

Corrections & Amplifications

In our Nov. 21 story “A Five-Year Push: How Connecticut’s Housing Mandates Kept Returning Until HB8002 Finally Passed” we had a sentence which read:

“The legislative history reveals both persistence and polarization, and it places Senator Ryan Fazio, municipal leaders—including New Canaan First Selectman Fred Camillo—and dozens of local boards at the center of the debate.”

It should have read:

“The legislative history reveals both persistence and polarization, and it places Senator Ryan Fazio, municipal leaders—including New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and Greenwich First Selectman Fred Camillo—and dozens of local boards at the center of the debate.”

Camillo, Rabin, Khanna Take Office



By LIZ LEAMY & ELIZABETH BARHYDT

Greenwich marked the start of a new municipal term this week, swearing in its Board of Selectmen—First Selectman Fred Camillo, Selectwoman Lauren Rabin, and newly elected Selectwoman former State Rep. Rachel Khanna—in a ceremony held at the town’s newly completed Civic Center. The event blended institutional formality with the subdued pride characteristic of Greenwich public life, set against the backdrop of an election notable for its steadiness at the top of the ticket and its decline in overall turnout.

The Board of Selectmen, the executive leadership of the town, is charged with administering municipal operations, prioritizing capital projects, and shaping the agenda that guides Greenwich’s day-to-day affairs. Camillo, who secured 10,302 votes, maintained his long-standing position as the town’s leading vote-getter, continuing a pattern of electoral consistency across four cycles. Rabin, who first took office in

2019, begins her fourth term. Khanna, a former state representative, now joins the three-member board after placing in the top three on the ballot.

The evening’s proceedings unfolded in a building whose own history offered a reminder of Greenwich governance—the Civic Center renovation was first proposed decades ago, revised repeatedly, and only now brought to completion. The symbolism was not lost on Camillo, who would later cite the project as an example of the need for more timely decision-making. But before he spoke, Father Robert McIntosh opened with an invocation calling for unity of purpose and sound judgment, noting that he felt “part of the community” and was honored to bless its leaders.

Former State Senator Scott Frantz, serving as master of ceremonies, praised Greenwich’s public-safety agencies and the new building itself. He described the town’s safety and police departments as “outstanding” and welcomed residents to what he said he believed was “the best

Civic Center in the entire country.” Later, as the crowd drew to a close, he told the crowd that it was “heartening to see such a large, positive crowd that cares deeply about this community,” adding that Greenwich remains “one of the best towns in the country” and inviting attendees to stay for refreshments and “one last round of applause” for their leaders.

As the crowd settled in, the outcome of the election lingered in a room full of active civic participants. Voter turnout declined this time to 45.2 percent, down from 50.9 percent in 2023. Republicans showed the sharpest falloff—51.1 percent participation compared with 62.4 percent two years earlier—while Democrats held steady at 52.5 percent. Unaffiliated turnout declined from 40.7 percent to 35.5 percent. Early voting, offered for the first time in a municipal cycle, did not reverse the downward shift.

Despite turnout declines, Camillo outperformed the rest of the ballot, a fact that many attendees cited as evidence of continued confidence in his administration. Some referenced fiscal steadiness; others pointed to the practical nature of town governance. State Rep. Tina Courpas, attending the ceremony, told the *Sentinel* that Greenwich remained “the best place to live, work, and raise a family,” noting her expectation that the new board would “keep it that way and elevate it further.”

When First Selectman Fred Camillo stepped forward, he began by thanking town departments, Parks and Recreation staff, fire and police personnel, and the Honor Guards present for the ceremony. He acknowledged his family, many of whom were in attendance, and his campaign volunteers, whom he called

please turn to Page 15



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Inside the Fight: Yale’s Pediatric Neuro-Oncologists and the Families They Serve

By ELIZABETH BARHYDT

This three-part series examines how one Greenwich family’s loss has sparked a broader effort to change the landscape of pediatric cancer care. The series follows the creation of the Vivienne C. Finn Foundation, launched in memory of 11-year-old Vivienne Cecilia Finn, who died in 2020 from a diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, one of the most aggressive childhood brain tumors.

Part One traced Vivienne’s life and the path that brought her family from “Diagnosis Day” to the founding of the organization that now bears her name. Part Two brings readers inside Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital, where pediatric neuro-oncologists describe the medical, emotional and systemic challenges facing families.

Through this series, readers will see how a single child’s story has inspired a mission aimed at better treatments, stronger support systems and lasting structural change.

When Vivienne Finn arrived at Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital days after her diagnosis, her parents were ushered into a space that hardly resembled a conference room. “It was really a broom closet,” Dr. Vidya Sarma recalled. Yet into that small room came the neurosurgeon, an ICU physician, a social worker, residents, and two doctors who would become central figures in the family’s life: Dr. Sarma and Dr. Asher Marks. It was an early signal of what pediatric neuro-oncology requires—a full team, crowded in close, because the work is too complex and too human to be done by one physician alone.



Sue Moretti Bodson interviews Dr. Vidya Puthenpura and Dr. Asher Marks

“It’s their body. We want them to have a say.” – Dr. Vidya Sarma



Dr. Sarma’s path to this field began far from Connecticut. At 19, studying engineering in college, she traveled to India to visit relatives and spent time in a pediatric cancer hospital. The hospital served both wealthy and poor families, and the children she met there—“fighting for their lives and so happy and full of energy,” she said—changed her direction. She returned to school and changed her major. Looking back on that decision, she called it “very life altering.”

Dr. Marks describes himself as “a reluctant oncologist,” but not for lack of interest in medicine. He always expected to become a pediatrician and admired the primary-care doctor he saw growing up. During residency, he imagined hanging a shingle and treating neighborhood families. “I loved working with kids,” he said. But by his second year of training, he felt something missing. Primary care was becoming, in his words, “a business model,”

leaving less time for deeper conversations with families. He found himself drawn to the oncology rotation, where he could sit, listen and learn about a child’s life.

He made one promise he later broke. “I told my wife I would never go into oncology—her father died of cancer,” he said. “Then I said I would never do brain tumors, because that’s what he had. And I ended up doing brain tumors.” He has spent more than a decade at Yale working with children from diagnosis through treatment, often for months at a time.

The difference between pediatric and adult neuro-oncology is stark. Pediatric neuro-oncologists are trained first as hematologist-oncologists and then trained further in brain and spinal tumors. Adult neuro-oncologists often come from neurology. That distinction shapes treatment. Children metabolize chemotherapy differently and can endure higher doses. Their cells recover faster, but the intensity of their care means they may spend weeks in the hospital with suppressed immune systems and require frequent blood transfusions. “We bring them to the brink and then pull them back,” Dr. Marks said.

With diffuse intrinsic pontine gliomas and other diffuse midline gliomas, the defining challenge is biology. Historically, physicians relied on MRI scans alone to diagnose these tumors, because surgical removal is not possible. In recent years, neurosurgeons have become more comfortable performing targeted biopsies, and laboratory advances allow physicians to identify the specific molecular mutations that drive aggressiveness. That information has begun to reshape treatment pathways, though it has not produced a cure.

Dr. Sarma emphasized the collaborative nature of the field. “The pediatric brain tumor community is very small and we all know each other,” she said. They participate in national and international tumor boards, debates that bring together clinicians from major centers to examine hard cases. There is no competition among institutions when the disease is this unforgiving. If a trial is open at Memorial Sloan Kettering that might suit a child in New Haven, the Yale team will call Sloan directly. The goal is simple: “They want to go to school. They want to be around their siblings,” she said. If a

trial can be opened at home, the team will work to make it happen.

Families face more than medical decisions. Many have to weigh whether traveling across the country for a trial is worth the strain. Dr. Sarma noted that a young person’s own voice matters: “It’s their body. We want them to have a say.” Adolescents who have returned to school may resist further scans because they want distance from their diagnosis. “Sometimes you have to let them live,” she said.

Supportive care forms the backbone of Yale’s program, and the doctors make clear that it affects outcomes. Dr. Sarma’s research shows that nearly half of families treated at Yale have at least one unmet basic need—food, housing, utilities or transportation. Those families often arrive later in the disease course, experience more severe treatment side effects and face higher financial instability. Parents working hourly or inflexible jobs may lose employment because of the time required for treatment. “These are just very basic things that every human should have, not just a family whose child is fighting cancer,” she said.

Insurance adds another layer. “No treatment takes place until insurance approval is obtained,” Dr. Marks said. Medicaid often authorizes treatment more quickly than private carriers. The team regularly spends hours on the phone seeking approval for chemotherapy, imaging or supportive medications. Each delay, they stress, adds burden to families already navigating fear and uncertainty.

The strain on clinicians is evident. Hospital finances have narrowed the availability of non-revenue roles such

as psychology, social work and nutrition—roles that are essential to treating the “whole child,” as the team describes it. Dr. Marks said that when he started 13 years ago, a clinic day was eight complex patients supported by several staff members. “Now I have to see 16 just to keep afloat,” he said.

Coping requires boundaries. Dr. Marks drives home from New Haven each night and crosses a particular bridge that marks the point where he forces himself to let the day go. His wife works with victims of human trafficking, so the rule in their home is strict: neither brings work across the threshold. Dr. Sarma relies on humor and a group text thread among colleagues that serves as a place to decompress. They build Lego sets—a ritual that grounds them through cycles of grief.

They still speak of Vivienne often. She was direct, witty and fiercely curious. “She used to call me ‘V-Dizzle,’” Dr. Sarma said. Dr. Marks remembers her humor and sharpness: “She gave it back just as hard as you do.” They also remember the day she died. After leaving the ICU, the two physicians walked away from each other without speaking, each needing space before they could talk.

Despite the weight of the work, both insist they cannot imagine doing anything else. They measure success not only in survival but in honoring a family’s goals: allowing a child to remain at home, preserving moments of normalcy, providing clarity during frightening choices, and, when cure is not possible, offering peace at the end of life.

They also return to the importance of community. A room full of people willing to hear the stories and understand the gaps—financial, scientific and emotional—gives them confidence that the work can move forward. As Dr. Sarma put it, “It’s a hard conversation to have, but being willing to have it matters.”

For the Finns, the Yale team’s honesty and compassion provided the guidance they needed during the worst months of their lives. For the doctors, Vivienne’s story—and the foundation now built in her name—is a reminder that the smallest patients can leave the deepest imprint on the science and the care that will follow.

Learn more at the Vivienne C. Finn Foundation online at <https://vcfinnfoundation.org/>

Part Three in next week’s issue will explore the foundation’s pillars—drug development, family support and legislative reform underway in Connecticut and Washington.



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COLUMN

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!



By STUART ADELBERG

I write this column on “Black Friday,” the day after Thanksgiving when all good Americans will get up at the crack of dawn to spend millions of dollars they don’t have on millions of items they don’t need. It is the official beginning of the holiday shopping season, a special time when we remind

killed, plucked, and cooked by the matriarch of the family, but rather found in a great freezer, cleaned and wrapped in plastic and often given to us as a free promotion for spending enough money on other items the weeks leading up to the holiday?

Did they envision the annual strife that precludes many a family feast as people ponder who will host, who to invite, who will attend, what to bring, where to sit, who will fight, and who will win, in between, of course, the required expressions of gratitude and love? You may be surprised to learn that the first Thanksgiving feast lasted for three days. Can you imagine

moment of deep thought, how much those marshmallows were sold for at the Plymouth Stop and Shop four hundred years ago and I can only imagine the horror of our ancestors at the well documented desecration of fresh cranberries into a can shaped gel that takes several days to slide out of the can. Don’t even get me started on pumpkin pie!

I suppose everything changes in time, and we have all learned that change can be good. After all, the whole purpose of the Thanksgiving feast is to eat more than we should to energize ourselves for the holiday shopping season. Fortunately, it begins earlier every year, and

If you were too full and unable to move on the morning of Black Friday, rest assured that there are several weeks left to hit the stores and cyber sales with bargains the Pilgrims and Native Americans could certainly never have imagined! Hopefully you need no reminder to find some time and funds in that same period to support our local charities and care for those in need!

ourselves that it is better to give than to receive, though statistics tell us that some ridiculous percentage of Black Friday purchases will never experience the joy of being wrapped or given since they were bought for the exclusive use of the purchaser. A deal is a deal, and the bargains available on Black Friday are unprecedented, unless you count the pre-Black Friday deals advertised for the past four weeks and just about every day between now and Christmas! So ... Happy Shopping!

I wonder if this is what the Pilgrims envisioned when they celebrated their first harvest in the “new world” with a grand Thanksgiving meal back in 1621. Do you think they knew that the star of our meal, the turkey, would not be hunted,

trying to make conversation with Aunt Betty, Uncle Joe, and cousin who-knows-what for seventy-two hours!!? And remember – there was neither football nor parade to buffer the fact that half the guests haven’t spoken to the other half since the last family gathering or political debate – whichever came first!

And thinking of the harvest, do you think the Pilgrims and their guests from the Wampanoag tribe would be surprised to discover what has become of the menu? One wonders, for example, how the sweet potatoes they were blessed to cultivate somehow became “yams” peeled and canned with sugar and a variety of other unhealthy ingredients, covered and baked with mini marshmallows. I ponder, in a

opportunities abound to find that special deal you just can’t live without. So, if you were too full and unable to move on the morning of Black Friday, rest assured that there are several weeks left to hit the stores and cyber sales with bargains the Pilgrims and Native Americans could certainly never have imagined! Hopefully you need no reminder to find some time and funds in that same period to support our local charities and care for those in need!

Stuart Adelberg has had a long history of active involvement and leadership in the nonprofit arts and human services communities throughout the region. He appreciates the opportunity, provided by Greenwich Sentinel, to share his occasional thoughts and observations.



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The Bruce Museum Family Day Winter Wonderland!

Sunday, December 7, 2025, 10:15am–4pm

Embrace the cozy spirit of the season this Sunday at the Bruce Museum’s Winter Wonderland Family Day! Families are invited to spend a joyful day together exploring art, nature, and science through hands-on activities that celebrate the magic of winter. Throughout the day our community partners will engage visitors with interactive experiences, performances, and creative fun for all ages.

Winter Wonderland Schedule

Winter Move & Groove in Partnership with Songs for Seeds | 10:15–11am

Start the day with a lively, music-filled movement session led by Songs for Seeds, encouraging families to connect through rhythm and motion.

Cozy Winter Book Corner | 10:15am–4pm

Relax in our reading nook and enjoy a selection of winter-themed books celebrating creativity, imagination, and the season’s magic.

Drop-In Crafts | 11am–1pm & 2–4pm

Explore hands-on artmaking and STEAM projects inspired by the beauty of winter. Make icicle-inspired mobiles, build ant tunnels inspired by our exhibition, *Ants: Tiny Creatures, Big Lives*, construct a collaborative winter village out of cardboard, and meet live animals from the Beardsley Zoo and learn how they adapt to Winter!

Movie Screening: *Happy Feet* in Partnership with the Avon Theater | 1–3pm

To kick off our partnership with the Avon Theater, join us for a family-friendly screening of *Happy Feet*, a heartwarming film set in a world of music, friendship, and adventure.



Bruce Museum
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BruceMuseum.org

the
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This year, the **YMCA of Greenwich** is projected to award **over \$592,000 in financial assistance** to our community, a **30% increase** from last year.

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Support a local nonprofit this holiday season and help us continue making an impact.

GREENWICHYMCA.ORG/GIVE/ANNUAL

Greenwich Town Party to Celebrate 15th Anniversary in 2026

By SENTINEL STAFF

Greenwich Town Party will celebrate its 15th annual gathering on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. The Memorial Day weekend event will return with a full day of music, food, and family activities, continuing a tradition that has grown into one of the community’s most anticipated celebrations.

Organizers have opened sales for limited-edition holiday Sponsor and Neighbor tickets, available through December 20, 2025. Purchasers who secure these tickets before the deadline will receive themed holiday ticket packages in the mail designed for gifting.

Since the first gathering in 2011, the Greenwich Town Party has brought nationally recognized artists to the waterfront stage while building a tradition rooted in local participation and volunteerism. The event has expanded significantly over its 15-year history, drawing large crowds to hear performers such as Billy Joel, Eric Clapton, The Eagles, Paul Simon, Carlos Santana, Earth, Wind & Fire, Hall & Oates, Steely Dan, Mumford & Sons, and James Taylor. Local musicians have also played a central role, particularly through the Town Stage, created to showcase Greenwich-based bands and highlight community talent.

Holiday Neighbor and



Sponsor tickets provide expanded amenities. Neighbor tickets offer access to the Neighborhood Area, wine and beer service, catered food served throughout the day and evening, and designated local parking. Sponsor tickets include access to a private waterfront pavilion, a curated menu from Marcia Selden Catering, premium open-bar service with cocktails and mocktails, preferred on-site parking with a VIP entrance, dedicated staff and security, and air-conditioned restroom trailers.

Sponsor and Neighbor tickets

are open to both residents and nonresidents. Community tickets remain limited to Greenwich residents and individuals employed in town, with eligibility verified through a lottery process. This structure evolved over time as demand for tickets increased and organizers introduced the lottery system to ensure broader access for local attendees.

The Greenwich Town Party operates as a nonprofit organization founded by Ray Dalio. It is privately funded through contributions from

individuals, businesses, philanthropic foundations, and family offices, along with revenue from ticket sales. Organizers note that these contributions allow many attendees to receive discounted or complimentary tickets. The event carries no cost to the Town of Greenwich or its taxpayers; all expenses associated with staging the festival, including public safety and emergency services, are paid by the organization.

Over the years, the party has expanded beyond a single-day

concert into a broader community tradition. Special features have included themed kickoff events, such as the New Orleans-inspired pre-party parade held in recent years featuring brass musicians and local student performers. The Town Stage initiative has further strengthened ties between the event and the community by creating a platform for emerging and established Greenwich artists.

As the 15th anniversary approaches, organizers aim to honor the history of the

event while continuing its mission of uniting residents in a shared celebration of music and community. Additional announcements, including the 2026 musical lineup, will be released in the coming months.

For more information on ticket levels or to join the Greenwich Town Party mailing list, visit the official GTP website at <https://www.greenwichtownparty.org/>

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COLUMN



By ADAM C. ROHDIE

Our Upper School History Teacher Jim Cullen wrote the following piece on his Substack just before Thanksgiving and I was struck by his sincere admiration of a co-worker, and her ability to see the sunny side of life—every day. He also wonders at the motivation behind her work, is it to earn a living or simply to spread happiness or both? No matter the reason, no matter the work, as educators, parents, and guardians of our youth, I hope we instill in them a sense of passion and positivity as they prepare to pursue their life’s purpose.

Thankful for the Thankful

As someone who lacks a sunny disposition, I’ve learned to appreciate those who have one. To a great extent, I regard this as a God-given gift—the result of a genetic endowment that is only one of life’s many mysteries. However, I also recognize that,

like many gifted individuals, this attribute is one whose value grows and deepens with time and disciplined application.

The people who, in my childhood, were known by the now antiquated term “lunch ladies”—individuals who prepare and serve food to children—are linchpin figures, and usually end up in such a role because it requires a good dollop of social skills. I happen to work in a well-endowed institution where the dining services operation, like so many others at the school, is first-rate. However, even in that context, my colleague Antoinette stands out in a category of her own. For Antoinette, every single day is, to quote her, “a beautiful day!” and if it happens to be raining cats and dogs, there will be a twinkle in her eye as she says so. Any given morning will provide an opportunity to help her garden, prompt her to cook something to reflect the weather, or to soak up the sunshine. Antoinette is on the job at dawn, and I will sometimes find her manning a catering table thirteen hours later at a school function with the same bright expression, even as fatigue asserts its claim on her. She makes an omelette

Gratitude is a complicated emotion. It can’t be willed into existence, and is a gift in its own right when we find it conferred upon us, accompanied as it sometimes is with earned humility.

with the same brio she replaces a tray of home fries, and banters with the kitchen staff all day long. (Her nickname for me: “young man.”) You find yourself smiling despite yourself.

Antoinette is married to our assistant director of technology—a similarly sunny Colombian native with whom she has a daughter who graduated from the school—and at one point owned a beloved local delicatessen [Rinaldi’s] that she sold. So it’s not clear to me that she actually needs this job. For the money, anyway. I hope any students reading these words will understand that good work is so much more than a degree, a title, or a salary.

Gratitude is a complicated emotion. It can’t be willed into existence, and is a gift in

its own right when we find it conferred upon us, accompanied as it sometimes is with earned humility. Like the elusive and yet irresistible grace of God, as the Pilgrims who celebrated that first Thanksgiving in the fall of 1621 understood it. I’m glad they came. And that Antoinette followed.

- By Jim Cullen, Greenwich Country Day School, Upper School History Teacher

This holiday season, I hope you all find a little space to see life’s sunny side. Let’s show our children that there’s joy to be found—and shared—every single day.

Adam C. Rohdie is the Greenwich Country Day School Head of School



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Melody Men Sing to Brunswick

By TROY JOHNSON

“The Melody Men and Retired Men’s Association Veterans Bring Lessons and Music to Brunswick Lower School”

Students at Brunswick Lower School had a week to remember as members of the Retired Men’s Association (RMA) of Greenwich connected generations through stories and song.

To close out the week, on Friday, members of The Melody Men, also part of the Retired Men’s Association, visited the school to perform a selection of classic American songs. Their spirited performance brought smiles and laughter, creating a joyful and educational connection to the themes that would be shared earlier in the week.

As a gesture of appreciation, Brunswick Lower School students closed the assembly by singing their school song, “Men Of Brunswick.” It was moving to see the boys honor the RMA members for their service to both the country and the community.

In honor of Veterans Day, RMA military veterans also visited the school to speak with students about their service, experiences, and the importance of honoring those who protect



RMA Melody Men Singing to Brunswick Students

and defend the nation. The veterans shared personal stories, answered students’ questions, and emphasized values such as courage, teamwork, and patriotism. Teachers noted how engaged students were as they listened to real-life accounts from the people who have contributed so much to their country.

Brunswick Lower School Head, Katie Signer, expressed

gratitude for the volunteers, saying, “Our students gained a deeper appreciation for both the sacrifices made by our veterans and the cultural traditions that make our country unique. It’s wonderful to see our community come together to support learning in such meaningful ways.”

The events highlighted the strong partnership between

Brunswick and the Retired Men’s Association of Greenwich, demonstrating how local organizations continue to inspire and educate younger generations and build intergenerational ties, strengthening the fabric of our community.

Retired Men’s Association: <https://greenwichrma.org/>

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COLUMN

The Green Infrastructure Upgrade that Will End Blackouts, Restore Scenic Beauty and Save Billions

BY ELIZABETH HOPLEY

The day before Thanksgiving, during families' last minute errands, a construction supply truck snagged the sagging wires along busy East Putnam Avenue, grinding traffic to a halt. Firemen arrived quickly to untangle the mess and divert traffic, but had to leave the wires strewn in the street until the utility company could restring them back to their precarious perch. It's unknown how many stores and residents lost power, internet, phone, but it begs the question: Isn't there a better way for utilities to service customers in the 21st century?

This same story plays out countless times across our town and nation: a fragile 19th century system of exposed overhead wires easily derailed by minor mishaps or weather conditions, causing blackouts, lost productivity, and safety issues. Lawrence Berkeley National Lab found that America's overhead grid costs us \$80-\$180 billion every year in outages, spoiled food, lost wages, and emergency services.

Now, imagine our town without the unsightly web of overhead wires. Instead of driving past a procession of utility poles leaning under the weight of too many wires, there's a lush, green canopy of trees, cleaning the air, absorbing storm water runoff and cooling the road in the heat of summer. Meanwhile the underground grid is buried safely along our roads, bringing worry-free reliability to our utilities infrastructure.

Roadside trees pay dividends beyond scenic beauty. A mature

roadside tree is a living asset that delivers \$90,000–\$150,000 in measurable benefits per tree over its lifetime. One 60-foot tree absorbs 40,000 gallons of stormwater a year, cuts summer cooling bills up to 30%, and cleans the air of pollutants that cause asthma, heart attacks and strokes.

New drilling technology is a game-changer to the timeline and cost of burying the wires. New innovators are using technologies like plasma boring to drill up to 100x faster than traditional tunneling while reducing costs by up to 90%. The granite ledge so pervasive in Greenwich is easily bored through, creating a stable conduit to protect wires.

Even projects using traditional trenching (generally \$1-5 million per mile) now pay for themselves in 8-15 years, then continue to save money. Maintenance of overhead infrastructure costs 75-80% more annually than underground with the largest cost being vegetation management. And electricity runs more efficiently on underground insulated wires, nearly eliminating the significant losses to exposure on overhead wires.

Undergrounding overhead wires and planting trees will deliver four immediate wins: First, blackouts almost disappear and communications like phone and cable become stable and reliable. Second, scenic beauty is restored as trees replace the visual clutter of wires and poles. Third, home values increase by 7-20% in neighborhoods that have underground utilities. And

We cannot keep kicking the can down the road. Let's bury the wires. Not just some of them. All of them.



lastly, the cost can be offset by savings in other areas. Outages already cost billions. New drilling technology has slashed undergrounding costs and the outsized costs of maintaining overhead systems are minimized.

We cannot keep kicking the can down the road. Let's bury the wires. Not just some of them. All of them. It can be done through utility investment, federal matching funds, grants, long-term bonds, rate payer assessments, and public-private partnerships. The U.S. lags behind other developed countries with the least reliable system and 80% of our wires still overhead. It's time to upgrade this Third World infrastructure.

Do your part: call or write your local and state representatives and Connecticut's Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA). Let them know you support bringing our overhead distribution wires underground. One short message can start the change.

As the “Gateway to New England,” Greenwich can take the lead and replace the unsightly and unreliable overhead infrastructure with beautiful roadside trees, because the best time to bury the wires – and plant a tree – was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Elizabeth is the VP of the Board of Directors for the Greenwich Tree Conservancy; Vice Chair for Transportation and Infrastructure with Garden Club of America; Member of the Board of Directors of Scenic America; and RTM member from District II.

COLUMN

Finding God in the Pick Up Line

BY JENNY BYXBEE

Before we dive into the deep spiritual preparation of Advent, let's pause for a moment of seasonal solidarity! I want to give a massive, virtual hug (and perhaps an extra-large mug of cocoa) to everyone navigating the crucial, often-unseen behind-the-scenes magic this month.

I imagine the holiday prep isn't all that different from Mrs. Claus's demanding gig: she spends 364 days a year managing the logistics, wrangling the elves, and probably handling the North Pole's quarterly taxes, only for Santa to swoop in, take the sleigh, get all the credit,

and leave the cookie crumbs
on the nice rug.

To all the incredible women (especially the mothers!) holding it all together: Your tireless, brilliant efforts are absolutely seen, deeply appreciated, and possibly what actually fuels the entire season. I see you! Mrs. Claus sees you, too!

The season of Advent is a sacred time of hopeful patience and preparation, yet the world around us often demands a furious rush. Our spiritual call is to wait and hold sacred space, even when our calendar, and sometime children screams otherwise.

This dual calling, the

*To all the incredible women (especially the mothers!)
holding it all together*

demanding hustle of holiday prep alongside the spiritual call to quiet waiting, can feel like an impossible contradiction. We are called to embody the serene stillness of Mary, pondering things in her heart (Luke 2:19), while simultaneously managing a schedule that often resembles Martha's busy service (Luke 10:40).

You are not alone in this tension. The spiritual work of Advent doesn't require us to stop the practical work; it requires us to find God in

the midst of it. God is in the chaos of last-minute shipping deadlines and the struggle to assemble the 1,000-piece plastic toy. He is with you when you are sitting in the endless school pick-up line, using those few quiet minutes to finally check your list. He is there as you're driving home, navigating the traffic when realizing you forgot the critical ingredient for tomorrow's classroom party.

In the midst of this busy waiting, let us remember

the beautiful name we proclaim: O come, O come, Emmanuel, God with us! The name Emmanuel is more than just a hymn lyric; it is the ultimate fulfillment of prophecy and the perfect answer to our stress. God is not distant; He is always with us: in the pick up lines, in the relentless tasks of the day, and in the stillness of the night when little ones finally fall asleep. This presence is not a fleeting visit but a steadfast, with us always, in the humanity,

and in the humility of our everyday lives.

Let the powerful certainty, that God chose to be with us, relieve the pressure of perfection this season. Just as perhaps some of your unseen labor makes the season possible for others, God's unseen presence is making this season sacred for you. May you find moments of deep peace amidst the festive chaos, and may the powerful truth of Emmanuel, God with us, be a light that guides your own holiday season.

With love, Jenny Byxbee
Minister at 2cc and personal
friend of Mrs. Clause

BATTLE of the BADGES BLOOD DRIVE



Greenwich Public Safety Complex
11 BRUCE PLACE, GREENWICH, CT

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025
8 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

The Battle of the Badges contest and blood drive is a friendly competition to see which Greenwich emergency response organization can collect the most units of life-saving blood, through their own donations as well as through recruited donors.

Please join us at the Greenwich Public Safety Complex to support your local department!

To schedule an appointment, please call:
1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

Or visit us online at [**redcrossblood.org**](https://redcrossblood.org)

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions.



By MAREK ZABRISKIE

A few years ago, I bought a new cell phone and managed to lose it within 24 hours while walking our dogs on a golf course. It fell on the grass somewhere between the first and 18th hole with thousands of yards in between.

I searched and searched. I even prayed to St. Anthony and St. Jude, the patron saints of lost objects and lost causes, but both saints were too busy assisting people seeking lost car keys.

I was busy and stressed. We had just visited family and now had family was visiting us. I had lots of deadlines to meet at work, and then I snapped at family members and lost my cool. I realized that I needed the message of Advent.

Advent is the first season of the Church Year. It's the season that precedes and prepares us for Christmas. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin *adventus*, which means coming. Advent is a season where the Church invites us to slow down, to wait and to watch for God's Spirit in the midst of our

frenetic living. It's a message that many of us who are busy need to hear.

The time between Thanksgiving and Christmas can be the most stressful time of the year. We are busy planning for the holidays, hosting family, traveling, shopping, cooking, buying gifts and decorating the house. This season comes full of expectations for joy and happiness, but sometimes what we get are heartaches instead.

In her book *The Overworked American* Juliet Schor notes that the average working American now has only 16 hours a week when they are not at work, tending household chores or children or sleeping. That's not a lot of time to let God speak to us.

Nevertheless, the average American spends 10 hours before a computer screen and 18 hours watching television each week. We fiddle with little gadgets, cell phones and video games, texting, emailing and social media.

If we are not careful technology can destroy our spirituality. In Advent the Church invites us to slow down and hear God speak our name, heal our soul, and recharge our battery.

Preacher Barbara Brown Taylor says, "With the wisdom of centuries, the Church encourages us to pause outside of Bethlehem

and lie down upon a hillside a little distant from our destination and gaze upon the stars." That's the purpose of Advent. To find ways to pause and wonder.

We were built for contemplation. St. Augustine described God as the *unum necessarium* – "the one thing necessary." God is the very ground of our being. "Beauty ever ancient, ever new," says Augustine. "You were within and I was outside myself."

God is often illusive, because we are too frazzled and busy. We are like wistful agnostics, vaguely aware of something beyond us that is at the heart of all things – namely God.

We have a lot of noise like a cocktail party going on within our head distracting us from God. Thus, St. John of the Cross says, "The Father spoke one Word, which was his Son, and this Word he speaks always in eternal silence, and in silence must be heard by the soul."

We have to slow down and be quiet in order to hear God speak. We need not be scared of silence for it is something that the spirit needs to flourish in a world where noises invade our lives at every point.

The Irish poet Padraig Daly writes in his poem "Thomas Merton," "What is to be said about silence, Except that it is; And you

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sought it out diligently in your woods, Living alone with your books, In the company of birds..."

The fourteenth century German mystic Meister Eckhart claimed that "nothing in all creation is so like God as stillness." To be human with God is to be shaped by the space at the center of our lives, that still point of nothingness at the center of our being that belongs entirely to God.

A challenge is that most of us do not like to wait. We're impatient. We'd rather do something productive. Most of our lives are about doing when they should also be about being and becoming.

We like earning, working, playing, reading, driving, selling, baking, decorating, whereas waiting is essentially a matter of being – listening, looking, wondering, pausing, pondering and praying. Something godly happens to us when we balance our doing with more being.

In Advent John the Baptist comes to prepare the way of the Lord, like a landing strip for God

to land. John urges us to "repent," which is a word that makes us cringe.

Repent, however, means "to turn around" or "change direction." A little change of direction can do a world of good if we are headed in the wrong direction. But we are often afraid – even to make small changes.

We often settle for the status quo because it's familiar – even if deep down we know that it makes us unhappy. John the Baptist urges us to change, because change opens us to the possibility of a better future.

For some of us that might mean reducing the unhealthy expectations that we place on our shoulders during this season and making Advent more manageable.

John the Baptist urges us to take little steps. Most of what constitutes a great relationship in life are not monumental actions but little acts of love over a long period of time. John the Baptist says, "Bear fruit worthy of change." God knows that little acts of love lead to good

relationships and deep joy.

So we run errands for our spouse or stop by Starbucks and buy a latte for a friend. We write a note to a family member or assist a neighbor who has just had a baby or lost a parent.

After losing my cell phone I carefully walked the golf course twice – once even at night with a flash light. I drove around on a golf cart searching as well. Then 24 hours after losing it, I found it lying on the grass.

Maybe St. Anthony and St. Jude were listening to my prayers after all. But God had reminded me in the interval that what matters most in life is not a recovered object, but the relationships that make our lives rich and meaningful.

As we move through Advent, John the Baptist reminds us to slow down, watch and wait for God to come again. Prepare the way for God, and Jesus indeed will come.

The Rev. Marek Zabriskie loves people, pilgrimage, poetry, studying languages, and learning about history and different cultures.

Worship Services

Assemblies of God
Harvest Time Church
1338 King St., 203-531-7778
www.htchurch.com

Worship Services: Sun, 9 & 10:45am. All services are streamed on the church's website and YouTube channel. In addition to Sundays, there are also groups for children and teens on Wednesday evenings. *Life in the Spirit: Spiritual Warfare: Wednesday, December 10, 7pm.*

Baptist
First Baptist Church
10 Northfield St.; 203-869-7988
www.firstbaptistgreenwich.com

Sunday Servings: 11:30am, Facebook Live or for Devotion: 11-11:25am (Dial in 701-802-5355, Access code 360922).

Greenwich Baptist Church
10 Indian Rock Ln; 203-869-2807
www.greenwichbaptist.org

Worship: Sun, 11am (in person and online through Facebook & YouTube). Children Sunday School: 9:30am, ages 9-14y. Adult Bible Study: Sun, 9:30am, Fellowship Hall. Prayer Gathering: Wed, 7pm, Pastor's Office or virtual on Google Meets. *All Church PotLuck Luncheon: Dec. 7, following Service, Everyone is welcome.*

Catholic
Sacred Heart Church
95 Henry St.; 203-531-8730
www.sacredheartgreenwich.org

Mass: Mon-Fri, 7am (in the Chapel); Saturday Vigil, 4pm (in Church); Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confessions: Sat, 3-3:30pm or by appointment. Divine Mercy Prayer Group: Wed, 7-9pm. Prayer Group: Thu, 4-5pm, in the Chapel, 38 Gold St, All are welcome. *Ministry to the Homebound: if you, or someone you know, is homebound and would like a priest visit you, call the Rectory at 203-531-8730. Stations of the Cross: All Fridays during Lent, 6:30pm, in the Church, All are welcome. Annual Angel Tree: through Sunday, Dec. 7 – for questions, please contact Kathy Wiegand at 203-559-8086. Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Day of Obligation) Masses: Monday, Dec. 8, 7am & 12:15pm. Family Mass with Christmas Pageant: Sunday, Dec. 14, 9:30am, followed by Breakfast with Santa.*

St. Catherine of Siena & St. Agnes
4 Riverside Ave; 203-637-3661
www.stc-sta.org

** All Masses at St. Catherine of Siena Church are in-person and livestreamed (View our Livestream and recordings here: <https://events.locallive.tv/worship/stc-sta>)*

Masses: Saturday, 3-4pm – Confessions (Specific dates confirmed weekly in bulletin.) Vigil Mass, 5pm. Sunday: 7:30am, 9am (Family Mass), 10:30am (Traditional Mass), 5pm (Teen Mass), all at St. Catherine's Church). Masses in other Languages: French Mass - 2nd Sunday of the month, 11am. Italian Mass - 3rd Sunday of the month, both at St. Catherine's Chapel. Spanish Mass, 6:30pm, St. Catherine's Church. Daily/Weekdays: Mon, Tue, Thu & Friday: 7am – Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Church; 5:15pm – Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Chapel. Tuesdays: Rosary, 6pm, St. Catherine's Chapel. Wednesdays: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30am-4pm, St. Catherine's Church. *Ongoing: Food & Essentials Drive for Neighbor to Neighbor (there will be a car or SUV with an open trunk in the parking lot across from St. Catherine's church on Tuesdays, 9-11am. Join Music Ministries for choir rehearsals – Traditional, Contemporary, Teen, Cherub, Family Mass Choir – contact Music Director, Dr. Liya Petrides at music.director@stc-sta.org with questions. Volunteer Opportunity: Share Your Time and Compassion! Our Parish Partners Ministry of Hope is seeking kind-hearted volunteers to support our homebound parishioners. To sign up or learn more, please contact Jeannemarie Baker at (203) 637-3661 (ext. 375) or ParishPartners@stc-sta.org. Christmas Pageant: Sunday, Dec. 7, following the 9am Mass, all are welcome. Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Monday, Dec. 8, 7:30am, 12:10 & 5:15pm. Christmas Tree Lighting: Sunday, Dec. 14, 6pm, in front*

of church. Bilingual Mass – Marianitas a nuestra Virgen de Guadalupe: Sunday, Dec. 14, 10:30am.

St. Mary Church
178 Greenwich Ave.; 203-869-9393
www.stmarygreenwich.org

Public Mass: Sun: 9, 10:30am, 12:15 & 5:15pm. Sat Vigils: 4 & 7pm (Spanish). Daily: Mon-Fri, 12:05pm (Church doors will open from 10am-3pm). Confessions (English): Tue: 7-8pm; Sat: 3-3:45pm. Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Fri of the month: 12:30-5pm. *Christmas Pageant: Sunday, Dec. 7, following the 9am Mass. Women's Advent Retreat: Saturday, Dec. 13, 9am-12pm, at St Paul's Church, 84 Sherwood Ave., Greenwich.*

St. Michael the Archangel
469 North St.; 203-869-5421
www.stmichaelgreenwich.com

Mass: Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:15pm. Sunday Masses: 8am, 9:45am, 12pm, 5:15pm. Daily Masses: Mon-Sat, 9am. *Mass with Bishop Caggiano: Friday, Dec. 5, 10am. GCS Mass/Rite of Admission to Catechumenate: Sunday, December 7, 9am. Mass of the Immaculate Conception/Holy Day of Obligation: Monday, December 8, 5:15pm. Candlelighting in Memory of Children: Sunday, December 14, 7pm.*

St. Timothy Chapel
1034 North St.; 203-869-5421

Mass: Saturday Vigil Mass, 4pm. Sunday Mass, 11am.

St. Paul Church
84 Sherwood Ave.; 203-531-8741
www.stpaulgreenwich.org

Mass: Mon-Thu: 8am; Sat: 4pm (Vigil); Sun: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am. Confessions: Daily, 7:30am; Sat, 3-3:45pm. Mass on Holy Days: Vigil: 5:30pm, 9am & 12:15pm. Visit the website for information regarding the Bereavement Group (twice monthly) and weekly volunteer opportunities at the Don Bosco Kitchen and Food Pantry with the St. Paul Mercy Volunteers. All masses are available via livestream through the website. *Evenings For Married Couples: 1st Thu. of every month, 7:30pm. First Friday Devotion: Dec. 5, 8am Mass; Confessions: 7:30-7:55am. Prayer Shawl Ministry – knitters and crocheters of all levels needed for Baptismal blankets: Friday, Dec. 5, 9:30am, for questions email Janice Mattioli: mattioli.janice@gmail.com. First Saturday Devotion – pray the Rosary: Dec. 6, 9am. Women's Guild Christmas Cookie Bake Sale: Dec. 6 & 7, after all masses. The NFL Players Choir performs: Thursday, Dec. 11, 7pm, free admission, all are welcome. Women's Advent Retreat: Saturday, Dec. 13, 9am-12pm, at St Paul's Church.*

St. Roch Church
10 St. Roch Ave; 203-869-4176
www.strochchurch.com

Mass: (Reservations and/or for viewing via live streaming): Mon-Fri: 7:30pm; Sat: 5pm; Sun: 7:30am (Concelebrated for Previously Scheduled 9:30am Mass Intentions), 10:30am, 12pm (Spanish). Mass Intentions: consult the bulletin for time. *Celebrate the Virgen De Guadalupe – Mass in Spanish: Friday, Dec. 12, 7:30pm. Heitor Caballero recital – works for piano & organ: Sunday, Dec. 14, 4pm.*

Christian Science
First Church of Christ, Scientist
11 Park Pl; 203-869-1555
christiansciencect.org/greenwich

Sundays: Church and Sunday School at 10:30. Weds. 7:30pm testimonies of healing. Call # for all services 203-680-9095 code 520520. Reading Room 333 Greenwich Ave. M-F 1:00-5:00 203-869-2503. Bibles, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, children's books, and more. *Dec. 7: God the Only Cause and Creator.*

Community
First Church of Round Hill
464 Round Hill Rd; 203-629-3876
www.firstchurchofroundhill.com

In-person worship: Sundays, 10am. *Dec. 7: Second Sunday of Advent Holy Com-*

munion Lighting of the second candle of Advent, 10am.

Round Hill Community Church
395 Round Hill Rd; 203-869-1091
www.roundhillcommunitychurch.org

Weekly Sunday Worship services in the Sanctuary at 10am or online at roundhill-communitychurch.org anytime. Children's Worship (grades K-5) meets during the 10 am service. Please call the Church Office or visit the website for the most up-to-date information, events, and schedules. *Tools for Aging Well, 2nd Wednesday of the Month, 11am-12pm, Sanctuary. Round Hill Art & Craft Studio: Mondays, 1-4pm.*

Congregational
The First Congregational Church
108 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-1791
www.fccog.org

Worship: In-Person & Virtual: Sundays, 10am. Live-streaming on YouTube and Facebook, and broadcast on WGCH (1490 AM). Connect during the week: Friday: Friday Email Blast (sign up by calling the church office); Church school before worship most Sundays, 9am for preschoolers through grade 6. Online programming available via Zoom. A joyful community diverse in spiritual backgrounds and beliefs. *Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale: Dec. 6 & 7: 9am-4pm. Advent Craft Fair: Sunday, Dec. 7, 11am-12:30pm. 60th Annual Handel's Messiah Concert : Saturday, Dec. 13, 4pm. First Church Christmas Party: Sunday, Dec. 14, 5pm.*

North Greenwich Congregational
606 Riversville Rd; 203-869-7763
(Instagram photos and videos @ [north_greenwich_church](https://www.instagram.com/north_greenwich_church))

Worship Service: Sun, 10:30am, in person.

Second Congregational Church
139 E Putnam Ave; 203-869-9311
www.2cc.org

Sunday Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am. Livestream available for 10:30am service. Children's Chapel during 10:30am worship. Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: @2CCGreenwich. All are welcome here! *Gingerbread Workshop: Sunday, Dec. 7, 12pm. Christmas Piano Serenade: Sunday, Dec. 7, 5pm. Teddy Bear Story Hour at Coffee for Good: Saturday, Dec. 20, 8am.*

Christmas Eve Worship: 3:30pm Family Service (with no-rehearsal Nativity Pageant open to all); 6:30pm Festival Service; 11pm Candlelight Worship.

Episcopal
Anelican Church of the Advent
606 Riversville Rd; 203-861-2432
facebook.com/greenwichanglican

Service: Sun, 9am, Holy Eucharist. Sunday School during academic year.

Christ Church Greenwich
254 E. Putnam Ave; 203-869-6600
www.christchurchgreenwich.org

Holy Eucharist: Sundays, 8am, In-person only, Chapel. Messy Church Eucharist: every Sun, 8:45am, In-person only, Parish Hall. Holy Eucharist: 10am, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary, Children's Chapel during the service. Choral Evensong or Sung Compline: In-person or livestream, 5pm. Wednesdays: Preach and Teach Eucharist (new time for this midweek service), 12:15pm, In-person only Chapel. Thursdays: Choral Evensong, 6:30pm, In-person or livestream, Main Sanctuary. *Friday Bible Study with Rev. Tim Hamlin: Fridays, 10am. Messy Church Eucharist: Sundays, 8:45am. Bagels & Bibles: Sundays, 10:05am. Sunday Forum: "What is the New Testament" with Yü-Jan Lin: Dec. 7, 11:15am. Men's Bible Study with Rev. Elsberry: Wednesday, Dec. 10, 7pm. Sunday, Dec. 14: Sunday Forum: "Celebrating the Lamb's Victory" with Prof. Harry Attridge, 11:15am. Benjamin Britten, A Ceremony of Carols, 5pm.*

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church
954 Lake Ave.; 203-661-5526
www.stbarnabasgreenwich.org

Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 10AM (in per-

son and livestreamed). Our exciting Sunday School programs for kids and youth take place during the 10am service: Children's Church for kids 4-8 years old, and YC (Youth Church) for those 9+. Children are also welcome in church for both services, and childcare is provided all morning in our nursery. Sundays also feature joyful preaching by our clergy, Father Justin and Rev. Phoebe, and beautiful music by our director of music, Marnus Greyling, and the St. Barnabas Choir. Come experience the joy of the God of Jesus Christ. Visit us in person, on our website, and on social media (Instagram: @st.barnabasgreenwich). Small church feel - Big church experience. *Christmas on Lake Avenue: Friday, Dec. 5, 7:30pm, free – donations welcome, aarango@stbarnabas.org, eventbrite.com/e/1962644300937*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
200 Riverside Ave.; 203-637-2447
www.stpaulsriveride.org

Worship: Sundays, 10:15am (in person and streaming). Coffee hour immediately following worship service in Selleck Hall. Sunday School (including frolic Fatih class for toddlers 2+) in the Children's Chapel downstairs – drop-off starts at 10am. Ongoing: Neighbor-to-Neighbor food drive box by office door. Pick-up is every Thursday morning.

St. Saviour's Episcopal Church
350 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-2262
www.saintsaviours.org

In-person Service: Sundays, 10am.

Jewish
Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich
75 Mason St.; 203-629-9059
www.chabadgreenwich.org

Please visit our website for details on Shabbat services, classes, programs and more. *Soul Spa: The Five Books of Miriam: Uplifting Feminine Voices: Sat, 10am-12pm, on Zoom. Unlocking the Jewish Prayerbook-Opening the Liturgy: Sun, 5-6pm. JWC Cocktails & Creations: Monday, Dec. 8, 7pm. Menorah Lighting & Concert: Sunday, Dec. 14, 4:45pm.*

Congregation Shir Ami
One W. Putnam Ave; 203-274-5376
www.congregationshiram.org

All services, programs and celebrations are available online via Zoom. *Kabbalat Shabbat: Fridays, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church. Soul Spa - Meet the Midrash: Saturdays, 10am, through Aug. 9, on Zoom. Shabbat Service: Friday, Dec. 5, 7-9pm, First Presbyterian Church.*

Greenwich Reform Synagogue
92 Orchard St.; 203-629-0018
www.grs.org

Join Rabbi Gerson and Cantor Rubin every Friday, 6pm for Shabbat Services, and once a month for Tot Shabbat, 5:30pm. All in person services are also live streamed on Zoom.

Temple Sholom
300 E. Putnam Ave.; 203-869-7191
www.templesholom.com

Services - In-person and virtual Friday night Shabbat services, 6:30pm & Saturday morning Shabbat services, 10:30am. *Club 678 Youth Program: The Great Geli Game Show: Sunday, Dec. 7, 11:30am. Chanukah Family Bingo: Sunday, Dec. 7, 3pm. Game Night: Mah Jongg & Canasta: Monday, Dec. 8, 7pm.*

Chanukah Lunch 'n Learn Mini-Series with Rabbi Mitch: Tuesday, Dec. 9, 12pm. Itsy Bitsy Playgroup: Friday, Dec. 12, 9:15am. Chanukah-themed Together Shabbat: Friday, Dec. 12, 5:30 pm.

Lutheran
St. Paul Lutheran Church
286 Delavan Ave.; 203-531-8466
www.firstpaul.com

Sunday Divine Service: 9am. Sunday Bible Study: 10:30am. Wednesday Dinner: 5:30pm. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm.

Methodist
Diamond Hill United Methodist
521 E. Putnam Ave.; 203-869-2395
www.diamondhillumc.com

In-person & Online Worship Service ev-

ery Sunday, 10am, followed by a time of Fellowship. Wednesday Noonday Prayer & Wednesday Evening Bible Study. (Details at diamondhill.com).

First United Methodist Church
59 E. Putnam Ave.; 203-629-9584
www.fumcgreenwich.com

Virtual Sunday Worship: 10am. Sunday School – Lunch and Learning Bible: 12pm. Sunday Korean School: 1-4pm, Education Building.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal
42 Lake Ave.; 203-661-3099

Worship via teleconference: Sun, 11am and until further notice (Dial-in number: 425-436-6380, Access code: 612220).

Nondenominational
Stanwich Church
202 Taconic Rd.; 203-661-4420
www.stanwichchurch.org

Sunday Morning Worship Service: 9am & 10:45am. Kids Ministry for grades 5 and under, and Student Ministry for grades 6 & above, are offered. Live stream and recorded media are available at stanwichchurch.org. We'd love to meet you here! *Christmas Eve Candlelight Services: 3, 5 & 7pm. Nursery care is provided at the 3 & 7pm services for ages 4 & under.*

Center for Spiritual Development.
NSAC
293 Sound Beach Ave; 203-637-4615
www.Center4SpiritualDev.org

Sunday Service (hybrid: in-person & virtually on zoom): 7pm. Virtual Children's Lyceum (ages 5-14): 3rd Sunday of the month, 10-10:40am. Healing Service: 3rd Thursday of the month, 7-7:30pm. (Email Albertsonpcc@gmail.com for registration and Zoom Links). *Guided Meditation: Tuesdays, Dec. 9 & 16, 9-9:45am, Free, All are welcome.*

Trinity Church
5 River Rd. (Office); 203-618-0808
www.trinitychurch.life

All are invited to Trinity's morning Worship Service at 10am every Sunday. We meet at the Hyatt Regency, 1800 E Putnam, Old Greenwich. Kids programs are offered for up to 5th grade and Youth programs are available for middle & high schoolers. Livestream and recorded messages can be viewed at www.trinitychurch.life. Hope you can make it! *Trinity Kids Family Christmas Experience: Saturday, Dec. 6, 10am-12pm. Service of Remembrance & Hope: Thursday, Dec. 11, 7:30-8:45pm.*

Presbyterian
First Presbyterian Church
1 W. Putnam Ave.; 203-869-8686
www.fpcg.org

Worship: Sundays, 10am. *Advent Fair: Sunday, Dec. 7, 11am-1pm. Community Night: Wednesday, Dec. 10, 5-7pm. Carols by Candlelight: Saturday, Dec. 13, 4-7pm.*

Grace Church of Greenwich
89 Maple Ave.
203-861-7555
www.gracechurchgreenwich.com

Worship: Sundays, 10am, The Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, 4 Horseneck Ln. & 4:30pm, Woman's Club of Greenwich, 89 Maple Ave. Church Lunch: 1st Sunday of every month, 12-2pm, Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich. Prayer Meeting: 3rd Sunday of every month, 10-10:30am, Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich. All are welcome. *Church Lunch: Sunday, Dec. 7, 11:15am.*

Living Hope Community Church
38 West End Ave; 203-637-3669
www.LivingHopeoctr.org

Worship In-person & online (LivingHopeoctr.org/livestream): Sundays: 10am. *Forum for Fathers: Are you a man with or who has kids or family members with ADHD? We meet Sundays at 9am at the church to pray, seek God, and encourage each other. Contact Todd.klair@gmail.com for more information. Kids Zone - Cookie Decorating Fun: Saturday, Dec. 6, 3:30pm, register, onrealm.org/livinghoctr/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NTE5ZDUzNGUzMjg-OMy00OTxLWE5MmQYjM3YzAxM-WUzY2Ri.*



Obituaries



JOHN DALY

John Neal Daly passed away on November 24, 2025 at Greenwich Hospital in Greenwich, CT.

Born in Washington D.C. on November 14, 1937, his father was the famed newsman and broadcaster, John Charles Daly. Along with his mother, Margaret Criswell Neal and his siblings, they resided in a home on the grounds of the Westchester Country Club. While enjoying his youth, John chose to attend the Phillips Andover Academy from 1952 to 1955. From there, He went on to attend Yale University. Upon his graduation in 1959, he spent two years in the Marine Corps.

After his stint, John entered the world of business, joining the firm of E.F. Hutton & Co. with whom he spent 23 years, at various times, he ran the Syndicate Department, the Commodities Division and the Asset Management Division. As well, during his time with E.F. Hutton, he completed the prestigious Harvard University Advanced Management Program in 1979. From Hutton, John joined Salomon Brothers, both at the New York and London offices, where he headed for the Private Client Division and International Equity Capital Markets. He then went on to become the Director of Separately Managed Accounts at Spears, Benzak, Salomon & Farrell, spending 10 years with the firm. He went on to fill a similar role with Prudential Managed Accounts from 2002 to 2005. Lastly, he founded IMMS Inc., a separately managed accounts consulting firm. Also notable is John's work with CareCloud, a leading healthcare technology company where he had been a Director since 2014.

Throughout the course of his career, John enjoyed accolades and roles within the investment community. He was a long-time member of the Bond Club of New York, serving as the president for a term. He was also a proud member of Kappa Beta Phi, a social organization of investment luminaries, serving as the Grand Swipe in 1977. As well, John served as a Director of the Greenwich Historical Society. A longtime member of the Yale Club, John also enjoyed membership in other New York City institutions. An honorary member of the Burning Tree Club in Washington D.C., John was an active member of The Round Hill Club in Greenwich.

Through his education and business relationships, John had an enormous circle of friends and associates which were very important in his life. They were so numerous that a running family joke was that he could find someone he knew even in deepest Africa, which actually came to fruition while on safari in Kenya in 1986.

Traveling with his family was one of John's great joys. From getaways with his wife Barbara, trips with his children and many times having his three half-siblings from his father's second marriage made for great fun, many laughs and tremendous memories. John and Barbara first went to Harbour Island in the Bahamas in 1967 and enjoyed annual visits there, owning a home for 22 years.

Speaking of his wife, Barbara and John enjoyed the best kind of union, two people with different strengths and abilities, but who complemented each other so perfectly. It sounds like cliché, but they truly were each other's best friend and that was readily apparent to anyone who knew or spent time with them. Meeting in New York City through mutual friends, they hit it off instantly and married in April 1966, enjoying 4 and a half years of marriage before welcoming the first child, John. Parenthood brought them out to the country, moving to New Canaan, CT before welcoming their daughter Cristina. They moved to Greenwich in 1977, where they have resided ever since.

Aside from family, friends and business, John had numerous other interests, among them was his participation with The Culinary Institute of America, the preeminent cooking school in the country and arguably the world. Asked to join to assist in the management of the school's assets, his role expanded over time. He began as a "member" of the corporation and joined the Board of Trustees, serving as Treasurer and Chair of Finance. Since 2004, he had served as a Trustee Emeritus. In his time, John was crucial in developing the CIA's Napa Valley Campus and participated in the building of international campuses.

John is survived by his wife Barbara and children John and Cristina. As well he is survived by his beloved grandchildren, Caroline and Jack Hamel and his brother Charles and half siblings James and Nina.

Per the family's request, in lieu of flowers, please make a donation to a scholarship in John's name with The Culinary Institute of America. The link to donate is here: www.ciachef.edu/JohnNDalyScholarship

MARY ROBINSON

Mary Toner Robinson, of Greenwich, died peacefully on November 5, 2025. She is survived by her husband, John; daughters Christine Labate (Philip Lawlor), Emily Robinson, and Sarah Robinson; grandchildren Ean and Erin Lawlor; brother John F. Toner; and niece Alexandra Schmitz. Predeceased by sister Veronica "Roni" Schmitz.

A Greenwich native, Mary attended St. Mary School and worked as a Respiratory Therapist. She found friendship through the Ski Bears, Girl Scouts, and AA.

A celebration of her life was held at St. Mary Church on Friday, November 28.



WALTER NELSON

Walter B Nelson, formerly of Greenwich, passed away peacefully on November 28 at Regional Hospice in Danbury, CT, after recently celebrating his 100th birthday.

Born October 26, 1925, to Walter and Mary, in Providence, RI; Walter proudly served his country in the United States Navy during World War II. After the war, he worked for the government, residing in Bethesda, MD where he and Mary started their family and built their first home.

After leaving the government, Walter moved the family to Greenwich, CT and began working for Computer Usage Company in Mount Kisco, NY. It was shortly after that Walter started his own computer service bureau, APC, in 1968 in Greenwich, CT which is still run by his son Daniel. While living in Greenwich, Walter was active in the Greenwich Library, holding positions on the Board.

Walter had many hobbies and talents. He was an avid pilot, owning his own plane and in his later years owned a 45ft RV, which he toured around with his wife Mary. Subsequently, built a home in Vermont and a large home and workshop in North Carolina. Walter was a devoted family man, who adored his wife, and children, and later grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was always there to help them any way he could. Walter's strong Catholic faith also helped guide him throughout his life. He was extremely generous with his time, skills, as well as financially to his home parish of St. Paul's, as well as his parishes in Vermont and North Carolina.

He is predeceased by his beloved wife Mary, and is survived by his loving sons, Steve (Sandi), Andrew (Jay), Daniel (Tracy), and Peter; as well as his 10 cherished grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He is predeceased by his dear son David and his sister Maureen.

Family and friends gathered Wednesday at Coxé & Graziano Funeral Home, Greenwich. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Greenwich, followed by interment at St. Mary's Cemetery, Greenwich.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to Regional Hospice in Danbury, CT or Greenwich Library would be greatly appreciated.



GERTRUDE HAYDE

Gertrude Veronica Hayde (nee Murphy) of Oxford, CT passed away on November 25, 2025. She was 92. Born in Greenwich, CT on March 21, 1933 to Kenneth and Veronica Murphy (nee Fox). Gertrude worked as an administrator and receptionist for Whitman & Breed in Greenwich, CT.

Gertrude was predeceased by her beloved husband, James Joseph Hayde, Jr. She is survived by her loving children, Deborah Ann Nash (Michael), Joseph James Hayde (Patricia), Mary Patricia Gabriel, and her 8 cherished grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

To honor Gertrude's life, family and friends gathered on Monday, December 1 at Fred D. Knapp Funeral Home, Greenwich, CT. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, December 2, at Sacred Heart Church, Greenwich, CT followed by interment at St. Mary's Cemetery, Greenwich.



MARY WING

Mary Margaret Wing, a longtime resident of Byram, CT, passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 23 at Maplewood Assisted Living in Norwalk. She was 80 years old.

Born on December 30, 1944 in the Bronx, she was the middle child of Helen and James Moore. The family lived in City Island until they moved to Greenwich in 1955. There she attended St. Mary's High School and later switched to the Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel in White Plains, where she graduated at the top of her class. After graduation, she planned to study nursing at D'Youville University in Buffalo, but instead started her family with her husband, Bill, and created

a wonderful life with their 5 children in Greenwich. In those early days, she enjoyed boating, Sundays at Island Beach and picnics at Tod's Point with their Byram Vets family. In later years, spending time with her family, grandchildren and dear friends she gained through her church activities and Emmaus group brought her happiness.

Mary Margaret enjoyed many years working as an office administrator in Dr. Larkin's office in Greenwich, keeping her involved in the medical world. Her next venture brought her to JSJ Window Treatments, which appealed to another of her interests in home decorating. She loved finding treasures in antique stores and thrift shops and was very active on eBay in past years. She loved the "thrill of the hunt". Many of these finds are adorning her children's homes – each item coming with a story of its history and her joy of discovering it.

Mary Margaret will be remembered for her unquenchable thirst for knowledge and her desire to learn, improve and evolve in all aspects of her life – most importantly her faith. She was steadfast in her faith, firm in the knowledge that her Lord was in charge, which gave her great strength and courage to endure her health issues with quiet humility and acceptance.

She is survived by her children William (Ginger), Christopher (Michele), Brian (Jill), Meghan (Earl), grandchildren Patrick, Heather, Brendan, Kevin, Ryan, Chloe, Colin, Caroline, Madelyn, Courtney, Aidan and Liam. She is also survived by her brother Jim Moore and his wife Eleanor. She was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, William, her daughter Maureen and her sister Ellen Sexton.

Visitation was held Monday, December 1 at Leo P. Gallagher & Son Funeral Home, Greenwich, CT.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, December 2 at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Riverside, CT.



ARTHUR NORTON

Arthur D. Norton aged 85 born Aug 25, 1940 passed away peacefully on Nov 23.

Arthur was born and raised in Dorchester MA to parents Thomas and Margaret.

He graduated from Tufts University and worked first as an Independent Insurance Agent and later as a Financial Planner.

He married Barbara (Valerio) and had four children: Art (Anne), Lara Chardavoyne (Pete), David (Stacy) and Jeff (Ana). He had twelve grandchildren: Ryan, Cate, Alexa and Kyle (Art); Peter and Carly (Lara); Emma, Justin and Lily (Dave); Mathew, Ashley and Isabelle (Jeff)

For the last 30 years he was married to Marie (Donnelly) who preceded him in death by 7 months.

He is survived by his sister Marguerite Walenten; his sisters in law Janice Norton, Mary Norton and Kathleen Donnelly and 3 nephews and 1 niece.

He was preceded in death by his two brothers Tommy and David and his nephew Eric Norton.

Arthur was passionate about his involvement with the Town of Greenwich as Chairman of both RTM Districts 12 and 9 at different times and involvement with the Board of Estimate and Taxation. Arthur also devoted considerable time to a fundraising effort to renovate the Western Greenwich Civic Center which he was very proud.

A private family service will held followed by interment alongside his wife Marie at St. Mary's Cemetery in Greenwich, CT.



DION BAPTIST

Dion Darius Baptist died November 18, 2025, age 67 years, following a brave struggle with multiple illnesses.

Dion was an inventory analyst and accountant for liquor importer Diageo of Norwalk, CT and retired in 2019 after twenty-five years with the company. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1958 and graduated from Greenwich High School in 1976. He continued his education at UConn and Sacred Heart University. Dion served honorably in the United States Army in Iraq and Kuwait during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and was a decorated M-16 expert and sharpshooter. Dion loved to play baseball and golf, and he was an avid builder and flyer of model airplanes.

He is survived by his longtime partner Sandra Voller of Norwalk; a son Rion J.A. Baptist and daughter Daria Leland Baptist; brothers Thomas Robert (Valentina) and Paul Earl III (Lisa), and a sister Jane Aliene MacGregor (Wesley); plus, eleven nieces and nephews all of whom adored their "Uncle Di". Dion was predeceased by his parents Glenna Jane Kiner and Paul Earl Baptist Jr.; his sister Paul Gail Bennett; and first wife Robin Soper.

His family is grateful for the care he received from the staff at Norwalk Hospital and Yale New Haven Hospital.

Dion's good humor, integrity and enthusiasm will be missed dearly by his family, friends, and all who

knew him.



COURTNEY WETZEL

JUNE 3, 1980 – NOVEMBER 16, 2025

Following a courageous fourteen-month battle, Courtney Alison Wetzel, 45, passed away peacefully at her home in Stamford, CT on Sunday, Nov. 16.

Courtney was born June 3, 1980, the daughter of Robert and Sara Jepson Wetzel.

She loved growing up in Ashtabula, spending summers at Redbrook Cottages, acting in several Arts Center productions, and golfing with family at Ashtabula Country Club. She was fortunate to be surrounded by family and enjoyed countless gatherings and outings with them.

Courtney attended and became a member of East Side Presbyterian Church. She was also very involved in the First Methodist youth group as a teenager. Courtney graduated as Salutatorian of Edgewood Senior High School Class of 1998. She represented her school and hometown as a Blessing of the Fleet Queen, as a three-time VFW Voice of Democracy winner, and as an Academic Challenge and Scholastic Bowl competitor.

During four years at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, she served in multiple leadership positions in Delta Gamma, a women's fraternity. Their motto, "Do good," was exemplified by Courtney throughout her life.

At Denison she served as Adytum Yearbook editor and founded the Women's Club Golf Team, before graduating in 2002 with degrees in Economics, French, and Communications. Despite being an Economics major, Courtney convinced her parents to send her to France twice to study. She took full advantage of her opportunities to travel around France and Europe, adding to her love of adventure, learning history, and enjoying each country's cuisine and culture.

In 2003, Courtney moved to Connecticut to begin her career at Riverside Yacht Club (Riverside, CT). This decision turned out to be the best decision of her life, and Courtney found joy every day in her role as Club House Manager.

Daily interactions with the membership created strong ties that reached across generations. It was her absolute pleasure to work alongside the dedicated staff to plan and execute celebrations and events for the RYC community. Assisting them with their weddings, birthdays, funerals, regattas and other key events was an incredible experience. The fact that they entrusted her with these cherished events made her 22- year tenure rewarding and exciting.

Throughout her career, Courtney was an active member of the Connecticut Chapter of the Club Management Association of America, serving as Education Chair, Public Relations Chair and President of the chapter. She valued and enjoyed the camaraderie of her colleagues and the educational opportunities offered locally and at the CMAA World Conferences.

Courtney's love of travel was fostered at an early age with memorable Spring breaks in Saint Simons Island, Georgia; summer trips to Cape May, New Jersey; and an Amtrak trip out West with grandparents and cousins. She could find an adventure in any town. More recently Courtney enjoyed traveling with her parents to the Finger Lakes, Bermuda, and England.

Her parents enjoyed their frequent trips to Connecticut. Almost every visit included a drive to a unique destination in that beautiful state, always with a history lesson and an amazing meal to complete the day.

Courtney planned and surprised her parents with once-in-a-lifetime experiences: Ryder Cup in Medinah, Illinois, the US Grand Prix in Austin, Texas, and a Rhine River Cruise. Her yearly trek home included visits to the wineries, Lights on the Lake, and a shopping excursion on Bridge Street. Being with family on holidays was always a special event, and Courtney took great pride in hosting the holidays in her home.

Courtney was preceded in death by her grandparents: Warren and Joanna Jepson, Arthur and Marjorie Wetzel; uncle, Ralph Rose; uncles and aunts: Clay and Susan Wetzel Hayward, Bill and Carolyn Wetzel.

She is survived by her parents; her aunts: Karen Rose, Beth Jepson, and Elaine Robinson; aunts and uncles: Alan and Judy Jepson, Jim and Elaine Wetzel; cousins: Molly Rose; Jeff and Kelly Rose; Lucas, James, and Abigail Rose; Allyce and Bryce McKenney; Benjamin, Chloe, and Amilya McKenney; Andrew and Nichole Jepson; Jeffrey Jepson; Eric and Elizabeth Wetzel; Evan and Emory Wetzel; Keven and Jody Grove; Rhen Grove; Angela Hayward and Kai Hayward.

Courtney is also survived by her Connecticut family: Gary and Stephanie Dunn Ashley and their two daughters, Anneliese and Charlotte. She was welcomed into that family upon her arrival in Stamford in 2003. They enjoyed weekly dinners, themed road trips, holiday celebrations, and all milestone events for 22 years.

Donations in Courtney's memory may be made to East Side Presbyterian Church, Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance, or a charity of your choice. Envelopes for contributions will be available at the funeral home and the church.

Calling hours were Sunday, Nov. 30 at Fleming-Billman Funeral Home, Ashtabula, Ohio.

The funeral service was held at East Side Presbyterian Church, Ashtabula, Ohio. Interment followed at Mentor Municipal Cemetery.

Historical Society Delivers an Abundance of Holiday Joy with Festive Events for all Ages

With the holidays fast approaching, Greenwich Historical Society has an array of cherished family-oriented events in store that will appeal to all age groups. Beginning the first week of December, the grounds will be aglow with twinkling lights and vibrant decorations, providing a magical backdrop for people in Greenwich and throughout the area who delight in the spirit and traditions of the holidays.

For decades, the Historical Society has been an important destination for people who cherish the holidays and the traditions associated with the season. “Some frequent visitors consider our holiday events akin to watching the Macy’s Day Parade,” says Director of Special Events Daniel Suozzo.

A portion of the proceeds are a crucial source of funding the Historical Society’s extensive programs in education, arts and historic preservation.

Festival of Tabletop Trees: Donated by Community Partners

December 3, 4, 5: 9am – 5pm
December 6: 11am – 3pm

The seventh annual festival offers a stunning and diverse collection of beautifully decorated, one-of-a-kind trees, generously donated by local designers and community partners. Over 25 organizations have pledged to provide trees this year, including The Bruce Museum, Greenwich Symphony Orchestra, the Japan Society of Fairfield County and a wide swath of area garden clubs such Knollwood, Riverside, Hortulus, the Garden Clubs of Greenwich and Old Greenwich and Sam Bridge.

“Each year, we have more organizations interested in donating trees,” says Museum Store Manager Barbara Johann. “They have fun with it!”

Whether used as a traditional Christmas tree, a table accent or centerpiece, these unique decorations can transform homes into festive sanctuaries. Trees can be bid on or purchased directly. The Museum Store is open for shopping and complimentary coffee, and tea is offered in the Artists’ Café while browsing trees. For more information: <https://greenwichhistory.org/event/festival-of-trees/>

Holiday Boutique for Luxurious Gifting
Opening night: December 3: 5:30 – 8pm

Boutique: December 4: 9:30 – 4:30pm

This beloved shopping extravaganza has a beautifully curated selection of distinctive high-end clothing, accessories, packaged artisanal foods and children’s gifts that are sourced internationally to appeal to all age groups.

“We strive for a unique shopping experience with a sense of discovery – almost like a treasure hunt – that is more personal and distinct from what most retail stores can provide,” says Daniel Suozzo. “The elegant interior of the stately Greenwich Country Club adds to the ambience and provides an ideal backdrop for our upscale assortment of merchandise.”

The opening night reception will put shoppers into the holiday spirit with festive music, light snacks and beverages while browsing the fabulous array of offerings on display. The opening night reception is \$25. Greenwich Country Club is located at 19 Doubling Rd., Greenwich, Conn. For more information visit: <https://greenwichhistory.org/event/holiday-boutique-3/>

Holiday Festival: “A Night at the Museum”
Saturday, December 13: 4pm – 7pm

Family holidays in Greenwich would not be the same without a visit to the campus for this beloved annual festival in the beautifully lit campus grounds.

For this year’s Night at the Museum theme, children are invited to come in their PJ’s so they can get cozy while experimenting with a variety of creative crafts. They can decorate their own gingerbread people, and have their photos taken with a special guest from the North Pole in the Historic Barn. A fire will be lit for warming up and making tasty s’mores and a selection of seasonal treats, hot cocoa and other winter beverages will be available to round-out a festive, fun-filled evening.

“Families in our community are important to the work we do at the Historical Society,” says Lauren Ackerley, director of public programs. “Every year, we love hosting a festival that brings them together to celebrate the season and to make meaningful memories on our historic campus.”

In case of bad weather, the festival will be moved to Sunday, December 14th from 4pm – 7pm. For more information: <https://greenwichhistory.org/event/holiday->



festival-3/

Holiday Tea with the Holley’s and Walking Tour
Friday, December 12: 1pm and 3pm

A tea service inspired by the traditions of the Holley family, complete with sweet treats and live harp music, will be served in the barn. Two seatings are offered and registration is required.

To coincide with the Historical Society’s current exhibition The Holly Boarding House: Inspiring American Impressionism, a short docent-led walking tour of the site that inspired the Cos Cob art colony artists who lived and worked at the Holley Boarding House at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries is offered following the tea. Guests will see the beautiful winter scenes that influenced the artists to create many important American Impressionist paintings.

“The Cos Cob art colony artists did not have studios at their disposal at the Holley Boarding House, so following the example of the French Impressionists, such as Claude Monet, the artists would carry their easels and paints to a location in the Cos Cob Lower Landing that inspired them,” says exhibition curator Kathy Craughwell-Varda. “Docents will point out specific sites that were the focus of some of their most prized canvases.” For more information and to register: <https://greenwichhistory.org/event/holiday-tea-with-the-holleys/>

Visitors to the Historical Society campus have convenient parking and can combine a trip with a visit to the galleries when open from Wednesday – Sunday, noon to 4pm. The Museum Store has a distinctive collection of festive gift items for holiday shopping needs, with many that reflect Greenwich’s local history.

ALS United Announces New Research Grantees

By PAUL SILVERFARB

ALS United Connecticut announces the selection of its 2025 Research Innovation Grantees—an accomplished group of scientists and clinicians whose work is accelerating new approaches in ALS treatment, prevention, and understanding. The grants underscore ALS United’s commitment to driving global research while strengthening expert care and bold advocacy.

This year’s cohort represents leading investigators across multiple disciplines, including genetics, environmental studies, regenerative medicine, biomarker discovery, and novel clinical interventions. Their work aims to bring real progress, and real hope, to people living with ALS today. Grantees were selected via an annual, competitive process with applications reviewed by a world-class Scientific Advisory Committee and Community Research Committee.

“Being part of this collaborative push to uncover new treatments, cures, and the causes of ALS is truly inspiring,” said Jacky Rose, Executive Director at ALS United CT. “We hope with this support, research can be accelerated to find the answers we are urgently searching for.”

The 2025 Research Innovation Grants have been awarded to the following investigators and institutions:

- Sandra Almeida, PhD, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, Department of Neurology for Investigation of TDP-43 Dysfunction in an iPSC-Based Three-Dimensional Multicellular Model of C9orf72-ALS/FTD.
- Frederick Arnold, PhD, Washington University, St. Louis for Investigating Hyperphosphorylation of tau serine 262 as Novel Biomarker and Therapy Target in ALS.
- Claire Clelland, PhD, MD, University of California San Francisco for Rapid Screening of a Miniaturized Cas and gRNAs for AAV Delivery of C9orf72 Gene Therapy.
- Richard Daneman, PhD; John Ravits, MD, University of California San Diego for Multi-omic Analysis of Cerebrovascular Changes in Patients with ALS.
- Faranak Fattahi, PhD; Sarah Kishinevsky, PhD, University of California San Francisco, and EverTree Bio for Evaluation of Glioprotective Small Molecules for ALS therapy.
- Clotilde Lagier-Tourenne, MD, PhD; Liron Bar-Peled, PhD, Massachusetts General Brigham, Department of Neurology and Krantz Family Center for Cancer Research for Chemical Proteomics Drug Discovery in ALS.

- Timothy Miller, MD, PhD, Washington University School of Medicine, Department of Neurology for Probing Human Motor Neuron Vulnerability Using Spatial Transcriptomics.
- Patrick Murphy, PhD, University of Connecticut Medical School for Temporal Control of Endothelial TDP-43 Deletion Reveals Divergent Mechanisms in ALS and FTD.
- Stanislav Piletsky, PhD; Daniel Heller, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and The Cancer Nanomedicine Laboratory for A Machine Learning-Enabled Nanosensor Array for ALS Diagnosis and Biomarker Discovery.
- Daniel Rubin, MD, PhD; Hadar Levi-Aharoni, PhD; Leigh Hochberg, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital for Developing Reliable Brain-Computer Interface Systems to Restore Communication for People with ALS.
- Marc Weisskopf, PhD, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health for Military Occupation and Deployment and Risk of ALS in Veterans.
- Noah Zaitlen, PhD; Roel Ophoff, PhD; Martina Wiedau, MD, University of California Los Angeles for Circulating Cell-Free DNA as Biomarker for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Diagnosis and Disease Progression.
- Lyandysha Zholudeva, PhD, Gladstone Institutes for Engineering Human Spinal Circuits to Evaluate Inhibitory Interneuron Therapies for ALS.

These grants are part of ALS United’s expanded commitment to research at a time when federal funding cuts threaten momentum in the field. By investing in high-impact scientific discovery, the organization continues to ensure progress does not stall for the ALS community.

Grant funding is supported by members of ALS United, a community of independent ALS nonprofits dedicated to providing local care services, advancing research initiatives, and advocating for policies that benefit people living with ALS. Led by significant investments from the ALS Network and ALS Northwest to accelerate progress, participating organizations include: ALS Network, ALS Northwest, ALS United Connecticut, ALS United of Georgia, ALS United Greater Chicago, ALS United Greater New York, ALS United Mid-Atlantic, ALS New Mexico, ALS of Nevada, ALS United North Carolina, ALS United Ohio, ALS United Orange County, ALS United Rhode Island, and ALS United Rocky Mountain.

To learn more about ALS United’s research program visit alsunited.org/research.

Abilis Gardens & Gifts Offers Handmade Holiday Treasures Created by Community Members

Abilis Gardens & Gifts has opened its holiday season with an expanded selection of handmade goods, festive arrangements, and locally crafted items created by Abilis community members. Although the annual Sip & Shop event took place earlier this week, the shop at 50 Glenville Street in Greenwich remains open for regular holiday shopping, offering residents a place to find unique gifts while supporting the mission of a longstanding local nonprofit.

The shop is known for its signature candles, soaps, bath products, and body lotions, all produced by adults with disabilities who participate in Abilis’ Competitive Employment program. Holiday scents, limited-edition packaging, and small-batch production have made these items consistent favorites among loyal customers. The program provides hands-on training in retail operations, craftsmanship, customer service, and inventory management. Staff members prepare and package the products, work the shop’s counters, and assist in the greenhouse, gaining skills that support their broader employment opportunities.

Holiday greens, wreaths, and seasonal floral arrangements are

available throughout December and may be ordered in person, online, or by phone. The Abilis greenhouse operates as a full florist shop, supplying fresh arrangements and plants at accessible prices. The combination of handcrafted goods and floral offerings has made Abilis Gardens & Gifts a reliable stop for both holiday gifting and home decorating needs.

Many of the gifts on display are produced in limited quantities. Beaded bracelets, jewelry pieces, and one-of-a-kind holiday cards made by Abilis community members tend to sell quickly as the season advances. The shop also carries children’s items, home décor, pet toys, accessories, and Greenwich-themed gifts that draw regular visitors looking for items not available elsewhere in town.

Currently, the Gardens & Gifts retail and greenhouse facilities are undergoing major renovations. During this period, shopping is hosted inside Abilis’ main building at the same Glenville Street address. Despite the construction work, operations continue on their normal schedule, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Shoppers may also visit the weekly pop-up shop at Greenwich Town Hall on

Wednesdays and Thursdays during the same hours.

The mission behind the shop extends beyond seasonal retail. Abilis, founded in 1951, supports more than 800 individuals with disabilities and their families from birth through adulthood across Fairfield County. Its programs span early intervention services, residential support, job training, and community integration. The Gardens & Gifts initiative plays a central role in that effort by creating meaningful employment experiences that blend creative expression with practical workforce skills.

Holiday orders for floral arrangements and gift items continue to be accepted online and by phone, and staff members encourage early requests for custom pieces as December progresses. The combination of handcrafted merchandise and the opportunity to support local individuals makes the shop a consistent destination for residents seeking thoughtful gifts.

Abilis Gardens & Gifts remains open throughout the holiday season, offering shoppers a way to complete their lists while contributing to a program that provides purpose, training, and pride for its creators.

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TAKE OUT - DELIVERY - CATERING

White Plains Hospital Earns National Recognition for Cardiac Specialty Care

By SENTINEL STAFF

White Plains Hospital reported new national distinctions for its cardiac program following Healthgrades' 2026 specialty evaluations, which placed the facility among the top performers in the country for cardiac care and coronary intervention.

Healthgrades, described by the organization as the leading site used by Americans when searching for doctors or hospitals, ranked White Plains Hospital among the top 100 hospitals nationwide for cardiac care. The hospital was also rated in the top 5% of U.S. hospitals for coronary interventional procedures and the top 10% for overall cardiac services, cardiac surgery, and coronary intervention.

The latest recognitions include Specialty Excellence Awards for Cardiac Care and Coronary Intervention, as well as five-star ratings for valve surgery, coronary

interventional procedures, and heart attack treatment.

Dr. Michael Palumbo, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, said the designations reflect efforts to expand advanced cardiac services for the region. "Our comprehensive cardiac services program provides our community world-class, lifesaving care close to home," Palumbo said. He added that since the launch of the hospital's Cardiac Surgery Program in 2021 and its Structural Heart Program in 2023, the facility "rapidly [became] the area's trusted choice for cardiac care – and our reputation for providing exceptional care in all major specialties is an achievement for which we are immensely proud."

The hospital's cardiac program has expanded in recent years, earning certification earlier this year as a comprehensive heart attack center from The Joint Commission and the American Heart Association. The certification recognizes hospitals with full-service

capabilities to diagnose and treat the most severe types of heart attacks.

Key components of the program include the Montefiore Cardiac Surgery Program at White Plains Hospital, which handles complex cardiothoracic procedures and open-heart surgeries; the Montefiore Structural Heart Program, which offers advanced minimally invasive treatments for heart-valve conditions such as Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement; full-service cardiac catheterization labs; and an electrophysiology program that treats atrial fibrillation with current procedural technology.

Healthgrades evaluates approximately 4,500 hospitals each year, relying on risk-adjusted mortality and complication rates for more than 30 common conditions and procedures. Its cardiac awards incorporate outcomes for heart bypass surgery, coronary interventional procedures, valve surgery, and treatment

of heart attacks and heart failure.

White Plains Hospital serves as the tertiary hub of the Montefiore Health System in the Hudson Valley. It operates as a 292-bed not-for-profit institution with outpatient facilities in Armonk, Hawthorne, Larchmont, New Rochelle, Rye Brook, Scarsdale, Somers, Yonkers, Yorktown Heights, Harrison, and Scarsdale. The hospital is accredited by The Joint Commission and in 2025 received a five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for the fourth consecutive year. It also holds Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center and has sustained an "A" Safety Grade from the Leapfrog Group for 13 consecutive rating cycles.

More information about the hospital and its cardiac services is available at wphospital.org.

Breast Cancer Alliance Welcomes Michelle Bella as Executive Director



The board of Breast Cancer Alliance is pleased to announce the hiring of seasoned media executive, Michelle Bella, as its new Executive Director. Michelle brings an impressive track record of development and growth with over 20 years of strategic marketing experience, including at ESPN/The Walt Disney Company, NBC Universal/Telemundo and Univision.

"We are thrilled to have a professional of Michelle's caliber and

talent lead Breast Cancer Alliance as we enter our 30th year. Her passion for excellence and engagement will build on the tremendous energy of our donors and our board, as we continue toward our goals of improving treatment of and, ultimately, eradicating breast cancer," said BCA President Karen Colella.

Michelle has broad experience in media and sports marketing with demonstratable results in growing brands, audiences and engagement.

In addition to managing a portfolio of multi-billion dollar sports-media franchises, Michelle also managed functional teams across legal, accounting and finance, making her incredibly well positioned in stewardship. Since leaving ESPN/The Walt Disney Company in 2023, Michelle has led her own marketing consultancy. Michelle is a long time resident of Greenwich, CT.

"I am honored to join Breast Cancer Alliance at a moment when the need for bold, innovative action has never been greater. Together with this remarkable board and community, I'm excited to grow the organization's reach so that we can fund more breakthrough research, support more surgeons and expand access to life saving care for even more women," said Michelle.

Breast Cancer Alliance, based in Greenwich, CT, is a national non-profit whose mission is to improve survival rates and quality of life for those impacted by breast cancer through better prevention, early detection, treatment and cure. To promote these goals, we invest in innovative research, breast surgical oncology fellowships, screening and diagnostic for the underserved.

Christmas Piano Serenade at Second Congregational Church

On Sunday, December 7 at 5:00 p.m., Second Congregational Church presents Music Director Alexander Constantine's annual Piano Serenade, a meditative concert of improvisations based around familiar Christmas music. Alexander will be accompanied by Noah Koh, cello and Jeff Pearson, violin.

Join us for this annual tradition and remember that it is FREE and open to the public. It is the perfect setting for putting everyone in the mood for the holidays!

Played in the church sanctuary and lit only by the light of the Christmas trees, the concert is a compelling alternative to the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season and is appreciated by those who find themselves dreaming of a quieter, more reflective Christmas.

Constantine has served as the Director of Music at Second Congregational Church since 2002.

In addition to his love for music ministry, he is a seasoned music educator, musical theater director,

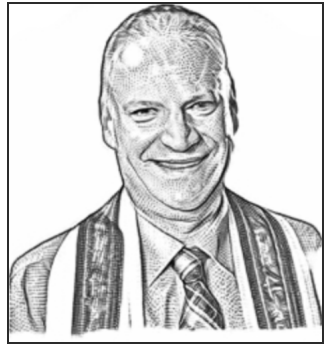
and composer who has contributed his talents to many local outreach organizations throughout the years.

Concert should last approximately 30 minutes. Light refreshments and reception hosted by the 2CC Women's Fellowship will follow.

Second Congregational Church is located at 139 E. Putnam Avenue in Greenwich. Check out 2cc.org for all our upcoming Holiday events!



Nurturing the Garden of Shalom, Faith & Wholeness



By RABBI MITCHELL M. HURVITZ

Faith communities derive their greatest strength when we actively embrace our shared values and focus on the common ground amid diverse rituals and philosophies.

When we succeed in this endeavor, we not only strengthen our mutual interdependence and unity, but also build resilience and greater spiritual strength within our specific faith community.

God has sown the seeds of potential harmony and peace among different peoples - and with greater care and understanding, humanity can tend to the human garden and foster this unity.

The powerful African philosophy of Ubuntu beautifully encapsulates this concept.

Ubuntu, meaning 'I am because we are,' underscores that our human existence depends on mutual support and interdependence, fostering community strength.

Our purpose and meaning emerge through supporting one another within our community.

We have entered into our Nation's seasonal celebration of Thanksgiving. But for the Yehudi, we understand that every day is Thanksgiving.

Judaism strongly asserts the inherent worth and God-given dignity of the individual.

Every human being is created equally in the "image of God." All human beings share the divine image, and thus God commands us that no person should be an island unto themselves.

Our God-given worth is fully realized only when we are positively engaged within the human collective.

The ancient sage Hillel famously taught:

"If I am not for me, who will be for me?

And when I am for myself alone, what am I?

And if not now, when?"

Hillel's teaching holds two truths in tension. While self-advocacy is necessary, the individual is rendered purposeless without meaningful engagement with others.

A solitary life is the proverbial tree that falls in the forest with no one to hear it.

Judaism holds that the collective is the mechanism by which we increase our spiritual strength. And Jewish ritual law emphasizes the collective over the individual.

A minyan, a quorum of ten adults, is required to recite key prayers and publicly read from

our Torah.

The ritual requirement of minyan is both a logistical necessity and a profound teaching.

God requires us to participate in the ethical importance of shared responsibility and community.

God's presence is always best experienced in a communal setting.

A well-known midrash of the King and the bundle of sticks illustrates the strength that comes with community, showing how collective responsibility makes us unbreakable:

A King instructed his sons to break a single stick, which they did easily.

The King told his children to bundle the sticks together, demonstrating that collective strength is unbreakable when we stand united.

The King then taught his children: "When you are alone, you can be broken.

But bundled together, your collective strength cannot be broken."

The innate dignity of each individual brings a unique spark to the assembly, and the sum of the group's individual sparks is always vastly greater than the separate parts.

Both the Ubuntu teaching and Judaism emphasize that interdependence transcends mere necessity.

It is the foundation for a shared state of being and happiness.

The ideal resonates perfectly with the Torah's teaching of the Golden Rule, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

God's commandment is both an ethical mandate and a prerequisite for self-meaning.

An Ubuntu lesson vividly illustrates what this means in practice:

When a group of children was challenged to race for an individual prize, they refused, instead running together, hand in hand, choosing to share whatever reward came their way.

When asked why, their answer was simple and profound:

"How can one of us be happy if the others are sad?"

Happiness may be secured individually, but simcha (sacred shared joy) only manifests when experienced communally.

Communal strength relies on a commonly shared emotional reality.

Sacred joy is felt when celebrating together successes and momentous events.

Strength comes best when we support each other in times of need.

Ultimately, individuals are called upon to plant and nurture the seeds that create a human garden of Shalom, peace, and wholeness.

When isolation, conflict, or brokenness emerge, the individual and the community must utilize their collective strengths to foster repair.

The narratives of Genesis provide the lessons most needed for this task.

Genesis is ripe with family dysfunction, from Cain murdering his brother Abel to the betrayal of Joseph by his own brothers.

The moral trajectory of these stories culminates in the lesson Joseph teaches at the end.

Despite being sold into slavery by his siblings, when his brothers later appear before him seeking aid, Joseph chooses forgiveness and reconciliation over revenge.

Genesis' prescription to familial and communal healing is thus universal: choose forgiveness and reconciliation.

A positive relationship with others fundamentally defines our humanity. Meaning, strength, and holiness are not achieved in isolation, but

through our commitment to the human collective.

Our most authentic identity, best selves, and deepest purpose lie in the unbreakable, mutually defining bond: "I am because we are."

We are tasked with looking beyond ourselves to witness the Godliness in our mutual selves, and to joyfully commune and work to restore our human garden with healing, hope, reconciliation, and peace.

Let us lock eyes with one another and witness the Godliness in our mutual selves, and joyfully commune and restore our space with healing, hope, reconciliation, and peace.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Mitch

Temple Shalom's Senior Rabbi Mitchell M. Hurvitz is a scholar, teacher, community activist and preacher, and is recognized as one of the prominent religious leaders in the Greenwich area and beyond. A frequent guest speaker at synagogues and churches, study groups, community institutions and universities, he is a charismatic personality who engages individuals and stimulates hearts and minds. His teachings can be found in Greenwich Sentinel and in other local and national publications.

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Delivering Independence



Student volunteers from Greenwich Country Day School

Meals-on-Wheels, Inc. of Greenwich is proving once again that a meal can do far more than satisfy hunger - it can change lives. New program data shows just how deeply the nonprofit’s work is felt across town, and the numbers tell a powerful story of compassion, connection, and community impact.

In the last fiscal year alone, Meals-on-Wheels of Greenwich delivered 37,861 nutritious, fully prepared meals to 157 clients, many of whom are older adults or neighbors living with disabilities. But it’s the human connection behind each delivery that truly sets the organization apart.

According to the latest client satisfaction survey, 91% of respondents rated the friendliness of their volunteer drivers as “excellent.” For many clients, these volunteers are not just a delivery team - they are a lifeline, a friendly face, and often the only person they may see that day.

The impact goes well beyond the doorstep. An impressive 88% of clients reported that Meals-on-Wheels has helped them remain independent in their own homes, allowing them to age with dignity, comfort, and stability right here in Greenwich.

And among the volunteers making that impact possible are some of the youngest - yet most dedicated - members of the community. Students from Greenwich Country Day School, Greenwich Academy, Brunswick School continue to show extraordinary commitment as they deliver meals to residents at Agnes Morley. These students deliver meals, smiles, and a moment of kindness to clients who rely on both.

Meals-on-Wheels is not just feeding people - it’s strengthening the very fabric of the community, one knock on the door at a time.

Their presence underscores a powerful truth: Meals-on-Wheels is not just a service - it’s a community effort that spans generations. As Program Director Willow Buscemi notes, “We bring more than meals. We bring reassurance, routine, and the peace of mind that someone cares.”

For Greenwich residents, these numbers reflect what many have known all along: Meals-on-Wheels is not just feeding people - it’s strengthening the very fabric of the community, one knock on the door at a time.

To learn more or get started, visit mealsonwheelsofgreenwich.org or call (203) 869-1312.

Double The Good: Friends Of Nathaniel Witherell Launched A Power-Packed Giving Tuesday Match On December 2nd

***Rudin described
her match as more
than a donation
– it was a call to
action.***

By DEBRA McLAUGHLIN

Giving Tuesday — the global day of generosity that follows Black Friday and Cyber Monday — has always been built on one simple idea: when we all give on the same day, the impact becomes impossible to ignore. And this year, Greenwich felt that impact close to home.

Friends of Nathaniel Witherell, the nonprofit that enriches life for residents at Greenwich’s long-trusted municipal skilled nursing home, celebrated Giving Tuesday with big news:

Greenwich resident and philanthropist Madeleine Rudin matched all gifts dollar-for-dollar, up to \$5,000.

That meant every \$25 became \$50.

Every \$100 became \$200.

Every act of generosity counted twice.

Madeleine Rudin has long understood the central role The Nathaniel Witherell plays for Greenwich families, caring for those who once cared for us. She also recognized that the warm, home-like atmosphere comes from the “extras” funded by Friends:

160+ volunteer shifts each month offering concerts, games, chapel services, visiting companions, and celebrations

Rotating art exhibits curated by Friends that transformed hallways into a gallery

Music and cultural programs that lifted spirits and sparked memories

Friends does not fund medical care — Friends funds the human part of living at The Witherell.

Rudin described her match as more than a donation — it was a call to action. “I matched gifts because



Friends makes life at the Witherell not only safe, but meaningful,” she shared. “I hoped others in Greenwich would join me in giving back to those who came before us.”

This Giving Tuesday, every gift to Friends went twice as far and straight into the daily lives of the people who call The Witherell home.

It was a powerful day for Greenwich — one day to give together, and to give twice the joy.

Silver Shield Foundation Holds Annual Greenwich Walk

The event supports the Foundation’s Scholarship Fund for children and spouses of first responders killed in the line of duty

By KIA HEAVEY

The Silver Shield Foundation held its 6th Annual Greenwich Walk on Saturday, Nov. 8, at Greenwich Point park in Greenwich, CT. The SSF holds this annual event to honor the families of our fallen heroes and all first responders.

Participants in the event raised funds to support the SSF’s core mission of providing scholarships for children and surviving spouses of police officers, firefighters, and EMS members killed in the line of duty. The SSF scholarship program serves the families of fallen members of all police departments in Connecticut, as well as the NYPD, FDNY, NY/ NJ Port Authority Police, NY, NJ, and CT State Police, and Nassau and Suffolk County police departments.

Former NBC news anchor Chuck Scarborough, a Silver Shield Foundation Trustee, presided over the opening ceremony. Among the dignitaries



Silver Shield Foundation officials and supporters, first responders, and surviving family members of first responders killed in the line of duty gather for a group photo before setting off on a walk around Greenwich Point. Photo by SasZee Photography.

and distinguished guests who spoke were Greenwich First Selectman Fred Camillo, Connecticut State Police Commander Colonel Daniel Loughman, New York City Police Department 1st Deputy Commissioner Tania Kinsella, and New York City Fire Department First Deputy Commissioner Mark Guerra.

After the ceremony concluded, the participants walked the over-two-mile loop around Greenwich Point in bright November

sunshine. A cookout reception followed at the Clambake Area. Representatives from many agencies participated, including the Greenwich Police, Fire, and EMS services, the NYPD and NYFD, the Connecticut, New York and New Jersey State Police, and the Suffolk and Nassau county police departments. And of course, line-of-duty families, SSF scholarship recipients, and supporters came to honor their loved ones’ memories and join in the walk.

Over 200 people came to the event this year, helping to raise a new milestone of \$200,000 towards the SSF’s Scholarship Program. Besides the generous attendees and walkers, the New York Yankees, The Wolverine Foundation, and Hamlin Capital Management served as Presenting Sponsors. “This year, like most years, I enjoyed the Silver Shield walk in honor of our fallen, specifically my husband, Joseph Lemm,” Christine DeGuisto-Lemm told the *Sentinel*. Joseph was a detective with the NYPD and a reservist with the Air National Guard unit. He tragically lost his life on Dec. 21, 2015, while serving

in Afghanistan. Ms. DeGuisto-Lemm said she is always up for anything she can do to honor her late husband’s service and that of others who have served and sacrificed for our country. “The Silver Shield Foundation is an incredible organization which helps provide educational support to children of the fallen, of which both my children are recipients. I am incredibly grateful for all they do.” The foundation supports line-of-duty families in other ways, too. On Nov. 9, the SSF was once again honored to sponsor the annual luncheon of the Police & Fire Line of Duty Widows of NYC. The gathering was held at Russo’s on the Bay and hosted by the group’s president, Shirley Johnson. Last July, the New York Yankees recognized the foundation’s newest graduates, from the Class of 2025. The highlight of the night was a pre-game home plate ceremony, an exciting moment for the SSF Scholarship recipients. Since 1982, the Silver Shield Foundation has provided educational support and services for the children and surviving spouses of police officers, firefighters, and EMS members killed in the line of duty. The SSF was founded by New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner and his close friend, Olympic bronze medalist and Greenwich resident James E. Fuchs. Fuchs’ daughters K.C. and Tori, also Greenwich residents, continue to run the foundation. Next year’s SSF 7th Annual Greenwich Walk is already scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026.

You can learn more about the Silver Shield Foundation and support its mission at its website: silvershieldfoundation.org.



SSF Trustee Chuck Scarborough emceeds the opening ceremony. Photo by SasZee Photography.



Surviving family members attend the annual SSF Greenwich Walk. Photo by SasZee Photography



Photo by SasZee Photography



The Walk underway. Photo by SasZee Photography.



Surviving family members carry red roses at the annual SSF Greenwich Walk. Photo by SasZee Photography



Event participants enjoyed a cookout reception after the Walk. Photo by SasZee Photography.



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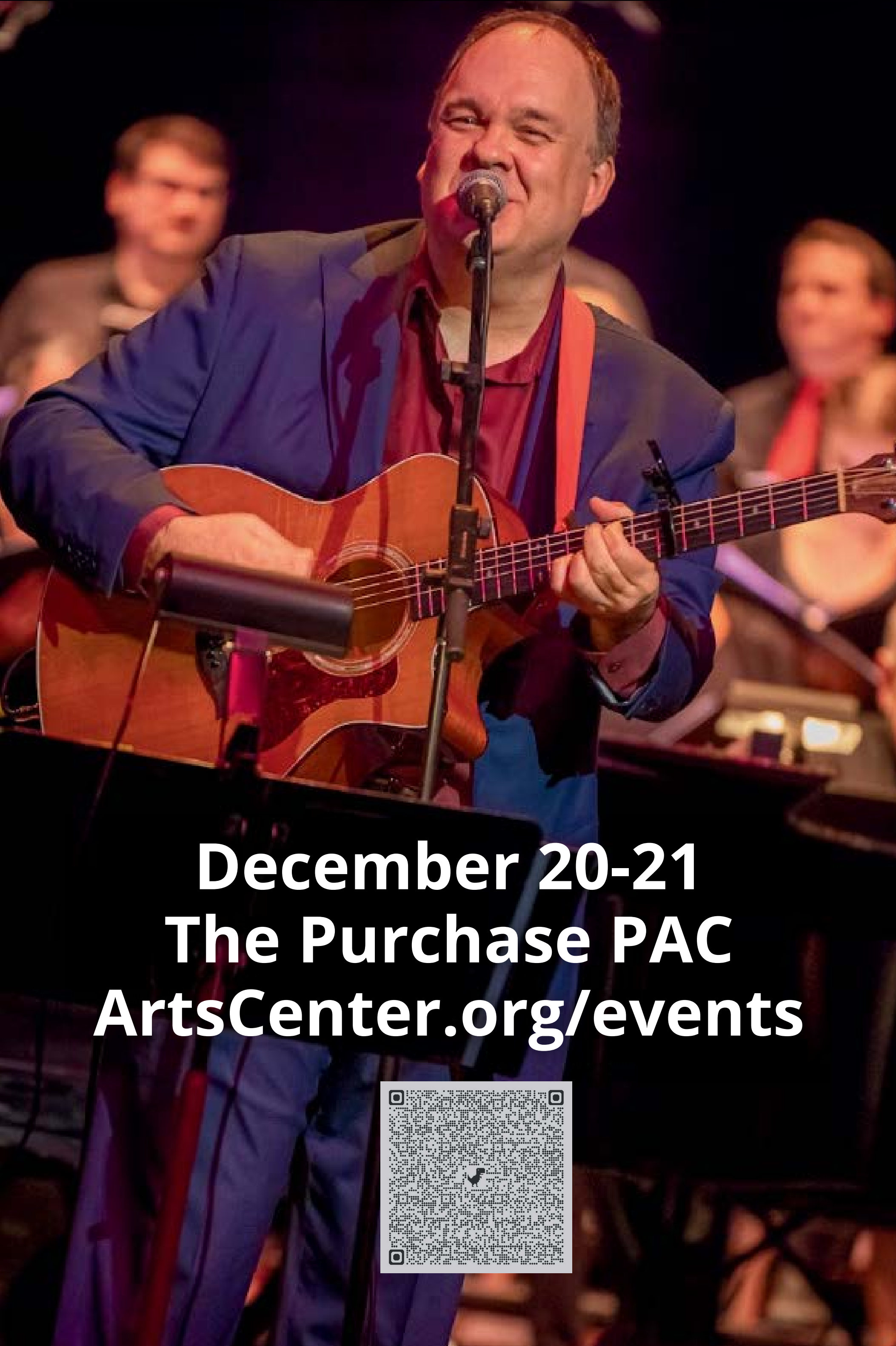


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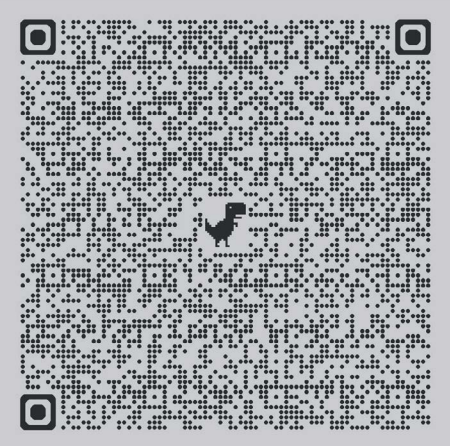


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SWEARING IN
From Page 1

“friends” more than political allies.

Camillo returned to themes he first articulated six years earlier at his inaugural ceremony: public safety, environmental protection, revitalization of the central business district, and maintaining affordability. “We talked about invigorating Greenwich Avenue because in 2019 it wasn’t doing well,” he said. “We talked about getting things done while keeping taxes affordable. That has been done.”

He used the Civic Center as a demonstration of both achievement and caution. The building was proposed decades ago, opposed, delayed, revised, and only now completed. “We lost three decades and millions of dollars,” Camillo said. He urged the town to act with greater decisiveness on future projects: “Ask the good questions, but get to yes quicker. That is time and money we don’t get back.”

He emphasized cooperation, noting what he described as a “new spirit” on the town’s fiscal bodies and urging future discussions to focus on outcomes rather than intractable disagreement. “The town remembers the people who get things done,” he said. “Two years from now, let us not talk about what we wanted to do. Let us talk about what we did together.”

Rabin’s remarks were anchored in her six years in office. “Serving my hometown remains one of the greatest honors of my life,” she said. She reviewed progress in public safety, technology modernization, school construction, and accessibility improvements. She emphasized that leadership depended on “listening, learning, and following through,” grounded not in pronouncements but in steady constituent contact—in grocery stores, at neighborhood meetings, and in late-night emails from residents seeking clarity.

Khanna’s remarks were among the evening’s most personal. She recounted arriving in the United States as a child who spoke no English, enduring the benign cruelties of childhood—classmates amused by her accent, packed lunches out of step with American norms. Those experiences, she said, taught her to adapt, work hard, and participate fully in civic life. “I never imagined I’d become a state legislator and now Selectwoman for Greenwich,” she said, pledging to lead with “transparency, accountability, and inclusion.”

Among the residents in attendance, reactions to the election were clear. Caren St. Phillip, a lifelong Cos Cob resident and small business owner interviewed at the event, said she was “glad to see the selectmen sworn in,” adding that small businesses depend on “leaders who keep the town safe, functional, and predictable.” She has known Camillo since childhood and described his reelection as “continuity that matters.”

Anthony Johnson, CEO of Greenwich Communities, said in an interview that Camillo “has long supported housing efforts,” and that Johnson viewed the new board as positioned to advance long-discussed projects.

Longtime resident and volunteer Ted Berenblum, interviewed after the ceremony, said he thought it was “a wonderful event” that “showed a lot of unity and support for the Selectmen,” and reflected “a spirit of cooperation and a lot of pride in this town where so many wonderful things are being done.” Berenblum, who grew up with Camillo and remains active on town boards, said he was “very proud” of the direction of the Civic Center and other projects.

Board of Education member Paul Cappiali, also speaking with the reporter, called it “a privilege” to witness the swearing-in. He said he saw the evening as representing “all of the other elected officials” serving the town and emphasized “Republicans and Democrats working on democracy together for the best town of Greenwich that we could possibly have.” Cappiali, whose family has lived in Greenwich for generations, said he “bleeds green” and described it as “heartwarming” to raise his own children in a place with such facilities, opportunities, and civic engagement.

The ceremony closed with a benediction from Rabbi Yossi Deren, who prayed for wisdom, strength, and integrity for the town’s leaders. The applause that followed was steady and unembellished—the kind Greenwich typically offers its public servants: respectful, expectant, and rooted in the town’s long tradition of



The audience listens as First Selectman Fred Camillo speaks beneath a full-stage American flag at the newly completed Civic Center.



The Greenwich Police Department and Greenwich Fire Department Honor Guards present the colors at the start of the ceremony.



Former State Senator L. Scott Frantz, who served as Master of Ceremonies, at the Board of Selectmen swearing-in ceremony.



State Representative Tina Courpas, First Selectman Fred Camillo, Selectwoman Lauren Rabin, and State Senator Ryan Fazio gather for a photo after the ceremony.



First Selectman Fred Camillo with Caren St. Phillip (Vizzo) Owner of Caren's Cos Cobber.



Greenwich Police Chief James Heavey and First Selectman Fred Camillo following the swearing-in ceremony.



Selectwoman Lauren Rabin with her husband David at the Greenwich Civic Center following the ceremony.



State Representative Stephen Meskers administers the oath to Selectwoman Rachel Khanna as she begins her first term on the Board of Selectmen.



First Selectman Fred Camillo and Mary O'Connor.



Attorney Stephen Walko congratulates First Selectman Fred Camillo after administering the oath of office.



Ruby Durant performs a patriotic medley as part of the evening’s program.



Richard DiPreta administers the oath of office to Selectwoman Lauren Rabin during the Board of Selectmen swearing-in ceremony.



First Selectman Fred Camillo shares a warm moment with singer Ruby Durant after her performance.



Father Carl D. McIntosh delivers the invocation, offering prayers for unity and sound governance.



Rabbi Yossi Deren of Chabad Lubavitch of Greenwich offers the evening's benediction.



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Operation Santa Returns to Cos Cob With Doorstep Visits From Santa and The Grinch

Operation Santa is returning to Cos Cob this December, bringing a familiar mix of sirens, holiday lights, and doorstep cheer. The Cos Cob Fire Police Patrol, Inc., a volunteer emergency response organization, announced the return of its annual holiday program, offering families the chance to receive home visits from Santa and The Grinch aboard a Patrol fire truck.

The program, a longstanding community tradition, allows families to schedule a personalized visit in exchange for a \$300 donation supporting the Patrol's year-round work. Visits will take place on December 13, 14, 20, and 21, with additional arrangements available for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Operation Santa is designed to give families a direct and festive experience with the holiday season. After securing a reservation online, participants drop off pre-wrapped gifts at the Cos Cob Fire Police Patrol headquarters at 200 East Putnam Avenue. On the

selected day, Santa and The Grinch arrive at the family's home with gifts in hand and holiday music playing from the fire truck. The program has become a favored event for children and adults who enjoy seeing emergency vehicles decked out in seasonal lights.

The Fire Police Patrol, which has been active in the community for decades, operates entirely with volunteers and relies on donations to support its mission. Funds raised through Operation Santa contribute to emergency response capabilities, equipment needs, and training. The organization assists local departments in fire suppression support, traffic operations, crowd control, and salvage work, often responding to incidents in severe weather and complex conditions.

In recent years, the Patrol has noted increased demand for Operation Santa visits, reflecting the growth of the program and the enthusiasm of families who book year after year. The personalized nature of the visits, which follow a

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OPERATION Santa

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How it Works!

1. Make a donation of \$300 to The Cos Cob Fire Police Patrol and choose a date!
2. Drop off prewrapped holiday gifts to the Cos Cob Firehouse.
3. See the joy in your child's eyes as Santa and the Grinch arrive by fire truck to deliver holiday cheer!

Available 2025 Dates

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Santa & The Cos Cob Fire Police Volunteers Deliver Christmas Gifts on their Fire Truck, with special guest, The Grinch!

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pre-coordinated schedule, has made it one of the season's most anticipated local offerings.

According to organizers, the program also provides an opportunity for volunteers

to engage with residents in a celebratory setting rather than during an emergency call.

The Patrol encourages families to reserve early, as available dates typically fill quickly. Gift drop-off instructions and scheduling confirmations are provided upon registration. While the primary visit dates span two weekends in December, the organization's willingness to accommodate special requests on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day underscores its commitment to community service.

Operation Santa remains one of the Fire Police Patrol's most visible fundraising efforts, reinforcing the connection between first responders and residents. The program highlights the group's broader role in town: supporting safety operations, responding to crises, and offering specialized assistance when called upon by the Greenwich Fire Department and other agencies.

Families interested in participating or learning more about the Patrol's work can visit the organization's website for details on reservations, programming, and volunteer opportunities.

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St. Mary-Putnam to host a Tree of Remembrance during the season of Advent and Christmas.

St. Mary-Putnam Cemetery invites you to our "Tree of Remembrance" event in memory of a loved one who has passed.

The tree will be located at 399 North Street in Greenwich, Connecticut opposite the mausoleum.

Individuals and families may bring their own ornament to the cemetery office at 35 Parsonage Road to be placed on the tree or choose a complimentary ornament to be placed in honor of their loved one.

The tree will be available to the public beginning Monday, December 1, 2025 and will remain up through the holidays.

The public is invited to join us for the lighting of the remembrance tree which will include a special blessing, music, and complimentary refreshments on Thursday, December 4 2025, from 5:30-6:30pm.

This is a family friendly event and the opportunity is open to all families in the community who have experienced a loss and wish to honor a loved one during the holiday season regardless if your loved one is buried with us or not.

Please note: Ornaments will not be returned, so we respectfully request you do not bring ornaments that are of great sentimental or financial value.

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15 Henry Street	\$650,000	\$517	1,258	0.13	2	2	Byram
333 Palmer Hill Road 2E	\$875,000	\$573	1,528	0	2	2	Riverside
141 Putnam Park 141	\$895,000	\$735	1,218	0	2	2	South of Post
88 Valleywood Road	\$1,200,000	\$904	1,328	0.18	2	1	Cos Cob
105 Hamilton Avenue 9	\$1,299,000	\$527	2,466	0	2	2	South of Post
1020 North Street	\$1,595,000	\$880	1,812	0.55	3	2	North Parkway
12 Sawmill Terrace	\$2,149,000	\$861	2,496	1.07	2	2	South Parkway
28 North Ridge Road	\$3,100,000	\$813	3,814	0.24	4	4	Old Greenwich
15 Dearfield Lane	\$4,250,000	\$837	5,080	0.31	5	5	South Parkway
17 Will Merry Lane	\$4,695,000	\$655	7,168	2.44	6	5	South Parkway
23 Meeting House Road	\$4,750,000	\$778	6,106	4.01	6	4	North Parkway
35 Sterling Road	\$7,150,000	\$903	7,916	5	5	5	North Parkway
11 Winterset Road	\$8,995,000	\$865	10,400	2.16	6	7	South Parkway

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ROB PULITANO 203-561-8092				
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104 W Ritch Avenue #6	Greenwich	\$1,299,000	Sun 1-4 PM	BHHS New England
145 Porchuck Road	Greenwich	\$3,195,000	Sun 1-3 PM	Compass
79 Richmond Hill Road	Greenwich	\$5,450,000	Sat 11:30-1 PM	Sotheby's
158 Henry Street #2	Greenwich	\$4,350	Sun 1-3 PM	Sotheby's
16 N Martin Dale	Greenwich	\$6,500,000	Sun 1-3 PM	Sotheby's

NEW SALES								
TIMOTHY AGRO, GREENWICH STREETS TEAM, 203.461.5964								
Address	Original List	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	BR	FB	Acres	SqFt
47 Valley Road B3	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$465,500	56	2	0	0	800
56 Putnam Park	\$540,000	\$540,000	\$540,000	0	1	1	0	1,000
123 Hamilton Avenue	\$649,000	\$649,000	\$650,000	16	2	2	0.1	1,154
47 Lafayette Place 4J	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$760,000	10	1	1	0	757
51 Forest Avenue 60	\$799,000	\$760,000	\$745,000	124	1	2	0	947
17 Meadow Drive	\$799,000	\$799,000	\$1,152,000	7	3	2	0.14	1,331
5 Hervey Street	\$885,000	\$885,000	\$925,000	8	3	1	0.12	1,519
291 Delavan Avenue	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,075,000	6	4	2	0.16	2,021
42 Mead Avenue	\$1,195,000	\$1,195,000	\$1,125,000	20	3	2	0.22	1,833
207 Sheephill Road	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,100,000	23	4	2	0.37	1,276
20 Church Street A34	\$1,500,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,300,000	124	3	2	0	1,578
350 Valley Road	\$1,475,000	\$1,475,000	\$1,530,000	13	4	3	0.36	1,982
25 Henry Street B	\$1,885,000	\$1,885,000	\$1,850,000	12	4	3	0.26	3,530
402 W Lyon Farm Drive	\$1,950,000	\$1,950,000	\$1,925,000	45	3	3	0	2,489
7 Sound View Terrace	\$1,995,000	\$1,995,000	\$2,025,000	10	4	3	0.17	2,371
27 Marshall Street	\$2,700,000	\$2,700,000	\$2,700,000	0	4	2	0	2,750
11 Valleywood Road	\$2,850,000	\$2,850,000	\$2,745,000	49	5	4	0.19	3,934
176 Bedford Road	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,130,000	16	2	2	4	1,707
17 Keofferam Road	\$3,200,000	\$3,200,000	\$2,730,000	18	1	1	0.33	804
41 Winthrop Drive	\$3,895,000	\$3,425,000	\$3,450,000	21	4	4	0.36	3,352
141 Woodside Drive	\$3,949,000	\$3,949,000	\$3,900,000	8	4	3	0.44	3,386
21 Keofferam Road	\$4,800,000	\$4,475,000	\$3,770,000	58	4	3	0.39	3,361
60 Meadow Road	\$5,995,000	\$5,995,000	\$6,409,000	14	4	2	1.01	4,188
21 Binney Lane	\$7,995,000	\$7,995,000	\$8,150,000	29	6	6	0.48	8,102
14 Meadow Drive	\$9,750,000	\$8,250,000	\$7,700,000	432	10	6	3.2	9,483
50 Hidden Brook Road	\$8,490,000	\$8,490,000	\$8,400,000	29	7	8	0.5	6,972
183 Shore Road	\$9,900,000	\$9,900,000	\$9,373,000	42	5	4	0.37	4,758
579 Indian Field Road	\$43,000,000	\$43,000,000	\$40,000,000	131	6	8	2.72	11,500

Market Report



BY MARK PRUNER

Real Estate Sales Continue Strong in Greenwich Despite Record Low Inventory

Our market continues to be astounding with sales going above our 10-year pre-Covid average for only the second time in the last three years. This is despite our inventory continuing to plumb record lows. We had 44 single family home sales in Greenwich in November. This is 5 sales above our 10-year pre-Covid average or 13% above our average of 39 sales

Not a huge increase until you look at what was available to buy. By the end of the month, we only had 88 listings, i.e. our sales were half of our month-end inventory. Now, we started the month at 115 listings or 27 listings higher. We also had 12 blue moons, listings that came on in November and were sold by the end of the month. Throw in 5 contracts from prior months and that's how you get to 44 sales.

December will be touch and go to see if this month's sales are above our 10-year average of 54 sales. We do have 83 contracts waiting to close. Of those 83 contracts, 67 are non-contingent and are, or soon will be, ready to close. Only 16 of

those 83 contracts are contingent contracts. Mortgage contingencies are becoming rare in a market with only 9 weeks of supply. Cash really is king. If you do need a mortgage to close, you really, really need to get underwritten pre-approved so the only thing that you need is an appraisal to get bank approval.

In most price categories, we have only a few weeks of supply. From \$800,000 to \$5 million we have less than 2 months of supply, because we only have 39 total listings to sell in those price ranges.

Historically, we see very few listings in December in the heart of the holidays. But remember those 12 blue moons in November, that came

on and went to contract in the same month. We also had an additional 15 sales that came on in the second half of October and went to contract in less than 30 days.

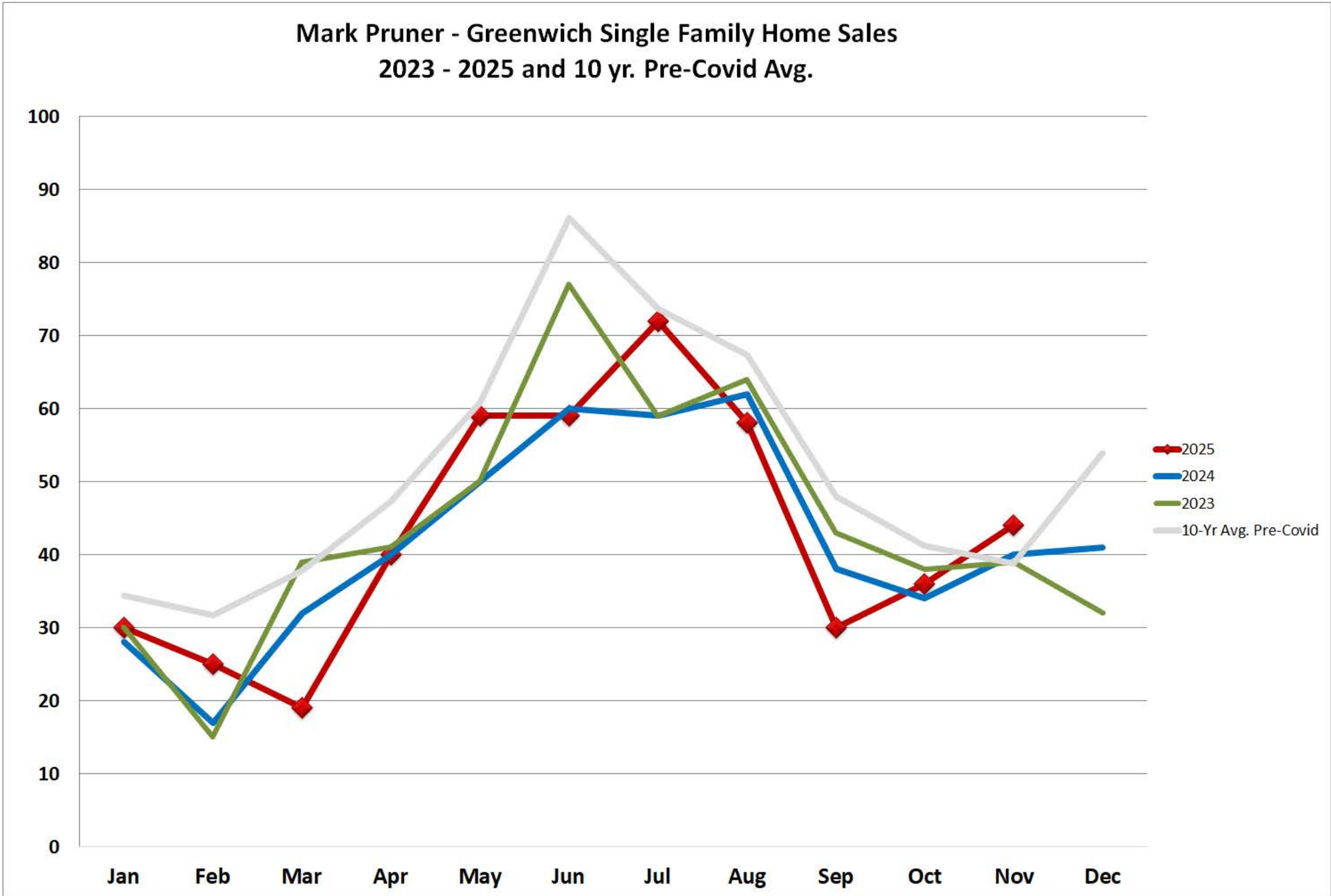
The demand is out there. It is totally heretical, but if you have a nice house, in a hot neighborhood, and put it on at a good price, the odds are that it will go for over list price even this late in the year. Inventory is down across the border and sales are up. Half of our sales were for full list or over list with 17 Meadow Drive going for 44% over list.

We also saw 5 sales for over \$10 million and 9 sales from \$5 – 10 million. While you can never be sure, why a house sold, the

Mamdani effect seems to be real, but in the greater metro New York area, it's not that big an effect.

Our sales and contracts are at extraordinarily levels given the very low inventory. At the same time that this bump is a big bump in Greenwich, a town of 63,000 people and 23,000 residences; it is a tiny bump up in the metro area. High-end sales continue to do well in New York City. There is a lot of money in the stock and bond market that might like an alternative home. I bet some of the crypto folks are wishing they had one of those nice high-end houses in Greenwich these days. :)

Stay tuned and Happy Holidays!



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Ursula von Rydingsvard (American, b. Germany, 1942)
Heart in Hand (wood model), 2014
Cedar and graphite, 126 x 81 x 46 ½ in.
© Ursula von Rydingsvard, courtesy Galerie Lelong and Talley Dunn Gallery
Photo by Michael Bodycomb



Ursula von Rydingsvard

*states
of becoming*

November 28, 2025–May 10, 2026

Bruce Museum
Greenwich, CT
BruceMuseum.org

the
Bruce



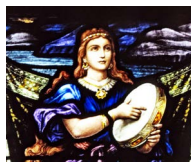
HOLIDAY GIFTS
TO SUPPORT THE
ARTS AND KEEP
GREENWICH VIBRANT
FOR GENERATIONS



EDITOR'S NOTE:
WONDER,
REDISCOVERED



HANDMADE WORK,
HANDLED WITH
CARE



BRITTEN'S WARTIME
VISION RETURNS
TO CHRIST CHURCH
GREENWICH

Rob Mathes' Masterwork Makes Holiday Magic



Now entering its 33rd season, the 2025 Rob Mathes Holiday Concert returns to the PepsiCo Theatre—with Mathes leading a 40-voice choir, six-piece horn section, string quartet, and featured vocalists James “D-Train” Williams and Vaneese Thomas. Mathes calls it “a Lincoln Center-quality evening of some of the best musicians in New York City—and the world.” In this 2018 photo from the 25th Annual Rob Mathes Holiday Concert at the Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, Rob Mathes (second from left)—our own Greenwich native who grew up, studied, and still lives in town—shares the stage with Sting, Vanessa Williams, and David Sanborn. The sold-out performance marked the show's 25th anniversary, capturing what Mathes brings home to Greenwich every December: world-class musicianship rooted in community.

BY ELIZABETH BARHYDT

Rob Mathes does not just bring a holiday show to Westchester each December. He festival convenes a summit of New York's A-list players, a choir that sings like a conservatory, and a book of original songs braided with Ellington-grade horn writing and English-choral glow. The room is the PepsiCo Theatre at The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College—just over the state line in Harrison, at 735 Anderson Hill Road—close enough for Greenwich to claim it as home turf.

The show's Greenwich roots run deep. Mathes grew up here, studied with revered local teachers, and traced his catalyst to a Greenwich High School jazz-ensemble performance in the old Hollister auditorium where, as a ninth grader from Eastern Junior High, he watched his uncle, trombonist and composer Skip Kelly, solo and realized he needed to write for instruments. “It was literally like an explosion went off in my head,” he recalled. “I need to write for instruments and be a part of what that is.”

The origin story of the holiday concert is local as well. It began with a small rhythm section and a 20-voice choir at Second Congregational Church in 1993–94, then grew as Mathes' studio life connected him with horn players and gospel singers who could make a December stage sound like Jazz at Lincoln Center powered by R&B voltage. “These were not just cute horn arrangements,” he said. “It's more in the style of like Steely Dan meets Ellington meets Wynton... a six-piece horn section... and extraordinary gospel singers.”

The present-day production functions like a musical summit compressed

into two hours. Mathes will field a 40-voice choir, a six-piece horn line, a five-piece band, featured vocalists James “D-Train” Williams and Vaneese Thomas, and a string quartet led by Jonathan Dinklage [yes, if you are wondering, brother of Peter]—then layer intimate carols, original ballads, and big-band detonations across the set so that no section overwhelms the others. “It has its really delicate moments,” he said. “This is not a ‘I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus’ evening... it's a Lincoln Center quality evening of some of the best musicians in New York City—and the world.”

The bench is as serious as the claim. The concert is known for an “all-star band” and a “high-energy evening of rock, jazz, and blues,” with Mathes' originals and rewired classics that “rival performances seen on the world's best stages.” Those previews track the lineage of players who rotate through: world-class rhythm sections, New York brass stalwarts, and storied soloists with Broadway, television, and rock-tour credits.

The ensemble around him is built from relationships earned across three decades of session work and tour direction. The show benefits from that network. Players who have anchored late-night television bands, toured with the Rolling Stones, and recorded platinum albums treat the Purchase stage like a year-end reunion.

The PepsiCo Theatre's scale—intimate sight lines, audio that flatters both brass punch and choir blend—lets you hear the arranging choices that define Mathes' reputation. The auditorium is designed for acoustic clarity and professional production; Mathes prefers doing two performances in the smaller hall rather than

one in the larger concert hall because a 700-seat space keeps the music close and the dynamics honest. “I want something a little more intimate where there's not a bad seat in the house,” he said. “In fact, the balcony sounds great—it's a good seat—and we can do it twice.” He calls the hall “really perfect... set up for all the different needs—the dressing rooms, the lighting—they just have everything.”

Greenwich has watched Mathes grow into the role and he remembers too. When the Greenwich High Performing Arts Center opened, Mathes came back as alumnus and parent with new music for students and tributes to mentors, connecting his current stage life to the classrooms where

it began. And when asked to be the GHS graduation speaker – he said yes. Mathes delivered a talk that mirrored his concerts—equal parts gratitude and musicianship—sharing stories about mentors like Myron Fink and John Mehegan and telling students to “chase beauty, not fame.” Those ties are not incidental; they animate December.

Mathes defies labeling. He defies genres.

Expanding the Frame

Mathes treats December as repertoire, not routine. He speaks about Ellington's Nutcracker Suite with unguarded joy—“you put that on... it's the greatest thing you've ever heard”—and writes horn charts that move with that vocabulary. He admires the English

choral canon and anchors his ballads in that harmony: “In the Bleak Midwinter,” early Vaughan Williams, carols that combine modal melody with counterpoint. He revisits spirituals and gospel standards with the rhythmic sophistication he absorbed from jazz. He also keeps expanding the frame.

One year, inspired by the best performance he has ever seen of Beethoven's Missa solemn in Philadelphia, he invited the Philadelphia Orchestra's concertmaster, David Kim, to join him. Mathes explained that Missa solemn “was almost unperformable because the choir parts are so demanding,” with “high B-flats for ten minutes,” yet it contains “some of the most sublime music ever written.”

What moved him most was “this long violin solo in the Benedictus movement,” which he called “perhaps my favorite Beethoven music.” He recalled turning to his wife in Verizon Hall and saying, “I have never heard the violin played like that in the Missa solemn.” When he met Kim again months later while working with Sting, he told him from the stage, “I can't believe you're here, David... I've never heard and will never hear the Missa solemn played that beautifully.” Kim replied, “Can you say that again? I didn't quite hear that,” and soon after agreed to appear in the holiday concert.

Another season he re-voiced “Dreidel, Dreidel” as “Strayhorn Dreidel,” a wink

please turn to Page 2

SUBMISSION LINK — EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE ARTS SECTION

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[https:// www.greenwichsentinel.com/artsand-theater-section/](https://www.greenwichsentinel.com/artsand-theater-section/)

MATHES MAGIC
From Page 1

to the Duke–Strayhorn partnership and a nod to the show’s regular Hanukkah segment.

The Hanukkah segment is not token; it is crafted. Mathes has made a habit of writing a Hanukkah song “almost every year,” studies the history with rabbis and friends, and composes new work that carries narrative weight rather than novelty. “Teach me everything you know about Hanukkah,” he once asked Rabbi Go. From that afternoon’s lesson on Judah Maccabee and the miracle of the oil, he drew themes of humility and endurance. “The Hanukkah story is beautiful,” he said. “It’s a story of a small group of people changing the world in different ways.” He uses that spirit to write pieces like “Strayhorn Dreidel,” “Too Many Stars,” and others that balance swing, modal harmony, and story. “Some of the greatest music ever written was written by Jewish composers,” he noted, “but the Hanukkah music is terrible... so I try to change that.”

The result feels less like a standard holiday revue and more like a living anthology.

The setlist toggles between

Mathes’ own cycle and recalibrated favorites. “William the Angel,” a narrative about a disheveled guardian bent on saving one soul before returning to heaven, has become a call-and-response with the audience; on the one year he tried to rest it, he heard about it in the lobby. “If I don’t do that every year, I’m in trouble,” he said. “Wake Up, It’s Christmas Morning” and “When the Baby Grew Up” sit beside close-harmony carols, blues-choir shouts, and horn-driven instrumentals.

Mathes often calls the audience “part of the band,” a family that renews itself when new listeners show up and longtime fans return with friends. The lore includes a supporter who flies in annually from Utah and brings two additional people each time, seeding future regulars. “We had heard about the concert... We will never miss one again,” is how Mathes summarizes many conversions.

Mathes’ own account of why the concert endures puts the focus back on the people who come. He calls it a “family reunion” with “the emotional architecture of Dickens.” In his words, A Christmas Carol “is a miracle... a story of humility and redemption.” He says the combination of that story with “the story of innocence entering the world with God entering the world,

The result feels less like a standard holiday revue and more like a living anthology.

not with a mighty army but in the most fragile of ways,” is what gives the concert its heart.

The event also raises funds for Food Rescue US – Fairfield County, linking a night of virtuosity with local need. For Greenwich readers, that matters: the music is world-class and the impact is local.

The production values show a composer/arranger’s obsession with proportion. Horn voicings arrive like sentences that resolve grammatically; the string quartet articulates counter-melodies with chamber articulation; the choir is fed syllabic lines that reinforce groove rather than sit on top of it. The band can drive a gospel vamp hard enough to lift a balcony and then decay into near-silence for an a cappella benediction. The pacing is as considered as the harmonies: a groove-forward opener, a choral tableau, a secular standard reframed in minor-key melancholy, original songs sung by each of Mathes’ daughters, a jazz interlude that quotes Ellington or Strayhorn

without pastiche, then a climactic pairing that marries revival-tent joy to cathedral resonance.

The concert’s frame also includes the Bitter End in Greenwich Village, where Mathes will run warm-up sets with his core band—no choir, no strings—before the Purchase weekend. The club’s place in New York music history gives those nights a historic throughline back to Dylan, Baez, and Lady Gaga.

For all of the headliners he has served—Sting’s Symphoncities project, the Broadway musical The Last Ship, Springsteen sessions, Weezer’s orchestral record—December is where Mathes stands alone. He writes the charts, hires the players, sings the songs, and conducts from the keyboard or the guitar. It is also where his Greenwich story is onstage: teachers’ names spoken from the mic, neighbors in the choir, families in the rows who have passed tickets down like season seats. If you live here, this is not a

destination event across a river; it is a twenty-minute hop to a space that would be worth a pilgrimage even if it were two states away.

For a Greenwich audience, the argument is simple. If you love music, the most complete version of December in the New York region is in your backyard. The concert is built by one of your own, educated by the teachers who still shape students in town. The venue is close enough to treat like a neighborhood theatre, yet the band plays with a skyline résumé.

“If they stop coming, we can’t give the concert,” Mathes said of the audience, half-joking but making a point. He spends the rest of the year watering other people’s gardens—arranging, orchestrating, conducting—then asks his neighbors to meet him once a year so he can bring the whole toolkit home.

Tickets are available through The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College website (<https://www.artscenter.org/events/the-rob-mathes-holiday-concert-2/>)



Elton John, Rob Mathes, and Matthew Morrison



Rob Mathes working with The Edge and Bono



Ron Mathes working with John Williams



with Jeff Beck



Rob Mathes served as the music director for President Obama’s inauguration concert at the Lincoln Memorial.



with Don Henley

A Life in Song: Marjorie Donalds Joyful Journey to St. Mary Music Director

By LAURA MCCORMICK

Marjorie’s lifelong relationship with music began at her mother’s side. Growing up in Darien, she was surrounded by the vibrant musical life of St. Thomas More, where her mother, Barbara Donalds, served as director of music for three decades.

“You couldn’t stop me from singing,” Marjorie recalls with a laugh. The choir members who filled her childhood became extended family, and the church became her earliest stage.

That passion led her to Syracuse University where she earned a BFA in musical theater. Upon graduation, she pursued theater, eventually joining the national tour of Cats as understudy for the lead role. In 1989, during a Las Vegas stop, she even met Andrew Lloyd Webber, who took the cast out for an evening—an unforgettable

moment.

A New Path Opens in Greenwich

In 1991, an organist she knew from St. Thomas More encouraged her to consider a cantor position at St. Michael the Archangel in Greenwich. After years of late nights in theater, the steady schedule appealed to her as she prepared to start a family, eventually settling in Stamford where she and her husband raised their three children,

While at St. Michael, Marjorie frequently sang at St. Mary Church in Greenwich as a guest soloist for the annual Christmas concert, and for numerous weddings and funerals. Her connection to St. Mary deepened, and in 1999 she became the parish’s first professional cantor, working under Director of Music Thomas Marino. His influence remained with her for years and continues to inspire her.

By 2010, Marjorie assumed the role of Director of Music, eventually having Adult Choir Director added to her responsibilities. She hired organist Joe Mennonna—already familiar to the parish as a substitute—and together they built a musical program that continues to flourish.

During her tenure, Marjorie served under three pastors: Msgr. Frank Wissel, Fr. Cyprian LaPastina, and currently Fr. Michael Jones. In 2015, at Fr. LaPastina’s request, she took on a new challenge: directing the Youth Choir. At first unsure how she would adapt to working with children, she now calls it “the most rewarding part of the job.” That same year, she founded the Cherub Choir which became a feeder into the Youth Choir.

What began with five little singers has blossomed to 25 cherubs—and another 25 in the Youth Choir,

creating a robust program with 50 children. Even the pandemic could not silence the momentum. COVID shut down all choirs for two years, but the rebuilding process has made the program stronger than ever.

There are several families in the parish who have children of different ages in the choirs. “It’s a blessing to have families in the program. I love seeing their children grow up. Sometimes the parents bring their babies to rehearsals, so they start experiencing the music as infants. And some who began as tiny cherubs return years later as high school or college students to sing with the choir during the holidays.”

Preparing the Sounds of Christmas

The annual Christmas concert—this year on Saturday, December 14 at 3 p.m.—is one of the highlights for the choir. Planning begins

in September, with Marjorie pulling from an enormous library of more than 800 pieces of music. Each concert is designed with balance in mind. “I try to choose diverse selections that contrast lively, upbeat pieces with quieter, more meditative ones.”

Each year features new selections along with treasured favorites. “Parishioners are attached to the carols they love. O Holy Night, Silent Night, O Come All Ye Faithful, and Joy to the World are perennial favorites that I wouldn’t dream of omitting!”

The youth choir is excited for a new piece this season: Shepherds Awake, Rise Up This Morn. “They can’t wait to sing it. They launch right in without even waiting for Joe to play the introduction!” The adult choir also has a new offering: a Ukrainian a cappella arrangement of Carol of the Bells.

For young singers, Marjorie believes music education must be joyful. “It can’t be too structured or serious. Choir rehearsals always end with games, and the children eagerly await the pizza and awards party at the end of the season.”

When Marjorie presented her first Christmas concert in 2010, the church was half-empty. Today, the December concert fills to capacity well in advance—proof of how deeply her direction resonates within the St. Mary community.

From a childhood rooted in music, to a career on the musical stage, through to directing one of the parish’s most cherished traditions, Marjorie’s life has been a tapestry of song. Fortunately for the St. Mary community, her journey continues to inspire all with an appreciation for joyful and sacred music.

Editor’s Note: Wonder, Rediscovered

The first hint of winter arrives not just with snow, but with a soft dimming of the afternoon light—a signal that the season of gathering is beginning again. The shift feels gentle, as though the year itself is reminding us to draw closer, settle in, and make room for the small moments that become stories.

Winter has long been a season of wonder. For centuries, people have met these shorter days with shared meals, shared warmth, and shared stories—the oldest forms of fellowship. Many traditions treat this time as one of quiet expectation and renewed hope: a season when light returns by slow degrees and hearts look toward what’s yet to come. You don’t need a particular creed to recognize that feeling. Step outside at dusk, notice the bare branches etched against the sky, and something steady and reassuring rises to meet you.

Beyond its practical signals, winter carries a kind of mythic time. The days feel suspended, softened at the edges. Our oldest stories—of guiding stars, of long-awaited arrivals, of celebrations held when the land lay sleeping—were born in this season. And every year, without fuss or announcement, those rhythms occur again. Returning because the cycle itself has always invited us to pause, to remember, and to begin again.

Inside, winter encourages us to gather around tables with friends and family, trading tall tales and well-worn memories that grow more colorful in the telling. It pulls us toward performances—holiday ballets, concerts, pageants—where communities share in traditions that are renewed each time they take the stage. There is something

Our oldest stories—of guiding stars, of long-awaited arrivals, of celebrations held when the land lay sleeping—were born in this season

grounding in watching a familiar story unfold with fresh energy, as though we’re tethered briefly to all the winters that came before.

And the season invites us to look more closely at the humble beauty around us: frost feathering across a windowpane, the hush that settles before snowfall, the warm glow of a lamp in a historic building as evening falls.

Winter also stirs the impulse to create. A cold afternoon becomes an invitation to paint, knit, write, bake, or finally attempt that project waiting on the shelf. There’s an ease to winter creativity—the sense that time has briefly widened, leaving room for the kind of making that nourishes. It’s just as fitting to slip into a local gallery or small performance space, shedding the cold and seeing the world through the imagination of a neighbor.

This is one of winter’s quietest gifts: its ability to draw people together without pretense. A handmade ornament at a church fair, a candlelit moment of song, a watercolor pinned to a school hallway corkboard—each reminds us how naturally beauty travels from one person to another when we meet in the same room. Presence alone becomes its own kind of generosity.

And winter rewards that presence. Walk down a quiet street after dark and see how one small candle can soften an entire block. Sit in an audience and feel the shared breath before the first chord. Stand before a painting and sense the moment when someone else’s vision becomes briefly your own.

Many midwinter traditions speak of tending a light during the darkest days, keeping it steady so it can shine more brightly in the months ahead. There’s something universal in that idea. Every time we gather, create, listen, admire, or encourage, we’re tending a light of our own.

Winter reminds us to notice. To make. To share. To gather. And in doing so, it connects us with what people have cherished about this season for generations: wonder, rediscovered together.

EDITORS

Arts@GreenwichSentinel.com

Section Editor Emma Barhydt

Curated with Anne W. Semmes

& CONTRIBUTORS

Emma Barhydt, Elizabeth Barhydt, Bob Capazzo, Liz Leamy, Laura McCormick, Caroll Melgar, Anne W. Semmes, Cordelia Webb

ARTS & THEATER CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DEC. 4

6 p.m.
Artist Talk with Nate Ethier, Anoka Faruquee & David Driscoll, Sarah Walker. Flinn Gallery, 101 West Putnam Ave. – 2nd Floor. 203-622-7947. flinngallery.com

FRIDAY, DEC. 5

10 a.m.
Winter Holiday Container Workshop with Sandy Lindh of English Gardens & Designs. Greenwich Botanical Center. Register. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org/upcoming-events

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.
Behind the Scenes Archival Collections: Historic Photographs – Docent-led Tour. Greenwich Historical Society. Adults, \$15; Seniors/Students, \$10; Ages 6-18, \$10; Members/children under 5 & Active military/Blue Star, Free. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/book-a-tour

1:30 p.m.
Concert & Cake Series: Rebecca J Carda Leigh, Piano Christmas Favorites. Christ Church Greenwich. Free. RSVP. concertandcake.org

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

12 - 2 p.m.
Family Wreath Decorating Workshop. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org/upcoming-events

1 - 4 p.m.
Peter Layne Arguimbau Holiday Art Show. Red

Barn Gallery, 121 East Middle Patent Rd. Gallery appointments: 203-274-6176. arguimbau.net

2 p.m.
“The Holly & the Ivy,” a Holiday Film Screening. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. 203-637-1066. adultprogramming@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

2:30 p.m.
Greenwich Choral Society Family Holiday Concert. Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. 203-622-5136. gcs-ct.org

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

12 p.m.
“The Christmas Owl” Book Signing and Native Owl Meet & Greet. Greenwich Botanical Center. Free, GBC Family Membership; \$15, Non-member. Register. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org/upcoming-events

2:30 & 5:30 p.m.
Greenwich Choral Society Holiday Concert: A Christmas Tapestry: Bach, Britton, Bonds. Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. 203-622-5136. gcs-ct.org

5 p.m.
Christmas Piano Serenade. Second Congregational Church of Greenwich, 139 E. Putnam Ave. 203-869-9311. 2cc.org

MONDAY, DEC. 8

1 p.m.
Greenwich Newcomers Club: Create with Ewe – needlecraft, paper project, or other handcrafted

creation. The Cafe at Greenwich Library, 101 W Putnam Ave. greenwichnewcomersclub.wildapricot.org

2 p.m.
Lecture: Painted Pottery and the Transformation of Athens. On Zoom. Register. cceramicsc.org

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

10 & 11 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings: Cardboard Relief Sculptures (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Dec. 10. brucemuseum.org

6 p.m.
Bruce Socials: Trivia. Bruce Museum. \$10, includes pizza & a drink. brucemuseum.org

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10

10 a.m.
Bruce Beginnings Junior: Big Sculpture (ages: 12 Months-30 Months). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

1:30 p.m.
The Alliance Française of Greenwich: Club de Lecture: A group reading (en français) of the play: ‘Antigone’, de Jean Anouilh Byram Shubert Library, 21 Mead Ave. afgreenwich.org

5 p.m.
Alliance Française of Greenwich: French Cinéma theque - lively discussions on French films. Via Zoom. afgreenwich.org

7 p.m.
Greenwich Pen Women Book Discussion: “Lonesome Dove,” by Larry McMurtry: Part 3. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

10 a.m.
Open Knitting Drop-In Program. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. perrotlibrary.org

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

1 & 3 p.m.
Holiday Tea with the Holleys. Greenwich Historical Society. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

9 a.m.
Meet for Coffee at the Bruce: Done and Done, Authors of Love Your Home Again. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free. RSVP. brucemuseum.org

1 p.m.
Art Adventures: Snowflakes (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Dec. 14. brucemuseum.org

1 - 3 p.m.
Winterfest Cos Cob. Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.

2 & 5 p.m.
Greenwich A Cappella Winter Showcase. School of the Holy Child, 2225 Westchester Ave., Rye, NY. eventbrite.com/e/1955168735319

2 p.m.
Bruce Experiences: Ursula von Rydingsvard: Into Her Own, Documentary. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. brucemuseum.org

4 - 7 p.m.
Holiday Festival – A Night at the Museum. Greenwich Historical Society. \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

SUNDAY, DEC. 14

2 p.m.
Bruce Presents: Moses Ros, Artist in Residence Lecture. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org

4 - 7 p.m.
Holiday Festival – A Night at the Museum. Greenwich Historical Society. \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

ONGOING

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAYS AND SUNDAYS

12 - 4 p.m.
Greenwich Historical Society Guided Exhibition Tours – docents will be leading visitors through the Permanent Collections Gallery and Special Exhibitions Gallery. 47 Strickland Rd. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/event/guided-exhibition-tours-4

THROUGH JANUARY 4, 2026
Isamu Noguchi: Metal the Mirror. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/

exhibitions
Moses Ros – HUMAN/NATURE. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/exhibitions

THROUGH JANUARY 6, 2026
“Precisely.” Flinn Gallery, 101 West Putnam Avenue. 203-622-7947. flinngallery.org

THROUGH JANUARY 8, 2026
Closely Observed 18 - Art Exhibition. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible Street. 203-869-9242. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

“Finding Beauty – Boatscapes.” Les Beaux Arts Gallery, 395 Round Hill Road, Greenwich. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm; Sun, 11am-12pm; closed Sat. 203-869-1091.

THROUGH MARCH 8, 2026

”The Holley Boarding House: Inspiring American Impressionism” exhibition. Greenwich Historical Society, 47 Strickland Rd. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/holley-house-impressionism

THROUGH MAY 10, 2026
Leonardo Drew: Alchemy. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/exhibitions

THROUGH MAY 17, 2026
Ants: Tiny Creatures, Big Lives. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org/exhibitions

Holiday Gifts to Support the Arts and Keep Greenwich Vibrant for Generations

By LAURA MCCORMICK

Finding the perfect holiday gift is a challenge, no matter how organized or thoughtful most people are. For many, the biggest stress isn't shopping itself, it's figuring out what to give. Yet a meaningful category that is often overlooked: arts and culture.

These gifts are enduring. They can speak to shared experiences, evoke memories, emotions, and connections in a way few other presents can. Their intrinsic value has the potential to keep on giving long after the season is over.

Greenwich is fortunate to have a wide and varied range of opportunities for supporting arts and cultural organizations. Here are several prominent non-profits to consider for enriching your gift giving:

Traditional Gifts from Local Museums

For those who appreciate traditional gifts, the museum shops at the Bruce Museum and the Greenwich Historical Society offer distinctive items for all ages and shopping needs, spanning jewelry, fashion and home accessories, books, and children's items.

During a recent visit to the Bruce Store, Justine Matteis pointed to a collection of ant-themed books and a playful assortment of colorful ants and anteaters—charming gifts inspired by the Bruce's new exhibition, *Ants: Tiny Creatures, Big Lives*. "They are fun for children and adults who appreciate a bit of whimsy," she said.

At Greenwich Historical Society, Museum Store Manager Barbara Johann is excited about Greenwich-themed merchandise and a new selection of children's books on the Constitution. "With the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence coming in 2026, these books give children a marvelous introduction to what is at the heart of our nation's democracy—in a style and format they will enjoy."

Both museum stores also offer on-site cafés and free parking—a welcome luxury during a season when downtown spaces can be scarce. A stroll through their galleries will add to the

enjoyment.

Experiential Gifts That Strengthen Relationships

Numerous studies suggest that experience-based gifts strengthen bonds between givers and recipients. Arts and cultural organizations provide abundant opportunities for shared experiences, learning, and inspiration through gifts of membership, event tickets, and subscription series.

For lovers of classical music, Greenwich organizations cater to a range of styles, including orchestral, chamber and choral. Support for Greenwich Symphony Orchestra's innovative concert series under the direction of Stuart Malina also funds community engagement and educational outreach for introducing young people to classical music.

The Chamber Players of the GSO subscription concerts feature both beloved and lesser-known works. And the Greenwich Choral Society, celebrating its 100th year of uplifting music, will stage its final concert of the season this spring with choral and operatic favorites followed by a reception to toast the next centennial.

Supporting the Visual Arts and History

The visual arts hold a cherished place in Greenwich's cultural identity. In addition to the world-class Bruce Museum, which offers many opportunities for gifting, consider support for the Greenwich Arts Council, whose programs highlight the vibrancy and range of arts in the community through juried exhibitions, arts education, master classes, workshops and children's outreach.

For art and history enthusiasts, Greenwich Historical Society is an ideal choice. A gift of membership offers special benefits and discounts for programming and will support the Historical Society's mission to preserve and celebrate the town's vibrant past—essential for informing the future and a shared sense of place. The coming year will feature a deep lineup of programs leading up to the town's America 250 celebrations, including educational lectures, historical exhibitions and a special visit to Greenwich Harbor in July by the Dutch tall ship *Oosterschelde*.

Celebrating Nature and the Environment

For lovers of nature and



Historical Society's Barbara Johann presents books on the Constitution for children leading up the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence (by Laura McCormick, with permission)

the outdoors, Greenwich has a wide range of opportunities for gifts. Consider Greenwich Audubon Center for supporting their place-based nature and wild-life education programs. Donors receive quarterly editions of Audubon Magazine. Horticulture and botany enthusiasts will appreciate gifts that support Greenwich Botanical Center's mission to connect people with plants and nature and educate about the importance of conservation.

Other deserving non-profits committed to enhancing the natural beauty of Greenwich include Greenwich Tree Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, Greenwich Land Trust and Friends of Greenwich Point. Each offers memberships and a wide range of programs for making Greenwich a great place to live.

An organization that spans all categories for gifting, with something to offer people of all ages and interests, is Greenwich Library, a jewel

in Greenwich's arts and cultural life. Its extensive periodical collection, digital resources, diverse educational programming, and Berkley and Back Box Theaters which host concerts, world-class speakers and thought leaders, consistently position it as one of the nation's premiere libraries. Gifts to Friends of Greenwich Library also support contemporary art exhibits and related programming in the Flinn Gallery housed on the second floor.

A Community Enriched by Arts and Culture

Greenwich's arts and cultural organizations are a defining part of what makes the Town such a special place to live. They enrich daily life, inspire creativity, nurture learning and connect generations. Gifts of support do more than delight a friend or family member, they strengthen the heart of Greenwich and will ensure it remains vibrant and vital for generations to come.

Greenwich's arts and cultural organizations are a defining part of what makes the Town such a special place to live.



The Bruce Store's Justine Matteis shows collection of ant-themed gifts in conjunction with the current Bruce exhibition on *Ants* (by Laura McCormick, with permission)



Greenwich Symphony Orchestra membership and concert tickets are ideal gifts for classical music lovers (provided with permission from Greenwich Symphony Orchestra)

Handmade Work, Handled With Care

Two weekends ago, on November 22 and 23, the auditorium at First Congregational Church filled once again with the sights and textures that Greenwich families have come to recognize each fall: handmade quilts, woven bags, wooden toys, glazed pottery, jams, and maple syrup—goods brought from Hancock County, Maine by Homeworkers Organized for More Employment, better known as H.O.M.E.

For more than 30 years, the church has opened its doors to this craft fair, and regulars know exactly where they're headed when they walk in: the maple syrup table first, then the pottery, then the quilts and woven scarves. "I always find unique handmade items at very affordable prices," said Lynn Hawxhurst, Chair of the Council at First Church. "I love the jewelry and the glass art and ceramics... I get a jar of blueberry jam or maple syrup in my Christmas stocking every year."

The assortment on display reflects the scope of H.O.M.E.'s studios. According to Jackie Perkins, H.O.M.E.'s arts and activities coordinator, the entire organization grew out of these craft spaces. "H.O.M.E. has been in existence since 1970," she said. "It was started by Lucy Poulin and some other nuns. She wanted to find a way for people to make income in Maine, especially women working with their hands. So the whole thing started with crafts—the pottery and woodworking and leatherworking were some of the early ones."

Over time, the model expanded into a network of programs responding to rural poverty. "As it evolved, then they decided they wanted to help people in different ways," Perkins said. "So we got a food pantry. We have four shelters. One of them is in Ellsworth, and then we also have a daycare, thrift store, and our craft store."

The shelters serve a wide range of residents. "I don't want to misquote, but I think we can service about 80 people," Perkins said. "It includes families all together." Each shelter is different. "One is a big old sort of farmhouse—and that's all men and then sometimes couples. And then the other shelter is for families of all kinds. A dad and a child or mom. So it doesn't have to be a certain gender."

Finding housing remains one of the most difficult transitions. "Part of our programming is we have a person called a navigator and they help people find permanent housing," Perkins explained. "It's really hard right now. They help them get a voucher so they don't have to pay as much. And they don't have to leave the shelter until we find something for them—or they find their family, or they find something themselves."

While that work happens, the craft studios continue to function as daily anchors. "People are learning skills while they're there," Perkins said. "We have a pottery studio with our wheels... a glazing studio... a stained-glass studio... and one we call Living Arts, which is a little bit of everything else. We have a little weaving loom in there, basket weaving, watercolor."

The studios are free for participants and accessible to the wider community on a sliding scale. "If you have trouble meeting the fee, we definitely will work with you," she said. The studios aren't just educational—they're stabilizing. "Helping people cope with the distress of being homeless, and then also making something on their own and learning a new skill if they want to," Perkins said. "And they can sell in our store if they want, and we give all the profit. They get to keep all the amount that they sell."

Some pieces on the Old Greenwich tables came directly from those studios; others were made by community members working alongside H.O.M.E. residents. A series of mosaic picture frames on one table came through a partnership with Momentum, a community-based program supporting adults with autism, intellectual, and developmental disabilities. "Together, we're creating a space where everyone belongs and everyone contributes," the sign on the display read.

The partnership between H.O.M.E. and First Church is just as enduring. "I believe it's been like 30 years," Perkins said of the annual fair. One staff member, she noted, "has been coming here for 15 years." The relationship began with the founders. "Lucy had connections, and the other nuns she worked with had connections," Perkins said. "They wanted to do something different than just doing a food service. They wanted to help people feel confident and work with their hands and just be part of the community."

Even now, that ethos persists. "We have farming on there," Perkins noted of the Maine campus. "A couple gardens and a greenhouse. We don't make a ton because we don't have enough help—it's a lot of work." A few longtime members remain involved. "We have a couple that basically are still around that have been there since the beginning," she said. "They used to garden. They're not doing as much now, but they're still around."

Poetic Imagination

The Barn @ Downing Yudain is proud to present the first retrospective of the work of Igor Galanin. Galanin immigrated to the United States in the early 1970's from Moscow via Italy. Galinin was mentored by the late Reverend George Pera, the beloved Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. His work is in several local collections, including the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Massie, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Smith, as well as in the collections of Glenn Close, Woopie Goldberg, Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, Jim Henson, and in corporate collections including United Technologies as well as numerous other private collections.

Galanin came to the United State because he knew, like so many Russians, that life in Russia was not going to be favorable for him and his family.

While in Russia, Igor Galanin was an award-winning children's book illustrator. Many of those books are still being published in Russia and France to this day. He had his first show during a year spent in Italy while waiting for papers to come to America. The exhibition completely sold out to mostly American buyers. Upon arriving in his new country, with assistance from the American collectors who bought his work in Italy, he was given a show at the Red Barn on Fisher's Island, New York.

Like the last the show in Italy the show at Fisher's Island was hugely successful. Next was a show in Boston and then a show at the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University. He was then asked to be included in a show at Andre Emmerich Gallery in the landmark Russian Émigré exhibition of 1976. That show and particularly Igor's work was reviewed by John Russell in New York Times.

From this time until his death in 2024, Igor showed consistently for 50 years in New York and throughout the country, including long representations at Aberbach Gallery and David Findlay galleries in New York. His work is in many private and public collections throughout the country.

Galanin works are unique to him, somewhat surreal, expertly executed. They create a world free of the hardship he endured during his 30 years on Soviet Russia. There is an element of the dream world of the surrealist artist Henri Rousseau. Yet each work, whether it is a painting or a sculpture, is celebration of the bounties of life. His sculpture is joyous and modern, using round soft forms to illustrate the animals or human figures. In looking at his sculpture, one is reminded of the work of Elie Nadelman, yet Igor's creations, like his paintings are uniquely his own.

The exhibition includes 16 paintings and sculptures, which illustrate the full arc of Galanin's career. The Barn at Downing Yudain is open by appointment. The gallery may be reached at info@art357.com.

The Barn @ Downing Yudain is a by appointment art space in historic Long Ridge Village in back country North Stamford about a 15 minute drive from downtown Greenwich. The gallery hosts exhibitions of interest to Greenwich residents four or five times a year, and also hosts book talks and artist talks. Please reach out to be placed on the mailing list or to make an appointment to view the show.

Greenwich Choral Society



A past Family Holiday Concert presented by the Greenwich Choral Society. Photo courtesy of the Greenwich Choral Society.

The programming does not rely on spectacle; instead, it emphasizes consistency, clarity, and an ongoing belief in the value of live performance.

The first weekend of December brings two concerts from the Greenwich Choral Society, offering Greenwich a pair of musical experiences that reflect the organization's long-standing commitment to choral excellence. The concerts are distinct in design—one geared toward families, the other a full-scale seasonal program—but both sit firmly within the mission the Society has carried since its founding in 1926: to present choral music at a high standard and to nurture both current listeners and future singers.

Saturday's Family Holiday Concert is a 60-minute program intended to introduce children and their families to the experience of live choral music. The description is straightforward: "Bring the whole family for a holiday concert full of fun and discovery! Sing along with the choir, hear the sparkle of the orchestra, and meet our amazing soloists... and laugh along with the hilarious Musicological Journey through Christmas!" It is a format that prioritizes accessibility and participation. Families are invited to be active rather than passive, and children receive an opportunity to encounter orchestral sound, choral blend, and musical storytelling up close.

The Greenwich Academy Madrigal Singers, directed by Erica McCants, appear in this program as well, underscoring GCS's stated aim of nurturing future singers. Their involvement demonstrates how young musicians can participate meaningfully in a community performance, and how the Society builds connections across age groups. The familiar acoustics of Christ Church Greenwich provide a setting well suited to the scale of the event, and the structure of the concert keeps the experience focused and manageable for new listeners. Everything about the program aligns with the educational component of the Society's mission: it introduces musical forms, performers, and traditions in a clear and approachable way.

Sunday's A Christmas Tapestry: Bach, Britten, Bonds offers a separate, more expansive program. This 90-minute concert includes Britten's Ceremony of Carols, Bach's Christen ätzet diesen Tag, BWV 63, Margaret Bonds' Ballad of the Brown King, and Craig Courtney's Musicological Journey through Christmas, performed with orchestra, soloists Naomi Steel and Shavon Lloyd, and narrator Edward Pleasant. The concert invites listeners to "travel through the music of Bach,

Britten, and Margaret Bonds," and each work represents a carefully chosen entry point into the season's repertoire.

The structure of the program demonstrates the Society's emphasis on presenting choral music at a high level. Britten's writing requires precision and clarity; Bach's cantata demands vocal and instrumental coordination; Bonds' work brings in a mid-20th-century American perspective that broadens the narrative and musical scope of the afternoon. Including these works in a single concert highlights the Society's interest in preserving established repertoire while also bringing forward music that expands the audience's understanding of the choral tradition.

The presence of live soloists further reflects the organization's goals. Their work supports the ensemble and contributes to the overall shape of the performance without drawing focus away from the chorus itself. Each component—chorus, orchestra, soloists, and narrator—plays a role in presenting the program as a cohesive whole, consistent with a nearly century-long practice of assembling concerts with both artistic quality and educational value in mind.

The Greenwich Choral Society describes itself as a not-for-profit membership-based organization serving Fairfield and Westchester counties, dedicated to excellence in the presentation of choral music. Since 1926, it has aimed to enrich community appreciation through performances of high quality and through educational efforts that support future generations of singers and listeners.

Taken together, the weekend illustrates how a local arts organization can provide varied entry points into the same broader tradition. The programming does not rely on spectacle; instead, it emphasizes consistency, clarity, and an ongoing belief in the value of live performance. The Society's mission is evident not only in the music performed but also in the structure and intention behind each event. For audiences, the result is a weekend that presents two perspectives on seasonal music—one introductory, one expansive—connected by a long history of choral work in service to the community.

Ring Out, Wild Bells: New Family Concert: Saturday, December 7, 2024 at 3:00; Saturday, Decemeber 7, 2024 at 7:00 PM; Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 3:00 PM at Christ Church Greenwich.

Britten's Wartime Vision Returns to Christ Church Greenwich

Benjamin Britten wrote A Ceremony of Carols while crossing the Atlantic in 1942, a young composer surrounded by blackout conditions, submarine threats, and the uneasy quiet of a ship holding its course through wartime waters. It's hard to imagine a less likely birthplace for a piece defined by radiance. Yet perhaps that contrast—peril and clarity, danger and devotion—is why the music still glows with such urgency.

On December 14, the St. Cecilia Choir of Girls will bring this singular work to life at Christ Church Greenwich, joined by the shimmering anchor of harp. For Greenwich audiences, the chance to hear this piece performed by young voices feels especially fitting. The music was written by someone who understood that beauty isn't a luxury reserved for peaceful years; it's something people carry with them, even when the world tilts.

Britten set Middle English poetry to music that feels both ancient and startlingly fresh. The opening procession enters like a candle moving slowly up a darkened nave—plainchant unfolding step by step, unhurried and intentional. Soon the score begins to dance, its quick rhythms flickering with the same delight found in medieval carols. Then it turns inward again, threading fine lines of counterpoint so delicate they feel almost woven rather than sung. Every movement approaches

the mystery of Christ's incarnation from a slightly different angle, as though Britten is inviting listeners to walk around a truth too large to understand all at once.

The result is not sentimental. Britten wasn't writing a Christmas card; he was writing from the deck of a ship in a world at war. And he carried that world into the music. The work's theological peak arrives in a fierce battle between good and evil—Britten's version of the apocalypse, set not in thunderous brass but in the focused intensity of treble voices. It is startling, visceral, and unmistakably shaped by the tension of the sea voyage he was surviving mile by mile. The conflict passes, but its echo changes everything that follows.

Hearing this piece during Advent makes its sense of expectation even more potent. Advent is, at its heart, a season of waiting—a discipline of patience that modern life rarely rewards. But Britten's music helps us slow down. It reminds us that anticipation isn't idle; it's active, attentive, and full of meaning. The St. Cecilia Girls' Choir, with its clarity of tone and unforced sincerity, is uniquely suited to tell that story. Their voices carry the openness that Britten valued, the kind that lets the listener hear both the innocence and the intelligence in the music.

Christ Church Greenwich continues to be one of the town's most remarkable spaces for sound—one where the past

is honored not as a museum display but as a living inheritance. When young musicians step into that heritage, they keep it breathing. And when neighbors show up to hear them, they strengthen the thread running from one generation to the next.

That thread matters. The arts in Greenwich aren't abstractions; they rely on people choosing to be present, especially in the quieter seasons when gathering feels like an act of unity. A performance like this one is a reminder of what can happen when a community gives its young artists a platform and trusts them with work of real depth. Britten wrote A Ceremony of Carols in the middle of uncertainty. The girls of the St. Cecilia Choir will sing it into a space of sanctuary, where the town can receive it together.

As December grows darker, this music offers a different kind of light—steady, searching, and rooted in centuries of tradition. It asks us to listen closely, to let old words take on new meaning, and to allow ourselves to feel expectation the way Britten must have felt it on that Atlantic crossing: not as a fragile hope, but as something solid enough to guide him home.

Christ Church Greenwich welcomes the community to this meditative and mystical celebration of Advent, performed Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 p.m.

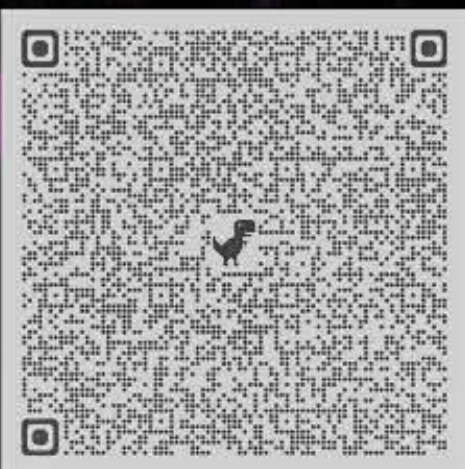
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Wildly Successful: The Snow Goose



By JIM KNOX

When the mercury drops and the first flakes fly, they wing in from the far north. A quick glance persuaded me it was a pair of swans. A closer look revealed creatures far more unusual, at least in Fairfield County. The animals in question grazed on the late fall grass along the edge of the pond.

Due to their unpredictable visits to the Nutmeg State, Snow Geese, *Chen caerulescens*, are always a memorable sight. With its compact build, snow-white plumage, black wing tips, and pink bill and legs, the Snow Goose stands out among its familiar Canada Goose kin, which it frequently accompanies. Breeding in the Arctic tundra, these birds migrate south in late fall and early winter, foraging for

tubers, roots and dried grasses along wetlands, agricultural fields, and marshes across Canada and much of the United States.

Hunted to near extinction to just a few thousand birds by the early 1900's, Snow Geese were given full federal protection. Like many species, that protection led to a rebound in numbers. Aided by the adaptability of the birds, which widened their food choices from wetland grasses and tubers to include agricultural crops and their roots, the population exploded. As a result, this North American species is thriving among the west coast, east coast, and mid-continental populations and today approaches 20 million birds!

With two main recognized subspecies, as well as a less common "blue" phase which

exhibits beautiful silvery-gray plumage occurring in both, the Snow Goose exhibits variations on a theme of remarkable success. Specifically, that success is of a superbly adapted Arctic species with the adaptability to range far south of its northern breeding grounds above the treeline in the vast tundra.

Designed by nature to exploit the extremely limited Arctic spring and withstand the ravages of deadly weather, Snow Goose goslings hatch with bodies completely covered with down and their eyes wide open, unlike their more southerly kin. These tiny subpolar hatchlings can venture out from their nests to walk, feed, swim, and dive within just hours of hatching. Their voracious feeding is essential in enabling them to gain more than a quarter pound



of vital weight each day. To fuel their rapidly growing bodies, Snow Goose goslings can accompany their parents more than 50 miles from their nest site within just three weeks of hatching!

Another attribute of Snow Goose parental behavior fosters protection for the little ones. While each pair aggressively guards their nest territory, expecting mothers will roll the eggs of trespassing pairs into their nests and raise the young as their own, thereby ensuring protection for greater numbers of young and aiding the survival of the entire flock.

The form of the Snow Goose is perfectly designed for life on the forbidding tundra. With a length of 27-33 inches and a weight of 4.5-9 pounds, these Arctic waterfowl are compact to conserve vital body heat in an unforgiving environment. With its legs positioned centrally beneath its body, the Snow Goose can navigate the barren ground and shallow waters of the Arctic in summer with great balance and agility. The

serrations lining the edge of its bill enable it to readily dig up and cut up roots and tubers, accessible in the Arctic soil. The primary feathers forming its trademark black wingtips are reinforced and can withstand a tremendous stresses—a key attribute for birds making migrations of up to 5,000 miles (about twice the width of the United States) between their nesting grounds and their winter range.

While smaller family groups typically disperse throughout Connecticut, Snow Geese of all subspecies tend to form massive flocks of up to several hundred thousand birds along main stopovers of their three continental migration routes. Putting the term, "safety in numbers" to the test, these huge congregations of birds may attract predators but, through their sheer size, can simultaneously withstand such predation.

As is often the case with nature's creatures, their adaptability to a human-influenced landscape can create

challenges. With the birds' booming populations shifting gears to feed off agricultural lands, the Snow Goose's feeding habit of uprooting can destroy valuable crops. Our challenge lies in balancing the welfare of a population of superbly adapted creatures with the needs of human populations.

Late fall in New England is a time of spectacular natural change. In the weeks ahead, as you stroll, hike, or kayak the land and waters of coastal Connecticut, keep a sharp eye out for the brilliant white birds amid flocks of Canada Geese. A rare sight decades ago, the presence of the Snow Goose is both a welcome visit of our neighbors from the far north and sure sign that, with a little help, nature will endure.

Jim Knox serves as the Curator of Education for Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo and as a science adviser for The Bruce Museum. Jim enjoys sharing his passion for wildlife conservation with audiences in Connecticut and beyond.



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Calendar of Events for Your Fridge

FRIDAY, DEC. 5

10 a.m.
Winter Holiday Container Workshop with Sandy Lindh of English Gardens & Designs. Greenwich Botanical Center. Register. greenwichbotanical-center.org/upcoming-events

11 a.m.
Knollwood Garden Club's Holiday Bazaar – benefitting The Seaside Garden, Tod's Point. Field Club, 128 Lake Ave. Bazaar is free, lunch: \$70. knollwoodgardenclub.org/events

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.

Behind the Scenes Archival Collections: Historic Photographs – Docent-led Tour. Greenwich Historical Society. Adults, \$15; Seniors/Students, \$10; Ages 6-18, \$10; Members/children under 5 & Active military/Blue Star, Free. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/book-a-tour

1:30 p.m.

Concert & Cake Series: Rebecca J Carda Leigh, Piano Christmas Favorites. Christ Church Greenwich. Free. RSVP. concertandcake.org

2 - 6 p.m.

Shop & Sip benefitting the Greenwich Symphony Orchestra. J.McLaughlin, 55 East Putnam Ave. 203-862-9777.

4:15 p.m.
Greenwich Tree Lighting. Greenwich Town Hall. greenwichct.gov/2350/Tree-Lighting

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

8 - 11 a.m.
BGCG Annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa. Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, 4 Horseneck Lane. Free, members & children under 3; \$10, adults & non-members. e.givesmart.com/events/M4e

8 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Battle of the Badges Blood Drive. Greenwich Public Safety Complex, 11 Bruce Place. 1-800-733-2767. redcrossblood.org

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Greenwich does every year is its annual Coats for Kids Drive. Council Hall, 37 West Putnam Ave. knightsogreenwich.com

10 a.m.
Greenwich Tree Conservancy: Fit in the Forest. Mianus River Park (Cognewaugh Road entrance). All ages. Register. greenwichtreeconservancy.org

12 - 2 p.m.

Family Wreath Decorating Workshop. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible St. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org/upcoming-events

12 - 3 p.m.

Mobile Adoption Event. Gretchen Scott Designs, 73 Greenwich Ave. spcawestchester.org/adopt/mobile-adoption-event-faqs

1 p.m.

Birding at the Bruce Museum with Greenwich Audubon – a tour of the neighboring Oneida Sanctuary. Meet at the Bruce Museum Lobby. Free. RSVP. brucemuseum.org

1 - 4 p.m.

Peter Layne Arguimbau Holiday Art Show. Red Barn Gallery, 121 East Middle Patent Rd. Gallery appointments: 203-274-6176. Arguimbau.net

1:30 p.m.

Dip, Decorate & Celebrate. The J House Greenwich, 1114 E. Putnam Ave. \$20. eventbrite.com/e/1968861489716

2 p.m.

“The Holly & the Ivy,” a Holiday Film Screening. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. 203-637-1066. adultprogramming@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

2:30 p.m.

Greenwich Choral Society Family Holiday Concert. Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. 203-622-5136. gcs-ct.org

3:30 p.m.

Kids Zone - Cookie Decorating Fun. Living Hope Community Church, 38 W. End Ave., Old Greenwich. Free. Register. onrealm.org/livinghopect/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NT-E5ZDUzNGUtMjg0My00OTcxLWE5MmQtY-jm3YzAxMWUzY2Ri

4 p.m.

Byram Shubert Library Holiday's Tree Lighting Celebration with Country Music Band Gun-smoke. 203-531-0426.

5 - 8 p.m.

Old Greenwich Merchants Association's First Light, performance by the Sound Beach Community Band. Sound Beach Avenue, parts of West End Avenue and Arcadia Road. ogmerchants.com

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

9 - 11:30 a.m.

Friends of Greenwich Point: First Sunday Bird Walk at Tod's Point. Free & open to all. friendsof-greenwichpoint.org

10 a.m.

iNat with a Naturalist (Ages 6 & up). Greenwich Audubon Center. \$5. Register. audubon.org/events?view_type=row&location=Greenwich%20Audubon%20Center

10 a.m.

ICC Greenwich: India Express: Learning the Flavors of Indian Cuisine. BGCG, 4 Horseneck Lane. \$40. iccgreenwich.org

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Greenwich Police Department ‘Stuff-a-Cruiser’ Toy Drive. Public Safety Complex, 13 Bruce Place. 203-622-8004.

10:15 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Family Day: Winter Wonderland. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Holiday Fun Fest. Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. eventbrite.com/e/1942375881549

12 p.m.

Gingerbread House Workshop. Second Congregational Church of Greenwich, 139 E. Putnam

Ave. \$25/house with prepayment, \$30 at the door. 203-869-9311. 2cc.org

12 p.m.

‘The Christmas Owl’ Book Signing and Native Owl Meet & Greet. Greenwich Botanical Center. Free, GBC Family Membership; \$15, Non-member. Register. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org/upcoming-events

2 - 3 p.m.

Fred Elser First Sunday Science: Living with Ecological Purpose. Innis Arden Cottage, Tod's Point. Free & open to all. brucemuseum.org

2:30 & 5:30 p.m.

Greenwich Choral Society Holiday Concert: A Christmas Tapestry: Bach, Britton, Bonds. Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. 203-622-5136. gcs-ct.org

3 - 5 p.m.

The OG Menorah Rise – community-wide pre-Chanukah celebration. The Old Greenwich Fire Station.

5 p.m.

Christmas Piano Serenade. Second Congregational Church of Greenwich, 139 E. Putnam Ave. 203-869-9311. 2cc.org

MONDAY, DEC. 8

1 p.m.

Greenwich Newcomers Club: Create with Ewe – needlecraft, paper project, or other handcrafted creation. The Cafe at Greenwich Library, 101 W Putnam Ave. greenwichnewcomersclub.wildapricot.org

2 p.m.

Lecture: Painted Pottery and the Transformation of Athens. On Zoom. Register. cceramicsc.org

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

9:30 a.m.
Perrot Memorial Library: Tod's Point. Meet at the second concession stand. Free. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

10 & 11 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings: Cardboard Relief Sculptures (Ages 2 1/2-5). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Wednesday, Dec. 10. brucemuseum.org

3 p.m.

Surviving Winter as a Honeybee. Greenwich Land Trust, 370 Round Hill Road. gltrust.org/upcoming-events

6 p.m.

Bruce Socials: Trivia. Bruce Museum. \$10, includes pizza & a drink. brucemuseum.org

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10

10 a.m.

Bruce Beginnings Junior: Big Sculpture (ages: 12 Months-30 Months). Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free with admission. First come, first served. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m.

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich: Robert Blenderman, President, Greenwich Hospital. Christ Church Greenwich, 254 East Putnam Ave. Free & open to all. greenwichrma.org

1:30 p.m.

The Alliance Française of Greenwich: Club de Lecture: A group reading (en français) of the play: ‘Antigone,’ de Jean Anouilh Byram Shubert Library, 21 Mead Ave. afgreenwich.org

5 p.m.

Alliance Française of Greenwich: French Cinémathèque - lively discussions on French films. Via Zoom. afgreenwich.org

6 p.m.

Candlelight & Community: A Sip & Pour. Dogwood Books & Gifts, 254 East Putnam Ave. \$50. eventbrite.com/e/1838508240639

7 p.m.

Greenwich Pen Women Book Discussion: “Lonesome Dove,” by Larry McMurtry: Part 3. Perrot Memorial Library. Free. Register. 203-637-1066 x15. judys@perrotlibrary.org. perrotlibrary.org

7 p.m.

Finding Your Voice as a Parent Webinar: Supporting Parents of Special Needs Children. On Zoom. stamfordjcc.org/events/2025/12/10/inclusion/finding-your-voice-as-a-parent-webinar

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

10 a.m.

Open Knitting Drop-In Program. Perrot Memorial Library, 90 Sound Beach Ave. Free. perrotlibrary.org

12 - 2 p.m.

Giving Tree Gift Wrapping Party. YMCA of Greenwich, 50 East Putnam Ave. Free. RSVP. greenwichymca.org/events

12 p.m.

Greenwich Conservation Commission and Waste Free Greenwich: Merry Bright & Waste Free Holidays Lunch & Learn. On Zoom. Free. Register. signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44ADAA2FABF-DC61-60614088-merry

7 p.m.

St. Catherine's Support Circle: Networking – Everything You Wanted to Know But Were Afraid to Try. On Zoom. Free. RSVP by Dec. 9. stc-sta.org/community-life/st-catherine-s-support-circle

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

1 & 3 p.m.

Holiday Tea with the Holleys. Greenwich Historical Society. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Kid's Night Out – Pool Party (Ages 4-14). YMCA of Greenwich. Member: \$35, Non-Member: \$45. Register. greenwichymca.org/events

7 p.m.

SLS Live Music featuring TBD. St. Lawrence Society, 86 Valley Rd., Cos Cob. 203-618-9036. stlawrencesociety.com/events

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

9 a.m.

Meet for Coffee at the Bruce: Done and Done, Authors of Love Your Home Again. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Free. RSVP. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m.

The Annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony – the Horseneck Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will be laying wreaths at the Old Burying Ground on Byram Shore Road.

11 a.m.

Museum Movers: Yoga for Kids (Ages 3-6). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. brucemuseum.org

11 a.m. & 12 p.m.

Defensive Action Class – for students who are part of the Greenwich School District. YWCA Greenwich, 259 E. Putnam Ave. \$10. Register. ywcagreenwich.org/events/defensive-action-class

1 p.m.

Art Adventures: Snowflakes (Ages 4 & up). Bruce Museum. Free with admission. No reservations required. Also held Sunday, Dec. 14. brucemuseum.org

1 - 3 p.m.

Winterfest Cos Cob. Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.

2 & 5 p.m.

Greenwich A Cappella Winter Showcase. School of the Holy Child, 2225 Westchester Ave., Rye, NY. eventbrite.com/e/1955168735319

2 p.m.

Bruce Experiences: Ursula von Rydingsvard: Into Her Own, Documentary. Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. brucemuseum.org

4 - 7 p.m.

Holiday Festival – A Night at the Museum. Greenwich Historical Society. \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

7 p.m.

A Night Out With the Knights, benefitting the Greenwich Knights of Columbus Color Guard. Knights of Columbus Greenwich Orinoco No. 39, 7 Lafayette Ct. \$20. 203-661-3596. kofcgreenwich39@gmail.com. knightsogreenwich.com

SUNDAY, DEC. 14

10 a.m.

Brunch with Santa. Tony's at the J House, Address: 1114 E Putnam Ave. 203-698-6999. tonysatthejhouse.com

2 p.m.

Bruce Presents: Moses Ros, Artist in Residence Lecture. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org

4 - 7 p.m.

Holiday Festival – A Night at the Museum. Greenwich Historical Society. \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/ghs-events

THROUGH WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24

17th Annual Greenwich Reindeer Festival & Santa's Workshop opens. Sam Bridge Nursery & Greenhouses, 437 North St. greenwichreindeer-festival.com

THROUGH JANUARY 8, 2026

Closely Observed 18 - Art Exhibition. Greenwich Botanical Center, 130 Bible Street. 203-869-9242. greenwichbotanicalcenter.org

“Finding Beauty – Boatscapes.” Les Beaux Arts Gallery, 395 Round Hill Road, Greenwich. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm; Sun, 11am-12pm; closed Sat. 203-869-1091.

THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 12

8 - 11 a.m.

Friends of Greenwich Point: Safe Roads Sundays program at Tod's Point kicks off. Traffic will be restricted to the main parking lots to allow for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, skaters & all outdoor enthusiasts. friendsofgreenwichpoint.org

2nd TUESDAY of the Month

6:30 p.m.

Byram Veterans Association Bingo Nights. Association Hall, 300 Delavan Ave. Must be 18 years and older to play. Hot dogs & Chips for sale, cash bar & free dessert. 203-531-9846.

WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SUNDAYS

12 - 4 p.m.

Greenwich Historical Society Guided Exhibition Tours – docents will be leading visitors through the Permanent Collections Gallery and Special Exhibitions Gallery. 47 Strickland Rd. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/event/guided-exhibition-tours-4

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

12, 1:30 & 3 p.m.

Behind the Scenes Archival Collections – Docent-led Tour. Greenwich Historical Society. Adults, \$15; Seniors/Students, \$10; Ages 6-18, \$10; Members/children under 5 & Active military/Blue Star, Free. 203-869-6899. greenwichhistory.org/book-a-tour

MONDAY - FRIDAY

3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Arch Street Homework Heroes - Free after school tutoring (6th-12th grade). Arch Street Teen Center, 100 Arch St. info@archstreet.org. archstreet.org

TUESDAYS:

5 - 7 p.m.

Lighthouse, a Program of Kids In Crisis: LGBTQ Youth Group Meeting. On Zoom. Free. Open to all LGBTQ Youth & allies. 203-661-1911. lighthouse@kidsincrisis.org. kidsincrisis.org/get-help/lighthouse

WEDNESDAYS:

12 - 2 p.m.

Waste Free Greenwich's Food Scrap Recycle Program: Drop off scraps at Round Hill Community Church, 395 Round Hill Rd. roundhillcommunitychurch.org/news/composting-at-rhcc

6 - 7:30 p.m.

Arch Street Teen Center High School Support Group for boys: Stress, Success, and Teenage Setbacks – moderated by Executive Director Kyle Silver. 100 Arch St. Register. Kyle@archstreet.org. archstreet.org

6:30 p.m.

NAMI-CAN (Child and Adolescent Network) Online Support Group - for parents and primary caregivers of children & adolescents, under age

21, with behavioral and emotional issues. Free. namisouthwestct.org/online-support

THURSDAYS:

8 a.m. & 4 p.m.

Tai Chi Basic Moves. First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Ave. Registration required. Tuition is paid as a donation made directly by the participant to abilis, Neighbor to Neighbor, or the First Congregational Church. experiencetaichi.org

5 - 7 p.m.

Kids In Crisis Lighthouse LGBTQ Youth Group Meeting - open to all LGBTQ youth in middle & high school. Wilton Historical Society, 224 Danbury Rd, Wilton. Free. 203-661-1911. lighthouse@kidsincrisis.org. kidsincrisis.org/get-help/lighthouse

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY:

8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Book Exchange – choose from a huge selection of books. Holly Hill Recycling Center. Free, or, donate books. (Open every Fri & Sat. books4everyone.org

GREENWICH LIBRARIES: greenwichlibrary.org

Friday, Dec. 5

9:30 a.m.

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Assistance. Learning Lab. 203-862-6707.

10 a.m.

Toddler Storytime. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

11:15 a.m.

Qi Gong. Online. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15387532

3:45 p.m.

World Music with Anitra. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

4 p.m.

Super Secret Present Craft Club (Registration Required). Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: “Superman.” Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org.

Saturday, Dec. 6

10 a.m.

Satur-yay! Storytime. Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

10:30 a.m.

Hatha Yoga for Adults with Inger. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

11 a.m.

Technology Help. Learning Lab. 203-625-6560. csherman@greenwichlibrary.org.

1 p.m.

PrintLab: 3D Printing Studio. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org.

1 p.m.

Common Threads Hand Crafts Meetup. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

4 p.m.

Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration with Country Music Band Gunsmoke. Byram Shubert Library. 203-531-0426.

Monday, Dec. 8

10 a.m.

Little Learners (Storytime Lottery). Children's Constellation Room.

11 a.m.

All Together Storytime. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

11:30 a.m.

Blood Pressure Screening. Community Room #5.

1 p.m.

Byram Book Club: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt.

Universal Crossword

Edited by Amanda Rafkin

ACROSS

- 1 Pear part
5 Chiding syllable
8 Matted clumps of hair
13 ___ nuts (pesto ingredient)
14 Exclude
16 The ___ (customer's typical order)
17 Merit
18 Drag queen in "Kinky Boots"
19 Mary Poppins, e.g.
20 Near Batman's sidekick?
23 Took off
24 What do the pros say?
25 Made a cozy little home
30 Stockpile some yogurt starter?
33 "Count" who composed "One O'Clock Jump"
36 "Affirmative!"
37 People with an annual Sun Dance
38 Cheese that's made backward?
39 Actress Dandridge
41 Quick kiss
42 Some body art, informally
43 "Midsommar" director Aster
44 Maya Angelou and Mary Oliver, e.g.

- 45 Person playing marbles, often?
49 Madame, in Spain
50 Jump like a hare
51 School fundraising grp.
54 Anticipate the latest charts?
58 Bulldozes
62 "Enough stalling!"
63 Isn't another way?
64 JPEG or PNG file, e.g.
65 Part of YOLO
66 Taunt
67 "Good heavens!"
68 Genre related to reggae
69 Concerning
DOWN
1 Pickle piece
2 Pageant headwear
3 2001 scandal company
4 Restaurant list that might be accessed with a QR code
5 "I knew I was right!"
6 Campfire treats
7 Unit of weight, for short
8 Escape route in "The Great Escape"
9 Allyson Felix's Olympic team
10 "Sounds like a great time!"

- 11 Pale brown color
12 Cunning
15 Soda can feature
21 Word on a "Hello!" tag
22 Occupied
26 Daze
27 Private student
28 Construct
29 You can stand at some while working
30 Has the goal of
31 Its capital is Damascus
32 Still at Disney?
33 Test versions of software
34 "Better late than never," e.g.
35 The Prince of Darkness
39 Type of parrot in Blue Sky's "Rio"

- 40 Make a mistake
44 Salt-N-___
46 Wiped clean
47 Comedian's "thing"
48 Beverage often sweetened with honey
51 Ballet bends
52 Palindromic belief
53 Lead-in to "physics" or "turf"
55 Big ruckus
56 They're not free of charge
57 Mexico's ___ California
58 Word aptly found in "perimeter"
59 "Back to Black" singer
60 Change directions suddenly
61 Nwodim of "SNL"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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www.upuzzles.com

Family Time Crossword
The (K) Clues Are for Kids

Created by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

1. (K) Get twisted from heat
5. (K) It's smaller than a bus
8. (K) Face feature
12. Maker of PCs and tablets
13. Pie ___ mode (2 words)
14. (K) "Crazy" in El Salvador
15. (K) Saturn satellite
16. Zip or zilch
17. (K) Large bunch (2 words)
18. (K) Place to order a BLT
21. Music staff note after fa
22. Babysitter's nightmare
23. Bay window variety
26. (K) Overblown view of oneself
27. When doubled, a lively dance
30. Got an eyeful at the mall? (2 words)

33. (K) Negative prefix
34. (K) Pick out and pay for
35. Bandage consisting of a pad and belt
36. Santa ___ winds
37. (K) Article that many people read?
38. Seller of many ties
44. (K) Small equine
45. (K) "... ___ the ramparts ..."
46. (K) New York's 5-Down
47. ___ for (picks)
48. (K) Worker cleaning a plate with a little broom
49. Disney's queen of Arendelle
50. (K) A very disorderly room
51. (K) "My country, ___ of these ..."
52. "Bill & ___ Excellent Adventure"

DOWN

1. Hospital section
2. Massage target
3. (K) Attachment to your fishing rod
4. (K) Kept saying wonderful things about
5. (K) Ear section
6. Settled on a branch
7. (K) City in North Carolina
8. (K) Envelope feature
9. (K) What you need to bury a rock
10. (K) An idol
11. "Believe it or ___"
19. Aftershave relative
20. (K) Uses a plane or sander
23. (K) Have among your possessions

24. Brazil tourist city
25. (K) Hotel relative
26. (K) Powerful suffix
27. PC brain
28. "For ___ a jolly good fellow"
29. (K) Things that pop up on websites
31. Don't just leave hanging in the closet (2 words)
32. First word in many recipes
36. Deep void or 9-Down
37. Waterproof coverings
38. (K) Optimism
39. (K) "A Bug's Life" heroes
40. Prefix for "half"
41. Marine eagle
42. (K) Part of a lemon
43. Nay opposers
44. Half of a cheerleader's prop?

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

It works best when tired?

Look for the answer in next week's paper.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

Previous riddle answer:

Creature with a lot inside?
41-A) SLOTH

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			

The answers to this week's puzzles can be found in the next issue on December 5.
www.GreenwichSentinel.com/subscribe
www.NewCanaanSentinel.com/subscribe

1/12

Putting on a Front by Jon Pennington

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
				30				31	32				
33	34	35					36				37		
38					39	40					41		
42					43					44			
45					46				47	48			
49								50				51	52
					54		55	56			57		
58	59	60	61				62				63		
64							65				66		
67							68				69		

Horoscopes

Cosmic Context

The month begins under a waning-moon phase, following the full moon on December 4 — a time of introspection and clearing away what no longer serves. As the year winds down, collective astrological currents favor review, reflection, and preparation — encouraging release of old patterns and readiness for fresh starts.

the upcoming season with clarity.

Weekly Forecast by Sign

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

Expect a gentle pivot toward introspection. Let go of old habits that drain emotional or physical energy. Quiet reflection may yield clarity about what path to take into the new year.

Libra (September 23 – October 22)

Connections, collaboration, and shared intentions matter now. Reach out, repair what's been neglected, and offer openness over assumptions. Harmony benefits from sincerity.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

You may sense subtle shifts in inner rhythms — emotionally and mentally. Listen to what rises up, journal, or meditate. Insights gained now can reshape your outlook for the end of the year.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)

Practical matters and daily routines demand attention. Slow down and reassess your schedule. Grounded habits now will set a steady pace for upcoming changes.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

Opportunities for reflection around ambitions and long-term goals. Think through what you want to carry forward — clarity now can lead to stronger footing in 2026.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

Conversations or shared responsibilities may require clarity. Approach with care and honesty. Shared understanding now can ease future tensions and support collective effort.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

Inner growth and subtle transformation define your week. Emotional or spiritual clarity may emerge. Take time for rest, introspection, and gentle self-care.

How to Use This Week

Allow the energy of a waning moon and year-end reflection to guide thoughtful release and gentle planning. This week offers a bridge between what was and what's next — ideal for clearing, recalibrating, and preparing quietly for new opportunities.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

You may feel drawn to deepen bonds with loved ones or close friends. Honest conversations can strengthen trust. It's a favorable week for nurturing what matters.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20)

A chance emerges to wrap up mental clutter — reassess ideas, projects, and direction. Peaceful routines and thoughtful planning set a steadier course for what comes next.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

Home, comfort, and inner balance take priority. Use these days to restore your emotional foundation. Time spent in solitude or with family may bring needed calm and perspective.

Leo (July 23 – August 22)

Creativity and self-expression linger, but with more inward focus. Reflect on how you present yourself. Authenticity rather than performance wins — realign with what feels true.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

This week favors organizing and simplifying. Revisit plans or routines, clear what's outdated. A lighter load will help you embrace

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

- _____

LEV

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SWE

EL

EES

HON

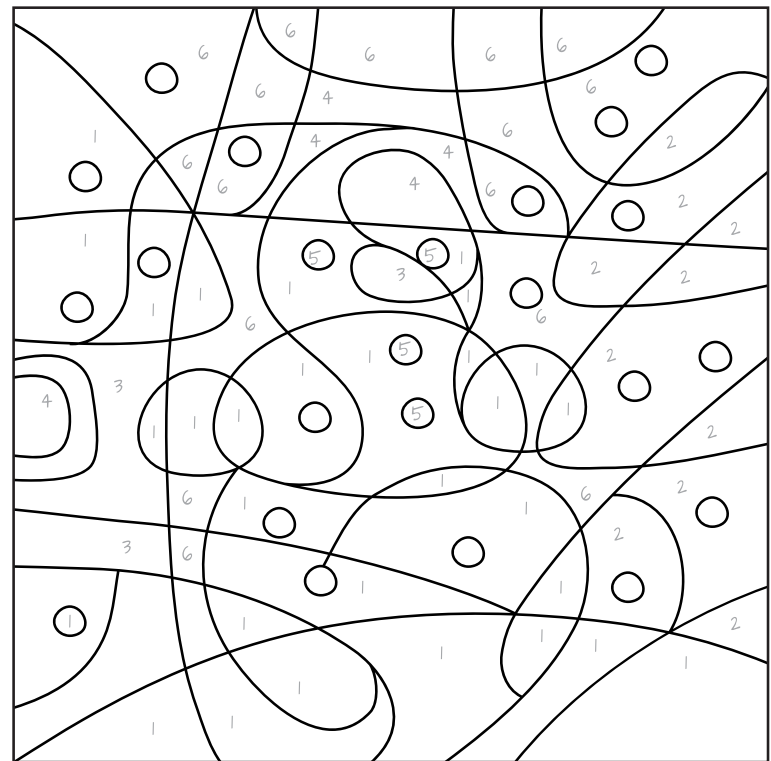
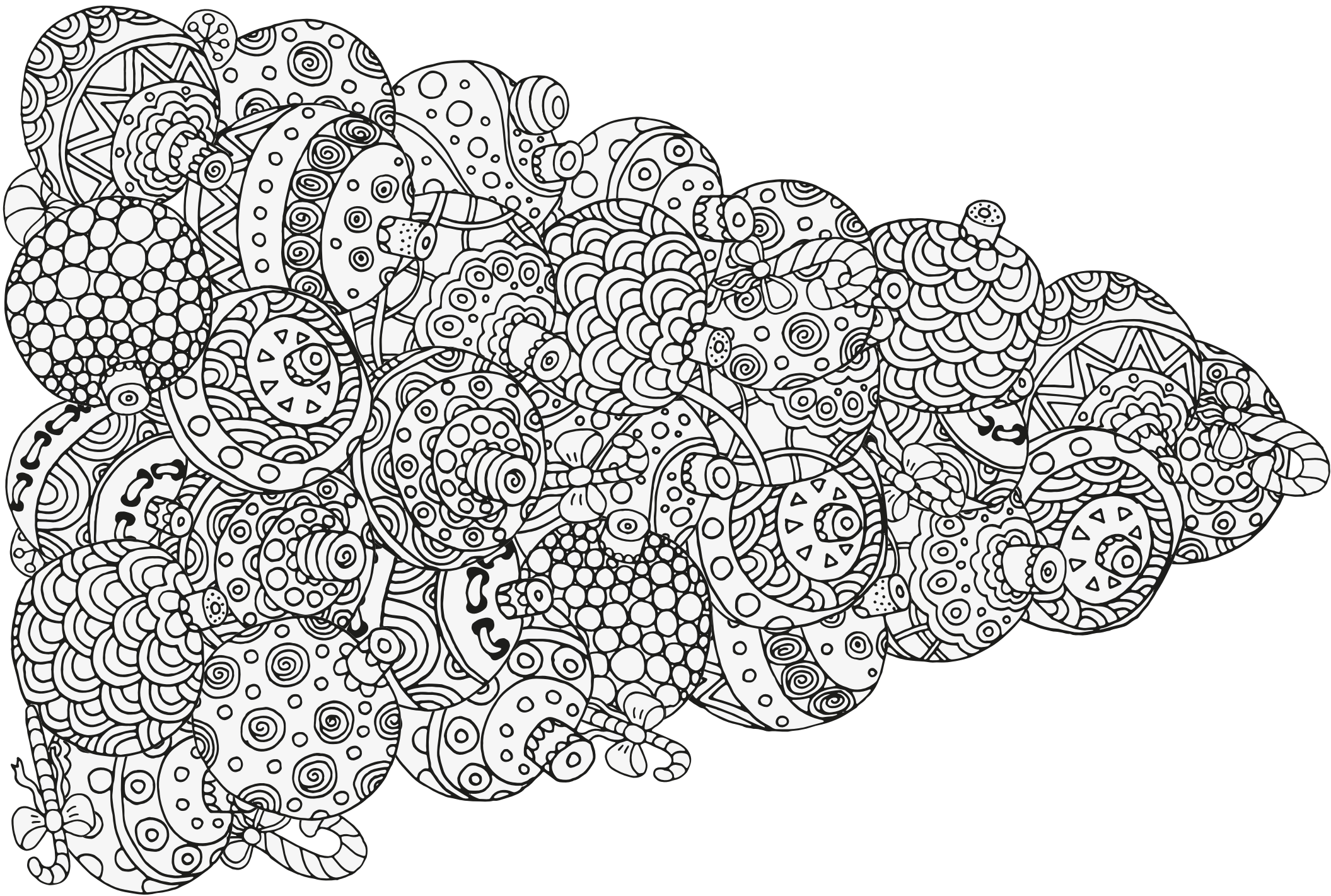
REC

Previous Answers: 1. BOMBING 2. SEARED 3. RENEGADE 4. INGRAINED 5. GLIMMERING 6. ANTIBODIES 7. PROPOSAL 8/24

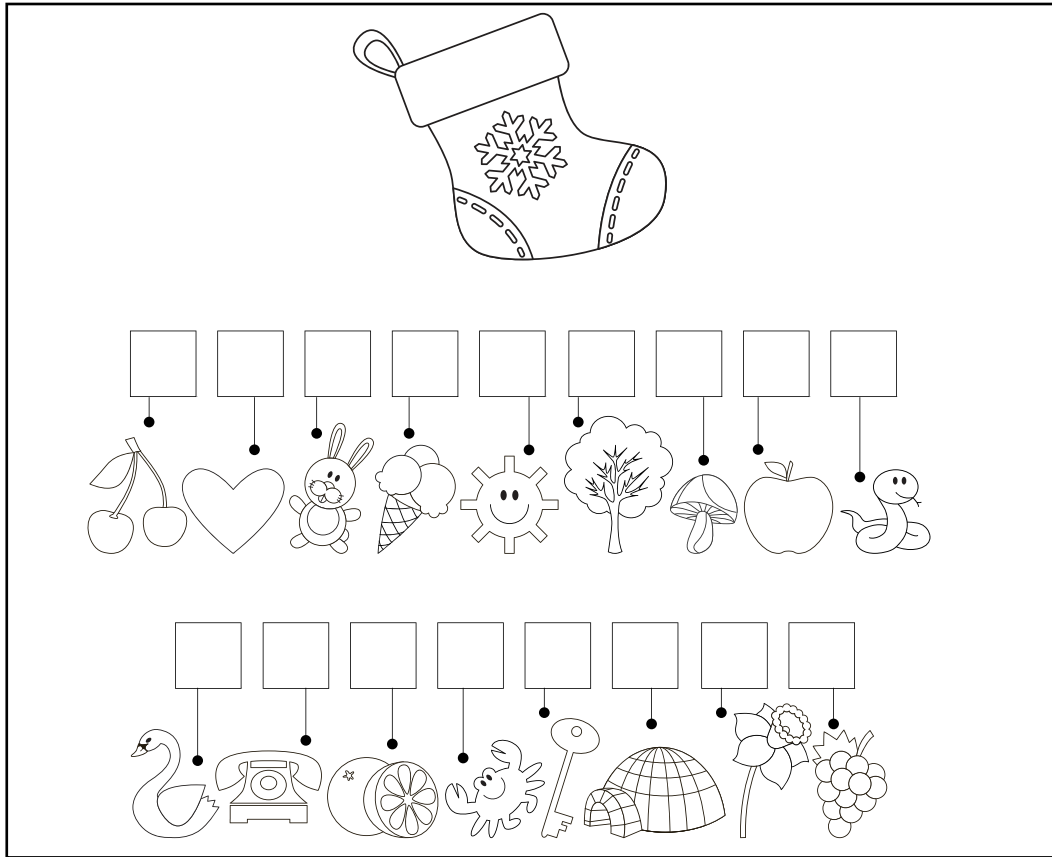
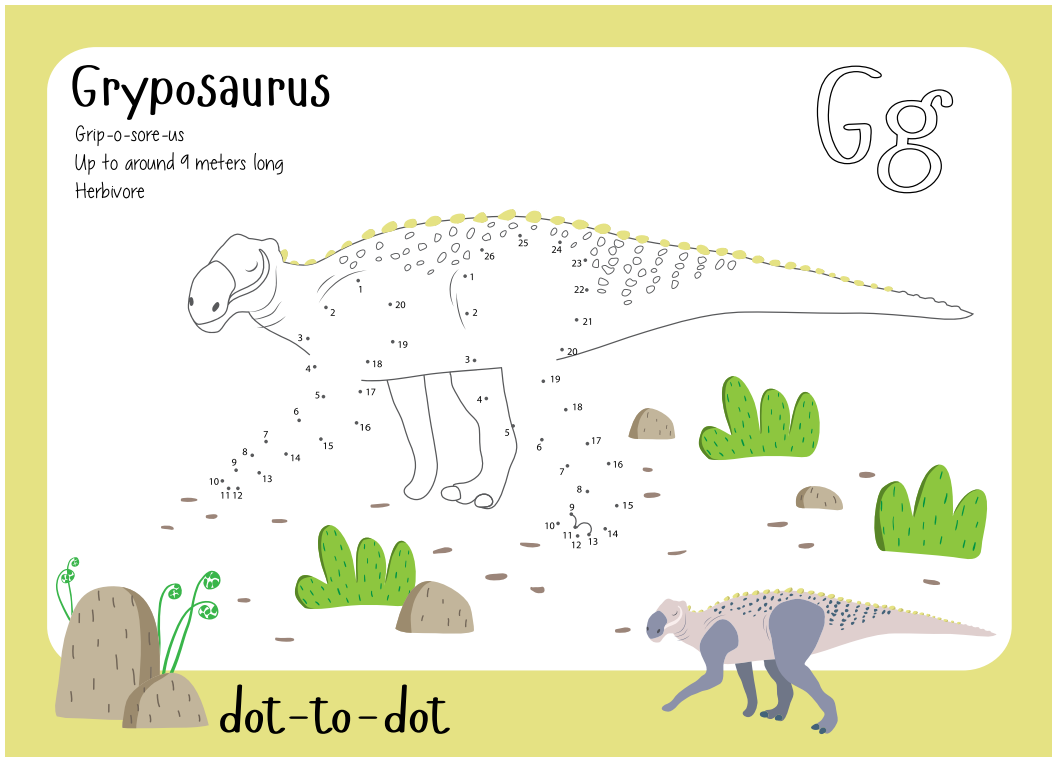


MANDALA

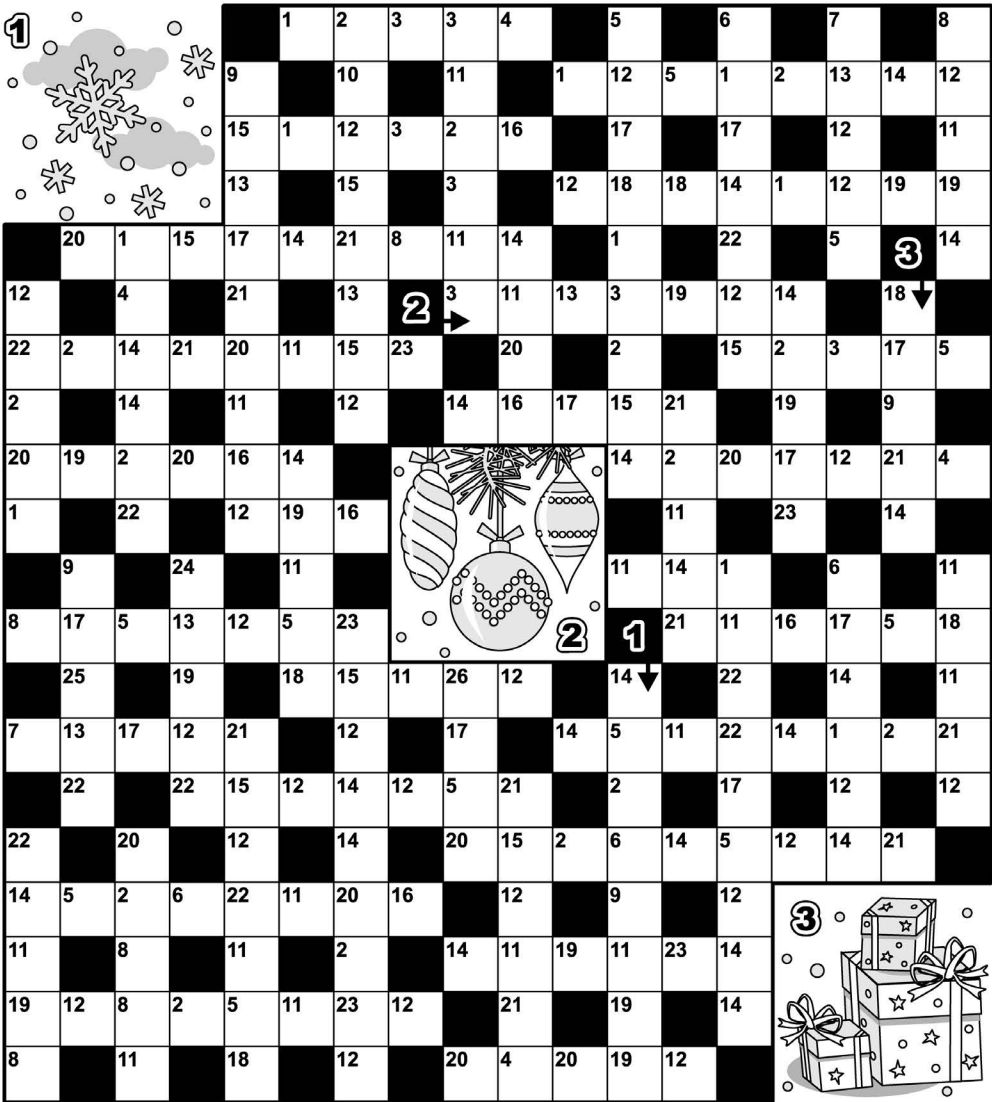
Coloring mandalas is good for your brain! Send us a picture of yours completed Cordelia@SentinelHometownNews.com



Color by numbers

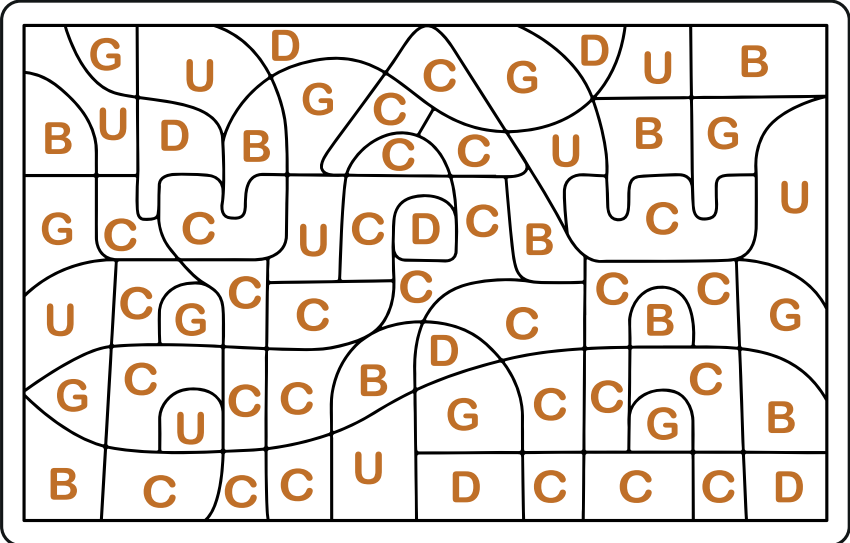


The same number represents the same letter. Crack the code and fill the grid. To help you get started some word entries have picture clues.

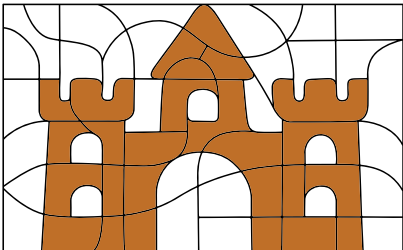


1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

COLOR BY LETTERS C!



Answer
CASTLE



Laser Engraved Slate Coasters. Innovation Lab.

4 p.m.

Holiday Ceramic Class with Lucia (Registration Required). Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

4 p.m.

Teen Advisory Board (Grades 7+). Teen Commons.

6 p.m.

SCORE Presents: Access to Capital for Small Businesses. Marx Family Black Box Theater.

Thursday, Dec. 11

10 a.m.

Japanese Storytime. Cos Cob Library Community Room.

10 a.m.

PLAYdate! Marx Family Black Box Theater.

11 a.m.

Bilingual Birdies (Storytime Lottery). Children's Constellation Room.

11 a.m.

Tech Help. Learning Lab.

12 p.m.

Audubon Book Club: Owls of the Eastern Ice. 2nd Floor Meeting Room.

4 p.m.

Tai Chi Games for Kids & Family with Ken Dolan. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

4:30 p.m.

JBarbara's House Book Club. Community Room #5.

7 p.m.

Lecture: "Greenwich Around the time of the American Revolution" presented by Dan Silkman. Byram Shubert Library Community Room.

7 p.m.

Friends Performing Arts Presents: Magic Things with Ben Seidman. Berkley Theater.

Friday, Dec. 12

10 a.m.

Toddler Storytime. Cos Cob Library Community Room. 203-622-6883.

11:15 a.m.

Qi Gong: Tapping and Healing Sounds. Online. greenwichlibrary.libcal.com/event/15791028

4 & 5 p.m.

Super Secret Present Craft Club (Registration Required). Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

7 p.m.

Friends Friday Films: "Jane Austen Wrecked My Life." Berkley Theater. cgibbs@greenwichlibrary.org.

Saturday, Dec. 13

10:30 a.m.

Jerry's Movies: The Three Faces of Eve starring Joanne Woodward. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

11 a.m.

Technology Help. Learning Lab. 203-625-6560. csherman@greenwichlibrary.org.

1 p.m.

Winterfest Cos Cob. Cos Cob Library Front Lawn. 203-622-6883.

1:30 p.m.

Dungeons & Dragons (Grades 8+). Children's Constellation Room. 203-622-7940. children@greenwichlibrary.org

1 p.m.

Illuminating Art: Circuits Inspired by Gustav Klimt. Innovation Lab. 203-622-7979. innovationlab@greenwichlibrary.org.

2 p.m.

Jerry's Movies: The Sound of Music. Byram Shubert Library Community Room. 203-531-0426.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL: greenwichhospital.org/events 888-305-9253

Saturday, Dec. 6

9 a.m.

CPR Friends & Family (Infant/Child). 38 Volunteer Ln. \$70. For discount information call 888-305-9253.

Monday, Dec. 8

12 p.m.

Talk: Guide to a Whole Foods, Plant Base Diet. Greenwich Hospital, 5 Perryridge Rd. Free.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

10:30 a.m.

Parkinson's Fitness Class. Online.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

6 p.m.

Webinar: Long COVID Recovery Support Group. Online.

Thursday, Dec. 11

6 p.m.

Talk: Malnutrition and Starvation in Older Adults. Greenwich Hospital, 5 Perryridge Rd. Free.

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR: ntngreenwich.org

Everyday, all day

• 24/7 Food Drive Collection site at North Greenwich Congregational Church, 606 Riversville Road. The weather-proof bin is located outside of the Parish Hall.

• Greenwich Reform Synagogue, 92 Orchard St., Cos Cob.

Tuesdays, 9 - 11 a.m.

Food Drive (drive-thru) at St. Catherine of Siena's parking area across the street from the rectory entrance, 4 Riverside Ave. (Non-perishable foods, personal care products, large sized diapers (5 & 6) and pull-ups, and knit hats (hand knit or store bought).

Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Food Drive at St. Paul's Episcopal Church parking lot, 200 Riverside Ave.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: redcrossblood.org

Friday, Dec. 5

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

United Church of Rowayton, 210 Rowayton Ave., Norwalk.

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 575 Fowler Ave., Pelham, NY.

Saturday, Dec. 6

7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

8 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Greenwich Public Safety Complex/New Greenwich Police Department, 11 Bruce Place.

7:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Tully Health Center, 32 Strawberry Hill Court, Stamford.

8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

United Church of Rowayton, 210 Rowayton Ave., Norwalk.

Sunday, Dec. 7

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Monday, Dec. 8

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

9 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Stamford Church of Christ, 1264 High Ridge Road, Stamford.

1 - 6 p.m.

First Congregational Church of Darien, 14 Brookside Road, Darien.

Thursday, Dec. 11

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Saturday, Dec. 13

7 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Sunday, Dec. 14

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

Monday, Dec. 15

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Jill and John Coyle Blood Donor Center, 99 Indian Field Rd., Greenwich.

TOWN MEETINGS: greenwichct.gov/calendar

Monday, Dec. 8

1 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission Briefing.

3 p.m.

Energy Management Advisory Committee Meeting. Cone Room.

8 p.m.

RTM Full Meeting. Central Middle School.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

10 a.m.

BET IAC Meeting. Mazza Room.

10:30 a.m.

Board of Selectmen Meeting. Town Hall Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom.

12 p.m.

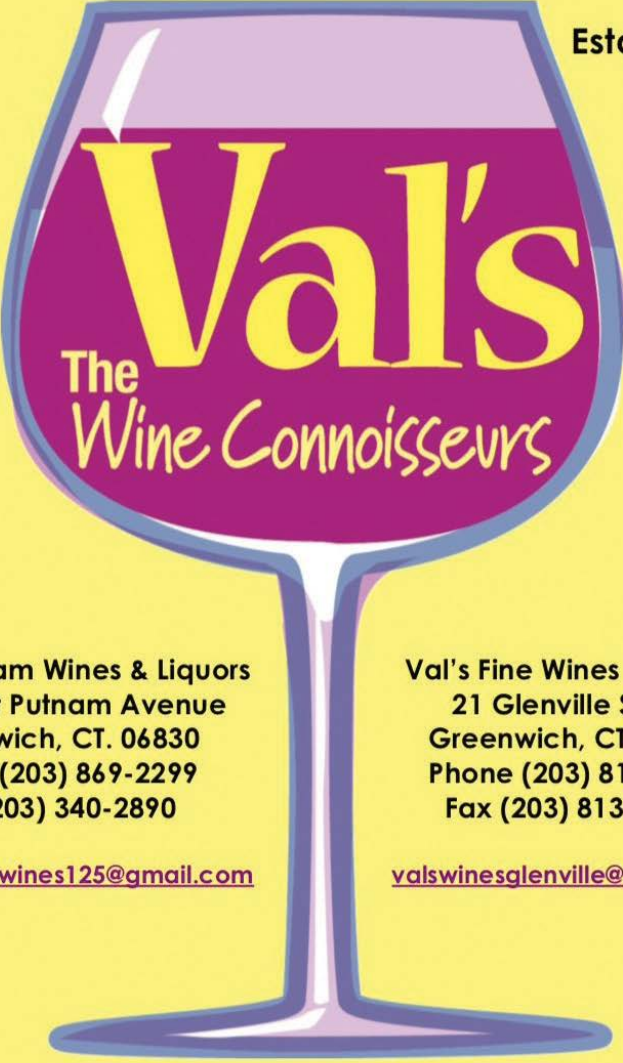
FS Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting. Virtual via Zoom.

1 p.m.

BET Budget Committee. Town Hall Meeting Room.

4 p.m.

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Fax (203) 340-2890

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Phone (203) 813-3477
Fax (203) 813-3478

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www.valsputnamwines.com
203-869-2299 for Delivery

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting.

7 p.m.

Board of Human Services Meeting. DHS Conference Room.

7 p.m.

FS Citizens Police Advisory Committee Meeting. Mazza Room.

7 p.m.

First Selectman's Youth Commission Board Meeting. Town Hall Meeting Room.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

11 a.m.

FS Operations Planning Committee Meeting. Mazza Room.

1 p.m.

BET HR Committee.

7 p.m.

Historic District Commission Regular Meeting. Mazza Room.

7 p.m.

PZBA Meeting.

Thursday, Dec. 11

10 a.m.

BET Audit Committee.

3 p.m.

1 p.m.

BET Law Committee.

SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, Dec. 14

4 p.m.

Holiday Festival. Greenwich Historical Society. greenwich-history.org/ghs-events

Saturday, Dec. 20 & Sunday,

Dec. 21

8 p.m.

The Rob Mathes Holiday Concert. The Performing Arts Center-Purchase College, NY. artscenter.org/events/the-rob-mathes-holiday-concert-2

Thursday, Jan. 22, 2026

7 p.m.

The Coretta Scott King and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Conversation. YWCA Greenwich. ywcagreenwich.org

Friday, Jan. 23, 2026

5 p.m.

Night at the Museum benefit. Bruce Museum. brucemuseum.org

Sunday, Jan. 25, 2026

2 p.m.

Generation Impact: The Big Review 2026. Arch Street Tee Center. generationimpact.org

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

6 p.m.

YWCA Greenwich's Women Who Inspire Awards. Greenwich Country Club. ywcagreenwich.org

Saturday, March 28, 2026

Person to Person (P2P) Rising Together Benefit. Hyatt Regency Greenwich. p2pHelps.org

Sunday, April 12, 2026

5 p.m.

Generation Impact: The Big Give 2026. generationimpact.org

Thursday, May 7, 2026

11 a.m.

YWCA Greenwich's Old Bags Luncheon. Belle Haven Club.

ywcagreenwich.org

Thursday, June 25, 2026

5:30 p.m.

Greenwich Sentinel Award Cocktail Reception. Christ Church Greenwich. greenwichsentinel.com

Our Neighboring Towns

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

New Canaan Holiday Stroll. Main, Elm, and Forest streets, New Canaan.

11 a.m.

Meet Stefanie Foster Brown, Author of My Heart Speaks Kriolu. Ferguson Main Library, Stamford. Free. fergusonlibrary.org

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

3 p.m.

Preschool Movie Matinee. Ferguson Library - West Side Branch, Stamford. Free. Register. fergusonlibrary.org

5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

'GLOW Wild' Lantern Festival. Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Ave., Bridgeport. (Thu-Sun - through Sunday, Dec. 14). beardsleyzoo.org

FRIDAY, DEC. 12


7 p.m.

Broadway in Bedford Holiday Show. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford, NY. 914-234-6704. bedfordplayhouse.org

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