOWELS
- NO NAPKINS
- NO TWIST TIES
- NO PLASTIC CONTAINERS

compostable liner bags to homeowners to collect food scraps, who then take it to the transfer station, where there are bins in which to deposit the compostables for processing. Buckets with the liners cost \$15, and this is the link to get one: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/planet-new-canaan-incs-shop>

Mary Ann O’Hara, who lives in a condo in town, is also a keen composting fan. “I have grandchildren and I feel... we have to stop the methane in the dumps. The majority

of methane, I think maybe 70%, comes from food waste in dumps.” Food waste that ends up in landfills emits methane, a particularly powerful greenhouse gas.

Recycling
Chairman Cronin is also an ardent

supporter of recycling. “Absolutely more recycling,” he emphasizes, noting that New Canaan “has made terrific strides over the years.” He wants to continue “to get the word out -- create awareness on the need for more recycling.”

A Place for Artists explores the role of the artist community

As the United States commemorates its 250th anniversary year, a new exhibition, A Place for Artists, considers how communities like Silvermine have helped shape the cultural identity of Connecticut and the nation. With archival photographs, work that spans generations of Silvermine artists, and a glimpse of Silvermine’s current outreach and education programs, A Place for Artists presents a multi-faceted portrait of Silvermine as an inclusive, innovative, and vibrant force in the community. The exhibition opens on Sat., July 11, and runs through Aug. 20. The public is invited to the opening reception

on July 11 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Begun in 1908 and formally organized in 1922, Silvermine’s Guild of Artists, its School of Art, its Galleries, and its community outreach programs have created an enduring model. Silvermine is a place where artists have found mentors, exhibited their work, taught, and discovered a creative home. The Guild includes two and three generations of members, a few of whom have work on display in the new exhibition. The complex, layered, and radial painting of Alicia Gonzalez is showcased alongside the groundbreaking work of her parents, Sergio Gonzalez-Tornero and Adrienne Cullom,



“Missing the Mark” Sculpture by Susan Clinard. Submitted photo. Both Silvermine lions.

Historically and in the contemporary art world, Silvermine has never been defined by a single style or movement. A wide range of

artistic styles and disciplines is on view in A Place for Artists. Realists, abstractionists, sculptors, printmakers, ceramic artists, photographers, and multimedia artists can all be found here. Highlights from the exhibit include George W. Picknell’s historic landscape painting, A Bend in the Silvermine, and work by new and established Guild artists, including Susan Clinard whose stunning sculptures of human forms have earned an international audience.

The exhibition offers new and exciting work along with highlights from Silvermine’s history—including archival photographs of the campus

and the founders whose philosophies helped Silvermine spring into being more than 100 years ago.

Every work of art at Silvermine reflects relationships—between artists and teachers, mentors and students, colleagues and neighbors, past and present. A Place for Artists invites visitors to explore the deep well of creativity at Silvermine—and to discover how the arts center has become a living institution whose greatest work has been the community it continues to create.

NEWS BRIEFS

From Page 1

AROUND TOWN

Planetarium Event Explores Dark Energy

The New Canaan High School Planetarium will host a live program on dark energy at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5. Dr. Kyle Dawson of the Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument survey will present findings from a three-dimensional map of 47 million galaxies and quasars, and the event will include a live question-and-answer session with participating planetariums worldwide.

LOCAL BUSINESSES & NON PROFITS

New Canaan Hosts Outdoor Dance

New Canaan Library will host a free outdoor dance performance on the Green featuring Thomas/Ortiz Dance Company and East Coast Contemporary Ballet. The event is part of a Fairfield County dance series that also includes Parsons Dance Company, Take Dance Company, Amy Marshall Dance Company, and Neville Dance Company. The rain date is Wednesday, July 29.

Rotary Supports Global Landmine Clearance



The New Canaan Rotary Club recently hosted Charisse Kim of HALO USA for a presentation on The HALO Trust’s landmine clearance and explosive hazard programs. Since 1988, the organization has worked in more than 30 countries, with its largest current operation in Ukraine, and hires more than 95 percent of its field staff locally. The club’s partnership with HALO began under former president Tom Weilenmann. Photo credit: New Canaan Rotary

New Pondside Seating Welcomes Visitors



Two New Canaan Nature Center board members and two staff members assembled new outdoor furniture last week for the patio overlooking a pond. The seating is now available for visitors. Photo credit: New Canaan Nature Center

Downtown Blooms Honor America’s Anniversary

The New Canaan Beautification League installed flowering hanging baskets throughout downtown and filled the planters outside Town Hall. The seasonal displays include references to the nation’s 250th anniversary.

Waveny Senior Housing Proposal Introduced

Waveny LifeCare Network presented an initial proposal for a 150-unit senior living community on approximately 20 acres of town-owned land near the Waveny mulch pile. The project would use a long-term land lease, and the July 15 presentation to the Town Council began the public review process rather than seeking approval.

Flooding Temporarily Closes Green And Tonic

Green & Tonic’s New Canaan location temporarily closed after sustaining severe damage during the July 21 flash flooding. The business said the location would remain closed until further notice.

Pesca Ends Nearly Eight-Year Run

Pesca Peruvian Bistro will close after the July 25-26 weekend following nearly eight years at 70 Main St.

Splash Of Pink Ends New Canaan Run

Splash of Pink closed its 78 Elm St. store during the week of July 20 after seven years in New Canaan.

SCHOOLS

New Canaan Supports Student Success

New Canaan Human Services is accepting donations for its back-to-school program, which provides local students with a new backpack and a \$50 gift card for school supplies. Participants may sponsor a child or family, with donations accepted Aug. 10-17 at 77 Main St.

SPORTS

New Canaan Pursues Regional Championship



New Canaan’s IUU baseball team represented Connecticut at the Cal Ripken New England Regional Tournament in Bethel after winning the state championship. The team played Exeter, New Hampshire; Fairhaven-Acushnet, Massachusetts; and Bath, Maine, during pool play from July 18 through July 20. Photo credit: New Canaan Baseball

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FEATURED OPEN HOUSES

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

Address	Price	Day	Time	Broker
68 Old Stamford Road	\$1,495,000	SAT	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Keller Williams
76 Comstock Hill Road	\$1,795,000	SAT	12:00 - 2:00 pm	Raveis
148 W. Hills Road	\$2,995,000	SAT	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Raveis
160 Forest Street	\$2,295,000	SUN	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Houlihan Lawrence

NEW LISTINGS

Address	List Price	SqFt	Price/SqFt	AC	BR	FB
123 Richmond Hill Road Unit #4	\$1,475,000	1,746	\$845		3	3
68 Old Stamford Road	\$1,495,000	2,788	\$536	.30	5	3
76 Comstock Hill Road	\$1,795,000	2,288	\$785	1.07	3	2
56 Long Lots Road	\$3,195,000	5,754	\$555	2	5	5

NEW SALES

Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres
156 Summer Street	\$1,099,000	\$1,099,000	\$1,100,000	47	8	2	.20
401 Jelliff Mill Road	\$1,095,000	\$1,095,000	\$1,125,000	95	3	1	0.35
73 Bank Street	\$1,899,000	\$1,699,500	\$1,735,000	111	2	2	
736 Old Stamford Road	\$1,650,000	\$1,650,000	\$1,875,000	10	4	4	0.97
312 Elm Street #20	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	\$1,950,000	8	3	2	
32 Spring Water Lane	\$1,595,000	\$1,595,000	\$2,200,000	8	4	3	1.16
160 Lantern Ridge Road	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	51	5	5	4.13
41 Lake Wind Road	\$2,395,000	\$2,395,000	\$2,600,000	19	5	5	2.35
19 Richards Lane	\$3,150,000	\$3,150,000	\$3,300,000	12	4	4	1.34
245 Benedict Hill Road	\$3,595,000	\$3,595,000	\$3,600,000	44	5	4	4
114 Adams Lane	\$4,995,000	\$4,995,000	\$5,300,000	64	6	8	2.29



BY JOHN ENGEL

Too Few Houses, Too Few Buyers

“Scarcity supports prices, but scarcity cannot make buyers richer.”

For more than a decade, the housing argument has been simple. America did not build enough homes. Millennials formed households faster than builders supplied them. Inventory fell, prices rose and the solution appeared obvious: build more.

A new white paper from the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) asks whether that explanation is approaching its expiration date.

The authors argue that housing demand will grow much more slowly during the next two decades. Generation Z is smaller than the Millennial generation. Birth rates are down. Immigration may slow. The population is aging. Household formation, the basic engine of housing demand, is expected to decelerate.

At the same time, builders are still delivering homes and apartments conceived when demand looked stronger. Older homeowners will gradually release additional houses into the market. The paper concludes that housing supply could eventually grow faster than demand, producing falling prices in some parts of the country.

That is a startling conclusion after years of hearing that the United States is short somewhere between 1.5 million and 7.3 million homes.

It is also a reminder of how imprecise the national shortage argument has always been. A range of nearly six million homes is too broad to guide a town deciding how much housing to approve, what kind to build, or whom it should serve.

The more important question for us is whether the national forecast applies to lower Fairfield County.

Our market does not look like Austin, Phoenix, or Tampa, where subdivisions and apartment developments can add thousands of units in a few years. Connecticut is one of the hardest and most expensive places in the country to build. [Realtor.com](#) recently ranked it 46th among the 50 states and Washington, D.C., when affordability and new construction were considered together.

Over roughly the past fifteen years, Stamford, Norwalk, and Darien have completed an estimated 11,000 to 12,000 apartments. Including projects under construction, approved, or in the active pipeline, the total approaches 16,000: roughly 10,000 in Stamford, 5,000 in Norwalk and 1,100 in Darien. Greenwich issued permits for roughly 1,450 housing units from 2011 through 2023. After

demolitions, state estimates show a net increase of about 600 units. The town now has 120 apartments under construction and roughly 900 more units approved. The large projects in the four-town pipeline are overwhelmingly multifamily or attached housing. Detached-house supply remains constrained by land, zoning, and the fixed number of residential lots. Tear-downs replace existing houses without adding lots.

Demand is harder to measure.

The MBA paper estimates demand by studying fertility, immigration, aging, and household formation. Those are reasonable national measures. But lower Fairfield County is not a closed demographic system.

Our buyers do not come only from the children born here 30 years ago. They come from Manhattan and Brooklyn and elsewhere. They move for schools, space, safety, jobs, and taxes. Some arrive with incomes and equity accumulated in a much more expensive market. Hybrid work increased the distance many people are willing to live from the office.

Our demand therefore depends partly on what happens in New York City. A strong financial sector, high compensation, rising Manhattan apartment prices, or dissatisfaction with city schools can produce Fairfield County demand that Connecticut's population statistics would never predict.

The reverse is also true. A weaker New York economy, reduced bonuses, fewer commuting days, or a loss of high-paying jobs could affect us more quickly than a national decline in household formation.

Then there is affordability.

Scarcity supports prices, but scarcity cannot make buyers richer.

National home prices rose 55% from 2020 through 2025, leaving housing expensive relative to income. Income growth has recently begun to catch up in many markets, although buying remains far more expensive than renting. Connecticut adds to that burden with high property taxes, expensive insurance and maintenance, and some of the costliest electricity in the country. Those costs are still climbing. Eversource is seeking a rate increase of 11% to 18%, and the end of the federal solar tax credit on Jan. 1, weakening the main hedge homeowners had against it.

These expenses do not necessarily cause house prices to collapse. They reduce the number of households able or willing to carry an expensive property. The same economics that stall

approved projects in Greenwich confront every buyer at the closing table.

All that creates the possibility of a market with too few houses and too few qualified buyers.

The result would not look like the overbuilt Sun Belt. We would be unlikely to see rows of unsold new houses. We might instead see very low inventory, fewer transactions, longer marketing times for compromised properties, and continued competition for the best houses.

Price would depend increasingly on location, condition, and carrying cost. The renovated house near the train might attract several buyers. The oversized house with high taxes, an aging roof, and expensive mechanical systems might sit, even when little else is available.

The predicted “silver tsunami” is also unlikely to flood our market. Older homeowners are remaining in their houses longer. When those homes are eventually sold, many will require significant renovation and may still be unaffordable to the younger households expected to replace their owners.

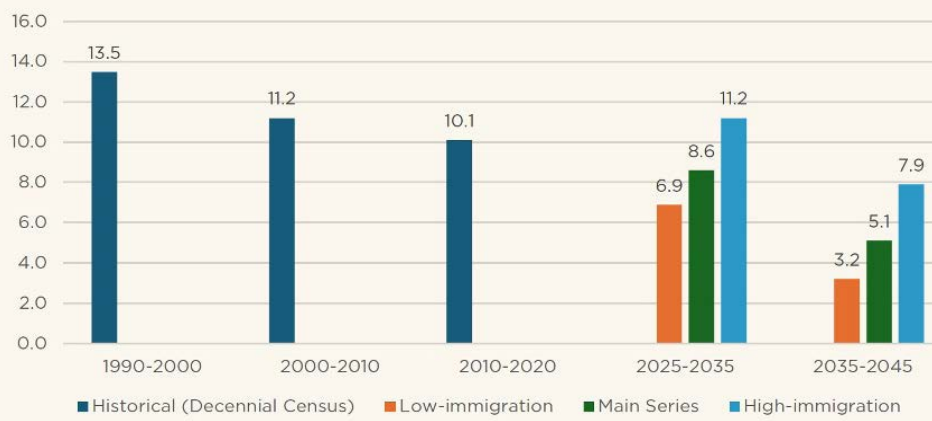
The MBA paper does not prove that Fairfield County's housing shortage is ending. It shows why we should stop treating housing demand as permanent and unlimited. Our limited land and resistance to construction will continue to restrict supply, while high taxes, energy costs, and mortgage payments restrict demand.

For lower Fairfield County, the outcome will depend on whether demand generated by New York City continues to outrun the combined burden of high prices, property taxes, insurance, electricity, and maintenance.

Readers who would like a copy of the 26-page MBA report can e-mail me.

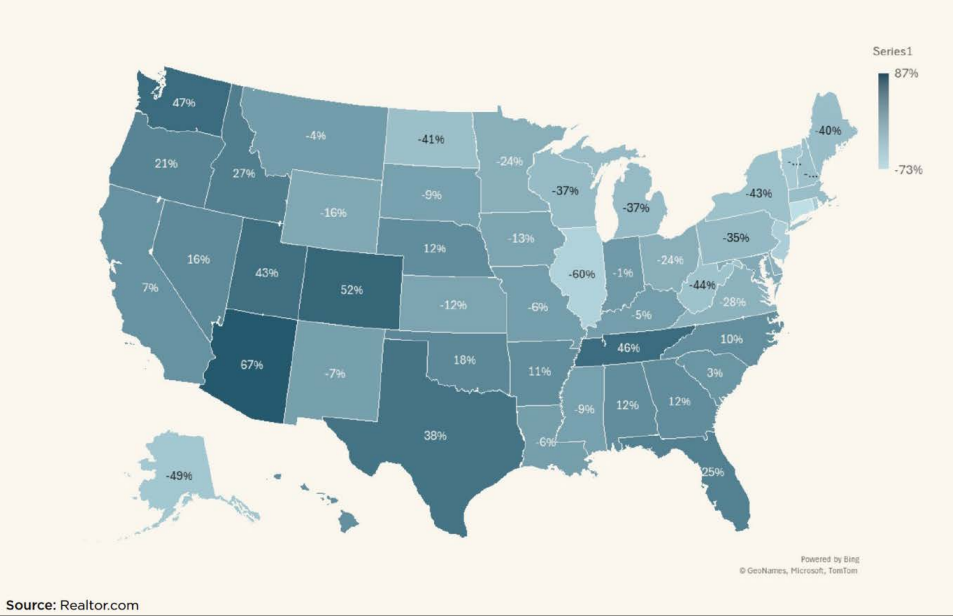
John Engel is a broker leading The Engel Team at Douglas Elliman in Connecticut. Today, his daughter, Rose, dances with the Thomas Ortiz Dance Company at Weed Beach in Darien, one of eight free ballet performances across Fairfield County this summer. Along with Shakespeare in Rowayton's Pinkney Park and the Wednesday concerts on New Canaan's Waveny lawn, it is a reminder that some of the best parts of summer still happen live, outdoors, and free. After a column full of statistics and projections, ballet by the water feels beautifully analog. Admission is free, the supply is limited, and demand should be strong. ([thomasortizdance.org](#))

FIGURE 2.2: THE PACE OF HOUSEHOLD GROWTH IS PROJECTED TO SLOW CHANGE IN HOUSEHOLDS (MILLIONS)



America Adds Fewer Households. Projected household growth varies sharply with immigration.

FIGURE 4.3 CHANGE IN ACTIVE HOME LISTINGS BETWEEN 2020 AND 2026



Connecticut ranks 46th when construction is measured against population and affordability.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY
DANCE FESTIVAL

SUMMER 2026
TOURING SCHEDULE

FAIRFIELD COUNTY'S VERY OWN **FREE**
OPEN-AIR DANCE FESTIVAL

LIVE MUSIC AT 6:00 PM EACH EVENING

STAMFORD
Mill River Park, 1010 Washington Blvd
Thursday, July 9 | 6:30 pm

WILTON
Schenck's Island, Old Ridgefield Rd
Tuesday, July 14 | 6:30 pm

RIDGEFIELD
Ballard Park, 485 Main St
Wednesday, July 15 | 6:30 pm

DARIEN
Weed Beach, 155 Nearwater Ln
Tuesday, July 21 | 6:30 pm
Rain Date: Wednesday, July 22

NORWALK
Mathews Park, 295 West Ave
Thursday, July 23 | 6:30 pm

FAIRFIELD
Fairfield Museum and History Center, 370 Beach Rd
Friday, July 24 | 6:30 pm
Rain Date: Saturday, July 25

NEW CANAAN
New Canaan Library, 151 Main St
Tuesday, July 28 | 6:30 pm
Rain Date: Wednesday, July 29

WESTPORT
MoCA CT, 19 Newtown Tpk
Thursday, July 30 | 6:30 pm

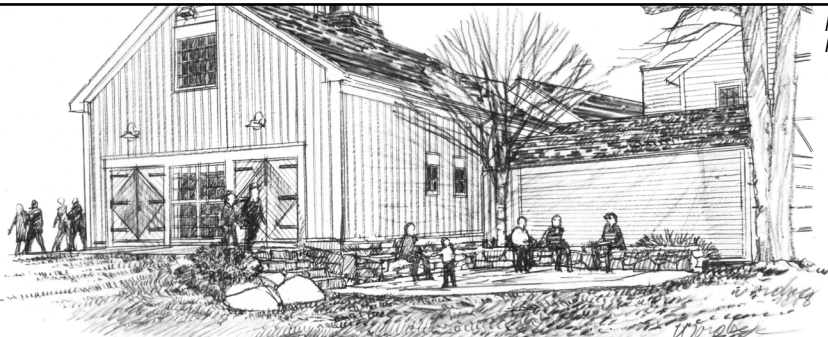
fairfieldcountydancefestival.org

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



Keith E. Simpson
Associates

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

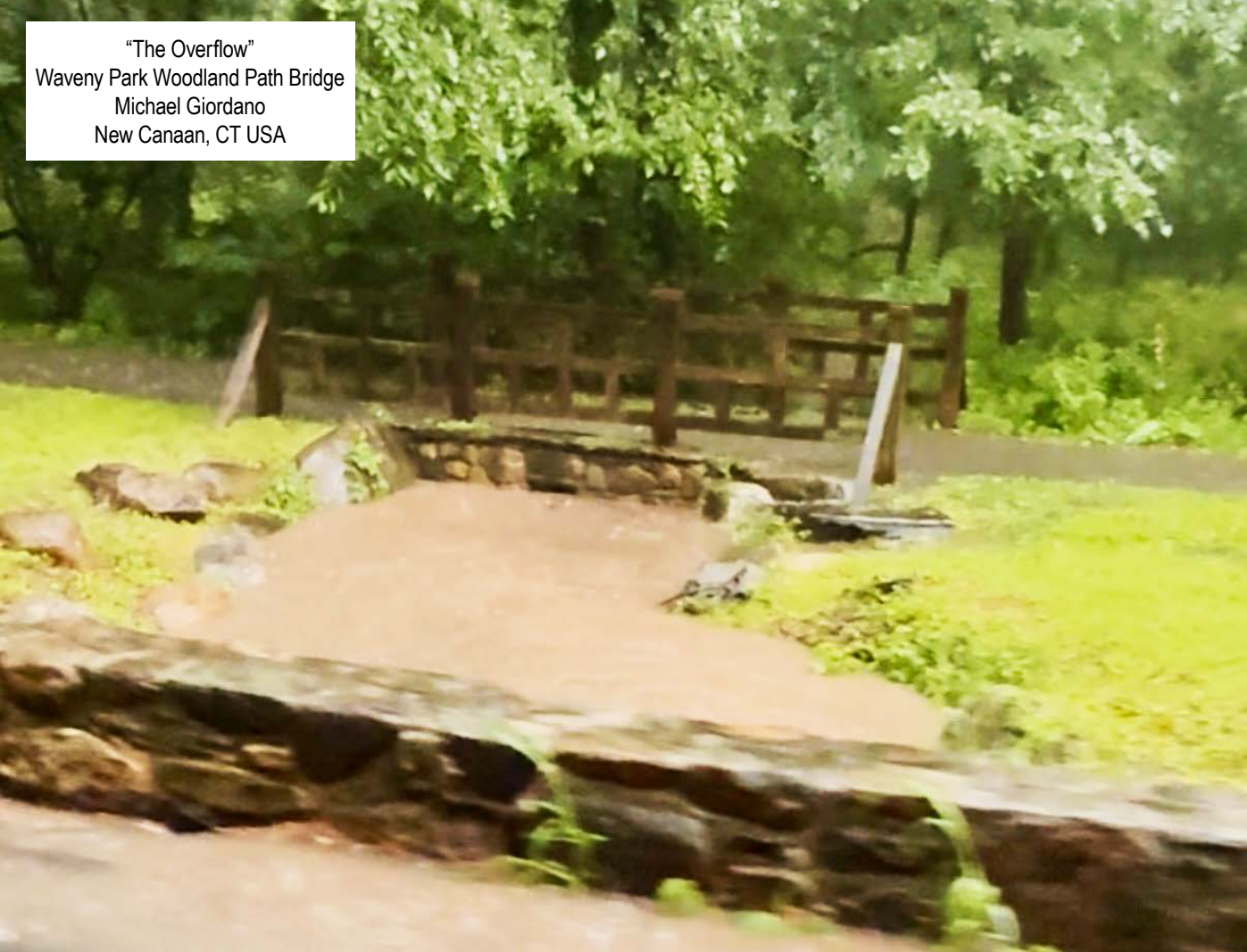
Storm Photos



Five Mile River at East Avenue
from Jerry Lione



"A River Runs Through It"
Storm drain behind the Waveny
paddle courts.
Michael Giordano
New Canaan, CT USA



"The Overflow"
Waveny Park Woodland Path Bridge
Michael Giordano
New Canaan, CT USA



Looking north at our driveway from
our kitchen at 12:14 pm July 21; wind
has blown rain under awning onto
window. Photo from Karen Hanson.

Hit it outta the park

Joe Coppo Field
in the
2026 TRAVERSE

KARL CHEVROLET

karldirect.com
261 Elm Street
New Canaan
Conn. 06840
203.966.9508

Honesty. Integrity. Service. Trust. Since 1927

For Aquarion Customers in New Canaan

Smart Watering Begins with You

Mandatory, Maximum TWICE-WEEKLY Sprinkler Irrigation Schedule

Smarter watering is watering without wasting such an important, irreplaceable resource while also keeping your lawn and garden looking their best.

Most importantly, it can be as easy as following Aquarion's mandatory irrigation schedule for hose-end sprinklers and automatic irrigation systems. Or go a step further...upgrade to a high-efficiency, irrigation system. Either way, you'll reduce what the EPA has identified as one of America's biggest water wasters – lawn and garden overwatering.

Meanwhile, you'll make more water available for vital needs throughout your community – like fire protection and drinking water. And that's just plain smart.

Questions? Contact Aquarion's Customer Service Center at **1-800-732-9678** or speak to a licensed irrigation professional.

AQUARION
Water Company
Stewards of the Environment™

Last digit of your address number

0, 2, 4, 6 or 8
(even numbers)

Water only on Sun & Wed
12:01 am – 10:00 am,
or 6:00 pm – Midnight

•

1, 3, 5, 7 or 9
(odd numbers)

Water only on Sat & Tues
12:01 am – 10:00 am,
or 6:00 pm – Midnight

•

No address number

Water only on Sun & Wed
12:01 am – 10:00 am,
or 6:00 pm – Midnight

LEARN MORE AT aquarionwater.com/watering



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

TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 28
Charter Revision Commission
5-6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room
Planning and Zoning Commission
7-9 p.m., Town Hall Board Room

Friday, July 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.

Matilda The Musical
6:30 PM at the NCHS Theater, 11 Farm Rd
This summer, step into the wildly imaginative world of Matilda the Musical – a magical musical adventure for the whole family. Filled with humor, magic, and circus spectacle, Matilda celebrates courage, creativity, and the power of believing in yourself. Tickets are available at stonc.org.

Saturday, July 25
Townwide Vote on New Leaf-Blower Ordinance
10 AM- 8 PM at New Canaan High School
A townwide vote will decide if the Town Council's recent passage of an ordinance restricting the use of gas-powered leaf blowers will be upheld or repealed. More information is available at <https://www.newcanaan.info>.

Fairy House Building
10 AM at Still Pond Preserve, 763 Silvermine Road
Join for a fun, family-friendly morning of fairy

house building. Using large stones, natural materials, and eco-friendly paint, we'll create fairy homesteads for the fairies that live at Still Pond. These magical structures are meant to stay outdoors and bring joy throughout the season. Register at newcanaanlandtrust.org/events/enchanted-creations-at-still-pond-fairy-house-building-2/.

Matilda The Musical
1:30 & 6:30 PM at the NCHS Theater, 11 Farm Rd
This summer, step into the wildly imaginative world of Matilda the Musical – a magical musical adventure for the whole family. Filled with humor, magic, and circus spectacle, Matilda celebrates courage, creativity, and the power of believing in yourself. Tickets are available at stonc.org.

Sunday, July 26
Matilda The Musical
2 PM at the NCHS Theater, 11 Farm Rd
This summer, step into the wildly imaginative world of Matilda the Musical – a magical musical adventure for the whole family. Filled with humor, magic, and circus spectacle, Matilda celebrates courage, creativity, and the power of believing in yourself. Tickets are available at stonc.org.

Monday, July 27
Introduction to New Canaan Men's Club Bridge with Les Kurian
9:30-10 AM at the Lapham Center
Join for a review of bidding and conventions used in New Canaan Men's Club bridge play. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Chair Yoga
11:30 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
With the support of a chair, this gentle Chair Yoga class will help you improve postural alignment, maintain pelvic mobility, reduce muscle tension and gain strength through flowing

movements and focused breathing. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/chair-yoga-180344.

Tuesday, July 28
Art Appreciation | Adventures in Architecture: Monaco
1 PM at the Lapham Center
Built on a cliff more than 60 meters high, the Prince's Palace dominates Monaco and overlooks the sea. The construction started in 1215 and is still in progress today. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620

Fairfield County Dance Festival on the Green
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Merrill Event Lawn
The Thomas/Ortiz Dance Company and East Coast Contemporary Ballet are coming to the library as a part of a series of free outdoor dance performances throughout Fairfield County to enable greater access to the arts and arts education. Please bring your own chairs, blankets, and food. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/fairfield-county-dance-festival-green-202572.

Wednesday, July 29
Open Play Mahjong
1-3 PM at the New Canaan Nature Center
Come with friends or join a group. All players are welcome, and it is first come, first serve. No registration is required. More information is available at newcanaannature.org/seasonal-adult-programs/.

Rummikub Open Play
2 PM at the Lapham Center
Stop by for a few rounds of this engaging and social game. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

A Summer Afternoon Tea with Treats
2 PM at the Lapham Center
We hope to see you at teatime for a relaxing afternoon with friends, both old and new. Raise a cup – and that pinkie finger – as we enjoy a

variety of teas and treats! Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Social Media Marketing for Small Business: Turning Posts into Customers
6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Learn how to choose the right social media platforms, how to build a simple social media marketing plan, and create content that attracts, educates, and converts. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/score-fairfield-county-presents-219906.

Waveny Summer Concert | The Bookends – 60's and 70's Songs
7:30-9:30 PM at Waveny Park (Back Lawn)
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of live music at Waveny Park.

Thursday, July 30
Open Play Mahjongg
2:30-4 PM at the Lapham Center
If you already know how to play Mahjongg, join us for some Mahjongg fun. All levels welcome. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Friday, July 31
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.

SAVE THE DATE
Monday, Aug. 3
Introduction to New Canaan Men's Club Bridge with Les Kurian
9:30-10 AM at the Lapham Center
Join for a review of bidding and conventions used in New Canaan Men's Club bridge play. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.



“I wanted to remain close to the community I love. My roots are here in Greenwich, and Edgehill lets me stay connected to everything I care about. My children visit, and it is such a comfort knowing I am happy, secure and thriving.”

—Resident Bobbie H.

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A Benchmark Lifecare Community

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122 Palmers Hill Road | Stamford, CT 06902

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS
1 Wintertime wrap
6 Lose, as fur
10 Heed
14 Brief appearance in a film
15 Home of Machu Picchu
16 Plant, or a garden pest
17 System overseer, for short
18 Dog food brand
19 Prepare to publish
20 Concern for an advertising team (see letters 3 to 6 in this answer)
23 Raphael Warnock is one for Ga.
24 Country with the world's largest mall: Abbr.
25 Functional
28 Part of a relay race
29 "My bad!"
31 Was in charge
32 Not yet scheduled, briefly
34 Forwards, as a message (... 3 to 6)
37 Spot to look down from
39 Gift upon arriving in Hawaii
40 "Ouch!"
41 Took time for self-care, perhaps (... 6 to 9)

44 Info on a 1040 form
45 ____ Lanka
46 Christmas carol
47 Portable bed
49 Hindu doctrine
51 Negroni ingredient
52 Tree substance
55 Unpredictable nature, and a theme hint
59 Religious ceremony
61 Del Rey who sang "Young and Beautiful"
62 Italian fashion house
63 Imitates
64 Flower that's often purple
65 White wading bird
66 Need for a newborn
67 Way to go?
68 Common bugs

11 Big punches
12 Giants legend Manning
13 "Are we there ___?"
21 Droops
22 It can set a college application apart
26 Russian Revolution figure
27 Sharp quality
28 Like a doily
29 Lakers legend
30 Norse god with two ravens
32 Colorful aquarium fish
33 Natural sleep aid?
35 Otherwise
36 Needing a map
37 (Hey you!)
38 Cartier-Bresson or Rousseau

42 Add acrobatics to your dance routine, say
43 Vaping device, for short
48 How freelance work is often done
50 "___ things happen"
51 Grind, as teeth
52 Warning from a dog
53 Found the sum of
54 Some H.S. exams
56 Skating champion Lipinski
57 Not out of the game
58 Jason's ship
59 Vied for a seat
60 Hoppy brew, in brief

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

5/3
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www.upuzzles.com

Family Time Crossword
 The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS
1. (K) Make characters on a screen?
5. (K) Car-go necessity
8. (K) Infant
12. (K) Constrictor snakes
13. (K) What an acorn becomes
14. All snug and tucked in for the night
15. Compassion for others
17. (K) Text-message command
18. (K) How the weasel goes?
19. Pacific side dish with roast pig
20. Kind of officer or cash
21. (K) "Hi" thing in a drum kit
23. (K) Require desperately
25. (K) Good thing for sledding
27. Quite a while, old-style
28. Letters a handyman appreciates

31. (K) A nocturnal wildcat
33. Where something is situated
35. (K) Your doggy or hamster
36. Does better than
38. (K) Creatures with huge eyes
39. High-quality cotton variety
40. Container for mortar
41. (K) The 12 in a half-day
44. (K) A kind of bread
46. A 12-year-old boy
49. Up to doing the job
50. Esteemed status
52. (K) Male kids, to their parents
53. (K) Who, what, when, ___ or why
54. Part of, as a conspiracy (2 words)
55. (K) "Sweet" vegetables
56. (K) "___ going to be very hot today"
57. (K) Some people crack them in the morning

DOWN
1. 0.5 fl. oz.
2. (K) Fun thing on a string
3. Any booklet at the doctor's office
4. Supposed psychic power
5. (K) Monopoly words with "Jail"
6. Oohing and ___
7. (K) It's cloudy there
8. Headquartered
9. Act as an illegal accessory to
10. (K) Warped
11. Water-filled swirling event
16. Suited to the task
20. (K) Mexican money unit
22. (K) U-turn from "nothing"
24. (K) Fisherman's slithery, slippery catches
25. (K) Bunnies do it
26. (K) Drink add-in
27. (K) Molecule particle
28. Deliberately delaying instead of working

29. (K) Down with the flu
30. (K) "Of course"
32. Name on many elevators
34. (K) Pigeon's sound
37. (K) Beautifully colored tropical bird with a huge beak
39. (K) What to do to a button
40. "For ___ a jolly good fellow"
41. Briefcase fastener
42. Wind quintet instrument
43. (K) Arm bone
45. Some coniferous trees
47. So wowed your mouth hangs open
48. (K) Cozy places to watch football or rest lions
50. ___ Beta Kappa
51. (K) 17-17 score, for one

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

What can walk the dog a foot or so?

Look for the answer in next week's paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

Previous riddle answer:

Fire insurance?
13-D) Tenure

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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			
41	42	43			44	45			46	47	48	
49					50				51			
52					53				54			
55					56				57			

5/4

Mixed Grains
 by Enrique Henestroza Anguiano

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			

Horoscopes

Horoscope: July 24 – July 30, 2026

Leo season is underway, bringing more confidence, creativity, and visibility after the emotional review of Cancer season. Mercury is now direct in Cancer, but clarity may still return gradually, especially around family, home, and old conversations. The week builds toward a Full Moon in Aquarius on July 29, placing personal expression and group responsibility in conversation with each other. This is a week to notice where you need to shine, where you need support, and where old roles no longer fit.

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

Your social world may bring an important realization this week. A friendship, group project, or long-term goal could reach a turning point around the Full Moon. Be honest about where you still feel inspired and where you are simply going through the motions.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

Career matters may come into focus. The Full Moon highlights reputation, responsibility, and the way others see your work. Don't be afraid to claim credit where it is due, but stay practical. Recognition means more when it is backed by substance.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)

Your perspective may shift in a useful way. Travel, learning, publishing, or a meaningful conversation could show you that an old assumption no longer applies. Stay curious. A better path may appear once you stop defending the familiar one.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

Mercury direct in your sign helps you find your words again, but don't rush sensitive conversations. The Full Moon draws attention to shared money, trust, and emotional commitments. Say what you need clearly, and listen for what others need in return.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)

This is your season, and your confidence is growing. The Full Moon in your partnership zone, however, reminds you that relationships require more than charisma. Someone close may need reassurance or honesty. Share the spotlight and you will gain more than attention.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

Work, wellness, and routine may require adjustment. The Full Moon helps you see which habits support you and which ones drain you. Don't try to fix everything at once. One thoughtful change could make daily life feel much more manageable.

Libra (September 23 – October 22)

Creativity, romance, and personal joy are highlighted. The Full Moon may bring a feeling or project into the open. Let yourself enjoy attention without overthinking it. Something sincere is worth pursuing, even if it does not arrive in perfect form.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

Home and family matters may reach a point of clarity. The Full Moon asks you to balance private needs with public demands. If you have been carrying too much alone, say so. Strength does not require silence.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)

Communication is powerful this week. A message, meeting, or local connection may bring useful insight. The Full Moon encourages honest words, but not careless ones. Say what you mean, and give others time to understand it.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

Money, values, and security come into focus. The Full Moon may show you where a financial habit or agreement needs review. Be practical, not fearful. A clear plan will bring more confidence than a quick fix.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

The Full Moon in your sign brings a personal turning point. You may see yourself, your needs, or a relationship more clearly. Don't ignore what rises to the surface. A quiet realization now can guide a larger decision later.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

Rest and reflection matter more than performance. The Full Moon may reveal something you have been feeling but not naming. Give yourself space to process it. A private insight could help you move forward with greater peace.

Thought for the Week:

The Full Moon asks a simple question: where are you performing, and where are you truly becoming?

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 intense (9)
- 2 largest deer family member (5)
- 3 casual outfit (9)
- 4 hive workers (9)
- 5 following a crooked path (10)
- 6 takes a break (8)
- 7 tool for “plumbing” (5)

SOLUTIONS

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PREVIOUS ANSWERS: vers: 1. BOMBING 2. SEARED 3. RENEGADE 4. INGRAINED 5. GLIMMERING 6. ANTIBODIES 7. PROPOSAL 8/24

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

www.GreenwichSentinel.com/subscribe

www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/subscribe

Tuesday, Aug. 4

Creating Sugar Scrubs and Body Butters
2 PM at the Lapham Center
Treat yourself – and your skin – to an afternoon concocting luxurious, spa-worthy products that will smooth, invigorate, and hydrate. Karry Wilson, of Riverfield House in Westport, will demonstrate how to create these lush products, and everyone will take home their own original scrub and butter to use in their private “spa” at home. \$20/person. Spots are limited, call (203) 594-3620 to register.

Summer Movie: *Stand by Me*
6:30 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
Join for a screening of *Stand by Me*. Directed by Rob Reiner (1947-2025), this coming-of-age drama begins with one simple question: “Do you guys want to see a dead body?” On the eve of junior high, four friends venture out to find the body of a missing boy in what would be their last (and most memorable) adventure together. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/movie-screening-stand-me-197550.

Wednesday, Aug. 5

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

Rummikub Open Play
2 PM at the Lapham Center
Stop by for a few rounds of this engaging and social game. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Waveny Summer Concert | Vivid- Rock, Pop, Country
7:30-9:30 PM at Waveny Park (Back Lawn)
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of live music at Waveny Park.

Thursday, Aug. 6

Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundae or Cone
1-2 PM at the Lapham Center
There is no better way to spend a hot afternoon than enjoying this old-fashioned summertime classic. Choose your favorite flavors, pile on the toppings, drizzle with sauces and create your very own cone or sundae masterpiece. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Open Play Mahjongg
2:30-4 PM at the Lapham Center
If you already know how to play Mahjongg, join us for some Mahjongg fun. All levels welcome. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

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

Friday, Aug. 7

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.

Computer Basics: Managing Files on Your Mac with Finder
2 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room

This class will teach you how to navigate Apple’s file manager, Finder, and how to create and organize folders. You will learn how to move files and folders to different locations on your computer, how to delete items from your computer, how to move files to and from external drives (like USB and SD), and how to connect to iCloud to free up storage. This class is intended for beginners and will focus on Apple’s file manager (Finder) for laptop and desktop computers. Register at newcanaan-library.org/event/finder-managing-files-your-mac-229904.

Saturday, Aug. 8

Guided Butterfly and Moth Walk
10 AM at Livingston - Higley Preserve, entry at the end of Apple Tree Lane
Join for a guided hike with Lepidopterist, Victor deMasi as we stroll through the meadows at Livingston-Higley Preserve. Using a net and magnified bug boxes, you will observe up close and first-hand about local pollinators and experience butterflies in their natural habitat. More information and registration are available at newcanaanlandtrust.org/events/flutter-flight-guided-butterfly-and-moth-walk/.

Wednesday, Aug. 12
Navigating Your Preschooler’s Transition to School
10 AM at the New Canaan Library, Jim and Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Whether your toddler/preschooler is entering a school program for the first time or returning to the classroom after summer break,

this expert-led panel discussion will provide practical strategies to help your family navigate the tradition with greater ease. You’ll learn how to build confidence, foster independence, and create routines that support a successful start to the school year.

Women and Money Roundtable: How to Make Sense of Today’s Financial Markets
1 PM Online
Join Financial Advisors Julia Strayer and Liz Maccarone for a series of easy-to-follow discussions on how to make sense of today’s financial markets. They will cover the latest market news and how that might affect your financial decisions. More information is available at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/women-and-money-roundtable-how-make-sense-todays-financial-markets-221792.

Rummikub Open Play
2 PM at the Lapham Center
Stop by for a few rounds of this engaging and social game. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Waveny Summer Concert | The Royal Kings-50s and Doo Wop
7:30-9:30 PM at Waveny Park (Back Lawn)
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of live music at Waveny Park.

Thursday, Aug. 13

Open Play Mahjongg
2:30-4 PM at the Lapham Center
If you already know how to play Mahjongg, join us for some Mahjongg fun. All levels welcome. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

Friday, Aug. 14

NO COFFEE AND CONVERSATION
8:30 – 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center

Wednesday, Aug. 19

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

Waveny Summer Concert | Fairfield Counts Band- Big Band (Miller, Dorsey)
7:30-9:30 PM at Waveny Park (Back Lawn)
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of live music at Waveny Park.

Thursday, Aug. 20

Life Reimagined
1 PM at the Lapham Center
Purposeful living promotes happiness, longevity, a healthier heart and reduces the risk of Alzheimer’s and other diseases. Hosts Marcy Rand, LCSW, Director, New Canaan’s Human Services Department, and Robin Rockafellow, LCSW, lead an informal and friendly group discussion of who we were, who we are, and the creative ways to explore our interests, abilities, knowledge, and activities in connection with the community around us. Free. To register, call (203) 594-3620.

The Uncommon College Essay with Stacey Brook
6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Essay expert Stacey Brook, founder and chief advisor at College Essay Advisors (CEA), walks readers through her signature Uncommon College Essay Approach, a four-step process designed to turn essay anxiety into essay success. In *The Uncommon College Essay: An Approachable Guide to an Intimidating Process*, Stacey breaks down her strategies and suggestions with detailed explanations, engaging exercises, real college essay examples, and a generous dose of parenthetical asides. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-college-essay-program-218079.

Friday, Aug. 21

NO COFFEE AND CONVERSATION
8:30 – 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center

Saturday, Aug. 22

Learning with Nature | Monarch Migration
10:30 AM at Grace Farms
Join Grace Farms Horticulture Director Kimberly Kelly and experts from Kansas State University for a hands-on field study to safely record, tag, and release monarch butterflies. Learn how to net, tag, and record Monarchs in a way that supports the best outcome for healthy butterflies to survive migration, winter, the flight north in late spring, and successful reproduction in late summer. Registration is \$20/non-members, \$16/members, and available at <https://gracefarms.org/event/learning-with-nature-monarch-migration>.

Creatures of the Night Hike
7:30-9 PM at the New Canaan Nature Center
Join for an interactive sensory night hike adventure and try your hand at naturalist-led challenges. First, put your night vision to the test. Then, focus on your sense of smell, hearing, and touch. This program will include the opportunity to meet a couple NCNC nocturnal animal ambassadors up close. The night will wrap up with roasting marshmallows around

CODEBREAKER WORD PUZZLE

The same number represents the same letter. Crack the code and fill the grid.
To help you get started some words are already in place.

	26		12		23		16	12	12	16	7	13	16		1		8		
13	16	7	8	4	2	6		20		7		24		8	4	8	19	2	
	23		24		24		1	19	1	13	19	2	7		2		1		
13	19	5	1		24	12	12		17		6		25	19	22	1	20	9	7
	7		22			12	13	9	16	7	13	16		17		19		24	
25	9	17	16	2		24		22		22		25	16	12	12	16	2	8	
	24		2	16	8	2	19		20	19	8	16	22		16		6		
12		14		14		11		13		1		1		12		24		9	
8	12	20	9	2	8		25	19	5	16	12	8	9	13	24	8	16	25	
24		24		9		20		7		25		20		19		8		6	
2	16	22	24	8	9	19	7	12	20	9	1		12	19	13	9	24	22	
8		16		16		7		16		24		12		8		13		22	
	25		13		14	16	9	2	25		13	20	9	16	11		13		
20	9	23	20	14	24	6		17		16		16		2	19	14	24	7	
	19		24		8		2	24	23	25	19	22	22		2		26		
14	2	24	1	1	16	25		8		9		11	9	13	8	9	19	7	
	24		8		2	24	25	9	24	8	16		23		4		19		
24	5	26	16	2		8		19		19		13	20	9	7	16	12	16	
	24		2		22	24	4	7	25	2	6		8		16		16		

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

the campfire. Registration will be available at newcanaannature.org.

Monday, Aug. 24

Cut the Cord to Cable
6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room

If you’re considering cutting the cord, then this class will give you the latest information on possible options and alternatives. Librarian Flannery Pillion-Gardner will also give an overview of Kanopy and teach you how to use your New Canaan Library card to stream free films, series, and documentaries every month. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/cut-cord-cable-231701.

Wednesday, Aug. 26

Journey Into the World of Tea | White and Green
3 PM at Grace Farms

Discover the unique umami flavors of Japanese green teas and sample classic Chinese selections such as Dragon Well and Jasmine Pearls. Tickets are \$20/members, \$25/non-members, and available at gracefarms.org.

Waveny Summer Concert | The Geoff Hartwell Band- Rock & Roll
7:30-9:30 PM at Waveny Park (Back Lawn)
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of live music at Waveny Park.

Thursday, Aug. 27

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

Friday, Aug. 28

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.

Saturday, Aug. 29

Dog Days of Summer
10-11:30 AM at Watson - Symington Preserve off Wellesley Lane

Enjoy the dog days of summer with your best. Pet Pantry Warehouse will welcome you at the trailhead. Meet furry friends, sample some treats, and take in a great hike at Watson-Symington Preserve. Free. Register at newcanaan-landtrust.org/events/last-saturdays-on-the-trail-dog-days-of-summer/.

Monday, Aug. 31

Canva + AI
6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room

In this class, you’ll learn how to use Canva AI to create images, templates, and documents, along with some beginner’s tips and tricks to get the most out of these useful tools. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/canva-ai-230088.

Tuesday, Sept. 1

10th Annual Community Addiction Awareness Vigil
7 PM at 6 South Ave

This outdoor event features live music, tributes, recovery testimonials, resources, and a candlelight vigil led by local faith community leaders. Live music will begin at 6:15 pm. More information is available at ncparentsupportgroup.org/annual-addiction-awareness-vigil/.

Wednesday, Sept. 2

Angela Duckworth Presents *SITUATED*
7 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
In Angela Duckworth’s first book, she showed that a common denominator of successful strivers is a blend of passion and perseverance she dubbed “grit.” This second book springs from her deepening realization that grit, while necessary, is sometimes not sufficient. How you situate yourself to meet a challenge can be crucial. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/hold-best-selling-author-angela-duckworth-presents-situated-217349.

Waveny Summer Concert | The Short Bus Band- 70’s to Today’s Hits
7:30-9:30 PM at Waveny Park (Back Lawn)
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of live music at Waveny Park.

Friday, Sept. 4

NO COFFEE AND CONVERSATION
8:30 – 9:30 AM at the Lapham Center

Live Music by the Zoo
6-9:30 PM at Waveny Park
Join New Canaan Recreation for the inaugural Labor Day Weekend Bash, the perfect way to close out the summer. There will be live music from the Zoo, food trucks, lawn games, and dancing. Tickets are \$40/individual, \$75/couple, and available at newcanaanct.myrec.com/info/default.aspx.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Computer Basics: PC File Management
3 PM at the New Canaan Library, McLaughlin Meeting Room
This class will teach you how to create and organize folders to make finding files easy. You will learn how to move files and folders to different locations on your computer, how to delete items from your computer, and how to use USB drives, external drives, and the Cloud to help free up space on your computer. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/computer-basics-pc-file-management-233297.

Sunday, Sept. 13

Michelle Young Presents “The Art Spy”
6-9 PM at the New Canaan Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium
Named a Best Book of 2025 by the New York Public Library, *The Art Spy* is a riveting and stylish saga set in Paris during World War II that uncovers how an unlikely heroine infiltrated the Nazi leadership to save the world’s most treasured masterpieces. Register at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/michelle-young-209394.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

Digital Wallets: Your Guide to Cashless Convenience
6 PM at the New Canaan Library, Craig B. Tate Conference Room
This session will introduce participants to the world of digital wallets, covering the basics of what they are, how they work, and their benefits. Participants will learn about Apple Pay, Google Pay, Venmo, and more.

Grab Your Sketch Book: Step by Step, Here's How 2 Ways



	1		
3		1	4
1			
	4	3	1

			2
2	1	4	
	4		
1		3	4

4			3
	3	4	
			2
1	2	3	

			2
2	1	3	
4			1
1		4	

SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sudoku answers

Bottom row – Very Hard

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

Bottom row – Hard

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

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

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

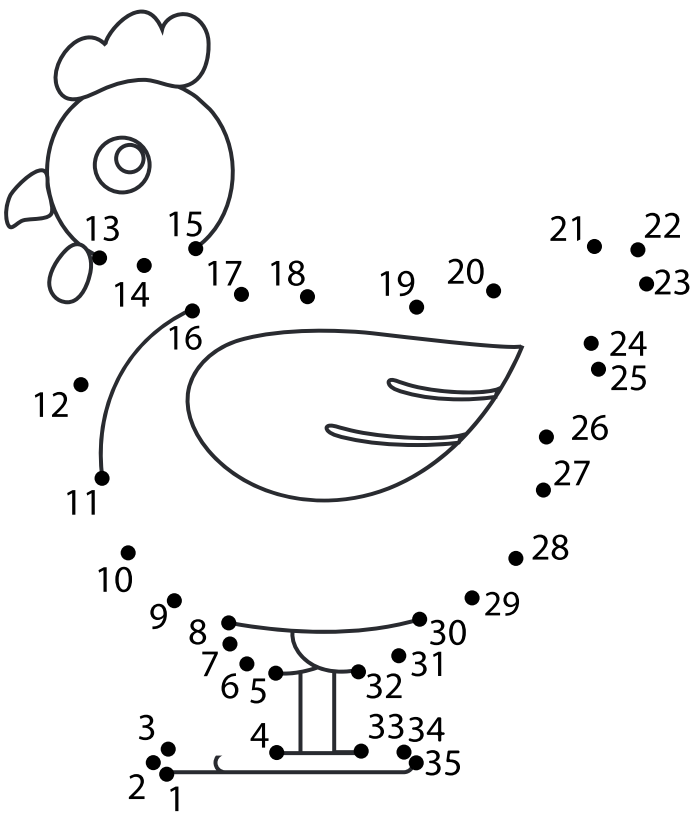
5	4	9	7	6	2	8	3	1
3	8	1	5	9	4	7	6	2
2	6	7	8	3	1	9	4	5
9	2	6	6	4	1	8	3	5
4	5	3	6	7	9	2	1	8
1	7	8	2	5	3	6	9	4
8	3	2	9	4	5	1	7	6
6	1	4	3	2	7	5	8	9
7	9	5	1	8	6	4	2	3

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



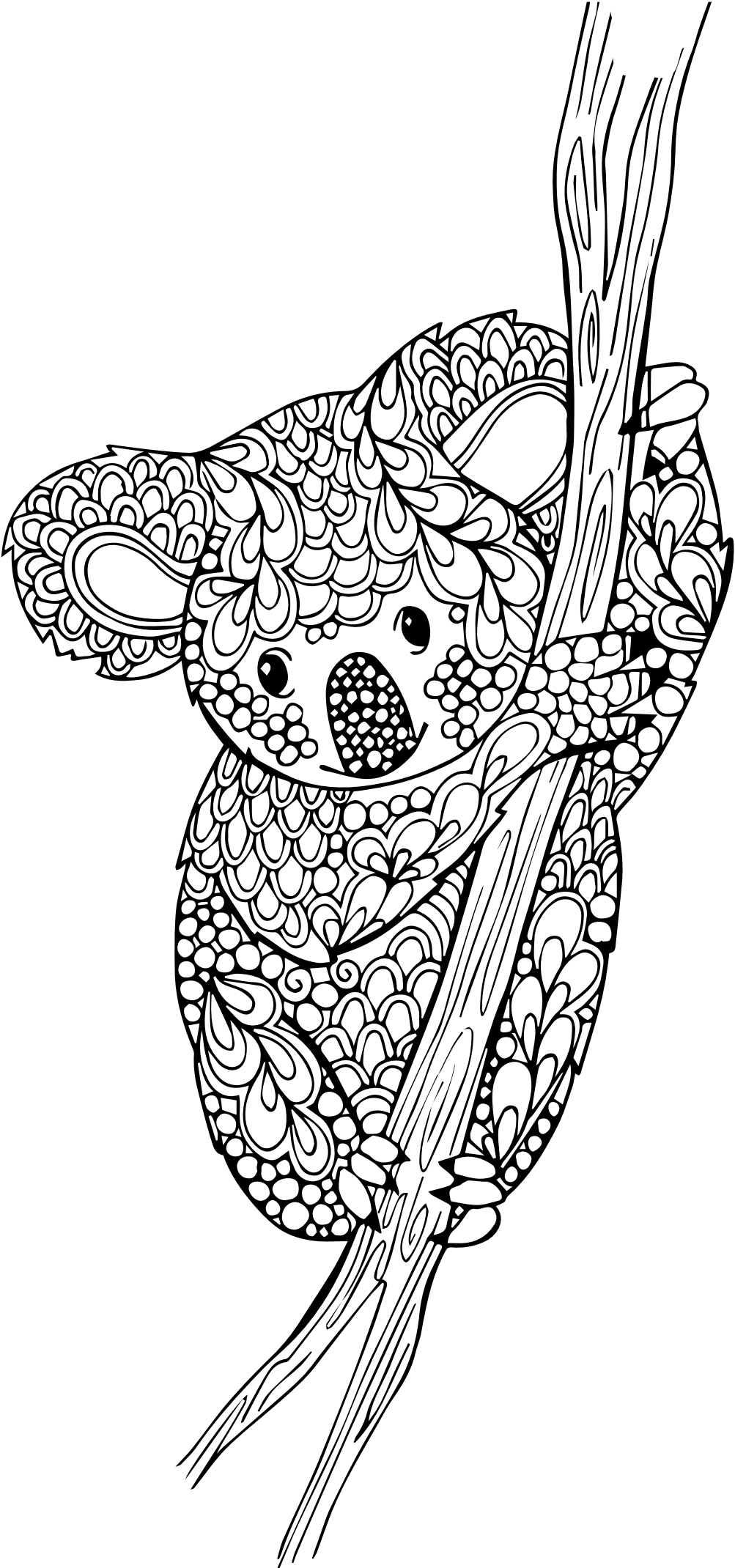
Dot to Dot

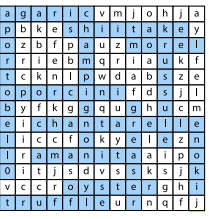
Coloring



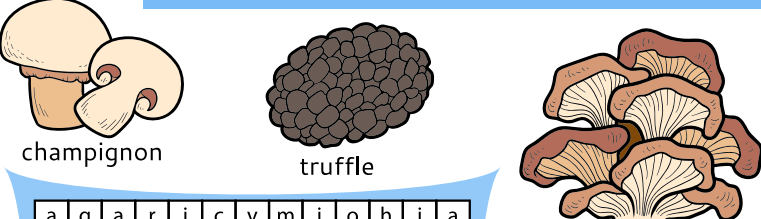
Color the Mandala!

It's fun, calming, and good for your brain.

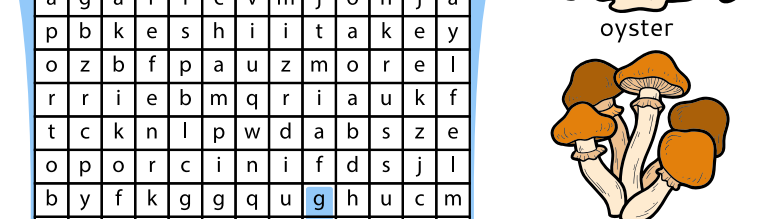




a	s	a	r	i	c	v	m	j	o	h	j	a
p	b	k	e	s	h	i	i	t	a	k	e	y
e	z	b	f	p	a	u	z	m	o	r	e	l
r	r	i	e	b	m	q	r	i	a	u	k	f
t	c	k	n	l	p	w	d	a	b	s	z	e
o	p	o	r	c	i	n	i	f	d	s	j	l
b	y	f	k	g	g	q	u	g	h	u	c	m
e	i	c	h	a	n	t	a	r	e	l	l	e
l	i	c	c	f	o	k	y	e	l	e	z	n
l	r	a	m	a	n	i	t	a	a	i	p	o
o	i	t	j	s	d	v	s	s	k	s	j	k
v	c	c	r	o	y	s	t	e	r	g	h	i
t	r	u	f	f	l	e	u	r	n	q	f	j



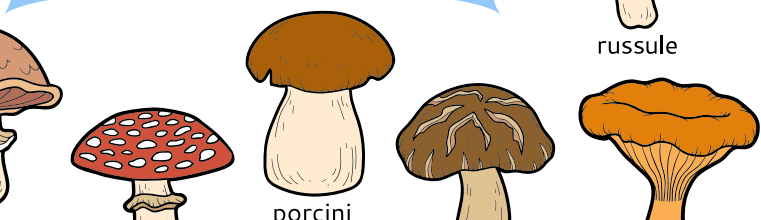
champignon truffle



greaser oyster



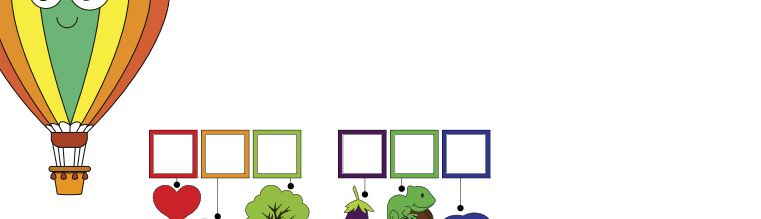
enoki agaric



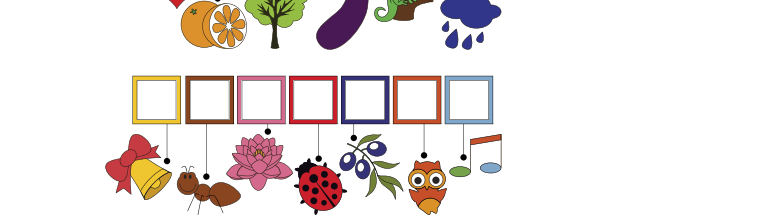
morel russule



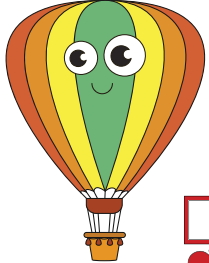
portobello porcini



amanita shiitake



chantarelle





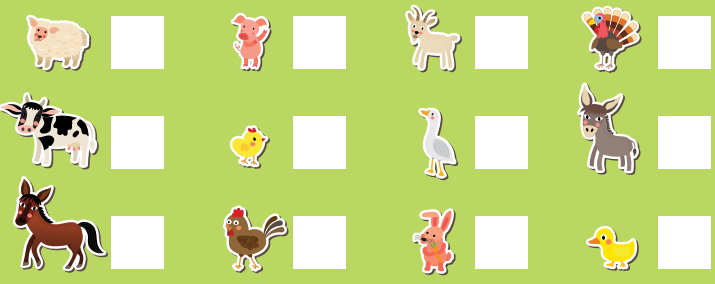




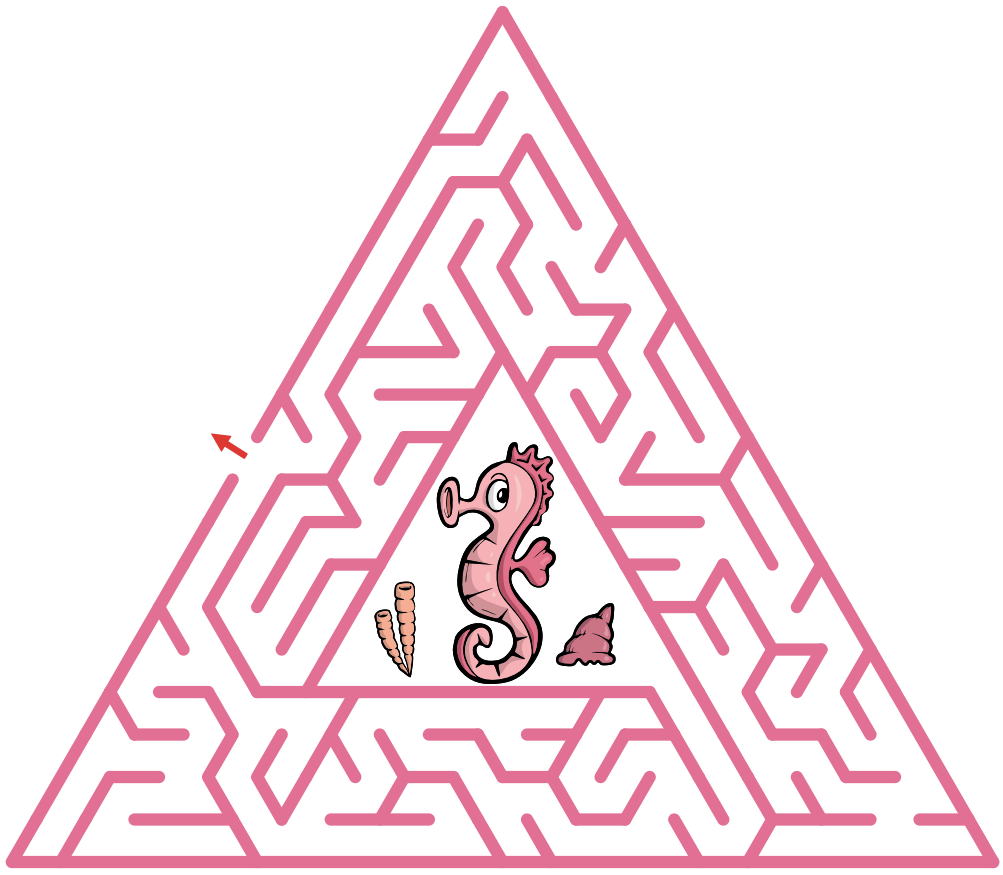
How Many ?

Count the similar animals and write the number









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





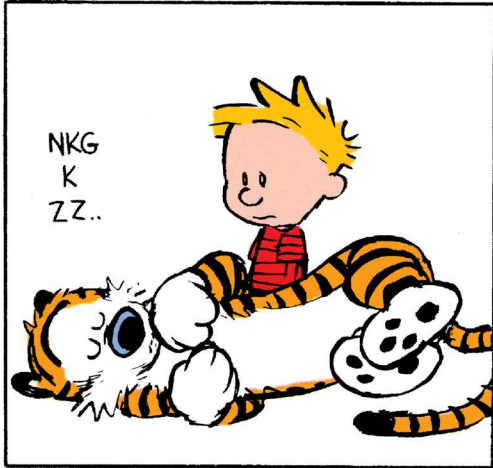
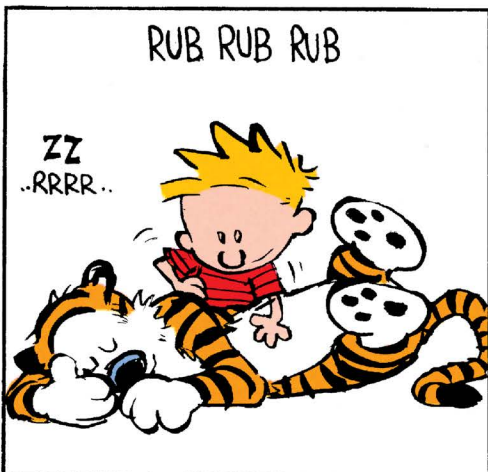
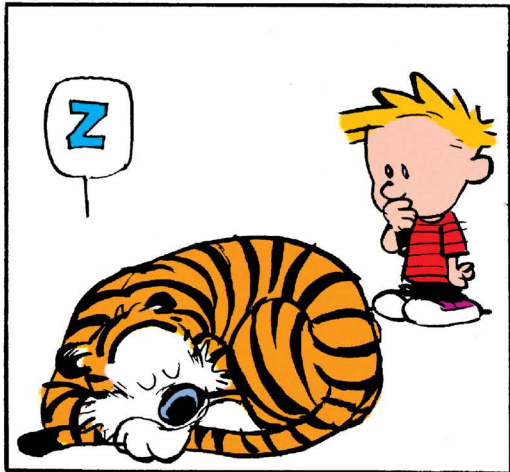
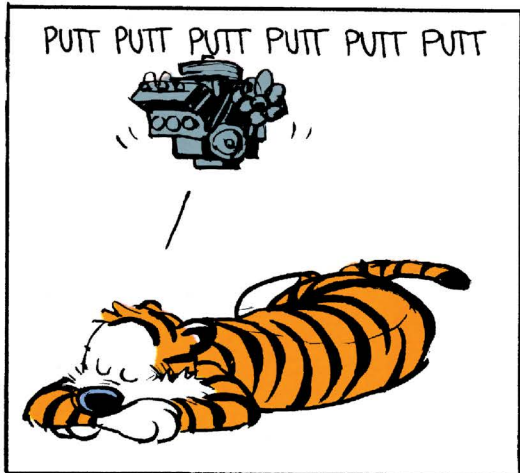






calvin and Hobbes

by WATKINSON



Dr. Shefali in Conversation
with Allison Williams: Rais-
ing Conscious Daughters
and Raising Conscious Sons
7 PM at the New Canaan
Library, Jim & Dede Bartlett
Auditorium

Renowned clinical
psychologist, bestselling
author, and founder of
the Conscious Parenting
movement Dr. Shefali presents
two new hands-on guides for
21st-century parenting: one
provides a pathway forward
to reclaim how daughters
are seen, supported, and
raised; and another radically
reimagines how boys are
understood, nurtured,
and raised. Register at
newcanaanlibrary.org/Dr.%20Shefali-Raising-Conscious-Daughters-Sons.

Support Services & Meetings

**Friday, Sept. 18 &
Friday, October 16**

**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. QPR
stands for Question, Persuade,
and Refer – the 3 simple steps
anyone can use to help prevent
suicide. This training will
certify you as a QPR gatekeeper
(someone in a position to
recognize a crisis and the
warning signs that someone
may be contemplating
suicide). For Sept. 18, register
at newcanaanlibrary.org/event/copy-suicide-prevention-training-question-persuade-and-refer-188897.
For October 16, register at
newcanaanlibrary.org/event/

[copy-suicide-prevention-
training-question-persuade-
and-refer-188898](http://newcanaanlibrary.org/event/copy-suicide-prevention-training-question-persuade-and-refer-188898).

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

**Friday, July 24 to
Saturday, Aug. 1**

Agatha Christie's *The
Murder of Roger Ackroyd*
Times Vary at the Westport
Country Playhouse
25 Powers Court
Agatha Christie's *The
Murder of Roger Ackroyd* is
more than just a mystery—
it's the gold standard
of the genre, widely
hailed as “the greatest
whodunnit ever written.”
In this new adaptation by
Mark Shanahan, Dame
Agatha's twistiest tale is
brought to the stage with
all its cunning, charm,
and chilling suspense.
Tickets are available at
westportplayhouse.org.

Monday, July 27

**The Essentials of Estate
Planning**
6 PM at the Wilton Library,
137 Old Ridgefield Road
Join Russ Nesevich and
New Canaan's Hillary
Ambrose McGrail as they
walk through the essentials
of estate planning,
including how to protect
your assets and avoid
common mistakes. This
event is not sponsored nor
affiliated with the Wilton
Library. Register at [https://
legal.nesevichlaw.com/lp3](https://legal.nesevichlaw.com/lp3).

Sunday, Aug. 23

**Filling in the Blanks Unite
to Fight 5K**
8-11 AM at Mill River Park,
1010 Washington Blvd,
Stamford
Enjoy a 5k race and kids
fun run with food, priz-
es, and t-shirts, all while
benefitting Filling in the
Blanks and their core pro-
grams. More information is
available at [runsignup.com/
Race/CT/Stamford/Uniteto-
Fight](http://runsignup.com/Race/CT/Stamford/Uniteto-Fight).

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