



REAL ESTATE

# Deeds & Don'ts

INSIDE STORIES BEHIND AREA REAL ESTATE DEALS

## HOT SUMMER DEALS



Mark Rothko during his career. Heller, now 89, specified all the details of the 2014 renovation, designing airy and open-plan interiors throughout the 6,154-foot home, including glass walls, stone floors and exposed beams. The grounds offer a 42-acre pond and a pool, pool house and pergola sited to take in distant views of the Litchfield Hills. Ira Goldspiel of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty has the \$9,450,000 listing.

Another art-and-antiques boldface name, Arlan Ertinger, put his Salisbury manse on the market in June for \$6,850,000. Ertinger co-founded Guernsey's, the New York-based auction house best known for its sales of artifacts owned by the likes of John F. Kennedy, Mickey Mantle and Elvis, to name just a few. Sugar Hill Farm, as Ertinger's home is called, sits on 111 acres comprised of rolling fields and pastures, a two-acre pond and an orchard boasting 200 pear and apple trees. The 9,100-square-foot house features rough-hewn woodwork and beams from an 18th-century bar, a pristine, marble-clad kitchen, six bedrooms and seven bathrooms. Ira Goldspiel of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty is the listing broker for this property, too.



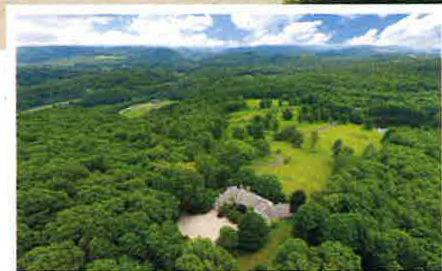
**Big Deal** This 300-acre property in Sharon offers a 42-acre pond and a handsome home. Ira Goldspiel of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Kent has the \$9,450,000 listing. 860-927-7724.

### HALF-PINT HOUSE

Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote her "Little House" series between 1932 and 1943, based on her experiences growing up in a settler family that moved from the woods of Wisconsin (*Little House in the Big Woods*) to the Kansas prairie (*Little House on the Prairie*). Her daughter Rose Wilder Lane would become her editor, promoting her mother's books as well as making a name for herself as a libertarian—and a home for herself in a circa-1879 Colonial in Danbury. That two-acre property is now listed for \$439,000 with Kim Gifford of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Danbury. The home features such antique details as wide-plank flooring and beamed ceilings. On the gated grounds are gardens, a waterfall and a stone patio. 203-770-6038.



**So Sweet!** Called Sugar Hill Farm, this 111-acre spread in Salisbury lists for \$6,850,000 with Ira Goldspiel of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Kent. 860-927-7724.



This summer got off to a sizzling start—especially as that relates to the real estate market. The good news kicks off with the Consumer Confidence Index, which is at its highest level since 1985. That all-important indicator pushed up sales in certain parts of our state to pre-recession levels: As compared to 2014, sales volumes are up 13 percent in Fairfield County, 17 percent along the eastern Connecticut shoreline, and 7 percent in the Litchfield Hills. Another positive indicator is the shrinking inventory levels in all these markets, meaning the prime properties are getting better and quicker offers. Here, our picks for the best the market has to offer. Get 'em while they're hot!

### ART HOUSE

OUR STATEWIDE TOUR STARTS IN SHARON WITH THE nearly 300-acre spread owned by art collector and dealer Ben Heller, who represented both Jackson Pollock and